PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

Held Virtually
Minutes of Meeting
October 12, 2021
6pm

Present

Mayor Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Deputy Mayor, Blaine MacQuarrie
Councilor, Jason Aucoin
Councilor, Hughie MacDougall
Councilor, Mark MacIver
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle
EDPC, John Bain

1. Call to Order

A Special Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held virtually, Tuesday, October 12, 2021 and called to order by Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton at 6:00p.m.

2. Additions to Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by, Councilor, J. Aucoin, and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor, B. MacQuarrie, that the "THAT the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the Special Public Meeting Agenda as presented." MOTION CARRIED.

4. Elm Court Zoning

CAO, T. Doyle gave a historical review of the Elm Court lots 141-149 since the Town took ownership in 1977. He reviewed both the EDPC Staff report and Strait Engineering Staff Report that were completed in 2005. He provided Council with an updated estimated cost to fix the items mentioned in the 2005 Strait Engineering Report and the cost would roughly be \$87,000. He read the conclusion of the EDPC staff report that was presented to Council in May of 2021. He also read the letter that was received on September 14th from Minister Lohr.

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton opened the floor for discussions.

Councilor, M. MacIver had asked the question about appealing the letter?

CAO, T. Doyle confirmed that you cannot appeal the Minister's decision.

Councilor, M. MacIver would like to reapply with only rezoning 3 lots that were involved in drainage issues, as open space.

Councilor, J. Aucoin would not support any developments on lots 141,142, and 143.

Councilor, H. MacDougall agrees with Councilor, M. MacIver on reapplying to rezone only the 3 lots as open space.

Deputy Mayor, B. MacQuarrie had asked what reports were submitted in the application? He had stated that after reading the Minister's letter, that he had a sense they (the Minister) had very little context.

ED, J. Bain was asked to clarify the section of the Ministers letter regarding the Municipal Planning Strategy. J. Bain said there are five Statements of Provincial Interest; Drinking Water, Flood Risk Areas, Agricultural Lands, Infrastructure, and Housing. Any changes to the Municipal Planning Strategy would have to be reasonably consistent with all five of these statements and the Minister had found the last two were not. CAO, T. Doyle talked about the EDPC Staff Report from 2021 that had recommended that the re-designation of the lots be further investigated. If the wishes of Council were to reapply, then the first step would be for EDPC to complete their analysis as recommended.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councilor, J. Aucoin THAT the Town of Port Hawkesbury send a letter to Minister Lohr with context regarding the rezoning of the Elm Court lots 141-149 with a copy sent to MLA, Allan MacMaster. MOTION CARRIED.

Consensus of Council is to wait for a response from Minister Lohr before moving forward further Elm Court reviews.

5. By-Law Review

CAO, T. Doyle had reviewed the Council Code of Conduct Policy for Elected Officials that was circulated to Council prior to the meeting.

The consensus of Council to move forward for approval at the November Public Meeting of Council.

6. Approved Additions

There were no additions to the agenda.

7. Adjournment

MOVED by Deputy Mayor, B. MacQuarrie, and SECONDED by Councilor, M. MacIver, "that the Town of Port Hawkesbury adjourns the Special Public Meeting at 7:00p.m.". MOTION CARRIED.

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Approved by:

Terry Doyle, P.Eng., CAO

Recorded by: Melissa Warner

Communications and Administrative Officer