

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Shannon Studio
Minutes of Meeting
April 18, 2023**

Present

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Deputy Mayor, Hughie MacDougall
Councillor, Mark MacIver
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

Regrets

Councillor, Jason Aucoin

Guests

Jim Mustard – Raising the Villages

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held virtually and in the Shannon Studio Tuesday, April 18, 2023, and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton.

2. Additions to Agenda

i. Strait Area Sting Challenger Baseball Program

3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, H. MacDougall “to approve the agenda as amended”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Presentations

Raising the Villages – Jim Mustard

J. Mustard provided Council with a presentation. The presentation described the Raising The Villages Cooperative Board members, Raising the Villages Cooperative Objectives, the importance of Raising The Villages and connecting mothers and families, and sensitive periods in early brain development. He talked about the connections to mental health, the Early Childhood Development Intervention, and the importance of creating a secure welcoming family. He indicated that the focus is on rural communities to provide services from youth to elders. He talked about the BOLD Centre in Baddeck and how it is now offering prenatal classes. The ask of Council is for a donation of \$1000.00.

5. Council Reports on Assigned Committees

Councillor B. MacQuarrie

Cape Breton South Recruitment for Health – A meeting was held on March 23.

Strait Area Transit – March 24th there was a conference call with Gregg Sewell with the Province of Nova Scotia and Warden Mombourquette around developing a fixed route in Richmond County. Strait Area Transit Board meetings were held on March 29th and April 14th.

Waterfront Advisory Committee – A meeting was held on April 17th.

Strait of Canso Offshore Wind Task Force – A meeting was held on April 11th.

Festival of the Strait – A meeting was held on March 29th the next meeting is scheduled for April 19th.

Port Hawkesbury Development – A meeting is scheduled for April 25th.

Councillor M. MacIver

Police Advisory – A meeting was held on April 11th.

Budget Meetings- A meeting was held on April 12th and April 18th.

Waterfront – A meeting was held on April 17th.

Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall

Strait Area Transit – A meeting as held on March 29th and April 14th.

Festival of the Strait – A meeting was held on March 29th. The tent has been ordered and the band has been secured.

Waterfront Advisory Committee – Meetings was held April 17th and the next meeting is scheduled for the third Monday in May.

Port Hawkesbury Development – A meeting is scheduled for April 25th.

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

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton

March 28th – She received an invite from the Municipality of the County of Guysborough to attend a meeting in Guysborough alongside CAO, Terry Doyle, Richmond County's CAO, Troy MacCulloch and Warden Mombourquette, and Economic Development Officer, Martin Thomson to discuss new developments.

April 13 – Community of Care Gala – Cape Breton South Recruitment for Health.

Techsploration on April 14th – She participated in techsploration at the Strait Area Campus which is held for young women from grades 9-12 that pose an interest in technology and sciences.

April 17 & 18 – Nova Scotia Power Smart Energy Conference hosted at the Westin. Where she participated on a panel to discuss Actioning Community strategies for Net Zero with Halifax Regional Municipality's Mayor Mike Savage, and Mayor of Bridgewater, David Mitchell. She was also on a panel to discuss Offshore possibilities around Marine infrastructure. She noted that she will send along anything missed and circulate to council.

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,
- Public Works
- ICIP AT Project Design Update,
- ICIP Water System Upgrades,

Manager, J. MacMillan mentioned that there were detailed traffic reports in the agenda package. Public works staff have been working on cleaning catch basins. He is currently working through the final review of the Annual system report. Public Works building design continues with Archibald and Fraser and Public Works staff to fully understand the design input and process of the new Public Works building. He provided Council with an update on Request for Quotation (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP).

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,
- Summer Students,
- And Accessibility

Manager of Facilities, G. Snook updated Council on the Food Bank renovations to date. Local Quad County U13AAA team hosted Atlantic's and was well received. There is still no response on the Summer Student Application. Airport Committee paving improvements have been approved by the Airport Committee and roof is set to be replaced soon.

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 currently assisting the Trails Association with a summer job student Labour and Education. Spring programming has begun, and registration began April 12. She will be posting the summer student positions soon. She discussed the upcoming events. She gave a brief update on the website revamp project.

Finance

Director, E. MacEachen notified Council that the tax bills will be out soon and she will continue to work through the budgetary process.

Other Business

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

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton asked to defer this item until the next meeting.

ii. Volleyball Cape Breton Funding Request – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the request that was received from Volleyball Cape Breton. Melanie MacDonald is coaching three teams from this region. The request is for \$200.

Consensus of Council is to move to Public Meeting held on May.

iii. Heavy Garbage Collection – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the Heavy Garbage Collection for 2023 which is scheduled to take place May 15-19th this year.

Deputy Mayor, H. MacDougall asked about the Christmas trees at the ballfield. G. Snook had provided an update that the chipping machine was on loan and had malfunctioned twice. Staff are scheduled to get another chipping machine.

iv. Fibromyalgia Awareness Day – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the request to light the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre for the whole night of May 12th. T. Doyle had mentioned that there can be social media posts around the meaning of the purple light.

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

v. RCMP Retroactive Cost Resolution – Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton reviewed the potential resolution that had come from Federation of Canadian Municipalities. She discussed the importance having Councils input on decisions that heavily impact the Town such as the RCMP retroactive costs. Councillor, B. MacQuarrie asked to have the information filled in for the cost estimate. Director, E. MacEachen confirmed that she didn't have the final totals for this year yet.

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

8. Approved Additions

i. Strait Area Challenger Baseball

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the request from Dean Marchand the Coordinator with Challenger Baseball. Dean provided a presentation to Council last year. The program has advanced, and the ask is \$1,000.

Consensus of Council was to move item forward to the next budget meeting.

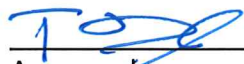
9. Future Meetings

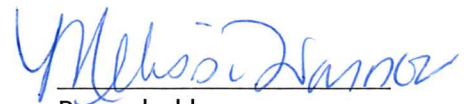
- Public Meeting of Council May 2, 2023
- Committee of the Whole May 16, 2023

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Councillor, M. MacIver and SECONDED by Deputy, Mayor, H. MacDougall to adjourn the April 18, 2023, meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 7:58 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

May 4 2023
Date


Approved
Terry Doyle, P. Eng
Chief Administrative Officer


Recorded by:
Melissa Warner
Communications and
Administrative Officer