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The Special Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

**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

**Absent:**

**Gallery:** 0 Gallery; 3 Online

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 Lohnes-Croft, "THAT the agenda be approved as amended to add 2B: Closed Session under Municipal Government Act 22 (2)(e), Contract Negotiations".

Motion carried.

2. 2024/25 Budget Discussion

Council members engaged in discussion concerning the upcoming 2024-25 budget process and provided input to the Manager of Finance on the draft budgets. The draft 2024-25 annual budgets will be presented at the special budget meeting scheduled for 7 PM on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council move into closed session.” Motion carried.

2B: Closed Session

2B: MGA 22(2)(e) Contract Negotiations

Business Arising from Closed Session

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council direct the Mayor to sign the financial services agreement with AREA as attached.” Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 10:50 a.m. on conclusion of business.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, David Devenne

Town Clerk, Kelly Munroe



## **AGREEMENT ON FINANCIAL SERVICES**

This Agreement is made this day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

### **WHEREAS:**

The Town of Mahone Bay (TMB) and the Alternative Resource Energy Authority (AREA) each operate and support electrical utilities within Lunenburg County recognized and regulated by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB).

### **AND WHEREAS:**

TMB and AREA have a history of co-operating in many ways relating to providing services to customers of the utilities.

### **THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:**

For the purposes of this Agreement financial services shall be considered a contract service.

The Town shall provide AREA with financial services as defined in the attached Riverport Electric Light Commission (RELC)/AREA Utility Service Management Contract (specifically section 3.5 and "Schedule D").

AREA agrees to share in the costs of the Town's Finance Department in the amount of \$66,130 per year (increasing annually by NS CPI on April, 2025 and April, 2026), with additional cost-sharing - in excess of the services stipulated in the attached - on an hourly basis (\$50/hour for the Manager of Finance and \$35/hour for other staff) and additional financial system costs associated with this Agreement (Townsuite) split on a 50/50 basis.

ToMB agrees that AREA shall procure and manage a third-party contract resource (Karen Kluska) to facilitate the transition to the provision of steady-state Financial Services listed in Section 3.5 of the AREA/RELC Utility Service Management Agreement. The parties agree that a \$25,000 budget is reasonable for such third-party costs associated with the transition work.

The Town's Finance Dept. will be accountable to AREA for the provision of the defined services, in accordance with this Agreement.

This Agreement shall take effect April, 2024 and continue until March 31, 2027. It may be terminated on the provision of three-months' notice by either party with annual costs to be pro-rated to the termination date.

AGREED and ACCEPTED this day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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David Devenne, Mayor  
Town of Mahone Bay

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Aaron Long  
General Manager  
Alternative Resource Energy  
Authority