

A Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 7:00 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

Gallery: 3

Minutes

A motion by Councillor Chia-Kangata, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nauss, **“THAT the Minutes of the April 27, 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 27, 2017 regular meeting be approved as presented.”** **Motion carried.**

Delegations and Individuals

Norman Haslett, Citizens for Public Transit

Norman Haslett, accompanied by Cathy Etter, of Citizens for Public Transit (CPT), spoke to Council about their request to develop a regional Lunenburg County Transit Authority which would operate a fixed route transit system in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg as well as the Towns of Lunenburg, Bridgewater and Mahone Bay.

Mr. Haslett, on behalf of CPT, requested that Council appoint a representative to a re-vitalized Joint Transit Committee (JTC) and that CPT be invited to join the JTC to discuss the CPT proposal for the fixed route transit system; the proposal is to be circulated in the near future. Mr. Haslett added that the CPT applications for funding for a fixed route transit project as proposed were not approved by the provincial government.

Council requested that the CAOs discuss the possibilities and the logistics of re-starting the JTC, the JTC mandate and that Mr. Wentzell report back to Council on those discussions.

Committee and Other Reports

Planning Advisory Committee – May 2, 2017

Council received the minutes of the May 2, 2017 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee. Deputy Mayor Nauss reported that a Development Agreement request from Mike Kelly was received and that a recommendation was made that Council accept the draft development agreement following specific revisions. The revisions will be included in the draft development agreement when it comes before Council for review.

Age Friendly Committee – Research Project Final Meeting

Council received a synopsis of some of the action items discussed at the public meeting held on April 26, 2017 at which Dalhousie student, Alice Main, presented the results of her participatory research on social inclusion. Councillors Carver and Chia-Kangata highlighted some of the key issues that were identified as important to project participants. Discussion focused on the different ways that those issues can be actioned in the community and with Town staff. Staff will coordinate with local trail organizations regarding trail exit point signage and the CAO advised Council that he has been in discussion with the Chair of the Mahone Bay Playground Group regarding signage for the new natural playground.

Lunenburg County Seniors Safety Program

Council received the April 2017 monthly report from the Lunenburg County Seniors Safety Program.

UNSM Regional Meeting, South Shore – HRM

The UNSM Regional Meeting for South Shore-HRM was held on April 28, 2017 at Atlantica in Western Shore. Mayor Devenne and Councillor Carver highlighted some of the key points in the discussion of the process by which municipalities can move resolutions forward to the provincial level. It was noted that at the Regional Meeting it was agreed to recommend improving the availability of building and fire inspectors move forward to the provincial level as it is an important issue to all municipalities in the South Shore-HRM Region.

Joint Services Board – Request for Approval of Supplementary Budget

Council received a request from Siew Secord, COO of the Municipal Joint Services Board, for approval of a supplemental budget to replace a loader at the waste site. The CAO advised Council that according to the Municipal Joint Services Board Agreement, the MJSB is able to submit a supplemental budget following the approval of the annual budget, but that the approval of Councils is required if that supplemental budget is for an amount greater than \$100,000.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council approve the Supplementary Capital Budget for the Joint Services Board for 2017/18 in the amount of \$160,000 for the purchase or lease of a new loader.”** **Motion carried**

Bluenose Coastal Action

Deputy Mayor Nauss advised Council that the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation Annual Rum and Chowder fundraiser will be held on June 9, 2017.

New Business

Provincial Budget Highlights

Council received information from the provincial budget. The CAO advised that as the election was called immediately after the budget was tabled in the legislature, it is still a draft budget.

Discussion – Mahone Bay’s Green Canopy

Council discussed the preservation of the green canopy in Mahone Bay, namely the trees in Town. Discussion included trimming practices of the Electric Utility, encouragement of consultation with certified arborists, and matters relating to raising awareness of the importance of the green canopy, both for environmental and aesthetic reasons.

South Shore Regional School Board working session – Long Range Outlook – June 1, 2017

Council received correspondence for South Shore Regional School Board (SSRSB) Superintendent, Scott Milner, inviting members of Council and the CAO to attend a facilitated working session to receive an overview of the SSRSB Long Range Outlook. The session will be held on Thursday, June 1, 2017 and members of Council interested in attending are asked to register with the SSRSB and to advise the Deputy Clerk if they plan to attend.

Tenders – Clairmont Street and Pleasant Street Projects

Council received a report from Mr. MacKenzie with a review of the tenders received in response to the call for tenders. The CAO noted that the low bid is over budget by \$300,000 – the budget had a contingency of 15% but the lowest bid exceeds the contingency by a further 15%. Anything above the estimate approved by the province is the sole financial responsibility of the Town. The CAO advised Council that the cost overages will likely result in a tax rate increase for 2018/19.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, **“THAT Council accept the bid from Dexter Construction for the sewer, street, sidewalk and water work on Clairmont and Pleasant Streets at a cost of \$2,728, 300 plus HST.”** **Motion carried.**

It was noted that the costs are construction costs only, that engineering and contract supervision costs and net HST will bring the total cost to \$3,120,813 with the Town and Water Utilities net cost being \$1,338,651.

Canada's 150th – Event Proposal

Council received a proposal from a community group planning events to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary. The proposal was submitted by a not-for-profit group of volunteers who have been working to coordinate festivities to mark the occasion. A request for funding was included in the proposal.

Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Chia-Kangata, **“THAT Council support the proposal for Canada 150 celebrations within the Town of Mahone Bay with a contribution of \$506 toward the events listed in the proposal.”** **Motion carried**

Accounts

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Bain, **“THAT the accounts be paid in the amount of \$189,926.”** **Motion carried**

The meeting adjourned upon motion at 8:38 pm.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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CAO, James A. Wentzell

Mayor, David Devenne