

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 8, 2023
Approved Minutes

DATE: February 8, 2023
TIME: 4:30 p.m. – 6:25 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers

ATTENDANCE: Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant; Councillors Jill Chandler; Ron Dowling; Jody Jackson; Jeff MacDonald; Jeremy Crosby, CAO; Kim O’Connell; Director of Finance and Technology; Jeremy Pierce, Deputy CAO and Director of Recreation, Culture, and Events; Jeannie Gallant, Director of Infrastructure; and Wendy Watts, Community and Business Engagement Manager; Minutes were transcribed by Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Councillor Gordie Cox; Kevin Reynolds, Director of Planning, Development, and Heritage

CHAIR: Mayor Steve Ogden (via Zoom)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Ogden called the Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance and those viewing via social media. He explained that he is viewing from Ottawa as he is there attending a sustainable communities conference. Mayor Ogden also took a moment to welcome Cpt. David Weatherbie of the RCMP to the meeting.

Mayor Ogden took a moment to acknowledge the land upon which we gather is the unceded territory of the Mi’Kmaq people, and we pay our respects to the Indigenous Mi’Kmaq people of this territory past, present, and future.

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts were declared.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Jeff MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Jody Jackson that the agenda be approved with the following additions: - Short Term Rentals Bylaw and Food Truck Bylaw under the Planning, Development, and Heritage heading.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant and seconded by Councillor Jeff MacDonald that the regular monthly meeting minutes of January 11, 2023, be approved as circulated.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

6. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Nil

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

The report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Mayor Ogden reviewed his report as follows:

- Chaired the regular monthly meeting of Town Council, Committee of the Whole, and the initial meeting of the Accountability and Engagement Committee;
- Along with CAO Crosby, and Deputy CAO Pierce, attended a Canada Games Event at Brookvale to unveil the new medals;
- Along with Deputy CAO Pierce, was interviewed by CBC regarding tentative plans to locate a curling club in Stratford. Was also interviewed by CBC on another occasion about the Senior Engagement Program;
- Had the honour of attending an event to mark World Religion Day on January 15, 2023, hosted by the Sikh Community at the Malcolm Darragh centre;
- Attended the initial meeting of the Infrastructure Committee, the Sustainability Committee, the Safety Services Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee. Also attend the second meeting of the Planning, Development and Heritage Committee;
- Participated in the first Intermunicipal Shape Stratford meeting where Charlottetown, Cornwall, Three Rivers, Kensington, and Summerside were represented. Also participated in a Shape Stratford planning meeting on February 6, 2023;
- Participated in a virtual meeting of the National Climate Caucus of elected officials;
- Had the very pleasant honour of being invited to a day-long planning workshop sponsored by the Immigrant and Refugee Service Association;
- Along with CAO Crosby and Deputy CAO Pierce – met with Premier King and two members of his staff to discuss Stratford priorities;
- Along with CAO Crosby met with PEI RCMP Commanding Officer Derek Santosuosso to discuss policing priorities and issues in Stratford;
- Had the pleasure of attending the Greater Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce (GCCC) Awards Dinner, along with Councillor Cox, CAO Crosby, and several staff members where Stratford won an award for Workplace Excellence;
- Attended the initial meeting of the new FPEIM Board;
- Attended the Roadbuilders Association Dinner, along with Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant and CAO Crosby;
- Thank you to Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant for attending an inclusion event at the SESC on January 11, 2023, on my behalf, and for taking my place at the Canada Games Torch

relay on February 6, 2023. Deputy Mayor Gallant also represented the Town at the Lunar New Year's Celebrations of the PEI Vietnamese Community on January 15, 2023, at the Delta Hotel;

- Spoke and visited with several residents to discuss various issues;
- Attended internal meetings and looked after the day to day affairs of the Town; and
- Attending a Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Sustainability Conference in Ottawa, along with Sustainability Chair Councillor Gordie Cox, and former Sustainability Coordinator Katie Sonier, and will be accepting a Sustainability Award for the Switch Program.

8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO) REPORT

The report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. The CAO gave an overview of his report as follows:

- Department head meeting to discuss Town projects and initiatives with the management team;
- Attended the monthly Planning Board Committee meeting;
- Met with a resident regarding our Arts and Culture Sub-Committee;
- Met with residents regarding the potential for sewer servicing on the Cove Road;
- Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss Town projects, initiatives, and other Town and Utility business;
- Attended a meeting regarding the re-launch of the Stratford Switch program;
- Microsoft Suite training for the Shape Stratford project;
- Stratford community campus meeting with representatives from the Town, the province, and CBCL to discuss storm water design;
- Attended a meeting to discuss additional space for library programming at the existing location;
- Attended the kick-off meeting with Stantec regarding the Growth Development Strategy/Shape Stratford;
- Attended the research presentation regarding the future of Jordan's Pond and the potential to return it to a viable salt marsh;
- Attended the community campus coordination committee meeting;
- Attended the intermunicipal Shape Stratford Taskforce meeting with representatives from Three Rivers, Charlottetown, Kensington, Summerside, and Cornwall;
- Budget meeting with department heads;
- Attended the monthly Finance Committee meeting;
- Attended the Stratford community campus earthworks coordination meeting with representatives from the province, 9 Yards Studio, APM, and CBCL;
- Attended the Immigrant and Refugee Services Association of PEI planning day seminar;
- Attended the CARI stakeholder annual meeting;
- Met with members of the planning department;

- Attended the Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report Presentation/Discussion by Ashton Dudley;
- Attended the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce President's Excellence Awards;
- Quarterly meeting with RCMP Chief Superintendent Derek Santosuosso to discuss policing in Stratford;
- Met with provincial representatives to discuss Town projects and initiatives;
- Conducted interviews with the director of finance for the Stratford Seniors Complex maintenance person position;
- Attended the monthly Charlottetown Area Development Corporation (CADC) board meeting; and
- Attended the sustainable procurement staff training session put on by Reeve Consulting.

In addition to the above, spent considerable time preparing for the upcoming budget presentations, conducted meetings with staff, prepared agendas and material for several of the meetings listed above, reviewed infrastructure projects and timelines, discussed several planning related items, and dealt with various staff HR related issues. In addition, I tended to other Town and Utility related business as required.

9. SAFETY SERVICES

a) Report

Report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Councillor Jackson took a moment to acknowledge MLA Michele Beaton who was in attendance.

Councillor Jackson gave brief update on the Citizens on Patrol program stating that it is a great program, and they could use four or five more volunteers.

b) Street Light

No Report

c) RCMP

The report for the month of January was included in the agenda package. Cpl. Weatherbie highlighted some of the items in the RCMP report.

d) Humane Society Report

The report for the month of January was included in the agenda package.

e) Transit

The report for the month of January was included in the agenda package.

f) Cross Roads Fire Department

The report for the month of January was included in the agenda package.

10. RECREATION, CULTURE AND EVENTS

a) Report

Councillor Jill Chandler reviewed the report as follows:

Canada Games Torch Relay - the Town of Stratford was the proud host of the Canada Games Torch Relay on Monday, February 6, 2023. The event was originally slated for February 3, 2023, but was postponed due to the impending extreme cold weather forecast. The Torch Relay was followed by a celebration at the Stratford Town Centre gymnasium. The Town would like to thank the community for its' support of this event and a special thank you to the 15 Torch Bearers who participated in the torch relay.

Gymnastics will be hosted at the Norton Diamond Centre from February 20 – 24, 2023. The Town will also host a children's cultural event on Saturday, March 5, 2023.

Arts and Culture – The first meeting of the Arts and Culture Sub-Committee will take place in February.

Lantern Making Workshops – were held on January 21 and 22, 2023, with 70 participants taking part. Community members of all ages and artistic skill level created lanterns that decorated the gym for the Canada Games Torch Relay, and they will remain up for the duration of the Winter Games. Island artist Ryan McAdam Young was available to offer guidance in creating the lanterns.

Winterfest February 18, 19, and 20, 2023, – the Town of Stratford will host WinterFest after a two year hiatus. Starting on Saturday, February 18 and running through to February 20 (Islander Day), the Town Centre will be home to a Youth Centre led Flea Market, Fun Fair which will included inflatables from Par-T-Perfect, face painting, canteen services, family music and theatre performances, petting farm, animation characters, and art space.

Stratford Youth Centre and Council – the Youth Council is starting a project to address safety concerns regarding the crosswalk on Bunbury Road at the entrance to Cotton Park. The Youth Council will be setting up some meetings with the government, as well as a public awareness campaign in the coming months. The area has become very dangerous, especially at dusk.

The Youth Centre is very proud of two of its' members who are participating in the Canada Games. Daniel MacLeod (grade 11 from Mermaid) will be participating in Fencing and Mara Duncan (grade 6 from Stratford) who will be participating in Wheelchair Basketball on team NB. It is a combined team of PEI and New Brunswick athletes.

Programs – winter recreation programs continue to be in high demand. There are eight vacant spots amongst all recreation activities offered by the Town. The morning tennis program for youth and adults has proven to be a welcomed addition to the Town program offerings despite its less than ideal early morning start time. Open gym time is once again being offered on Friday afternoons after a re-structuring of the gym schedule. The gym schedule now sees baseball and softball programs being offered on the weekday evenings. The popular Stratford Skills & Drills program ends March 25, 2023, at the Pownal Sports Centre. The program has 30 young aspiring hockey players.

Outdoor Winter Activities – with the extended fall like weather conditions now seemingly behind us, the focus has shifted to the Town's groomed and cleared trails, along with outdoor skating rinks. Pondside Rinks – one rink for skating and the other for ringette and hockey and they are currently operational. The lights are turned on at 5:00 p.m. daily and turned off at 10:00 p.m. Weather conditions, primarily the lack of significant snow has made it difficult to get ice established at the Bunbury rink, but the Town is attempting to work through this and hopes to have this ice surface operational soon.

Councillor Chandler noted that she had the pleasure of attending some of the events such as the torch relay and the lantern making sessions. She noted that it is wonderful to see the Town staff interacting with the community.

Councillor Chandler noted that earlier in January she attended a workshop called *Fostering Resilience in Women Municipal Leaders* and the series was led by the Coalition for Women in Government in partnership with the Federation of PEI Municipalities (FPEIM). The session included a Q & A with former senator and former Stratford Town Councillor Diane Griffin. Councillor Chandler stated that she also had the pleasure of hearing Patsy Huggan speak and Patsy is the founder of the Atlantic Summer Institute, and she advocates for the importance of mental health in all policies. Councillor Chandler stated that she is just finding out the crucial role that municipal government and our programming plays in maintaining mental and physical wellbeing. She also brought up some studies about how successful communities have been where youth are engaged and there are a lot of opportunities for recreation.

Councillor MacDonald echoed Councillor Chandler's remarks about the torch relay and the lantern making sessions. He noted that he attended both events with his family and they were both very well done. He also extended his appreciation to the staff who have done a wonderful job of opening our doors and making people feel welcome.

Councillor MacDonald noted that he received a few comments on the Pondside rinks asking if one of the rinks could be designated with a sign for hockey and one for skating.

The recreation director replied that is the intent of the two ice surfaces and the larger of the two ice surfaces is designated for hockey and ringette and the smaller surface is designated skating only. There should be signage already there, but he will follow up on the issue.

Deputy Mayor Gallant reiterated what Councillor Chandler had reported regarding the youth council's safety concerns about the crosswalk on Bunbury Road at the entrance to the Cotton Park and their plan to approach the provincial government with their concerns. He wondered if there was anything we could do to help them. The recreation director noted that a lot of the concerns stemmed from the 'Christmas in the Park' and the 'Harry James' lights at the community gardens where people were going back and forth between the Cotton Park and the community gardens. Duane Pineau who is our youth and family coordinator thought it was a good opportunity for a learning exercise where the youth could be educated on the process of identifying a risk or an opportunity and then going through the proper channels and developing a plan.

There was a brief discussion on the Bunbury Rink and the possibility of purchasing a liner for next year in order to get the rink up and running sooner.

The recreation director noted that the Youth Council holds their own monthly meetings and Duane Pineau will be reaching out to Town Council to attend one of their meetings.

11. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- a) The report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Councillor Dowling noted that the first meeting of the new committee was held on January 18, 2023, and he had the pleasure of meeting the new committee members. He noted that he is confident that with the varied expertise of the committee members, the committee will be very productive. The terms of reference were circulated to all of the committee members, and everyone understood their responsibility. Councillor Dowling gave a brief overview of the report as follows:

- The utility bill payments are due on February 13, 2023;
- Budget preparations are underway and the first meeting with Council will be February 13, 2023;
- Training for staff was held on January 31, 2023, on the Sustainable Procurement Tool Kit;
- Applications are being reviewed for the financial coordinator position;
- Work is continuing on the Hurricane Fiona disaster claims, and working with the insurance adjusters on the damage to Town properties continues;
- Working on the Municipal Capital Expenditure Grant (MCEG) 2021-2022 submission;
- Working on governments claims for current capital projects;

- Gathering information to finalize payroll data for annual T4 preparation; and
- Staff is busy with day to day tasks.

Councillor Dowling noted that there will be a pre-budget presentation on the draft budget which will provide residents the opportunity for further input prior to formal approval by Council.

Councillor Dowling noted that the committee discussed cyber security such as phishing and other cyber scams, and it was felt that an awareness campaign would assist residents in addition to the information currently provided by police and other sources.

It was noted that our IT specialist Kent Dean has been keeping a close watch on new protocols and we will be exploring options that are available to inform the public on an ongoing basis – such as tips in the Town Talk Newsletter and the E-Newsletter.

b) Financial Statements

Included in the agenda package for Council to review.

At this time Mayor Ogden took a moment to welcome Michele Beaton and thanked her for attending the Council meeting.

12. PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE

a) Report

The Report was included in the package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald stated that the committee had an excellent discussion at their meeting on January 30 about some of the more pressing issues in terms of planning and development such as the Cross Roads development.

Councillor MacDonald stated that he wanted to begin his report by recognizing the incredible efforts of Dale McKeigan and Sarah Kennedy in the planning department.

Councillor MacDonald noted that there are no resolutions from the planning department this month.

b) Permit Summary

Included in the agenda package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald briefly review the summary noting that there is an application in for a substantial duplex. It is exciting to see that we are starting the new year with some applications, and we look forward to more applications being submitted.

Councillor MacDonald noted that there was a discussion on short term rentals and Dale McKeigan is in attendance and is prepared to speak on the issue.

Dale noted that short term rentals, the bylaw and the licensing, and street vending bylaw are on the workplan for 2023. Dale noted that we don't want to hold up the bylaw, but under our current situation, we want to ensure it proceeds to completion sometime this year for both the short term rentals bylaw and the vending bylaw. It is very important how we regulate our community, and it is also important that residents understand what we are doing. We decided to contact three consulting firms to ask if they were interested in assisting us in the preparation of those bylaws, so we can focus on the development and other projects. He added that as we move into the building season it is going to get a lot busier. We received some response back from the consulting firms and they are interested in helping. Dale stated that by having the consultants come in and help us with some of these projects, it will ensure that these bylaws get completed and incorporated into our official plan and development bylaw which is crucial. Dale added that the process is well underway and once we decide who the consultant will be, it will allow a little more freedom in the planning department to do other things and provide the quality customer service that we are used to providing.

Councillor MacDonald stated that there is a new project that is being undertaken by the Heritage Committee to install a new interpretive panel to be located on the Veterans Memorial Green that would tell the story of two Mi'kmaq sisters, Rachel and Blanche Thomas, who served in World War II. He noted that this project is still in the early stages.

13. INFRASTRUCTURE

- a) Report - The Report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant noted that the committee met for the first time on January 16, 2023, and gave an overview of the report as follows:

Downeast Landscaping continues to assist with the efforts to remove downed trees along our trails and in our parks, playgrounds, and greenspaces. Repairs to the Town Centre's main entrance were completed in January. These repairs were due to water damage from the sprinkler system activation in December of 2022.

Several infrastructure projects are progressing well and are on track for tender closing and tendering in February such as: the waterfront boardwalk, the Kinlock Road multi-purpose path, the community campus site servicing, the design and build of a second water reservoir, the upgrades at the Corish sewage lift station, and the upgrades at the Bunbury lift station. Staff is involved with the consultants to keep these design projects on schedule.

Upland Planning + Design is continuing work on the update of the active transportation master plan and is on schedule for the first deliverable.

Infrastructure staff has been busy with the following:

- Ongoing maintenance at Town owned properties and trails;
- Outdoor rink maintenance is ongoing;
- Clearing, salting, and sanding of Town walkways, and parking lots
- Regular maintenance on equipment;
- Bylaw complaints and investigations are ongoing;
- Sewer and water infrastructure maintenance and inspection is ongoing on a daily basis; and
- Water and sewer inspections and water turn-ons for new development is ongoing.

During the month of January there were no major sewer or water emergencies.

Councillor MacDonald referred to the report of January 16, 2023, and noted that the Town approved the Rosebank Road speed humps, but there appeared to be some strong objections to installing them. He asked if there were any alternatives offered such as a radar speed device or something of that nature. The CAO stated that there was quite a bit of discussion with regard to the speed humps and there was some opposition to them, so we had a few meetings with the residents, and we ran out of time to have a contractor go in and construct them. We also had some discussions with the Provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, and they indicated that they are open to some traffic calming measures. Unfortunately, we have not heard anything back yet from them on the options, but the CAO stated that he will follow up with them. He added that there is currently a speed radar device on the Rosebank Road, and we have asked the RCMP to do some extra patrols in that area. The CAO felt that speeding has declined a little from what we have seen in the past, but Rosebank is a road that is very conducive to speed, and we would still like to pursue something to slow down the traffic and we are working on it.

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

- a) Report was included in the agenda package for Council to review.
- b) **Resolution CW004-2023 – Procedural Bylaw Amendment 47-B 2nd Reading**

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant
Seconded by Councillor Jeff MacDonald**

WHEREAS it is desirable to rename the Accountability and Engagement Committee to be now known as the Intergovernmental Affairs and Accountability Committee to better reflect the current and upcoming work of the committee; and

WHEREAS a change to the terms of reference is also required to reflect the work of the Intergovernmental Affairs and Accountability Committee; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to discontinue the Events Sub Committee and have the work of this committee now be reflected in the Recreation, Culture and Events Committee, with use of ad-hoc and one-time community volunteers as required.

BE IT RESOLVED that attached Bylaw # 47-B, a bylaw to amend the Council Procedural Bylaw (Bylaw # 47), be hereby read and approved a second time.

Discussion: Nil

Question: **CARRIED**

c) **Resolution CW005-2023 – Procedural Bylaw Amendment 47-B - Adoption**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant

Seconded by Councillor Jeff MacDonald

WHEREAS Council read and approved the Council Procedural Bylaw amendment for the first time on January 11, 2023; and

WHEREAS Council read and approved the Council Procedural Bylaw amendment for the second time on February 8, 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached Council Procedural Bylaw, Bylaw #47-B, be hereby adopted and that the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to affix their signatures and the corporate seal of the Town thereto and to be formally declared the said bylaw passed.

Discussion: Nil

Question: **CARRIED**

At this time Mayor Ogden signed out of the meeting to attend the Sustainable Communities Award Ceremony and Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant took over as chair.

15. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

a) Report

The report was included in the agenda package. In the absence of the chair, the co-chair Councillor Ron Dowling gave an overview of the report. He noted that the first meeting

with the new committee was held on February 1, 2023, and we have a great group of residents on the committee to advise us.

Councillor Dowling reiterated that Mayor Ogden, Councillor Cox, and staff member Katie Sonier are in Ottawa attending the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Sustainable Communities Conference this week. It is a great opportunity for them to meet with other municipal leaders to discuss opportunities, challenges, and to also look at solutions. Councillor Dowling noted that Mayor Ogden, Councillor Cox, and staff member Katie Sonier will be accepting a National Climate Award for our participation in the Switch Program.

Councillor Dowling gave a few highlights from the meeting noting that staff is working diligently on the Switch Stratford program which remains busy with residents getting their projects underway. The community energy plan and the greenhouse gas inventory reports were provided to the committee, and staff is working on a plan to release this information in the near future in order to update residents on our progress.

The Stratford radio campaign is ongoing, and it highlights some of the Town's activities and programs. It also provides our business community an opportunity to promote themselves.

The senior match and exchange program 'Stratford Connects' will hold an information session on February 16, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. for anyone who may be interested in learning more about the program.

Councillor Dowling stated that the Diversity and Inclusion Sub-committee held their first meeting recently and they also have a great group of residents providing input. They had a great first meeting and shared a lot of ideas.

Councillor Jackson asked if there was any update on the second round of the Switch program. The CAO replied that he met earlier today with the environmental sustainability coordinator Maddy Crowell, to discuss the program and we are asking for a meeting with PACE Atlantic in order to receive an update. However, the finance director has advised us that we have about five months' worth of projects that we can complete, so the uptake is still quite high. When we meet with PACE Atlantic we will discuss the possibility of any options that may allow the program to continue and we will bring them back to Council; however, it is possible that the program may end in five or six months.

16. ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT

- a) Report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Councillor Jackson

noted that the committee met for the first time on January 26, 2023, and he was very impressed with the group of residents who make up the committee. The day of the meeting was also the launch of the annual resident survey and Wendy Watts informed the committee members what was included in the survey. Councillor Jackson noted that one of the things we do hear in the community is the value of the resident survey and how Council utilizes it to make decisions on resident priorities.

The terms of reference for the new committee was discussed and it was noted that the committee will become the Intergovernmental Affairs and Accountability Committee following further readings of Council. Councillor Jackson felt that this was a positive change, as our relationship with both the provincial government and the federal government is very important to the Town.

Councillor Jackson noted that Mayor Ogden gave an update on a recent meeting he and the CAO had with the Premier. Town priorities were discussed, and a follow up meeting is planned.

Wendy Watts gave an update on the engagement statistics.

Councillor Jackson noted that we have some new people on the committee who have not been on a Town committee in the past, and he appreciates the process that we have for place that helps us to best match people with the committee we feel would be mutually beneficial.

17. HUMAN RESOURCES

- a) Deputy Mayor Gallant noted that we hired a maintenance person (20 hours per month) for the senior's complex on Mutch Drive. The CAO added that there are a few HR items that are being worked on and we will be putting out some postings very soon.

18. INQUIRIES BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- a) No inquiries were made.

19. OTHER COMMITTEES

a) Stratford Senior's Complex

- A two bedroom unit was vacated at the beginning of January. The unit was shown to people on the waiting list and the new tenants will move in on March 1, 2023;
- Interviews were held for the maintenance position and a person has been hired. We are now waiting for a record check from the RCMP;
- Gerry is retiring on February 22, 2023, but he will work to train the new hire;
- Quotes were received for capital work on the complex and Kim and Gerry will meet to review the quotes;

- A tender has been reviewed by the board to hire a firm to help with the new replacement plan as required by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC);
- The vacant unit that is subsidized but not located at 26 Mutch Drive has been filled. A unit has been rented from Bevan Bros for someone on our waiting list; and
- There are currently 20 people on the waiting list.

Deputy Mayor Gallant noted that the committee will hold its' first meeting on February 14, 2023.

Councillor MacDonald asked about the waiting list, and the finance director replied that it is fairly recent because each year we go through the list to ensure the phone numbers are current and we contact the people on the list to see if they are still interested and wish to remain on the waiting list.

Councillor Dowling noted that this is a great facility to have in the community and Stratford is not alone in the housing crunch. Councillor Dowling stated that he looks forward to potentially increasing the inventory of the units within Stratford, and he asked what the process was for those developments and wondered if there would be any opportunities through federal or provincial grants. Deputy Mayor Gallant replied that the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) looks after rent subsidies for the facility on Mutch Drive. The finance director added that our current agreement with CMHC is a 35 year agreement, and it expires in 2025. We have been in discussions with CMHC to find out what the plan is after the agreement expires, and they are saying that they will continue with an agreement, but the finance director doesn't know if it will be the same agreement. She noted that St. John House is in the same situation as our facility, but their agreement expires a year before ours, so we are waiting to see what type of agreement they will have with CMHC. The finance director noted that we have been approached by two different developers in Stratford who are submitting applications to Finance PEI for a new government initiative to increase affordable housing options within the Town of Stratford, and we provided them with letters of support.

20. APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE

a) Resolution CW006-2023 Committee Member Appointments

Moved by Councillor Jeff MacDonald
Seconded by Councillor Ron Dowling

WHEREAS Council has established a number of Standing Committees and Sub-committees in the Council Procedural Bylaw, Bylaw # 47, to advise and assist Council in its deliberations; and

WHEREAS the Bylaw provides for the appointment of residents and stakeholders by Council to provide public input to Council in its deliberations.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following residents and stakeholders be appointed to the Standing Committees and Sub-committees for a two-year term ending on November 30, 2024, as follows:

Recreation, Culture and Events

Beth Grant

Kyle Hann

Active Transportation Sub-Committee

Denis Dunne

Collette Gallant

Michael Judson

Shawn MacDougall

Tim Rose

Arts and Culture Sub-Committee

Randi Doyle

Becca Griffin

Christina MacLean

Sandra McMillan

Gary Schoenfeldt

Discussion: Nil

Question: **CARRIED**

PROCLAMATIONS

Nil

21. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

23. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Mayor Steve Ogden

Jeremy Crosby, CAO