

**Police & License Committee Meeting
June 25, 2025
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Chair, Councillor P. McKenna
Councillor J. Sullivan
J. Pellerin, Bylaw Enforcement
Mayor, S. Cameron
Sgt. J. Jessome, RCMP
H. Qualizza STFX Student Union

Also, In Attendance

M. Fougere, Deputy Clerk
R. Delorey, CAO
S. Long, Acting Director of Community Development
K. Meisner, Director of Infrastructure and Engineering

Absent with Regrets

Deputy Mayor D. Roberts
R. Peters, STFX University Representative
S/Sgt. K. Hillier, RCMP

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Councillor McKenna, called the Police and License Meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Amendment: Removal of Item 5.5.

It was Moved by Councillor Sullivan and Seconded by K. Meisner “to approve the agenda as amended.”

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the April 15th meeting were accepted as presented.

Introductions and a roundtable discussion took place. A new member from the StFX Student Union joined the meeting—Haley Qualizza attended on behalf of Jacob Cruchet, Vice President of External Affairs. Haley will be replacing Jacob Cruchet going forward.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Removal of 3 Parking spots on St. Ninian St.

K. Meisner reported visiting the site and supports relocating the existing no parking signage. The current sign on the utility pole will be removed, and a new independent signpost will be installed three spots back. This follows a motion passed at a recent Council meeting. Today’s discussion was informational only.

4.2 Caution sign on Victoria St.

This item was previously discussed at the last committee meeting regarding a caution sign indicating “seniors in the area.” Councillor McKenna noted that the matter falls outside the Town’s regulations. K. Meisner suggested approaching the RK MacDonald Nursing Home about placing signage on their property. As a member of the RK Board, Councillor McKenna will raise the issue at their board meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening.

4.3 Summary Offence Tickets

CAO, R. Delorey reported there are no updates at this time.

4.4 St. Patrick’s Day Activities

S. Long reported that the working group continues to meet and develop recommendations. The group will pause over the summer and provide an update in the fall.

4.5 Town sign located by the entrance to Chisholm Park

S. Long requested that Admiral shift the sign upward. Councillor Murray plans to follow up with Admiral this week, but no update has been received yet. The matter remains in progress.

Councillor Sullivan raised a safety concern and recommended that decisions regarding the sign’s placement and alignment fall under the Traffic Authority’s jurisdiction rather than staff. Ms. Long will follow up.

K. Meisner supported raising the sign, noting it would be beneficial and cost-effective.

4.6 Committed membership – STFX (J. Cruchet) Update

Haley Qualizza has replaced Jacob Cruchet as the STFX Student Union representative. While there have historically been two student representatives on the committee, the Student Union’s by-laws specify that only one student may serve as a representative. The CAO clarified that alternate representatives may attend meetings, but only one student representative may vote. Under the Committee’s Terms of Reference, STFX is allocated two representatives in total: one from STFX Administration and one from the Student Union.

4.7 Parking Kiosks – Sydney St and Creighton Lane

J. Pellerin reported that the By-Law Department’s case management and parking ticket issuance system (OSCID) has been decommissioned, resulting in a temporary disruption. In the interim, staff are handwriting tickets. An RFP for a new parking enforcement and management system has been issued, with a closing date of July 11, 2025.

He noted that the remaining meters on Creighton Lane have been removed, and a new kiosk will be installed in their place. Staff are also working with MacKay Meters to both replace the existing kiosk on Sydney Street and install the new unit on Creighton Lane.

Discussion:

Councillor Sullivan inquired about the kiosk installation, J. Pellerin confirmed that MacKay Meters, the same company that previously maintained Town parking meters, will be handling the installations.

Mayor Cameron discussed time limits, noting that:

- Main Street meters have a 2-hour limit
- Creighton Lane meters have a 3-hour limit

S. Long advised that enforcement will be standardized with the 2-hour limit, consistent with Main Street meters. Staff will review the Parking By-Law.

Councillor McKenna raised the issue of non-metered parking spaces that currently exist before kiosk installation.

He recommended that this matter be brought to Council for broader discussion, especially regarding the transition to fully metered parking.

It was noted that the Town's Parking By-Law will govern the terms and enforcement of any future changes.

5. New Business

5.1 Crosswalk change St. Ninian St.

K. Meisner advised that the item concerns a proposed relocation of the crosswalk. At this time, the existing crosswalk will be repainted in its current location. The potential relocation will be revisited at a later date.

5.2 Policy on Flo EV Charging Stations

S. Long informed the committee that her department is currently developing a policy regarding the enforcement and use of the FLO electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Once drafted, the policy will be brought to the committee for review and subsequently to Council for adoption.

There is currently no formal policy in place regarding the use or enforcement of these charging stations.

5.3 Summer Parking at Creighton Lane and Main St. behind the Sunflower

Mayor Cameron reported that he had a recent conversation with the owner of Micro Boutique Living, who expressed interest in purchasing summer parking spaces for residents staying in their rental units.

This would be a seasonal request, applicable only during the summer months.

It would not apply during the Overnight Parking Ban period (December to April).

CAO noted that this could serve as a potential revenue stream for the Town. Options such as a seasonal parking pass could be explored. Staff will consider these ideas and bring forward recommendations to Council for further discussion.

5.4 Date of Meetings

S. Long advised that she would follow up with the Chair to schedule committee meeting dates through to December, with additional dates to be set extending into May.

Chair Transition:

Councillor McKenna stepped down as Chair at 12:43 p.m. and left the meeting.

Councillor J. Sullivan assumed the Chair at 12:44 p.m.

6. Reports

6.1 Town By-law Enforcement

J. Pellerin, By-Law Enforcement Officer and Special Constable, provided an update on department activities. Enforcement continues to focus on unsightly premises, with response efforts driven by both staff-initiated and public complaints.

Mr. Pellerin has been in contact with the new security manager at St. Martha's Hospital to schedule a site visit. The purpose is to address parking concerns through improved signage, curb painting, and overall compliance with Town regulations.

Mr. Pellerin is now assisting Traffic Authority Kyle Miesner, with support from Grace Gillis. They will be assisting with upcoming summer events including Stroll the Main, Highland Games activities, and the Antigonish Art Fairs.

Mr. Pellerin reported that Sam Biggley has been hired as a second By-Law Enforcement Officer, following the retirement of S. Smith. Mr. Biggley will begin on June 30, 2025, which is expected to improve enforcement response and coverage.

6.2 RCMP

Sgt. Jessome provided an update, noting that May was a transitional yet active month, with 411 calls for service. The RCMP executed a high-profile Canada-wide warrant early in the month and made a significant drug-related arrest at the end. Members were active in the community, participating in events and supporting National Impaired Driving Enforcement Weekend. Work continues on performance and action plans.

Sgt. Jessome also highlighted that Cst. C. Pelly received an award for her volunteerism and community involvement.

Sgt. Jessome inquired about the upcoming U18 Football event to ensure RCMP preparedness. The CAO provided an update, and S. Long will connect Sgt. Jessome with event contacts.

K. Meisner raised concerns regarding a recent incident involving an individual fleeing RCMP and ending up at the Sewer Treatment Plant. The CAO flagged this as a safety concern. Discussions took place.

Mayor Cameron reported a resident concern about speeding near Highland Drive and Fatima Street. Sgt. Jessome noted that changes to school zone speed limits are expected in July, as speed zones fall under provincial jurisdiction.

6.3 STFX

H. Qualizza provided an update, noting that the Union team remains active over the summer and is currently focused on a development plan.

The CAO noted that the Student Union is highly engaged in FROSH Week planning. Mac Murphy is currently in the early stages of organizing the event.

The CAO emphasized the importance of keeping the Town informed, particularly regarding off-campus activities, to ensure community safety.

7. Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.