

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting
June 13, 2017**

Present

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Deputy Mayor, Trevor Boudreau
Councilor, Hughie MacDougall
Councilor, Mark MacIver
Councilor, Jeremy White
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen
Director Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Paula Davis
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey (Alternate)

Regrets

Director, John Bain – Eastern District Planning Commission
Town Solicitor, Larry Evans

1. Call to Order

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in Shannon Studio, Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, Tuesday, June 13, 2017 and called to order by Mayor Chisholm-Beaton at 8:15 p.m.

2. Additions to Agenda

- i. In Camera – Personnel Issue – Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau

3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau “to approve the agenda with one addition”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Gallery Presentations

- i. Vending Fees Policy

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton declared a conflict of interest. Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau assumed the role of Chair.

Questions from Council

Councilor H. MacDougall requested clarification on fees for special events of ten days or less and if the fee included events that were spread over a number of months. CAO, T. Doyle confirmed that it did; that one permit would cover events such as the Granville Green Series. It was confirmed to Councilor J. White that the seasonal permit was revised from \$1500 to \$750. There were no presentations from the gallery that opposed or were in favor of the Vending Fees Policy.

MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councilor J. White “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the Vending Fees Policy as presented”. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Acknowledgements

- i. Warden Russell Boucher
- ii. Bill Charlton
- iii. Kyle MacMillan
- iv. Arlene Tower

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton called for a moment of silence.

- v. MLA Elect Alana Paon was congratulated on her victory in the Nova Scotia Provincial Election.
- vi. Relay for Life – Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton participated in the Relay for Life in Arichat. The 'Ray Sugar Bears Team' from Port Hawkesbury collected \$22,553 and was the top fundraiser for the event.

6. Council Minutes

Public Meeting – May 2, 2017

There were no errors or omissions.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

Public Meeting – May 2, 2017 – Celtic Colours Festival

With the success of the Celtic Colours Festival, Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau suggested Council consider a strategy for the Town take on a bigger role with more venues each year.

8. Council Committee Reports

- i. Report from Committee of the Whole – May 16, 2017

- a) Walk the Walk for Autism

MOVED by Councilor J. White and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the request by the Strait Area Chapter, Autism Nova Scotia, for the use of the PHCC Bear Head Room, Arena Space and Walking Track for the 2017 Walk the Walk for Autism to be budgeted from the Donation Account”. MOTION CARRIED.

- b) June Meeting – Committee of the Whole

The June meeting of the Committee of the Whole was rescheduled to June 13.

- c) Council Summer Recess

MOVED by Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the recommendation for Council to recess for the months of July and August with meetings called on an as needed basis”. MOTION CARRIED.

- ii. Adoption of Minutes – Committee of the Whole – May 16, 2017

MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councilor J. White “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury adopts the minutes of the May 16, 2017 Committee of the Whole”. MOTION CARRIED.

iii. Report from Committee of the Whole – June 13, 2017

a) Budget

Council was asked for comments on the 2017-2018 budget.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor J. White “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the 2017-2018 budget as presented”.

MOTION TO TABLE by Councilor H. MacDougall.

Councilor H. MacDougall stated Council did not put enough time and effort into the budget to make a conscious decision. As a Councilor with 17 years’ experience, he did not have enough information.

Deputy Mayor Boudreau opposed the motion to table stating there was ample time as Council had budget discussions for several months. Point of Order was called by Councilor MacDougall who claimed he did not have ample time.

A vote was held on the MOTION TO TABLE.

Two ayes were recorded from Councilor MacDougall and Councilor MacIver. Three nays were recorded from Deputy Mayor Boudreau, Councilor White and Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton.

MOTION TO TABLE DEFEATED.

Budget Discussion

Councilor White stated the CAO and Director of Finance are paid to do this work and provide budget highlights. He was confident it was a good budget.

Councilor MacDougall understood that budget wish lists would be brought back for Council discussion and that Council was elected to make policy, by-laws and pass budgets. His request for funding for the dugouts was thrown out and he was told it would be handled through the operating budget. E. MacEachen clarified that the funds for the dugouts would come from capital out of revenue line within the operating budget.

Councilor H. MacDougall added that he spoke of using Public Works resources for work on the dugouts which would be a committed budget cost and that staff recommended moving forward with a more robust dugout which is what is being planned. He was told the CAO, the Mayor and the Director of Finance would be meeting with P. Davis and G. Snook to discuss this work which still is in shambles. Councilor H. MacDougall felt that the original quote would have cost less. CAO, T. Doyle stated the project is moving forward as planned utilizing the Town’s own forces.

Councilor M. MacIver stated budget concerns were staff driven and that it is Council’s job to make the budget. Council should be provided a list of all projects, capital projects and that Council makes those decisions not senior staff. He stated he spoke at the budget meeting about being short-handed in recreation. He asked if advertising took place for the Water Treatment Plant position. Point of Order was called by Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau noting that while this concern is understood, this issue did not pertain to the budget.

CAO T. Doyle stated it was not Council’s responsibility to create the budget but it is the responsibility of Council to approve the budget and that there was very little feedback from Council in four budget meetings.

Councilor M. MacIver stated Council sets out what is in the budget and takes this to the Director of Finance to balance the budget followed by Council approving the budget. Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton stated “were we not asked by staff in budget meetings for direction?”

Councilor M. MacIver stated in the past, Council would receive a list from all departments on items to decide upon - just receiving this information is important. Councilor H. MacDougall noted it should be done right. Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau stated Council was provided with a list of all capital projects – all projects and where the money was coming from. He added that Council had an opportunity to provide feedback which is why he is comfortable moving the budget forward. Councilor J. White was in agreement with the Deputy Mayor.

Councilor H. MacDougall again stated there was by not ample time to review the help required issue with the ballfields and that the request for extra help was turned down. CAO Doyle stated he could not recall any item that was brought forward to Council that was not addressed and that funds were allotted for the ballfields. The process of staffing was not dealt with as it is not the purpose of the budget, but additional funds have been allocated to the recreation budget for additional staffing. The Deputy Mayor stated there is an opportunity to reach out to sports organizations to have fund raising initiatives to make it sustainable on all levels – the trails, the park, etc. Councilor M. MacIver would like a list compiled from each manager of priority items to come to Council which would then be presented to E. MacEachen to create a preliminary budget. He noted items such as the Waterfront and Tamarac Booster Station were not discussed. Councilor H. MacDougall stated \$25,000 was cut for paving and that he met with senior staff on the dugouts which were not brought back to Council. It was brought back to Council as a different project and was then thrown off the table.

Council returned to the main motion.

MOVED by Councilor J. White and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the 2017-2018 budget as presented”. Two nays were recorded from Councilor H. MacDougall and Councilor M. MacIver. One aye each was recorded from Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau, Councilor J. White and Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton. MOTION CARRIED.

- iv. Commemorative Plaque for Schools– Councilor MacDougall

MOVED by Councilor J. White and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the request of funding for a commemorative plaque and photograph to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Port Hawkesbury High School”. MOTION CARRIED.

- v. *3 THINGS for CANADA* – Mayor Chisholm-Beaton

MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury supports the *3 THINGS for CANADA* initiative in recognition of Canada 150”. MOTION CARRIED.

9. Correspondence

- i. Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society – Funding Request

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves a donation of \$500 to the Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society”. MOTION CARRIED.

- ii. NSCC Letter of Support – Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton
Mayor Chisholm-Beaton reviewed a letter of support from Tom Gunn, Principal, NSCC, regarding the campus’s support of the Reeves Street Revitalization Project that would connect the campus to the Town’s uptown core from Reeves Street.
- iii. 211 Nova Scotia – Mayor Chisholm-Beaton
The letter from the 211 Information and Referral Services Association addressed the navigational assistance provided to Nova Scotians to locate human, community and social services.
- iv. Invitation from Lieutenant Governor’s Office
Mayor Chisholm-Beaton received an invitation to attend the Annual Garden Party, June 20th in Halifax.

10. Proclamations/Resolutions

- i. Resolution: Enforce the Westray Amendments to Canada’s Criminal Code – Councilor MacDougall

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor T. Boudreau “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the Resolution to Enforce the Westray Amendments to Canada’s Criminal Code”. MOTION CARRIED.

- ii. Resolution: Municipal Softwood Lumber – Councilor MacDougall

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall and SECONDED by Councilor M. MacIver “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the Resolution for Municipal Softwood Lumber”. MOTION CARRIED.

11. Other Business

- i. Expense Report – May

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the May 2017 Expense Report. The total expenses for the month of May were \$7829.50. Expense reports are posted on the Town website.

- ii. Cannibas: Municipal Impacts Symposium – Deputy Mayor Boudreau provided and update on the symposium he and Councilor MacDougall attended. Federal and provincial governments are working on regulations and the roll out. There are issues to be dealt with including policing, by-laws, locations, and a workplace policy.
- iii. Deferral of Agenda Item #14 – Public Question Period
Council agreed to place the Public Question Period as Agenda Item #12.

