

Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1826h Regular Meeting
July 20th, 2021

The 1826th Regular Meeting of Council convened at 6:04 pm Deputy Mayor Strickland presiding. Present were Councillors Battiste, Blackler, Coffin, Keeping and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager and Town Clerk.

Art Goodyear Paving on Carson Crescent: Mr. Art Goodyear and Mr. Bill Bailey were present to discuss the dissatisfaction of the residents on Carson Crescent that the full street will not be paved once the work has been finalized. They want their street to be newly paved as is being done on Cox Avenue. Mr. Goodyear said he met with the Mayor who explained the project to him. He said the Mayor advised him that public consultations were held about this project but no one showed up, no one knew about this process. Mr. Goodyear said the workers there advised that there would no new pavement. Mr. Goodyear said he was advised by the Mayor that the engineers evaluated the pavement and deemed it satisfactory for vehicular traffic. He said he took photos of the areas of concern and passed them out showing spider patterns, pot holes and deteriorated sections of road. Mr. Goodyear said if their street is not paved it will detract from the aesthetics of the street and devalue their properties. Mr. Goodyear said the Mayor made him aware of financial constraints and time but he feels funds can be found through ways and means. He said they feel let down by Council and ask them for an honest effort to find ways and means for them to get new pavement.

Councillor Coffin asked if we can get a costing for Council to do this. The Town Manager said it would be approximately \$400,000.00. The Town Manager asked the Town Clerk the cost of doing Cox Avenue. The Clerk advised \$700,000.00.

The Town Manager said the engineers decide what needs to be done. The Town Manager said there will be a grind and patch of the whole surface but not the same as Cox Avenue.

Mr. Goodyear said if you let it go another one or two years it will be a serious situation.

The Town Manager explained the process of what will be done. He said we managed to get Carson Crescent approved because it was for storm water.

Mr. Goodyear said his understanding is we are only patching the areas dug up. Councillor Keeping said he understood we were going to patch the old and do a recap of the full street.

Councillor Lane said he had the same understanding as Mr. Bailey but didn't realize it would be recapped.

The Town Manager said it's better to come into the office and talk to him to get a clear understanding of the project.

Mr. Goodyear said he felt there was no communication with residents on the street.

The Town Manager said we weren't advised they were coming until they were on site. He noted the contractor was supposed to give us a safety plan prior to starting. Mr. MacIsaac said he wasn't aware until Monday as the consultant didn't make us aware of it.

Councillor Lane said somewhere we lacked in communicating with these people.

Once the Town Manager explained to the delegation what was going to be happening on their street they were quite pleased and thanked Council for allowing them to speak and express their concerns.

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Blackler the 1825th Regular Minutes of June 15th, 2021 be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

ATV Route: The Town Manager advised that we haven't received any complaints. He said we still need thirty additional signs to be put up. Mr. MacIsaac said the light has not been installed yet. He also noted that the RCMP had some concerns with the enforcement side of things.

Market Location: Councillor Keeping asked if the application for this project has been gone in. The Town Manager advised Mrs. Strickland has it sent in.

Sods: The Town Manager said we are going to get an additional order because of the work we did by the hospital.

Weekly Camp: Councillor Keeping asked if the rates had changed. Deputy Mayor Strickland said he understood they had changed and it was now \$100.0 per week. Deputy Mayor Strickland said instead of just being able to do a weekly one they can do the full seven weeks. Councillor Keeping said parents feel the cost is prohibitive. The Town Clerk noted that some of the spots are not filled.

Facility Update: The Town Manager advised we are still waiting on the company to come out to look at the roof. We need several days of good weather in order for them to do the repairs. Mr. MacIsaac said he has made application to the Green Buildings Municipal Fund to replace the roof completely which he is hoping will be successful.

The Town Manager said in regards to the 1.4 million we received the RFP has closed and the consultant is looking at what we can do to benefit the building. He noted that this amount of money will not address all the issues.

For the Love of Paws Rescue: The Town Manager noted he has not had a response from the group since the last correspondence in early June.

Mental Health Awareness St. James High: Councillor Blackler said it was one of the best days they had for the year. Attendance was way down in the last week but when they had this more kids showed up. He said next year it will be the first week of school.

Provincial Weigh Scales: The Town Manager said he wrote the Minister concerning this but have not received a response back. He will email the executive assistant to follow up. It was noted there are three positions filled there but they are not all permanent full time.

Social Hall: The Town Manager said he's not sure what Council's position is on opening up the social hall to the public. The Town Clerk said she had an email from the Fire Chief questioning this also.

The Town Clerk said current rules are social distancing and masking while dancing, however there is a new update coming out soon on relaxing some measures.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Blackler that we wait until the new rules are announced before making a decision. MC Unanimously

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

4 Seaview Lane Water Pressure & Stops: Correspondence was received from the owner of 4 Seaview Lane regarding his water pressure and water stops on his property, and the fact that he has not heard from anyone. He also submitted correspondence asking to withdraw his first piece of correspondence and expressing concerns that he was not notified that our employees were at his property to correct the issues.

The Town Manager said regarding residents on Seaview Lane, Gale Street, White's Road, Osmond's Lane and Chaulk's Lane staff dug up stops and did pressure test. Staff extended the probe into the house and there were no issues with pressure, the issue was in the home. Mr. Macisaac said the depth of the line in relation to this resident is 18" with fill on top so there is no way the heavy equipment could impact the line. He said we are going back to dig up the stops for the other three residents on Seaview Lane. The Town Manager said with the chemicals used to treat water you pick up sediment in the line, therefore the homeowners should check their filters.

The Town Manager said unfortunately under the Municipalities Act Section 158 we do have the ability to enter onto people's property. He noted that he thinks the staff advised the resident of the issue.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Battiste we send the resident of 4 Seaview Lane correspondence advising him of the steps taken. MC Unanimously

76 Regional Street Water Issues: Correspondence was received from the owner of 76 Regional Street stating that she was not pleased with the letter she received from the Town Manager and outlining why the water was coming in to her house when the stop was supposedly shut off which caused it to freeze even though the house was winterized. The owner also outlined her dissatisfaction the fact we did not repair her driveway which we damaged quite some time ago and the attitude of the Town Manager when he spoke to her.

Councillor Coffin asked if this has been fixed. The Town Manager said yes the resident has indicated she had some damage. The Town Manager said a picture was taken of the valve leaking in her house. He noted typically town staff does not go in a person's home.

Councillor Keeping said in reference to her driveway what year was that project done. The Town Clerk responded it was in 2010-2013 when Councillor Keeping was Town Manager. Councillor Keeping

said we did have a deal with her then but he's surprised that she didn't come back until now. Councillor Keeping said he remembers we put a lot of Class "A" there.

The Town Manager said she's upset because this is holding up her landscaping that we were never made aware of. Councillor Keeping asked if the valve was shut off. The Town Manager said yes.

The Town Manager suggested the Town Clerk write her back given how she feels about dealing with him. We can provide contact information for Municipal Affairs to her.

Councillor Battiste asked what about her driveway. Councillor Keeping said this is that long ago and he can't remember and he still doesn't understand why she didn't call or write before now.

It was agreed given the length of time since we were in the area that we not go back to do this.

18th Annual Lighthouse Relay Race to the Sea Virtual Event: An email was received from the Race to the Sea Committee seeking financial sponsorship for this year's race which will be a virtual event.

The Town Clerk advised that in the past we always donated \$500.00 but it was an event that was held in the area with a lot of economic spinoffs.

Councillor Blackler noted we should still support it because it is a great event and we wouldn't want it to fall to the wayside because of lack of support.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Blackler that we donate \$250.00 towards this year's Race to the Sea. Voted for Deputy Mayor Strickland, Councillors Battiste, Blackler, Coffin and Keeping/Against Councillor Lane.

#1 LeGallais Street Waste Management Fees: Correspondence was received from the owner of 1 LeGallais Street opposing the invoice he received for waste collection fees and explaining his reasons why. The owner said he had conversations with Western Regional Waste Management and they advised him they don't care how the garbage gets to the Transfer Site as long as it's bagged properly. Also he said that WRWM is aware that his apartment is commercial and he should have no problem to opt out.

Deputy Mayor Strickland read correspondence from the Western Regional Waste Management's CAO that outlines their position on this matter. It was noted that nowhere in the letter does it say anything about his apartment being commercial.

Councillor Lane said to clarify he did not say it was a decision of the Western Regional Waste Management, he said it was the decision of the Marine & Mountain Zone Waste Management Committee.

Mr. Sheaves, who was present in chambers, asked why is it Corner Brook and Stephenville are letting their apartment owners have contractors pick up their garbage?

The Town Manager said you were late submitting your request. Mr. Sheaves said the office was closed due to COVID which was silly as far as he's concerned because the banks were open.

Councillor Keeping said it has nothing to do with Council so he suggests Mr. Sheaves contact the MMZWMC to request a meeting.

The Town Clerk said she will forward the contact information to Mr. Sheaves by email.

7 Pleasant Street Parking: An email was received from the resident of 7 Pleasant Street regarding one particular neighbour who is taking up more than one space for parking on the street. The person stated recently this person's parking has overflowed to the front of 7 Pleasant forcing him to park on someone else's property. The resident is also complaining about an on street garage taking business on Pleasant Street and notes that he is also using town owned land to house more vehicles and boats.

The Town Manager said the resident he is referencing has been sent letters to clean up his property and advised vehicles will be towed as an on street garage is not permitted. Mr. MacIsaac said he has been ignoring all the letters. The Town Manager suggest Council issue a short order of ten days to have the debris cleaned up and the vehicles moved or the RCMP will have the vehicles towed at the owners expense.

Deputy Mayor Strickland asked what about the next day as this will be a repeat action. The Town Manager said then we will continue to have them towed.

Department of Environment & Climate Change Landfill Ban Area Expansion for Sewage & Septic Waste: Correspondence was received from the Office of the Minister of Environment & Climate Change thanking us for our correspondence of May 28th, 2021 wherein we expressed concern over the upcoming expansion to the landfill ban for sewage and septic waste. They advised while this expansion to the ban area in our region will still go ahead as planned, the Department of Digital Government and Service NL has granted an extension to the operating approval for Gale's Septic Cleaning Ltd. which will allow them to continue to service our community.

The Town Manager said the expansion area noted boundaries expanded with anyone getting notified but only one business got notified and the Department did not follow the consultation process. This can't be done to arbitrarily hurt another business owner. If this had went ahead it would have increased fees for this area.

Minister of Transport re Marine Atlantic: An email was received from the Minister of Transport thanking the Mayor for his correspondence of April 6th and 15th, 20212 regarding the roll back of Marine Atlantic's fare increases and the corporation's cost recovery rate.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Lane we make arrangements to invite the CEO and Board of Directors of Marine Atlantic to sit down to discuss this as well as the recent study that came to light that had been shelved by the Board. MC Unanimously

3 MacDonald Drive Retaining Wall: Correspondence was received from the owner of 3 MacDonald Drive requesting the retaining wall on her property that the Town installed when the road was put through be repaired as it is becoming deteriorated.

It was noted this be passed to the Public Works Committee. Councillor Keeping said there is no need for the Public Works Committee to go down there. If the Town put the retaining wall there when MacDonald Drive was put through then the Town should just have it repaired.

Stephenville Airport Corporation: Councillor Coffin noted that he spoke to the Mayor about his meeting in Stephenville but he won't know more until next Tuesday. Councillor Coffin said there is a company very interest in purchasing the Stephenville Airport. Sunwing and Pascan are both out of the picture as well as Porter Airlines. The Corporation is currently working on Flare Airlines. Councillor Coffin said the Corporation has applied to ACOA to help them out with some funding but they are not optimistic. He said before 2020 they saw 3800 passengers per year go through the airport. In 2020 they had 193 passengers. As well they had a \$220,000.00 shortfall for the runway lighting. If the company that's interested buys the airport they will have this fixed.

Roadside Vendors: Councillor Lane said up on Grand Bay Road by the Memorial Park he noticed that a vendor had set up that was creating bad traffic congestion. He asked if there's anything we can do to stop this in future.

The Town Manager said from what he understands they are paying the Legion a fee to use their land. He noted one solution would be to put a curb and gutter along there that would stop vehicles from parking on the side of the road.

Deputy Mayor Strickland said the safety issue is the problem. He asked if the Town could put a stop to them going there.

The Town Clerk suggested we talk to the Legion about our concerns. She said the vendor that was there has a permit and had permission from the Legion to go there.

The Town Manager said we can put up some No Parking signs along there.

It was agreed the Town Manager do up a new permit application stating the permit is issued subject that they use the assigned area (which will be the train site) or the permit will be revoked.

Chas White's Pond: This was an item the Mayor had on the agenda but as he is absent tonight the Town Manager explained what he had in mind.

The Town Manager said in the lower part of Regional Street there is a brook that menders up towards Hardy's Arterial where the pond is located. The Mayor thought it would be a great idea if Council could look at this in the future to put a trail in this area leading up to the pond and we could have a rest stop put in place. The Mayor felt this would be a great trail for people to avall of.

Councillor Blackler: Deputy Mayor Strickland wished Councillor Blackler well as he moves to Twillingate to take up a new position with the School Board. He thanked Councillor Blackler for his past eight (8) years on Council and his dedication to both the Town and as the Fire Department Liaison during his two terms. Everyone wished Councillor Blackler all the best.

Adjournment: With no further business it was moved by Councillor Battiste and seconded by Councillor Coffin the meeting be adjourned at 7:53 pm. MC Unanimously


Todd Strickland
Deputy Mayor


Julia Ingram
Town Clerk