



The Regular Meeting of Town Council for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday May 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers and broadcast via YouTube live.

Present:

Mayor David Devenne
Deputy Mayor F. Kangata
Councillor P. Carver
Councillor J. Feeney
Councillor S. Lohnes-Croft
Councillor R. Nowe
Councillor K. Wilson
CAO, D. Heide
Town Clerk, K. Munroe

Absent:

Deputy CAO, E. Levy (with regrets)

Gallery:

Online & in-person gallery

Land Acknowledgement

Let us begin by acknowledging that we are gathered today in Mi'kma'ki. The ancestral, present and future territory of the Mi'kmaw people. Today, we gather with the intent followed by the living Peace and Friendship Treaties - with respect, cooperation and coexistence.

1. Agenda

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT the agenda be approved as amended to add notice of motion under new business." Motion carried.

2. Minutes

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, "THAT the minutes of the April 19, 2024 special meeting of Council be approved as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT the minutes of the April 25, 2024 regular meeting of Council be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT the minutes of the April 26, 2024 special meeting of Council be approved as presented.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT the minutes of the May 10, 2024 special meeting of Council be approved as presented.” Motion carried.

3. Public Input Session

No public comments.

4. Presentations

Chief Ekins of the Mahone Bay & District Fire Department Adam Ekins was unable to attend the meeting to present the Department’s fourth quarter report.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT the Mahone Bay & District Fire Department’s 2023-34 fourth quarter report be received for information.” Motion carried.

5. Correspondence

No correspondence.

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Staff Report to Council

Council received the May 14, 2024 Staff Report to Council.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT the May 14, 2024 Staff Report to Council be received and filed.” Motion carried.

6.2 Staff Report – Appointment of Assistant Returning Officer

Council received a staff report with a request to appoint an Assistant Returning Officer for the 2024 Municipal Election.

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council appoint Brendan Wright as Assistant Returning Officer for the 2024 Municipal Election.” Motion carried.

6.3 Staff Report – Service Standards

Council received a Staff Report with proposed service standards for various services provided by the Town.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT Council direct staff to publish the Standards for Town Services, as presented, on the Town website to be updated as required.” Motion carried.

6.4 Staff Report – Rezoning Request

Council received a Staff Report with information concerning a request from a property owner to allow multi-unit residential uses. Such a request requires an amendment to both the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-law (LUB).

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council direct staff to prepare draft amendments to the MPS & LUB, and related staff report, including conduct of a Public Information Meeting, for presentation to the Planning Advisory Committee.” Motion carried.

7 Council Items

7.1 Draft 2024-25 Operating and Capital Budgets

Council received the draft 2024-25 Town budgets.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council approve the 2024-25 General Operating Budget with operating expenditures in the amount of \$3,112,504 as presented, with general tax rates set at \$1.11/\$100 Residential and \$3.05/\$100 Commercial, and the infrastructure charge at \$502.23/unit, with \$202.23 dedicated to Stormwater Management.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council approve the 2024-25 General Capital Budget with expenditures totaling \$11,015,631, supported by a projected \$3,518,926 in external funding.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Council approve the 2024-25 Fire Department Operating Budget with expenditures in the amount of \$846,205 as presented and fire tax rates set at \$0.214/\$100.” Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council approve the 2024-25 Fire Department Capital Budget with expenditures totaling \$702,945.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, “THAT Council approve the 2024-25 Electric Utility Operating Budget with operating expenditures in the amount of \$2,968,058 as presented.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Nowe, “THAT Council approve the 2024-25 Electric Utility Capital Budget with expenditures totaling \$147,000.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council approve the 2024-25 Water Utility Operating Budget with operating expenditures in the amount of \$888,797 as amended, to reflect no change in rates in 2024-25.” Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kangata, "THAT Council approve the 2024-25 Water Utility Capital Budget with expenditures totaling \$4,610,241 supported by a projected \$2,144,350 in external funding." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Nowe, seconded by Councillor Feeney, "THAT Council approve the 2024-25 cemetery budgets, in the amount of \$46,150 for Park Cemetery and \$22,100 for Bayview Cemetery, as presented." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council approve the 2024-25 Budget Press Release." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Carver, seconded by Councillor Wilson, "THAT Council approve the 2024-25 infrastructure fee increase Press Release." Motion carried.

7.2 Notice of Motion

Councillor Carver gave Notice of Motion concerning the development of a policy for film production in Mahone Bay.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Council Remuneration Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the April 16, 2024 meeting of the Council Remuneration Committee.

8.2 Policy & Strategy Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the April 8, 2024 meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee.

8.3 Policy & Strategy Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the April 22, 2024 special meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee.

8.4 Policy & Strategy Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the May 6, 2024 special meeting of the Policy & Strategy Committee.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council accept the minutes of the April 8th, April 22nd and May 6th minutes of the Policy & Strategy Committee for information." Motion carried.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council adopt the Town of Mahone Bay Human Resource Policy Manual." Motion carried.

8.5 Police Advisory Board

Council received the draft minutes of the April 25, 2024 meeting of the Police Advisory Board.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Wilson, “THAT Council direct staff to move the 50 km/h speed limit sign posted at the Mushamush River bridge an appropriate distance further up the hill to address noted safety concerns.”

Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT the Town of Mahone Bay Police Advisory Board remain an independent entity.”

Motion withdrawn.

8.6 Nominations Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the May 2, 2024 meeting of the Nominations Committee.

A motion by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Feeney, “THAT Tim Merry be recognized as the Town of Mahone Bay’s 2024 Representative Volunteer.”

Motion carried.

8.7 Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program

Council received the April 2024 monthly report of the Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program.

A motion by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT Council accept the April 2024 monthly report of the Lunenburg County Senior Safety Program for information.”

Motion carried.

8.8 Planning Advisory Committee

Council received the draft minutes of the May 7, 2024 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT the facilitated joint session of the Planning Advisory Committee, Asset Management Committee and Climate & Environment Committee proposed by the Asset Management Committee take place early in 2025.”

Motion carried.

A motion by Deputy Mayor Kangata, seconded by Councillor Carver, “THAT the design of the Edgewater Street Project be shared with the Planning Advisory Committee at an appropriate stage to receive feedback.”

Motion withdrawn.

A motion by Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lohnes-Croft, “THAT Council refer the topic of sharing information on the Edgewater Street Project with any Town committee to the May meeting of the Policy and Strategy committee.”

Motion carried.

9. New Business

Notice of motion

Councillor Carver gave notice of motion concerning development of a policy that will regulate filming in Mahone Bay.

10. Closed Session

A motion by Councillor Nowe, at 8:26 p.m., seconded by Councillor Carver, "THAT Council go into Closed Session to discuss Contract Negotiations as permitted by the Municipal Government Act section 22(2)(e)." Motion carried.

Council came out of closed session at 8:57 p.m.

Business Arising from Closed Session

There was no business arising from closed session.

Council adjourned at 8:59 p.m. on conclusion of business.

TOWN OF MAHONE BAY

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Mayor, David Devenne

Town Clerk, Kelly Munroe