

**Town of Channel – Port aux Basques**  
**1819<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting**  
**February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The 1819<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of Council convened via Google Meet 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. As a note three other residents joined in to observe.

Mayor Spencer read out two proclamations he had to sign one was for Heritage Week and the other was for World Lymphoma.

Mayor Spencer noted he has a Google Meet tomorrow with MNL and he will speak to Municipal Elections. As well he and Deputy Mayor Strickland will speak on this at the UMC meeting on Sunday as this is on the agenda.

**Adoption of Minutes:** It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Coffin the 1818<sup>th</sup> Regular Minutes of February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 be adopted as circulated and discussed. MC Unanimously

**Provincial Weigh Scales:** The Town Manager said we haven't received any response due to the current election. He suspects it will be some time before we get a response back.

**Seaview Lane:** Councillor Lane asked if correspondence had been sent out to the residents. The Town Manager noted the letters have gone out and we have no information to date. Mr. MacIsaac said he's not sure why they are asking for reimbursement from all four residences as the leak was attributed to one line. The Town Manager said he wanted to make a couple of points. When we first received a complaint staff repaired one line and later repaired the other three. The initial complaint was from one resident. We need clarification from all four residences.

**Dexton Unit:** The Town Manager said this will likely have to wait until after the election as well.

**Resident at 40 Smallwood Drive re Lack of Activities for Toddlers:** Mayor Spencer said we did say a letter would go out to the parent but with Level 5 this is now a moot point. Mayor Spencer noted we will have to address this again when things get back to normal. The Town Clerk advised that Mrs. Strickland did email the parent back but received no response.

**Stephenville Airport Corporation Expressions of Interest:** The Town Manager said he emailed the Stephenville Airport Corporation and put forth Council's recommendation to have Councillor Coffin serve on their Board. They were totally in agreement with this recommendation.

**Recreation Report – Ice Removal:** The Town Manager said in reference to the Recreation Committee Report regarding the first week of April for ice removal, given the current status we may have to look at taking it off earlier.

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

**Residents of 88A & 90A Grand Bay Road re Parking Spaces:** A letter was received from the residents of 88A and 90A Grand Bay Road objecting to the way the parking has changed in their area of Grand Bay Road.

The Town Manager said before we replaced the ramp we looked at boundaries in the area, the existing and current still eight (8) parking spots. He provided a copy of the parking layout previous to the meeting for everyone's review. There are eight homes in the area that require parking and they are there. Mr. MacIsaac said he's not sure where the confusion may be but the area can't accommodate people with more than one vehicle. He noted he can meet with them to show them the layout.

Councillor Keeping asked the Town Manager if the drawing of the ramp is the current one. The Town Manager explained there is one for the existing parking and then the proposed one with all the parking spaces laid out. Councillor Keeping said the Public Works Committee can look at this but if there is still the same amount of parking that's it.

Mayor Spencer said he went by and didn't see any loss of space but agreed the Public Works Committee should look at.

Deputy Mayor Strickland asked besides the parking spaces is there still enough room for a person with a walker or in a wheelchair. Mayor Spencer said he checked last night and there is no blocking for a person with a wheelchair or walker.

**Fire Department Report:** Councillor Battiste presented the Fire Department Report of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

There were 27 Firefighters and 1 Councillor in attendance.

1. Fit testing is now complete.
2. Cluster panel on the Grand Bay Truck is replaced.
3. Start on the smoke house will begin in the spring. They have 3 sea cans and are going to clear an area about 100 x 100.
4. They have more members who want to train for the Hazmat.
5. There were 7 applications for new firefighters. The interviews will be done next week.

6. They are talking about doing some pre-incident planning. I.e. going to a business to check out the layout and what is stored in the buildings.

The Mayor asked how many positions they are looking to fill. Councillor Battiste said three (3).

The Town Manager said now that the older truck has had the cluster panel replaced it has to go back to Fire and Emergency Services. The Town Clerk clarified this was not the Grand Bay truck that had the cluster replaced, it was the one that was at the Central Fire Hall which will now go to the Grand Bay Fire Hall. The truck currently in Grand Bay will go back to Fire and Emergency Services.

Councillor Keeping said it's great news on people wanting to train for hazmat.

Councillor Lane said if they are clearing the land and got three (3) sea cans then the hydrant needs to be put in place. The Town Manager said once they start the hydrant will be installed.

**Loan for New Loader:** The Town Clerk advised she reached out to the three local banks for a quote to borrow \$266,787.58 to purchase the 2021 John Deere Loader. The rates for a five (5) year fixed term/five year amortization were 1.71%, 3.49% and 2.09%. The Town Clerk said she needs a motion of Council to borrow so she can request approval to borrow from the Minister.

The Town of Channel – Port aux Basques will be seeking to borrow \$266,787.58 (Rebate factored out) to purchase a 2021 John Deere 624K Loader.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping /Seconded by Councillor Lane that:

Be it resolved that the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques borrow from BMO the sum of \$266,787.58 for the purchase of a 2021 John Deere 624K Loader for a five year fixed term/5 year amortization. The rate will be 1.71%.

In favour 7; Opposed 0; Motion Carried

**NL Power:** Deputy Mayor Strickland gave a report from a meeting Council members recently had with NL Power.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said NL Power is asking for new technology for the downtown core as they can't jump from different sections of town for the downtown area. As well the Rose Blanche remote site needs to have some work done. One thing in our last outage with the forecasted weather they did send some extra crews out in advance and assured that they will continue to do so in the future. Mr. Strickland said NL Power will be sending a letter that once repair work is done to the backup generator it will be located here permanently. This should be completed in a couple of weeks.

Another big positive is that one of the current employees has been promoted to operational manager. NL Power will be advertising for a new powerline tech and hopefully someone locally will fill the position. Mr. Strickland said that the Lions Club feed is now done.

Mr. Strickland said NL Power's priority is #1 Hospital; #2 Water Supply; #3 Seniors Home and Fuel Suppliers; and #4 Bell Tower Flagstaff Hill for communications.


Councillor Lane said Deputy Mayor one other positive that the Town is working on if and when we get the Coast Guard generator going to the Water Treatment Plant we can take that priority off their list.

Councillor Keeping said with regards to the Lions Club being on the hospital grid we should make contact and let them know so they can prepare for the warming centre.

The Town Clerk mentioned no one has coordinated anything for the Fire Hall for a warming centre. This needs to be put in place. Mayor Spencer said this is a good action item.

The Town Manager noted that a twelve (12) hour power loss is not a critical situation. He also noted the NL Hydro lines T214 and T215 are typically the problem with power loss. Mr. Macisaac said he is waiting for a response from NL Hydro on their maintenance schedule for these lines.

**Adjournment:** With no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Coffin the meeting be adjourned at 6:44 pm.

  
John Spencer  
Mayor

  
Julia Ingram  
Town Clerk