



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

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

Absent:

Deputy Mayor C. Kingsmill (regrets)
Deputy CAO, E. Levy (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.

Call to Order

1. Agenda

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT the agenda be approved as amended to add items 8.2 Councillor Feeney – Notice of Motion and 8.3 Councillor Wilson – Notice of Motion." Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, "THAT the minutes of the January 30, 2025 regular council meeting be approved as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Twanow, "THAT the minutes of the January 31, 2025 special council meeting be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

3. Announcements by Council Members

Mayor Lohnes-Croft informed Council that she had received a letter from Staff Sergeant Victor Whalen announcing his retirement from the RCMP.

4. Public Input Session

Valerie Header of Communities in Bloom, requested that the Town pay the Communities in Bloom application fee for 2025.

5. Presentations

4.1 Municipal Joint Services Board

Lesley McFarlane, COO and Lisa Bozek, IT Director gave a presentation concerning their request for pre-budget approval for new staff positions.

6. Correspondence

No correspondence.

7. Staff Reports

7.1 Staff Report to Council – January 30, 2025

Council received the February 11, 2025 Staff Report to Council.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT the February 2025 Staff Report to Council be accepted for information."

Motion carried.

7.2 MJSB Request for Pre-Budget approval

Council received a staff report from Lesley McFarlane and Lisa Bozek of MJSB that included two recommendations concerning the request to increase staffing.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT Council approve the Procurement Shared Service including scope, service delivery and cost allocation model as presented to begin effective April 1, 2025."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT Council provide pre-budget approval to initiate hiring the Procurement Specialist and hiring the IT Systems Administrator, at a cost to the Town of Mahone Bay of \$17,000 and \$11,806 respectively, for 2025/26 ."

Motion carried.

7.3 Staff Report – ProKids/ProFund

Council received a staff report providing them with information and options to provide financial assistance to people in Mahone Bay who, due to a lack of funds, are not able to participate in recreation, sport, or cultural activities in Mahone Bay.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council refer this report to the Policy & Strategy Committee for further consideration.” Motion carried.

7.4 Staff Report – Public Works Garage

Council received a staff report to provide them with an update on the Public Works Garage project.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Twanow, “THAT Council approves the public works garage designs as presented and directs staff to issue the tender for renovation of the public works garage.” Motion carried.

7.5 Staff Report – Canopy Restoration Project Engagement Plan

Council received a staff report providing them with a recommendation to Council regarding the development of an engagement plan for an upcoming project.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, “THAT Council refer the development of the Public Engagement plan for the ‘Increasing the urban tree canopy in residential areas in the Town of Mahone Bay’ project to the Communications Committee.” Motion carried.

7.6 Staff Report – CCTH 2025 Grant Applications

Council received a staff report providing them with recommendations to apply for external funding through the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Twanow, “THAT Council direct staff to apply to the 2025 Community Access-Ability Program from NS Communities, Culture, Tourism & Heritage for funding to support the Town Hall Parking & Accessibility Project.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, “THAT Council direct staff to apply to the 2025 Connect2 Program from NS Communities, Culture, Tourism & Heritage for funding to support the development of an Active Transportation Plan for Mahone Bay.” Motion carried.

7.7 Staff Report – Pool Funding Update

Council received a staff report updating them on the project to replace the current Mahone Bay pool, included in the Town’s 10-year Capital Investment Plan.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council refer this report and the draft Corporate Sponsorship and Naming Rights Policy to the Policy & Strategy Committee for further consideration.” Motion carried.

7.8 Staff Report Filming Policy

Council received a staff report providing them with an update on the direction to develop a policy with respect to the handling of future requests to film on public property in Mahone Bay.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council refer the development of the Public Engagement Plan for the development of a Film Policy to the Communications Committee.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Twanow, “THAT Council direct staff to invite the MBTCC to present at their February 27th Council meeting.” Motion withdrawn.

8. Council Items

7.1 Councillor Carver – Motion Concerning Closed Sessions

Councillor Carver proposed a motion.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council refer to the Policy & Strategy Committee, for discussion and review, the matter of policy and guidelines regarding Council’s use of Closed Sessions in Council meetings.” Motion carried.

7.2 Councillor Feeney – Notice of Motion

Councillor Feeney gave Notice of Motion concerning Communities in Bloom grant request.

7.3 Councillor Wilson – Notice of Motion

Councillor Wilson gave Notice of Motion concerning committee appointments.

9. Committee Reports

8.1 Lunenburg County Senior’s Safety Program

Council received the January 2024 report of the Senior’s Safety Program.

10. New Business

10.1 REMO

Mayor Lohnes-Croft spoke to Council about an upcoming REMO meeting.

11. Questions/Comments

12. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Carver, 11:14 a.m., seconded by Councillor Wilson “THAT Council go into Closed Session to discuss Contract Negotiations and Personnel Matters as permitted in the Municipal Government Act section 22(2)(e) and 22(2)(c) respectively.”

Motion carried.

Council arose from closed session at 12:25 p.m.

13. Business Arising from Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney “THAT Council award the construction contract for the Edgewater Street Project to Harbour Construction for the amount of \$13.24 million.”

Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 12:30 p.m. on conclusion of business.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, Suzanne Lohnes-Croft

Town Clerk, Kelly Munroe