

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting #457  
12th February 2024 at 7pm  
Board Room, Pugwash Village Hall

**Meeting Number 456**

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 Chair Brent Wilson the meeting to order at 7:02pm.
- 1.2 An *in camera* meeting was held prior to this meeting.
- 1.3 **Territorial Acknowledgment** – read by Chair Wilson  
*We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.*

**2 ROLL CALL**

Commissioners: Chair Brent Wilson  
Vice Chair Sue Duncan  
Commissioner Roger Mundle  
Commissioner Margaret Anderson  
Commissioner Dave MacEwan

Staff: Clerk Treasurer & recording secretary, Lisa Betts

**3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- 3.1 **IT WAS MOVED** by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner MacEwan to approve the agenda.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 4.1 **IT WAS MOVED** by Commissioner Duncan and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the minutes of regular meeting 456, held January 8<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 5.1 None

**6 PRESENTATION**

- 6.1 **Ross Hamilton** – Meike Jeanne van Vulpen - by Zoom  
Due to technical difficulties, van Vulpen could not join the meeting. A written presentation was sent later.

**7 CORRESPONDENCE**

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- 7.1 **Letter to Scotiabank CEO, Scott Thompson**  
Registering concern about closure of the Pugwash branch Scotiabank and request to keep the branch open or at least maintaining a banking machine in the community. No response from CEO Thompson. Those CC'd on the letter have acknowledged receipt of their copy.
- 7.2 **Pugwash Fire Dept – thank you for Xmas lights on bridges – draft**  
The Commission agreed that the draft letter be sent to the fire department.
- 7.3 **Pre-Primary class, CEES – playground equipment – draft**  
The Commission agreed that the draft letter be sent to the school.
- 7.4 **Association Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV) – Brian Banks, ANSV president**  
Addition of an administrative staff position at the association. The letter was read out by Commissioner Duncan. The Commission agreed that it is interested in the proposal but would like some more information of degree of financial commitment is required.

## 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 8.1 Standing Committees

#### 8.1.1 Accessibility [Betts]

The Municipality is calling for interest to re-activate the previous committee to update the Joint Accessibility Plan.

#### 8.1.2 Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV) [Duncan]

Taxation of Village owned water utilities. Those Villages affected have formed a committee to dispute this change in tax exemption.

The Association Board will no longer meet after the AGM, bringing the number of regular meetings down to three.

Cornwallis Square is in the process of changing its Village name. It is comprised of a group of four smaller communities.

#### 8.1.3 Audit Committee [Duncan]

No report.

#### 8.1.4 Policy Review [MacEwan/Wilson]

No report.

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**8.2 Special Committees**

**8.2.1 CN Train Station [MacEwan/Wilson/Houghtaling]**

The Hub project area ceiling is drywalled. Plumbing will be installed this week. Stainless steel countertops will be installed.

The Electric Vehicle charging station is installed and will be live for public use once the owner has “onboarded” with SWTCH and the associated online application activated. It should be ready to open on Mother’s Day weekend (May 12<sup>th</sup>). The payment options were discussed.

**8.2.2 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner MacEwan and seconded by Commissioner Duncan to take on the ownership of the Electric Vehicle Station at the (former) CN Train Station.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**8.3 Advisory Committees**

8.3.1 None.

**8.4 Community Committees or organizations with Village Commission/staff representation.**

**8.4.1 Communities in Bloom (CIB) [Betts]**

No report.

**8.4.2 Physician Recruitment and Retention [Duncan/Bill Martin]**

No report.

**8.5 Clerk Treasurer’s Reports [Betts]**

**8.5.1 Action List – completed items**

- The letter to Scotiabank CEO is sent.
- Security cameras in use signs are ordered.
- Sidewalk salting – reduced with no problems.

**8.5.2 Action List – status change**

Staff benefits package. A quote from HUB International Atlantic, made available through the NSFM, will be available soon.

This is related to a recent meeting with Nova Scotia Federation Municipalities (NSFM) discussing the changes of the relationship between NSFM and Villages and the value of the insurance package. The NSFM has arranged group insurance for Municipalities and other public bodies such as Villages, water

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utilities etc. The NSFAM user fee for the group insurance is 2.5% of the public body's insurance premium due each year.

8.5.3 **Code of Conduct legislation**

In final review before presenting to the legislature. The Act will be applied to all elected officials – Councilors and Commissioners.

8.5.4 **Gathering of the Clans & Canada Day**

- Headliners for July 1<sup>st</sup> will be Dave Gunning and JP Cormier
- Parade theme – get suggestions from the public and schools.
- Looking for entertainment and activities to fill in for the void left by the midway carnival. Buskers may be available but are generally very expensive. Lee Wier has expressed an interest in being more actively involved in lieu of the event he has run the last few years. A number of types of vendors were suggested.
- A Highland Dance competitor and teacher will do a couple of demonstration at the elementary school. It is hoped this will inspire some interest in dance lessons which can be done online.

**9 MOTIONS**

9.1 None.

**10 NOTICE OF MOTION**

10.1 None.

**11 NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 **Credit Union public meeting at Cyrus Eaton Elementary School, January 17<sup>th</sup>.** The Commission agreed there was good information at the meeting but it was poorly presented due to the limitations of the room acoustics and the presentation format.

11.2 The Commission agreed to the purchase of the **Accessibility flag** to be flown for Accessibility Week May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

11.3 The Commission agreed to add **Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest** to the regular meeting agenda.

11.4 The next regular Village meeting is 7pm, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.

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**12 ADJOURNMENT**

12.1 The meeting was adjourned at 8:11pm by motion from Commissioner Mundle.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Betts  
Clerk Treasurer

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_