



**Town of Westville
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, September 30, 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; Chief Donald Hussher; Recording Secretary Vicki Heighton
Absent:	None
Visitors Present:	A number of Westville residents;
Media Organizations Present:	The News; 94.1 FM, Pictou Advocate

1. CALLING OF MEETING TO ORDER

- 1.1 Mayor MacKay called the meeting to order welcoming everyone in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 2.1 *It was motioned by Councillor White to approve the tentative agenda and was seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald.*
Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked to add Quik Pik under New Business and asset at Highland Consolidated.
Councillor Murphy noted a personal conflict on item eight (new fire truck).
Councillor Sutherland asked to have Halloween and Cenotaph added to the agenda.
Motion Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 3.1 *It was moved by Councillor Murphy and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald to approve the minutes of the August 26th, 2013 regular Council Meeting as presented.*
Councillor Sutherland noted on Sunday at 1:15pm the local railway company was doing inspections. He stated CAO Fraser noted we are a trunk line; not a main line. Councillor Sutherland thinks they should be able to do an inspection on our trunk line when they are doing the inspection on the main line.
- 3.2 Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted a correction to 9.3. She noted the gentleman Mr. Campbell is referring to should be Goodman not Goodwin.
- 3.3 Councillor White noted there was a correction on the REN discussion on 4.2. It says Deputy Mayor MacDonald said to contact Warden Bailey who is the chair

of this committee but there is no committee. Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated the minutes reflect what was said at the time and Councillor White was offering new information and clarification.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- 4.1 Councillor White noted there is correspondence to the REN and will leave that to correspondence. He wanted to clarify the questions in section 8.1 of the previous minutes regarding the Mayors and Wardens Committee was: What authority did they have and do they operate under the Municipal Governance Act. He noted CAO Fraser received a response. CAO Fraser advised council, the committee is not formal and does not have the authority to make decisions it is a form for information to be shared and presentations. Councillor White noted his point was not that they were meeting in secret. He noted they have no authority to act on their own and noted the study has moved to the point of all terms of reference being verified and is going to the province for final approval and he is happy with that.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated the advisor noted the meetings should be advertised and they are open to the public. Councillor Murphy noted he attended the last meeting and said it was just information to come back to the town.

- 4.2 Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if there were two resolutions for the UNSM as council only dealt with one but the Mayor and Wardens said there were two. CAO Fraser believes there was a second one that was discussed but council just received one.

Councillor White noted the resolutions came out today. Mayor MacKay noted the resolutions at the fall conference all members have the right to vote so it is not like they are saying no we don't want it to pass. Everyone had a right to vote and he is not sure of how many resolutions there are. Councillor White stated there are 36 resolutions.

- 4.3 Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if the signs were ordered for Picken St. CAO Fraser believes they have been ordered. Superintendent of Public Works Samuel Graham noted they have already been installed on both ends.

5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 *It was moved by Councillor White and seconded by Councillor Murphy to approve/pay the accounts as presented.*

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked what ACG Equipment was. CAO Fraser noted it was for flow monitoring devices.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked about Maritime Tennis Court Builders and Refinishers. CAO Fraser stated it was for line painting on the tennis court.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald also questioned Samson Equipment and CAO Fraser noted it was for water meters.

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 Sutherland stated it is an excellent report and in the comments record he wanted to note there was a bank robbery in the town of Westville on Wednesday August 7th, 2013 and it came to a successful conclusion.

Motion carried.

- 6.2 Fire Report - *It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor White that the Fire Report be approved as presented.***
 Councillor Sutherland noted the Show and Shine was rained out and wanted to note the fire department does a lot to put these things on in the town and wanted to say congratulations for all they do. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted she was speaking with Chief Dunn and the fire department received two generous donations to help them buy the 2006 Ford truck to replace the suburban.
Motion carried.
- 6.3 Recreation Report - *It was moved by Councillor Murphy and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the Recreation Report be approved as presented.***
Motion carried.
 Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted she attended the Roots for Youth Homeless for a Night. She noted there was not a great turnout from the public but there was a strong turnout from all the community organizations that helped. She also noted the fire department did a BBQ for them.
 Deputy Mayor MacDonald wanted to congratulate Westville Recreation for getting the Pictou County Community Orchestra to practice in their facility.
- 6.4 Compost, Garbage & Recycling Report - *It was moved by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Councillor Murphy that the Compost, Garbage & Recycling Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.***
- 6.5 Environmental Health Report - *It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor White that the Environmental Health Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.***
 Deputy Mayor MacDonald said it was a great report and shows how much is being done around town.
- 6.6 Transportation Report – *It was moved by Councillor White and seconded by Councillor Murphy to approve the transportation report as presented. Motion Carried.***
- 6.7 Animal Control Report - *It was moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Sutherland that the Animal Control Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.***
- 6.8 Building Report – *It was moved by Councillor Murphy and seconded by Councillor White that the Building Report be approved as presented.***
 Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked about the status under Langille’s application. It states the appeal process has expired but applicant has not yet signed the development agreement amendment and asked where they sit with it. CAO Fraser noted he contacted Mr. Langille to come in and sign the papers and has also taken them down to the job site but Mr. Langille was not present so they are trying to arrange a time to get him to come in. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted there have been a lot of ups and downs and does not want to cast a negative light but why did he not come in to sign them. CAO Fraser noted Mr. Langille may have been busy. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked what they do if he does not sign and CAO Fraser noted the original agreement will remain in effect. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if he does not sign them will it go back to PAC. CAO Fraser noted they would.
Motion carried.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 UNSM – Cessation of the UNSM Pension Plan**
 CAO Fraser stated this was a letter stating the cessation of the pension plan and

Standard Life communicated they will honor the same terms. CAO Fraser thinks it is a good idea to get proposals from other providers.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald motioned to follow the advice from CAO Fraser to put out tenders to see other avenues for the pension plan and was seconded by Councillor White. Motion carried.

7.2 Canada – NS Infrastructure Secretariat – Gas Tax

CAO Fraser noted the letter stated the gas tax money that had to be spent by March 31st, 2014 no longer applies and can be used for future use.

7.3 MANS

CAO Fraser stated there was an information pack to be distributed with questions and answers pertaining to mining in Nova Scotia.

7.4 NRHS – School Advisory Council

CAO Fraser stated it was an invitation for a council member to participate as an active member on their advisory board.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald motioned to appoint Councillor Murphy to be a member of the NRHS School Advisory Council and was seconded by Councillor White.

Councillor Murphy accepted.

Motion Carried.

7.5 BCE

CAO Fraser stated this was a copy from Bell Aliant with the changes being made with wireless providers looking for support. The concern is US companies like Verizon would be able to enter Canadian market under the new regulations. Mayor MacKay noted the deal fell through. Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated Verizon dropped out.

8. NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Fire Truck

Councillor Murphy declared his conflict with this issue.

CAO Fraser brought to council's attention the fire department requested a truck to be in the budget. He also noted Chief Ken Dunn attended the Fire Chief's Convention and was dealing with suppliers. They have a request to buy a truck. It is a 2011 model that was leftover from the showroom floor and noted he has attached a diagram. CAO Fraser noted the cost is \$195,000 and would have to have a capital 7 year lease. He noted there is not much difference in the lease they have now; the long term debt will increase from 9.3 to 9.4%. CAO Fraser suggested they use the gas tax reserve for paving roads and borrow less on those projects and borrow more for the truck. Deputy Mayor MacDonald thinks it is a good idea. CAO Fraser noted the truck could take 6-8 months for the delivery date. Councillor White asked what the value of the current truck is and CAO Fraser said it was difficult to say but they could put out for proposals and have it appraised. Councillor White asked if they had a buyer if the money could be applied to the new truck and CAO Fraser noted it is put to equipment reserve that could be used for equipment purchases.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked what the capital lease would be compared to the Municipal Finance Corporation borrowing and CAO Fraser noted the Capital Lease would be better cash flow and the MFC they would probably have to wait until June. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked what the borrowing rate quotation means for the potential increases at anytime. CAO Fraser thinks it would be rare they change the price on the agreement.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald moved to accept staff's recommendation and purchase the fire truck through capital lease of seven years with the purchase

price of this unit to be \$195,000.00 and was seconded by Councillor Sutherland. Motion carried.

8.2 REN

CAO Fraser noted they received correspondence and an agreement updating them on the REN and they just updated on the process. Deputy Mayor MacDonald asked if their REN group hasn't met, the literature states that a lead municipality would be designated and everything would flow through that municipality and as she understands their REN group could include Pictou County and Anitgonish County and asked if Guysborough County moved from our REN to Cape Breton. Councillor White noted there is a diagram to show. Deputy Mayor MacDonald stated she does not know how they can proceed with this as their group has not met. Councillor White noted he does not think there is any call for action at this time and it is just explaining what is happening at this point of time. He noted in the correspondence it does say there will be meetings arranged.

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted she attended the chamber breakfast on Friday where it was for small business to have the opportunity to meet with the local candidates from the local election and there was a question from a business owner of who is going to help me now that the PRDA is gone and no one picked up on the fact they are going to have REN. It makes her wonder if they have a change of government what is going to happen to this idea. Councillor White noted finding the best geographical area is the key and believes following the same lines of the school board will work better.

8.3 Municipal Alcohol Project

CAO Fraser stated they are asking council to support this project. If council is going to support it they are looking for council to appoint a committee member. *Councillor White motioned to appoint Deputy Mayor MacDonald as a member and was seconded by Councillor Murphy. Motion carried.*

Deputy Mayor MacDonald thanked council as she did express interest in serving on this committee.

8.4 Riverview Volunteer Association – Funding Request

CAO Fraser noted they are looking for funding for a lifeguard onsite and they are having a hard time finding one because they cannot offer fulltime. Deputy Mayor MacDonald finds it frustrating everyone has to be in or it doesn't happen. If it is beyond their means then they can't. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted she would love to give something and would like council to discuss an amount. Councillor White asked if the town of Pictou said no. CAO Fraser noted their grant funding has been used and noted they will consider it in the next year's budget.

Councillor Murphy asked if it is something that can be moved to the next Finance meeting. CAO Fraser noted it was not going to take effect until next year.

Councillor White noted they were going to give the museum \$50 and it did not go and they have at least \$50 to start with.

Councillor Murphy moved to have the Riverview Volunteer Association funding request moved to finance and was seconded by Councillor Sutherland. Motion carried.

8.5 Audited Financial Statements – Approval of Principal

Deputy Mayor MacDonald moved to approve the audit financial statements for the year ending March 31st, 2013 and was seconded by Councillor Murphy.

Mayor MacKay asked if this has to be to the province by a certain date which is why they are approving it without the auditor; and CAO Fraser noted that is correct the auditor was not available to come in but will be at the next meeting.

Motion carried.

8.6 Finance Report – August 2013

CAO Fraser noted it is the statement of operations for the town for the current fiscal year until August 30th, 2013. The report gives you the budget year to date, actual expense year to date and what percentage was used of the budget. CAO Fraser then went through the accounts. Councillor White noted there were multipliers involved in the numbers. CAO Fraser noted they were represented in thousands and also noted they are under budget. Councillor Sutherland noted general government under his name was listed as an expense of \$1049.00 and was wondering if that should be one line down. CAO Fraser noted he just uses a template and uploads data. It does not take much for it to be out by one row.

8.7 Quik Pik

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted she has been getting complaints and asked if it may be dangerous and would like some action to be taken. CAO Fraser noted he spoke with the neighbouring property owner to see what the status on the properties that are down in that area are and will have the building inspector to go do an inspection.

8.8 Asset at Highland Consolidated

Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted there is a piano at Highland Consolidated School and is concerned about the condition and asked if we could contact the school board about getting it.

8.9 Halloween

Councillor Sutherland noted the next meeting will not be until late October. *Councillor Sutherland motioned to have an ad to celebrate Halloween from 5pm to 8pm on October 31st, 2013 and was seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald. Motion carried.*

9.0 Cenotaph

Councillor Sutherland noted the Federal government recently had a campaign going in regards to the War of 1812 and the provincial government had a wonderful program called Democracy 250. On January 1st, 2014 it will be the anniversary of going to war. He noted the cenotaph on the main street needs a massive amount of work. Councillor Sutherland was hoping council would send information off to both levels of government detailing the history the municipal units like the town of Westville played in the war. He hopes Westville will lead the way on spearheading the update of our cenotaph. It is not something the town of Westville can do by ourselves, he stated. Mayor MacKay added there was someone from the legion who was going to get in contact with CAO Fraser. CAO Fraser noted he has not been contacted by him yet.

9. QUESTIONS FROM CITIZENS

9.1 Morris Campbell thanked council for getting the fence down and grass cut on Mr. Goodman's property. Campbell asked CAO Fraser if on the list of accounts for WCB that if the town pays \$9.42 or if it was something extra. CAO Fraser noted it was an adjustment that had to be made.

9.2 Morris Campbell noted in 2009 he spoke to council regarding Glen Haven Manor and it became a dead issue and would like council to write a letter to the MLA about having a long term care facility in Westville and deliver it to them on October 9th, 2013. He noted they are talking about Glen Haven Manor being remodeled and was told they couldn't remodel it without having the people go somewhere else and believes it should be in Westville. Councillor White noted he is on the board for Glen Haven Manor and at the board meeting last week they were advised that Glen Haven beds are to be

replaced and the idea is the facility is going to be replaced and the process is going to be starting soon.

- 9.3 Superintendent Samuel Graham presented Mayor MacKay with a team shirt on behalf of the Westvillians, 2013 Sobeys Cup Champions. Mayor MacKay stated that it will be hung downstairs in the office for everyone to see.
- 9.4 Marilyn Cameron noted the town purchased the land next to her property on Acadia Street and asked when the cleanup is going to start. CAO Fraser noted 2026 Acadia Street was purchased in a tax sale and he is going to have the building inspector take a look at it and see if it is dangerous and if so it will be torn down immediately. If it is not, if it is unsightly the town will have to clean it up then will look into selling it. Cameron noted it is full of trash inside and she is scared the rats will be in her basement. She would like to see action before the winter.

10. IN-CAMERA

- 10.1 *Councillor White moved to go to an in-camera session and was seconded by Councillor Murphy. Motion carried.*
- 10.2 The regular meeting resumed.
Councillor Murphy motioned to approve the Police Proposal and was seconded by Councillor White.
Councillor Sutherland advised he could not vote in favor of this. He felt there are changes in policing that will need to be addressed immediately. Councillor Sutherland felt he needed more information as this is a big decision for the Town and a tight timeline. Councillor White advised that he respected Councillor Sutherland's decision, but stated he is comfortable with explaining this to citizens and he would support it.
4 yays
1 nay
Motion carried.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

- 13.1 *Deputy Mayor MacDonald motioned to adjourn the public meeting and Councillor White seconded.*

Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the September 30th, 2013 regular Council Meeting for the Town of Westville.


MAYOR


RECORDING SECRETARY