



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

Mayor D. DeVenne
Deputy Mayor F. Kangata
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor R. Nowe (arrived at 8:19pm)
Councillor K. Wilson
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor S. Lohnes-Croft
CAO, D. Heide
Town Clerk, K. Munroe

Absent: Deputy CAO, E. Levy (with regrets)

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 Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT the agenda be approved as circulated." Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, "THAT the minutes of the December 12, 2023 regular meeting of Council be approved as presented." Motion carried.

3. Public Input Session

Collen O'Neill, 236 Main Street, comments on the PRO Kids program that will be discussed during the meeting.

4. Presentations

There were no presentations.

5. Correspondence

5.1 George Anderson, Chair, Mahone Bay Tourism & Chamber of Commerce

Council received comments from the Chair of the Mahone Bay Tourism & Chamber of Commerce concerning any proposed noise bylaw.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT the letter from the Mahone Bay Tourism & Chamber of Commerce concerning any proposed noise bylaw be referred to the Policy & Strategy Committee.” Motion carried.

5.2 Dave Stephens, Chair, Mahone Bay Centre Society

Council received an update from the Mahone Bay Centre Society on their exhibit of “There is No One Story of Black Girlhood: A Series of Paintings by Rebecca Fisk” and a thank you to Council for their financial support of the exhibit.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata “THAT item 5.2 be received and filed.” Motion carried.

5.3 Angela Henhoeffler, Manager, REMO

Council received a request from the Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) to support the creation of a province-wide voluntary vulnerable persons registry.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Suzanne Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council authorize the Mayor to write a letter to the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) and the minister responsible for the Office of Emergency Management, advocating for the creation of a province-wide voluntary vulnerable persons registry.” Motion carried.

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Staff Report to Council

Council received the January 9, 2024 Report to Council.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT this report be accepted for information.” Motion carried.

6.2 Region 6 – Budget 2024-2025

Council received a request for Council to approve Region 6’s 2024-2025 budget.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Mahone Bay Town Council approve the Region 6 Inter-Municipal Committee 2024-25 budget as circulated, with the Town of Mahone Bay’s contribution being \$1,762.85.” Motion carried.

6.3 Staff Report – PRO Kids Update

Council received a staff report presenting Council with a letter from the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg regarding the PRO Kids program, and associated recommendation.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report on the potential for a PRO Kids Program or equivalent, for residents of Mahone Bay.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT Council direct staff to write to the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg to request to continue the PRO Kids program as is for one more fiscal year to allow time for the Town of Mahone Bay to develop a PRO Kids program or equivalent.” Motion carried.

6.4 Staff Report – Transportation Projects Update

Council received a report with an update concerning transportation projects and initiatives included in the Town’s 2023-24 budget.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council refer the Pleasant-Main Intersection Improvement Project to the 2024-25 budget process.” Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council direct staff to submit an expression of interest to the Provincial Connect2 Program for the proposed Kinburn-Main Connector Trail.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council direct staff to work with Lunenburg County Accessibility Coordinator Ellen Johnson to prepare a recommendation to the 2024-25 budget process concerning accessibility improvements to crosswalks in Mahone Bay, building on Council’s previous direction concerning flashing lights for mid-block crossings.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council direct staff to include standardized specifications for speed humps on public roads in the planned update of the Town’s municipal specifications.” Motion carried.

6.5 Staff Report – Energy Innovation Program Application

Council received a staff report with a recommendation to submit an application to the NRCAN Energy Innovation Program – Smart Grids stream.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT Council direct staff to provide a letter of support for the proposed application to NRCAN’s Energy Innovation Program – Smart Grids stream.” Motion carried.

6.6 Staff Report – Volunteer Recruitment

Council received a staff report with a recommendation concerning the recruitment of committee members to Town committees as well as volunteers for the Comfort Centre at the Mahone Bay Fire Hall.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council forward this item to a future meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee for further deliberation.” Motion carried.

7 Council Items

7.1 Mayor Devenne – Ecology Action Centre Request

Mayor Devenne provided Council with a draft letter to the Minister of Environment & Climate Change concerning delay of regulations for the Coastal Protection Act.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT item 7.1 be received and filed.” Motion carried.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program

Council received the December 2023 report of the Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program.

8.2 South Shore Open Doors Association (SSODA)

Council received the November 2023 monthly report of SSODA.

8.3 Climate & Environment Advisory Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the December 6, 2023 meeting of the Climate & Environment Advisory Committee.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council amend the Terms of Reference for the Climate & Environment Committee as proposed.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT the Town commit to making adaptation a priority and to develop a strategy to advance Mahone Bay as an Adaptive and Resilient Community (the ‘strategy’) through collaborative and deliberative consultation with residents of Mahone Bay and area (the ‘community’); Council authorizes the Committee to work with Town Staff to develop and implement a

community engagement plan for purposes of developing the strategy (the 'Plan'). The Plan shall be consistent with the Town's Public Engagement Policy and the CAO shall be responsible for determining the work to be done by Town Staff consistent with their duties and other priorities; and Council's approval of the Plan, including a budget and work plan, shall be required prior to commencing its implementation."

Motion carried.

10. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Carver, at 8:46 p.m., seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, "THAT Council go into Closed Session to discuss Contract Negotiations and Litigation or Potential Litigation as permitted by the Municipal Government Act section 22(2)(e) and 22(2)(f) respectively.

Motion carried.

Council came out of closed session at 9:40 p.m.

Business Arising from Closed Session

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council extend the timeline for the reimbursement of the parking buyout associated with 631 Main Street to March 31, 2024."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Nowe, "THAT Council award the Legal Services Contract to McInnis Cooper."

Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 9:43 p.m. on conclusion of business.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

Mayor, David Devenne

Town Clerk, Kelly Munroe

