

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Minutes of Meeting  
January 20, 2014**

**Present**

Mayor, Billy Joe MacLean  
Deputy Mayor, Dr. Trevor Boudreau  
Councilor, Joe Janega  
Councilor, Bert Lewis  
Chief Administrative Officer, Maris Freimanis  
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen  
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey (Designate)

**Regrets**

Councilor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton  
Director Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Paula Davis  
Town Solicitor, Larry Evans

**Guests**

S/Sgt. Al Affleck, Sgt. Shelby Miller, and Cst. D. Prasad, RCMP  
Dale Sellars, Fire Chief, Port Hawkesbury Volunteer Fire Department  
Adam Rodgers and John Ouellette, Port Hawkesbury Façade and Streetscape

**1. Call to Order**

A Committee of the Whole Meeting was held in the Shannon Studio, PHCC, Monday, January 20, 2014. It was called to order by Mayor MacLean at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Additions to / Approval of Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor B. Lewis "To approve the agenda". MOTION CARRIED.**

**3. Gallery Presentations**

**a) RCMP Update – S/Sgt. Affleck**

S/Sgt. Affleck presented the RCMP Report on Policing for occurrence statistics and all violations up to and including December 31, 2013. The total number of calls, including traffic charges, and charges for impaired driving, property crime, drug possession and trafficking, and crimes against persons decreased from 2012 to date due in large part to the RCMP's request for court imposed sanctions such as curfews followed by RCMP checks. S/Sgt. Affleck's plan for proactive policing includes scheduling to provide double coverage 4/7 days, increased visibility at festivals, and utilization of an RCMP boat for more visibility on the water. Mayor MacLean and Council commended and thanked S/Sgt Affleck and Sgt. Shelby Miller on the RCMP service provided to the towns of Port Hawkesbury and Mulgrave, and Inverness County.

**b) Port Hawkesbury Cinema – Cst. D. Prasad**

Cst. D. Prasad provided Council with a presentation and business plan for the Port Hawkesbury Cinema – a RCMP crime prevention model but community based initiative which works with the SAERC Youth Council to provide the community with a safe alternative for entertainment in a healthy environment. To date, approximately \$2500 has been donated to community charitable events or groups. Phase 2 of the

initiative will include leadership training for students and potential food availability to increase revenue. Upgrades to the screen and sound system are necessary. Cst. Prasad asked Council for their financial support to assist in increasing and upgrading the facility. The potential for ACOA funding for this project will be researched. Mayor MacLean and Council applauded Cst. Prasad for the Port Hawkesbury Cinema.

c) Port Hawkesbury Fire Department – Fire Chief, Dale Sellars

Dale Sellars provided Council with a report from the Port Hawkesbury Fire Department. He stated that the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) standards for equipment are high and that an aerial ladder, aging vehicles and equipment, and building concerns require Council's consideration. He added that we serve one of the largest industrial areas in NS and that the level of fire service impacts commercial and residential insurance rates. Fire ratings and inspections were also discussed. Mayor MacLean thanked Mr. Sellars for his presentation and advised that CAO, M. Freimanis and staff will follow up with him regarding his report.

d) Port Hawkesbury Façade and Streetscape – Adam Rodgers and John Ouellette

As part of the Façade and Streetscape Program, Mayor MacLean declared a conflict of interest and asked Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau to assume the role of Chair. Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Ouellette provided an update on the Port Hawkesbury Façade and Streetscape initiative. The initiative is part of a larger strategy which includes business training to coincide with the façade program, by-law enactments and enforcement regarding vacant lots, and projecting a positive image to the shopping public as well as attracting a relocating public. The benefits to the Town would include business growth, attraction, and increased property values. Town Council was asked for a commitment of \$ 5000 by February 1, 2014 regarding the application and submission process to funders. Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau stated the financial request will be considered as soon as possible and Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Ouellette will be advised.

#### 4. Approved Additions

There were no approved additions to the agenda.

#### 5. Other Business

a) Strait Area Transit

**The Committee of the Whole meeting recessed In Camera at 8:10 p.m. to discuss the Strait Area Transit and Fire Protection Services. It reconvened at 8:20 p.m.**

**MOVED by Councilor B. Lewis, and SECONDED by Councilor J. Janega "To approve Mayor MacLean's plan to meet with industry representatives to discuss the Town's fire protection services". MOTION CARRIED.**

b) Regional Enterprise Networks

Town Council accepted Mayor MacLean's recommendation to set this agenda item aside to address the REN issue during budget deliberations. Mayor MacLean has been in discussions with the Hon. Peter MacKay to meet with the municipal units and other groups biannually to discuss industry, Strait Area issues, and the Minister's assistance in growth of our economy in the Strait Area. The format would be a luncheon followed by a press conference by Minister MacKay. A reception would also be planned during the Minister's visit. Discussion included having an alternate plan in place in the event of not joining a REN.

c) NS Agriculture – Fences and Detention of Stray Livestock Act

Council agreed to accept the recommendations of CAO, M. Freimanis and Town Solicitor, P. Lamey in not having the Town of Port Hawkesbury designated under the Fences and Detention of Stray Livestock Act with the NS Department of Agriculture.

d) Community Health Centre

Councilor J. Janega stated the Community Health Centre project is progressing. The Creamery Building on the waterfront is designated as the location of the new health centre. GASHA were commended for their work on this project. The conceptual design and cost of the project is not finalized. A letter of intent is the next phase of the project and will be sent to the Department of Health indicating the decision to proceed with a Community Health Centre designating the Creamery Building as its location. Discussion included the potential of other locations for the centre and costs associated with the project.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau, and SECONDED by Councilor B. Lewis "to support the Community Health Centre Letter of Intent as presented by Councilor J. Janega". MOTION CARRIED.**

e) Pan Cape Breton Food Network

Council would like to have further discussion with representatives from the Pan Cape Breton Food Network after a marketing plan is in place. Council agreed to support the initiative and to sign the MOU but not to provide any financial assistance.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau, and SECONDED by Councilor J. Janega "to support the idea of the Pan Cape Breton Food Network and to sign the Memorandum of Understanding". MOTION CARRIED.**

f) Tax Adjustment – Tax Account #02672618

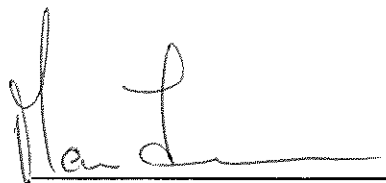
**MOVED by Councilor B. Lewis, and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau "to accept the recommendation of CAO, M. Freimanis that \$597.66 be reimbursed according to a proportionate calculation regarding 225 Prince Street and Tax Account No. 02672618". MOTION CARRIED.**

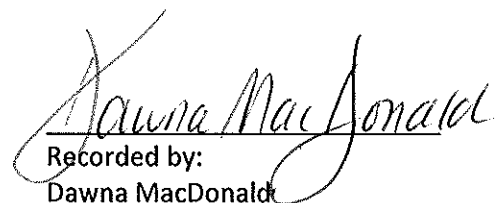
On the question, Councilor J. Janega inquired about the assessment value and tax rate of a new construction should the home owner choose to rebuild. Staff will advise Council.

**4. Adjournment**

**MOVED by Councilor B. Lewis, and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau "to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:10 p.m." MOTION CARRIED.**

Feb 6, 2014  
Date

  
Approved by:  
Maris Freimanis, CAO

  
Recorded by:  
Dawna MacDonald