

**Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1788th Regular Meeting
March 12th, 2019**

The 1788th Regular Meeting of Council convened at 7:30 pm Mayor Spencer presiding. Present were Deputy Mayor Strickland, Councillors Battiste, Blackler, Coffin, Keeping and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager and Town Clerk.

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane the 1787th Regular Meeting of February 19th, 2019 be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane the Privileged Minutes of February 19th, 2019 be adopted as presented. MC Unanimously

Councillor Keeping wanted it on record that the reason he voted against the motion for the development behind #33 Cox Avenue was because he wanted time to seek out more information before making a final decision.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland the Special Minutes of February 28th, 2019 be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Councillor Keeping asked with regards to the furnace for the Town Depot he understands it is here now so when will it be installed.

The Town Manager advised once the person that is installing it gets back on his feet it will be put in.

Mayor Spencer noted that all certifications for the installer need to be in place. The Town Manager said yes they are.

Come Home Year: Councillor Lane noted that the Committee met recently. He said they are having a difficult time getting people to go on the Committee. Councillor Lane said if the interest doesn't pick up we won't be able to go ahead.

Smoke House: Mayor Spencer noted that the letter has been sent off looking for a partner for the smoke house.

Councillor Lane asked if the new application has been sent in for a new fire truck to which the Town Manager responded yes he sent it the day after he got back from St. John's.

Councillor Keeping asked Deputy Mayor Strickland if the Fire Department were working on a design. Deputy Mayor Strickland noted they are waiting on another quote. Deputy Mayor Strickland said they only have a rough design right now but nothing is nailed down.

Councillor Lane asked if the quotes being obtained were for both cinderblock and sea cans.

Deputy Mayor Strickland advised the Smoke House Committee voted on cinderblock and the Committee took this back to the membership and they voted to go this way.

Councillor Lane said his concern is not what you want it's what you need. Council has to look at the cost. Councillor Lane asked Council if they feel we should have an opportunity to look at both options. Councillor Keeping said yes he agrees that Council will have to review this.

Mayor Spencer noted that we did receive a letter back from the College advising they are on board to assist where possible.

The Town Manager advised the Department has to make the request to Council and Council makes the decision whether it's financially feasible or not.

Councillor Lane said he wanted the Fire Department to know he fully supports them but we as a Council also have to look at cost.

Correspondence: It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Battiste the correspondence be accepted and dealt with where necessary. MC Unanimously

Federal Gas Tax Funding Agreement for 2019-2024: Correspondence was received from Assistant Deputy Minister Dan Michielsen informing the Town that funding for the Federal-Provincial Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund had been finalized. The Town's funding allocation for 2019-2024 is \$929,258.00

Moved by Councillor Keeping/Seconded by Councillor Coffin

Be it resolved:

That the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques write the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment approving the funding for the 2019-2024 Ultimate Recipient Gas Tax Agreement through the Federal-Provincial Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund for a total amount of \$929,258.00.

Voted for 7/Against 0

Eye Sore at 4 Caribou Road: A picture was received via mail with no return address or signature depicting a photo of an old crane located at 4 Caribou Road with the words "eye sore" written by it.

Mayor Spencer said normally he wouldn't table an anonymous piece of correspondence but in Carbonear where the Mayor got dismissed over an anonymous complaint leading to a court ruling they had to give him back his seat so maybe we should put this on the table.

Councillor Keeping asked if we can make a call to Municipal Affairs to see if whether or not we can table anonymous letters/pictures before we make a decision on this photo. The Town Manager said he would make the call.

Councillor Lane said he feels as a Council, we have an obligation to deal with this issue of the eyesore as it has been ongoing.

Councillor Blackler stated he agrees we check out about tabling anonymous correspondence but he also agrees that this issue has been ongoing for quite some time and we need to make a decision on it.

It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Keeping that we postpone discussion on this photo until we check with Municipal Affairs about tabling anonymous correspondence and/or pictures. Voted for Mayor Spencer, Councillor Battiste, Councillor Blackler, Councillor Keeping and Councillor Lane/Against Councillor Coffin and Deputy Mayor Strickland: Motion Carried

It was noted that should the response be we have to deal with it the Public Works Committee will deal with this issue.

Municipal Assessment Agency Collaborative Initiative Fund: Information was received from the Municipal Assessment Agency regarding the formation of a Collaborative Initiative Fund. This is a onetime grant of \$2.00 per assessed parcel to assist in funding an innovation that would enhance property assessment and valuation.

Mayor Spencer asked the Town Manager if we could come up with something on this.

The Town Manager said he can ask for it to be put towards our asset management program for training.

Municipal Affairs & Environment re Approval for Tender for New Municipal Depot: A copy of a letter from Municipal Affairs & Environment was received that had been sent to SNC Lavalin giving them approval to proceed with a tender call for the Municipal Depot Project #17-MCW-18-00006.

The Town Manager noted that this should be on the Province's Public Tendering Site now.

Councillor Keeping asked if the Town Manager could find out the closing date and advise Council.

Request for Small Sandbox at 8 Kettle's Lane: A request was received from residents at 8 Kettle's Lane for a small sandbox.

Discussion followed on if this was a private driveway or not. It was agreed the Public Works Committee review this and report back to Council.

NL Public Libraries Request for Representation from the Town: Correspondence was received from the NL Public Libraries requesting the Town consider sending a representative from Council to attend the Port aux Basques Library Board meetings in an ex officio role.

Mayor Spencer asked if anyone around the table wanted to volunteer for this. Councillor Battiste said he would like to know how often they meet and on what night of the week before he would consider.

It was agreed we contact them and find out their meeting schedule before making a decision.

Report on Meetings in St. John's: Deputy Mayor Strickland gave a report on the meetings he, Councillors Keeping and Lane and the Town Manager attended while in St. John's.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said the first meeting they had was with Peter Alteen/CEO and Joanne Parsons of Newfoundland Power. He said they all agreed that we did have ten (10) years of good power with little interruption.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said Mr. Alteen advised he is going to look into why things aren't moving along as swiftly as they should be. Mr. Alteen further advised that engineers have been looking at new designs and new initiatives here in Port aux Basques. Their big concern right now is the down town area which he is going to check into. Deputy Mayor Strickland said they also talked about rotation of power.

Councillor Lane noted cold load and how it works. He said twenty five years ago we didn't have the electronics and the power loads we have now.

Councillor Keeping said Mr. Alteen did say they are now designing a new distribution line for the down town channel area which should be done by the summer.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said the biggest issue was the backup power and being able to get to it. He noted the town group asked if they could put people in place 48-72 hours at certain locations in advance of a major storm.

Deputy Mayor Strickland also said they had discussions on the different plants, generators and so on and how to go about getting people in through the wreck house winds. He noted Mr. Alteen said they are a business and ran like a business and they have seen a down turn in the economy due to heat pumps and other sources of heat.

Councillor Keeping noted that Mr. Alteen said the existing generation that had the undercarriage fixed, unless absolutely necessary, will stay here. Once Trepassy is straightened up they were assured the MD3 will be placed back here. As well, Councillor Keeping said Mr. Alteen indicated they will be hosting some public consultation in the Town. They will also provide some literature regarding carbon monoxide poisoning.

Councillor Keeping said Mr. Alteen wasn't pleased the distribution line by the Lions Club was not done. Mr. Alteen committed to getting this done.

Councillor Lane said they are trying some new insulators to correct the problem of salt water on the lines.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said next they met with several Ministers. The agenda for this meeting was Municipal Capital Works Program, New Fire Truck, Gas Tax Funding, Special Assistance Funding, and Signage on the TCH. As well the Town was looking for the Minister's approval to acquire some land for development. Deputy Mayor Strickland said as well they discussed the trailway by Tim Horton's and the NL Trailway brush cutting from South Branch to Port aux Basques.

Councillor Keeping said the MCWP applications look very positive for this year. He noted we should thank the MHA for setting these meetings up and write to thank Minister Letto, Minister Parsons and Minister Crocker for taking the time to meet with us.

Councillor Keeping did note as well that the Special Assistance Grant deadline is April 1st, 2019

Councillor Keeping also said the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment highlight the study on Waste Management and said they will be waiting for the outcome of the study before making any decisions.

It was agreed that we need to get the message out on the new policy.

Mayor Spencer noted that all hazardous waste materials will need to go to Wild Cove.


Deputy Mayor Strickland said the last meeting the group had was with Mark King, Communications Officer and Rick Spurrell, Engineering and Asset Management with NL Hydro. Deputy Mayor Strickland said they were advised there are two types of power losses, momentary loss which is 60 seconds and sustained loss. NL Hydro noted that 77% of total outages are sustained loss. Lightening, salt and freezing rain attributed to these causes. NL Hydro said they don't see a design issue with current infrastructure due to increasing winds. They said of the outages, 7 were from wind and 4 were from lightening.

NL Hydro advised the group the closest repair crew is in Stephenville. They did make a commitment that they would take it back to their board to see about putting a crew in Port aux Basques throughout the winter. NL Hydro advised that the inspection of lines and buildings are done from helicopter twice of year plus an annual one is done by snowmobile. As well Line 214 will be inspected this year.

NL Hydro advised that during July and August they will be doing a major overhaul at the Doyles Plant in conjunction with NL Power. This year they are bringing in new protective relaying for Doyles. As well during July and August they will be having two planned outages for four hours each.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said Vice President of Engineering Terry Gardner indicated he will be coming to Port aux Basques in the coming month to meet with Council to discuss their plans for the coming year.

Adjournment: With no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Lane the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 pm.


John Spencer
Mayor


Julia Ingram
Town Clerk