



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via video conference and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

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

Gallery: online

1. Agenda

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nauss, "THAT the agenda be approved as amended." Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Bain, "THAT the minutes of the June 9, 2020 regular council meeting be approved as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, "THAT the minutes of the June 11, 2020 special council meeting at 7:00pm be approved as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Bain, "THAT the minutes of the June 11, 2020 special council meeting at 8:20pm be approved as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor O'Neill, "THAT the minutes of the June 16, 2020 special council meeting be approved as presented." Motion carried.

4 Correspondence – Action Items

4.1 Rebecca Crouse, Rotary Club of Lunenburg County – Nova Scotia Strong Sign.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Bain, “**THAT Council give the Rotary Club of Lunenburg County permission to place a Nova Scotia Strong sign at the Visitor Information Centre with the understanding that they remove the sign after one year.**”
Motion carried.

4.2 Valerie Header – Tree trimming practices.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “**THAT Council direct staff to research consultation services provided by Dr. Peter Duinker surrounding the health, maintenance and renewal of Jubilee Woods and report back to Council, with an estimate of costs.**”
Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor O’Neill, “**THAT the correspondence from Shelley Rafuse of Lunenburg Pride be added to the agenda under Council Items.**”
Motion carried

5. Correspondence – Information Items

5.1 Mayor Rachel Bailey, Town of Lunenburg – Regional Transit Service (CPT Report)

5.2 NSFM – Working Group on Federal Funding Request

5.3 NSFM – Monday Memo – June 8, 2020

5.4 NSFM – Monday Memo – June 15, 2020

5.5 NSFM – News Alert – June 18, 2020

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor O’Neill, “**THAT the Council advise the Town of Lunenburg that the Town of Mahone Bay is open to participating in ongoing discussions on the topic of offering Regional Public Transit Service.**”
Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “**THAT Council receive and file the above correspondence, numbered 5.2 to 5.5.**”
Motion carried.

6. Staff Reports

Council Report

Council received the Staff Report for June 25, 2020.

Employee Donation and Volunteerism Policy

Council received a staff report to accompany a draft Employee Donation and Volunteerism Policy. This report was deferred from the June 9, 2020 agenda.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Bain, **“THAT Council adopt the Employee Donation and Volunteerism Policy as presented.”** Motion carried.

Temporary Vending and Events Bylaws

Council received a staff report to accompany draft Temporary Vending and Events By-laws. This report was deferred from the June 9, 2020 agenda.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor O’Neill, **“THAT staff be directed to present an amended draft Temporary Vending By-law for consideration at the July 14 meeting of Town Council, including the following:**

- include the word ‘temporary’ in section 2 to promote consistency throughout the document;
- amend section 5 to alter the wording so that all the instructions are expressed in positives;
- in section 8.3 amend the text to clarify the wording that those who require temporary vending permits must make application to the Town of Mahone Bay;
- Staff review the item under vending on private property in the residential area;
- Specify how many markets are included in the definition of Seasonal Market;
- Specify that a vehicle as described in the Temporary Vending By-law must be mobile and review the clause that it must to be moved when the permit expires, considering the potential application to private property as well as public property;
- Review the clause that no mobile vendor space shall be issued outside of Commercial zone (or a property with an appropriate development agreement), except with the permission of Council;
- Amend section 8.4 to clarify that permits shall clearly specify items being vended.”

Motion carried

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor O’Neill, **“THAT staff review the following issues when they bring an amended policy for Council consideration at the July 14, 2020 meeting of Council:**

- In section (2) change the wording to read that the *purpose is to contribute to the viability of the business community*, and
- Review the by-law for consistency in the use of the term *days vs business days.*”

Motion carried

Alternative Voting By-law

Council received a staff report with an update on the draft Alternative Voting By-law.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Bain, “**THAT Council approve the minor amendments to the Draft Alternative Voting By-law as given first reading on June 9, 2020.**”

Motion carried

Beautification and Streetscape Application Update

Council received a staff report with an update on projects in the 2020-21 annual budget for which the Town may apply for funding support from the Provincial Beautification and Streetscaping Program.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor O’Neill, “**THAT Council direct staff to apply to the 2020 Beautification and Streetscaping Program for the Edgewater Street Beautification and Wayfinding Signage Project.**”

Motion carried.

2020/21 Transportation Project

Council received a staff report with recommendations for the 2020/21 Transportation Project based on discussion of potential 2020/21 transportation projects at the Special Council meeting held on June 11, 2020.

A motion Councillor Feeney, seconded Councillor Carver:

THAT Council accept the CBCL Ltd. Transportation Plan Report, presented May 12, 2020, and refer the Report to the Asset Management Committee to further consider its recommendations for future asset management plans; and,

THAT Council direct staff, supported by CBCL Ltd. to develop the 2020/21 Transportation Project including:

- New 3-way Stop at Clearway Street at Main Street intersection
- New Pedestrian Crosswalks at:
 - Medical Centre (crossing Main Street)
 - Cherry Lane (crossing Main Street)
 - Lutheran Church (crossing Edgewater Street)
 - Keddy’s Landing (crossing Edgewater Street)
 - Town Hall (crossing Main Street)
- Improved Trail Crossing at Long Hill Road at Main Street intersection
- New Traffic Calming Measures on Clairmont Street and Kinburn Street
- Changing Cherry Lane to One-Way and Orchard Street to one-way (to Parish Street) with Parish Street serving as the exit for both.

For a proposed Connect2 program application for Council and public consideration at the regular meeting of July 14, 2020; and,

THAT Council direct staff to contact the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal regarding the Town’s proposed 2020/21 Transportation Project as well as to discuss proposed changes on highway approaches to Mahone Bay as outlined in the CBCL report; and

THAT Council direct staff to contact the Nova Scotia Liquor Commission regarding the proposed bicycle corridor across their property referenced in the CBCL Ltd report, connecting Main Street and Kinburn Street and supporting the establishment of community-wide all-ages bicycle route.”

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT staff prepare a letter to the Legion to advise that the Town of Mahone Bay will consult the Legion with anything that has to do with the cenotaph.”

Motion carried.

7 Council Items

7.1 COVID-19

Council discussed the Atlantic Bubble which will be effective as of July 3, 2020 and the draft public notice for June 26, 2020 which will be shared with the public via mail drop,

posters at Town Hall and the Post Office, the Town website, and the Town's Facebook page.

7.2 Tree Management

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney:

WHEREAS in May 2016 a summary notation of a meeting of the Town of Mahone Bay By-Law and Policy Working Group advised that "Town staff will be attending a tree maintenance session hosted by the Town of Bridgewater", and

WHEREAS the planned tree maintenance session did not take place, and

WHEREAS in recent years several residents as well as visiting urban forestry experts have commented with concern about damage to trees caused by improper cutting, and

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone Bay supports the value and importance of its natural assets through its planning and strategy documents, and its Streets and Sidewalks ByLaw #41 June 2008, and

WHEREAS municipal green assets and infrastructure should be treated with the same intentional management, maintenance and replacement planning as its grey infrastructure, and

WHEREAS "Trees are the only piece of infrastructure that increases value over time." (John Simmons, Halifax Urban Forester, as quoted in The Coast, August 15, 2018),

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to prepare a report on the costs of training in urban forestry best practices as soon as possible for all relevant Town employees and further to ensure that any contractors engaged to trim Town trees are properly qualified in urban forestry best practices.

A motion by Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nauss, "THAT the phrase WHEREAS "Trees are the only piece of infrastructure that increases value over time." (John Simmons, Halifax Urban Forester, as quoted in The Coast, August 15, 2018), be removed from the original motion." Motion carried.

Council considered the previous motion as amended:

“WHEREAS in May 2016 a summary notation of a meeting of the Town of Mahone Bay By-Law and Policy Working Group advised that “Town staff will be attending a tree maintenance session hosted by the Town of Bridgewater”, and

WHEREAS the planned tree maintenance session did not take place, and

WHEREAS in recent years several residents as well as visiting urban forestry experts have commented with concern about damage to trees caused by improper cutting, and

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone Bay supports the value and importance of its natural assets through its planning and strategy documents, and its Streets and Sidewalks By-Law #41 June 2008, and

WHEREAS municipal green assets and infrastructure should be treated with the same intentional management, maintenance and replacement planning as its grey infrastructure, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to prepare a report on the costs of training in urban forestry best practices as soon as possible for all relevant Town employees and further to ensure that any contractors engaged to trim Town trees are properly qualified in urban forestry best practices.”

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney:

“WHEREAS the Town Tree Committee, as described in the 1985 Tree Committee ByLaw, is composed of all seven members of Council to the exclusion of representation by other members of the community, and

WHEREAS the Town has established an Asset Management Committee to advise on the planning and management of Town assets, and

WHEREAS the Town’s green infrastructure is considered to be a municipal asset, and

WHEREAS the Town values the participation of citizens in advising on recommendations to Council and, most recently has collaborated with the Talking Trees community group on the highly successful 100 Trees: 100 years project,

BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to prepare a report on the possibility of creating a Tree Subcommittee composed of citizens and members of Council as part of the Asset Management Committee.” Motion defeated.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor O’Neill, “WHEREAS in May and June 2016 the Town By-Law and Policy Review Working Group expressed its intention to hold discussions about reviewing and updating the 1985 Tree Committee By-Law, and

WHEREAS there are no records, documents or minutes as to whether such discussions took place, and

WHEREAS the 1985 Tree Committee By-Law no longer serves the current needs of the Town, and

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone Bay is embarking on a comprehensive review of its Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law to take place in 2020/21 whereby Town values and priorities will be updated,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to prepare a report on optimal timelines for drafting a new Trees By-Law in the context of the Municipal Plan Review process.” Motion carried.

7.3 Pride Correspondence

Council received an application from Lunenburg Pride to fly the Pride Flag at the Community flagpole, as well as request to paint a rainbow crosswalk in Mahone Bay from both Lunenburg Pride, and town resident, Meg Craig.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council approve the request to fly the pride flag at the community flagpole when the flagpole has been installed, and that the crosswalk crossing Main Street at Pleasant Street be painted in rainbow colours.” Motion carried.

8 Committee Reports

Heritage Advisory Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the June 10, 2020 meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee, including an application for the Heritage Grant Fund.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council approve the Heritage Grant Application from the owners of 97 Edgewater Street."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council direct staff to explore options to protect the aquatic gardens from future development as well as the possibility of developing and installing interpretive heritage signage."

Motion carried.

Economic Development Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting of the Economic Development Committee.

A motion by Councillor Bain, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council appoint Ange Phillips to the Economic Development Committee as a representative from the Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce."

Motion carried.

Cemetery Committee

Council received draft minutes from the June 15, 2020 meeting of the Cemetery Committee.

A motion by Councillor Bain, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council direct staff to have a survey completed of Park Cemetery."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Bain, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nauss, "THAT Council support the inclusion of repair and/or replacement of the fence and gate at Bayview Cemetery in the 2020/21 Beautification and Streetscaping Project."

Motion carried.

Asset Management Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the June 18, 2020 meeting of the Asset Management Committee.

Council adjourned upon motion at 9:15 p.m.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

Mayor, David Devenne

Clerk, Maureen Hughes