

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Minutes of Meeting
April 20, 2015**

Present

Mayor, Billy Joe MacLean
Deputy Mayor, Joe Janega
Councilor, Dr. Trevor Boudreau
Councilor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Councilor, Bert Lewis
Chief Administrative Officer, Maris Freimanis
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey (Designate)

Regrets

Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen
Town Solicitor, Larry Evans

Guests

Michael Hatt
Karen Malcolm
John Ouellette

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held in the Shannon Studio, PHCC, Monday, April 20, 2015 and called to order by Mayor MacLean at 7:00 p.m.

2. Additions to / Approval of Agenda

- a) Strait Area Chamber of Commerce Industry Committee Meeting
- b) Community Spring Cleanup
- c) YMCA Lease – In Camera Session
- d) Community Health Centre – In Camera Session

MOVED by Deputy Mayor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor B. Lewis “To approve the agenda as amended”. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Gallery Presentations

- Façade Program - Michael Hatt, Karen Malcolm and John Ouellette

The next steps of the Façade Program include gauging specific interest of business, support of the community, defining scope and sources of funding for the next phase, working with ACOA and the Province to shape the project to match with programs, and integrating the program with other initiatives. Council was asked for a contribution of \$15,000 to assist with coordinator costs to focus on the next steps of the project. Discussion included the uniqueness of the Reeves Street layout, approach to business owners and landlords to participate in the project, and funding options. Mayor MacLean extended thanks to Michael Hatt and John Ouellette for their volunteer efforts on this project.

MOVED by Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “to approve the request of \$15,000 to hire a coordinator for a period of three to four months to focus on the next steps of the Façade Program Project”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Other Business

a) Leaf and Yard Waste Site Opening

The Leaf and Yard Waste Site on Crandall Road will open for the season, Saturday, May 9, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. continuing every Saturday thereafter until late fall. The date for opening and site materials list will be advertised on the website and in The Reporter. There will be extended hours during the last month only to accommodate the abundance of fall leaves and debris.

b) Spring Hydrant Flushing

The Port Hawkesbury Water Utility will conduct their Spring Hydrant Flushing and Main Program May 24 to June 5 during the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. to minimize inconvenience to Port Hawkesbury customers. Discolored water and pressure fluctuation may occur. Customers are advised to visually check the water before use during the flushing program. This information will be provided on our website, The Reporter and on The Hawk.

The consideration of novelty painting of fire hydrants was discussed. Council ideas will be forwarded to staff.

c) Spring Residential Curbside Cleanup

The Spring Residential Curbside Cleanup is scheduled May 25. Residents are asked not to place material at curbside before May 18 in accordance with the Solid Waste Resources By-Law. Residents may be subject to stronger enforcement this year if placing material at curbside prior to May 18. There will be one collection only per residence. Dates and the materials list will be advertised on the website, in The Reporter and on The Hawk.

d) Economic Development – Open Discussion

i. Housing Shortage

Mr. S. Hines and colleagues from NS Housing Community Affairs will meet with Mayor MacLean and appear before Council to address the shortage of low income housing and housing for seniors in Port Hawkesbury. Mayor MacLean will also meet with J. Bain, EDPC, regarding potential development of the former Canso Regional Vocational School lot and old arena site.

ii. Strategic Priorities

Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton suggested revisiting the Strategic Priorities in Community Economic Development document to assess milestones and determine primary and secondary strategic plans and direction for the Town.

iii. Richmond County Joint Industrial Park

The Cape Breton Partnership/Prosperity Framework are working on an asset and land database. The next steps include assembling data, conceptual planning, signage, advertising, and pricing for development of the Joint Industrial Park. Discussion included the park water, sewage and right of way issues.

MOVED by Councilor B. Lewis and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “that Council will meet and review the Strategic Priorities in Community Economic Development document to assess milestones and determine primary and secondary strategic plans and direction for the Town”. MOTION CARRIED.

MOVED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton and SECONDED by Councilor B. Lewis “that staff will meet with the Richmond County Development Officer to discuss the next steps for development of the Richmond County Joint Industrial Park”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Approved Additions

a) Strait Area Chamber of Commerce (SACOC) Industry Committee Meeting
Mayor MacLean, Chair, Strait Area Mayors and Wardens Committee attended the SACOC Industry Committee Meeting to discuss issues relating to the Strait of Canso Harbour. Discussion points included port authority and board structure, allocation of dues, and a request for industry recommendations. Mayor MacLean stated the importance of industry and municipalities working together and speaking with one voice to promote the harbour, infrastructure and much needed job creation.

b) Community Spring Cleanup

Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau suggested an organized day for a community cleanup. Councilor B. Lewis recommended Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau to spearhead this project.

The Committee of the Whole recessed In Camera at 8:50 p.m. to discuss:

- a) Fire Services Agreement
- b) YMCA Lease
- c) Community Health Centre

The Committee of the Whole reconvened at 10:10 p.m.

MOVED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor J. Janega “to approve a three month extension of the current YMCA lease at the current rate plus the cost of inflation over last year’s rate. Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau and staff will negotiate an integrated approach between the YMCA and the Town as discussed in camera”. MOTION CARRIED.

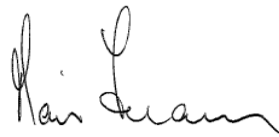
MOVED by Deputy Mayor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau “to approve Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton’s request to meet with Minister Michel Samson to discuss the Community Health Centre, senior housing options and other issues”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Adjournment

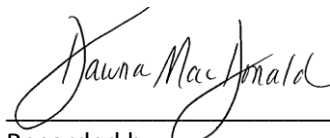
The Committee of the Whole adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

April 27, 2015

Date



Approved by:
Maris Freimanis, CAO



Recorded by:
Dawna MacDonald