



**Town of Westville  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

*Commencing at 6:00 pm*

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Roger MacKay; Deputy Mayor Lynn MacDonald; Councillor Charlie Sutherland; Councillor Bernie Murphy; Councillor Lennie White

**Town Employees Present:** CAO Scott Fraser; Superintendent of Public Works Samuel Graham; Recording Secretary Vicki Heighton

**Absent:** None

**Visitors Present:** A number of Westville residents;

**Media Organizations Present:** The News; 94.1 FM, Pictou Advocate

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**1. CALLING OF MEETING TO ORDER**

- 1.1 Mayor MacKay called the meeting to order welcoming everyone in attendance.
- 1.2 Mayor MacKay called for a moment of silence as it is the last meeting before Remembrance Day.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- 2.1 *It was motioned by Deputy Mayor MacDonald to approve the tentative agenda and was seconded by Councillor Sutherland.*  
Councillor Murphy asked to add the bus stop on Church St. and the town website to the agenda.  
Councillor Murphy declared a conflict of interest on section 9.5 (purchase of fire truck)  
*Motion Carried.*

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 3.1 *It was moved by Councillor Murphy and seconded by Councillor White to approve the minutes of the September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 regular Council Meeting as presented. Motion carried.*

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

- 4.1 Deputy Mayor MacDonald questioned 6.8. She asked if Mr. Langille was in to sign the papers on the development on Jerry Lane. CAO Fraser stated Mr. Langille wanted them sent to a solicitor to look at. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if it was just an amendment from the original agreement and when it was

going to be resolved. CAO Fraser noted it was stated he sent them a request and asked if it had been received and if there were any questions and there has been no word. Councillor Sutherland asked if the agreement included paving. CAO Fraser stated it did not.

- 4.2 Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked about section 8.8 the asset of Highland Consolidated school and if they were in contact with the school board. CAO Fraser noted they did contact them and there is a meeting scheduled for Friday.
- 4.3 Deputy Mayor MacDonald questioned 9.0; work at the cenotaph. She asked if they contacted their federal or provincial counterparts. CAO Fraser noted there may be grants available provincially or federally so they are looking into that before they contact them.

## 5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 *It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Murphy to approve/pay the accounts as presented.*  
Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if the Fireworks FX was for July 1st. CAO Fraser stated it was.  
Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked about New Glasgow Police Services. CAO Fraser stated it was also for July 1<sup>st</sup> to have extra policing during the parade. Deputy Mayor MacDonald also questioned Westville Tax bills and CAO Fraser noted it was the Water Utility Reservoir.  
*Motion carried.*

## 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.*  
Councillor White noted the Police Commission are looking for two members and are looking for citizens to come forward.  
*Motion carried.*
- 6.2 **Fire Report -** *It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Murphy that the Fire Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.3 **Recreation Report -** *It was moved by Councillor Murphy and seconded by Councillor White that the Recreation Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.4 **Compost, Garbage & Recycling Report -** *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the Compost, Garbage & Recycling Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.5 **Environmental Health Report -** *It was moved by Councillor Murphy and seconded by Councillor White that the Environmental Health Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*
- 6.6 **Transportation Report –** *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Councillor Murphy to approve the transportation report as presented.*  
Councillor Sutherland noted there were 8 service leaks and doesn't know where the department found the time for them. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted there is 78 hours of overtime. Councillor White asked if the town is still involved in patching and Superintendent Sam Graham stated they are.

*Motion Carried.*

- 6.7 **Building Report** – *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the Building Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.*

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 **CUPW**

CAO Fraser noted they are dealing with changes coming to local post offices and they advised council of a study that was done to show ways they can save money with keeping public postal service. CAO Fraser noted they attached a resolution for council's consideration.

*Deputy Mayor MacDonald motioned to table CUPW for November for council to read through the material and was seconded by Councillor Murphy.*

Councillor Sutherland noted the winter is coming and some of the community mailboxes need some work with gravel. Councillor Sutherland asked Superintendent Graham to have a look to know if it is our gravel or Canada Posts. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted we could do it and would like to bill Canada Post.

*Motion carried.*

7.2 **Adopt a Kettle for a Day**

CAO Fraser stated the kettles run from November 15<sup>th</sup> to December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013. They run 10 hours a day and have to be manned at all times. The Salvation Army is looking for volunteers in the community. Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated she has taken part and it is only for a couple of hours. She noted you meet a lot of people and it is worthwhile to volunteer.

8. **PRESENTATION: AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mr. MacDonald presented the town's audited financial statement that is attached to Mayor and council.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated she feels CAO Fraser is doing a great job, updating council on financial items and the statements are proof. Mr. MacDonald stated he has been an auditor for the town for a number of years and is very pleased to see someone is keeping a close eye on where the money is coming from and where it is going to.

9. **NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

9.1 **Town Ward System**

Councillor White suggested doing a study on the ward system. Councillor White noted the Municipal Government's Act does call for it. Section 369i. says in the year 1999 and 2006 and every eighth year thereafter the council shall conduct a study of the number and boundaries of polling districts in the municipality and the fairness and reasonableness and the number of councillors. Section 369ii. states after the study is completed and before the end of the year in which the study was conducted the council shall apply to the board to confirm or to alter the number of boundaries of polling districts and number of councillors.

*Councillor White motioned to conduct study of the ward system currently in the town according to the Municipal Governments Act in 2014 and Councillor Murphy seconded.*

Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated she will vote against this motion and noted she understands the utility and review board requires it and they handle the process and they do the study. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted she does not want to pay where it is going to be done anyway.

Mayor MacKay asked CAO what is the protocol. CAO Fraser believes it is the

town's responsibility to conduct the survey. He stated the town can do it internally or hire someone to do the study and it goes to the UARB for a board hearing and they rule on it and come down with a decision. Councillor White noted the act says council will cause the study to be conducted but they do not decide on the results. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if they need a motion if it is stated in the act. Councillor White stated he likes to be proactive and it is their responsibility to bring it forward. Mayor MacKay asked if there is any reason it cannot be put forward and CAO Fraser stated there is no reason why it cannot.

**4 Yays**

**1 Nay – Deputy Mayor MacDonald**

**Motion carried.**

**9.2 Curb Side Giveaway**

Councillor White thinks it would be a great idea for residents in Westville. He noted it is not garbage and suggested it be held late in the late spring. Councillor Murphy was concerned about the clean-up afterwards and people not taking things in. Councillor White stated it hasn't been an issue in other areas. Councillor Sutherland noted he seen it in Halifax and there is lots of enthusiasm. Mayor MacKay believes we did it a few years ago and it is not new. Councillor White stated there would be guidelines set out.

**9.3 Sale of Land**

**a. 1906 Dufferin St.**

CAO Fraser stated the initiator of the property no longer wants to proceed with the purchase at this time and the other owners did not want it.

**b. PID#01031343**

CAO Fraser stated they proceeded with the sale with the lawyer and the property owner did not wish to proceed.

**9.4 144 CEF MOU**

CAO Fraser noted at a previous meeting there was an agreement council reviewed. CAO Fraser noted the funding is available and it shows what the \$1150.00 would go towards. He also noted the other five municipalities have approved it.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked who initiated it and wants to know why now. CAO Fraser stated it was initiated by the Town of Pictou. Mayor MacKay stated the organization does great work and he believes in it. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked why they are signing a memo of understanding as they already have a board and asked what happens to the board they already have. Mayor MacKay believes it is going to be reconstructed and there will be one board. Mayor MacKay noted they will need a member from council to serve on the board and former Mayor Cyr said he would stay on as a community member.

Councillor White noted a letter came from Mayor Hauz stating the reasons for this. Councillor Murphy believes it is a good organization and stated it looks like they are making it more transparent. He is willing to support it. Councillor White agreed with Councillor Murphy.

Mayor MacKay asked CAO Fraser if they would be able to come up with that amount of money. Mayor MacKay noted everyone agrees it is a great organization and they have to make a decision.

**Councillor White moved to accept the memorandum of understanding for 144 CEF MOU and Councillor Murphy seconded. Motion carried.**

**9.5 Fire Truck Purchase – Update**

CAO Fraser stated council had approved the purchase of the 2011 freightliner and it was sold the next day. They are looking for approval to purchase an international model for \$214 700.00. CAO Fraser noted the lease payment would go from \$2985.00 to \$3287.00.

*Councillor Sutherland moved to approve the purchase of the fire truck and was seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald.*

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if they are buying it from the same company. CAO Fraser noted it was not the company who sold it from under them. Chief Dunn noted the truck that was sold was a leftover and the truck they are asking for now is a Brand new 2011. He noted the warranty does not start on it until they receive it. Councillor White asked when they will start to pay for the truck. CAO Fraser stated the payments will not start until the month following receiving it after the lease is signed. CAO Fraser also noted it will probably not be in the books until next year. Chief Dunn noted it will probably be received in late April 2014.

*Motion carried.*

**9.6 Unsightly Report**

CAO Fraser stated he only listed the active properties on the unsightly report and gave how many were cleared.

CAO Fraser noted there was an inspection carried out on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 on 1773 Main St. the town boarded up the windows and there is no siding on the property and would like to issue a 45 day clean-up notification.

*Deputy Mayor MacDonald motioned to accept staff's recommendation to issue a 45 day clean-up to have the siding replaced seconded by Councillor Murphy.*

Councillor White asked if they can specify what they want done and add the windows. Councillor Murphy stated going forward that would have to be the standard. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted the windows can be sided over. Mayor MacKay passed the gavel to Deputy Mayor MacDonald and noted the inspection was done on the 8<sup>th</sup> day and was not presented until the 28<sup>th</sup> day of the month and asked if CAO Fraser can act on it to give notice the day the inspection is done. CAO Fraser noted that if council approves it, it will be 45 days from tonight. Councillor White asked if he can post it before coming to council with it. CAO Fraser noted council can make a policy for him to do that.

*Motion carried.*

*Mayor MacKay motioned when CAO Fraser receives reports from the unsightly officer he can make the decision to have the property posted and was seconded by Councillor Murphy.*

Councillor Sutherland asked if CAO Fraser could contact the family involved. Deputy Mayor MacDonald believes it could be and the owners will have to decide what to do with it.

*Motion carried.*

CAO Fraser noted an inspection was done at 2026 Acadia St. on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and it is not fit for anyone to live in. CAO Fraser noted it does not impose immediate danger and is in the process of getting the deed transferred. Councillor Sutherland asked if the first part is to schedule the clean-up immediately. CAO Fraser noted it was.

*Councillor Sutherland motioned to have the property at 2026 Acadia St. cleaned up immediately and was seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonlad.*

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if the house could be demolished at the same time as the shed. CAO Fraser noted it would be better to do it later.

*Motion carried.*

CAO Fraser noted an inspection on 1979 Munro St. was carried out on October 21, 2013. The owners were notified about the board across the door. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted neighbours have expressed concerns about electrical wires and asked if they can recommend the power be shut off. CAO Fraser noted

he will talk to the owners.

*Deputy Mayor MacDonald motioned to contact the owners at 1979 Munro St and was seconded by Councillor Murphy. Motion carried.*

**9.7 HCMS**

CAO Fraser noted on Friday November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 the school board is going to go through the school with the town representatives between 9:00am – 3:00pm and asked if anyone wished to attend or have a certain time. Councillor White noted he would like 9:00am better and everyone agreed.

**9.8 2026 Acadia Street – Sale**

CAO Fraser noted the town purchased 2026 Acadia Street at a tax sale and it is not suitable for anyone to move into. CAO Fraser noted himself; public works and the building inspector went through the building on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013. He noted the value would be with the land. CAO Fraser noted the neighbours have expressed interest in subdividing the lot. He noted it would have to go through the proper procedure of advertising it as it is a building lot and would have to evaluate what the purchaser would like to do with the property. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted if they did demolish it they would not have to worry. CAO Fraser noted it would put the cost up.

*Councillor Murphy motioned to go with option one and was seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald. Motion carried.*

**9.9 Taxi Licenses**

CAO Fraser noted there are taxi licenses from Benvie's taxi for council to approve.

*Councillor White moved to approve the taxi licenses as presented and was seconded by Councillor Murphy. Motion carried.*

**9.10 Bus Stop**

Councillor Murphy stated the bus stop on Church St. has no roof on it and a resident on Queen St. would like to move it to the property if no one is using it. He noted the town would not be responsible.

*Councillor Murphy motioned the resident be allowed to move the bus stop on Church St. to his property on Queen St. if it is not being used and was seconded by Councillor White.*

Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated students do congregate at that bus stop and noted it is not protected. Mayor MacKay stated to make sure there are no students using the bus stop. Superintendent Graham noted a resident asked for the brush to be removed so it is being used.

*Councillor Murphy removed his motion and Councillor White concurred with the removal of the motion.*

**9.11 Town Website**

Councillor Murphy noted the recreation coordinator said that she did not have access to the website and asked if someone is available to do updating. CAO Fraser stated Susan has done a lot of the postings for recreation. He also noted there have been a lot of changes and the library is going to different towns to show how the updated program works.

**10. QUESTIONS FROM CITIZENS**

**10.1** Marilyn Cameron 2030 Acadia St. would like the house 2026 Acadia St. torn down by the spring. She thanked council for their time.

**10.2** Morris Campbell asked what the town was going to do with the old boxing club. Mayor MacKay stated he heard Tommy wanted to get back into it. Mr. Campbell


noted the pigeons are getting into it.

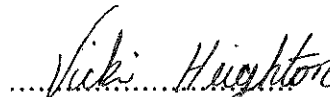
- 10.3 Doug Porter noted he has chased kids away from the property 1979 Munro St. He noted the door can be pried open and would like something to be done immediately as it is dangerous.
- 10.4 Councillor Sutherland asked if the town has a new tenant. CAO Fraser noted the prospect is a done deal. MLA Tim Houston is opening his office in the town hall. He noted Mayor MacKay gave up his office and they will find a new one for him. CAO Fraser noted the lease has not been signed but they will be moving things in tomorrow and will have the papers signed.
- 10.5 Mayor MacKay noted Deputy Mayor Lynn MacDonald and her husband Wayne celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Saturday.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

- 11.1 *Councillor White motioned to adjourn the public meeting and Councillor Murphy seconded.*

*Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 regular Council Meeting for the Town of Westville.*

  
.....  
MAYOR

  
.....  
RECORDING SECRETARY