



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

Mayor D. DeVenne (virtual) (left at 9:15 PM)
Deputy Mayor F. Kangata (chair)
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor R. Nowe
Councillor K. Wilson
Councillor S. Lohnes-Croft
CAO, D. Heide
Acting Town Clerk & Deputy CAO, K. Redden

Gallery: Online & 1 in-person gallery

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 Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT the agenda be accepted as amended to remove item 7.3 – Town owned property." Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, "THAT the minutes of the February 17, 2023 special meeting of Council be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT the minutes of the February 23, 2023 special meeting of Council be deferred to the next regular council meeting."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT the minutes of the February 23, 2023 regular meeting of Council be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

3. Presentations

3.1 Accessibility Operational Plan

Council received a presentation from Ellen Johnson, Accessibility Coordinator, on the Draft Accessibility Implementation Plan.

4. Correspondence – Action

4.1 Valerie Header & Veryan Haysom – Request for Rezoning

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council refer this request to the Town's Planners."

Motion Carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council direct staff to update Ms. Header and Mr. Haysom on this progress of their request."

Motion carried.

5. Correspondence – Information Items

5.1 Jenny Sandison, Mahone Bay Garden Society, Update on Garden Society Activities

5.2 Valerie Header, Talking Trees, Solar Garden

5.3 Christopher McCreery, Secretary of the Order of Nova Scotia, Call for Nominations

5.4 John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 911 Cost Recovery Fund

5.5 Patricia & Alan Smith, Strategic Plan Review Feedback

5.6 David Houston & Karen Pinsent – Strategic Plan Review Feedback

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT the letter from David Houston and Karen Pinsent be referred to the plan review process."

Motion carried.

5.7 James Brunt – Strategic Plan Review Feedback

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT items 5.1 to 5.5 and 5.7 be received and filed."

Motion carried.

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Council Report

Council received the March 9, 2023 Staff Report to Council.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT Council accept the March 9, 2023 Staff Report to Council for information." Motion Carried.

6.2 Council Policy Amendment

Council received the draft amended Council Policy. This item will come back to the March 30th regular meeting of Council.

6.3 Report of the Clerk – Strategic Plan Review

Council received the up-to-date Report of the Clerk for the Strategic Plan Review.

6.4 Plan Mahone Bay Update

Council received an update on the Plan Mahone Bay process, with respect to upcoming engagement activities.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT Council accept this report for information." Motion Carried.

6.5 Community Sports Field

Council received an update on capital improvements to the Town's community sports field and a draft co-management agreement for Council's consideration.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT council direct Staff to contact Mahone Bay United to inquire if they've communicated with the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg concerning possible grant opportunities." Motion Carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Nowe, "THAT this agenda item be referred to the March 27th meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Kelly Wilson, "THAT Staff contact Mahone Bay United to inform them of the Town's Grants to Organizations program." Motion carried.

6.6 Revised 2023-24 Budget Meeting Schedule

Council received a proposed revised schedule for the 2023-24 budget meetings.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council approve the proposed revised 2023-24 budget meeting schedule.” Motion Carried.

6.7 Staff Report – EV Carshare Feasibility Study

Council received a recommendation to approve a funding application for an EV Carshare feasibility study.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT the EV carshare feasibility study be referred to 2023/24 budget discussions.” Motion Carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded Councillor Carver, “THAT council direct staff to write to the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg to inquire on their interest in participating in an EV Carshare feasibility study.” Motion carried.

7. Council Items

7.1 Mayor DeVenne – Appointment to Heritage Advisory Committee

Council received a recommendation from the Nominating Committee.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council appoint Garry Macey as a resident representative on the Heritage Advisory Committee.” Motion Carried.

7.2 Mayor DeVenne – Policy & Strategy Committee Agenda – March 27, 2023

Council received a recommended agenda item for the March meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council set the agenda for the March 27, 2023 meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee to include review of the 2023 Strategic Plan Review feedback as the draft Accessibility Operational Plan.” Motion Carried.

7.3 Council Remuneration Review Committee

Councillor Carver provided Council with a suggestion concerning Council Remuneration.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Mayor Devenne, “THAT staff be directed to provide Council with a report no later than November 14, 2023, on the potential formation of a Council Remuneration Review Committee. The report would reference other recent municipal council remuneration reviews and provide a rationale for considering a remuneration review along with options and recommendations regarding

the Committee's Terms of Reference including the number of members on a potential Committee and their selection process, whether residence in the Town would be required or any particular experience or skills, and what role staff might play.”

Motion Carried.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Asset Management Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the February 16, 2023 meeting of the Asset Management Committee.

8.2 Community Logo Development Steering Team

Council received the draft minutes of the February 21, 2023 meeting of the Community Logo Development Steering Team.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Tracy Repchuk be appointed as Co-chair of the Community Logo Development Steering Team, along with Councillor Suzanne Lohnes-Croft.”

Motion Carried.

8.3 Climate and Environment Advisory Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the March 1, 2023 meeting of the Climate and Environment Advisory Committee, including the committee’s feedback for the Strategic Plan Review.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council refer the Climate and Environment Advisory Committee’s recommendations concerning the Strategic Plan Review to discussions at the Policy and Strategy Committee on March 27th.”

Motion Carried.

8.4 Audit and Finance Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the March 1, 2023 meeting of the Audit and Finance Committee as well as the 2021-22 draft Financial Statements of the Town.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Council Wilson, “THAT Council accept the 2021-22 Audit Report as presented.”

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Council Feeney, “THAT Council approve the 2021-22 Consolidated Financial Statements as presented.”

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Council Carver, “THAT Council accept the 2021-22 Electric Utility Financial Statements as presented.”

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Council Feeney, "THAT Council accept the 2021-22 Water Utility Financial Statements as presented." Motion carried.

9. New Business

No new business.

10. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Feeney, at 8:51pm, seconded by Councillor Carver, to go into Closed Session to discuss legal advice eligible for solicitor client privilege, contract negotiation and personnel as permitted by the Municipal Government Act sections 22(2),(g) (e) and (c) respectively. Motion carried.

Council returned to Open Session at 10:11 pm.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Council Feeney, "THAT Council direct staff to send the prepared letter to Riverport Electric Light Commission Chair Jennifer James." Motion carried.

Council adjourned upon motion at 10:12 pm.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, David Devenne

Acting Town Clerk, Kelly Redden

