

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting
January 12, 2015**

Present

Mayor, Billy Joe MacLean
Deputy Mayor, Joe Janega
Councillor, Dr. Trevor Boudreau
Councillor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Councillor, Bert Lewis
Chief Administrative Officer, Maris Freimanis
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen
Town Solicitor, Larry Evans

Guests

Len Robertson, Area Manager for Killam Properties
John Bain, Director Eastern District Planning Commission

1. Call to Order

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in the Shannon Studio, PHCC, Monday, January 12, 2015. It was called to order by Mayor MacLean at 7:00 p.m.

2. Gallery Presentations – Call to Gallery

- Properties – 7 Gillis Crescent & 37 Gillis Crescent – Demolition Order

CAO, M. Freimanis, asked Area Manager, Len Robertson, Killam Properties Inc., owner of Cardeil Trailer Park for his presentation regarding a Demolition Order for 7 Gillis Crescent and 37 Gillis Crescent. Mr. Robertson spoke in favour of the demolition order for 7 Gillis Crescent and 37 Gillis Crescent. He encouraged continuing with demolition orders to do more clean up where it is necessary.

3. Addition to/Approval of Agenda

- a) Strait Superport Board Appointment
- b) Reeves Street Hill Update

MOVED by Councillor B. Chisholm-Beaton and SECONDED by Councillor B. Lewis “To approve the agenda as amended”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Minutes

- a) Regular Town Council December 2, 2014
There were no errors or omissions.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) Gas Prices

CAO, M. Freimanis advised he will prepare a letter for the Mayor’s signature to local gas companies requesting the higher pricing of gas in Port Hawkesbury as compared with other areas in Zone 5 cease re researched gas prices that were found to be higher as compared to Sydney, Baddeck and surrounding areas.

6. Proclamations

There were no proclamations.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8. Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

9. Other Business

a) Affordable Child Care

Councillor B. Chisholm-Beaton spoke to Council with regards to a young family who have to drive 30-40 minutes out of Town to find child care for their young toddler. We do not have a facility for child care under the age of three. Child care is higher in private homes which mean that young families may be unable to afford it. We have a need that is not being met. She suggested inviting Mary Delaney, Early Childhood Development Consultant Officer, Department of Education to speak with Council regarding the process entailed re affordable child care. It is a regional problem and we should bring the issue to light.

Councillor Dr. T. Boudreau commended Councillor B. Chisholm-Beaton on presenting this issue to Council. Mayor Billy Joe MacLean advised that UNSM had several meetings with Deputy Minister of Social Services and there are no sufficient funds for this type of child care. There are a lot of liabilities involved and it is a provincial matter.

Councillor B. Lewis is in support of a letter to be sent to the Province re funds for child care under the age of three and that we work with Community College on this item as a business help facility.

b) Committee of the Whole Meeting

February meeting to reschedule due to Viola Desmond Holiday – February 16.

Maris Freimanis, CAO recommended March 3, 2015 for the Committee of the Whole meeting due to it falling on February 16 which is the Viola Desmond Holiday.

MOVED by Councillor B. Chisholm-Beaton and SECONDED by Councillor Dr. T. Boudreau “That the Committee of the Whole meeting be rescheduled to March 3, 2015 due to it falling on February 16 which is the Viola Desmond Holiday”. MOTION CARRIED.

c) Properties – 7 Gillis Crescent and 37 Gillis Crescent – Demolition Order

Maris Freimanis, CAO asked John Bain, Director Eastern District Planning Commission to explain the situation of both 7 Gillis Crescent and 37 Gillis Crescent. A visit to both properties was made by Sean Donovan, Administrator, EDPC in response to a complaint that EDPC received. Both homes fall under “Dangerous and Unightly” conditions defined in the Municipal Government Act.

1. The mobile home is in a ruinous and dilapidated condition
2. The mobile home is in such a state of non-repair as to be no longer suitable for human habitation or business purposes
3. The mobile home is unsightly in relation to neighbouring properties due to the exterior finish of the building not being maintained.

The mobile homes meet the Municipal Government Act definition of "dangerous and unsightly. Mr. Leon LeBlanc's recommendation as a Certified Building Official is that both mobile homes be demolished. It is our recommendation that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be used and that the order be a Demolition Order issued from Council to the owners instructing that the mobile homes be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the cost through property taxes.

Deputy Mayor J. Janega asked J. Bain, Director, EDPC re concerns of neighbouring properties.

Councillor B. Lewis asked J. Bain, Director of EDPC if the Order is issued to the owners of mobile homes as well as the property owners which the Director replied yes. He advised a lien against property owners if the Municipality does the demolition. The owners are asked to dispose of the mobile homes first.

MOVED by Councillor Dr. T. Boudreau, SECONDED by Councillor B. Lewis" to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and have the Demolition Orders for properties 7 Gillis Crescent and 37 Gillis Crescent" . MOTION CARRIED.

10. Approved Additions

a) Strait Superport Representative

Council requested that we advertise for qualified persons with knowledge of marine to be on the Strait Superport Committee as board members.

MOVED by Councillor Dr. T. Boudreau, SECONDED by Councillor B.Chisholm-Beaton" that we advertise for qualified persons with knowledge of marine to be members on the Strait Superport Board". MOTION CARRIED.

b) Reeves Street Hill

Deputy Mayor J. Janega commented on the condition of the Reeves Street Hill re weather conditions during the winter season. For example Mr. Janega remarked on December 30, 2014 when the road was closed due to the inability of a transport truck to make the hill. He said he lived here for 34 years alongside the hill and saw many similar situations. His concerns were brought up due to recent reports tabled outlining the possibility of a round-about placed at the bottom of the hill. Deputy Mayor J. Janega feels this would cause interruptions to the hill as any potential of lowering speed of truck traffic would make it impossible for trucks travelling the hill during adverse weather conditions. He also pointed out that when the road is closed for such situations traffic is diverted to Granville Street. He advised that he has serious structural concerns with the traffic exceeding the posted safe capacity of the existing bridges. He asked Council and staff to bear in mind the situation and review carefully if in fact a round-about is the proper choice. He further stated that the safest and best long term option is a by-pass as per previously discussed on many occasions.

The Public Meeting recessed In Camera at 7:45 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

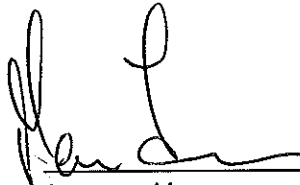
The Public Meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

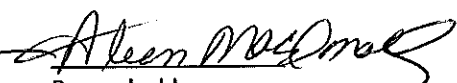
MOVED by Councillor B. Lewis and **SECONDED** by B. Chisholm-Beaton "That we invite the new Fire Chief, Curtis Doucet to meet with Mayor Billy Joe MacLean and M. Freimanis, CAO to discuss recruitment for the Port Hawkesbury Volunteer Fire Department and to invite Mr. Doucet to attend monthly Council meetings". **MOTION CARRIED.**

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Councillor B. Chisholm-Beaton and **SECONDED** by Councillor B. Lewis "To adjourn the Public Meeting at 8:05 p.m.". **MOTION CARRIED.**

Feb 5, 2015
Date


Approved by:
Maris Freimanis, CAO


Recorded by:
Aleen MacDonald