

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Shannon Studio
Minutes of Meeting
October 18, 2022**

Present

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

Regrets

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton

Guests

Bear Head Energy – Paul MacLean

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held in the Shannon Studio Tuesday October 18, 2022, and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Deputy Mayor, J. Aucoin.

2. Additions to Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

3. Approval of Agenda

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

4. Presentations

Bear Head Energy – Paul MacLean

Country Manager, P. MacLean provided Council with an update on the Bear Head Energy project to date. The presentation included an introduction of the Bear Head Energy management team, history and location of the project, an overview of how green hydrogen is produced, and a project schedule. There was a Q&A period following the presentation. P. MacLean had stated that Bear Head Energy is currently working with the Nova Scotia Community College’s, Strait Area Campus on a Memorandum of Understanding to train students for the construction phase as well as operations.

MOVED by Councillor, H. MacDougall and SECONDED by Councillor, M. MacIver “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury Council will have a 5-minute recess.” MOTION CARRIED.

5. Council Reports on Assigned Committees

Deputy Mayor J. Aucoin

Eastern District Planning Commission – A meeting was held on September 22.

Housing Pilot Program – A meeting was held with New Dawn Enterprise on October 11th.

Parks Recreation and Active Living Committee – A meeting was held on October 12th.

Strait Richmond Housing Coalition – A meeting was held on October 12th.

Councillor H. MacDougall

Housing Pilot – A meeting with New Dawn Enterprise, the Strait Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, and the Town Council and Staff was held at the 1/3 Bear Head on October 11th to discuss the next steps for the housing pilot project.

Audit Committee – A meeting was held on October 11th.

Parks Recreation and Active Living Committee – A meeting was held on October 12th.

Landrie Lake Board Meeting – was held on September 13th.

Police Advisory Committee – A meeting was held on September 13th.

Councillor B. MacQuarrie

Housing Pilot – A meeting was held on October 11th with New Dawn Enterprise and The Strait Area Chamber.

Councillor M. MacIver

Eastern District Planning Commission –

Police Advisory Committee – A meeting was held on September

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton

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

6. CAO REPORTS

i. FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

The General Manager, Facilities, Parks and Operations, G. Snook provided a report on the many initiatives ongoing in his department including;

- Civic Centre,
- Fields and Parks,
- Food Bank,
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations,
- And Accessibility

General Manager, G. Snook complimented staff on the short turn around for the Celtic Colours event. He had also noted that the new Zamboni is set to arrive in November.

ii. **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 had praised the Strait Area Trails crew. The trails had suffered some damage from Hurricane Fiona, and the crew has been working hard to repair. She had stated that the Town has applied to host pre-season IIHF games in December, she is still waiting to hear back from the application and expect to hear by November. The 2022 Christmas parade will be held on Sunday December 4th.

iii. **FINANCE**

Director, E. MacEachen had provided Council with an overview of the updates from the Finance Department which included:

- Marketing Levy Consultations,
- Audit Committee Meeting,
- Mandatory Provincial Reporting,
- Shared IT Project,
- And Canoe Procurement

Director, E. MacEachen noted that Council just approved the consolidated and non-consolidated financial statements at the Special Public Meeting prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting based on the recommendation that came from the Audit Committee. She had notified Council of the upcoming email migration that will take place over the weekend of October 22nd.

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,
- Funding Applications,
- Project Updates,
- Public Works Highlights,
- And Public Works Activity Summary

Manager, J. MacMillan had updated Council on some Public Works highlights such as sidewalk replacement, delivery of the new backhoe attachment, request for quotation for trucking service for hauling bulk street salt, 2022 Street light audit, 2022 fall hydrant flushing and safety training courses that the staff have recently completed.

Other Business

i. Committee Recommendations – Councillor H. MacDougall

Councillor, H. MacDougall had reviewed the recommendations that were coming forth from the Special Committees of Council meeting that was held on Wednesday October 12th. The Special Committees of Council Members were Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton, Councillor, M. MacIver and Councillor, H. MacDougall.

CAO, T. Doyle had asked if staff can advertise for Committees of Council volunteers.

The consensus of Council was for M. Warner to poll Council on availability and set a date to review Committee appointments and for an advertisement to go out in November for Committee volunteers.

ii. Seniors Dinner – CAO, T. Doyle

The consensus of Council was to move item forward to Public Meeting of Council on November 8th.

8. Approved Additions

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


9. Future Meetings


- Public Meeting November 8th, 2022
- Committee of the Whole November 15, 2022

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, M. MacIver to adjourn the October 18, 2022 meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 8:27.p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

December 22 2022
Date


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


Recorded by:
Melissa Warner
Communications and
Administrative Officer