

The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via video conference and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

Mayor D. Devenne  
Deputy Mayor F. Kangata  
Councillor A. Burdick  
Councillor P. Carver  
Councillor J. Feeney  
Councillor R. Nowe  
Councillor K. Wilson  
CAO, D. Heide  
Town Clerk, M. Hughes

Gallery: online

1. Agenda

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT the agenda be approved as amended to include the addition of Budget meeting dates under new Business.”  
Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT the minutes of the March 9, 2021 regular meeting of Council be approved as presented.”  
Motion carried.

3. Presentations

No presentation.

4. Correspondence – Action

No Correspondence -Action items.

5. Correspondence – Information Items

5.1 NSFM – Monday Memo – March 8, 2021

5.2 NSFM – Monday Memo – March 15, 2021

5.3 Karen Burns, CNSOPB – Publication of Western Social Shelf and Slope Strategic Environmental Assessment.

5.4 Hon. Brendan Maguire, Minister, Municipal Affairs – Introduction of new Minister.

5.5 Jeff Phillips, MBTCC – Let’s Talk About our Future.

5.6 Keith Pomeroy, Mahone Bay Wooden Boat Society – Wooden Boat Society 2020 Operations Update.

5.6.a Wooden Boat Society 2021 AGM Presentation

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT the correspondence, numbered 5.1 – 5.6 be received and filed.” Motion carried.

## 6. Staff Reports

### 6.1 Council Report

Council received the Staff Report for March 25, 2021.

### 6.2 2020/21 Write Offs

The CAO declared a conflict of interest and left the discussion at 7:18pm.

Council received a staff report with a recommendation relating to the annual write-off of uncollectable accounts.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council write-off accounts in the amount of \$3,235.77 as presented.” Motion carried.

The CAO returned to the discussion at 7:24pm.

### 6.3 Council Chambers Furniture and Equipment

Council received a staff report to provide Council with recommendations for the layout of the Council Chambers and furniture/equipment to be procured for the space.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT Council approve furniture and equipment for the Council Chambers as recommended, for inclusion in the 2021-22 annual operating budget; and,

THAT Council direct staff to proceed with the installation of the hearing loop wire while the Council Chambers floor is being redone; and,

THAT Council direct staff to include accessible hearing solutions in the Accessibility Operation Plan, anticipated in 2021-22.” Motion carried.

### 6.4 Regional Cooperation on Anti-Racism and Discrimination

Council received a staff report on Regional Cooperation on Anti-Racism and Discrimination.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT the discussion of Anti-Racism be forwarded to the Policy & Strategy Committee and that staff maintain communication with regional municipal partners regarding opportunities to partner with Anti-Racism efforts." Motion carried.

#### 6.5 Refinancing Debenture (TBR)

Council received a staff report with an update and recommendation relating to the refinancing of an existing Long-Term Debenture.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, WHEREAS Section 66 of the Municipal Government Act provides that the Council of the Town of Mahone Bay subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, may borrow to expend funds for a capital purpose as authorized by statute; and,

WHEREAS clause 66 (4)(b) of the Municipal Government Act authorizes the Municipality to expend funds for the purpose of paying or retiring debentures;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT under the authority of Section 66 of the Municipal Government Act, the Council of the Town of Mahone Bay borrow a sum or sums not exceeding Ninety-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$92,500) for the purpose set out above, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Council of the Town of Mahone Bay to such an amount as the Council deems necessary;

THAT the issue of debentures be postponed pursuant to Section 92 of the Municipal Government Act and that the Town borrow from time to time a sum or sums not exceeding Ninety Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$92,500) in total from any chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia;

THAT the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Twelve (12) Months from the date of the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs of this resolution;

THAT the interest payable on the borrowing be paid at a rate to be agreed upon; and

THAT the amount borrowed be repaid from the proceeds of the debentures when sold. Motion carried.

## 6.6 Traditional Land Acknowledgement

Council received a staff report on the status of the Traditional Land Acknowledgement Engagement Plan and providing Council with wording provided by the Gold River First Nation in response to the Town's request for their input.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council accept the Land Acknowledgement as provided by the Gold River First Nation."

Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Burdick, "THAT staff be directed to share the approved Land Acknowledgement on the Town website and social media."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of thanks on behalf of Mahone Bay Town Council to express the appreciation for the expertise of the Gold River First Nation along with a gift."

Motion carried.

## 6.7 GHG Reduction Action Plan

Council received a summary report on engagement activities in relation to the draft GHG Reduction Action Plan and to recommend the Plan for adoption.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Burdick, "THAT Council adopt the draft Community GHG Reduction Action Plan as presented." Motion carried.

## 6.8 Town of Mahone Bay 2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Council received a staff report to present the draft 2021-25 Strategic Plan and associated draft Public Engagement Plan.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, "THAT discussion of the Staff Report re 2021-25 Strategic Plan be deferred to the next regular meeting of Council."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, "THAT Council direct staff to schedule a strategic planning session in the next two weeks."

Motion carried.

## 7. Council Items

### 7.1 Lt. Governor Letter of Recognition

Council received a letter from The Hon. Arthur J. LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, which accompanied a Community Spirit Plaque in recognition of the Town's assistance to their citizens during the 2020 pandemic.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council appoint Ann McPhail to the Heritage Advisory Committee." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, "THAT Council appoint Tim Merry to the Asset Management Committee." Motion carried.

## 8. Committee Reports

### 8.1 Cemetery Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the March 15, 2021 meeting of the Town of Mahone Bay Cemetery Committee.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Burdick, "THAT any Operating Surplus within the 2020-21 Cemetery Budget at year-end be contributed to the Perpetual Care Fund." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, "THAT Council approve the 2021-22 budgets as presented for both Park and Bayview Cemeteries." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Burdick, "THAT the replacement of the picket fence at Bayview Cemetery with a long-lasting composite material be included in Council's upcoming Budget Deliberations." Motion carried.

### 8.2 Asset Management Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the March 19, 2021 meeting of the Asset Management Committee.

## 9. New Business

No agenda items.

## 10. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Councillor Burdick, at 8:33 pm to go into Closed Session to discuss contract negotiations; legal advice for solicitor-client privilege;

and personnel matters as permitted by the Municipal Government Act section 22(2)(e)(g) and (c) respectively. Motion carried.

Council returned to open session at 9:45pm.

Business Arising from Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council accept Change orders #1.1 (light fixtures), #1.2 (electrical) and #1.3b (water damage) as presented.” Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council accept the estate donation in the amount of \$10,000 to the Mahone Bay and District Fire Department from the Zwicker family.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT the ‘Regulations Respecting Net Metering’ as presented be adopted by the Town and if approved by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board be inserted into the Town’s Schedule “B”, “REGULATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OR SUPPLY OF ELECTRIC SERVICES” as Section 6, and all subsequent Sections be renumbered accordingly; and

THAT the Town’s current Solar Connectivity Policy be repealed.” Motion carried.

Council adjourned upon motion at 9:49 pm.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, David Devenne

Clerk, Maureen Hughes

