

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting
June 7, 2016**

Present

Mayor, Billy Joe MacLean
Deputy Mayor, Bert Lewis
Councilor, Dr. Trevor Boudreau
Councilor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Councilor, Joe Janega
Chief Administrative Officer, Maris Freimanis
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen
Director Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Paula Davis
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey (Alternate)

Regrets

Town Solicitor, Larry Evans

Guests

April Sampson, NSCC

Strait Regional School Board

Ford Rice, Superintendent of Schools
Terry Doyle, Director of Operations
Paul Landry, Director of Programs and Student Services
Mary Jess MacDonald, Board Member, Central Inverness

1. Call to Order

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in Shannon Studio, PHCC, Tuesday, June 7, 2016 and called to order by Mayor MacLean at 7:00 p.m.

2. Gallery Presentations

a) Port Hawkesbury Literacy Council Champion of the Cause – April Sampson

Ms. Sampson presented Mayor MacLean with the Port Hawkesbury Literacy Champion of the Cause plaque acknowledging and thanking him for his long time commitment to literacy in the Strait area.

b) SAERC Update – Ford Rice and Terry Doyle

Mr. Rice and Mr. Doyle provided an update on the Strait Regional School Board (SRSB) Strategic Plan. A three phased approach has been underway to renovate and reorganize space at SAERC to accommodate the Board's consolidation and relocation of its staff and operations from its current central office in Port Hastings. A seamless transition is anticipated for the opening of SAERC Daycare in September and other offices that have been displaced. Discussion included space for additional parking and the potential for constructing a pedway between SAERC and the PHCC for greater access to the SAERC Pool, library, gymnasium and auditorium.

3. Additions to / Approval of Agenda

a) Police Advisory Committee – Deputy Mayor B. Lewis

b) St. Marks United Church – 50th Anniversary – Deputy Mayor B. Lewis

c) Airport Committee – Meeting Update – Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau & CAO M. Freimanis

MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau "to approve the agenda with three additions". MOTION CARRIED.

4. Minutes

- Regular Town Council May 3, 2016
There were no errors or omissions.
- Committee of the Whole May 16, 2016

MOVED by Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “to approve the May 16, 2016 minutes of the Committee of the Whole”. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Public Meeting – May 3, 2016 – Agenda Item 9c) – Port Hawkesbury Wharf Update
Deputy Mayor Bert Lewis received information regarding the potential purchase of the *Dutch Runner* by an individual in La Have.

6. Proclamations

Lifesaving Society – National Drowning Prevention Week – July 17-23, 2016

Councilor J. Janega acknowledged the importance of the Strait Area Pool and staff training over the years enabling many individuals to gain certification as lifeguards.

**MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “to approve July 17-23, 2016 as National Drowning Prevention Week throughout Port Hawkesbury”.
MOTION CARRIED.**

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8. Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

9. Other Business

a) Ratification – 2016-2017 Budget

Mayor MacLean stated the 2016-2017 Town of Port Hawkesbury Operating and Capital budgets represented a collective effort by Town Council and staff. The residential and commercial tax rates will be held at their existing levels for the 2016-2017 tax years. He provided highlights of the 2015-2016 budget and thanked Council, E. MacEachen and staff for their efforts.

MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau “that the capital and operating budgets as presented are approved, with a Residential Tax Rate set at \$1.80/\$100 assessment and that the Commercial Tax Rate set at \$4.38/\$100 assessment for the fiscal year of 2016-2017. Property taxes are payable as billed by June 1, 2016 and October 1, 2016 and interest will be charged at a rate of 18% per annum on overdue accounts”. MOTION CARRIED.

b) Records Management Policy

MOVED by Deputy Mayor B. Lewis and SECONDED by Councilor J. Janega “to approve the Records Management Policy”. MOTION CARRIED.

c) Licenses and Permits By-law

Mayor MacLean stated his concerns regarding the Petty Trades section of the Licenses and Permits By-law which grants a Petty Trades permit to non-resident and non-ratepayer vendors for a fee of \$300 to set up

a food truck in Town placing business owners at a financial disadvantage as they pay higher commercial taxes and are not protected under the current by-law. A committee comprised of Deputy Mayor Lewis, Councilors Boudreau and Janega, and Town Solicitor L. Evans will review similar by-laws from other municipalities. Only vendor permits for the Granville Green Series and summer events will be issued. No Petty Trade permits (\$300) will be issued to non-resident/non-rate-payer vendors until the by-law has been reviewed and reevaluated. Council discussed changes in the provincial and federal building codes to address the growth of small business and how it impacts assessment values and by-laws.

MOVED BY Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor B. Lewis “to set up a committee to review and reevaluate the Licenses and Permits By-Law within a period of 30 days. Only permits will be issued for the Granville Green Concert Series and seasonal events. No Petty Trades Permits will be issued to non-resident/non-rate-payer vendors until all aspects of the by-law have been reviewed and reevaluated”. MOTION CARRIED.

d) Summer Recess of Town Council

Council agreed to cancel the June 20 meeting of the Committee of the Whole and to recess for the summer months with meetings called on an as needed basis.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor B. Lewis and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “to recess for the summer months with meetings called on an as needed basis. The next scheduled meetings of Council are Tuesday, September 6 (Public Meeting) and Monday, September 19 (Committee of the Whole)”. MOTION CARRIED.

e) Mayor and CAO Updates

Mayor MacLean

FCM

Mayor MacLean attended the FCM annual conference in Winnipeg. He participated in a C.U.P.E. Workshop as a panelist to discuss the benefits and cost savings of last year’s snow removal by the Town’s Public Works Department and the potential to reduce spending in other areas by providing in house delivery of services as opposed to contracting services externally.

CAO Freimanis

i. Airport – Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau and CAO Freimanis

A recent Port Hawkesbury Airport meeting addressed topics to improve customer service at the airport as a result of increased traffic. Discussion included funding, upgrades and renovations, lighting issues, and the frequency of meetings. Mayor MacLean suggested inviting MP Rodger Cuzner to a September meeting to discuss airport issues, Strait of Canso development and other Council items.

ii. Unightly Premises

An order was served for the removal of unlicensed vehicles at 645 Church Street. The owner has 14 days to remove the vehicles and can appeal the order. CAO Freimanis will write to the Provincial Director of Planning, NS Department of Municipal Affairs regarding options for the Town to deal with repeat offenders to the Unightly Premises By-law.

MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “to support the recommendations of CAO M. Freimanis for options to deal with repeat offenders of the Unightly Premises By-law”. MOTION CARRIED.

iii. UNSM Spring Conference

The conference was well attended and included sessions on agriculture as a driver for economic development, the UARB and the mechanics in amalgamation, annexation and dissolution, and strategic spending.

f) May Travel Expense Report – Mayor and CAO

CAO, M. Freimanis reviewed the May 2016 Travel and Expense Report for the Mayor and CAO. The total expenses incurred by the Town for May were \$1,108.96. The report will be posted on the Town website.

10. Approved Additions

a) Police Advisory Committee

Deputy Mayor B. Lewis stated Sgt. Shelby Miller, Operations NCO, Inverness County District RCMP, will be moving to the Richmond County RCMP detachment. Sgt. Miller will advise Council of his replacement and make introductions accordingly.

b) St. Mark's United Church – 50th Anniversary

Deputy Mayor B. Lewis acknowledged the 50th Anniversary of St. Mark's United Church. The Town will send a letter of congratulations and best wishes.

c) Airport

Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau and CAO Freimanis addressed this issue in Agenda Item 9e.i.

MOVED by Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton "to recess In Camera at 8:50 p.m. to discuss the YMCA". MOTION CARRIED.

The Public Meeting reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

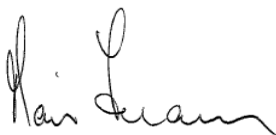
MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton "to accept in principle a one year agreement with the YMCA. The agreement will include the recommendations as discussed In Camera". MOTION CARRIED.

11. Adjournment

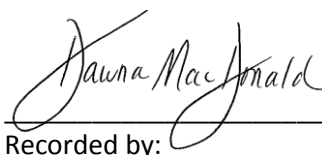
MOVED by Councilor Dr. T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton "to adjourn the Public Meeting at 9:25 p.m." MOTION CARRIED.

September 6, 2016

Date



Approved by:
Maris Freimanis, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer



Recorded by:
Dawna MacDonald