

The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

Mayor D. DeVenne

Deputy Mayor F. Kangata (via electronic facilities)

Councillor P. Carver

Councillor J. Feeney

Councillor R. Nowe

Councillor K. Wilson

Councillor S. Lohnes-Croft

CAO, D. Heide

Town Clerk & Deputy CAO, M. Hughes

Gallery: Online & 0 in-person gallery

Public Input Session

Council received comments from John Bain of Mahone Bay, who commented that at the time the decision was made to borrow money to build a new firehall, he believed that the public had the understanding that when a new firehall was built, the old firehall would be used for public works.

Council received comments from Karl Nauss of Mahone Bay, who commented that for the old firehall to be used for a non-municipal purpose it would have to be declared surplus and he felt that there is a municipal need for the building as a public works space and that he believes that there is a history of the Town planning for that use for the old fire hall once a new one was built.

Land Acknowledgement

Let us begin by acknowledging that we are gathered today in Mi'kma'ki. The ancestral, present and future territory of the Mi'kmaw people. Today, we gather with the intent followed by the living Peace and Friendship Treaties - with respect, cooperation and coexistence.

1. Agenda

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT the agenda be approved as amended to add additional closed session items, personnel matters and

contract negotiations which are permitted under MGA 22(2)(c) and (e) respectively.”
Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT the minutes of the January 26, 2023 regular meeting of Council be approved as amended.”
Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT the discussion of the RCMP service that the Town contracts through the provincial government be rescheduled from March 24, 2023 to May 19, 2023.” Motion carried.

3. Presentations

No presentations.

4. Correspondence – Action

4.1 Doris Cook – Request for reimbursement (deferred from January 26, 2023).

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council direct staff to provide a credit on the water bill in the amount of \$1,778 for the water utility customer at 32 Zwicker Lane and further that staff place information on all water bills regarding the Town’s lack of liability for damage done by reason of interruption of supply, variation of pressure, or turning on or turning off the water for any purpose, as is detailed in the Rules and Regulations contained in the Town’s Order from the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.”
Motion carried.

4.2 Tony Sampson – solar garden site runoff.

Council referred the discussion of this correspondence until the discussion of the Solar Garden Stormwater Update, item 6.6 on the agenda.

4.3 Peter Hackett, Department of Public Works – Ferry Service Main to Yarmouth.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council direct staff to respond to the letter from Mr. Hackett indicating Council’s interest in being kept up to date on the ongoing public consultation regarding the Ferry Service from Main to Yarmouth.”
Motion carried.

5. Correspondence – Information Items

No correspondence information items.

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Council Report

Council received the February 7, 2023 Staff Report to Council.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council accept the February 7, 2023 Staff Report to Council for information.” Motion carried.

6.2 Staff Report – Marina Wharf (deferred from January 26, 2023)

Council received a final staff report with an update concerning the Town-owned wharf at the Mahone Bay Civic Marina.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council refer the replacement of the pumping unit, repairs to the boardwalk area, and capital repairs to the wharf structure to the 2023-24 budget.” Motion carried.

6.3 Staff Report – MBDFD Purchases

Council received a staff report with recommendations for the budgeted purchase of capital items for the Mahone Bay & District Fire Department.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council approve the acceptance of the HUB Fire Engines & Equipment Ltd proposal for the supply of a new pumper truck for the Mahone Bay and District Fire Department, priced at \$1,170,632 plus taxes; and further THAT Council approve the purchase of SCBA packs and bottles from Cumings Fire & Safety Equipment Ltd. for \$67,200 plus taxes.” Motion carried.

6.4 Public Engagement Plan – Strategic Plan Review

Council received a draft Strategic Plan Review Public Engagement Plan.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council approve the Strategic Plan Public Review Engagement Plan as presented.” Motion carried.

6.5 Community Solar Garden – Monthly Update

Council received the December 2022 Monthly Update from the Community Solar Garden project.

6.6 Solar Garden Stormwater Update

Council received a staff report on the performance of the stormwater management system and the additional measures that AREA and their contractor will add.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council direct staff and AREA staff to continue the dialogue with Mr. Sampson and work with him to best manage site runoff, and that staff be directed to review the approved storm water management plan for the solar garden site and bring recommendations for its improvement to Council.” Motion carried.

6.7 Winter 2023 Transportation Update

Council received a staff report with updates on the implementation of transportation projects and initiatives previously approved by Council.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council direct staff to proceed with the recommended tee-up of the Pleasant Street and Main Street intersection (rather than the 3-way stop as previously directed).” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council direct staff to carry out an assessment of the location of accessible parking spaces and no parking zones and report to Council in this regard prior to the issuance of the 2023 painting tender.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council direct staff to prepare a communications package for the community regarding the upcoming 2023 transportation projects.” Motion carried.

6.8 Accessibility Audits

Council received a staff report to present Council with a recommendation concerning the conducting of accessibility audits of Town facilities.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council direct staff to apply to the Community ACCESS-Ability Program for funding to support the conduct of accessibility audits of Town facilities.” Motion carried.

7. Council Items

7.1 Mayor DeVenne – Committee Appointments

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council appoint the following citizens to Committees of Council: Nick Pavlinic to the Asset Management Committee; Amanda Montgomery to the Climate and Environment Committee; Nick Pavlinic to the Community Logo Development Steering Team; and Helga Baxter to the Planning and Advisory Committee.” Motion carried.

7.2 Mayor DeVenne – Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee Appointments

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council appoint Jeanne Faye to the Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee for a term of three years.” Motion carried.

7.3 Councillor Feeney – Kenyan Flag

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council direct staff to consult with the MacLeod Group and identify appropriate flags to be used at future events which will be held in Mahone Bay to welcome the international healthcare workers who will be joining the Mahone Bay Nursing Home staff.” Motion carried.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Policy and Strategy Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the January 30, 2023 meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council direct staff to conduct an inventory of kindness meters on Town property.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council set the agenda for the February 27, 2023 meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee to include the Employee Conduct Policy and the Respectful Workplace Policy.” Motion carried.

9. New Business

No new business.

10. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Feeney, at 9:10 pm, seconded by Councillor Nowe, to go into Closed Session to discuss legal advice eligible for solicitor client privilege, contract negotiations, and personnel matters as permitted by the Municipal Government Act section 22(2), (g), (e), and (c) respectively. Motion carried.

Council returned to Open Session at 10:50 pm.

11. Business Arising from Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council direct staff to write to the Minister of Public Works, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change and cc the MLA, to request funding to extend the living shoreline to Kedy’s Bridge.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT Council direct staff to write to the Minister of Communities, Culture, and Heritage, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and cc the MLA, to request funding to conduct a study on the accessibility of the public pool.” Motion carried.

Council adjourned upon motion at 10:55 pm.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, David Devenne

Town Clerk, Maureen Hughes

