

**PORT HAWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, February 4, 2020**

Present

Mayor, Brenda Chisholm-Beaton
Deputy Mayor, Blaine MacQuarrie
Councilor, Trevor Boudreau
Councilor, Mark Maclver
Chief Administrative Officer, Terry Doyle
Director, Finance, Erin MacEachen
Director, Marketing, Recreation, Tourism & Culture, Paula Davis
General Manager, Facilities and Operations, Gordie Snook
Town Solicitor, Patrick Lamey

Regrets

Councilor, Hughie MacDougall

Guests

- Emily Pond, Director of Partnerships and Regulatory Reform, NS Office of Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness
- Taylor Linloff

1. Call to order

A Public Meeting of the Port Hawkesbury Town Council was held in Shannon Studio, PHCC, Tuesday, February 4, 2020 and called to order by Mayor Brenda Chisholm-Beaton at 7:00 p.m.

2. Additions to the agenda

- MLA Alana Paon Correspondence – Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton
(To be discussed under Agenda Item 10. Correspondence)

3. Approval of the agenda

MOVED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councilor T. Boudreau “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the agenda with one addition”. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Gallery Presentations

NS Office of Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness

The NS Office of Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness is focused on reducing regulatory burden to business and making service improvements to support economic growth in our province and region. The presentation included a workplan with focus areas for a Cape Breton Pilot Project to expand regulatory reform partnerships with all five Cape Breton municipalities. The project’s goal is to align specific business regulations to make operations and expansion easier for Island businesses. Director Emily Pond will provide information to Council in follow up to issues discussed in a question period.

Autism Awareness Month and Autism Acceptance Day

Ms. Taylor Linloff is an autism advocate and local consultant for the National Autism Strategy. Her presentation included the definition of autism, statistics surrounding autistic people and their culture, and, an encouragement to participate and learn about autistic communication and the culture. A question and answer period followed.

Autism Awareness Month and Autism Acceptance Day continued.

Council was in agreement to bring forward Agenda Item 12.iii

MOVED by Councilor T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the request for an official Neurodiversity Pride Flag Raising, and public acknowledgement of Autism Awareness Month and Autism Acceptance Day, April 2, 2020.”
MOTION CARRIED.

5. Acknowledgements

The following acknowledgements were made by Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton:

- African Heritage Month: *Ties that Bind: Faith, Family and Community* – February 2020
(Town Council gathered prior to the Public Meeting for the raising of the Pan African Flag to commemorate African Heritage month)
- 100th Anniversary of Royal Canadian Mounted Police whose title became official February 1, 1920
- Heart and Stroke Foundation – Heart Month – February
- Canadian Cancer Society – World Cancer Day – February 4

6. Approval of Council Minutes

- Public Meeting January 7, 2020
There were no errors or omissions.
- Special Public Meeting January 27, 2020
There were no errors or omissions.
- Emergency Meeting January 31, 2020
There were no errors or omissions.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. Council Committee Reports

i. Report from the Committee of the Whole – January 21, 2020

a) Request to Write-off Tax Balance and Accrued Interest

MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councilor T. Boudreau “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the request to write-off tax account balance of \$2037.93 and accrued interest for 6 Hannah’s Way, Port Hawkesbury”. MOTION CARRIED.

ii. Approval of Minutes

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie and SECONDED by Councilor M. MacIver “that the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the January 21, 2020 Committee of the Whole Minutes”.
MOTION CARRIED.**

iii. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the January 21, 2020 minutes of the Committee of the Whole.

9. Motions from In Camera Session – February 4, 2020

There were no motions resulting from the February 4, 2020 In Camera Session.

10. Correspondence

MLA Alana Paon Invitation to Meet with Council

Town Council will be polled for their availability to meet with MLA Alana Paon and to provide discussion items for the agenda.

11. Proclamations/Resolutions

There were no proclamations or resolutions.

12. Other Business

i. Second Reading – Solid Waste Management By-Law

**MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves Second and Final Reading of the Solid Waste Management By-Law”.
MOTION CARRIED.**

ii. YMCA Fitness Centre

The YMCA Port Hawkesbury Branch provided formal notice to cease operations on February 22, 2020 or potentially sooner. CAO, T. Doyle provided short term requirements for the fitness centre operations including circulating a survey and an approach and options for the requirements. A draft survey and update on action items will be provided to Council. A short term plan for consideration will be discussed at the February meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

iii. Flag Raising Request – Neurodiversity Pride Flag

This item was discussed in Agenda Section 4: Gallery Presentations.

iv. Accessibility Advisory Committee Update

The Town received a number of diverse applications for membership consideration on the Accessibility Advisory Committee. The committee will be comprised of a minimum of eight members and a minimum of one member each from staff and Council. G. Snook will seek representation from the business and seniors’ community. The first meeting is anticipated in March.

MOVED by Councilor T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the following applicants to the Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| - Cathy Cooke | - Ginette Pertus |
| - Christopher Cook | - Jason Pertus |
| - Matthew Higgins | - Mike Prescott |
| - Aaron MacDonald | - Arielle Vienneau “ MOTION CARRIED. |

MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councilor T. Boudreau “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the appointment of Deputy Mayor B. MacQuarrie to the Accessibility Advisory Committee.” MOTION CARRIED.

MOVED by Councilor T. Boudreau and SECONDED by Councilor M. MacIver “That the Town of Port Hawkesbury approves the appointment of Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton as an alternate member on the Accessibility Advisory Committee.” MOTION CARRIED.

v. Strait of Canso Causeway Gateway Project Update

The goal of the Strait of Canso Causeway Gateway Project is to revitalize and transition the primary entrance to Cape Breton Island. Mayor B. Chisholm-Beaton presented to neighboring municipal partners, the Unama’ki Chiefs and Potlotek First Nation leadership, and anticipates a presentation to Cape Breton Regional Municipality and the Wagmatcook First Nation leadership. The Mayor stated the Province is open to funding a broader project around the Port Hastings Rotary in partnership with other levels of government and possibly the private sector within a five-year infrastructure provincial plan. As the primary focus is the rotary, the Mayor anticipates future discussions on the rail gateway within other municipalities. Council will be provided with updates accordingly.

vi. Allan J. MacEachen Regional Airport Ownership Update

The Airport Ownership and Governance Model letter approved by Council was circulated to First Nation and municipal leaders. Council will be updated with responses to their invitation to begin dialogue on a new airport ownership model.

vii. Leadership School for Women

The Mayor is collaborating with other municipal and First Nation women leaders in an initiative to promote women in politics. A leadership school for women event is planned for May to celebrate and focus on creating an environment for diverse leadership for women in eastern Nova Scotia. An update will be provided at the February meeting of the Committee of the Whole. A funding request to assist women by removing barriers associated with child care costs wanting to attend the event will be brought forward to Council at a future meeting.

viii. Expense Report – January 2020

CAO, T. Doyle reviewed the January Expense Report for the Mayor, Council and CAO. The total expenses for the month of January was \$1323.93. Expense reports are posted on the Town website.

13. Approved Additions

There were no additions to the agenda.

14. Future Meetings

The future meetings of Town Council are scheduled as follows:

- Committee of the Whole Tuesday, February 18, 2020
- Public Meeting Tuesday, March 3, 2020
- Committee of the Whole Tuesday, March 17, 2020

15. Public Question Period

Donnie MacLean

Mr. MacLean applauded the Town's efforts to maintain operations at the PHCC fitness centre.

Taylor Linloff

Ms. Linloff inquired about the process to become involved with the Leadership for School for Women Summit in May. The Mayor provided an overview of the May event and will provide Ms. Linloff with detailed information once the agenda is finalized.

16. Adjournment

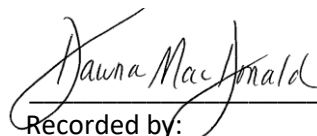
MOVED by Councilor M. MacIver and SECONDED by Councilor T. Boudreau "that the Town of Port Hawkesbury adjourns the February 4, 2020 Public Meeting at 8:25 p.m.". MOTION CARRIED.

March 4, 2020

Date



Approved by:
Terry Doyle, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer



Recorded by:
Dawna MacDonald