

A special meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Thursday, July 7, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

Present:

Mayor C. J. Feeney
Deputy Mayor D. Devenne
Councillor K. Wilson
Councillor K. Nauss
Councillor L. Hennigar
Councillor P. Carver
CAO J. Wentzell
Deputy Clerk M. Hughes

Regrets: Councillor J. Bain

Gallery: 2

Review of Budgets

The budget package had been circulated to members of Council prior to the meeting and the CAO reviewed with Council the following and then answered questions from members of Council on the proposed budgets.

- Division of Taxation between Residential and Commercial taxpayer
- Draft Budget Tax Rates and Impact on Taxpayers
- Tax Impact Comparisons Bridgewater/Lunenburg/Mahone Bay
- Tax Rebates for 2016/17
- Reserve Fund Status
- Major Project Financing
- Grant Requests for 2016/17
- Tourism Costs for 2016/17
- Review of Draft 2016/17 Budgets

Following the review of the budgets and after making minor changes, Council made the following decisions:

Low Income Tax Exemption

Moved by **Councillor Hennigar**, seconded by **Councillor Wilson**, that Council set the following Low Income Tax Exemption for 2016/17 as authorized under Section 69 of the Municipal Government Act:

Family Income Level	Mahone Bay Reduction
\$0 - \$14,000	\$600
\$14,001 - \$16,000	\$500
\$16,001 - \$18,000	\$400
\$18,001 - \$20,000	\$300
\$20,001 - \$23,000	\$250
\$23,001 - \$25,000	\$200
\$25,001 - \$26,000	\$150
\$26,001 - \$28,000	\$100

The ratepayer must reside in the property for which an exemption is being applied. Income from all persons of the same family residing in the household shall be taken into account when granting a tax exemption. Applicant(s) shall show proof of income to be eligible for an exemption. Where a property is owned by more than one person and one of the co-owners is not eligible for an exemption, the tax exemption shall be prorated as determined by the treasurer. In addition, if the property is co-inhabited by additional adults not classified as family, and no rent or board is included in the applicant’s income for those persons, the treasurer shall add a value of \$4,800 for each such adult to the Income of the applicant before granting a tax exemption. Applications shall be received no later than September 30, 2016.

Motion carried.

Consideration of Grants

Moved by **Councillor Hennigar**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Devenne**, that Council approve the following grant requests for 2016/17:

Grants to Organizations

Bayview School (Yearbook and BayBoo)	\$ 100
Mahone Islands Conservation Society	\$ 500
South Shore Safe Communities – Seniors Safety Program	\$ 533
South Shore Opportunities – S/W Nova Climate Study Program	\$ 750
Unallocated Funds	<u>\$ 1,617</u>
Total Grants to Organizations for 2016/17	\$ 3, 500

**In addition, \$1,500 was allocated for Crosswalk Flags to appear in the budget under Transportation Services.*

Recreation – Community Grants

Shore Fieldhouse Society	\$ 1,000
Lunenburg/Queen Recreation Coordinators/Directors	\$ 200
Uncommitted	<u>\$ 300</u>
Total Recreation – Community Grants for 2015/16	\$ 1,200

Other Grants and Contributions

Mahone Bay Museum	\$ 8,000
Mahone Bay and Area Swimming Pool Society	\$10,520
Mahone Bay Fire Department	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total – Other Grants and Contributions	\$28,520

Motion carried.

Moved by **Councillor Carver**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Devenne**, that Council approve the following grants for Tourism for 2016/17:

Tourism

Operation of Visitor Information Centre	
Taxes	\$ 3,455
Insurance	\$ 243
Water/Electricity	\$ 1,500
Repairs	\$ 400
Telephone/Internet/Wi-Fi	\$ 2,000
Washroom Supplies	\$ 1,000
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 202</u>
Subtotal (VIC)	\$ 8,800
Paint Mahone Bay/Treasures/Friends of Mahone Bay	\$ 500
MBACC Various Festivals	\$ 1,200
South Shore Tourism Team	\$ 265
Various Festival Advertising	\$ 600
Love Mahone Bay	\$ 1,000
Unallocated funds	<u>\$ 635</u>
Subtotal	\$ 4,200
Total	\$ 13,000

Motion carried.

2015/16 Budget Approvals

It was moved by **Deputy Mayor Devenne**, seconded by **Councillor Nauss**, that be it

RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Mahone Bay estimates that the sum required for the lawful purpose of the Town for the 2016/17 year, after crediting probable revenues from all sources, other than the rates for the year and applying an amount of \$27,000 from the surplus, is the sum of \$2,493,415.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby authorize the levying and collection of rates for the current year of \$2.95 per \$100 on the value of the property assessed in the Assessment Roll as Commercial Property and \$1.16 per \$100 on the value of the property assessed in the Assessment Roll as Residential and Resources Property for the current year, these being the rates the Council deems sufficient to raise the sum to defray the expenditures for the Town for the current year.

RESOLVED that the final instalment of taxes be due and payable on August 31, 2016.

FURTHER RESOLVED that an interest rate of 12% per annum be charged on the 2016/17 tax bills, as well as on other outstanding rates, outstanding after August 31, 2016.

Motion carried.

Moved by **Councillor Nauss**, seconded by **Deputy Mayor Devenne**, that the Electric Utility budgeted in the amount of **\$1,856,989** be approved by Town Council.

Motion carried.

Moved by **Councillor Hennigar**, seconded by **Councillor Wilson**, that the Water Utility budget in the amount of **\$614,670** be approved by Town Council.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned upon motion at 11:45 am.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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J. Wentzell, CAO

C.J. Feeney, Mayor