

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, September 4, 2012**

Present

Mayor, Billy Joe MacLean
Chief Administrative Officer, Maris Freimanis
Acting Director of Finance, David Gray
Deputy Mayor, Ken Anderson, Chair
Councilor, Jim King
Councilor, Hugh MacDougall
Director of Marketing, Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Paula Davis
Town Solicitor, Larry Evans
Evans MacIsaac MacMillan, Ashley Dutcher

Regrets

Councilor Mark MacIver

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in the Shannon Studio, Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, Tuesday, September 4, 2012. It was called to order by Deputy Mayor Ken Anderson at 7:00 p.m.

2. Gallery Presentations

There were no presentations from the gallery.

3. Additions to / Approval of Agenda

a) Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency – Special Board of Directors Meeting

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall, and SECONDED by Councilor J. King “to approve the agenda as amended”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Minutes

a) Regular Town Council – June 5, 2012

Item # 9a – On the question, Deputy Mayor K. Anderson requested an amendment to include *“the Crandall Road/Pine Ridge Drive residents had not been consulted on the removal of the stop sign by the traffic authority or anyone else”*.

b) Special Public Meeting – July 3, 2012

Deputy Mayor K. Anderson requested that the reason for calling the Special Public meeting should be Included in Item #1 – Call to Order.

c) Special Public Meeting – August 21, 2012

There were no errors or omissions.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. Proclamations / Declarations / Special Notices

a) Proclamation: Right to Know Week

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall, and SECONDED by Councilor J. King "that Town Council proclaims September 24 to September 28, 2012, to be Right to Know Week in the Town of Port Hawkesbury". MOTION CARRIED.

b) Proclamation: Health Association Nova Scotia – September as Continuing Care Month

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall, and SECONDED by Councilor J. King "that Town Council proclaims September 2012 to be Continuing Care Month in the Town of Port Hawkesbury". MOTION CARRIED.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8. Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

9. Other Business

a) First Reading – Burning Bylaw

Town Solicitor, L. Evans will amend the Outdoor Fire Bylaw as follows:

1. Section: Definitions: 3(a) – "Acceptable Fire Pit" to include the added wording from Item 6(c) ...*'of such a sufficient size as to work effectively'*
2. Section: Outdoor Fires Permitted: 6(e) – To include *'cannot be within 15 feet (5 metres) from the main structure'*

MOVED by Councilor J. King, and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall "to accept the Burning Bylaw with the amendments". MOTION CARRIED.

L. Evans will provide CAO, M. Freimanis with the revised bylaw for Council's review. A second and potential final reading of the Burning Bylaw will be presented at the next Town Council Meeting.

b) Municipal Election - Update

Deputy Mayor Ken Anderson welcomed David Gray and the Municipal Election candidates seated in the gallery to the meeting. CAO, M. Freimanis provided Council with an update on the final list of electors which has been completed and is available to the candidates.

- There have been two advertisements for electors to be placed on the voting list. A certificate of eligibility must be completed by October 12th for electors not on the list, The names of the additional electors will be provided to the candidates
- October 12th – deadline for the Returning Officer to issue transfer certificates and forms for proxy voting. The electors may apply for these certificates from the Returning Officer
- An elector can solemnly swear or affirm with proper identification and sign a form to be included on the voting list if he/she is not on the list on voting day
- September 10th – deadline for candidates to file their papers
- September 11th – Nomination Day. After that time, there will be a period to continue with eligibility certificates, transfer certificates, and proxy voting

- There will be advertisements for the following dates:
 - October 11th – optional poll day (Council discretion)
 - October 16th – mandatory advance poll day
 - October 20th – Election Day

CAO M. Freimanis confirmed to Deputy Mayor K. Anderson that “proper identification” consisted of any documentation indicating the elector’s name. The elector must be a resident of the Town of Port Hawkesbury.

c) Nova Scotia Power (NSP) / LED Roadway Lighting – Verbal Update

CAO, M. Freimanis attended a meeting in Halifax with NSP regarding the Province’s legislation compelling municipalities to convert to LED roadway lighting. NSP provided two options:

1. NSP will purchase, install and maintain the LED lights; the Town would pay a rental fee for these lights
2. The Town would supply, install, and maintain the LED lights and pay approximately \$18k in energy costs

Issues and concerns:

- Stranded assets – The Town would be paying for a stranded asset with an arbitrary value and unknown depreciation costs if the lights are purchased
- CAO’s would like an accurate accounting of the stranded assets that would confirm the age of the lights, manufacturer’s dates, and true value; NSP will reconcile costs if they are favorable to the municipalities
- By 2015, 50% of roadway lights will need to be replaced. There is a concern that municipalities would have to pay full value of the depreciated asset for 7 years
- Maintenance may be expensive if the Town purchases LED lighting. There is an option to lease through a local company who would install and maintain the lights

Council discussion included the agreement with NSP and the clause around stranded asset value; NSP’s depreciation schedule and how depreciation is calculated; the number of lights required for both safe roadway driving and as a cost savings to the Town; and the upcoming UARB hearing. CAO, M. Freimanis and David Gray will prepare for Council a detailed cost analysis and cost impact to the Town on the purchase or rental of the LED lights.

10. Approved Additions to the Agenda

Strait-Highlands Regional Development Agency – Special Board of Directors Meeting

Deputy Mayor K. Anderson provided the gallery with an overview of the status of the Regional Development Agencies since ACOA’s announcement in May. This item was deferred to the In Camera session for discussion.

Mayor MacLean conveyed best wishes to the Municipal Election candidates seated in the gallery.

MOVED by Councillor H. MacDougall, and SECONDED by Councillor J. King “to recess In Camera at 7:50 p.m.”. MOTION CARRIED.

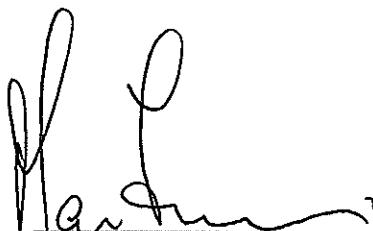
The Town Council Meeting reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

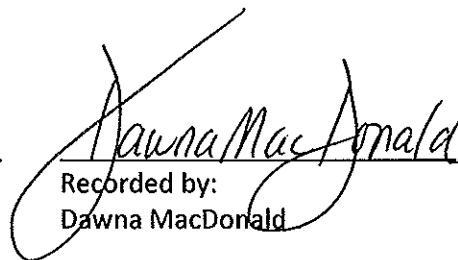
MOVED by Councilor J. King, and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall "to accept the recommendation of CAO M. Freimanis to finalize discussions with the Port Hawkesbury Antigonish Swim Team (PHAST) to negotiate and enter into a formal agreement to cover the use and cost of the pool during the period of December to February. This final agreement will be brought back to Council for approval prior to signature". MOTION CARRIED.

11. Adjournment

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall, and SECONDED by Councilor J. King to adjourn the Town Council meeting at 8:24 p.m". MOTION CARRIED.

Oct 3 / 2012
Date


Approved by:
Maris Freimanis, CAO


Recorded by:
Dawna MacDonald