



Instead of making Snowmen, this family decided on Sparkles and her two polar bear cubs. (Bollwerk Photo)



Best be careful, the water is cold. (Bollwerk Photo)



When the snow arrives there's a great thrill for all ages to be at the top of the hill. (Bollwerk Photo)



With a fresh snowfall, a family outing to enjoy a thrill of everyone going downhill. (Bollwerk Photo)



The intensity of the smile shows the pleasures you have in enjoying a time in the snow. (Bollwerk Photo)

## Review of Council's February 3 Meeting

*The following is a recap of Cumberland Council's meeting on February 3rd.*

Two presentations were provided to council, one from the Cumberland County Trails Committee and one from the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Public Works. The first major organizational item dealt with was a motion from Councillor McCormick to approve a proposed gym enhancement for the new elementary school being built in Springhill.

When schools are built, certain features like gyms can be augmented with community financial support. The council support comes from funds being held by the municipality which were raised by the community and funds resulting from the sale of the parcel of land for the school. Director of Finance, Andrew MacDonald, also provided a financial update for the period ending November 30, 2020.

Council formally adopted the Reimbursement Policy for Members of Council and Chief Administration Officer. The only changes to this policy were to update the terminol-

ogy from Warden/Deputy Warden to Mayor/Deputy Mayor. Second reading was considered for three By-Laws which had previously been given first reading on December 16, 2020 and public hearings on January 13, 2021. Two of the By-Laws were for requests for rezoning, with the third being the Local Improvement By-Law.

The amendment for rezoning in Nappan was given second reading. The amendment for rezoning on the Fort Lawrence Road did not pass second reading as a result of the feedback garnered during the public hearing process. The second reading of the Local Improvement By-Law passed, now allowing for a monthly payment option for a local improvement charge.

A copy of the Occupational Health & Safety Policy was considered by council, and council gave notice of intent to consider adoption at the February 17th Public Council Meeting. As with the formal adoption of the reimbursement policy earlier in the evening, it is the practice of council to review a document at one meeting and then give no-

tice of intent of adoption at the next meeting.

Citizen Appointments to committees were ratified by council. In total, 15 citizens submitted expressions of interest for 17 vacancies. Four source water protection committees received no submissions. The following citizens now serve as citizen appointees to committees of council: Audit Committee: Rick James, Leisa Babineau and Barry Anderson. Border Entrance Committee: Alex Fisher and Jeff Brennan. Cumberland Energy Authority: Rick James and Doug Marshall.

Cumberland RCMP Management Advisory Committee: James Kurchak, Forrest McWade and George Pugsley. Source Water Protection Committee: Pugwash Water, Brian Chase. Four source water protection committees received no submissions.

The annual income thresholds of the Low Income Tax Exemption Policy were discussed. Staff will do further research on the topic and will bring more information to council at the next meeting. Council approved a \$15,000 grant

to the Oxford Area Lions Club for renovations to the Oxford Arena to allow for it to continue operating in a safe manner.

Staff presented the annual calculation of the metered sewer service charge for the Parrsboro sewer system. A metered sewer service charge of \$2.65 per cubic metre was approved by council. Renovations to the former town hall in Springhill originally included an estimate for updates to the building's elevator system. The original budget only addressed the requirement of the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and did not include replacement of the elevator machinery. Additional scope is recommended by the consultant due to the age of the equipment (45 years) and potential savings of bundling the work as one project. Council approved the complete recommendation of the consultant.

Tender for the former River Hebert Elementary was awarded to Yard Guyz in the amount of \$1,000. A tax collection report was provided to council. A tax sale by tender is scheduled to close on March 16, 2021. The tax sale is being done by tender as a COVID-19 precaution.

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