

REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
September 11, 2019
Approved Minutes

DATE: September 11, 2019
TIME: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

ATTENDANCE: Deputy Mayor Gary Clow; Councillors Derek Smith; Darren MacDougall; Jill Burridge; Steve Gallant; Gail MacDonald; Robert Hughes, CAO; Jeremy Crosby, Deputy CAO and Director of Infrastructure; Kevin Reynolds, Director of Planning, Development and Heritage; Jeremy Pierce, Director of Recreation, Culture, and Events; Kim O’Connell, Director of Finance and Technology; Wendy Watts, Community and Business Engagement Manager; and Mary McAskill, Recording Clerk

REGRETS: Nil

CHAIR: Mayor Steve Ogden

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Ogden called the Regular Monthly Council Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and recognized Mayor Phillip Brown from the City of Charlottetown. Mayor Ogden also took a moment to acknowledge the 18th Anniversary of the terrorist attacks on New York City.

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts were declared.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Derek Smith and seconded by Councillor Gail MacDonald that the agenda be approved with the following change: Item #14 Committee of the Whole to be moved up in the agenda to follow Item # 9 Planning, Development and Heritage.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Darren MacDougall and seconded by Councillor Derek Smith that the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2019 be approved as circulated.

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5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

6. **PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

Nil

7. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Following is a list of meetings and events attended by the Mayor since the last Council meeting:

- Worked at the canteen at Kinlock ballfield for school playground fundraising
- Attended a number of committee meetings
- Attended the Community Foundation Awards Night
- Attended announcement by MP Lawrence MacAulay who announced major funding for a trail system, pumping system upgrades, as well as a few other items.
- Met with the CAO and the Chair of Planning Councillor Jill Burridge, to arrange a planning session for Council
- Attend a benefit for volunteer fireman Wayne Jay and his family
- Dunk tank fundraiser for school playground group at the Grand Opening of *Live for Today's* new location
- Attended the Citizens on Patrol meeting
- Met with a resident regarding a proposal for a provincial museum in Stratford
- Attended a public meeting on proposed changes to the Foxwood Subdivision
- Attended a second announcement by MP Lawrence MacAulay of a new Veterans Occupational Stress Injury Clinic in Stratford
- Presentation of welcome gifts to new businesses

Deputy Mayor Clow stated that he brought greetings on the Mayor's behalf to the Michael Thomas Run Event that was held on September 7. He noted that it was a great event with a great turnout and our own Councillor Burridge participated in the 5 km walk.

8. **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO)**

The report was included in the package. The CAO noted that he has a meeting on September 13 with the Deputy Minister of Education regarding the community campus. He noted that he is optimistic that they will be able to deal with the land question and move forward.

The CAO stated that he met with fellow CAO's of Cornwall and Charlottetown to review the regional housing demand study proposal outline and application. He stated that it is a good example of municipalities working together on an issue.

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The CAO noted that he is working with the fire company regarding the lease. Their concern is mostly around the tax impact, and we are working with the Town's tax auditor on the issue.

The CAO stated that he met with CHANCES on September 10 regarding the potential purchase of additional land at the Mason Road site. It is great to see that they want to expand their facility in the Town.

The CAO took a moment to wish Kevin Reynolds, the Town's Director of Planning, Kevin Reynolds a happy birthday!

9. **PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE**

a) No Written Report

Councillor Burrridge noted that the committee held a meeting on Monday, September 9. She noted that there is an open house for the Clearview Estates development scheduled for September 25 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the changes to the frontage from 100 feet to 82 feet, and she encouraged all Councillors to attend. Deputy Mayor Clow asked if a letter will be sent to the residents regarding the open house and the planning director replied that this is an open house the applicant is having before formal letters are sent out from the Town. The applicant will contact the 68 residents (from the database provided by the planning department) to advise them of the open house. Following the open house formal letters will be sent to the residents from the Town asking for their comments which will go back to the planning board and Council for a decision.

Councillor Burrridge noted that this puts the developer in front of the residents first in order to explain the proposed development.

b) Permit Summary

The permit summary was included in the package and was reviewed by Councillor Burrridge.

b) Resolution PH017-2019 – Bylaw #45-B – General Amendments – Town of Stratford Zoning and Development Bylaw #45 – 2nd Reading

Moved by Councillor Jill Burrridge

Seconded by Councillor Derek Smith

WHEREAS since the Zoning and Development Bylaw #45 has been approved there have been a number of minor amendments that have been identified which were recently

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discussed at a public meeting held on July 24, 2019 and no negative comments were received from the 12 residents in attendance of the public meeting; and

WHEREAS Bylaw #45-B General Amendments, a bylaw to amend the Zoning and Development Bylaw, Bylaw #45, was given first reading and approval by Council on August 14, 2019.

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw #45-B, a bylaw to amend the Zoning and Development Bylaw #45, be hereby read and approved a second time.

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

Deputy Mayor Clow asked Councillor Burridge to provide some of the changes being made and she noted that instead of redoing a table multiple times within the bylaw – there is now a reference to the table. There were also a few reference errors. The planning director added that the time period for development permits was corrected to read 12 months (it had incorrectly read 24 months).

Question: **CARRIED**

c) **Resolution PH018-2019 – Bylaw #45-B, - General Amendments – Town of Stratford Zoning and Development Bylaw #45 - Adoption**

Moved by Councillor Jill Burridge

Seconded by Councillor Darren MacDougall

WHEREAS bylaw #45-B, a bylaw to amend the Zoning and Development Bylaw #45 was given first reading and approved by Council on August 4, 2019; and

WHEREAS bylaw #45-B a bylaw to amend the Zoning and Development Bylaw #45 was given second reading and approved by Council on September 11, 2019.

BE IT RESOLVED that bylaw #45-B, a bylaw to amend the Zoning and Development Bylaw #45, 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 formally declared the said bylaw be passed.

Discussion: Nil

Question: **CARRIED**

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10. **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

a) **Report**

Included in the agenda package.

b) **Resolution CW018 – 2019 – Regularly Scheduled Council Meetings – Date, Time, and Location**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gary Clow

Seconded by Councillor Derek Smith

WHEREAS the Town of Stratford must post an annual schedule of the regular monthly Council meetings; and

WHEREAS the date, time, and location of each meeting must be posted on the Town's website, on the notice Board within the Town Centre, and in the Stratford Newsletter; and

WHEREAS it was agreed at a Committee of the Whole meeting that all future Council meetings will be held at 4:30 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED that the date, time, and location of Regular Council Meetings will be held as follows:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
• October 9, 2019	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• November 13, 2019	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• December 11, 2019	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• January 8, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• February 12, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• March 11, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• April 8, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• May 13, 2010	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• June 10, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• July 8, 2010	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• August 12, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• September 9, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• October 14, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• November 12, 2020 (Thursday)	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE
• December 9, 2020	4:30 p.m.	234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE

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

Question: **CARRIED**

c) **Resolution CW019 – 2019 – Support for Dr. Dickieson’s Physician Recruitment and Retention Program**

Moved by Councillor Steve Gallant

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Gary Clow

WHEREAS more than 13,000 Islanders have no family physician; and

WHEREAS the shortage of family physicians increases wait times, delayed diagnosis and treatment, with potential further patient suffering and health risk; and

WHEREAS a recent survey by the Medical Society of Prince Edward Island indicated that 56% of practicing Island physicians are planning to reduce or leave their practice over the next five years; and

WHEREAS the University of Prince Edward Island has a proven record of success in the development of Faculties of Nursing, Engineering, and the Atlantic Veterinary College.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford appeal to the Government of Prince Edward Island to initiate:

- A facilitated Physician Recruitment and Retention Program;
- Immediate doubling, and later tripling of Family Physician Residency Positions; and
- Planning and negotiations for a Medical Faculty at the University of Prince Edward Island.

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

Question: **CARRIED**

d) **Resolution CW020 – 2019 – Regional Housing Demand Study – Funding Application**

Moved by Councillor Jill Burridge

Seconded by Councillor Darren MacDougall

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WHEREAS a Housing Demand study was carried out in 2011 for Stratford which helped to inform the drafting of the Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw; and

WHEREAS the vacancy rate in the capital area is the lowest it has been in years and the City of Charlottetown, Town of Cornwall and Town of Stratford are interested in working together to develop a forecast of housing demand by type to inform municipal planning and the local development community in order to better ensure that the supply meets the demand.

BE IT RESOLVED that an application for funding for \$132,000 under the Gas Tax Municipal Strategic Component (MSC) be approved with the municipal share to be allocated in accordance with the table below. In addition, Council understands and commits that it will be responsible for its' designated share of the eligible costs of the project, and will assume responsibility for any and all operating and maintenance costs resulting from the project.

	census population	% of area population	allocation - 25% fixed, 75% population
Cornwall	5,348	10.5%	\$10,700
Stratford	9,706	19.0%	\$14,900
Charlottetown	36,094	70.6%	\$40,400
Capital Region	51,148	100.0%	\$66,000

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

Question: **CARRIED**

e) **Resolution CW021 – 2019 – EI Program Economic Region Changes**

Moved by Councillor Gail MacDonald

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Gary Clow

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island was left intact as one Region when Economic Regions were first created through the Employment Insurance Act and Regulations; and

WHEREAS the population of the entire Province of PEI is less than many Economic Regions created throughout the Country; and

WHEREAS the geographic area of the entire Province of PEI is smaller than the area of most of the Economic Regions created throughout the Country; and

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WHEREAS the Town of Stratford previously noted its displeasure in the unfairness in the application of the Federal Legislation which was previously noted in the resolution dated April 9, 2014.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Stratford restate and reaffirm its opposition to the 2014 changes to the EI program for the Charlottetown area, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town of Stratford urge the Hon. Wayne Easter, the Hon Lawrence MacAulay, MP Sean Casey, MP Robert Morrissey, Senator Percy Downe, Senator Mike Duffy, Senator Diane Griffin and Senator Brian Francis PEI to stress the importance of fairness and equity and put pressure on the Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and the Government of Canada to reinstate the Province of PEI as one Economic Region as it pertains to the Employment Insurance Act and Regulations.

Discussion: Councillor Smith stated that he has studied this and felt that the citizens of Canada deserve equal billing in all services offered by the federal government. He felt that the current system was unfair to certain citizens of the province, and he will be voting in favour of this resolution.

Councillor Burrridge stated that she has grappled with the resolution, but after doing some research and educating herself on the issue she will support it because it will benefit struggling Stratford residents. However, she hopes the people we are asking to take action on this issue do a good job of looking at it.

Deputy Mayor Clow stated that he will also be supporting the motion. He asked if this goes from Charlottetown, Cornwall, and Stratford to the Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities (FPEIM) and Councillor MacDonald replied that it has been discussed at FPEIM and it will be coming forward at the semi-annual meeting in October.

Councillor Burrridge noted that our Town border to the east is a border of the EI zone, so people in Alexandra or Pownal will be affected if this goes through.

Mayor Ogden asked Councillor Burrridge if she could provide Council with some of her research and she noted that the current unemployment rate is 11.1% for the urban zone which includes the Town of Stratford, and the number of hours needed to qualify are 490 and they would get a minimum of 23 weeks. In the Charlottetown region, the current

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unemployment rate is 6.8% and requires 665 hours for a minimum of 15 weeks. She noted that if a change is made to go back to one zone they would take the average. We would go to 8.9% as one region and everyone would require 595 hours for a minimum of 18 weeks.

Question: **CARRIED**

11. SAFETY SERVICES

- a) The report was included in the package. Councillor Smith noted that Ron Young is retiring as fire chief after 38 years of service, and he wished him all the best in his retirement. He also took a moment to thank Town employees, RCMP, fire department, Citizens on Patrol, and especially the citizens of Stratford for their attention and patience during last Saturday's storm. He noted that we are never quite ready for an event like that, but we were well prepared.

Councillor Smith referred to item #7 b of his report – Burning of Wood within the Town Limits - he noted that we have had a concern in regards to open pit fires, as the smoke does bother some people. A message has been put out via the Town's social media to ask residents to please be considerate when having an open fire or burning of wood – such as wind blowing smoke into other people's yards.

Mayor Ogden noted that three RCMP officers participated in the dunk tank fundraiser for the school playground group. He thanked Corporal Dudley, Constable Jamie Parsons, and Constable McGee for helping out with the fundraiser.

b) Street Light Report

Mayor Ogden asked if the street lights on Kinlock Creek were installed, and the infrastructure director replied that they are installed and operational.

c) RCMP Report

The report for the month of August 2019 was included in the agenda package. Councillor Smith stated that there were 5 impaired driving; 17 summary offence tickets written; and 18 warnings issued. Assistance to general public – the RCMP responded to 6 requests for assistance; assisted with 7 lost and found items, assistance to others was 1; and 76 criminal record checks were completed for Stratford residents.

Councillor Smith asked the officer in attendance to elaborate on some of the items, and the officer noted that *items lost and found* are calls they receive for such things as lost wallets or keys. People report the loss and it is recorded in the RCMP system. If someone should find the wallet or keys and turn them in, the RCMP can then contact the owner. *Other* – could be items falling off of trucks, *and assistance to the general public* could be anything that doesn't fit into a specific occurrence.

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Deputy Mayor Clow asked Councillor Smith if he was happy with the numbers in the report and Councillor Smith stated that Council will be meeting with the Chief Superintendent later in the month and felt that this is a question we can put to her. He noted that the numbers may be low to some people, but he felt that we should wait to find out why.

Mayor Ogden pointed out that the complaints he has been receiving have gone down. However, he did note that he received a complaint this week about the speed bumps being removed from Governor's Lane because the speed of traffic is increasing again.

Mayor Ogden asked other Councillors if they are receiving any complaints regarding speeding or other traffic issues. Councillors noted their issues, and the officer in attendance stated that in order for the RCMP to respond to complaints they need to know about them, and asked that formal complaints be made to the RCMP either by the resident or by the Councillor/Town.

Mayor Ogden thanked the RCMP for everything they do for the Town.

d) Humane Society Report

The report for the month of August 2019 was included in the agenda package.

e) Transit Report

Report was included in the agenda package. Councillor Smith noted that last month there were some questions regarding the spike in ridership and he did some research, and it appears that a lot of university and Holland College students are taking the bus.

The question was also asked if the summer camp kids were using the bus and the report states that last year to this year they had an increase in ridership of 68 people for the month. The ridership per day was 85 in July and 76 in August.

Councillor Smith noted that he did an interview with CBC regarding the Saturday bus service that is now underway. He also noted that it is necessary that the rest of the Town be serviced by transit. Deputy Mayor Clow thanked everyone who is doing everything they can to get transit service to Ward 3, and he hoped it would be part of this year's budget discussions.

Mayor Ogden asked if there were any discussions about supplementing our transit service in areas that are not currently serviced with a ride hailing service and the CAO replied that we had a visit from two people who were looking at establishing a service. We were recently advised that they have made some progress with the province in

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terms of regulation changes and we did reach out to them to let them know we are still interested; however, they haven't come back to us yet because they are working with the province on the required legislative changes. Mayor Ogden suggested that the discussion be continued at the next Safety Services meeting and maybe look at developing a proposal. The infrastructure director noted that we issued a proposal, but the only reply we received was from the transit service and their proposal was for a full-fledged run. Councillor Smith felt that the transit company has the expertise and that is what we are paying for. Would it be fair to hire a group and after two or three years tell them their service is no longer required. Mayor Ogden noted that we can discuss it in more detail at the next Safety Services Committee meeting.

f) Fire Company

Report was included in the agenda package. Councillor Smith noted the fire department purchased a boat for the harbour and surrounding areas, and to date it has been used four times. The ladder truck has been ordered and is being refitted and will be ready for the opening of the new firehall. Last weekend the fire department responded to 10 plus calls in regards to pole fires; transformer fires; and tree fires as a result of downed wires. Councillor Smith also noted that there was a message sent out for people who are having outside fires to please be considerate of their neighbours.

11. RECREATION, CULTURE AND EVENTS

a) Report

Councillor Gallant noted that this was his first summer as chair of the Recreation, Culture and Events Committee and the recreation department had a very busy summer. He noted that if we want to move forward we have to look at increasing the recreation budget. The Town is growing and he saw an overload this summer but each member of the recreation department worked hard all summer. He added that he is very grateful to Jeremy Pierce, Rachel Arsenault, Tanya Craig and Duane Pineau for all they do.

The following is an overview of projects and items being worked on within the recreation, culture and events department:

Recreation, Culture and Events Committee – the committee did not meet in August.

Arts and Culture Sub-Committee – the committee reviewed and approved the two RFP proposals for Artist in Residence and both programs have October start dates. The committee also approved a proposal for Youth Cooking for kids. This initiative would see kids 8 – 12 and 13 – 15 being taught culinary techniques.

Events Sub-Committee – the committee did not meet in August.

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Arts and Culture – the Art Club begins its fall session on October 3 and runs to December 5. Fourteen residents have already registered for the 20 available spots in the program. The water colour painting classes will begin on October 5 and run for 10 weeks. Pre-school Storytime Arts and Crafts will begin on September 24 at the Stratford Library.

The Interactive Public Request for Proposal deadline is Friday, November 1. A public art piece is to be installed at Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park in the late spring of 2020.

Future Projects – Stratford is proud to have received funding for two recreation and parks based projects through the investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). The multi-use courts at Pondside Park will be redesigned to have a meaningful year round impact on area sport enthusiast while a multi-use building and natural playground have received funding for Fullerton's Creek Conservation area.

Stratford Youth Council – the Youth Council had their leadership tour from August 11 to 16. The trip included stays in Drummondville, Toronto, Scarborough, and Quebec City.

The last meeting for the current Youth Council took place on August 27, and a new Youth Council will be formed for September. Members found it difficult to juggle school, work, and volunteering, so the term was changed from two years to one year.

Youth Centre – the youth centre opened today for the fall, winter, and spring seasons. Youth centre clubs and programs will be starting in October.

Stratford Programming – summer camp finished up on August 31. Thank you to summer staff for another great summer for Stratford youth.

GoFor It! walking program meets on Tuesdays at the Town Centre at 6:00 p.m. Bruce Fitchett will be taking over the lead of the group which is a great social activity with positive health impacts.

Stratford Sport Fields – Stratford hosted the U12 Softball Provincial September 3 to 8 at Bunbury and MacNeill fields. This event showcased 12 provincial girls' softball teams over a six day period.

The use of soccer fields has slowed down with some provincial teams still practicing. All fields are being seeded and prepped for 2020.

Stratford Parks and Trails – William's Gate Trail now connects to the Stratford Trail at Shakespeare Drive/Jubilee Road, and to Squire Lane at the other end. This newly

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connected path provides a 1 km stretch for walkers and bikers. The 300 – 400 m strip from Willam's Gate to Squire Lane is a mowed trail that also connects to the Town Centre.

Town Centre Happenings - the Town Centre has maintained a steady attendance through the summer months. The monthly attendance for July and August increased by more than 1000 signed in guests and it is great to see so many people being active and utilizing our facilities.

Some additional events coming up later in September include:

- Red Rock Wrestling – September 13
- Come Try Basketball – September 21
- Fall Festival Pancake Breakfast – September 28

Deputy Mayor Clow noted that he has received an email and a few phone calls noting that the lights are being left on at MacNeill Field. He stated that he explained to residents that the lights are on a timer but the residents are saying that the lights are on when the field is not in use. Rachel stated that the lights are controlled by an app on the laptop in the office and also on staff members' cell phones. She noted that there have been times when she has shut the lights off from her phone and they have come back on, so there are some kinks that need to be worked out. Councillor Gallant noted that part of the problem is that we don't have anyone working in the recreation department from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. He felt that if we had someone covering those hours a lot of problems would be eliminated.

Councillor MacDougall agreed that the recreation department is such a valuable part of the community and we have to take a serious look at where we can find more funds to ensure we keep up the quality of programs now and in the future. The CAO noted that the 1000 increase in the numbers of users of the gym may be partly due to the fact that we now have someone on the desk in the gym area who is asking everyone to sign in.

Mayor Ogden thanked the recreation staff and the Chair of the Recreation, Culture and Events Committee for all their efforts. He noted that there is a lot of the work that goes on behind the scenes that keeps everything working.

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12. FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

a) Report

The report was included in the agenda package. Councillor MacDonald stated that the committee discussed the waste water treatment plant. She noted that the new tender is going to go out with some new design modifications, and we are hoping it will come in on budget.

The committee also discussed the Tax Rate Groups Bylaw and there will be further discussion on this item at the Committee of the Whole.

Investing in Canada - the Town was advised of the projects that have received approval under this funding to date. They are the pumping station upgrades for Pondsides, Bayside, and Corish and they will be tendered shortly. There has not been any word yet on the wellness centre application.

b) Financial Statements

Councillor MacDonald gave an overview of the Town's financial statements noting that the Town is on target.

It was noted that the computer licenses are set to expire and this will bring the computer expense in line with the budget.

No long term interest payments made on the EMS facility yet, as we are operating on the construction line of credit.

It was noted that the grant to the Pownal Rink has been paid.

Councillor MacDonald noted that on the Public School Branch side of the building there were floods due to heat pump issues and there will be extra repairs needed (\$10,000 deductible on the Town's insurance). We now have new controls in place with the pumps. We are investigating, with our contractor, if there is a way to implement an alarm system to alert us of any moisture problems. We could then deal with the issue in an expedited manner.

Utility Financial Statements – it was noted that under repairs and maintenance, we are currently over budget due to the efforts of trying to reduce the odour issues associated with the treatment plant.

13. INFRASTRUCTURE

a) Report

Deputy Mayor Gary Clow noted that some of the items being worked on by the infrastructure department are as follows:

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Wastewater Treatment Plant Update – the facility is back to normal operations and functioning well.

Wastewater Collection System to the Charlottetown Pollution Control Plant – the project is currently out to tender and closing on September 12, 2019. There has been interest from several contractors so we are hopeful that there will be two or three bids submitted. Construction is anticipated to begin by October 1, 2019.

Emergency Services Facility – work continues on the building which is anticipated to be complete by fall.

Extension of Michael Thomas Way – the project is complete with the exception of some reinstatement and landscaping.

Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy – installation of manhole trays and recording of flow continues. A contractor has been engaged to install floating frames on sewer manholes that are in asphalt. The floating frame will rise with the surrounding ground during frost heave so the cover does not sit in a depression and collect surface water. Areas requiring pipe repair and/or replacement are being identified so quotes for the work can be obtained.

Investing in Canada's Infrastructure Program - we have received funding for four projects to date – two of which fall under the infrastructure department:

- Sewage Pumping Station Upgrades – including upgrades of pumps and backup power supply at Corrish, redirecting flow from Pondside to Bayside, upgrades at Bayside to accommodate additional flow; and
- Water Station Upgrades – including upgrades at the Pondside water station, as well as adding lighting protection at Pondside, Fullertons, Cable Heights, and Beacon Hill stations.

SCADA Software and System Control Upgrades – an RFQ is being prepared for the upgrades to the controls at the stations. This project is 50% funded by the Municipal Strategic Component of the Gas Tax Program with a total project value of \$100,000.

Subdivision/Development Projects:

- Marshall MacPherson Shakespeare Drive Units – under construction
- Emergency Services Facility – under construction
- Kinlock Plaza - under construction

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- APM Waterfront Apartment Building - under construction
- Dale Drive Apartment Building - under construction
- Southside Greens Subdivision Lot 3 - under construction
- Concord Properties North Phase – preliminary plans submitted for review
- Forest Trails Phase 3 – construction to begin
- Maki MacLean Subdivision - preliminary plans submitted for review
- Courtney Estates – out to tender

Utility staff is busy with maintenance and adjustments to the wastewater treatment facility. Pump station cleaning and sewer main flushing is being coordinated, and anticipated to be complete by October.

Utility staff is also busy with water and sewer connection inspections. Work continues with our valve exercising program and water distribution maintenance. During the height of Hurricane Dorian the utility staff was very busy dealing with power outages at several of our pumping stations and monitoring our communication system. I would like to recognize Billy Ramsay and Jerry Villard for their dedication during this storm and severe weather conditions.

Infrastructure staff is busy cutting grass, maintaining trails, gardens, sports fields, and parks. Staff was in after the storm to do an assessment of the damage and Deputy Mayor Clow was happy to report the damage was minimal with some downed trees, trail washouts, and minor damage to some of the buildings.

Councillor MacDougall - emergency services building update. He noted that there is an additional cost with the RCMP section of the building. We had understood that the RCMP was going to install the cameras and security system, but that is not the case. Their contract indicates that the Town is responsible for the installations. Councillor MacDougall asked what the additional costs the Town will incur for these installations and the infrastructure director replied that we are still waiting to get all the information required from the RCMP, but we hope to have the cost for our next meeting.

Councillor MacDougall asked what caused the Town to think that the RCMP would be responsible for the installations, and the infrastructure director replied that there was a junior person who was involved on their side who indicated that they would be looking after the cameras and the security system; however, she misspoke on this issue. Her supervisor contacted the Town and stated that she provided incorrect information. The RCMP has stated that they do not have a budget for this building and the cost associated with making sure it is properly equipped, and based on our contract with the RCMP we are responsible to supply the infrastructure. Councillor MacDougall would like

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to have some further discussion on the issue at the Committee of the Whole, and the infrastructure director noted that he would provide Councillor MacDougall with the information he has on the subject. Deputy Mayor Clow asked if the installation of the camera could be put off for a year and the infrastructure director replied that for security purposes it has to be installed prior to the RCMP occupying the facility.

Councillor MacDonald asked for an update on the infrastructure technician we were going to hire and Deputy Mayor Clow replied that three interviews were held and we were in the process of hiring one of the candidates; however, he took another job for a three month period, and asked if we could hold the job for him for three months. However, because we are down in staff we told him we couldn't hold the position. The infrastructure director stated that he received another resume today but has not yet had the chance to speak to Deputy Mayor Clow about it. It was noted that because it is a six month position we are offering, it hasn't been easy attracting someone.

Mayor Ogden asked about the commitment we made to construct a fence or plant a hedge on the trail at Willams Gate, and the infrastructure director replied that the commitment made at staff level was to put the trail in and that has been completed. The infrastructure director added that the boundaries are delineated with trees, and he is not sure where the commitment to construct a fence came from. Mayor Ogden believed the commitment came from the Recreation, Culture and Events Committee and he will follow up with Jeremy Pierce.

14. SUSTAINABILITY

Report included in the package. Councillor MacDougall took a moment to highlight the new resident welcome event. It is an annual event that welcomes new residents to the Town of Stratford. It provides an opportunity to welcome new residents and share information with them about their new community, as well as meet each other, Town staff, and Council members. This year's event is being held on a Saturday morning of the annual pancake breakfast to help to encourage people to attend both events. The annual pancake breakfast is held on Saturday, September 28.

The Sustainability Committee held a meeting on September 4. Councillor MacDougall noted that the PACE Program was again on the agenda, and one committee member felt it was a great program to bring green initiatives to Stratford and the committee had a lengthy discussion on the program. It was noted that this item will also be discussed at the Committee of the Whole.

The Town was approached recently by the Council of Canadians to ask the Town of Stratford to consider becoming a blue community. To become a blue community, a

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community must pass a resolution declaring water to be a human right; ban bottle water from municipal facilities; and oppose privatization of water and wastewater facilities. Staff had no issue with the proposed commitments in principle, which reflect current practice for the most part, but did not agree with all of the proposed wording of the resolution.

Councillor MacDougall stated that we received a request from a resident asking for amendment to the Cosmetic Pesticide Bylaw so they could deal with a chickweed infestation. The watershed coordinator advised the CAO that the chickweed is a common weed and he felt that if we were to open the bylaw to allow for an exemption, we would essentially be abandoning the original intent and purpose of the bylaw, so the committee recommended against the amendment.

Mayor Ogden asked the CAO if he wanted to speak to the business aspect of the website and the CAO replied that there are two companies that we have identified as a software service. They go out and gather the data from Stats Canada and other agencies about the demographic characteristics and economic characteristics of Stratford. There is a whole industry of site selectors who work for different companies such as Shoppers. They are independent and work on a consulting basis. There is a standard approach that municipalities use to display both the type of information and the way it is displayed. Site selectors don't want to go searching through Municipal websites and find that they are all different. If you go onto any economic development website you will see fairly consistent data, so there are a few companies who have said there is a market for this. We haven't decided which company to use yet, as we are still checking references, but hopefully within the next week or two we will have made a decision. Within a month of selecting a company we should have a section on our website for a site selector.

17. ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT

No report

18. HUMAN RESOURCES

No Report

19. INQUIRIES BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councillor Smith asked if we have a system in place to backfill when employees are off sick or on leave for a lengthy period of time and Deputy Mayor Clow replied that this issue is being worked on.

Councillor Burridge asked about the proposal from Island Gymnastics Academy and Mayor Ogden replied that we haven't had a chance yet to discuss it at the Committee of the Whole. The CAO noted that he considers it to be a budget request and would put it in with

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the other budget requests. Mayor Ogden stated that he would like the recreation department to have a look at it and get their recommendation.

20. APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE

Nil

21. OTHER COMMITTEES

a) Stratford Seniors Complex

Report was included in the agenda package. Councillor MacDonald noted that they are working on some amendments of the Management Policy to deal with the tenant selection for the Complex.

It was noted that MacIsaac Landscaping will be hired to do this this year's snow removal, as well as salting of the walkways and patios at the Complex.

Councillor MacDonald stated that they are currently working on the capital plan which will be completed within the next month.

There was a complaint regarding barbeques and the tenants were given a letter, along with a letter from the Fire Marshall, stating that they are no longer allowed to have barbeques on decks or patios. Councillor Smith asked about the black mulch noting that it seems to be a lot of the problem. Councillor MacDonald replied that the Fire Marshall provided some guidelines which we intend to follow. He noted that the mulch should be at least 18 inches away from the building and no deeper than 3 inches.

b) Community Campus Report

No Report

20. PROCLAMATIONS

Nil

21. OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Gallant noted that the Fall Fest is being held on September 28 and 29 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. both days, and he has out to public safety to help with the parking. He suggested that some former officers or even officers who are currently working may be able to make time to help out with the parking. Councillor Smith stated that this is 'a first time event' so we don't know how busy the parking will be – it could be very busy or not, we don't know at this point. Deputy Mayor Clow stated that we should be able to get an officer to do traffic control. Mayor Ogden noted that we should make a formal request to the RCMP so it is documented. The CAO suggested that if we request it as overtime there

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would be no issue. However, if we request it to be an RCMP officer who is on duty and an emergency call comes in he/she would have to leave. Mayor Ogden asked that it be added to the list of items we will be discussing with the commanding officer on September 23.

22. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Steve Ogden

Robert Hughes CAO