

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Shannon Studio
Minutes of Meeting
April 16, 2024**

Present

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Deputy Mayor, Mark MacIver
Councillor, Blaine MacQuarrie
Councillor, Hughie MacDougall
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle
Manager, Engineering and Public Works, Jason MacMillan (virtually)
Manager, Marketing, Recreation, Tourism, & Culture, Michelle Farrow (virtually)

Regrets

Councillor, Jason Aucoin
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen
Manager, Facilities and Operations, Gordie Snook

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held in the Shannon Studio, Tuesday, April 16, 2024, and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton.

2. Additions to Agenda

- Policing Issues – Councillor, H. MacDougall

3. Approval of Agenda

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

4. Presentations

The presentation is deferred to another date.

5. Council Reports on Assigned Committees

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton will circulate her report via email once she has available.

Deputy Mayor, M. MacIver

An Eastern District Planning Commission Board Meeting was held on April 3, 2024

A Police Advisory Meeting was held April 16th

A Waterfront Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2024

Councillor, H. MacDougall

Festival of the Strait Committee Meeting kickoff was held on April 10th. The festival will be held one weekend in July from 4th to the 7th. The committee reviewed a list of events.

Port Hawkesbury Development Committee meeting was held on April 9th.

Waterfront Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2024.

Councillor B. MacQuarrie

There was a Strait Richmond Housing Matters Coalition meeting held on March 20.

A Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health meeting was held on March 28.

A Strait of Canso Offshore Wind Task Force meeting was held on April 9th.

A Port Hawkesbury Development Committee Meeting was held on April 9th.

6. CAO REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer CAO, T. Doyle provided Council with an overview of the Departmental reports including:

- Facilities and Operations
- Recreation, Marketing, Tourism and Culture,
- Engineering and Public Works,
- And Finance

He provided Council with some highlights from each department. In Facilities and Operations, the emergency shelter project for the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre is underway. Staff met with the electrical contractor for associated work and improvements on the building. He indicated that Spring Recreation programming registration has begun, and programs are starting soon. He reviewed some of the upcoming Spring events. The Public Works building demolition has taken place and the steel is now gone. The design is near completion and tender is going out soon. Sidewalk and accessibility improvements design is awarded to Strait Engineering. Finance an RFP was issued for Audit services for 5-year period, and it was recommended by the audit commit that Council select Grant Thornton. A motion will be presented for consideration at the May Public Meeting. There will be some amendments to the Inter-municipal Agreement for the Strait IT agreement and will also come forward a to the May Public Meeting.

Deputy Mayor, M. MacIver noted that it is nice to see progress with the Public Works building.

7. Other Business

i. Poverty Impact on Health & Wellbeing – Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton shared the presentation that was included in the agenda packages on Councillor Aucoin's behalf for information purposes. Councillor, B. MacQuarrie mention that the presentation came from the Strait Richmond Housing Coalition.

ii. Leaside Society – Facility Dog Support Program – Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the request from Leaside Society and the suggestion was to consider and discuss the request through the budgetary process.

iii. Municipal Election – M. Warner

Communications and Administrative/Returning Officer, M. Warner provided Council with a presentation reviewing some items to consider for the upcoming Municipal Election. She indicated that the next election is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2024. She reviewed voting options and her findings of other Municipal Units across the province with Council. She shared some statistics of the last election and voter turnout across the province with Council. She provided Council with a sample of an electronic voting kiosk and took them through a demo of the electronic voting ballot process. She provided Council with a staff proposal. CAO, T. Doyle noted that staff would like to prepare a By-law and bring forward a recommendation to the May Public Meeting if Council was in in a consensus.

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

iv. Residential Curbside Cleanup – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the Residential Curbside Cleanup for 2024. Councillor, H. MacDougall asked about the weekly heavy garbage collection that takes place in the Town of Mulgrave. CAO, T. Doyle noted that that service is provided by the Municipality of the County of Guysborough.

v. CBREN Activity Report – CAO, T. Doyle

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton stated that if Council wishes they can invite a member of the Cape Breton Partnership come to present the report. CAO, T. Doyle noted that Martin Thomsen has moved on to another role as the Manager of Energy Services and the Economic Development Officer competition is in process.

8. Approved Additions

Policing Issue – Councillor, H. MacDougall

Councillor, H. MacDougall noted that at the April Police Advisory Committee Meeting, that each municipality had provided a list of items to Staff Sargent D. Morin of items they wanted addressed within their municipalities. He asked if Council would compile a list of policing priorities that could be shared with the Staff Sargent. Communications and Administrative Officer, M. Warner can start an email thread to start compiling a list.

9. Future Meetings

- Public Meeting of Council May 7, 2024
- Committee of the Whole May 21, 2024

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Councillor, M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie the Committee of the Whole adjourned at 7:43p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

May 8, 2024



Date

Approved
Terry Doyle, P. Eng
Chief Administrative Officer

Recorded by:
Melissa Warner
Communications and
Administrative Officer