

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
Shannon Studio  
Minutes of Meeting  
March 21, 2023**

**Present**

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton  
Deputy Mayor, Hughie MacDougall  
Councillor, Mark MacIver  
Councillor, Jason Aucoin  
Councillor, Blaine MacQuarrie  
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle  
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen  
Director of Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Michelle Farrow  
Manager, Engineering and Public Works, Jason MacMillan  
Manager, Facilities and Operations, Gordie Snook

**Guests**

Colleen Morgan, Teacher, Strait Area Education Recreation Centre  
Gina MacDonald, Health Navigator, Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health

**1. Call to Order**

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held virtually and in the Shannon Studio Tuesday, March 21, 2023, and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton.

**2. Additions to Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED by Councillor, M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councillor, H. MacDougall “to approve the agenda as presented”. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Presentations**

Canadian History 11 Memorial Banner Program – Colleen Morgan

Colleen Morgan provided Council with a presentation on the Grade 11 Canadian History students current project regarding the Nationwide Memorial Banner Program. She gave a little information on how the idea of the banner project was formed. She talked about the process of the project and how she will be monitoring the project from beginning to the end. Students are required to conduct research on their selected veterans. The research includes studies on the battles the veterans were involved in, where they are buried, etc. The ask is that the Town helps support this initiative by assisting with the hanging of the banners during the month of November.

Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall mentioned that five streets in Port Hawkesbury are named after veterans.

Council gives their full support to the Grade 11 Canadian History Memorial Banner Project.

Cape Breton South Recruitment for Health – Gina MacDonald

Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health, Health Navigator, Gina MacDonald provided Council with a presentation. The presentation included a thorough overview of the past year of planning and events that have taken place. She reported that there is one new Doctor set to start this month at the Collaborative Clinic and two new Doctors set to begin in September of this year. She reviewed the funding outlook for 2023 and the small and large projects that have been approved (\$74,287) for the provincial funding proposal that was submitted in December of 2022. She reviewed the projected funding requirements for 2023 and the funding request from Council for 2023 is for \$30,000. There was a Q & A following the presentation.

## 5. Council Reports on Assigned Committees

### Councillor B. MacQuarrie

Strait Area Transit – SAT has had three board meetings recently. SAT has successfully hired two new drivers.

Eastern Counties Regional Library – A meeting was held on Thursday, February 23.

Planning Advisory Committee – The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23.

Port Hawkesbury Development - A meeting was held on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Councillor M. MacIver

Eastern District Planning Commission – A meeting is scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall

Strait Area Transit – There have been three SAT board meetings recently.

Festival of the Strait – The first kick off meeting was held on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Waterfront Advisory Committee – Meetings were held on February 27<sup>th</sup> and March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Port Hawkesbury Development – A meeting was held on Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Wall of Fame Committee – There have been several meetings recently.

### Councillor, J. Aucoin

There was a meeting with New Dawn Enterprises on February 22.

Planning Advisory Committee – a meeting was held on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and another meeting is scheduled for March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health – A meeting was held on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

A meeting was held in March with Inverness, Richmond, and Mulgrave counterparts regarding sharing a Bylaw Officer.

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton circulated her report to Council prior to the meeting.

## 6. CAO REPORTS

### i. ENGINEERING and PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Manager of Engineering and Public Works, J. MacMillan provided a detailed update on many of the projects and initiatives ongoing in his department including:

- Traffic Sign Report,
- ICIP AT Project Design Update,
- ICIP Water System Upgrades,

Manager, J. MacMillan notified Council that a tender is out for the demolition of the Pitt Street tank and will close on March 30<sup>th</sup>. The Tamarac Demolition has been awarded to Verhagen Demolition and the project is expected to begin mid-late April. Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall had asked about the streetlights along the road in Point Tupper toward the Mill. It was decided that H. MacDougall will identify the exact address the next time he is in the Municipal Office.

### ii. Facilities, Operations and Parks

Manager, Facilities Operations and Parks, G. Snook gave a brief presentation of the projects and initiatives in the Facilities, Operations and Parks department including:

- Civic Centre,
- Fields and Parks,
- Food Bank,
- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station,
- And Accessibility

Manager of Facilities, G. Snook updated Council on the Food Bank renovations to date. He notified Council that the historical signage has been installed apart from the sign that will be installed at the Justice Centre.



## MARKETING, RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

The following report was presented by Director, M. Farrow for Recreation, Marketing, and Tourism & Culture. The report included:

- Strait Area Trails,
- Recreation Programming,
- Upcoming Events,
- Shows,
- Grants,
- And Marketing and Communications

Director, M. Farrow talked about the successful March Break programs and events. Most of the offered programs had full attendance. She discussed the fall events for the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre. She also notified Council of the possibility of hosting dry land training sessions with former Moncton Wildcat, Dave Matthews.

### Other Business

#### i. Red Tribe Boxing – Councillor, J. Aucoin

Councillor, J. Aucoin talked about the upcoming Red Tribe Boxing Card being held May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton mentioned that Mr. Bernard has been extremely helpful with providing guidance for the event that she and Councillor Aucoin are planning for the Mi'kmaq Flag raising on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Consensus of Council was to move item forward to the April Public Meeting.**

#### ii. Marketing Levy By-Law – Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton

CAO, T. Doyle notified Council that a new draft of the Marketing Levy Bylaw has been circulated to Council. This draft was created by Destination Cape Breton's Lawyer. The By-law doesn't come into effect until November 2023. CAO, T. Doyle stated that he will be bringing this back to Council at the April Committee of the Whole, and he would like to have the Town Solicitor review the bylaw.

#### iii. Letter to Support the Repeal of Bill 225 – Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton reviewed a sample of the letter that was circulated in the agenda package from the Municipality of Colchester's Mayor regarding the repeal of Bill 225 that has impacted the Halifax Regional Municipality and their decision-making process. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton asked Council if they needed more time to review before deciding on this item. Councillor, B. MacQuarrie asked if Council could find out the benefits and impacts of the change to the Repeal of Bill 225. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton will follow up with HRM Council and the Province to find out how it exactly impacts them.

**The consensus of Council was to move item to the April Committee of the Whole.**

**iv. Strait Area Pool – Councillor, J. Aucoin**

Councillor, J. Aucoin asked if Council would consider inviting the Municipalities of the County of Richmond and Inverness to a meeting to discuss the financial support of the Strait Area Pool. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton mentioned asking Chief Administrative Officers to the meeting. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton will extend an invitation to Inverness and Richmond Councils. Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall talked about the history of the pool financials and expressed his concerns regarding the citizens of Port Hawkesbury funding the pool. Councillor, J. Aucoin stated that the reason for the meeting was to discuss the sustainability of the Strait Area Pool. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton would like to have a more equitable cost sharing scenario. Councillor, M. MacIver would like to meet with Councils separately and discuss several items. Councillor, B. MacQuarrie echoed Councillor, M. MacIver's idea to discuss other cost sharing items with Councils.

**Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton will reach out to both Wardens to pass on the interest to both Councils to seek potential dates for meetings.**

**v. Little River Watershed – CAO, T. Doyle**

CAO, T. Doyle mentioned to Council that this file has been moved forward as much as Town staff are able to at this point. He discussed the next steps, including requesting a letter be sent to the Minister of Public Works asking for Little River to be turned over to the Town of Port Hawkesbury or to develop an operating agreement.

**The consensus of Council is to move item forward to the April Public Meeting for ratification.**

**vi. Unamak'i Kinaps Baseball Funding Request – CAO, T. Doyle**

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the letter that was in the agenda package from Unamak'i Kinaps Baseball that will be playing in the Richmond Amateur Baseball Association.

**The consensus of Council was to discuss this request during budget discussions.**

**vii. Sports Wall of Fame Guidelines – Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall**

Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall mentioned there are a number of changes to the Sport Wall of Fame Guidelines and he asked for Council to review, and that he would be looking for a motion to approve the changes at the April Public Meeting.

**The consensus of Council was to move item forward to the April Public Meeting.**

**viii. Paqtnkek PowWow – Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton**

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton reviewed the upcoming PowWow event that will be held at STFX. University over two days April 1<sup>st</sup> & 2nd. She will reach out to the Chief to find out more information about the PowWow.

**8. Approved Additions**

There were no additions to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.


**9. Future Meetings**

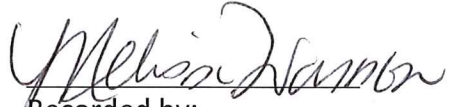
- Planning Advisory Committee Meeting March 23, 2023
- Public Meeting of Council March 7, 2023
- Committee of the Whole March 21, 2023

**10. Adjournment**

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, J. Aucoin to adjourn the March 21, 2023, meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 8:33 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.**

April 6 2023  
Date

  
Approved  
Terry Doyle, P.Eng  
Chief Administrative Officer

  
Recorded by:  
Melissa Warner  
Communications and  
Administrative Officer