

## Special Edition - Municipal Awareness Week

Municipal Awareness Week is a week set aside to educate the public on the importance of local government. What do we do? What services do we provide? How can you participate? What is Council's role?

### So What's New?



#### Fire Station Sod Turning!

Lot preparation has begun for the Mahone Bay and District Volunteer Fire Department's new Fire Station. To keep up to date with Fire Station progress, check the News section of the Town's website regularly at [www.townofmahonebay.ca](http://www.townofmahonebay.ca)

**Be sure to watch for details of a virtual open house in December!**



#### Looking Good!

The Town's raw water pump house just had a face lift. It's looking pretty in blue with a new steel roof. A large new propane generator now means we can continue to replenish our water supply even if we are unfortunate enough to have a long power outage at the water source.

## Learn More About Your New Council -

This is my fourth council since first being elected in 2008. I decided to stand for election then because of the perspective I could offer on the issues of the day. I felt it reflected the opinions of many citizens I knew. Canvassing opportunities brought me to practically every doorstep in town where I heard many more opinions directly from the citizens. The opportunity to represent the people of Mahone Bay has indeed been a most satisfying one. I have participated in making decisions at council and a number of other forums, some of them very complex and difficult. Most citizens supported those decisions; some do not.

Ultimately, I believe I have voted for what is best for the town as a whole and the people who live here. I believe I have learned much in the last twelve years about Mahone Bay and I look forward to continuing as Mayor for the next four. I remain committed to serving the town. I will continue supporting the decisions that bode well for Mahone Bay and its citizens.

~ Mayor David Devenne

I have been asked why I decided to offer for Town Council. Having been born and raised in Mahone Bay I have a very special affection for the Town. This is the reason I volunteer for so many organizations and why I decided to offer for Town Council. I feel that having a voice in Municipal Government is a good way to help our residents even more. During the last four years on council I have served on a number of committees and boards which I feel has broadened my insight into the way our Town operates. I wanted to continue the work that was started during the last term and therefore felt the only way to do this was to re-offer. There are many ways we can all help make our community a better place and I hope that by being on council I will be able to have a positive influence.

~Councillor Richard Nowe

It's been a privilege and a real pleasure to participate in municipal government for the past 8 years. I ran for a third Council term because I felt there was still more I could do to support Mahone Bay as a resilient community in a thriving county. Since I'd been especially invested for several years in the Town's Age Friendly Community Committee and in my assignment to the board of the Lunenburg County Seniors' Safety Program, I hoped that another term on Council would ensure continuity by allowing time for leadership on these activities to be passed on gradually. I felt too that the insights and networks I've developed locally and provincially serve to enrich the contributions I can make to Council during policy discussions and other deliberations. Not to mention that I continue to find the issues endlessly interesting. So I ran again and I'm glad I did!

~ Councillor Penny Carver

I was considering running because of my perception that in recent years there has been a relentless increase in costs illustrated by the annual (excepting in election year) increase in tax rates and infrastructure levies. This was accompanied by a (perceived by me) drop-off in activities to address infrastructure shortfalls such as paving, water and sewer pipe replacement and vehicle upgrades. It was and is my intention to focus on those contradictory trends. I hope to understand this contradiction and suggest remedies.

~Councillor Kelly Wilson

# Why Did You Decide to Run for Council?

I decided to run for council because I truly believe that welcoming, vibrant, and flourishing communities do not just happen by accident - they are created and nurtured. Local governments play a unique and critical role in making this a reality through leadership, policies, investments, and so many other ways. I wanted to expand my contribution to the Mahone Bay community by bringing a fresh perspective to the council table. I am hoping to leverage my community development and policy analysis experience at council. I have a strong commitment to public engagement in supporting decision making that needs to both understand the community context and consider the many long and short-term impacts of decisions at council. Having worked in 3 different continents I am constantly building on my cultural competency which allows me to work with diverse groups of people quite comfortably.

~ Deputy Mayor Francis Kangata

Over the past four years, I have been pleased to work with Mayor Devenne, fellow Councillors and the Town's talented staff to move forward with long anticipated infrastructure projects, implement policy improvements while at the same time strengthening the Town's financial security. I hope to see "unfinished business" completed and major strategic initiatives get over the goal line in the next mandate. I have relied on my experience in financial evaluation to provide sound advice on fiscal matters while sitting at the Council table. I hope to continue to build consensus around key issues like affordable housing, economic development, and balance between residential and commercial interests, while continuing to lead with support for the Shoreline Protection Zone, Fire Department, critical infrastructure and improved financial contribution from the Electrical Utility. I look forward to working with Council to introduce strategies that will seek to expand the tax base through appropriate development as well as take advantage of opportunities to generate revenue for the Town outside of property tax.

~ Councillor Joseph Feeney

As a parent and citizen, I chose to run primarily to be of service to the residents of Mahone Bay. I want to help make town council more transparent and accessible. We all want Mahone Bay to be a welcoming place, that values new ideas and people as much as it holds on to its natural beauty and positive traditions. My focuses are multiple: on housing affordability and long-term rentals; continuing to develop a town that is friendly to all ages - accessibility is a form of support and welcome; the preservation of green spaces and common lands as part of a healthy community; working against racism and all other forms of hate; addressing food security and poverty issues; recognizing the value contributed by creative workers to Mahone Bay's cultural identity; supporting small local businesses; and building on measures to address climate change in our community.

~ Councillor Alice Burdick



## Transportation Plan

The Town Council has heard from the citizens of Mahone Bay and consulted with the experts. Now we're proposing some changes to make our streets safer and to encourage walking and cycling options.

1. New 3-way stop at Clearway St & Main St intersection
2. Additional crosswalks in 5 new locations
3. Improved trail crossing at Long Hill Rd & Main St intersection
4. New traffic calming measures on Clairmont St and Kinburn St
5. Changing Cherry Lane to one-way and Orchard St to one-way (to Parish St) with Parish St serving as the exit for both



The Town is waiting for a response to our application for Provincial funding to support these improvements.

## Town Hall Needs an Overhaul

Renovations will make Town Hall a safe, functional, and efficient workplace again for a lot less than a new facility. We're presented with a rare opportunity to make improvements while our staff continue to work remotely where possible. Soon Town Hall will meet the needs of the staff, Council, and the people of Mahone Bay!



- **Function**
  - We've outgrown and outpaced our space. In order for Town staff to work efficiently, significant renovations are required.
- **Safety**
  - Changing times require changes to familiar spaces. To keep staff and visitors safe with the onset of COVID-19, we're applying what we've learned and making some changes.
- **More Green**
  - It's time we made Town Hall more eco-friendly. Our renovation will find new efficiencies and reduce the Town's carbon footprint.
- **Accessibility**
  - Town Hall has heritage charm but accessibility has never been given the priority it deserves. Our planned update will ensure that it meets all modern standards.