

MAHONE BAY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – MAY 9, 1919

The first meeting of the Town Council of Mahone Bay met at Penney's Hall this date at 9 o'clock P.M., shortly after receiving the oath of office administered by Justice Holloway and Rhuland.

Moved by Councillor Smith; seconded by Councillor Cochrane that Council McLean act as Secretary pro tem, in the interim awaiting the appointment of a Town Clerk – Carried.

After calling the meeting to order, His Worship, the Mayor in addressing Council set forth a standard of action which he would like to see maintained throughout all our business relations. He then asked for the first order of business, the appointment of a Town Clerk, as previously understood, by Tender, and suggested asking for applications.

Move by Councillor Begin – Public notice be put up asking for tenders for the position of Town Clerk.

A short discussion concerning the appoint of Clerk ensued, but the Mayor reminded the Council that Councillor Begin's motion was not seconded and asked that the matter be brought formally before the Council, whereupon Councillor Cochrane seconded the motion.

A letter was then produced and laid on the table by Councillor Smith, which the Mayor read as follows:

To His Worship The Mayor and Councillors of Town of Mahone Bay,
Gentlemen:

I beg to apply for the position of Town Clerk at a salary of Eight hundred dollars per year. If appointed, I agree to demand and collect all rates and accounts, excepting those on warrant, which I think would be few, thus doing away with the services of a policeman by day.

Mahone Bay, N.S. sg'd Orren S. Joudrey
May 9/19

Councillor Begin thought this application was premature, and therefore not in order, he being of the opinion that it was the intention of this Council to call for applications as he knew of one or more persons who intended placing a tender but refrained from doing so until such time as tenders should be called.

Councillor Smith thought it was time to get down to business and appoint the Clerk. Councillor Cochrane said he did not know of Mr. Joudrey's application coming in to-night, but he was prepared to uphold it now that it was here and saw nothing to be gained by delay. Councillor Begin said it seemed to him that this whole matter was pre-arranged and considered it unfair. The Mayor said he

wanted to hear from all the Councillors. Council McLean said he had no objection to bring against Mr. Joudrey's application, but he considered it unfair to any other intending applicant to decide to-night without giving all a fair chance to tender – he regretted that the salary asked by Mr. J. was read, as it might have a tendency to prejudice his cause unless strict secrecy were maintained.

Councillor Smith read a letter received by Mr. Joudrey bearing upon the subject and speaking in a disparaging way of the Clerkship being vested in the hands of a merchant.

Councillor Penney thought it should not be in the hands of such a man and he felt Mr. Joudrey was the right man, being young and energetic and thought we should decide to-night.

Councillor Fancy also thought that there should be no more delay as it was high time the council took over the School affairs.

Mayor Ernst regretted that so many of the Council seemed determined to close the matter to-night and expressed himself in no uncertain terms, he, like the majority understood this meeting was not for the appointment, but to ask for tenders for Town Clerk. He asked Councillor Begin to add to his motion that applications be in the committee's hand by 6 o'clock P.M. Tuesday the 13th inst. The vote resulted as follows:

For: Councillor's Begin; McLean

Against: Councillor's Smith; Penney, Cochrane and Fancy

Councillor Begin asked that the Secretary record his objection, not to Mr. Joudrey but to the procedure which he considered most unfair to the public.

Mr. Joudrey's application was read and a vote taken which resulted in his election as Town Clerk, as per application. The secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Joudrey.

Moved by Councillor Fancy; seconded by Councillor Penney: The Mayor interview Mr. Holloway re securing his services re organization etc. and tender him the position of stipendiary. -Carried.

On motion Councillor's Begin and Smith were appointed to select a suitable building for the Clerk's office and Council Chamber and report at next meeting Tuesday the 13th inst. In Penney's Hall at 8 o'clock P.M. Council adjourned

A.L. Ernst
Mayor

W.D. McLean
Secretary, Pro tem