

**Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1802nd Regular Meeting
December 17th, 2019**

The 1802nd Regular Meeting of Council convened at 6:00 pm Mayor Spencer presiding. Present were Councillors Battiste, Coffin, Keeping and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager and Town Clerk.

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Coffin the 1801st regular Minutes of November 26th, 2019 be adopted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

17 Harry's Lane re Water Leak: The Town Manager advised the owner of the property had contacted us requesting an extension due to the weather. Mr. MacIsaac noted that he issued the extension due to weather.

Mayor Spencer noted that they are going to have to bring someone in from out of town to assist.

Councillor Lane asked if we can advise the resident on Brook Street. It was agreed this be done.

Grand Bay Bottom Sanitary Sewer Project: The Town Manager said there were seven submissions received, two from the west coast and 5 from the east coast. Mr. MacIsaac said the reviews on the submissions will be done early in the New Year. Mr. MacIsaac noted they have to review the technical details first and then the financial side of it.

Come Home Year Committee Update: Councillor Lane said they had a meeting and everything is going good. He noted all entertainment contracts are in place.

Emergency Preparedness: Mayor Spencer asked where we were in relation to the easement for NL Power to put the new line in to the Lions Club. The Town Manager advised it is owned by the Province and is now before the Minister to sign off on. Mayor Spencer asked if we can call to follow up with NL Power and as well ask the MHA to assist.

2 - 8 Grand Bay West Road: Mayor Spencer noted he had spoken with the developer Friday afternoon and he is still waiting to hear back from Service NL. Mayor Spencer said the developer advised him he is not prepared to meet until he gets their approval.

150 Caribou Road: The Town Clerk advised there were only two bids received and proceeded to read out both.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Lane we award the demolition and removal of 150 Caribou Road to the lower bidder, excluding tipping fees, at a cost of \$16,100.00 HST included. MC Unanimously

It was agreed that the Town will cover the tipping fees as opposed to the contractor. We will get verification of weights from the Transfer Site. It was also agreed that we move forward with this as soon as weather permits.

Grand bay Road – 2 Carter’s Lane: Mayor Spencer said this issue has been resolved. The Town Clerk advised it’s not resolved as the Individual wants to meet with Council because she is not satisfied that the problem was addressed.

Councillor Lane said he feels the Public Works Committee did address this issue and we did quite a bit of work there to alleviate the problem.

4 – 10 High Street Culvert System: The Town Manager said this was done yesterday. Mr. MacIsaac said a grate has been installed to prevent further debris from getting in the pipe.

Lighting for Grand Bay West Causeway: The Town Manager advised Newfoundland Power sent him a plan of where the poles could go. They would have to put in new poles to locate these lights on. The Mayor noted that they are ready to go with the lights on Hardy’s Arterial.

Councillor Lane asked with regards to the causeway are we going to fill it in for a walkway. The Town Manager said right now our concentration is on getting the armour stone put in place.

Generator Water Treatment Plant: The Town Manager noted we have one generator that Marine Atlantic gave us which we are looking at putting in the Water Treatment Plant. Mr. MacIsaac noted that the electrician was in to check out the wiring but he hasn’t bought a quote in yet. We may need to put a concrete pad at the Water Treatment Plant to place the generator on.

Councillor Keeping said he had thought we had two generators from Marine Atlantic. The Town Manager clarified no it was only one and the other one we have there is the one we purchased. As well we will be getting one from the Coast Guard once they decommission the building.

MNL Convention Report: Mayor Spencer went through brief notes on each session members of Council attended at the convention. These topics included Crown Lands; Family Physicians – Recruitment of Health Providers and Retention; Municipal Assessments; Offshore Fisheries Association; MQO Research; Town Hall Meetings; TRIO Update, Canada’s Offshore & Gas Industry; World Café and MNL Resolutions.

In Camera: Mayor Spencer called a temporary adjournment to the Regular Meeting at 6:30 pm to discuss some HR issues with Council in relation to wages.

Councillor Lane left the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Deputy Mayor Strickland entered Chambers at 7:55 pm wherein the Regular Meeting reconvened.

Budget 2020: Mayor Spencer presented the 2020 Budget. Mayor Spencer noted the overall expenditure/revenue of each department and said he was pleased to announce that there will be no increase in the mil rate or any other fees.

It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland that the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques adopt the 2020 Budget as presented with revenues and expenditures of \$4,795,801.20 MC Unanimously

It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Keeping that the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques renew its \$400,000.00 Operating Line of Credit at Scotiabank for 2020. MC Unanimously

It was moved by Councillor Coffin and seconded by Councillor Battiste that the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques renew its \$27,000.00 Operating Line of Credit at the Bank of Montreal for the Bruce II Complex Account for 2020. MC Unanimously

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Coffin that pursuant to the Municipalities Act the following taxes and fees be imposed by the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques Town Council for 2020. MC Unanimously

Due notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Municipalities Act, the taxes and fees imposed by the Channel - Port aux Basques Town Council for 2020 are as follows:

1. **Real Property Tax** of 8 mils on every owner of Residential property within the town and 10.5 mils on every owner of Commercial/Non-Residential property within the town. The annual minimum Real Property Tax will be \$300.00. All taxes so imposed shall be based on the value of the real property as specified in the last Assessment Roll of the town, prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Assessment Act.

2. **Poll Tax** set at \$300.00 per annum on persons earning in excess of the basic personal exemption provided for under the Income Tax Act, and who do not own real property in the town. Persons applying for exemption from Poll Tax on the basis of income must apply before July 1, 2020. Please contact the Town Office to verify you are eligible to pay.

3. **Business Tax**, with a minimum of \$300.00, shall be imposed on every operator carrying on business, trade or profession in the town, and the rate of Business Tax so imposed for each class of business shall be as follows:

(a) **Class I - 1.3% - (13 Mils)** - All businesses having a fixed place of business in the town and not specified in any other class.

(b) **Class II - 10% - (100 Mils)** - On banks, lending agencies, and Crown Corporations, having a fixed place of business in the town.

(c) **Class III - 1%** - All individuals, partnerships and/or corporations carrying on business within the Town of Channel - Port aux Basques, but having no fixed place of business within the town shall pay a Business Tax equivalent to 1% of the gross revenue derived from doing business within the town by such individual, partnership and/or corporation.

(d) **Class IV - 2.5%** - As per the *Taxation of Utilities and Cable Television Companies Act*, utility companies shall pay a Business Tax equivalent to 2.5% on the gross revenue of the utility for the preceding year derived within the municipality served by the Council.

4. Water and Sewer:

(A) **Sewer Tax** of \$5.00 per month, \$60.00 per annum on all property units connected to a Municipal Sanitary Sewer System.

(B) **Sewer Tax** for hotels, motels and seniors homes - \$1.25 per month per room.

(c) **Grand Bay West Industrial Park Sanitary Sewer Tax (Lift Stations)** - \$13.25 per month (\$159.00 per annum) on each unit connected to the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System in the said park.

(D) **Water rates** per month shall be as follows:

At the discretion of Council a lateral rate can and will be used in conjunction with other methods as specified below for any class of user and charged as follows:

3/4" Lateral -	\$ 29.00/month (Commercial/Industrial)
3/4" Lateral -	29.00/month (Residential)
1" Lateral -	30.00/month
2" Lateral -	90.00/month
4" Lateral -	228.00/month
6" Lateral -	360.00/month
8" Lateral -	480.00/month

I. Residential:

- (a) Single Family Dwelling \$29.00/month
- (b) Apartment Unit 29.00/month

II. Commercial/Industrial:

- (a) General commercial, professional, business and government buildings and offices, and service organizations having a 3/4" lateral \$29.00/month per unit
- (b) Hotels, Motels and Seniors Homes \$ 7.75/month per room

III. Hospital:

1 unit per outlet (outlet being toilet, shower or bath unit)

\$15.50/month per unit

5. A Municipal Service Fee will be charged to owners and/or tenants of Real Property that are not being charged the Real Property Tax or Poll Tax as specified by class of premises as follows:

Church and Non-Profit Organizations	\$400.00 per year
Educational Facilities	\$500.00 per month
Government Service Facilities	\$100.00 per month
Health Care Facilities	\$500.00 per month

6. Tax Certificates and Compliance Letters - \$100.00 each.

7. Emergency Response Fee will be charged when the Channel - Port aux Basques Volunteer Fire Department is required to respond to an out of town accident or emergency situation. This includes responding to an accident or emergency situation on the Trans-Canada Highway within the Town's jurisdiction. The fee will be as follows:

- a) \$200.00 per hour for the pumper or any emergency response vehicles;
- b) \$30.00 per hour per firefighter;
- c) Cost of any materials used.

8. The annual Property, Business, Water/Sewer, and Poll Tax are due by June 30, 2020. Interest at the rate of 1% per month will be applied to all outstanding accounts 90 days after the due date.

9. A discount of 2 ½ % shall be allowed on any Property Tax, Business Tax or Poll Tax paid in full within thirty (30) days of the issuance of invoice or March 31, 2020, whichever date is later.

10. Special Discount on Property Tax only, paid in full within ninety (90) days of the issuance of the annual Property Tax bill, shall be granted to residential property owners who produce certification of a total household income as per the following sliding scale. Application for this special discount must be made prior to tax payment.

If your combined gross earnings before deductions for 2019 were:	Your 2020 Property Tax will be:
Below \$11,500.00	Minimum Property Tax (\$300.00)
\$11,500.01 - \$13,000.00	Minimum Property Tax or 25% of annual Property Tax Rate, whichever amount is greater.
\$13,000.01 - \$14,500.00	Minimum Property Tax or 50% of annual Property Tax Rate, whichever amount is greater.
\$14,500.01 - \$16,000.00	Minimum Property Tax or 75% of annual Property Tax Rate, whichever amount is greater.
\$16,000.01 and over	Full amount of annual Property Tax Rate.

11. Water/Sewer thawing fee - \$50.00 per hour.

12. A fee of four times the value of the Building Permit in addition to the cost of the Building Permit will be charged to any citizen who starts construction without a Building Permit or contravenes the conditions of the Building Permit.

Adjournment: With no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Keeping the meeting be adjourned at 8:09 pm. MC Unanimously


 John Spencer
 Mayor


 Julia Ingram
 Town Clerk