

**Town of Channel – Port aux Basques  
1804<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting  
February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

The 1804<sup>th</sup> 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 and Town Clerk.

**Recreation Committee Report:** Deputy Mayor Strickland presented the Recreation Committee Report of January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

1) Review minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the October 23 meeting were adopted at the October 29 council meeting.

2) Business arising from minutes:

a) Rate review recommendations: Shauna and Wanda met to discuss the rates for the Bruce II. There was a fair bit of discussion and given there has been no increase since 2016, it is recommended the new rates be implemented effective July 2020. (Attached)

b) Helmet Policy: There was a review of the helmet policy. It was agreed the operators need to ensure the policy is being followed.

c) User Groups-Room Rentals: There was discussion on various user groups utilizing both of the rental rooms at no cost when tournaments are on, leaving those rooms unavailable for party rentals. It was agreed that Wanda will discuss this with the user groups.

3) New Business

a) Recreation NL Conference-Atlantic Conference: There will be two conferences back to back. It is recommended that Shauna and Wanda attend.

b) Mental Health Training: The training will take place Thursday January 23 and Friday January 24. There are 18 people registered.

c) MMSB Approval: The proposal for the refillable water station was approved.

d) Community participation event: Shauna is looking into a community fitness challenge, a conference call will be held on January 27.

e) Dextron Unit: The tender closed for the unit. It came in over budget. The town is overseeing the project management and it is expected to be installed in late spring.

**4) Other Business**

Shauna is hoping to schedule a snow shoe event in the coming weeks.

There will be a new fitness program starting up. It will be an 8 week walking program.

There was discussion on hosting an outdoor hockey game during winter carnival.

2 a) Rate Review Recommendation – Councillor Lane asked if everyone had reviewed the rates. Everyone present said they had and were in agreement.

2. b) Helmet Policy – Deputy Mayor Strickland asked about notice on social media asking for hard hats for a hockey tournament. He said helmets must be CSA approved with a chin strap. Councillor Blackler he's not sure what the hard hats are for but in some centres they award players with a hard hat to recognize that they worked the hardest during a game.

3. b) Mental Health Training – Councillor Keeping asked what this was all about. The Town Clerk advised that the Recreation Director had a grant approved to hire a qualified instructor to put off a Mental Health First Aid Course. This was very well received.

3. e) Dextron Unit – The Town Manager advised the Province is okay with separating the dextron unit and the addition to house it however Council has to agree to cover any overage. Councillor Keeping asked if we can now go to tender for the dextron unit. The Town Manager said we have to go out for pre-quotes. If the price is too high we would have to look at going out of the province.

It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Lane the Recreation Committee Report of January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

**Economic Development Committee Report:** Deputy Mayor Strickland presented the Economic Development Committee Report of January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

1) Review minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the September 12 meeting were adopted at the September 26 council meeting.

2) Business arising from minutes:

a) Industrial Facility: There was discussion on the industrial building. It was also discussed to revisit the cost of a sign for the building.

b) CHY Update: Things are progressing well. Jim Lane provided an update at the last council meeting.

c) History Project: A new person will be hired in the coming weeks.

d) CEEP: There were 18 people employed during the CEEP project. Work was completed at the train site.

e) RV Park: Discussions have been on-going with the business owner interested in establishing a RV Park.

**3) New Business:**

a) Way Finder Guide: The Western Destination Development Board is seeking the town's support in publishing the way finder guide. The town logo will be on the guide. It is being recommended that we continue with the sponsorship at a cost of \$550.00

b) ATV Market: There was discussion on ATVs that come off the ferry and go to Tim's with no further directional signage stating how to get to the railway site where the trailway reconnects. Follow up was made with Andrew Parsons regarding a conference call with the Department.

c) Trail Update: The JCP workers were given a six week extension to carry out work along the Trailway. The weather played a major factor and about 3km was completed.

d) The Fixed Link: There will be a public meeting on January 29 to discuss the fixed link project. Todd will chair the meeting. Jim and John will help facilitate the session.

e) HNL Conference: The hospitality NL conference will be February 25-27 in Corner Brook. The approximate cost will be \$1000. It is being recommended that Shauna attend.

f) Cruise NL: The Cruise NL AGM will take place during the HNL conference.

4) Other Business: There was discussion on the tourism planning session on Feb 20.

There was discussion on the housing project.

2. e) RV Park – Councillor Lane said he spoke to Mr. Parsons who advised him he may not be up and running for Come Home Year but will have parking space available for then.

3. b) ATV Market – The Town Manager advised that he and the Economic Development Officer attending a meeting with the MHA, John Morrissey, Minister Crocker and several other officials to discuss the proposed ATV Trail and why it is taking so long. The Town Manager said the Department officials thought that 60 meters along Tim's would cost in the millions. They also talked about lights from the ATVs would be blinding to oncoming traffic. The Town Manager said the Department feels they would have to deal with multiple property owners but the only property involved belongs to the Province. Mr. MacIsaac said Minister Parsons invited Minister Crocker to come out and view this area.

Councillor Lane noted there is fencing that blocks out lights of oncoming traffic. He noted they should be able to put up a barrier with this fencing and said it would be interesting to see what the cost for this would be.

3. c) Trail Update – Councillor Lane asked how far up the trail did they get. Councillor Battiste replied as far as Edna's Road. Councillor Battiste noted they had a lot of problems with the machine.

3. d) The Fixed Link – Mayor Spencer said the public session went over well. There were 40 people in attendance. Mayor Spencer noted that CBC Radio in Sydney wants to cover this story about our ongoing efforts to lobby against this. Mayor Spencer said he is getting the presentation transcribed and put on a USB to be used at meetings in Nova Scotia.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Battiste the Economic Development Committee Report of January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

**Adoption of Minutes:** It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Keeping the 1803<sup>rd</sup> Regular Minutes of January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

**17 Harry's Lane – Water Leak:** The Town Manager advised the date was up January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. He still has not heard back from the residents. The Town Manager noted that this would be hard to repair now that the ground is frozen. Councillor Keeping said we should do a temporary fix for now and go back in the spring for them to get this fixed.

The Town Clerk advised that the resident had asked for the original work order.

The Town Manager said they haven't responded to his letters, haven't made any repairs and don't think they intend to do so.

Councillor Blackler said the resident approached him about this and he said he would respond to her to come in to meet with the Town to get this matter rectified.

It was noted that we may have no option other than to repair this and invoice them accordingly for any cost incurred.

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

**Lions Club re Warming Centre:** Correspondence was received from the Port aux Basques Lions Club advising that it was agreed at their regular meeting that they would serve as a warming centre and to contact them when needed.

It was agreed we send the Lions Club a letter of acknowledgement thanking them for their community commitment.

**Development near 33 Cox Avenue:** A letter of concern was received from the property owners of 31 Cox Avenue expressing concerns over a proposed development for an individual to build a housing unit on the property backing 33 Cox Avenue. The residents noted that when they purchased their lot on Cox Avenue they, along with others, were assured there would be no development on the backs of the street layout.


Mayor Spencer said we dealt with this issue over a year ago and Council decided that we will not be selling any land in this area for the purpose of residential housing.

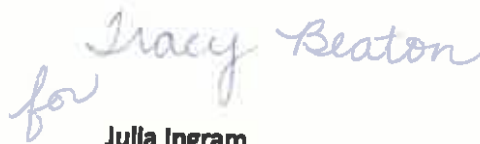
It was agreed we write the concerned residents and assure them this development will not be moving forward.

**Department of Fisheries & Land Resources Application for Crown Land Grant:** Correspondence was received from the Lands Office advising our application for a Crown title for property adjacent to our industrial building is now been registered and forwarded to various departments for their comments and recommendations.

The Town Manager noted this was the parcel of land they had previously turned down.

**Adjournment:** With no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland the meeting be adjourned at 6:45 pm MC Unanimously

  
John Spencer  
Mayor

  
for  
Julia Ingram  
Town Clerk