

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

Present:

Mayor D. Devenne
Deputy Mayor K. Nauss
Councillor J. Bain
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor R. Nowe
Councillor C. O'Neill
D. Heide, CAO
M. Hughes, Town Clerk
D. MacKenzie, Director of Operations

Regrets:

Gallery: 9

Minutes

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Bain, **“THAT the minutes of the September 27, 2018 regular meeting be approved as presented.”** **Motion carried.**

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, **“THAT the minutes of the September 27, 2018 special meeting be approved as presented.”** **Motion carried.**

Delegations and Individuals

Wanda Baxter, Watch for Wildlife

Council received a presentation from Wanda Baxter, Program Manager for Watch for Wildlife. Ms. Baxter spoke on the importance of wildlife collision prevention in land management by considering such topics as wildlife corridors and brush-cuts along road ways. In her presentation, Ms. Baxter suggested that signage and sharing information on how and to whom to report wildlife collisions can be useful public education tools. Ms. Baxter concluded her presentation by noting that the priorities for reducing wildlife collisions are reducing speed and raising awareness that there is wildlife on the roads.

Paul Casey, NSPI

Council received a presentation from Paul Casey, VP of Transmission Distribution and Delivery for Nova Scotia Power Inc (NSPI). Mr. Casey and several members of the NSPI staff were present at the request of Council to discuss the recent power outages in Mahone Bay which were caused by transmission interruption from NSPI.

Mr. Casey provided the following causes for recent power outages: June 15, 2018 – tree on powerline; August 30, 2018 – lightning strike at NSPI Substation (Westhaver’s Elbow); September 9, 2018 – customer felled tree on power lines; September 11, 2018 – lightning strike at NSPI Substation (Westhaver’s Elbow); and September 18, 2018 – Insulator failure just outside NSPI Substation (Westhaver’s Elbow).

Council was informed that with the exception of the one outage caused by a tree being felled by a customer, all of the outages were beyond the control of NSPI but that NSPI is now focusing on finding ways to reduce the outage time when the substation is knocked offline by external factors. The primary possibilities for improving service to customers of the Westhaver’s Elbow substation, as identified by NSPI, are improving bypass options in this area for when there is an outage, and tree management.

Mr. Casey informed Council that NSPI Customer Service will work with the Town to discuss ways of improving messaging about outages to customers of municipal electric utilities that are caused by NSPI outages. He also stated that the most important next step is in educating utility customers about the importance of tree cutting. It was noted that there is information available on the NSPI website about a program called *The Right Tree in the Right Place* for those who want to maintain plantings on their property but avoid trees that will grow into power lines.

Correspondence – Action Items

1. Karen Mattatall, Chair, Rural Nova Scotia Health Care Working Group, requesting that Council share the Save Our Rural Healthcare Facebook page.

A motion by Councillor Carver seconded by Councillor O’Neill, **“THAT Council direct staff to add information about the Save Our Rural Healthcare Facebook page to the October edition of the Mayor’s newsletter along with links and information about other sites providing information on the healthcare issue in the province.”** Motion carried.

2. Lynn Hennigar, Mahone Bay Centre, with a request for a special occasion extension of hours for the Mahone Bay Centre on October 27, 2018.

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nauss, **“THAT Council direct staff to send a letter to the Mahone Bay Centre Society approving their request for an extension to their hours for October 27, 2018 and advising that in the future such extension of hours will require an amendment to their development agreement.”** Motion carried.

3. Stewart Franck, Citizens for Public Transit, requesting that the Town of Mahone Bay call a meeting of the Municipal Joint Transportation Committee.

A motion by Councillor Carver seconded by Councillor Feeney, **“THAT that Council direct staff to contact the other partner members of the Joint Transportation Committee regarding the potential for a meeting.”** Motion carried.

Committee and Other Reports

Department Report

Council received the Department Report from Derrick MacKenzie, Director of Operations, Mr. MacKenzie highlighted the section of his report that noted that with the repairs completed to the section of sewer line in the area of 389 Main Street, the completion of the camera inspection of that section of sewer line has been scheduled for October 17, 2018. Mr. MacKenzie responded to questions from Council, including providing information on the silt screens that have been placed in the end of culverts in the area of the ditching work on Edgewater Street to mitigate the amount of silt entering the harbour. Council was advised that the silt fences would be removed once vegetation has an opportunity to grow in the ditches and hold the soil naturally.

CAO's Report

Council received the CAO's Report from Dylan Heide. In response to questions from Council, Mr. Heide discussed the Council and Committee Policies being developed by staff and the Code RED public alert system being reviewed by staff.

AREA

Council received the minutes of the April 13, 2018 meeting of the AREA Board of Directors and the AREA 2017/18 Draft Financial Statements.

Lunenburg County Seniors' Safety Program

Council received the September 2018 monthly report from Lunenburg County Seniors' Safety Program (LCSSP). Councillor Carver commented that LCSSP is conducting a pilot project in which the Seniors' Safety Coordinator from Queens will be working with the LCSSP to address requests and compile data on the numbers of calls that can be serviced.

Municipal Finance Corporation

Council received the September 2018 Quarterly Newsletter from the Municipal Finance Corporation.

NSFM – Municipal Matters

Council received the September 26, 2018 edition of *Municipal Matters* from NSFM.

Accounts

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, **“THAT the accounts be paid in the amount of \$139,792.40 as presented.”** **Motion carried.**

Councillor Nowe noted that this week is Fire Prevention Week and that the Mutual Aid parade will be held tomorrow evening in Mahone Bay. Also to recognize Fire Prevention Week, an open house will be held on Friday evening at the Mahone Bay Fire Department.

The meeting adjourned upon motion at 8:35 p.m.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Town Clerk, Maureen Hughes

Mayor, David Devenne