

Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1798th Regular Meeting
October 15th, 2019

The 1798th Regular Meeting of Council convened at 6:00 pm Mayor Spencer presiding. Present were Deputy Mayor Strickland, Councillors Battiste, Blackler, Coffin and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager and Town Clerk.

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland the 1797th Regular Minutes of September 25th be adopted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

Kelly Rubia 17 Harry's Lane: Mayor Spencer asked if there was anything further on this. The Town Clerk replied that Ms. Rubia has not bought in any invoices for us to review and discuss.

East Link: The Town Clerk reiterated that she has been unable to reach anyone with the company. They are just not returning any calls. The Town Clerk noted that she did have a contact number for a gentleman in St. John's at one point but no longer has it. She will contact the Communications Director at the Department of Municipal Affairs to see if they can provide some contact information.

Industrial Park: The Town Manager advised counsel from Stewart McKelvy Stirling Scales was going to forward him some information for Council but he hasn't received it yet.

Paving: The Town Manager advised that he received a call from the paving contractor over the weekend who advised if we wanted anything done we had to have it done right then as they were moving their equipment out. The Town Manager noted we managed to get two streets done. The cost for the asphalt was quadruple what we paid last year and the contractor suggested we wait until the spring when asphalt will be at a better price.

Grand Bay Bottom Sanitary Sewer Project: The Town Manager noted that the RFP (Request for Proposals) has been released by the Province.

Purchase of Property at 150 Caribou Road: The Town Clerk advised our solicitor's office had contacted her and the Deed of Conveyance is prepared and will be sent down for signatures.

Stadium Road Drainage System: The Town Manager advised he and the Public Works Superintendent were speaking with the resident and we are going up there next week, ideally the best time to go is when there is light rain.

Provincial Weigh Scales: The Town Manager said the scales are currently out of commission. We've had to ask Regional Waste Management if we could use their scales. The Town Clerk also noted that the staff numbers are down again at the scales. It was agreed we write the MHA to inquire about this.

Highway Signage: The Town Manager was asked to call Minister Crocker's office to follow up on this.

Accessibility Issues 48-50 Main Street: The Town Clerk advised she had forwarded the correspondence we received to the company in question but to date has not received a response. The Town Manager noted that several letters have been sent to the corporate office but they have not responded.

Councillor Lane said he feels they are pushing us off and we should send this to the Coalition for Persons with Disabilities. Mayor Spencer said he will call the general manager and advise him of our concerns.

It was agreed if we don't get any response from the company we will forward this to the Coalition for Persons with Disabilities.

Come Home Year Update: Councillor Lane said they had a coordinator hired but unfortunately she took another position elsewhere. They have now had interviews again and it will be discussed at the Come Home Year meeting tomorrow night.

Councillor Lane also noted it they don't get enough volunteers they may have to look at a different strategy.

RV Park: Councillor Lane asked if in the absence of the RV Park on Currie Avenue when we can anticipate having the Town garage removed. The Town Manager said we haven't got the funds to do this work but you are looking at two years.

Councillor Lane said he's asking because of RV parking for Come Home Year. The Town Clerk noted that right now the train site does it or you could look at the back road.

It was noted to ask the Economic Development Officer to make contact with the party that was going to develop an area on Currie Avenue and see how far along he is in his proposal.

Emergency Preparedness: Mayor Spencer said he talked to the Deputy Mayor and the committee needs to meet to decide who's doing what.

Councillor Lane asked about the line to the Lions Club. The Town Manager advised the easement from Western Health needs to be signed before NL Power can move forward.

Councillor Lane noted the Salvation Army now has a warming centre so do we really need the Lions Club. The Town Clerk said we still need the Lions Club because of the size of the building as the Salvation Army can only hold a small portion of what would be needed.

The Town Manager asked Mayor Spencer during the public meeting Council had was anyone assigned to open up and coordinate the warming centres. Mayor Spencer said no it was more of a discussion on what was needed.

Electrical Hookup at Beach: The Town Manager said he received correspondence back from the Province and he now has an application gone in for the septic system but he hasn't received anything back on it yet. Councillor Lane asked if we can ask for a temporary hookup. The Town Manager said right now we can ask for a pole light.

Zamboni Update: Councillor Coffin noted that he had been advised the Zamboni went down Saturday. The Town Clerk advised it didn't go down until Sunday morning because she received a call from the Manager on this. Initially it was thought to be the starter but it ended up being electrical. The Town Clerk also advised that no time was lost for the hockey school just two general skates.

Councillor Lane said there needs to be stock on hand in situations like this.

Bruce II Rate Review: Discussion followed on the proposed rate review for the Bruce II Sports Centre. It was agreed to start this in 2020 for all groups. Councillor Blackler said the Recreation Committee will come back with a recommendation.

Stephenville Airport: Mayor Spencer said he received a call back from Western Health and there were forty five (45) air ambulance calls in eighteen (18) months out of Stephenville alone and they also used the valley airstrip and Deer Lake Airport.

Complaint of Overnight Parking on Kyle Lane: The Town Manager said he searched google maps and other files and he could find no evidence that there was a "No Parking Overnight" sign at Grand Bay West Beach.

Dowding's Lane Request for Asphalt: The Town Manager said he spoke to the resident on Dowding's Lane who had submitted the request and advised him the Public Works Committee had been up there but he wasn't home. He noted he advised the gentleman the Committee would be back.

Brook Street Water Runoff Issue: The Town Manager advised it appears the water is coming from the property above, the lady that was in recently to meet with Council. They will need to fix their line.

Councillor Lane asked what recourse this gentleman has that lives down below. The Town Manager said we can go in, do the work and invoice it back which she had a problem with the last time. Discussion followed. Mayor Spencer asked if we can shut her water off to see if it stops. The Town Manager said yes.

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

Ronald MacDonald House Annual Request for Donations: Information was received from the Ronald MacDonald House thanking us for our past contributions and advising of this year's campaign.

The Town Clerk advised we have donated \$500.00 in past years.

Councillor Lane said this is used a lot by the people in this area and she feels we should double our contribution.

The Town Clerk said it was motioned years ago to donate on an annual basis to both the Ronald MacDonald House and the Daffodil Place at \$500.00 each.

Discussion followed. It was agreed if the Daffodil Place comes out with a request we do \$500.00 to each organization.

Go Western Newfoundland Request for Annual Contribution: Correspondence was received from Go Western Newfoundland outlining the various tourism promotion initiatives they are involved in. As a result, they respectfully request annual financial support in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Discussion followed. The Town Clerk said she can't recall us doing this before. It was agreed not to contribute as we take part in Tourism Southwest initiatives and use various tourism based magazines to advertise ourselves as well.

Cruise Ships: It was noted that there were thirty-eight (38) cruise ships in Corner Brook this year and three (3) in Rose Blanche. The question was asked why we can't have the same here. The Town Clerk noted the lack of docking space at Marine Atlantic. However, it was noted there is no docking space for cruise ships in Rose Blanche. They come aboard in zodiacs which can be done here as well.


It was also questioned why we have no involvement in the cruise ship association. The Town Clerk noted we did for years but then it was felt that there it was of little benefit to us. It was agreed the EDO should become a part of this association again.

Ice Control Materials 2019/2020: The Town Manager advised we need a resolution of Council to submit our Site Specific Health & Safety Plan to the Department of Transportation and Works to ensure we are able to pick up our ice control materials over the coming months.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane we adopt and submit the Site Specific Health & Safety Plan as presented. MC Unanimously

Employee Handbook: It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Battiste we approve the new Employee Handbook as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Adjournment: There being no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Lane the meeting be adjourned at 7:07 pm. MC Unanimously


John Spencer
Mayor


Julia Ingram
Town Clerk