

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
PUBLIC MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting  
November 18, 2013**

**Present**

Mayor, Billy Joe MacLean  
Deputy Mayor, Dr. Trevor Boudreau  
Councilor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton  
Councilor, Joe Janega  
Councilor, Bert Lewis  
Chief Administrative Officer, Maris Freimanis  
Director of Finance, Erin MacEachen  
Director Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Paula Davis  
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey (Designate)

**Regrets**

Town Solicitor, Larry Evans

**1. Call to Order**

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in the Shannon Studio, PHCC, Monday, November 18, 2013. It was called to order by Mayor MacLean at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Gallery Presentations**

There were no gallery presentations.

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

There were three additions to the agenda:

- a) Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony – Mayor MacLean
- b) Donation – Philippines Emergency Relief – Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau
- c) Telephone Number for General Inquiries – Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton "To approve the agenda as amended". MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Minutes**

- a) Regular Town Council – October 1, 2013  
There were no errors or omissions.

- b) Committee of the Whole – October 21, 2013

**MOVED by Councilor J. Janega and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton "To approve the October 21, 2013 minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting". MOTION CARRIED.**

- c) Special Public Meeting – October 21, 2013  
There were no errors or omissions.

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- a) Regular Town Council – October 1, 2013 – Page 3  
Mayor MacLean confirmed to Councilor B. Lewis that conversations have taken place with Minister MacKay's office. The Minister has expressed interest to attend a Strait Area Mayors and Wardens

Committee meeting. Mayor MacLean will provide the Minister with a letter outlining agenda items to be discussed. Peter MacAskill, NSBI, has offered to attend at least every second meeting of the Strait Area Mayors and Wardens Committee.

b) Committee of the Whole – October 21, 2013 – Page 3

Councilor J. Janega reaffirmed his concern for the parked railway tanker cars and distributed recent photos of their storage within Town limits. He also commended Mayor MacLean on the letter to the Minister of Veterans Affairs requesting reevaluation of plans to close nine regional Veterans Affairs offices across Canada.

**6. Proclamations – Restorative Justice Week**

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau, and SECONDED by Councilor J. Janega “To proclaim the week of November 17-23, 2013 as Restorative Justice Week in the Town of Port Hawkesbury”. MOTION CARRIED.**

**7. Correspondence**

- a) Flammable and Toxic Railway Cars
- b) Closure of Regional Veterans Affairs Offices

**MOVED by Councilor J. Janega, and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “To accept the correspondence as presented for distribution”. MOTION CARRIED.**

**8. Resolutions**

There were no resolutions.

**9. Other Business**

- a) Approval to Purchase CAT 938K Wheel Loader

CAT was the successful bidder of a Provincial RFP and the lowest bidder on three loader quotations received by Director of Finance, E. MacEachen. Financing and lease options were reviewed. Council were asked to officially approve the purchase of a CAT 938K Wheel Loader at an approximate cost of \$233,000 including tax and less a rebate regarding the Town’s snow clearing and snow removal services. Council discussion included the snow removal budget, heating, and storage space for the wheel loader.

**MOVED by Councilor B. Lewis, and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton “To accept the recommendation of Director of Finance, E. MacEachen to approve the purchase and the utilization of the Capital Reserve for the purchase of a CAT 938K Wheel Loader at a cost of approximately \$233,000 with the expectation to refund the Capital Reserve this year and over the next three years at an annual cost of \$60,000”. MOTION CARRIED.**

- b) Christmas Holidays

- Town Council Meeting – January 2014
- Town Administrative Offices

**MOVED by Councilor B. Lewis, and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau “To accept the recommendations of CAO, M. Freimanis to schedule the Regular Public Meeting of Council on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 and to close the Town Administration Offices December 27, 30, and 31, 2013”. MOTION CARRIED.**

Customer interest relief will be provided to accounts due during the period of the holiday closure and necessary staff and facilities will be provided regarding the 2014 World Under 17 Hockey Challenge.

c) Virtual Attendance at Council Meetings

Mayor MacLean stated that communities such as Kentville, Wolfville and Yarmouth utilize technology for individuals wanting to attend meetings but are away on vacation. A motion of Council is required for a request to be sent to Service NS and Municipal Relations for approval.

On behalf of Town Solicitor L. Evans, P. Lamey stated that Council must first investigate this issue with Service NS and Municipal Relations before proceeding with any decision. In addition, the provisions of the MGA need to be reviewed to confirm if a Public meeting can be held if the Mayor or members of Council are not physically present. It is L. Evan's opinion that the MGA would have to be amended to make a provision for virtual attendance as they are silent on this subject. In the absence of this provision, it is not possible to hold a public meeting without Mayor and Council present. Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau stated that this issue was discussed at the UNSM Fall Conference and the virtual attendance resolution was defeated. Service NS and Municipal Relations will be contacted.

**MOVED by Councilor J. Janega, and SECONDED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton "To proceed with the inquiry and contact Service NS and Municipal Relations regarding virtual attendance at Council meetings". MOTION CARRIED.**

**10. Approved Additions**

a) Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Mayor MacLean commended the Wall of Fame Committee and the Town staff for the success of the Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Letters of congratulations and thanks will be sent to the members of the organizing committee and a note to staff for their contributions on behalf of the Mayor and Council.

b) Donation – Philippines Emergency Relief

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Dr. T. Boudreau, and SECONDED by Councilor J. Janega "To approve a donation of \$500 be sent to one of the six charities associated with the Philippines Emergency Relief as per UNSM correspondence". MOTION CARRIED.**

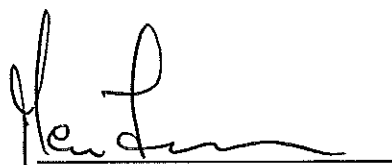
c) Telephone Number for General Inquiries

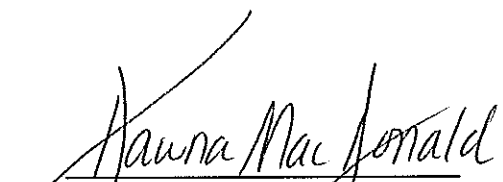
CAO, M. Freimanis stated to Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton that a main telephone number to organize calls and reroute resident inquiries and requests to the appropriate departments and staff will be in place by the end of January.

**11. Adjournment**

**MOVED by Councilor B. Chisholm-Beaton, and SECONDED by Councilor J. Janega "To adjourn the Regular Town Council Meeting at 7:35 p.m." MOTION CARRIED.**

Dec 5, 2013  
Date

  
Approved by:  
Maris Freimanis, CAO

  
Recorded by:  
Dawna MacDonald