

**Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1809th Regular Meeting
June 18th, 2020**

The 1809th Regular Meeting of Council convened re google meet at 5:15 pm Mayor Spencer presiding. Online were Deputy Mayor Strickland, Councillors Battiste, Blackler, Coffin, Keeping and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager, Recreation Director and Town Clerk. Joining the meeting from the public were Joan Chaisson, Barb Collier and Greg Sheaves.

RCMP: Cpl. Colln Helm called into the meeting to provide Council with an update. Cpl. Helm said they are aware of the speeding issues in town. What they have done is gone out and targeted three zones which are Grand Bay Road, Grand Bay West and the bottom of LeGrow. They started in these areas but social media keeps interfering as people post when they are in the area. Cpl. Helm said they now have a LIDAR secured and this will be installed by someone not in uniform. As well they are waiting for some information from the Town from their traffic sign.

The Town Manager advised Cpl. Helm we had the radar sign on Grand Bay Road, LeGrow Street and Cox Avenue. Mr. MacIsaac said he will send Cpl. Helm the information of the times and speeds so he can get an accurate picture of the speeds in these areas.

Cpl. Helm stated once they get the LIDAR it will make a major difference in town. Cpl. Helm noted that stop signs are a major issue in town so they would like to see some infractions being handed out. Deputy Mayor Strickland said he wasn't aware we had stop signs in town by the way people are driving. Cpl. Helm said people are even ignoring yield signs so they'll be keeping an eye on this too. Cpl. Helms said if there are any issues please don't hesitate to reach out. Cpl. Helms signed out of the meeting.

For the Love of Paws Rescue: Nancy Anderson was present on behalf of For the Love of Paws Rescue to present their group's case requesting that Council provide them with space to have another shelter. Ms. Anderson said Scaredy Cat Rescue ran from a private home for five years with no issues.

The Town Manager said the current location was temporary only, this was specified very clearly in the beginning.

Mayor Spencer advised that this was already discussed by Council members and the decision was that if the group wanted to locate to a rural area of town i.e. Edna's Road they are more than welcome to but it is not permitted under our Town Plan to be in town. Mayor Spencer also advised the other temporary shelter has been put on notice that they have to vacate the building as we are trying to get businesses to set up there.

The Town Manager said he made contact a little while ago to give notice that they had to vacate by October 31st, 2020. Mr. MacIsaac said he's not sure what was permitted in the past but our Town's Development Regulations does not permit this.

Ms. Anderson asked if they have to vacate do they have to relocate outside of town as well.

Mayor Spencer noted that there are other sections of town zoned rural with a couple possibilities. Mayor Spencer said we need to sit down with both groups and explore options.

Councillor Lane said he is kind of surprised we are bringing in animals from outside of town. He said we need a shelter yes but it should be for in town animals. Councillor Lane noted that he is kind of surprised there were other areas of town. Mayor Spencer said there are other areas that we can look at.

Ms. Anderson said there are more animals being bought in town from Millville and the valley area. She noted they have a very generous couple willing to support the shelter and it will be self-sufficient.

Councillor Keeping said as a group you can make application to the Town for a plan amendment which is a very lengthy process and the public would have to be advised.

The Town Manager said there is a rezoning process. There is also vacant land in rural areas. If you want to do a pet zone that would have to be approved by Municipal Affairs.

Ms. Anderson said they are not opposed to starting with a vacant lot.

Mayor Spencer said the rezoning would be at the expense of the person applying. Ms. Anderson asked what areas of town would be available and what is the cost of rezoning? Mayor Spencer said you would have to see the mapping.

The Town Manager said it is probably not information for a public meeting but we can discuss when we meet.

Recreation Committee Report: Recreation Director Shauna Strickland presented the Recreation Committee Report of June 9th, 2020.

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

1) Review Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of the March 11 and May 7 meeting were adopted at the May 26 council meeting.

2) Business Arising from Minutes:

a) Staff and building update: There are no employees at the stadium full time. The building is being checked twice a day.

b) CHY File Closed: The come home coordinator contract was completed the end of May.

3) New Business:

a) Field Sports: There was discussion on opening the fields and the safety issues. It is being recommended to keep the fields closed until the next alert level.

b) Summer Recreation Program: There could only be 20 kids in the summer program including councillors, this would not be feasible to do. It is being recommended that the summer sports program be cancelled for this year.

c) **Scott's Cove Park:** An inquiry was received from a food vendor asking if they could open. The washrooms will not be open and at this level music will not go ahead. The committee is recommending that the food kiosks open as long as they follow all social distancing rules and have measures clearly outlined.

d) **Summer Students:** To date we have 4 students from the provincial program and no students from the federal program.

e) **Canada Day:** It is being recommended that Canada Day celebrations be postponed until the Fall.

f) **Public Washrooms:** All public washrooms will remain closed during this alert level.

g) **JCP Approval:** Funding was approved to hire four individuals to complete work at the Bruce II. This is for 14 weeks for the pool change rooms.

4) Other Business

There was a question regarding emergency lighting on the rink.

It was agreed that tables and chairs can be put out along the beach and around town.

Councillor Keeping asked about the number of students we have. Mrs. Strickland said we have 4 provincial students and today got word on the Federal students. She noted we have approved one lifeguard, one student engineer and one community services person. Councillor Keeping asked if the JCP workers can be moved around to do work on the Grand Bay West trail. Mrs. Strickland said she put in another proposal for this which she is hoping to hear from soon but in the event it doesn't get approved yes we can move the workers around. Mayor Spencer said it would be nice to see the base of LeGrow Street cleaned up.

Field Sports – Mrs. Strickland said she has been speaking with Dr. Thomas who offered to meet with the softball coordinator to discuss safety measures. She also spoke to the softball coordinator about his plans and they have put a lot of measures in place. They are only looking at offering it for older kids as younger children are more of a challenge.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane the Recreation Committee Report of June 9th, 2020 be accepted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Lane the 1808th Regular Minutes of Council be adopted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Battiste the Special Minutes of May 27th, 2020 be adopted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

Insulation Bruce II: The Town Manager advised the Facilities' Manager has been provided with the information to get the proper insulation. Councillor Lane asked if the Town Manager has been talking to the Facilities' Manager for a timeline. The Town Manager said he would expect to have it soon.

6B Knox Avenue: The Town Manager said this has been sent to a private contractor to clean up the site and the owner will be invoiced for the cost.

Bruce II Roof: The Town Manager said Efco has been out to repair some grommets and caulking and we are still waiting on Anderson's Engineering for the remainder. Councillor Keeping said they were

out for a half of a day. Councillor Keeping asked if they have to come back. The Town Manager said they were out for three days on the roof.

ATV Trails: The Town Manager advised that Mr. Coley with the Department of Transportation and Works was out and met with him on site and he indicated to Mr. Coley where we want to put the barricades to. Mr. MacIsaac said the jersey barriers were of no concern to Mr. Coley and he was going to bring this back to his supervisor.

Councillor Lane said when we talked about this before it was his understanding the Town Manager was going to call the MHA. The Town Manager said yes he followed up and the MHA was going to call the Minister's office. The Town Manager said this is back with the Deputy Minister to the best of his knowledge but he will follow up again in the morning.

New Municipal Depot: The Town Manager advised the contractor is still waiting on the major electrical component which will allow us to visit. Right now they are doing outside work and installing the electrical gate which will only permit employees on site.

Councillor Lane said he had a conversation with the provincial works superintendent and they use radios when they are out in equipment so they don't run together in bad weather. We might want to touch base with him in regards to our crews in bad weather.

Road Repairs: The Town Manager said we are still waiting on the training which was pre-empted due to COVID 19. We are now hoping to get this set up virtually.

Water Issues in Area of #6 Brook Street: The Town Manager advised last week the property owner on Harry's Lane fixed their line. He said they are still adamant it wasn't their problem but there have been no further leaks.

Grand Bay West Beach: The Town Manager said he sent out a form letter to all residents in the area to provide comment. We received three responses back which will be discussed with the Public Works Committee.

Lions Club: Councillor Keeping said he noticed the poles are being placed along the street for realignment. The Town Manager said he contacted the CEO about this shortly thereafter and was advised to copy him on all future correspondence.

Line Painting: Councillor Lane said we had a concern from a retired police officer but the Public Works Committee didn't have a chance to look at this. The Town Manager said the company is coming back to fix up some small parts but are waiting until after some repairs are done. Councillor Keeping said if you want Public Works to look at it it would be advisable to meet with the individual. Councillor

Battiste asked why the lines weren't put back by Coleman's. The Town Manager said because once the sidewalk is revamped we won't need lines there.

Correspondence: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane the correspondence be dealt with as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Softball Request: An email was received from the coordinator of the minor softball association outlining safety measures they would put in place if Council would allow them the use of the field.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said has a couple of issues with the email – number one is where they said they would clean the bats before and after but he thinks it should be done after each use. The other one is where they are asking the Town to assist with cleaning supplies. Deputy Mayor Strickland said for the amount of times they would need to use wipes they should be on the hook for the supplies but feels we can still help out to some degree.

Councillor Keeping said he agrees with Deputy Mayor Strickland on some comments but has no problem with them using the field as long as they follow the Chief Medical Officer's guidelines.

Deputy Mayor Strickland noted in the Recreation Report which we just passed we said we would wait until Level II. Councillor Lane said he we would rather wait until Level II.

Mayor Spencer said he feels the plan is a good one but feels there are some things we need to put in place i.e. no games and the bleachers are taped off until we go to Level II just practices.

Councillor Blacker said there is no reason we can't have this approved tonight and once we hit Level II the fields will be open. This will allow them time to get their registration done. Councillor Blackler said whether there is practice or a game it's identical. He said he thinks we should already move on this now.

Councillor Battiste said he thinks we should wait until Level II but tell them to go ahead and get things ready.

In Memory of Shadow Rescue: Correspondence was received from In Memory of Shadow Rescue asking if they can relocate the cat rescue to #1 Pleasant Street.

The Town Manager said we already turned down the other group for an area not zoned rural as this one is also non-conforming.

It was agreed that we are going to have to sit down with the two rescue groups and come to a compromise.

Memory Bench Late Albert White: Correspondence was received from the grandson of the Late Albert White requesting to place a plate on a bench at Scott's Cove Park in memory of his grandfather who spent countless hours at the park recording the music that was being played.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland permission be granted for the family to place a plate on one of the benches at Scott's Cove Park. MC Unanimously

Fire & Emergency Services re Emergency Management Plan: Correspondence was received from Judy Bond with Fire and Emergency Services reminding Council to revisit their plan to ensure the hazard, risk and vulnerability analysis remains relevant and that all contact information is accurate.

The Town Clerk advised that she has staff keeping this updated at all times.

American Public Works Association request to Town Manager: The Town Manager signed off of the meeting so this could be discussed as it pertained to him. Correspondence was received from the American Public Works Association asking the Town Manager to continue to serve on the Canadian Public Works Association's Board of Directors.

Mayor Spencer said he thinks this is a wonderful opportunity to have our Town Manager as a part of this group.

Councillor Keeping said he had no issues as long as it doesn't take the Town Manager away from his work.

Deputy Mayor Strickland asked about time away and the cost.

Mayor Spencer said they meet monthly by conference call. One meeting away is covered and the other one away is not. Mayor Spencer said personally he feels it is important for us to be part of this group.

Councillor Lane asked what benefit would this be to the Town.

Mayor Spencer said the networking alone would pay for itself.

The Town Manager signed back into the meeting. The Town Clerk signed off at 7:03 pm as the next piece of correspondence received was from her sister which put her in a conflict.

34 Water Street West re Sewer System: Correspondence was received from the residents of 34 Water Street West outlining troubles they have been having with their sewer system and the Town's storm sewer system which resulted in their basement being flooded. The correspondence outlines dates and cost to get the problem corrected but they feel some of it was the Town's storm sewer system which created the issues and are asking for reimbursement of some of the cost associated with the incident that happened just recently.

It was recommended this be passed over to the Finance Committee to deal with and bring a recommendation back to Council.

The Town Clerk rejoined the meeting.

Public Works Committee Report: Councillor Keeping presented the Public Works Committee Report of June 10th, 2020.

The Public Works Committee met on June 10th, 2020 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. **8 Clement Crescent – Resident request to replace or expand existing patio.** The committee was asked to visit the site because of a number of issues. Upon visiting the site and speaking with the property owner, it was determined that, though his application could not be approved in its presented form, he was satisfied with what he was permitted to construct.

2. **Councils snow push off area off of Wharf Road in Grand Bay East.** The Town Manager advised that he's been contacted by the owner of the shed we propose to remove to expand our snow clearing area. The Town Manager will arrange a meeting with the gentlemen and the public works committee will meet with him at the site to discuss the details.

3. **2019 – Public Workers Committee approved projects to be completed.** The Committee discussed a number of projects approved in 2019 that have to be completed during this construction season.
 - A. Dowding's Lane – paving and installation of small catch basin.
 - B. Catch basin and asphalt at 1 & 14 Baird Street. (Also paving at the end of this street)
 - C. Armour Stone replacement at Osmond's Lane, 33 Charles Street, Grand Bay West Causeway.
 - D. Rowe Street – Asphalt rain gutter replacement and upgrades.
 - E. Paint eaves on Industrial building.

The Town Manager will undertake the completion of these projects during this construction season.

Grand Bay West Trail – The planned walk of the trail had to be postponed to a future date, due to unforeseen circumstances.

A number of other issues were discussed that will be presented in the future meetings.

The Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon

Councillor Lane noted that the Public Works Committee also looked at place on LeGallais Street where we talked about revamping a culvert system.

The Town Manager said as he mentioned in the last meeting we'll be rerouting this system. He said the buster on the rock is a cheaper way to go unless we hit granite.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane the Public Works Committee Report of June 10th, 2020 be accepted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Purchase of Half a Plot on Smallwood Drive: Deputy Mayor Strickland said he was asked by an individual who was interested in buying a lot on Smallwood drive so he can have more room to build a shed if him and his neighbour wanted to buy the lot between them can they do so.

The Town Manager said there is one lot remaining on Smallwood Drive which has been vacant for quite some time. He has no issue with them buying the lot between them.

Councillor Keeping said just one question he has no problem with this but are they going to pay the cost of having the lot subdivided. As long as they understand they are responsible.

The Town Clerk said they would be responsible for the cost of the new surveys.

After Hours on Call: Deputy Mayor Strickland asked if we had anyone that switches rotation of on call. There was a bit of an issue of who to get hold of and are they allowed to call people?

Mayor Spencer said from his perspective text or telephone the Town Manager. If he doesn't get the Town Manager he calls the Superintendent.

The Town Manager said to call him or the Superintendent. Mr. MacIsaac said this should be discussed in house not for discussion on a conference call.

Transition 2050: The Town Manager updated Council on the next stage of the Transition 2050 Plan which we recently received funding from. The consultant will be submitting additional applications for various projects that were identified as eligible. Projects included are fuel switching, composting, building envelopes, brownfield site remediation, and energy efficiency.

Adjournment: With no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 pm MC Unanimously


John Spencer
Mayor


Julia Ingram
Town Clerk