



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

Mayor S. Lohnes-Croft
Councillor K. Boon
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor K. McCarron
Councillor B. Palfreyman
Councillor K. Wilson
CAO, D. Heide
Town Clerk, K. Munroe

Absent:

Deputy Mayor J. Feeney (with regrets)

Online & 2 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 Boon, seconded by Councillor Wilson, **“THAT the agenda be approved as presented.”** **Motion carried.**

2. Minutes

There were no errors or omissions in the minutes of the February 26, 2026 meeting.

3. Announcements by Council Members

Councillor Palfreyman – Mahone Bay Museum reinstating Heritage Awards.
Councillor Palfreyman – Blue Lantern scallop farm update.

Mayor Lohnes-Croft – Reported on attending women’s day events.

4. Public Input Session

No public input session.

5. Presentations

No presentations.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Rhiannon Visser

Council received correspondence from Rhiannon Visser with suggestions regarding communications around the pool replacement project.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT item 6.1 be referred to the Policy and Strategy Committee.”** **Motion carried.**

6.2 Trudie Richards

Council received correspondence from Trudie Richards concerning the Town’s winter road salting practices.

6.3 Chantal Milne, Chapter Coordinator, Autism Nova Scotia

Council received a request from Chantal Milne to fly the Autism Nova Scotia flag during the week of April 1st in recognition of Autism Acceptance Month.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, **“THAT Council approve Autism Nova Scotia’s request to fly the Autism Nova Scotia flag during Autism Acceptance Month, flag to be flown from April 1st to April 8th.”** **Motion carried.**

6.4 Sandra McKenzie, Deputy Minister, Department of Emergency Management

Council received correspondence from Deputy Minister Sandra McKenzie, thanking those who were able to join the Emergency Management Forum in January and providing Council with the Province’s new Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) standards.

6.5 Mary-Anne (Narmada) Trusz

Council received correspondence from Mary-Anne (Narmada) Trusz informing them that the Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run Team will be running through Mahone Bay on May 21, 2026.

A motion by Councillor McCarron, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT item 6.5 be referred to the Policy and Strategy Committee.”** **Motion carried.**

A motion by Councillor Boon, seconded by Councillor McCarron, **“THAT items 6.2 and 6.4 be received and filed.”** **Motion carried.**

7. Staff Reports

7.1 Staff Report to Council – March 10, 2026

Council received the March 10, 2026 Staff Report to Council.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT item 7.1 be received for information.”** **Motion carried.**

7.2 Staff Report – Hedge Row (Updated)

Council received a staff report presenting them with an updated recommendation concerning Hedge Row following on the original presentation of this staff report on March 12, 2024.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, **“THAT item 7.2 be deferred to the April 14, 2026 regular Council meeting.”** **Motion carried.**

7.3 Staff Report – Kinburn Street Active Transportation Route

Council received a staff report providing them with a comprehensive cost overview of incremental active transportation improvements which could be made to Kinburn Street, that could be further upgraded at a later time if conditions warrant.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, **“THAT Council refer the Kinburn Street Active Transportation Safety Improvements project to the 2026-27 annual budget process for further consideration.”** **Motion carried.**

7.4 Staff Report – Tiny Tots Playground

Council received a staff report presenting Council with an overview of the condition of Tiny Tots Playground in Jubilee Park and associated recommendations.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor McCarron, **“THAT Council direct staff to apply to the RBC Barrier Buster grant program for \$40,000 funding toward the Jubilee Park Playground Accessibility Project.”** **Motion carried.**

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, **“THAT Council refer the Jubilee Park Playground Accessibility Project, with the total cost estimated at \$130,000 and the Town’s contribution being \$40,000, to the 2026-27 budget process.”** **Motion carried.**

8. Council Items

8.1 Mayor Lohnes-Croft

Mayor Lohnes-Croft provided Council with a memo with recommended Council appointments, after consulting with Council members and staff.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Boon, **“THAT Council appoint Councillor McCarron to the Asset Management Committee. THAT Council appoint Deputy Mayor Feeney and Councillor Wilson to the Audit Committee. THAT Council appoint Deputy Mayor Feeney and Councillor Palfreyman to the Finance Committee. THAT Council appoint Councillor Boon and Councillor McCarron to the Cemetery Committee. THAT Council appoint Councillor Boon to the Climate and Environment Advisory Committee. THAT Council appoint Councillor McCarron to the Heritage Advisory Committee. THAT Council appoint Councillor McCarron to the Police Advisory Board. THAT Council appoint Councillor Boon to the Communications Committee. THAT Council appoint Councillor McCarron to the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee as an alternate. THAT Council appoint Councillor McCarron to the Municipal Joint Services Board. THAT Council appoint Councillor Wilson as primary and Councillor Boon as alternate to the Region 6 Solid Waste Management Board. THAT Council appoint Councillor McCarron to the South Shore Housing Action Coalition as an alternate. Appointments take effect March 10, 2026.”** Motion carried.

8.3 Deputy Mayor Feeney

Deputy Mayor Feeney had put forward a Notice of Motion concerning fire services. Deputy Mayor Feeney was not present for the meeting and requested Councillor Carver make the motion in his absence.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, **“THAT Council direct staff to craft a letter under the Mayor’s signature to Mayor McLean Wile of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg requesting a meeting to identify opportunities to collaborate on determining optimized fire service design based on the new provincial legislation.”** Motion carried.

9. Committee Reports

9.1 Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee

Council received the minutes of the January 7, 2026 meeting of the Lunenburg County Accessibility Advisory Committee.

9.2 Climate and Environment Advisory Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the February 25, 2026 meeting of the Climate and Environment Advisory Committee.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, **“THAT the recommendation of the Climate & Environment Committee to make the Climate and Energy Program Manager position permanent be referred to the 2026-27 budget process.”**
Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor McCarron, **“THAT Council refer the 2026-27 Climate & Energy Work Plan and budget in the Town’s 2026-27 annual budget.”**
Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor McCarron, **“THAT Council approve the draft Public Engagement Plan for the Urban Forest Management Plan.”**
Motion carried.

9.3 Lunenburg County Seniors’ Safety Program

Council received the February 2026 monthly report of the Lunenburg County Seniors’ Safety Program.

9.4 Oakland Lake Watershed Advisory Committee

Council received the draft minutes from the March 2, 2026 meeting of the Oakland Lake Watershed Advisory Committee.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, **“THAT Council direct staff to join the Western Woodlot Co-op and develop a Forestry Management Plan for the Oakland Lake Watershed, with the assistance of the Western Woodlot Co-op, at an approximate cost of \$2,500.”**
Motion carried.

9.5 Planning Advisory Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the March 3, 2026 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council initiate the process to rezone the entirety of the ‘Old School Lab’ property to the ‘Parks and Open Space’ zone.”**
Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, **“THAT Council approach Nova Scotia Power Inc. to formalize trail connections across their power transmission corridor.”**
Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council give first reading to the draft Local Improvement Bylaw, amended to give affected owners the opportunity to appeal to Council as amended to remove section 3 d) ii.”**
Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Boon, seconded by Councillor Carver, **“THAT Council receive and file items 9.1 and 9.3”** **Motion carried.**

10. New Business

No new business.

11. Questions/Comments

12. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Carver, at 10:45 a.m., seconded by Councillor McCarron **“THAT Council go into Closed Session to discuss Acquisition, Sale, Lease and Security of Municipal Property, Personnel Matters, Contract Negotiations and Legal Advice Eligible for Solicitor-Client Privilege as permitted by the Municipal Government Act section 22(2)(a), 22(2)(c), 22(2)(e) and 22(2)(g) respectively.”** **Motion carried.**

Council arose from Closed Session at 12:40 p.m.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, **“THAT Council direct staff to write to Cathie and Richard Nowe to inform them that the Town will be retaining ownership of the parcel of land they have offered to purchase.”** **Motion carried.**

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Palfreyman, **“THAT Council give first reading to the draft Equipment Charges Bylaw as amended.”** **Motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 12:45 p.m. on conclusion of business.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, Suzanne Lohnes-Croft

Town Clerk, Kelly Munroe