



**Town of Westville
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, April 30th, 2012**

Commencing at 6:00 pm

Council Members Present:	Mayor Roger MacKay; Deputy Mayor Lynn MacDonald; Councillor Gerald Jones; Councillor Charlie Sutherland; Councillor Charlene Thompson
Town Employees Present:	CAO Scott Fraser; Recording Secretary Diane Morrison
Visitors Present:	A number of Westville residents
Media Organizations Present:	ECFM Radio; The News; Pictou Advocate

1. CALLING OF MEETING TO ORDER

- 1.1** Mayor MacKay called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM and apologized for the lateness due to the Planning Advisory Committee Meeting running late. He welcomed Ron Marks our School Board Representative for attending this evening with an update on the Highland Consolidated Middle School.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 2.1** *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Councillor Jones that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.*
Additions:
Ron Mark – Highland Consolidated Middle School
First Reading of Randy Langille Development and this will be under New/Unfinished Business
Thank You Card under Correspondence

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 3.1** *It was moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Thompson to approve the minutes of the March 26th, 2012 regular Council Meeting as amended. Motion carried.*
Deputy Mayor MacDonald should read Ramsey Report.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- 4.1** Councillor Thompson inquired on 4.4 concerning sending a letter to our local

MLA Clarrie MacKinnon concerning the logging trucks coming in North Main Street. Mayor MacKay noted that he and CAO Fraser met with the MLA Clarrie MacKinnon on this date to discuss this matter and a meeting will be set up to meet with Groupe Savoie and try to come up with some alternate route.

- 4.2 Deputy Mayor MacDonald inquired on 8.5 electronic voting and where we stand with that issue and she would really like to see Westville to this and make it a reality for the election in the fall. She feels it is the way of the future and she would like to see it in 2012. She asked CAO Fraser if there were any developments.

CAO Fraser noted that his understanding at the last meeting was that no decision was reached by Council to pursue electronic voting so other than the information that was presented he does not have any new information at this time. He noted this is up to the Council to decide if they want to pursue it and he would have to draft the By-Law and go through the process.

Councillor Jones asked if we were to start the process now what period of time would be needed to make electronic voting happen and basically would we have enough time to make it happen in 2012.

CAO Fraser feels there would be enough time to do it but it would have to be decided shortly preferably this month. He also mentioned that his understanding from the last meeting was that Council was not interested in pursuing electronic voting so he did not pursue it any further.

Councillor Sutherland asked if we had a budget without electronic voting for the election in the fall of 2012. He also asked how the electronic voting would impact the election budget that we have in mind and secondly there was a major political party had their whole procedure taken over by gangsters for lack of a better word. He noted that we have a very small office staff who works very hard and we do not want to put undue pressure on them. He knows that electronic voting is coming but he wants to make sure that when it is done that our budget is in place and all of our leg work is done.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that Councillor Sutherland had just voiced her concern and she would like to ask if we could have a Finance Meeting as soon as possible to look at the costs of the election as it stands without voting and with it and then go from there. She mentioned that she would like to see it happen this year if we could.

Mayor Mackay noted that we do have a Finance Meeting set for May 7th.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if this issue could be put on the agenda for that meeting and have some figures ready to look at. She noted that our costs were provided by the Company that we were in contact with.

CAO Fraser noted that when we do the Budget the election is set up as a line item so when Council reviews they can decide if they want to add the costs of electronic voting to it and he noted that there would not be any significant savings in going with the project, it would put the cost of the election up. He advised that the Company we dealt with indicated that in some Municipalities there is a savings when they would not have to rent as much space and have as many people working as a regular election. He noted that in our case there is not enough of that activity to reduce the costs. He noted that in the end it would put our costs up.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald mentioned that right now we are at the point where we will have to see if Council supports the idea for further exploration of electronic voting.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Jones that we move forward with electronic voting for the October 2012 Municipal election.

Mayor MacKay handed the gavel to Deputy Mayor MacDonald and Mayor MacKay noted that his concern is as CAO Fraser said is the added costs and at this time we are not sure what the extra costs would be. He questioned if it is

within our Budget and noted that if it is and we can manage it he does not have a Problem but if it is going to add extra money to our budget that we don't have for some reason or other, then he does not feel that we can move forward this election but that is his opinion.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald returned the gavel to Mayor MacKay.

Councillor Thompson would like to see this matter go the Finance Meeting first as she does feel that we should look at the Budget first and determine the costs involved.

Councillor Jones noted that costs are a concern but today with the electronic age participation of the younger general and he thinks this is an opportunity for us to explore this avenue and get electronic voting started because with the technology today and even if we have the Polling Stations for the rest of the residents. He feels it is a good opportunity for everyone and it will be open to the younger generation.

Councillor Sutherland noted that his 2 items were costs and also new technology and number 3 Westville has the luxury of having one of the hardest working and most fair Returning Officers anywhere and he does not know if this is something that our Returning Officer is prepared for.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald at this time withdrew her motion and Councillor Jones agreed with that. Motion withdrawn

Deputy Mayor MacDonald then put forward the following motion.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Thompson to have the financial implications of electronic voting brought up at the finance meeting. Motion carried.

5.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

5.1

It was moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald to approve/pay the accounts as presented. Motion carried.

Councillor Sutherland noted on Page 1 we see a line where we bought necessary road salt and at the bottom of the page it shows that the trucking of the road salt is almost half of the cost of the salt and when you consider that gasoline and heating oil is going up and it shows that the luxury of Cumberland County where that expense would be incurred and it shows just another item where a small town is up against and faced with whereas they have their own road salt and little cost to ship it.

Mayor MacKay also made a comment where Councillor Sutherland has noted that if we could get together with another Town and order in bulk and probably save a little bit of money doing it that way.

Councillor Sutherland questioned on Page 2 the amount to Investors. CAO Fraser noted that was for the pension adjustment for the Town Police Force when they were in the New Glasgow Pension Plan. Councillor Sutherland wanted to know if it was money that we had on hand. CAO Fraser noted that the bulk of it was set aside last year.

Councillor Thompson questioned the payment to Sissiboo Investments for \$988.98. CAO Fraser advised that was for the three screen collection cans installed on Main Street.

Councillor Sutherland wanted to know information concerning the line near the bottom for Superline Fuels and if it was for diesel and CAO Fraser thought it was for heating for the building and Councillor Sutherland thought that heating the building was with Ballantyne Fuels. CAO Fraser noted that he was correct and apologized for same. He noted that we have a storage tank that we keep filled and it was for that tank.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if the payment to the Town of Pictou was for the shared recreation position and questioned if it was the one that Ray Gunn is in and CAO Fraser noted that is correct.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 6.1 Police -** *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the Police Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.2 Fire Report -** *It was moved by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Jones that the Fire Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.3 Fire Inspectors Report –** *It was moved by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Jones that the Fire Inspector Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.4 Recreation Report -** *It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Jones that the Recreation Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
Councillor Jones wanted to thank the Recreation Department for the MORE Annual reception held downstairs and also the awards evening. Mayor MacKay Also noted on the MORE reception and noted that he was talking to some of the Committee people the next day and they told him that they were very impressed with what the Town of Westville provided that day.
- 6.5 Compost, Garbage & Recycling Report -** *It was moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the Compost, Garbage & Recycling Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.6 Environmental Health Report –** *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the Environmental Health Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
Councillor Sutherland noted near the bottom where it shows water usage our second largest customer is temporarily out of Town and he noted that the largest is the Walter Duggan School and it is hoped that that the Highland Consolidated Middle School will be returning shortly.
- 6.7 Transportation Report -** *It was moved by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Jones that the Transportation Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
Councillor Sutherland wanted to kudos to the Fire Department and the Public Works Department for all the hours of work that go into getting ready for the July 1st celebrations.
- 6.8 Animal Control Report –** *It was moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the Animal Control Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.9 Building Report –** *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Councillor Thompson that the Building Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 SPECIAL SPEAKER RON MARKS

Mayor MacKay asked Mr Ron Marks to step forward and give us an update on the situation.

Representative Marks thanked Mayor MacKay for the opportunity to speak and he was hoping that it would be under different circumstances but things seem to be coming along and he is not sure where to start. He noted that the Department of Labor report has been presented and the school board is looking at it and the first they are looking at is the roof and the work that had been completed on the roof over March break and the odor came back with a vengeance and they thought it might be because of that work.

What they have done in the meantime at the School Board is to look at other schools of similar style and where they have used similar materials and procedures and there does not seem to be any problems with any of the other schools. They are going to cut a section out of the room and look at that in depth to see if there is a problem. First thing they are going to do is rule out the roof or rule the roof out as part of the problem. The Dept of Labor report also shows 3 areas of mould and what will be done is to removed the mould and then mediate whatever is the causing the mould and repair that. So, that is in the process as well and it is interesting to note that the mould that was there was minor in nature. They are also looking at an old sewer pipe in place in the school and there were plans prior to remove that prior to these latest problems during summer break. He also noted that there were some general housekeeping items to look at including removing some rubber mats that have a strong odor. He went on to explain that no intrusive work within the school will be done until all personal and teaching items are removed.

Hopefully, by the end of May this will be completed and he hoped that all the testing will be completed shortly and plans can be made for the summer and also looking forward to September.

Mr Marks gave positive kudos to the NSCC and staff as they are providing space for the teachers and students to complete their year. He also mentioned that in the future there may be some very positive outcomes just because of the situation and the students being introduced to the NSCC.

At this time he offered to answer any other questions.

Councillor Jones noted that hopefully the problem will be resolved and the kids will go back in September or if not, did he know what plans were in place with the School Board for repairing the school. He knows it is a hard question to answer but basically he is inquiring that if the school cannot be repaired would they be ready to build a new school and it so would they be willing to put that school in Westville.

Mr Marks noted that he could surmise and one thing people should not do is to surmise but it would be hoped that whatever the problems is that has caused the odor can be repaired. He does not believe at this time that the costs would be more than what the School Board and Department of Education can handle.

Again, we don't know what it is yet and so we do not know what the costs are. From the School Board standpoint any minor repairs and things the School Board can look after he went on to note that major repairs become a matter for the Department of Education and he feels that everyone knows the financial situation of the Province and he cannot speak for them. He can say that everything that he can do at the School Board level will be done to maintain the school at that location.

He went on to mention that he knew we were aware of the Provinces stand on the excess square footage and that within our School Board we have 4 million square feet of actual space and we only occupy 3 million and that means that there are buildings out there that are not used to their full capacity. He cannot speak for the Province concerning building a new building when there is a lot of square

footage that is not in use within our school board. He noted that there all kinds of options and the School Board has looked at those options because of what has just transpired. He thinks in the best interest of Westville and the children that we can keep these children together and he hopes that we can continue with the location that they are in now. He noted that as we go forward we will go on the assumption that this is what will happen.

He noted that if for some reason repairs need to be done and it takes longer than September it will be January before we can complete the job everyone is aware that they cannot go back to NSCC in September. So then they will have to find a new location and again he would support that all the students travel together.

Councillor Jones inquired on the number of students and classrooms involved.

Mr Marks noted that approximately 220 students and he did not know the number of classrooms involved but feels it is between 8 and 10.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if she could ask a couple of questions and she wanted to know what happened to communication between the Town of Westville and the School Board on this issue as the School is the cornerstone of our community and she noted that we had to learn about the problem from parents with children in the school on the street. She noted that come on Council have been hearing about it over the winter and basically through the media. She wanted to know why there was not someone or liaison person and maybe there was but who would be responsible for at least informing our Mayor.

Mr Marks noted that he did not know but he thought that a member of Council is usually a member of the School Advisory Council.

He noted that the School Advisory Council has been kept informed all along on what has been taking place. He did not know if there was someone from Westville on this Board and he suggested that if no we should have the CAO kept up to date on what was happening. Deputy Mayor MacDonald feels that within the realm of the people available within the School Board system and she feels there are so many people within that system she finds it hard to believe that there was not someone designated to keep Mayor MacKay or CAO Fraser informed that there may be a problem at the school. She noted that we certainly value having the school here.

She noted that it was disappointing that the communication was not in place. Mr. Marks noted that all he could do was to apologize and he did note that he will talk to Mayor MacKay and CAO Fraser and will keep them up to speed on what is happening.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that she has heard lots of rumors in fact she heard they had found formaldehyde around the pipes at the end of the school where the Chemistry lab was and she asked Mr Marks if he knew anything about that. He noted that he did not. She also heard about the skin that was put on the school and the mould that was found that she heard that may be a potential problem.

Mr Marks noted that he had not heard that one either. He noted that he has not heard a whole lot about what the problem might be and the noted that there were things that were repaired over the last year and the was a period of time where Senior Management told them it seemed like the problem had been fixed and then it came back. He noted that until a full report is given he cannot comment. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked Mr Marks since we do not have a designated person on the Advisory Board can someone is put in place to keep our Mayor and CAO informed on how things are developing. Mr Marks noted that he would take responsibility and ensure that this is done and he noted that if he hears it he will inform Mayor MacKay. He does not believe that there is any formal procedure in place for the School Board and Municipalities.

Councillor Thompson welcomed Mr Marks and thanked him for coming to our meeting this evening and she would like to follow on Deputy Mayor MacDonald's comments and she feels what happened in Westville was that as Town Councillors in a small area we are the people that people contact when

anything in the Town happens and it is a little bit embarrassing when approached by our citizens about what is going on in the school and we have not received any formal report or communication with the School Board and with that in mind I would like to invite you Mr Marks to continue to come to our Council meetings and just update us or maybe send a letter that we could read so that the citizens and students in the Town of Westville will be up to date on what is going on and will be going on with the school.

It is just that we need the information and we need it out there as there are many stories out there and they compound and the problem continues to exist and it would be she thinks helpful if the School Board and the Town and to the citizens if we have direct contact continue until this is resolved.

Councillor Sutherland noted that he did not know where to begin and that he appreciates very much the co-operation between the between the Town of Stellarton and Westville in many areas.

In regards to the Community College he thinks that the \$125 million dollars that John Hamm's government invested to improve the Community Colleges in Nova Scotia and over \$12 million going to Stellarton and without that money what has happened would never have happened.

He noted that it is working like a charm and the school Principal Dave Freckleton is involved with the Chamber of Commerce, PRDA and for him to step up to the place and open the doors of the Community College to our students and Lynn MacLean and her staff to be able to continue to do their work all deserve kudos. It is unheard of for 12 years old to be in a University setting and that is exactly what is happening. He noted that there are trades people at this community college who work all over the world and 150 of them moved to another part of the school to make room for our students. It is an incredible thing for these young people to see and he noted that everyone is making do and coping well. He noted that last week our local newspaper ran a column called Main Streets and one of those interviews was Scott Fisher who relocated his Pizza business so that he could serve the Middle School here in Westville and the impact that the Middle School has on a day to day basis. It cannot be overstated that we are really hoping that all these problems will be fixed and the school is back in business in September. It is incredible that if you don't have schools it is like the Post Office or banks, churches or library, you have to have these. He noted that he has some figures that he was able to pull together with the help of Councillor Thompson and went on to mention that Westville is the home of 700 students. 426 at the Walter Duggan School and 275 at the Highland Consolidated Middle School. He noted that is bigger than Trenton, Stellarton, Pictou and almost rivals New Glasgow.

Mayor MacKay thanked Mr Marks for appearing at the meeting and that they will keep in touch to help to keep everyone up to date.

7.2 Thank you Card

Mayor MacKay noted that the Mayor and Council had received Thank You card from Morris Campbell and he passed it on to Council.

7.3 Nova Scotia International Ferry Partnership.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Thompson to send the financial request from the NSIFP to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

7.4 Keith Colwell

CAO Fraser noted that this is dealing with the Memorandum of Understanding which Council has discussed in the past and he is looking for feedback on the impact that has occurred to the Municipalities. He noted that Hon Keith Colwell is the critic for Service Nova Scotia and the Municipal Relations in the Liberal caucus.

Deputy Mayor asked CAO Fraser if complying with this request would put an undue work load on the office. He is asking for information on the analysis and research that is available on how the Town has been affected by the cancelling of the Memorandum of Understanding. She wanted to know if researching this information would put a lot of work on you and CAO Fraser noted that no a lot of the information is already on file and he can probably put something together if Council wishes.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion and it was seconded by Councilor Jones to grant Hon. Keith Colwell's request for information concerning the cancellation of the Memorandum of Understanding. Motion passed.

7.5

Municipality of Pictou

Councillor Thompson asked to be excused from this discussion as she would be in a conflict of interest.

CAO Fraser noted that we had received a letter pertaining to waste water Collection system and to be more specific Alma and Green Hill are looking to expand services in the County and the Town of Westville has what is known as a kidney and it is a retention tank so that if the system that takes sewage to the Trenton to be treated and if it reaches capacity in Westville the storage tank begins to fill up and then when capacity becomes available again it will pump it back into the system and allow it to move on to Trenton where it gets treated. He also explained that at one time the kidney was the Town's treatment facility. It later became known as a reserve for the Town and it shows on the books as being valued at \$1 million dollars and it provides approximately 1 million gallons of capacity that can be used when needed. So, what they are looking for is to explore the possibility of using part of the kidney so that they can expand their sewer system. He explained that what happens is almost like a moratorium on sewers that can be sent to Trenton and in order for them to be able to expand they would need to have access to get permission to add any more to the system. Councillor Jones that he would not recommend that we agree with this request as it would probably hinder development in the future in the Town of Westville. If we had any commercial or maybe another school will be built in Town and allowing this could hinder our development. He noted that he does not feel right in allowing something like this to happen and allow the Municipality into our kidney.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if this was not addressed a couple of months ago and was told that if was not and she also asked if we know what our capacity is. CAO Fraser noted that when talking to Eric a few months ago when we were doing the sewer expansion last year and it took sewer from Acadia Avenue to the kidney. So we put the line from Acadia Avenue and we eliminated a bottle neck that was at capacity there. He went on to say that when he talked to them they quoted 300,000 gallons and that is just the average depending on what happens any day. This pumped out very day and the kidney itself will hold 1 million gallons. He went on to explain that once the system gets overloaded it will go to the kidney.

He noted that this may happen a couple of times a year and it is not going to happen every day but if it does happen there will be room for it and it will be held there until the system will take it and it will be pumped back into the system and be gone.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked CAO Fraser if we are providing this service to Northumberland High School.

CAO Fraser noted that right now the line that comes through from that area is now going through Bear Brook and then on to Trenton.

She wanted to know if this was Westville's line and was told no it belongs to the County and some of Westville's system is into it.

He mentioned Angell Street and she asked if we were getting fees for that and

CAO Fraser noted that it is actually not Westville's pumping station. Councillor Sutherland noted that the Alma School sewage does not go through our bladder. CAO Fraser noted that he did not believe so and Councillor Sutherland noted that this would not go through our bladder either. CAO Fraser noted that as he understood if the sewer was to be backed up they want to reach and understanding with the Town that they can use the kidney, now whether that actually filters into it. He feels that they are trying to make the argument that the one for the school that the kidney can be used and as far as he knows he feels that Westville's sewage material would get in there and basically from that point in Bear brook where Westville and the County both go into that pump station and everything becomes full then Westville's sewage will start to go into the kidney.

He noted that it is kind of confusing the way the letter reads but what they are looking for is a way to pump back into the kidney and CAO Fraser noted that yes, they want to be able to make the argument on paper giving that capacity. So what they to show on paper is the amount that the kidney will hold then Westville would not be able to put more in.

Councillor Jones noted that if we have a problem and CAO Fraser noted that would be extreme if 3 or 4 homes it would not be that drastic and if they had capacity to alleviate those 4 homes then you would have to take those 4 homes out of home that could be built in Westville.

Councillor Sutherland noted that we have entered into a discussion in regards to schools and if we are going to attract young families to the Walter Duggan catchment area it is important that we allow that stuff to run down hill.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if this was just sewage and not storm water. CAO Fraser noted that she is correct only sewage.

Mayor MacKay wanted to know if there was any way the Utility Review Board could get involved in this situation and CAO Fraser noted the Utility Review Board would deal with the water but not the sewage. The Mayor also asked what monetary value could there be for the Town.

CAO Fraser noted that would be something that would have to be explored and as they indicated in the letter if the Town was prepared to share the capacity and then we would have to go back and explore what the County contribution would be and what they would be willing to pay.

Mayor MacKay feels that would be the best thing to do have the Town's Public Works look into it and have CAO Fraser check to see what monetary fund we would be benefitting from this.

Councillor Jones feels it may come to the point where we have to stop looking at the monetary fund and take care of the business of the Town and to make a few extra dollars that may be taking a risk of not being able to put an extra 4 or 5 homes in our Town.

Mayor MacKay said he can't see that happening but Councillor Jones noted that was his opinion only. Mayor MacKay noted that he all have our own opinions and that is what makes the world go round.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted as CAO Fraser has pointed out that would be a concern if there were 4 houses built outside the Town and that would decrease the number of houses we could build in the Towns and she feels this should be a concern to Council.

Mayor MacKay noted that he is not saying not to do it and he feels there is something coming up in our New/Unfinished Business that has to do with the County and he is just throwing this out there to be fair to everyone. He noted that he is just one vote.

CAO Fraser can take it back if the Council wants to explore the option and he would probably talk to the Supervisor and with Eric and with the County and see what financial arrangements they would be willing to make and we could put it together for Council review.

Councillor Sutherland noted that it is not so long ago that the population at the Walter Duggan School was 100 students more than it is at the present time and he noted in reality families are becoming smaller. He mentioned that the he was in a community yesterday attending a grandchild celebration and he took notice that the homes being built to-day are smaller as compared to a few years ago because a lot of Pictou County's 20's and 30's are in Alberta and he worries about the same things that everyone at this table worries about and that is the boundaries and catchment areas. With 1 million excess square feet in the School Board and the Walter Duggan he thinks is the second largest elementary school in Pictou County and the catchment area is in this area. He noted that he is not trying to beat a dead horse but that is his view on it.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted again she does not want to beat a dead horse but as it has been pointed out here tonight there is a balancing act in Westville. We have taxes and water and sewer besides having new people in Town or come back to Town so really at the end of the day does Council want to deal with it now or continue to look at it. She noted that the end we could lose taxes, etc and put a limit on our population growth. Mayor MacKay asked where we are going with this.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion and it was seconded by Councillor Jones to look at this and the we advise the County that we can't see extending the capacity to cover building lots outside of the Town of Westville. 3 Yes – Deputy Mayor MacDonald, Councillor Jones and 1 Nay Councillor Sutherland.

8. NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS;

8.1 Unsightly Properties

CAO Fraser noted that everyone has a copy of the report from Mr Barry MacIntosh and he asked if Council has any that they want revisited.

Councillor Jones was wondering if the follow up inspection on the Parker Morris property at 1875 Purvis Avenue was done.

CAO Fraser believed he was given a 30 day notice and that he had driven by yesterday and some of the areas were being cleaned up. Councillor Jones asked if the clean up was being done by the owner and if so where was he taking the stuff or should we be concerned about that.

CAO Fraser did not know where he was taking it.

Mayor MacKay noted that if we know now where he is putting it but we do not know why he is putting it there and he went on to mention that he was moving items from one property to another spot in Town. When asked where it was he noted that it was right behind the old property.

Deputy Mayor Macdonald wanted to know when is the line going to be drawn on this property, this has been on this list since the previous Council was sitting at this table, so where is the line in the sand. Mayor MacKay noted that he has been given a 30 day notice and at the end of 30 days if it is not cleaned up then we will go in and clean it up and he will be billed for it.

CAO Fraser noted that was correct and he requested the address for the other property and he will make Mr MacIntosh aware of this situation.

Councillor Jones noted that it was unsightly before that was brought to us by Mr MacIntosh and he feels that this property has been on the list 8 to 10 years and he would like to see a resolution.

8.2 Advance Poll

CAO Fraser is looking for approval of the dates for the Advanced Polls and he noted that through talking to our Returning Officer there are 2 dates available Oct 11 and 13th and the Returning Officer has suggested that we go with the 11th of October; he noted that this is a Thursday.

Councillor Jones asked if the 11th was the second date for the Advanced Poll and it was noted yes, that the mandatory advance poll will be held on the 16th.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that obviously the Returning Officer and CAO Fraser have discussed the date but she finds it surprising that we are not looking at the 13th as that is a Saturday.

Councillor Jones asked if the Mayor would ask the Returning Officer to come and speak on it.

Returning Officer Dorothylane Hale noted that the 16th date is for the mandatory Advance Poll and this is a Saturday so we were going to set the other one on a Tuesday, the 11th.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald questioned again why not have it on the Saturday and Questioned if they did not think that was the better day. Returning Officer Hale noted that the other mandatory day the 16th is on a Saturday. Deputy Mayor MacDonald just noted that she thought we would get more traffic if it was held on a Saturday.

Returning Officer Hale noted that it was not the long weekend and normally it would be on the long weekend but this year the long weekend is the weekend before.

Councillor Sutherland wanted to know what the sister communities have chosen for their dates.

Returning Officer Hale noted that the only one that we were aware of was the Municipality of Pictou and it was for Saturday, the 13th to the best of her knowledge.

He noted that he was just thinking in terms of Radio and Newspaper Ads it would be nice if the 6 sister communities were all to choose the same date.

Returning Officer Hale noted that with the electronic voting they actually have 7 days to vote.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion and it was seconded by Councillor Jones to hold the Advance Poll on Saturday, October 13th and the mandatory advance poll would be Tuesday, October 16th and the Election Day is Saturday, October 20th, 2012. Motion passed.

8.3 Community Road Tolls

CAO Fraser noted that we are seeing an increase in request for road tolls and traditionally the Rotary Club always held one in the Town in the month of June and the Traffic Authority received a request to approve a Road Toll for that group and he wanted to get Council approval on that and to also discuss the possibility of a Policy on this issue as sometimes we may receive 2 or 3 requests for the same month and he does not feel we should be having a road toll for every Saturday as people will become annoyed with it and so it has been suggested that we limit it to 2 a year one in the spring and one in the fall and if Council wishes to do that we will have to bring in a Policy through a notice of motion.

Councillor Sutherland made a motion and it was seconded by Councillor Thompson to put a Policy in place to approve 2 Road Tolls per year and they would take place in the spring and fall. Motion passed.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald questioned if this means we cannot advise the Rotary Club that they can have the Road Toll in June or will we have to wait for June Council meeting for us to approve the Policy.

CAO Fraser said that no it has always been approved every year it is just that Policy will be so that if we have 3 or 4 groups that apply then they will know that the procedure will be that there will be one in the Spring and one in the Fall. Councillor Jones asked to be excused from the discussion as he belongs to a group that would like to do road tolls and he feels it would be a conflict of interest.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald
made a motion and it was seconded by Councillor Sutherland to advise the Rotary Club of Westville that they can proceed with a road toll in June, 2012. Motion passed.

8.4 Development Officer - Appointment

CAO Fraser noted that everyone has a copy of the Recommendation to appoint Mr. Roland Burek as a third Development Officer for the Pictou County Shared Services Authority and he believes that Council has been made aware that there are some changes in staff at the Authority. He noted that Mr Burek will be acting as a Development Officer in a temporary capacity until that position has been filled and as such the Town would have to make a formal appointment for the position.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald wanted to know when Bob Funke became the Interim Planning Director and Mayor MacKay answered that it was a little over a month ago.

He noted that it was at the Mayor's and Warden's meeting and he did show his frustration over it but was over turned and he noted that it is on an interim basis. Deputy Mayor MacDonald did not understand how the Mayor's and Wardens could make that decision as she feels that decision should have been made at the Shared Services Authority and this is not like an inside appointment like Mr Burek is going to be by moving from his position. She questioned if there was an advertisement for this position.

Mayor MacKay asked CAO Fraser to take that question. CAO Fraser noted that it was the Mayors and Wardens but it was the Shared Services Authority that put the request forward. Deputy Mayor MacDonald questioned that was 5 weeks ago, so this Council has not known for 5 weeks that Mr Funke was in that position and she noted that she did not think that was right. We should be advised of these things as we are paying major money into the Shared Services Authority and this is an outside hire. She noted that she understands who Mr Funke is and she realizes his background but she does not think this is the way to operate.

Mayor MacKay stated that he would take the blame for not advising Council of this appointment.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if he was on a term contract or what?

Mayor MacKay noted he believed he was on a term contract.

She then questioned who would he be replacing?

Mayor MacKay noted that he would be replacing the person who was previously the CEO and then she continued that he would be over the whole Shared Services Authority and Mayor MacKay replied that he thought he was.

Mayor MacKay asked Roland Burek to help enlighten on some of this information.

Mr Burek noted that Mr Funke through his Company Funke Engineering is under a contract through the Shared Services authority and he noted that he is not privy to the terms of the contract or conditions.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald wanted to know if there was an end date on the contract and no one knew.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald wanted to know if there was an end date on the contract and no one knew.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if we get a grip on this situation and find out what is going on and basically is he on a contract, are all the bills coming from Funke Engineering and is there a per diem, mileage allowed or is he on payroll or just what is the story, is there a start date and an end date. She again noted that she is not questioning Mr Funke's ability or his credentials but she is questioning the way this was done and how Council was kept in the dark about it and she apologized but noted that she was annoyed about it.

Mayor MacKay noted that he would get hold of the Chairman of the Pictou County Shared Services Authority tomorrow and have information sent to you.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if there were any plans to hire a CAO and the Mayor noted that at this time her guess was as good as his.

Councillor Jones asked if we were going with the original recommendation.

Mayor MacKay noted that yes, we will and he noted that Mr Burek had explained at the PAC meeting they have an employee on medical leave and it is just too much for one person to handle.

Councillor Sutherland made a motion and it was seconded by Councillor Thompson that we accept the appoint of Mr Roland Burek as a Development Officer for the Pictou County Shared Services Authority for the Town of Westville. Motion passed.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked on the question if this will be an addition to his current duties and Mr Burek asked yes it will be.

He explained due to the fact that Mr MacLeod is on sick leave and Jeff Turnbull will be filling in for him. They also noted that Jeff was away for a week on vacation and at that time he legally could not issue any permits and whereas if he is a Development Officer he will be able to do that.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald expressed her appreciation for all members of the Pictou County Shared Services and the job they do.

Councillor Jones congratulated Mr Burek on his extra duties.

8.5 County Water Services

CAO Fraser noted that we have had several requests from residents and businesses in the Conley Drive area requesting connection to the Westville Water Utility.

He noted that there is no main that runs along Conley Drive but there is one on Old Truro Road and he asked everyone to look at the map and it would show how the route is followed by the actual goal is to service water on Conley Drive and when you look at the URAB approval for the Town it requires that there will be a main there and since there is no main we are looking for a decision of Council and how we should deal with these applications.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald questioned annexation of this property shown on the map.

CAO Fraser noted yes, that is something that can be explored but there would be costs associated with that and this is something that could be suggested in the letter.

Councillor Jones questioned annexation of the whole side of the street and Deputy Mayor MacDonald continued asking did we not get into a pickle with this before under the action CAO and he was told we were not allowed to do that under threat of legal action.

CAO Fraser noted that just go by memory that there was a property on the Old Truro Road that was similar.

Councillor Jones made a motion and it was seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that we follow recommendation from staff that these application be denied as per Section 24 of the Westville Water Utility's URAB approved Rates and Schedules. Motion passed.

Councillor Jones noted that this is our staff making the recommendation and Councillor Sutherland noted that on the previous one, staff did not have a recommendation.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald wanted to ask Councillor Jones to withdraw his motion and then explore the possibility of annexation. Councillor Thompson asked what area exactly would be looked at for annexation can we be more precise.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that it seems like the people along that area have been after us for some time for water.

Councillor Thompson question if that was Conley Drive and Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted it was.

CAO Fraser asked if he could point out for Council's information annexation will take quite awhile and the people that are asking for this are probably going to want to know where we stand. Councillor Sutherland noted that annexation pretty well bankrupted a couple of communities in Antigonish County.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald suggested that we continue as before.

8.6 Low Income Tax Rebate

Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a Motion seconded by Councillor Thompson to approve the rebate of \$179.00 for the residents with total income less than \$14,685.00. Motion passed.

8.7 Police Board Membership

CAO Fraser wanted to update the Council on the request to advertise for a new member. He noted that to date we have not received any applications. We will give it awhile longer and there is the possibility that we may have to advertise again.

Mayor MacKay asked if the Police Commission will be able to continue without that one person and he noted that they have 6 members now. CAO Fraser noted that was correct and if we don't find a successful applicant we may have to advertise again.

8.8 First Reading Randy Langille Agreement Application

CAO Fraser noted that PAC accepted the Technical Report for the Randy Langille Development and we will need a motion from Council to move onto the Public Hearing and then the Second Reading.

Councillor Jones asked CAO Fraser that before we do this the fact that the recommendation discussed have to be put into this plan.

CAO Fraser noted that is correct.

Councillor Sutherland made a motion and it was seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald to accept the First Reading of the Development Agreement with Randy Langille as per the discussion that took place at the PAC meeting be included in the Development Agreement. Motion passed.

8.9 CAP Site

Councillor Sutherland asked to speak about the second devastating decision made in the last month and that was the decision made about the CAP site and he noted that Statistics Canada report that 46% of people in Canada have a household wage under \$36,000 dollars and do not have access to a home computer. He noted that our CAP site is essential to the working poor, the young families and many others. He noted that our library in Town sees over 16,000 visitors per year and many are attracted there because of the CAP site.

He noted that it will impact our community a lot harder than some other communities. He noted that it is what small communities are all about and he cannot image in this age we are in not having access to a computer. He noted that the libraries do a wonderful job and he noted that they are the cornerstone of every community especially our community. I urge Council to contact whoever they can contact to reverse this decision.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald wanted to thank Councillor Sutherland for bringing up the CAP site and she noted that CAP has been in Westville since 2005 and it provides summer employment for students, training sessions and many different programs for many people. She noted that they started the first Town of Westville web site and our statistics have always been very high and she will echo Councillor Sutherlands request to contact and if each one of us could individually contact our MP Peter MacKay and ask him to please support CAP in Nova Scotia.

8.10 Distracted Drivers

Councillor Sutherland wanted to congratulate our CAO on attending a Safety Conference in Halifax. He attended as well and he was there to work and enjoy Himself and our CAO was there juggling a full time job and looking after his staff and the same time he has a young family to be looked after and it is a challenge. He noted that this is the first time that we have had our own work force and Mr Fraser thought it necessary that the work force be represented at this conference.

He continued by stating that he know that CAO Fraser probably did not have the time but there he was. He noted that it was one of the most important conferences as it was the 30th annual and that one of the feature events was on Friday at noon at the closing banquet and there was a speaker from the United States and his topic was distracted driving and how cell phones and not using cell phones when driving and it does not matter if it is hands free or not as driving is a full time job and they noted that it is one thing to conduct a conversation with another person in the car and to be on the phone. The speaker provided all the statistics and how dangerous all the phone conversation and texting and how many lives have been lost in the last 5 years.

CAO Fraser thanked Councillor Sutherland for his kind words.

8.1 Thank you

Councillor Jones thanked the people of Westville who took a few minutes of their busy day last month and did a little bit of clean up around their yards as it was suggested at last month's meeting and he did notice people doing this.

ITEM 9 SECOND READING OF RECREATION BY-LAW

CAO Fraser noted that this was the follow up to the First Reading of the By-Law At last month's meeting of the Recreation By-Law.

Councillor Thompson made a motion and it was seconded by Councillor Jones to approve the Second Reading of the Recreation By-Law. Motion passed.

ITEM 10

10.1 Morris Campbell- North Main Street

First he wanted to ask about item 8.4 Katimavik – he supposes this is down the drain with the Government decision. He was advised that yes it is.

He also questioned the article about Maritime Steel and did we receive any response. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that we had heard from Mayor Hawes of Pictou and noted that they will support us.

He also asked about the second reading of the Recreation By-Law and wanted to know if that meant that the people from here to Sutherland's River can be on the committee.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that it limits the number of people from the outside area. Morris asked if it meant that someone from Caribou or Sutherland's River can be on our Recreation Committee.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted that in theory that is correct and she went on to explain that she was say that if we are not able to get volunteers from our local area. Mr Campbell noted that years ago when the rink was built the area included Foxbrook and Hopewell.

Mr Campbell also mentioned that Mr Funke and whatever he is now he hopes that the Shared Services Authority does not hire is Company as that would be a conflict of interest.

Mayor MacKay noted that is duly noted.

11. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

11.1 *It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Jones to move to in-camera session. Motion carried*

11.2 *It was moved by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald in-camera session be adjourned. Motion carried.*

Certified to be a true copy of the April 30th, 2012 of the Town of Westville Regular Council Meeting.

.....
MAYOR

.....
RECORDING SECRETARY