

PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
Held Virtually

Minutes of Meeting
September 1, 2020

Present

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Deputy Mayor, Blaine MacQuarrie
Councilor, Hughie MacDougall
Councilor, Mark MacIver
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen
Director of Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Paula Davis
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey
Manager of Facilities, Gordie Snook

1. Call to Order

A Public meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held virtually Tuesday, September 1, 2020 and called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton.

2. Additions to Agenda

October Election – Councilor M. MacIver

3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie “to approve the agenda with one addition”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Audited Financial Statements

i. Auditors Report (Grant Thornton)

Kim Livingston of Grant Thornton presented the Consolidated Financial Statements and Independent Auditors Report which includes all Town reserve accounts and 50% of the Landrie Lake Water Utility.

ii. Report from Audit Committee

Report from Chair Julie Marchand was presented by Director of Finance Erin MacEachen with the recommendation to approve the Consolidated and Non-Consolidated financial statements of the Town of Port Hawkesbury.

MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall “to approve the Town of Port Hawkesbury March 31, 2020 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements as presented to the Audit Committee at the Audit Committee meeting August 26, 2020.” MOTION CARRIED

MOVED by Councilor H. MacDougall and SECONDED by Councilor M. MacIver “to approve the Town of Port Hawkesbury March 31, 2020 Non-Consolidated Financial Statements as presented to the Audit Committee at the Audit Committee meeting August 26, 2020.” MOTION CARRIED

5. Acknowledgements

- i. Mayor B. Chisholm Beaton had the following acknowledgements;
 - Condolences on the deaths of Sam Embree and Hilda MacDonald. Sam Embree was the oldest member of the Port Hawkesbury Fire Department and recently received his 50 year pin. Hilda MacDonald was the oldest living resident in Port Hawkesbury, a dedicated volunteer and World War 2 veteran who passed away at the age of 95. A moment of silence was observed.
 - Observance of the 75th anniversary of World War 2 being held at 6:30, September 2, 2020 at the cenotaph.
 - Recognition of September as Suicide Prevention Awareness month

6. Approval of Council Minutes

- i. Public Meeting June 2, 2020
There were no errors or omissions
- ii. Public Hearing June 24, 2020
There were no errors or omissions
- iii. Special Public Meeting June 24, 2020
There were no errors or omissions
- iv. Special Public Meeting July 27, 2020
There were no errors or omissions
- v. Special Public Meeting August 14, 2020
There were no errors or omissions

7. Business Arising from Minutes

- i. Councilor H. MacDougall requested an update from the June 2nd minutes regarding correspondence to be sent to our Local MP Mike Kelloway and Minister of Finance Bill Morneau on the negative financial impacts of COVID-19 on Town owned operations. CAO T. Doyle stated that we are in a position where losses can be quantified, and the Director of Finance will draft appropriate correspondence.
- ii. Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie requested an update from the July 27th minutes on the execution of a lease agreement with the Strait of Canso Yacht Club. CAO T. Doyle stated that we were working with our solicitor to define the terms and contract language for the agreement, but we have confidence that we have agreement in principal, and the agreement will be executed in the near future.
- iii. Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie commented on the success of the Town sponsoring of the SAERC graduation and celebration from the August 14th minutes.

8. Council Committee Reports

i. Report from the Committee of the Whole June 24, 2020

- Cape Breton Housing Authority

An update was provided following the meeting with housing authority regarding Sunset Manor. An email response from Shawn Luker, Director with the Cape Breton Housing Authority was reviewed.

Councilor H. MacDougall mentioned that the dryer vents near outdoor benches was not reported on, and there was an additional response from the Housing Authority on a silverfish concern. Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton would follow up on the outdoor bench concern.

Council was pleased that commitments were being made on issues that residents of Sunset Manor had raised for a considerable period of time.

- Strait Area Pool Reopening

Director P. Davis is scheduled to meet with representatives from the Strait Regional Centre for Education to understand the parameters of access to the Strait Area Pool Facility. Following the meeting, we will have a better understanding of revenue potential and facility expectations and will further analyze the profitability of the operation. October 5th is the tentative Phase 1 reopening date, but will be further considered following the meeting with the SRCE.

ii. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minute June 24, 2020

MOVED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall

**“That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the June 24, 2020 Committee of the Whole minutes.”
MOTION CARRIED.**

9. Motions from In Camera Session

September 1, 2020

There were no motions from the September 1, 2020 In Camera Session

10. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to review.

11. Proclamations/Resolutions

There were no proclamations or resolutions.

12. Other Business

i. Term in Review Presentation, CAO, T. Doyle

CAO T. Doyle provided an overview of accomplishments of Council during the 2016-2020 term. Items reviewed included the Customs House Artist Incubation Project, Start-Up Port Hawkesbury, Improved services and investment at the Allan J. MacEachen Regional Airport, Pitt/Napean street rehabilitation, Tamarac booster station construction, 3.2km of asphalt and sidewalk construction, new active transportation connections, beautification and streetscaping projects, community signage and branding, creation of a marine innovation space in the creamery building, investments in business façade improvements through ACOA, numerous events, significant investments in recreation facilities, fleet improvements, new business developments, significant increase in real estate sales, improvements to transparency and governance of Council, and newly formed inter-municipal partnerships.

ii. Delivery Trucks in Residential Neighborhoods, Deputy Mayor, B. MacQuarrie

Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie discussed concerns expressed from citizens on the increase of large transport trucks making deliveries on residential streets within the Town of Port Hawkesbury. Staff were asked to research the issue and potential by-laws that would restrict larger trucks from making deliveries throughout the Town.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councilor M. MacIver “that staff research the issue of delivery truck service in other community’s and bylaws that may already be in existence and provide an update on the information collected at the next Committee of Whole Meeting.”

MOTION CARRIED

iii. Leadership School for Women Update, Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton provided update on the Leadership School for Women held at Membertou Convention Centre on August 22, 2020. The event had been deferred from May 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event was very successful, was designed to allow participation both virtually and in person, and had 125 participants. On behalf of the Government FOCUS group, Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton thanked Council for supporting two positions in the school, along with the Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie and the Fleur de-Lis restaurant for supporting an additional two positions allowing four participants from Port Hawkesbury to attend the school.

iv. Fireworks By-Law, Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton has received complaints from citizens about firecrackers and fireworks being used within the community, as well as the sale of fireworks. The Town has a fireworks by-law that outlines the sale and use of fireworks within Town boundaries that can be forwarded to concerned citizens.

13. Approved Additions

i. October Election

Councilor M. MacIver asked if there would be information provided to residents regarding telephone and electronic voting. CAO T. Doyle stated that Intelivote would be sending a letter to all eligible voters informing them of how they can vote electronically or by telephone. The Town also intends on providing some information online and through social media following an in-service with Intelivote on the voting process in September.

Councilor M. MacIver, Councilor H. MacDougall, and Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie announced their intentions to re-offer for the seat of Councilor in the October 2020 election.

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton announced her intention to reoffer for the seat of Mayor in the October 2020 election.

ii. Council Expenses

There were no expenses to report for June 2020 to August 2020

14. Future Meetings

The future meetings of Town Council are scheduled as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| i. Committee of the Whole | September 15, 2020 |
| ii. Public Meeting | October 6, 2020 |
| iii. Swearing in Ceremony | November 3, 2020 |

15. Public Question Period

Bill Dunphy with the Inverness Oran asked if Council was encouraging the Nova Scotia Junior Hockey league to resume play in advance of their Annual General Meeting, and if the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre was prepared for the resumption of league play. CAO T.Doyle and Manager of Facilities G. Snook stated that there has been ongoing communication with league executives encouraging their return to the facility following approval of their Return to Play plan. We anticipate further information on this in Mid-September.

16. Adjournment

MOVED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councilor H. MacDougall "that the Town of Port Hawkesbury adjourns the June 24, 2020 Public Meeting at 8:45 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Nov 10, 2020
Date

T. Doyle
Approved by:
Terry Doyle, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

Erin MacEachen
Recorded by:
Erin MacEachen