



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

Mayor S. Lohnes-Croft
Deputy Mayor C. Kingsmill
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor R. Twanow
Councillor B. Palfreyman
Councillor K. Wilson
CAO, D. Heide
Town Clerk, K. Munroe

Absent:

Deputy CAO, E. Levy (Regrets)

Gallery:

Online & 10 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.

Call to Order

1. Agenda

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kingsmill, "THAT the agenda be amended to add 7.1 appointment to the Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce." Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kingsmill, "THAT the minutes of the November 12, 2024 first meeting of Council be approved as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT the minutes of the November 12, 2024 second meeting of Council be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

3. Public Input Session

No public members.

4. Presentations

4.1 Jennifer Laughlin, Shore Group

Council received a presentation from Jennifer Laughlin and Norberto of Shore Group concerning Shore Group, a local non-profit organization working to raise funds to end hunger locally.

4.2 Valerie Hearder, Communities in Bloom

Council received a presentation from Valerie Hearder and Amanda Montgomery, representatives of the Mahone Bay Communities in Bloom (CiB) group. Three requests
1 – The Town and Chamber meet to discuss sustainable model for flower baskets
2 – Sit down with Mayor and CAO to discuss working together in future
3 – Community profile and video and judges evaluation. Ask to post on website.

Notice of Motion by Councillor Feeney, work with Clerk to develop motion for January meeting.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Joel Sawler – Military Crosswalk Request

Council received correspondence from Joel Sawler requesting a Military Crosswalk installation in Mahone Bay.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT staff be directed to bring a report back to Council on the request to install a Military Crosswalk, that report including feedback from consultation with the Mahone Bay Legion."

Motion carried.

5.2 Christopher Quigley – Open Letter to Mahone Bay Council

Council received correspondence from Christopher Quigley with a suggestion about the Town purchasing the old Nursing Home for conversion to Housing.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT item 5.2 be received and filed."

Motion carried.

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Staff Report – Code of Conduct for Elected Officials

Council received a Staff Report presenting Council with The Code of Conduct for Elected Municipal Officials as prescribed by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing with the intention of Council adopting this code.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kingsmill,

“Whereas the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Nova Scotia has made the Code of Conduct for Municipal Elected Officials Regulations, N.S. Reg. 220/2024 (“the Regulations”); and,

Whereas municipalities are required to adopt the model code of conduct prescribed by the Regulations on or before December 19th, 2024, pursuant to section 4(1) of the Regulations and section 23A of the Municipal Government Act;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Mahone Bay hereby adopt the model code of conduct as set forth in Schedule “A” to the Regulations, which shall be titled the “Code of Conduct for Elected Officials of the Town of Mahone Bay.

Motion carried.

6.2 Staff Report – Code of Conduct for Appointed Municipal Officials

Council received a Staff Report providing Council with a recommendation to adopt a Code of Conduct for Appointed Municipal Officials.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, “THAT Council adopt the Town of Mahone Bay Code of Conduct for Appointed Municipal Officials Policy.”

Motion carried.

6.3 Staff Report – GRID Application

Council received a Staff Report providing them with a recommendation to apply for funding under the Provincial Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development program.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council considers the Edgewater to Main Infrastructure Renewal and Improvement Project its top priority project for Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program funding and directs staff to submit an application to the program for this Project.” Motion carried.

6.4 Staff Report – SREP Application

Council received a Staff Report providing them with a recommendation to apply for funding from Natural Resources Canada for modernization of electrical utility infrastructure.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council directs staff to submit an expression of interest to the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways (SREP) Program: Utilities Support Stream from Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN), for electrical utility modernization.” Motion carried.

6.5 Staff Report – Dog Park

Council received a Staff Report providing them with a consideration of the potential for the establishment of a Dog Park in Mahone Bay.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council accept this report for information.” Motion carried.

7 Council Items

7.1 Mayor Lohnes-Croft – Committee Appointments

Council received a list of recommendations of Council members to various boards and committees, both internal and external.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, “THAT Council appoint Council members to the boards and committees as suggested in the document included with the meeting package with the addition of Councillor Carver being appointed to the Mahone Bay Tourism and Chamber of Commerce.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kingsmill, “THAT Council direct staff to amend the TOR for the Asset Management Committee to increase the number of Council members from 2 to 3.” Motion carried.

7.2 Mayor Lohnes-Croft – 2025 Council & Committee Meeting Schedule

Council received the draft 2025 Council and Committee meeting schedule.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, “THAT Council approve the 2025 Council and Committee meeting schedule as presented.” Motion carried.

7.3 Mayor Lohnes-Croft – Correspondence and Response to Correspondence

Council received correspondence from Tony Sampson and draft response letter.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council direct staff to send the response letter to Mr. Sampson." Motion carried.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 South Shore Open Doors Association – Monthly Report – October 2024

Council received the Monthly Report of the South Shore Open Doors Association for the month of October.

8.2 Policy & Strategy Committee Minutes

Council received the Minutes of the November 18, 2024 meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee.

8.3 Policy & Strategy Committee Minutes

Council received the Minutes of the December 2, 2024 meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, "THAT a subcommittee consisting of the Deputy CAO, Deputy Mayor Kingsmill and Councillor Twanow be established to recommend Terms of Reference for a new communications committee." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, "THAT regular Council meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month take place at 9 a.m." Motion carried.

9. New Business

No new business.

10. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Wilson at 8:22 p.m., seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council go into Closed Session to discuss Contract Negotiations as permitted in the Municipal Government Act section 22(2)(e) Contract Negotiations.

Motion carried.

Council arose from closed session at 9:32 p.m.

Business Arising

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, "THAT Council directs staff to bring a revised design for the Edgewater Street Comfort Station reflective of only single occupancy washroom design." Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 9:34 p.m. on conclusion of business.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, Suzanne Lohnes-Croft

Town Clerk, Kelly Munroe