



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Friday, February 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live. This meeting was originally scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, 2024 but was delayed due to poor weather.

Present:

Mayor D. DeVenne
Deputy Mayor F. Kangata
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor R. Nowe
Councillor K. Wilson
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor S. Lohnes-Croft
CAO, D. Heide
Deputy CAO, E. Levy
Town Clerk, K. Munroe

Absent:

Gallery: Online & 12 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 Nowe, "THAT the agenda be approved as amended to move the closed session to 10:30 a.m." Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, "THAT the minutes of the January 25, 2024 regular meeting of Council be approved as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT the minutes of the January 31, 2024 special meeting of Council be approved as presented.” Motion carried.

3. Public Input Session

Christine Knickle, Chair, Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce – Expressed Support for Communities in Bloom

Valerie Hearder, 195 Fairmont Street – Expressed Support for Communities in Bloom

Anne Palfreyman, 54 Pleasant Street – Expressed Support for Communities in Bloom

Jeff Frampton, 33 Pleasant Street – Spoke about Town expenditures and cost of living in Mahone Bay

4. Presentations

4.1 Jennifer Corson, Architect, Solterre Design

Ms. Corson presented a feasibility study conducted by her firm, Solterre Design, on the possibility of the Mahone Bay Land Cooperative turning the Town’s old fire hall and station into cooperative housing.

Dean Waterfield, Chair, Mahone Bay Community Land Cooperative, responded to questions of Council.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Council received a response from Minister Lohr concerning Council’s request that the province implement a province-wide, voluntary vulnerable persons registry.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT this item be received and filed.” Motion carried.

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Staff Report to Council

Council received the February 16, 2024 Report to Council.

6.2 Staff Report - Information Sharing Agreement with Elections Nova Scotia

Council received a staff report requesting that Council give authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into an Information Sharing Agreement with Elections Nova Scotia for the Town of Mahone Bay.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council direct the Chief Administrative Office to enter into an Information Sharing Agreement with Elections Nova Scotia on behalf of the Town of Mahone Bay.” Motion carried.

6.3 Staff Report – Engage NS Proposal

Council received a staff report presenting Council with a proposal from Engage Nova Scotia.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council approve a contribution of \$532 to Engage Nova Scotia to support the 2024-25 Quality of Life Survey.” Motion defeated.

6.4 Staff Report – 102 Pine Grove Complaint Investigation

Council received a report on the investigation of a complaint received from the resident of 102 Pine Grove Street.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT Council accept this report for information and direct staff to write to Ms. Cassidy confirming the Town’s intention to repair minor property damage (outside faucet and lawn) resulting from the Stovepipe water/wastewater project as well as to continue monitoring the stormwater situation at 102 Pine Grove Street in coordination with Ms. Cassidy.” Motion carried.

6.5 Staff Report – Comfort Stations Accessibility

Council received a staff report to present Council with a recommendation concerning funding for planned accessibility improvements to the public comfort stations operated by the Town.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council direct staff to apply to the Community ACCESS-Ability Program for funding to improve the accessibility of the Town’s public comfort stations.” Motion carried.

6.6 Staff Report – Town Hall Exterior Conservation Pricing

This agenda item was deferred to the next regular Council meeting.

7 Council Items

7.1 Mayor Devenne – Audit and Finance Committee Application

Council received an application from Gerald Trites to join the Audit and Finance Committee.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Gerald Trites be appointed to the Audit and Finance Committee for the current term ending December 31, 2024.” Motion carried.

7.2 Councillor Carver – Communities in Bloom

Council received a request from Councillor Carver to support a pilot project of the 2024 Communities in Bloom program.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, "THAT the Council of the Town of Mahone Bay provide support in principle to a loosely organized Communities in Bloom committee in Mahone Bay in 2024 by contributing the CiB 2024 registration fee of \$495.00 required for a community with population 1,001 to 5,000."

Motion carried.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Climate and Environment Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the January 10, 2024 meeting of the Climate and Environment Committee.

8.2 Policy and Strategy Committee

Council received draft minutes of the January 22, 2024 meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee.

8.3 Police Advisory Board

Council received the draft minutes of the January 25, 2024 meeting of the Police Advisory Board.

8.4 Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program

Council received the January 2024 monthly report of the Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program.

10. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Wilson, at 10:30 a.m., seconded by Councillor Nowe, "THAT Council go into Closed Session to discuss Contract Negotiations and Legal Advice Eligible for Solicitor Client Privilege as permitted by the Municipal Government Act section 22(2)(e) and 22(2)(e) respectively.

Motion carried.

Council came out of closed session at 11:53 a.m.

Business Arising from Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council directs staff to proceed with the Harbourside proposal to review erosion of armoring on Ernst Brook on a cost-shared basis with other property owners, with the Town contributing \$10,000."

Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 11:55 a.m. on conclusion of business.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, David Devenne

Town Clerk, Kelly Munroe

