

Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1797th Regular Meeting
September 25th, 2019

The 1797th Regular Meeting of Council convened at 6:00 pm Mayor Spencer presiding. Present were Deputy Mayor Strickland, Councillors Battiste, Blackler, Coffin, Keeping and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager, Economic Development Strategist/Recreation Director and the Town Clerk.

Kelly Rubia 17 Harry's Lane re Invoice for Repairs: Ms. Rubia was present to present her case to Council on her request for a more detailed breakdown on the hours charged to her to re-route her neighbour's waterline from underneath her house which wasn't her problem to begin with. As well, she wanted to discuss the mess her property was left in and the damages to her weeping tile.

Ms. Rubia presented photos she had taken of her property showing the mess it was left in and her damaged weeping tile. She also noted her conversation with the Town's supervisor and all the issues she is now having with her neighbour as there is a run off problem in the area of her home that she feels is not as a result of anything from her property.

Discussion followed with Ms. Rubia and members of Council. Mayor Spencer asked Ms. Rubia what it is she's looking for from Council. Ms. Rubia said she wants reimbursed for having to replace her weeping tile and she doesn't feel she should have been charged 4.5 hours to have 3 feet of pipe installed to correct her neighbour's issue. Mayor Spencer asked that she bring in copies of her invoices and noted that Council will discuss this and her issues and get back to her accordingly.

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Battiste the 1796th Regular Minutes of September 11th, 2019 be adopted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

East Link: The Town Manager advised both him and the Town Clerk have had no success getting in touch with someone from their corporate office. Councillor Lane suggested a registered letter be sent to them.

191-195 Hardy's Arterial: The Town Manager said the document is now back with the CAO of Newfoundland Eastern School District. Once they sign off it has to go back to the Minister.

Industrial Park: Councillor Lane said he's very disappointed that during discussions today he found out pictures of the area have not been sent off to our lawyer. The Town Manager said he is still waiting on the lawyer to let us know if it is prudent to move forward. The Town Manager noted the lawyer has to review all the background files which go back 5-6 years. He said it could be another two to three weeks before we hear back as she has to review similar case files. The Town Manager said Council has to keep in mind if any other municipalities have been successful. The Town Manager also noted that this could be a long legal battle. Mayor Spencer asked the Town Manager to bring back a report at the next meeting.

Paving: The Town Manager noted the paving company is here but it's getting access to a grinder that is the problem. There are several areas we hope to grind and patch. The Town Manager said he is hoping to get this down in the next couple of weeks.

Councillor Blackler asked when the cut off is for paving to which the Town Manager responded October 15th, 2019.

Grand Bay Bottom Sanitary Sewer Project: The Town Manager advised that the Province is doing the Request for Proposals for this project.

Purchase of Property at 150 Caribou Road: The Town Clerk advised the survey is gone to the law office to have the Deed of Conveyance prepared. The Town Clerk noted she had been talking to the owner of the property to advise him of same.

Stadium Road Drainage System: The Town Manager advised that we have crews in layoff and existing crews are tied up with the project we are doing on Taylor's Lane. Councillor Lane asked for a timeline. The Town Manager advised as soon as we can free up some work crews this will be done.

Provincial Weigh Scales: The Town Manager advised he had sent correspondence to both the Minister and the MHA on the lights at the scales. Councillor Keeping noted they are now working.

Highway Signage: Councillor Lane noted we still haven't heard from Minister Crocker on the signage and the trail by Tim Horton's. The Town Manager will contact the MHA to see where the representative from the Minister's is to that was supposed to come out.

Correspondence: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane the correspondence be accepted and dealt with where necessary.

Accessibility Issues 48-50 Main Street: An email was received from a former resident voicing her concerns over the lack of accessibility at a local commercial establishment in town.

Councillor Lane said he thought all businesses were supposed to have a certain amount of accessibility.

The Town Manager said he reviewed all of their establishments and the one here is the only one on the island not accessible.

Councillor Lane said we should write them to state if they don't move to accommodate people we will file a complaint with the Coalition for Persons with Disabilities.

Councillor Blackler noted individuals can file complaints with the coalition as well.

Councillor Lane said this came to Council and we need to act for our citizens.

Councillor Coffin said he would suggest we contact the business and let them know about the email we received and give them time to respond before we move forward and file a complaint with the Coalition.

Economic Development Committee Report: Economic Development Strategist Shauna Strickland presented the Committee Report of September 12th, 2019.

In attendance: Deputy Mayor, Todd Strickland, Councillor Battiste, Councillor Keeping, Town Manager, Leon MacIsaac and Economic Development Officer, Shauna Strickland.

1) Review minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the June 19 meeting were adopted at the regular council meeting on July 17, 2019.

2) Business Arising from Minutes:

a) Industrial Facility: There have been a few business meetings with on-going discussions.

b) JCP Update: The dog park is completed, all the work along the trail is completed, and things are progressing well.

c) History Coordinator: The position has been advertised and we are hoping to have someone in place in the next few weeks.

d) CHY Update: The interviews are scheduled for Friday, September 13.

e) Electrical Hook-up: There were some issues in getting a permit to get the electrical work completed at one of the kiosks.

3) New Business

a) CEEP - The application for funding for the community enhancement program has been submitted. This project will include some renovations to the train site, to complete the Lockie Room, and other cosmetic upgrades.

b) Cape Ray Gold Mine Public Session: The session will be held at the Bruce II on September 17.

c) Small Business Week: Shauna is a member of the small business week committee. It was recommended that \$ 200 be allocated to planning this event

d) NAPA - Marine Atlantic: A few council members and staff attended a session with NAPA and Marine Atlantic.

e) Meeting with NAPA Rep in Stephenville: A meeting was held with a NAPA representative.

f) Quote- Cold Storage: An updated quote was obtained to determine the cost of a refrigeration system.

g) RV Park: There was discussion on the parking at the Grand Bay West Beach and the number of RV staying overnight. There is a local business who is interested in establishing a RV park. It was also agreed that something would be put in place for Come Home Year in 2020.

h) Scott's Cove Park: The number of visitors using the Marine Atlantic bus went up again this year. There was a 12% increase.

i) Grass Cutting: There was discussion on grass cutting and a few areas that may need to be included on the list for next year.

J) Emergency Preparedness: Deferred to Disaster Plan Committee.

4) Other Business

There was discussion on the housing project.

There was discussion on the former plant grounds and ensuring that area is free of garbage, vehicles, and boats.

There was discussion on getting some students next year to conduct a survey with tourists using the beach to gather feedback from them.

Dog Park – Mayor Spencer noted we need a sign on the gate reminding people to close it and we need to ensure to make sure the operators don't pile snow in the park during winter. The Town Manager said if we get a winter with a lot of snow we may have no choice but to put it there. Deputy Mayor Strickland noted that small dogs can get out underneath the door there so we may need to put something there to prevent this.

Electrical Hook-up at Beach – Councillor Lane asked what the problem was with getting this done. The Town Manager noted that we need to have an approved water and sewer system which we don't according to Service NL.

NAPA – Councillor Lane said he never got to meet with the representative. Ms. Strickland said the gentleman came out and they had a really good meeting. She noted she sent him a list of vacant properties for consideration.

Former fish plant grounds – Councillor Keeping noted they had discussions in a meeting that day about applying for a grant for that portion of the property that is currently leased. The Town Manager advised this has been applied for. Councillor Keeping also noted about the issue of people parking on this lot. It was agreed that concrete blocks be purchased and installed to deter parking in the area. The Town Manager noted crews are tied up with Taylor's Lane right now but this will be done.

Tourist Survey – Councillor Blackler said they had discussions at school today about students not utilizing their technology tools. He asked Ms. Strickland if they could possibly meet to discuss the students doing this.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Battiste the Economic Development Committee Report of September 12th, 2019 be accepted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Recreation Committee Report: Recreation Director Shauna Strickland presented the Recreation Committee Report of September 12th, 2019.

In attendance: Deputy Mayor, Todd Strickland, Councillor Blackler, Councillor Coffin, Facility Manager, Wanda Merrigan, Town Manager, Leon McIsaac and Recreation Director, Shauna Strickland.

- 1) Review minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the May 14 meeting were adopted at the June 18 council meeting.
- 2) Business Arising from Minutes:
 - a) Mariners Update: There was discussion on the correspondence sent to the Mariners.
 - b) Zamboni Update: The maintenance review is being done and when completed it will be transported to Kris Customs to get a paint job and to include the new logo. Details of the sponsorship will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - c) Mental Health Training: The staff at the Bruce II will be doing two days of mental health first aid training on September 26 & 27.
 - d) JCP Approval- Four workers have been hired under a JCP to assist with some projects at the ball field and the stadium.
- 3) New Business:
 - a) Rate Review: There was discussion on reviewing the rates at the next meeting.
 - b) Lawn Mowing: Discussed at EDC meeting.
 - c) United Way Grant: A grant was received from United Way to purchase go-karts for the stadium.
 - d) Good Life Application: An application was approved to purchase sledges for winter season.
 - e) New Horizon Application - A funding application was submitted for some senior related events.
 - f) Community Healthy Living Proposal- A funding application was submitted to purchase a hydro boost water system.
 - g) Ice Schedule: The ice will be ready for October 10, 2019.

h) Facility Update: Wanda provided an overview on the swimming registration, new signs for the washrooms, request for early morning swim, and stated that letters have gone to the user groups regarding ice times.

5) Other Business

The helmet policy will be reviewed at the next meeting. Shauna will send a copy to the committee.

There was some discussion on the bathroom fixtures and how they need to be changed.

Leon stated he submitted an application under Transition 2050 for upgrades at the facility.

There was discussion on the backboards for the basketball courts. There was some damage to the one in the skate board park. Repairs will be done but the equipment will remain in for this year.

There was discussion on the man who is coming to PAB to finish his walk for Parkinson's. It was agreed that we would host a breakfast on October 24. Invitations will be sent to council.

There was discussion on purchasing ice cream vouchers and asking the RCMP to pass them out when they see kids wearing helmets.

There was discussion on offering an indoor walking/running program.

There was also discussion on hosting the "Biggest Loser Challenge"

Mariners Update – Councillor Keeping asked if the Mariners were a go for this season. Ms. Strickland said she hasn't heard. She noted she hasn't heard back from any of the emails she has sent them either.

Rate Review – Ms. Strickland noted it has been three years since this has been done. Mayor Spencer asked shouldn't this go to the Finance Committee to which the Town Clerk said yes. Councillor Keeping noted you wouldn't be able to put this in place until the new season started in September 2020.

It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Coffin the Recreation Report of September 12th, 2019 be accepted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Urban Municipalities Committee Report: Deputy Mayor Strickland presented a report on the highlights of the UMC meetings held in Labrador August 15th – 17th, 2019.

Craig Parsons – Director of Planning and Development, Gave update on what's happening in Lab City.

- Mining Update
- Seniors Housing
- Municipal Grants for Accessibility and Façade – Max of \$25,000 per business, \$50,000 in total
- Public Wi-Fi in all Public parks and spaces (\$45,000 From ACOA and Province) cost \$6000/year

Speakers included MP Yvonne Jones, MHA Jordon Brown and CCL Rep Wally Anderson

Heather Gates – Provincial Breastfeeding Consultant for Communities Supporting Breastfeeding Resources.

- Working towards a Baby Friendly NL
- Want to increase Breastfeeding rates by year 2025 to 80%
- Breast Feeding is a Human Right
- Breast feeding policy for employees and users

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment – Honourable Lisa Dempster

- Next round of funding closes Sept 30, Water & Wastewater given priority. Reach out to MA&E staff

Regulating Air BnBs

- Property Insurance vs Liability insurance
- Chatted on what they are doing in Toronto and Vancouver
- Put it back to Province and HNL to come up with a system or set of rules
- Send letter to all Air BnB's that you register with the town, treat with traditional BnB's

Key Challenges

- Drug Issues, VLT's & Gambling, Disconnect between Prov Govt. and Towns, Industry or lack of, waste water management, Enforcement, Growth management and planning, Sewage management, Engagement with MNL, New Revenue sources, Retain & Recruitment of staff, Access to lands, Access to water, Commute Accessibility, Crown lands or Access to private land, Roads (Ratio Cost), Sharing Services, Development regulations

Waste Management Review

- St. Johns pays \$67/tonne for garbage and \$20/tonne for recycling
- Lamaline pays \$400/tonne for garbage
- NO costing actually done back in 2002 when this came out
- Everyone was supposed to pay the same

- Suppose to be cost Neutral in your region
- Bonavista has NO waste management in their region
- Note: Gander to dispose of Garbage use to cost \$360,000 now its 2.1 million

Waste Water

- Everybody has to send in reports no matter if your compliant or not
- Ensure readings are actually submitted, not just by the company

LEED Gold Designation

- Marystown

Policy and Advocacy Session

- Municipal plans not being respected

Communities Supporting Breastfeeding Resources – Deputy Mayor Strickland noted there is currently 15-20 communities taking part in this.

Regulating Air BnBs – Councillor Blackler said he wonders if we should have a separate discussion on this. It was agreed that we would. The Town Clerk noted it's hard to do based on assessments as in some cases people are just renting a room not a full house.

Municipal Plans not being respected – Councillor Lane asked if the Province is not respecting municipalities when it comes to municipal plans can we ask the Minister about this. Deputy Mayor Strickland said one of the action items from the meetings was to ask MNL to work on this. Deputy Mayor Strickland said MNL will be writing the Minister of Transportation and Works in this regard. It was agreed the Town would send their own letter as well.

South West Coast Joint Council Report: Councillor Battiste presented a report of the South West Coast Joint Council Report of September 21st, 2019.

1. PAL pull out of Stephenville – They gave the airport the 120 day notice. Some of the reasons people are not using Stephenville it it's about \$180 cheaper to fly out of Deer Lane and there's only two flights a week out of Stephenville.
2. If they don't get another carrier the airport may have to close. If that happens it will affect the air ambulance service which makes about 150 trips per year. The government will only pay the airport a small fee for this service. They would like a letter of support to be sent to Government to change the fee to cover this cot. A standard letter is to be sent out for signature.

3. There was an election held for a new executive. We now have a new Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer.
4. Mayor Tom Rose is going to check about having someone from this area to join the airport board.

Deputy Mayor Strickland asked what are the fees for air ambulance. Mayor Spencer read out cost breakdown he received via email. Mayor Spencer said there is an average of 292 flights for air ambulance over three years. Mayor Spencer said he got in touch with one of the doctors at Western Health and he is going to get him the information on the cost and number of flights.

Councillor Lane said he feels we should write a letter of support to the Stephenville Airport.

It was noted the airport only receives \$75.00 per flight from the Province.

Mayor Spencer said he thinks the airport is critical to Canadian security.

Public Works Committee Report: Councillor Keeping presented the Public Works Committee Report of September 24th, 2019. .

The Public Works Committee met on September 24, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Present were Councillors: Keeping, Coffin, and Lane. Also present was the Town Manager. The following items were discussed, and sites visited:

1. Resident of Kyle Lane met with the committee and Mayor Spencer to discuss her and the neighbour's concerns regarding:
 - a) Overnight parking by tourist with R.V.
 - b) Their privacy concerns.
 - c) Increase in traffic on Kyle's Lane.
 - d) Garbage being left in the area.
 - e) Noise by users in the evening if parking.

The resident noted that she was speaking on behalf of the other homeowners on Kyle's Lane and they are not happy. It appears that their biggest concern is overnight parking by R.V. owners and they would like a no overnight parking sign posted.

The Committee discuss her concerns with her and advised they will be brought to council for further discussions.

The Committee did explain to her that there is a private developer in the process of opening a R.V. Park in the downtown area. Also, the possibility of the town developing several sites in the downtown area. The committee also noted some of the initiative concerns is taking regarding the Grand Bay West Beach area.

2. Armour Stone Wall at the end of Osmond Lane.

The committee visited and meet with the property owner who had concerns over what Council had proposed to do to address their concerns regarding heavy seas and runoff during the winter months. After a lengthy discussion they agreed that we

place extra armour stone in one particular area and also install the catch basin and culvert with a backflow flap at the end of the outlet pipe. We will assess this after this winter to determine if it addresses the issues. It was noted that our snow clearing operators are not to pile snow there for long periods but clean it up as soon as they can after snowstorms. It was noted this is approximately 25-30'.

3. Dowding's Lane – Residents request for Asphalt.
The committee visited the area to meet with the concerned resident, but they were not available. We will do a follow up visit.
4. Brook Street – Drainage/runoff issues between several properties in this area. This appears to be a private concern between property owners; however, the Town Manager will have our staff visit and sample the water to confirm if it's a leak or its runoff water.

Grand Bay West Beach – Councillor Blackler said it was discussed in a public session about No Parking. Councillor Keeping said we agreed to extend the lot a bit but are now looking at going inside the fence to extend parking. Councillor Keeping said the fear right now is the area is beautiful and used a lot and we don't want to lose that. Councillor Keeping noted there will be further discussion held on this. Ms. Strickland noted when we have big events over there we have security for parking and such.

It was moved by Councillor Blackler and seconded by Councillor Battiste the Public Works Committee Report of September 24th, 2019 e accepted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

RCMP Musical Rides: Ms. Strickland advised she has been contacted about hosting the RCMP Musical Rides. She noted the last time it was here was in 2003. The organization sent her a presentation and they are looking at the end of July. Ms. Strickland noted she won't be available to do this as she will be busy with Come Home Year.

Deputy Mayor Strickland expressed concerns over damages done to the ballfield the last time which killed softball for the remainder of the year.

Councillor Lane asked if Grand Bay West Beach was a possibility as we are going to be extending the parking.

Councillor Keeping questioned Andy's Rainbow Park. The Town Manager said you have to look at who you want to upset the most when it comes to the venue.

2020/2021 Municipal Capital Works Priority List: The Town Manager presented the priority list for the 2020/2021 Municipal Capital Works.

Moved by Councillor Keeping/Seconded by Councillor Coffin

Be it resolved that the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques submit the following priority list for the 2020/2021 Municipal Capital Works Program.

- #1 COX AVENUE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION - \$728,999.81 (Municipal Cost Share of Project (50%) - \$364,499.91)
- #2 CARSON CRESCENT STORM SEWER INSTALLATION - \$629,470.81 (Municipal Cost Share of Project (20%) – \$125,894.17)
- #3 GRAND BAY ROAD STORM SEWER INSTALLATION - \$512,564.12 (Municipal Cost Share of Project (20%) - \$102,512.83)
- #4 BROOK STREET RECONSTRUCTION - \$400,922.31 (Municipal Cost Share of Project (50%) - \$200,461.16)
- #5 WARREN'S ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND PAVING- \$253,110.18 (Municipal Cost Share of Project (50%) - \$126,555.09)

Voted for 7/Against 0 Motion Carried

Osmond's Lane Estimate for Sewer: The Town Manager noted it was requested a couple of meetings ago to get an estimate so we could get back to the residents that asked us to install the sewer. The Town Manager presented the estimate as prepared by a consultant.

Councillor Lane asked if there was any way we could lower this cost. Councillor Keeping said he had to agree with the residents involved that this is an environmental issue. Councillor Keeping said all you would need is a small manhole/catch basin system with an excavator and our own staff. Councillor Keeping said he doesn't agree with using the consultant's figures. Councillor Keeping said he doesn't agree with spending all this money to do this but feels we need to help these individuals.


The Town Manager said if you want it done correctly you do need the consultants to do it up. But if you want to do this similar to what was done in the past and is now creating issues. The Town Manager said if you want to override his suggestion you as a Council can make that decision.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Lane that due to the financial cost not being feasible we not proceed with the project. MC Unanimously

The Town Manager will write the residents and explain this.

Adjournment: With no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 pm MC Unanimously


John Spencer
Mayor


Julia Ingram
Town Clerk