

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Shannon Studio  
Minutes of Meeting  
May 6, 2025**

**Present**

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton  
Deputy Mayor, Iaian Langley  
Councillor, Todd Barrett  
Councilor, Paula Hart  
Councillor, Blaine MacQuarrie  
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle  
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen (virtually)

**Guests**

Destination Cape Breton – CEO, Terry Smith  
Leeside Supportive Housing Initiative – Dan Fougere, Susan Noble, Sheri Taylor

**1. Call to Order**

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in the Shannon Studio and virtually on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton.

**2. Additions to Agenda**

- Municipal Innovation Funding Application – CAO, T. Doyle

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett  
“THAT the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve May 6, 2025, Public Meeting  
Agenda as amended.” MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Gallery Presentations**

Destination Cape Breton – CEO, T. Smith

CEO, T. Smith provided Council with a presentation on the initiatives for Destination Cape Breton. The presentation included a review of the Mandate, Target Audience, Visitor Origins, The CB Island Motivators, Marketing Levy, tourism results for 2024 including the forecasts, Vistbcapebreton.com sessions etc., Room nights sold, and Tourism revenues. Mr. Smith also reviewed the 2025/2026 outlook that included the 2024-2027 goals: Enhancing the Brands, Increasing Length of Stay, Elevating the visitor experience, and Sustainable and Inclusive. There was a Q&A following the presentation. Councillor, B. MacQuarrie asked about the snowmobile markets and asked about lack of cell service in some of the remote areas of the highlands. Deputy Mayor, I. Langley asked about, an accommodation needs assessment report and stated that the Town is prime example for enhancement. He asked if there were any studies available so that Town Council and staff could access that information for developers. He also asked about attracting boaters and enhancing facilities. Mr. Smith noted that Marine tourism is at the starting stages.

Councillor, T. Barrett noted growing Port Hawkesbury as a destination and looking forward to the future. Councillor, B. MacQuarrie asked about the Gateway to Port Hawkesbury. CEO, T. Smith indicated that there has been no movement on that project.

### Leeside Supportive Housing – Susan Noble

Board Chair Susan Noble & Executive Director Sheri Taylor provided Council with a presentation. The presentation reviewed the vision of the Supportive Services Housing Campus. Mrs. Noble reviewed that the Leeside Society has stretched far beyond its original domestic violence roots and has expanded their services that include emergency shelter, counselling for trauma and addiction, parenting and job readiness, children's play therapy, outreach assistance and the most recent addition of men's support group. Ms. Nole explained the need to consolidate all Leeside's services under one roof as the outreach teams are currently scattered in rented offices. She identified the concepts of the project: A new larger Transition house with expanded emergency shelter and 24/7 staff space, An Outreach and resource Centre, purpose -built supportive Second Stage Housing, Community Garden and Green Space, Future Partner Lots.

She reviewed the desired land that Leeside is seeking from the Town. She noted that the project is fully aligned with Federal and Provincial Funding and Noted that they will apply for all provincial and federal funding as well as CMHC funding. She noted that Leeside currently employs 22 staff and are expanding services for outreach in Inverness and Richmond counties. There was a Q&A following the presentation:

Deputy Mayor, I. Langley asked about how often folks are turned away. Director, S. Taylor noted that the problem is across the province with emergency shelters. Mayor Chisholm-Beaton extended congratulations on such a great vision.

**The ask of Council is to have a conversation to secure a piece of land they are looking to purchase.**

CAO, T. Doyle noted that we are going through an urban planning review currently and that parcel of land is presently under review. He noted Council and staff are supportive to carry on a conversation and set up a meeting to discuss land options.

## **5. Acknowledgements**

Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton made the following acknowledgements for the month of May: She asked for a moment of silence in memory of the former Mayor William Joseph MacLean and extended her deepest condolences to the MacLean family.

- Asian Heritage Month
- Canadian Jewish Heritage Month
- Polish Heritage Month
- May 5<sup>th</sup> was Red Dress Day
- May 11 – Mother's Day
- May 12<sup>th</sup> International Nurses Day
- May 17-International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia
- May 24- Victoria Day

**6. Approval of Council Minutes**

- i. Public Meeting of Council – April 1, 2025  
There were no errors or omissions.

**7. Business Arising from Minutes**

There was no business arising

**8. Council Committee Reports**

**i. Report from Committee of the Whole**

**Fibromyalgia Request**

**MOVED** by Councillor B. MacQuarrie and **SECONDED** by Councillor, P. Hart  
“That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the request to light a facility purple on May 12th in support of Fibromyalgia.” **MOTION CARRIED.**

**EDPC Staff Appointments**

**MOVED** by Councillor, T. Barrett and **SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor, I. Langley  
“That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the EDPC Staff Appointments as presented at the April 15th Committee of the Whole Meeting.” **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ii. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**MOVED** by Deputy I. Langley and **SECONDED** by Councillor, P. Hart “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury Approve the April 15, 2025, Committee of the Whole Minutes” **MOTION CARRIED.**

**9. Business Arising from Minutes**

There was no Business arising from the minutes.

**10. Motions from In-Camera Session**

There were no motions coming from the In Camera Session.

**11. Correspondence**

CAO T. Doyle/ Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton reviewed the following correspondence was included in the agenda package for information purposes:

- i. Attorney General Justice – Adapting the Additional Officer Program
- ii. Municipal Affairs & Housing – Re-profiling of the BSP & CPW Programs
- iii. Municipal Affairs & Housing – Fire Records Management System

**12. Proclamations/Resolutions**

- i. Lyme Disease Awareness Month

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “THAT the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Lyme Disease Proclamation as presented. MOTION CARRIED.**

ii. Gaelic Nova Scotia Month

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor, I. Langley and SECONDED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the Gaelic Nova Scotia Month Proclamation as presented. MOTION CARRIED.**

**13. Other Business**

i. Council Expenses, CAO, T. Doyle

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

**Mayor, B. Chisholm-Beaton declares conflict and left the room at 8:08pm**

**Chair has been assumed by the Deputy Mayor at 8:08pm.**

ii. Vending Policy – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the amended Vending Fee Policy and indicated that notice of policy change was given to Council at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole Meeting. The Policy amendment came from a motion from the Bylaw and Policy meeting that was held on April 1, 2025.

**MOVED by Councillor, P. Hart and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the amended Vending Fee Policy with a formal review conducted after 12 months.” MOTION CARRIED.**

**Mayor, B. Mayor Chisholm-Beaton returned and resumed as the Chair at 8:09pm.**

iii. Occupational Health and Safety Policy – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle asked to defer to the May Committee of the Whole Meeting and the policy can be reviewed at that meeting.

**The consensus of Council is to defer to Committee of the Whole Meeting.**

iv. Intergovernmental Relations – Deputy Mayor, I. Langley

Deputy Mayor, I. Langley noted that he would like to send a letter to the new Member of Parliament Jaime Battiste and the outgoing Member of Parliament Mike Kelloway to update the incoming MP on the files that the Town and former MP Mike Kelloway have been working on.

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “MP Jaime Battiste and outgoing MP Mike Kelloway for a transfer of files that Town was working on prior to the Federal Election.” MOTION CARRIED.**

v. Strait IT Inter- Municipal Agreement – Director, E. MacEachen

Director, E. MacEachen indicated that the intermunicipal agreement was circulated to Council April 1<sup>st</sup> Public Meeting. After Committee of the Whole, she highlighted the changes and circulated to Council via email.

**MOVED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor, I. Langley “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approve the amended Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Strait Municipal Technology Services Association.” MOTION CARRIED.**

vi. Naming of Facilities – CAO, T. Doyle

CAO, T. Doyle indicated that staff was tasked with studying policies, and procedures for the past Council and Director of Recreation M. Farrow had completed some work on this. He indicated that staff would like to take back a recommendation to the next Bylaw and Policy meeting and develop around Naming dedication and sponsorship meeting.

**14. Approved Additions**

- Municipal Innovation Funding Application

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the program that the Town has partnered with the Municipality of the County of Inverness. The Municipal Services Study reviewed the project funding. Deputy Mayor, I. Langley noted for the gallery’s benefit, that Council has heard a more in-depth discussion about the project at the earlier Budget meeting.

**MOVED by Councillor, P. Hart and SECONDED by Councillor, B. MacQuarrie “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the submission of one application to the Municipal Innovation Program for the Port Hawkesbury & Port Hastings Municipal Services Study.” MOTION CARRIED.**

**15. Future Meetings**

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

- |                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| i. Committee of the Whole | Tuesday, May 20, 2025 |
| ii. Public Meeting        | Tuesday, June 3, 2025 |

**16. Public Question Period**

There were no questions from the gallery.

**17. Adjournment**

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor, I. Langley and SECONDED by Councillor, T. Barrett “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury adjourns May 6, 2025, Public Meeting at 8:26p.m.” MOTION CARRIED.**

June 3, 2025

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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