

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Shannon Studio  
Minutes of Meeting  
February 18, 2025**

**Present**

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton  
Deputy Mayor, Iaian Langley  
Councillor, Todd Barrett  
Councillor, Paula Hart  
Councillor, Blaine MacQuarrie  
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle  
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen (virtually)  
Director of Marketing, Recreation, Tourism and Culture, Michelle Farrow (virtually)  
Acting Manager of Engineering and Public Works, Sajin John

**Regrets**

Manager of Facilities, Operations, and Parks, Gordie Snook

**1. Call to Order**

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in the Shannon Studio and virtually on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton.

**2. Additions to Agenda**

- i. Autism Society Request – Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton
- ii. Use of Jake Brakes throughout Town – Councillor, P. Hart

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, P. Hart  
“That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves, the February 18, 2025, Public Meeting Agenda as amended”. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Gallery Presentations**

There were no gallery presentations.

**5. Acknowledgements**

There were no acknowledgements for the month of February

**6. Approval of Council Minutes**

- i. Public Meeting of Council – January 7, 2025  
There were no errors or omissions.
- ii. Special Public Meeting of Council – January 15, 2025  
There were no errors or omissions.

**7. Business Arising from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**8. Council Committee Reports**

Tandem Dump Truck

**MOVED by Councillor, P. Hart and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury increase the previously approved budget for the tandem dump truck by \$35,000 to be financed through the operating reserve.” MOTION CARRIED.**

2025 Female u15AAA Whitecaps Funding Request

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, P. Hart “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve a \$200 donation to the u15AAA Whitecaps.” MOTION CARRIED.**

Request Girl Guides of Canada

**MOVED by Councillor, T. Barrett and SECONDED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Girl Guides of Canada request to light the Wave or Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre entrance Blue on February 22nd for World Thinking Day.” MOTION CARRIED.**

2025 Flag Raising Schedule

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the 2025 Flag Raising Schedule as presented at the January 21 Committee of the Whole Meeting.” MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, P. Hart “THAT the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the January 21, 2025, Committee of the Whole Minutes as presented.” MOTION CARRIED.**

**9. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**10. Council Reports on Assigned Committees**

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

Deputy Mayor, Iaian Langley

Landrie Lake Water Utility – There has been no meetings since last month.

Growing Port Hawkesbury – The first meeting has yet to be scheduled.

February 4<sup>th</sup> – There was an Open House held in the Shannon Studio.

February 5<sup>th</sup> – Met with Superport Marine.

February 6<sup>th</sup>– Met with potential developers that are interested in developing in the area.

February 6<sup>th</sup> – Attended an update with the Department of Natural Resources

February 12<sup>th</sup> – Travelled to Halifax for the Powering Progress: A Conversation on Nova Scotia's Offshore Wind Vision hosted Marine Renewables.

February 14<sup>th</sup> – Participated in a call from a firm that is interested in doing business in Port Hawkesbury

Councillor, T. Barrett

February 4<sup>th</sup> – There was an Open House Advisory Committee Meetings. The session was well attended.

Councillor P. Hart

Strait Area Transit was held on Friday January 31<sup>st</sup>. The meeting focused on budgeting and objectives.

Code of Conduct Training – was in attendance for a session held on February 3<sup>rd</sup> that will complement the online sessions that are coming up.

February 4<sup>th</sup> – Open House Advisory Committee Meeting

Councillor, B. MacQuarrie

Soul's Harbour Soup Kitchen Meeting was held on February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre in attendance with the Mayor members of the Port Hawkesbury Food Bank and Department of Community Services.

Eastern Counties Regional Library – There is a meeting being held on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Deputy Mayor, I. Langley asked about the membership of the Executive of the Offshore Wind Task Force. Who comprises the executive of the Offshore wind Taskforce –The Mayor explained that Martin Thomsen, The CEO of the Partnership, two support staff of the Cape Breton Partnership, the Mayor and Warden of Municipality of the County of Richmond.

## **11. CAO Reports.**

The Department Reports were circulated in the agenda package. The Reports included in the package were:

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

CAO, T. Doyle, noted that detailed reports have been circulated in the packages. Council may reach out to each department head should they have any questions.

## **12. Correspondence**

### Municipal Affairs and Housing -Greater Resource Development

Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton reviewed the request from Municipal Affairs and asked if Council would like to table for further discussion. Mayor B, Chisholm-Beaton would like to know more about it to know the impact before acting on the item. **This item will be tabled until the March Public Meeting.**

### Emergency Management Minister – Emergency Response

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the correspondence from the Emergency Management Minister. He noted that when the Provincial Emergency Control Centre is activated to Level 2 the Municipal ECC is to be opened with staff onsite. Information is being rolled out by the province. The immediate take away is that the full-scale activation will be opened more often.

### Inverness County Home Support

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton, reviewed the request from Inverness County Home Support. She suggested that we advertise for a community representative to sit on the Inverness County Home Support on behalf of the town.

**MOVED by Councillor, P. Hart and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury will advertise for a Town Representative to sit on the Inverness County Home Support Society on the Town’s behalf.” MOTION CARRIED.**

### Naomi Society – Coldest Night of the Year

The Naomi Society Coldest Night of the Year is being held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor, I. Langley and SECONDED by P. Hart That the Town of Port Hawkesbury provide in kind contributions to the Naomi Society for the coldest night of the year Event.” MOTION CARRIED.**

## **13. Proclamations/Resolutions**

There were no proclamations or resolutions.

## **14. Other Business**

### i. Council Expenses, CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle, gave an update on Council Expenses for the months of January. He reminded the gallery that Council expenses are posted on the Town of Port Hawkesbury website.

### ii. Council Committee Appointments

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton wanted to thank all members of the community that came out to the open house and collaborate with Council and staff. CAO, T. Doyle reviewed each Advisory Committee membership.

#### Accessibility Advisory Committee

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Accessibility, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Membership as presented. MOTION CARRIED.**

#### Financial Audit

**MOVED by Councilor P. Hart and SECONDED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Financial Audit Advisory Committee Membership as presented.” MOTION CARRIED.**

#### Growing Port Hawkesbury

**MOVED by I. Langley and SECONED by P, Hart “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Growing Port Hawkesbury Advisory Committee Membership as presented.” MOTION CARRIED**

#### Community Development

**MOVED by T. Barrett and Seconded by P. Hart “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Community Development Advisory Committee membership as presented.” MOTION CARRIED.**

#### Planning Advisory

**MOVED by I. Langley and SECONDED by T, Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Planning Advisory Committee membership as presented.” MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury send out letters to the past committee members and notify them of the new committee structure and thank them for their time served.” MOTION CARRIED.**

iii. Sports Wall of Fame

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor, I. Langley and SECONDED by Councillor, P. Hart “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve Councillor Todd Barrett as the Town representative on the Sport Wall of Fame Committee.” MOTION CARRIED.**

**15. Approved Additions**

Autism Society

CAO, T. Doyle, reviewed the request from Autism Society. Deputy Mayor, I. Langley asked for clarification on the request as two organizations are listed in the email.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor, I. Langley and SECONDED by Councillor, P. Hart “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury donate the Bear Head room to the Autism society subject to clarification that the second charity is registered.” MOTION CARRIED.**

Jake Brakes – Councillor, P. Hart

CAO, T. Doyle noted that the jake brakes are not a bylaw issue. Reeves Street is a provincial highway and applicable rules around “Jake Brakes” under the Motor Vehicle Act. He indicated that enforcement is up to RCMP and they are actively enforcing the law. In the past they have put on campaigns before and have asked for signage which is up to the Department of Public Works to provide the signage. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton, noted that it has been a long-standing issue for residents on Trunk 4 and Reeves Street, she has connected residents to the RCMP directly. RCMP can fine the truckers that are using the jake brakes. CAO, T. Doyle noted that D. Morin was by the office late last week to give an update on the issue. Councillor, P. Hart, noted that she is the voice of the community members that live there. Councillor, T. Barrett noted that it has been a high priority topic at the Police Advisory meetings.

**16. Future Meetings**

The future meetings of the Town Council are scheduled as follows:

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| i. Public Meeting of Council, | Tuesday March 4, 2025, at 7pm   |
| ii. Committee of the Whole-   | Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 7pm |

**17. Public Question Period**

There was a question about the accessibility of the boat tie offs at the Port Hawkesbury Pier/ Wharf.

CAO, T. Doyle, noted that staff can follow up with the Strait of Canso Superport who are responsible for the wharf.

Town Resident M. Howlett. Made a comment on snow removal on Napean Street after everyone has been cleaned out. Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton, noted that staff will follow up on the issue.

**18. Adjournment**

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett  
“that the Town Port Hawkesbury Public Meeting of Council adjourned at 7:56p.m.”  
MOTION CARRIED.**

**March 4, 2025**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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



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Recorded by:  
Melissa Warner  
Communications and  
Administration Officer