

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 12, 2024

Approved Minutes

DATE: June 12, 2024
TIME: 4:30 p.m. – 7:14 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers

ATTENDANCE: Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant; Councillors Jill Chandler; Gordie Cox; Jeff MacDonald; Ron Dowling; Jody Jackson; Jeremy Crosby, CAO; Jeremy Pierce, Deputy CAO and Director of Recreation; Kim O’Connell; Director of Finance and Technology; Dale McKeigan, Director of Planning, Development, and Heritage; Phil Rough, Town Planner; Jeannie Woodard, Director of Infrastructure; Wendy Watts, Community and Business Engagement Coordinator; and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Nil

CHAIR: Mayor Steve Ogden

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.

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**

Nil

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Councillor Gordie Cox and seconded by Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant that the agenda be approved as circulated.

4. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved by Councillor Jeff MacDonald and seconded by Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant that the regular monthly meeting minutes of May 8, 2024, and special council meeting of May 22, 2024, be approved as circulated.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

6. **PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

Water School Presentations

Mayor Ogden stated that he looks forward to this award presentation every year. Each year students participate in a “Water School” to learn about water conservation and it has really had an impact on our water conservation in the Town. The students also participate in an art contest and the winners are presented with a certificate and a framed copy of their art work.

The winners are as follows:

January – Ivy Myers	July – Evelyn Starkes
February – Colin Beaton	August – Emily Fillion
March – Kylah Rose	September – Anie Xie
April – Kaylee Ann LeDrew	October – Dora Zong
May – Jack Fortier	November – Maxine Tweedy
June – Isabella Stewart	December – Neriah Varghese

Following the presentations there was a small reception and a group photo was taken.

Councillor Chandler took a moment to recognize the environmental sustainability coordinator Khadif Aijaz and thanked her for all her hard work.

7. **MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Ogden gave an overview of his report as follows:

- Chaired the regular monthly meeting of Council, a special meeting of Council, and the Committee of the Whole meeting
- Met virtually with transit experts to discuss possible transit improvements in Stratford
- Along with the CAO and Deputy CAO, project manager, and several Councillors, had a very positive meeting with Premier Dennis King, and Ministers Burrridge, Deagle, and Redmond, to present plans and to seek provincial support for a proposed wellness facility on the community campus
- Met virtually with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) board of directors to finalize a resolution to present to the FCM Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Participated in meetings of the FCM Finance, Infrastructure, and Transportation Committees while attending the FCM AGM in Calgary last week. Also provided a presentation on the Shape Stratford project to other local government leaders
- Was elected by acclamation as one of two FCM representatives for PEI
- Participated in the regular monthly meeting of the Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities (FPEIM)

- Enjoyed attending a celebration of Asian Heritage Event, also attended a Kerala Event to honour mothers and nurses
- Was very honoured to attend the RCMP Change of Command Ceremony to welcome the new Commanding Officer of the RCMP to PEI, Chief Superintendent Kevin Lewis
- Participated, along with Council and the management team, in the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting
- Participated in the Shape Stratford project windup meeting and a meeting of the Intermunicipal Committee which is planned to continue
- Met with an entrepreneur interested in locating his business in the Stratford Business Park
- Participated, along with children and teachers from Glen Stewart School, staff, and several Councillors, in a very moving and educational event to plant an 'oak tree' from a Vimy Ridge Oak Tree – in the Veterans Memorial Green
- Attended a Canada Games Legacy Fund announcement
- Chaired the regular meeting of the Intergovernmental Affairs and Accountability Committee
- Met with the 'Brain Injury' group to discuss ways to prevent brain injuries
- Attended the regular meeting of the Planning, Development, and Heritage Committee
- Spoke and visited with several residents to discuss various issues; and
- Attended internal meetings and looked after the day-to-day affairs of the Town.

Councillor Jeff MacDonald stated that we should try to make the planting at the Veteran's Memorial Green an annual event.

8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO) REPORT

The report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. The CAO reviewed the highlights of his report as follows:

- Attended a meeting with the infrastructure staff to discuss some HR related items
- Attended a meeting with representatives of KPMG to discuss the additional findings of the staff compensation review
- Chaired the bi-weekly department head meeting
- Attended a meeting with representatives from the Charlottetown Area Development Corporation (CADC) to discuss the possible purchase of land on Sheppard Drive
- Attended a meeting with the director of finance and the deputy CAO to discuss the organizational review
- Attended and participated in the monthly Town Council meeting
- Attended a meeting with a group looking to locate an advanced sporting training facility on the community campus land

- Attended an additional meeting with representatives of KPMG to discuss the additional findings of the staff compensation review
- Attended a virtual meeting to discuss the offerings of a consultant that offers on-demand transit services
- Attended a meeting with representatives starting up a new consulting engineering business in Stratford
- Attended a lunch meeting with representatives of the community campus fundraising committee
- Attended a meeting with the director of finance and representatives of the Public Schools branch (PSB) to discuss the lease renewal of their office space
- Attended a meeting with the Shape Stratford team to discuss the wrap-up of the current project and how things will move forward in the future
- Attended a municipal revenue sharing meeting to discuss data collection and negotiations
- Attended an additional meeting to discuss the PSB office space lease renewal
- Attended a meeting with representatives of the provincial office of Net Zero to discuss community energy systems for the community campus and Town operations
- Attended the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce AGM and luncheon
- Attended the Shape Stratford Intermunicipal Committee meeting with Ministers Burrige and Redmond in attendance
- Chaired the bi-weekly department head meeting
- Attended the Engineers PEI Lunch and Learn presentation on the Mi'kmaq Culture presented by Jamie Thomas, Cultural Director of Lennox Island First Nation
- Attended and participated in the monthly Committee of the Whole meeting
- Along with the mayor, met with a business owner regarding the possible purchase of land in the next phase of the business park
- Attended and participated in the monthly Intergovernmental Affairs and Accountability Committee meeting
- Chaired the monthly CAO department meeting
- Along with the mayor and council, attended and participated in the meeting with Premier Dennis King
- Attended and participated in the Capital Area Transit Coordinating Committee meeting
- Attended the monthly CADC meeting
- Met with Adam Ross, principal secretary to the premier, to discuss Stratford projects; and
- Attended a meeting with infrastructure staff to discuss the community campus electrification project.

In addition, I organized meetings with staff, prepared committee and council agendas, and relevant materials for the various meetings to keep them up to date. I assessed the

infrastructure projects, reviewed several planning related matters, and effectively managed various HR related files. I also responded to emails and letters from residents, stakeholders, government officials, and other entities.

9. SAFETY SERVICES

a) Report.

The report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Councillor Jackson gave an overview of his report noting that the last Safety Services meeting was held on May 31, 2024. He added that the next meeting will be held on June 17, 2024.

Councillor Jackson stated that the fire company gave a report on their statistics for April and there was a good discussion on the future needs of the fire company. The committee looked at the growth that is predicted and what has already been approved. The need around apparatus vehicles is especially important and we need to do our due diligence to ensure we have the proper equipment.

Also discussed was the vacant house on Horton Park where some people had moved into the premises because the property had not been secured. The owners were in violation of a bylaw, but they were compliant and had their property secured.

The last item discussed by the committee was the concern of garbage at Tea Hill Park. Councillor Jackson stated that although the gates were locked some people did go down to the park.

Councillor Chandler noted that she had some residents reach out with a few concerns about Tea Hill Park as well. She felt it was important as we go forward that the space remains accessible in its' beach use and park use for everyone.

b) Street Lights

No report

c) RCMP

The report for the month of May was included in the agenda package. Councillor Jackson noted that approximately 54% of complaints received are traffic related.

Corporal Weatherbie stated that May was a busy month in Stratford for the RCMP, with approximately \$11,495 in summary offence tickets written and 58 warning violations.

Corporal Weatherbie stated that the RCMP respond to 157 traffic related offences: 19 traffic collisions; 70 moving traffic related; 49 non-moving traffic related; 6 impaired – (3

by drugs); 1 road side suspension; 1 failure or refusal; 8 selective traffic enforcement program; and 5 check stops.

Corporal Weatherbie noted that the Provincial General Investigation Section, with the assistance of the Stratford RCMP, and the Police Dog Section, executed a search warrant at a residence in Stratford on May 28, 2024, for cocaine, methamphetamine, prescription pills, and replica firearms. A 30 year old male was arrested at the scene without incident. The incident is still under investigation and charges are pending.

It was noted that Constable Shannon Hodder attended to help with traffic enforcement for the youth 'garbage pickup' event that took place on May 11, 2024.

Corporal Weatherbie stated that there is now a second police dog member – Corporal Mark Pierce, and Corporal Pierce did a presentation at Glen Stewart School in May. Corporal Weatherbie added that the RCMP now have two active police dog members and there is someone available 24 hours a day.

Mayor Ogden thanked the RCMP for responding to an email he received from a resident; he noted that the issue was dealt with within a few hours.

d) Humane Society Report

No Report – Wendy took a moment to recognize the Humane Society for the event that they put on at Fullerton's Park on May 30, 2024, where they discussed dog lease education, and we are hoping that they will agree to do another event during the summer.

e) Transit

The report for the month of May was included in the agenda package. Councillor Jackson stated that we are up to 278 riders a day which is up 56% over May of 2023 and up 58% year to date over last year. It is great to see the growth each and every month.

f) Cross Roads Fire Department

The report for the month of May was included in the agenda package. Councillor Jackson stated that there was a good discussion on future needs of the fire company. We want to do our due diligence to ensure that we have the proper equipment to fight fires in large apartment buildings.

The fire company received 24 calls in May. Five were motor vehicle accidents; five were fire alarms – four were fires and one was a vehicle fire; there were a few brush fires; and the fire company was the first responder to three medical events; and one medical lift assist. Councillor Jackson noted that we are keeping a close eye on these types of callouts.

Deputy Mayor Gallant stated that Just Joe's in Stratford wanted to help the people who were displaced recently by a fire at an apartment building in Charlottetown and is acting as a donation drop off site. Councillor Jackson added that he appreciates all the businesses that stepped up to help out.

g) Resolution SS004-2024 – Noise and Nuisance Bylaw Exemption – 42 Mullaghmore Drive

Moved by Councillor Jody Jackson

Seconded by Councillor Jeff MacDonald

WHEREAS the residents of 42 Mullaghmore Drive are hosting a family wedding on August 10, 2024, on their property and have requested an exemption from the Noise and Nuisance Bylaw to allow the reception to continue until 1:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 5 Noise and Nuisance Bylaw, Council may approve an application for an exemption from any of the provisions of the bylaw; and

WHEREAS the applicant shall contact the immediate property owners to inform them of the event; and

WHEREAS the applicant has indicated that off-site parking has been arranged along with a shuttle service to transport guests to and from the reception; and

WHEREAS the Town shall contact the Stratford RCMP regarding this event and the terms and conditions under which the event will be conducted.

BE IT RESOLVED that an exemption from the Noise and Nuisance Bylaw be hereby granted for a wedding reception being held at 42 Mullaghmore Drive on August 10, 2024, until 1:00 a.m. on August 11, 2024.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Safety Services Committee.

Question: **CARRIED**

10. RECREATION, CULTURE AND EVENTS

Councillor Chandler gave an overview of her report as follows:

Committees – The Recreation, Culture, and Events Committee did not hold a meeting in May. The Arts and Culture Committee met on May 16, 2024, and discussed a call out for program instructors, developing a workshop for committee visioning, and a workshop for cultural space within the community campus wellness centre.

Stratford Community Campus – The Town of Stratford will host an open house on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at the Stratford Emergency Services Centre. The Town looks forward to

showcasing the plans for the 150 acre campus that will be home to the new Stratford High School.

Stratford Youth Centre and Council – The Youth Centre with an online auction concluded on Sunday, June 2, 2024, with \$4800 raised thanks to the many generously donated auction items. The proceeds go toward the youth council trip to Toronto in late July.

Programming at the youth centre is winding down in conjunction with the school year, but some activities and programs will continue throughout the summer months. Summer camp will be offered out of the Stratford Youth Centre during July and August, and several youth centre members have summer positions related to the camp.

Programs – The spring pickleball program wraps up on June 27, 2024, with Tuesday evening pickleball play continuing until the end of August in the gymnasium. Otherwise, pickleball play moves outdoors to Kinlock tennis courts which are slated for painting and net installation renovations. Various tennis offerings for youth and adults are underway at the Pondside Park courts. The newly formed Stratford tennis club league has evening play for adults. Full body fitness and post-natal fitness classes are being offered on the stage for 12 weeks.

Lower MacNeill field will be home to the Craswell-MacLean Memorial Ball Tournament from June 14 – 16, 2024, while Stratford Softball will host games at Bunbury and upper MacNeill field the same weekend as part of their annual softball tournament.

Events – Canada Day preparations are well under way for Canada Day's annual celebration. We are proud to announce Councillor Jill Chandler as the Master of Ceremonies for the event. The event, which takes place at Tea Hill Park, will be operated from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The following are some of the activities and entertainment for the event:

- Richie Bulger & the Wannabees will be performing along with other multi-cultural performers
- Christina MacLean will sing our national anthem
- The Lion's Club will host a pancake breakfast at the Town Centre from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- The Lion's Club will be serving food at Tea Hill Park starting at 1:30 p.m.; and
- Ice cream and strawberries will be served by Council after the national anthem and flag raising.

Town Centre Hours of Operation – Summer hours of operation will see a slight change on weekends starting July 6, 2024. The gymnasium, walking track, and fitness area will open at

9:00 a.m. and close at 4:00 p.m. Weekday hours remain the same year round. It was noted that the fitness area still has close to 100 guests per day.

Mayor Ogden noted that he would like to comment on the responsiveness of the afterschool care coming in to address the community need as there is a projected lack of afterschool care. He noted that the way the Town and the recreation department responded and everyone pulled together to get a program in place will hopefully address the need. We have had a few responses to our RFP for someone to run an afterschool program, as well as some emails and phone calls. It was noted that the RFP went out last Friday and will close on Friday, June 14, 2024.

Councillor Chandler stated that for clarity – at this point we haven't yet confirmed that there will be a program and the recreation director replied that is correct. Councillor Chandler added that we are still in the information gathering and logistical planning stage for afterschool care.

Councillor Jackson noted that the waterfront is coming together quite well, but we will not be open at the waterfront park this year on Canada Day.

11. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

a) Councillor Dowling gave an overview of his report as follows:

- Utility disconnections were done on June 3, 2024. Three properties were disconnected on June 6 and two were reconnected
- Attended the organizational review meetings
- Updated the Reserve Bylaw for a few new reserves to be set up. The resolution is included in the agenda package
- Set up GIC for the Housing Accelerator Funds – rate was 5.2%
- Met with representatives from the Public Schools Branch regarding their lease renewal
- Attended the revenue sharing meetings
- An RFP was sent out for a utility loan renewal. The resolution is included in the agenda package
- Evaluating the compensation review information that we received from KPMG
- Staff is working on the year-end paperwork and the auditors will be here at the end of June
- Working on needs assessment data for the next revenue sharing meeting
- Working on an application through the Rural Growth Initiative Funding for Clearview Park
- Attended the AGM for Maritime Electric
- Attended the CARI Finance Committee meeting
- Attended a meeting regarding renovations for new staff offices; and

- Staff is busy with day-to-day tasks.

b) Financial Statements

Included in the agenda package for Council to review.

c) Resolution FT007-2024 Reserve Funds Bylaw – Bylaw #29 – Revised Schedule A

Moved by Councillor Ron Dowling

Seconded by Councillor Jeff MacDonald

WHEREAS Council established a Reserve Funds Bylaw, Bylaw #29, to set reserves aside for a specific purpose by approval of council; and

WHEREAS Schedule A of the bylaw contains the list of reserve funds that can be amended by simple resolution; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to amend the reserve list to include:

Town Hall Capital Reserve	2022	Reserve set up to allocate \$50,000 per year to set aside funds for capital repairs to the Town Centre.
Housing Accelerator Fund Reserve	2024	The Town of Stratford has received funding through the Housing Accelerator Fund. These funds are to be used for specific initiatives written in the approved agreement. The reserve will be set up with the funds received from the federal government and as the initiatives are completed the funds will come out of the reserve. A separate bank account will also be set up for the Housing Accelerator Funding.
Future Community Infrastructure Growth Reserve	2024	This reserve will be set up to account for surplus revenue received due to the 3-year tax rate increase on the residential taxes for Stratford. During the budget process, we communicated with residents to inform them municipal property taxes will be increased, and funds received will be put towards future projects in Stratford such as the Community Campus and future Wellness Centre. It does include other growth-related projects.

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached revised Schedule A to the Reserve Funds Bylaw, Bylaw #29 dated June 12, 2024, be hereby approved.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Finance and Technology Committee.

Question: **CARRIED**

d) Resolution FT008-2024 Utility Loan Renewal

Moved by Councillor Ron Dowling

Seconded by Councillor Gordie Cox

WHEREAS a loan for Utility capital projects from 2014 has expired in the amount of approximately \$506,000, with an amortization of 10 years remaining on the loan; and

WHEREAS the amount of the loan requested for the Stratford Utility Corporation is \$506,000 with the following options

- Option one being a 5 year term and 10 year amortization remaining
- Option two being a 10 year term and 10 year amortization remaining
- Option three being a 5 year term and 5 year amortization; and

WHEREAS the amount of the loan requested of \$506,000 is within the 10% capital debt threshold of the Town of Stratford. The current borrowing limits for the Town of Stratford based on our total assessed tax base is (\$1,261,487,555 x 10% = \$126,148,715) of which we are using \$15,911,256 as of March 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS we requested proposals from the following financial institutions:

- Bank of Montreal
- Provincial Credit Union
- CIBC
- Royal Bank
- Scotia Bank
- TD Bank

AND WHEREAS the request for proposals closed at 1:00 pm on June 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS the following 5 year rates and 10 year amortization were received:

Fixed Term	Term	TD	RBC	CIBC
Option 1	5 years	4.792%	4.84%	5.43%
	10 years amortization			

AND WHEREAS the following 10 year rates and 10 year amortization were received:

	Term	TD	RBC
Option 2	10 years	4.955%	4.90%
	10 years amortization		

AND WHEREAS the following 5 year rates and 5 year amortization were received:

Fixed Term	Term	TD	RBC	CIBC
Option 3	5 years	4.856%	4.94%	5.667%
	5 years amortization			

BE IT RESOLVED that the tender for the loan with an amortization of 10 years remaining will be awarded to TD Bank for a 5 year term at a rate of 4.92%.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Finance and Technology Committee.

Question: **CARRIED**

12. PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE

- a) Report was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald stated that we are still awaiting some updates on the fry factory situation. He added that it is being held in deferral until the road becomes more realized, and then the lot of the sale process can be 'ironed out.' Councillor MacDonald stated that he will be able to provide more information as the process gets closer to completion.

Councillor MacDonald stated that the committee had a follow-up discussion on the process of naming the roads. Ultimately, it is Council's decision although we always recognize the role of our committees and the work that staff does, and that is just a part of the dialogue of municipal government.

Councillor MacDonald noted that interviews were held for the vacant planning and development technician position. A successful applicant has been found and her name is Janae Knowles.

- b) The Building Permit and Type Summary was included in the agenda package for Council to review. Councillor MacDonald noted that May was not as busy when compared to May of 2023.
- c) **Resolution PH009-2024 – DP052-24 – Donald O’Keefe – 76 Bonavista Avenue (PID 1090414) – Accessory Building within a Flanking Yard**

Moved by Councillor Jeff MacDonald

Seconded by Councillor Jody Jackson

WHEREAS an application has been received from Donald O’Keefe to place an Accessory Building, a storage shed, within the Flanking Yard of PID 1090414, located at 76 Bonavista Avenue, zoned Low Density Residential (R1); and

WHEREAS in accordance with section 8.1.2. Council may issue a Development Permit for an accessory Building located within the Flanking Side Yard of a Lot, where the Town is satisfied the Structure includes Building design components such as Building material, scale, and form are consistent with surrounding Development; and

WHEREAS the design of the proposed Accessory Building is consistent with the Main Dwelling in style and colour; and the proposed dimensions meet the requirements for Accessory Buildings per Section 8.1.4.; and

WHEREAS the proposed location is well behind the Main Wall of the Dwelling and has been chosen due to the orientation of Building openings, the slope of the property, and to maintain existing trees which will partially screen the Accessory Building; and

WHEREAS the proposed location is outside of any sight triangles, nor should there be interference with maintaining or servicing the abutting street, Breton Lane, which is a low traffic private road serving three (3) Single Dwelling Lots bound by existing development.

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be granted to an application received from Donald O’Keefe to place an Accessory Building, a storage shed, within the Flanking Yard of PID 1090414, located at 76 Bonavista Avenue, in accordance with the submitted plans.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Heritage Committee.

Displayed on the overhead were some photos of the proposed shed and an ariel view of the property. Councillor MacDonald stated that essentially, our bylaw restricts accessory buildings being placed on front or flanking yards in certain situations. In this particular case, we have a very small private road being Breton Lane, which abuts the side of the property. As the resolution notes it is a well screened area with trees and the accessory building perfectly matches the main dwelling.

Question: **CARRIED**

- d) **Resolution PH010-2024 – SD015-24 – Power Holdings Inc. – Request to Increase a Non-Conforming Lot – 20 Barkley Avenue – PID 328625**

Moved by Councillor Jeff MacDonald

Seconded by Councillor Gordie Cox

WHEREAS an application has been received from Power Holdings Inc. on behalf of Gail MacDonald for a request to increase the lot area of a non-conforming lot, PID 328625, located on 20 Barkley Avenue; and

WHEREAS in accordance with section 8.12.1.(a), Council may approve an increase in the area of any undersized Lot notwithstanding that it may still have less than the minimum Frontage, depth or area required by this Bylaw, provided that this increase does not further reduce an adjacent Lot which may be below the standard set out in this Bylaw; and

WHEREAS the lot area increase to the non-conforming lot, 20 Barkley Avenue (PID 328625) proposes:

- a total lot area of 471 m² (5,072 ft²) and a frontage of 18 m (60 ft) having less than the minimum area and frontage required by the Bylaw, which is permitted per section 8.12.1(a).
- a side yard setback to the existing non-conforming building of 2.4 m (7.85 ft) meeting the minimum requirement of 2.5 m (8 ft) with a variance of less than five percent (5%) to be granted by a Development Officer.
- a 1.5 m (5 ft.) encroachment of the existing non-conforming deck, permitted per section 8.5 of the Bylaw; and

WHEREAS the lot area reduction to the adjacent lot, 22 Barkley Avenue (PID 520247) proposes:

- a total lot area of 713 m² (7,680 ft²) meeting the minimum requirement of 700 m² (7,535 ft²) and a total frontage of 27 m (90 ft) meeting the minimum requirement of 22 m (72 ft).
- a side yard setback to the existing building of 5.7 m (18.56 ft) also meeting the minimum requirement of 2.5 m (8 ft).

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be granted to an application received from Power Holdings Inc. on behalf of Gail MacDonald for a request to increase the lot size of a non-conforming lot, PID 328625, located on 20 Barkley Avenue in accordance with a preliminary plan showing lot 2024-1 & lot 2024-2 a proposed property consolidation and subdivision of property of Power Holdings Incorporated & Others, drawing number M-24-157, prepared by Mantha Land Surveys Inc., dated May 28, 2024.

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Heritage Committee.

With the aid of the overhead, Councillor MacDonald explained that there are two lots – 20 Barkley and 22 Barkley, and 22 Barkley is perfectly fine as is. However, 20 Barkley is already undersized. Councillor MacDonald stated that you can see on the survey a dashed line and a solid line and the area that is created by those two lines is currently owned by 22 Barkley. The owners of 20 Barkley are looking to purchase it – they are currently using it on a license basis, so they are looking to move the boundaries of these two lots to recognize the sale of this small slice of land. Twenty (20) Barkley will still be undersized even after this sale.

Question: **CARRIED**

Councillor Jody Jackson left the meeting at this time (6:30 p.m.)

13. INFRASTRUCTURE

a) Report - The Report was included in the package for Council to review. Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant reviewed the report as follows:

- Ongoing project work at the waterfront boardwalk, community campus, water reservoir, Bunbury sewer lift station upgrades, and Corish sewer lift station upgrades and forcemain extension. We acknowledge some inconveniences to residents and the travelling public as these projects unfold and we extend our gratitude for everyone's cooperation and patience
- Work has begun at Kelly's Pond with the new water control structure and storm piping. The Provincial Department of Transportation has prepared a temporary entrance to the park and temporary bypass land so traffic can be diverted for the culvert replacement work to take place across Keppoch Road
- The concrete floor has been poured at the dry storage building – required all contents to be emptied from the building. New racking is being installed so space is optimized and contents can be better organized as they are moved back into the building
- Paving of the multipurpose trail at the waterfront park and the parking lot extension at Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park was completed earlier this month
- Additional security cameras have been installed at several Town properties
- Proposals were received on April 30, 2024, for the design and installation of solar panels on the rooftops of the Stratford Emergency Services Centre and the

maintenance building at 21 Hollis Avenue. A resolution to award this work is being brought forward this evening

- Bids were received on May 24, 2024, for the installation of hydrants within the core area. A resolution to award this work will be brought forward this evening.

Infrastructure staff has also been busy with the following:

- Hiring process for casual seasonal positions continues with most positions filled and the remaining to be filled by the end of June
- Bylaw complaints, investigation, and follow-up are ongoing and time consuming. The bylaw enforcement contractor is back for the summer months, which should help us keep up with the demand
- Speed humps are now installed at four locations and data is being collected at two more locations
- Grass cutting, both by town staff and our contractor is ongoing and difficult to stay on top of with the rapid growth this time of year
- Sidewalk sweeping is complete and preparation for assessing deficiencies and trip hazards has begun
- Valve exercising and maintenance is near complete
- Gravity sewer flushing is underway and will be completed before the end of the summer
- Manholes within streets that the Provincial Department of Transportation is paving have been modified with floating frames and covers to accommodate new surfacing
- Water and sewer inspections and water turn-ons for new development is ongoing
- Ongoing inspection and maintenance of water and sewer systems; and
- Managing ongoing customer/resident inquiries and concerns.

During the month of May there were no major incidents or emergencies. There were two reported sewer blockages – one was determined to be on the customer's side, the other was a minor obstruction in our main which was cleared immediately. There was no damage to any premises.

Councillor MacDonald asked about cameras in the Town and the infrastructure director Jeannie Woodard replied that we currently have 55 cameras throughout the Town and many of them are in the Town Centre building and the Stratford Emergency Services building. There are also some located at Pondside Park, Cotton Park, and at our maintenance building. Jeannie noted that the newest installs are located at the Waterfront Park.

Deputy Mayor Gallant stated that on June 20, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Stephen Yeo will be making a presentation of project updates at the Stratford Town Centre.

b) Resolution INC005-2024 – Additional Hydrant Supply and Installation in Core Area

Moved by Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant

Seconded by Councillor Jeff MacDonald

WHEREAS two tenders were received on May 24, 2024, for the supply and installation of eight hydrants along Myrtle Street and Mason Road, including four driveway accesses to the hydrants along Myrtle Street, with results as follows:

Contractor	Bid Excluding HST
Island Coastal Services Ltd.	\$214,564.76
Birt & MacKay Backhoe Services Ltd.	\$288,471.00

AND WHEREAS funds for this project have been approved in the capital budget in the amount of \$300,000; and

WHEREAS a change of scope to add three additional hydrants along Mason Road was negotiated with the low bidder, Island Coastal Services Ltd., to allow for eleven hydrants to be installed in total; and

WHEREAS Island Coastal Services Ltd. has agreed to supply and install eleven hydrants and four driveway accesses for a cost of \$299,164.76 excluding HST.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Additional Hydrant Supply & Installation in Core Area tender, increased scope, be awarded to Island Coastal Services Ltd. in the amount of \$299,164.76 (HST excluded).

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee.

Question: **CARRIED**

c) Resolution INC006-2024 – Solar Arrays Design and Build Services

Moved by Deputy Mayor Steve Gallant

Seconded by Councillor Gordie Cox

WHEREAS proposals were received on April 30, 2024, for the design and build work for the installation of solar arrays at the Stratford Emergency Services Centre (SESC) and the Town's maintenance building located at 21 Hollis Avenue; and

WHEREAS two submissions were received, one from Hansen Solar Energy Ltd. and one from AKA Energy Systems, and evaluated by a team of 3 who ranked each submission out of a total score of 100 with the following results:

Proponent	Total Score
Hansen Solar Energy Ltd.	87.99
AKA Energy Systems	86.50

AND WHEREAS Hansen Solar Energy Ltd., having the highest score, submitted a total price of \$307,013.20 (HST excluded); and

WHEREAS there is \$305,000.00 (HST excluded) approved in the capital budget for these solar installations, and the submitted price is within 1.0% of the budget carried.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Solar Arrays Design and Build Services project be awarded to Hansen Solar Energy Ltd. for the price provided of \$307,013.20 (HST excluded).

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee.

Question: **CARRIED**

14. **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Nil

15. **SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

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

- In partnership with the Heritage Sub-Committee, a wonderful tree planting and learning opportunity was held on Friday, May 17, 2024, as a young tree which is a descendant of an oak tree from Vimy Ridge was planted on the Veterans Memorial Green. Approximately 170 grade 2 students from Glen Stewart School joined us and moved between a series of stations, including a presentation by Jim Landry on the significance of the tree. Thank you to our own Town staff who were involved, as well as the Stratford Area Watershed Improvement Group (SAWIG) for making the morning such a success. All of the feedback received has been incredibly positive.

- Staff will be working on a date for the fall event with the local business community to continue discussions on revitalizing the previous Stratford Business Group.
- The Residential Tree Planting Program is wrapping up successfully, with 50 trees allocated to residents. The feedback from residents has been positive with many sharing their appreciation for having this program available.
- With a grant received from Tree Canada to enhance three parks in Stratford with trees and shrubs, the first event was successfully held at Horton Park where Stratford's youth group actively participated in planting 5 trees and 15 shrubs. Two additional events are scheduled this month at Clearview and Starling Parks. To further engage and educate the community, we will be installing informative panels at each park detailing the species of trees and shrubs planted and their ecological benefits.
- As part of the restoration efforts at Moore's Pond, we will be planting approximately 250 shrubs around the pond. This initiative aims to increase the biodiversity and improve the local ecosystems. The addition of diverse plant species will contribute to the health and sustainability of the pond's environment.
- We have secured funding from the 2 Billion Tree Program, to plant 120 trees across various Town parks and trails. Planning for this project is currently underway. This project will significantly enhance the green spaces in our community, providing environmental, aesthetic, and recreational benefits for all residents.
- Khidaf recently attended the Global Sustainable Islands Summit as the representative of the Town of Stratford. The summit was beneficial, providing valuable insights into sustainable practices and innovative solutions with attendees from around the world attending the conference hosted in PEI.
- There have been ongoing discussions about expanding Water School across PEI, as it is currently limited to Stratford, Charlottetown, and Cornwall. Together with Billy Ramsey and Jane Farquharson, Khidaf had the opportunity to present Water School to several key provincial officials. The response to the demonstration was very positive, and there is a commitment of funds from Minister Myers to hire a consultant to conduct research on the strategies needed for expanding the Water School Program. This is highly encouraging, as it would enable more communities to benefit from the program promoting water conservation and education across the Island.
- The Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee is working on their portion of the Canada Day lineup alongside the Town's recreation department with planning well underway to add the much appreciated cultural elements to Stratford's Canada Day event. The virtual

presentation in May, through their partnership with Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, had to be cancelled due to a technical issue; and will now be held in the fall. Other activities underway at this time include the Town of Stratford's Legacy Book project for the upcoming 30th Anniversary of the Town, and planning for the fall which will include a new resident welcome event.

16. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Report - The Report was included in the package for Council to review. Mayor Ogden briefly reviewed the report noting that the committee met on May 23, 2024, and there was some discussion on intergovernmental initiatives that are underway in the Town.

Mayor Ogden stated that the committee was given an update on the revenue sharing file. The committee also discussed the municipal policy review which is underway, and a comment was made that a review would be a positive step forward as it would prevent the Town from being put in a position of potential liability.

Mayor Ogden noted that the committee spent quite a bit of time discussing the meeting that was held with the premier and members of cabinet, and the committee provided some good suggestions in terms of a follow-up.

Councillor Chandler asked if there were any updates on the revamping of the website and Wendy replied that the project is moving forward and she is in the process of drafting an RFP.

Mayor Ogden asked Wendy to give an update on 'Let's Meet.' Wendy explained that the Town often receives reports of issues from residents that could be easily dealt with by having a simple conversation between neighbours; however, when this was suggested to callers they say they don't know their neighbours. The committee suggested that we develop a template for our website where neighbours could introduce themselves to one another and the consensus of the committee was to give it a try.

17. HUMAN RESOURCES

a) No Report

18. INQUIRIES BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Nil

19. OTHER COMMITTEES

a) **Stratford Senior's Complex**

Deputy Mayor Gallant gave an update on the Stratford Senior's Complex as follows:

- The financial statements have been finalized and approved by Council.
- All units are now rented and we currently have 22 people on the waiting list.
- The kitchen cabinet replacements are underway, and five will be completed again this year
- Quotes were received for the building assessment review that is required by CMHC and the tender has been awarded to Coles Associates. We are working with Coles to set up a site visit.
- Working on an issue between tenants at the building. We are meeting with both sides to discuss the issue.
- Annual inspections are scheduled for June; and
- We are working to schedule a meeting with CMHC to discuss our current agreement and options for renewal.

20. APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE

a) Resolution CW009-2024 – Committee Member Appointments

Moved by Councillor Jeff MacDonald

Seconded by Councillor Gordie Cox

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 be appointed to the Standing Committees and Sub-Committees for the remainder of a two year term ending on November 30, 2024, as follows:

Heritage Sub-Committee

- Alexandra Boyd
- Andrew Doyle

Discussion: This resolution bears the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole.

Question: **CARRIED**

21. PROCLAMATIONS

National Indigenous Peoples Month

Whereas in the spirit of Reconciliation, the Town of Stratford acknowledges that the land upon which we gather is the unceded Mi'kmaq territory and Mi'km'ki, is covered by the historic Treaties of Peace and Friendship; and

Whereas June is recognized as National Indigenous History Month in Canada and is an opportunity to bring awareness and understanding of the diverse histories, resilience, and achievements of Indigenous peoples across our country; and

Whereas June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day, an opportunity to amplify Indigenous voices, and perspectives, enriching our understanding and appreciation of Indigenous voices, and perspectives, enriching our understanding and appreciation of Indigenous cultures and heritage across Turtle Island; and

Whereas June 30 is Indigenous Survivors Day, and provides a significant opportunity to recognize and honour the resilience, strength, and cultural heritage of Indigenous communities that have endured historical traumas, including the 60's Scoop, the Millennium Scoop, birth alerts, and the enduring legacy of residential schools; and

Whereas we recommit our efforts as a whole community to continue to actively build meaningful relationships with the Mi'kmaq community based on respect, cultural understanding and reconciliation to advance inclusivity, diversity, and equity on our path of reconciliation.

Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Steve Ogden, Mayor of the Town of Stratford, do hereby proclaim June to be National Indigenous Peoples Month and that the date of June 21, 2024, as National Indigenous Peoples Day, and June 30, 2024, as Indigenous Survivors Day.

In Witness, Whereof I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Stratford to be affixed hereto this 12th day of June 2024.

22. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

23. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Mayor Steve Ogden

Jeremy Crosby, CAO