

A Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 7:12 p.m.

Present:

Mayor D. Devenne
Deputy Mayor K. Nauss
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor R. Nowe
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor J. Bain
Councillor S. Chia-Kangata
CAO J. Wentzell
Deputy Clerk M. Hughes
Development Control/Planning Assistant, Garth Sturtevant

Gallery: 11

Minutes

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT the Minutes of the April 11, 2017 public hearing be approved as presented.”** **Motion carried.**

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Feeney, **“THAT the Minutes of the April 11, 2017 regular meeting be approved as presented.”** **Motion carried.**

Amending Development Agreement Application – Mahone Bay Brewing Company

The Clerk reported that a Public Hearing was held immediately preceding the Council meeting to receive verbal and written submissions regarding Council’s intention to enter into an Amending Development Agreement with the Mahone Bay Brewing Company to expand the permitted hours of operation for the Taproom at property located at 363 Main Street, PID 60375797. Council had received at the Public Hearing the Report of the Clerk, the Planners Report, including the results of the Public Information Meeting held on April 4, 2017. One submission was received in respect to the proposed development agreement, indicating no objections to the proposed development agreement, and it was circulated to Council. One member of the public spoke at the Public Hearing but indicated no objections.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nauss, **“THAT Council enter into an amending development agreement with Mahone Bay Brewing Company Ltd for property located at 363 Main Street, identified as PID 60375797 by expanding the permitted hours of operation for the Tap Room and other minor amendments as detailed in the draft Amending Development Agreement.”** **Motion carried.**

Delegations and Individuals

Charles Otter, Chair, Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce

Charles Otter and Fran O'Hagan, of the Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce (MBTCC), provided Council with an update on the activities of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Otter advised that the MBTCC has recently completed a branding process which involved a new name, new logos, and new colours. The new logos and colours have been used in the destination marketing efforts of the MBTCC to encourage visitors to Mahone Bay. Mr. Otter stated that the MBTCC would like to paint the Visitor Information Centre in the new colours of the MBTCC, at their own cost, to make it more eye-catching.

A motion by Councillor Bain, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT that Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce be granted permission to pain the Visitor Information Centre at no cost to the Town.”** **Motion carried.**

Cpl. Darren Slaunwhite, RCMP

Cpl. Darren Slaunwhite, RCMP Liaison for the Town of Mahone Bay, presented his quarterly report to Council. Cpl. Slaunwhite noted that the first quarter of 2017 has seen a decrease in property crimes and crimes against person but an increase in self-generated traffic statistics. RCMP continue to target seat belt, distracted driving and speeding violations in Mahone Bay. Cpl. Slaunwhite noted that fentanyl is now present in the area and Sgt. Bruce Briers, also of the RCMP, briefly discussed the dangers of fentanyl.

Siew Secord, COO, MJSB – 2017/18 Operating Plan and 5 Year Capital Program

Siew Secord, COO of the Municipal Joint Services Board (MJSB) presented the proposed 2017/18 Operating Plan and 5 Year Capital Program.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Bain, **“THAT the Town of Mahone Bay approve the Municipal Joint Services Board (MJSB) proposed 2017/18 Capital Budget and Operating Budgets subject to the budget complying with section 10(7) of the Joint Services Board Agreement requiring surplus and deficits be carried forward in budgets of the MJSB and with the understanding that no funds be expended on studies of specific services without the expressed written approval of the MJSB partners.”** **Motion carried.**

Correspondence – Information Items

1. Ahmad Shahwan and Emily Pond, Municipal Advisors, returning Temporary Borrowing Renewal Resolutions with Ministerial Approval for: the Fire Truck; Sewer/Street Longhill Road; Water Longhill Road; Street Paving, Edgewater; Street Old Edgewater.
2. Lyle Goldberg, Manager of Member Relations, UNSM, with specific information about the Cannabis Legalization and Municipal Impacts Session, taking place on May 26, 2017.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council receive and file the above correspondence, numbered 1-2.”** **Motion carried.**

Correspondence – Action Items

1. Dylan Heide, the CAO of the Town of Shelburne with information about the SSREN and the South Shore Tourism Team’s request for funding.

Mayor Devenne advised Council that the Board of the SSREN is composing a letter to respond to the request in Mr. Heide’s letter; the letter from the SSREN Board will be reviewed by the SSREN Liaison and Oversight Committee and Mayor Devenne will report to Council on the content of that response.

Committee and Other Reports

Fire Department Quarterly Report

Council received the quarterly report from the Mahone Bay and District Fire Department.

Departmental Report – Director of Operations

Council received the Operations and Recreational Facilities Departmental Report from Derrick MacKenzie, Director of Operations. Mr. MacKenzie highlighted a few key points from his report including the information that the work on the underground pipes at the swimming pool began on April 17th and that even with a few weather delays, it is expected that the contractor will be completed by early May. Council was also advised that there were three power outages in Mahone Bay between March 31st and April 23rd, two of which were unscheduled.

Age Friendly Committee

Council received information about the meeting on April 26, 2017 at which Dalhousie student Alice Main shared the findings of her participatory action research project on social inclusion and age friendliness to all ages, using Mahone Bay as sample community. Councillor Carver, Chair of the Age Friendly Committee, noted that more information would be available at the next meeting of Council.

AREA – Phase III Project Approval

Mr. Wentzell advised Council that at the time that the application for Phase III of the Ellershouse Windfarm was submitted, the province recommended that an outside consultant assess the debt load for each municipality; the report was returned with a favourable recommendation for moving forward and provincial approval has been received for Phase III of the Ellershouse Windfarm.

Unfinished Business

Joint Municipal Accountability and Transparency Recommendations – Final Report

Council received the final Recommendations Report from the JMATA, Joint Municipal Accountability and Transparency Committee, which was submitted to the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs on March 30, 2017. The JMATA was mandated to review and strengthen policies and processes for expenses and improve public transparency for municipalities.

Having reviewed the report, Council noted that while the Town of Mahone Bay has a solid expense policy and posts expense claims on the website, there are areas for improvement. It was agreed by Council that staff would be requested to research a hospitality policy and the restructure of the Audit Committee. In particular, the Audit Committee will be restructured to include two citizen appointments and to review financial statements on a quarterly basis.

Municipal Joint Services Agreement Review

A meeting of Councils of member units of the Municipal Joint Services Board, the towns of Mahone Bay and Bridgewater as well as the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, was held on April 24, 2017 to discuss the Four-Year Joint Services Agreement Review. There was good representation from all three Councils and while not all points raised by individual Councils were able to be discussed in the time allotted, it was felt that the remaining items were “housekeeping” items and they will be forwarded to the CAOs for discussion.

New Business

Request to Amend the Land Use Bylaw

Council received a letter from Katie Iyoupe, requesting an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Chia-Kangata, **“THAT Council refer the request from Katie Iyoupe to amend the Land Use Bylaw to add dog grooming to the list of small scale business uses permitted in the residential zone to the Planners and the Planning Advisory Committee for study and recommendation back to Council.”**

Motion carried.

Proposed “Housekeeping” Amendment to Land Use Bylaw

Council received correspondence from Garth Sturtevant, Development Control/Planning Assistant, proposing an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw for consideration by Council. Mr. Sturtevant recommends an amendment to maintain a list of development agreements in effect and registered heritage properties outside of the Land Use Bylaw, rather than maintain a list in the Land Use Bylaw which would require a full Bylaw Amendment process every time either one of those lists is updated.

A motion by Councillor Bain, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council refer the suggestion by Development Control/Planning Assistant Garth Sturtevant to amend the Land Use Bylaw regarding the listing of development agreements and listing of registered heritage properties to the Planners and the Planning Advisory Committee for study and recommendation back to Council.”** **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned upon motion at 9:01 pm.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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CAO, James A. Wentzell

Mayor, David Devenne