

The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor D. Devenne
Deputy Mayor K. Nauss
Councillor J. Bain
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor R. Nowe
Councillor P. Carver
CAO J. Wentzell
Deputy Clerk M. Hughes

Regrets:

Gallery: one

Minutes

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Bain, **“THAT the Minutes of the December 12, 2017 regular meeting be approved as amended.”** Motion carried.

A notation that an In Camera meeting was held on December 12, 2017, to discuss contract negotiations and personnel matters, as permitted by the MGA 22(2)(e) and (c).

Correspondence – Information Items

1. Derek Mombourquette, Minister, Department of Municipal Affairs, responding to REMO correspondence regarding hazardous materials response capacity.
2. Michelle Saran, CEO, Tourism Nova Scotia – Tourism Nova Scotia’s 2017-2022 Strategic Plan now available.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, **“THAT the correspondence be received and filed.”** Motion carried.

Correspondence – Action Items

3. Andrew Tanner, Director of Sales and Marketing, Saltbox Brewing Company, requesting support in principle for a Soap Box Racing Event to be held in June 2018.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Bain, **“THAT Council approve in principle the request from Saltbox Brewing to host a Soap Box Racing Event on June 16, 2018.”** Motion carried

Mayor Devenne noted that the approval is pending information from the organizers, an approved safety plan and other requirements for Festivals.

Committee and Other Reports

CAO Staffing Update

The CAO advised Council that Luke Wentzell will be joining staff on January 15, 2017 as the Manager of Accounting.

Municipal Joint Services Board

Council received the minutes of the regular meetings of the Municipal Joint Services Board held on: May 24, 2017; July 26, 2017; September 27, 2017; October 25, 2017.

Lunenburg County Mayors, Wardens, Deputies and CAOs

Council received information from the Lunenburg County Mayors, Wardens, Deputies and CAOs which outlined a potential marketing levy for Lunenburg County.

A motion by, Councillor Feeney seconded by Councillor Nowe, **“THAT staff continue to explore the value of a marketing levy for Lunenburg County and commence industry engagement to discuss their participation in such a levy.”** **Motion carried.**

Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program

Council received the December 2017 monthly report and the 2017 Annual Report of the Lunenburg County Senior Safety Partnership.

Councillor Carver advised Council that the interim Senior Safety Coordinator, Shona Brown, has completed an introductory period and has now assumed full responsibilities of the profession.

South Shore Regional School Board

Council received the 2016/17 Superintendent’s Annual Report to the Community from the South Shore Regional School Board.

AREA Update

The CAO advised Council that a meeting of the AREA Board has been set for January 18, 2018. Highlighted in Mr. Wentzell’s report were the staff efforts to become more transparent, in line with the efforts of the partnering municipalities. It was also noted that the Town of Mahone Bay has received from AREA a dividend in the amount of \$148,494 from 2016/17; this money has been earmarked for capital projects completed in the Town of Mahone Bay in 2017/18.

Notice of Motions

Solar Connectivity Policy

Notice was given that a Solar Connectivity Policy will be revisited at the January 25, 2018 Council meeting.

Motions

Citizen Appointment to Committees Policy

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council approve the amendment of Chapter 9, Town of Mahone Bay Citizen Appointments to Committees Policy.”** **Motion carried**

Conducting Meetings by Electronic Facilities Policy

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council approve the amendment of Chapter 12, Town of Mahone Bay Conducting Meetings by Electronic Facilities Policy.”** **Motion carried.**

Unfinished Business

Joint Transit Update

Council received an update from the CAO regarding the decision of the Towns of Lunenburg and Bridgewater, as well as the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, in respect to the re-activation of the Municipal Joint Transportation Committee as requested by the Citizens for Public Transit.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Bain, **“THAT Councillor Carver and Councillor Feeney be appointed as the Town of Mahone Bay representatives to the Joint Transportation Board, should the committee be re-activated.”** **Motion carried.**

NSUARB Board Order

Council received a copy of the Board Order from the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, approving the LED Street Light rate as requested by the Town of Mahone Bay.

Revised Solid Waste Management Bylaw #46

Deputy Mayor Nauss advised Council that due to a delay in advertising, the second reading of the Solid Waste Management Bylaw #46 will be considered at the January 25, 2018 Council meeting.

New Business

Uniform Assessment 2018/19

The CAO advised Council that the 2018 Assessment Roll has been received and that the Town of Mahone Bay has seen a 1.66% increase in the Universal Assessment Rate. Residential is up slightly higher than that and the commercial assessment has dropped slightly, a reflection of market values.

Resignation from Council

The CAO advised Council that he received correspondence from Councillor Chia-Kangata on December 2, 2017, submitting her resignation from Council as of December 31, 2017.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council receives the resignation from Councillor Simone Chia-Kangata as a member of Council, effective December 31, 2017, with regret, and that a letter be sent to Ms. Chia-Kangata thanking her for her service to the Town as a member of Council.”** **Motion carried.**

A date will be set for the Special Election at the January 25, 2018 Council meeting.

Council Appointments to Committees

Following the resignation of Councillor Chia-Kangata, there are Council vacancies on the Economic Development Committee, the Age Friendly Committee and the Bylaw Review Working Group.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, **“THAT Council appoint Councillor Bain be appointed to the Economic Development Committee and that he serve as the committee Chair.”** **Motion carried.**

Council agreed that appointment to the Age Friendly Committee and the Bylaw Review Working Group can wait until after the special election.

A motion by Councillor Bain, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Councillor Feeney be appointed to the Joint Services Board, replacing Councillor Bain, effective immediately.”** **Motion carried**

Canada Summer Student Employment Program

Council received information on the Canada Summer Student Employment Program. Mayor Devenne suggested that the Town pursue the opportunity of hiring a summer student as a way to provide employment for young people in the community and an opportunity for the Town to benefit from the ideas and enthusiasm of young people.

Council directed staff to pursue the application for the Canada Summer Jobs Program.

Accounts

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Feeney, **“THAT the accounts be approved in the amount of \$192,719.45.”** **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned upon motion at 8:36 p.m.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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CAO, James A. Wentzell

Mayor, David Devenne