

**Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1829th Regular Meeting
October 6th, 2021**

The 1829th Regular Meeting of Council convened at 7:00 pm, October 6th, 2021. Present were Mayor Elect Brian Button, Councillors Elect, Mark Andrews, Gwen Davis, Terry Ingram, Melvin Keeping, Jim Lane and Todd Strickland. Also present were the Town Manager and Town Clerk.

Oath of Office: The new Council were sworn into office.

Election of Deputy Mayor: Mayor Elect Brian Button called three times for nominations for the Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Strickland nominated Councillor Andrews – seconded by Councillor Davis.

Councillor Keeping nominated Councillor Lane – seconded by Councillor Ingram.

Both Councillors accepted the nominations.

The Town Clerk passed everyone out a blank piece of paper to mark their vote on and instructed them to place it in the ballot box one at a time. The Town Clerk counted the votes which a resident in the gallery witnessed. The Town Clerk declared Mark Andrews as Deputy Mayor by majority of vote.

Welcome: Mayor Button welcomed and congratulated the new Council members and congratulated Councillor Andrews on becoming Deputy Mayor. Mayor Button said he would like to thank the former Mayor and Council for their past four (4) years and their contribution to the town. Mayor Button said for the past Council it must have been no easy task with COVID happening.

Mayor Button thanked former Councillor Jerome Battiste who was in the gallery for his past four (4) terms on Council. He also thanked former Councillor Chester Coffin who was present for each five (5) terms. Mayor Button noted that Councillor Coffin came on through a by-election in 1994.

Wade Francis 14 First Avenue re Water Issues: Mr. Wade Francis was present to speak to Council about a problem he has with water on his property. Mr. Francis first thanked Council for allowing him to speak on such short notice but he is very frustrated. He said he has lost all interest in keeping his yard clean and tidy.

Mr. Francis said there is a spring that runs out from underneath the road at 12 First Avenue and this spring continues to run 24-7 year round. The water from this spring runs underneath the property at 12 First Avenue and onto his property. Mr. Francis said his neighbour dug a ditch that points towards his property and now his backyard is saturated to the point that even the roots from his trees are starting to come out of the ground. He noted many years ago he dug around his house and put weeping tile around in an attempt to take care of this problem, however it seems like it is getting more out of control with the amount of water that continues running from this spring.

The Town Manager advised he had staff go up and check the water for chlorine but there was none. Mr. MacIsaac said it's either a spring or natural ground water.

Mr. Francis said this has been happening only the past few years when his neighbour dug a ditch at which time he offered him to run a pipe to hook into his weeping tile but he wouldn't do it. Mr. Francis said the Town can also hook into his weeping tile should they wish.

Councillor Keeping asked did you say the ditch was dug by your neighbour towards your property to which Mr. Francis responded yes.

Mr. Francis said his back yard was looked at three times and the Town didn't run a pipe into the catch basin. They cut holes in the steel pipe that was there which is going to get blocked because of mud and dirt. Mr. Francis said they even moved someone's patio in that area to fix this pipe.

Mayor Button asked if it got worse there after the ditching was done. Mr. Francis said yes.

Mayor Button said we will get the Public Works Committee to go up and look at the issue and bring back a recommendation to Council.

Mr. Francis said he's willing to work with anyone. He noted the Town's infrastructure goes behind his property.

Mayor Button said the first thing to determine is where the problem is coming from.

The Town Clerk read the highlights of the 1828th Regular Meeting.

Canteen Contract: Councillor Keeping asked if the advertisement had gone out for the rental of the canteen. The Town Manager said yes it went out and has since been awarded.

After School Program: Councillor Keeping asked how this was going. The Town Manager said so far so good as far as he knows. The Town Clerk noted that the younger group program didn't go ahead as there was only one child registered.

Gabions at Grand Bay West Trail: Councillor Keeping said we are going to have to get the new Public Works Committee to look at this as it needs to be secured before the winter sets in.

ATV Route: Mayor Button noted the track up by the train site is getting wider and wider on the walking path and the ATVs are tearing up all the lawn. He asked if this route will be open all winter. The Town Manager said the signs will be taken down for the last of October.

Water Pressure Problems Regarding Grand Bay West Subdivision: Councillor Keeping asked the Town Manager if he received a report back yet from the contractor. The Town Manager replied yes he did earlier today.

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Councillor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Keeping the 1828th Regular Minutes of September 14th, 2021 be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Privileged Minutes: The Town Clerk read the highlights of the Privileged Minutes of September 14th, 2021 wherein the following motions were made.

Motion #091420101

Moved by Councillor Lane
Seconded by Councillor Coffin

Be it resolved the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques award the Request for Proposals for the purchase of 13-23 Pleasant Street to the highest bidder pending approval from the Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs.

Voted for 6/Against 0 Motion Carried

Motion #0914202102

Moved by Councillor Lane
Seconded by Councillor Keeping

Be it resolved the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques enter into a five year tax agreement with the purchaser of 13-23 Pleasant Street as per the terms outlined in the Economic Development Committee meeting.

Voted for 6/Against 0 Motion Carried

Motion #0914202103

Moved by Councillor Lane
Seconded by Councillor Coffin

Be It resolved the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques in conjunction with the Gateway Village Corporation move forward with the affordable housing project based on the financial data provided by the Town Manager.

Voted for 6/Against 0 Motion Carried

Motion #0914202104

Moved by Councillor Lane

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Strickland

Councillor Lane interjected and advised since he made this motion he's given it more thought and would like to withdraw his motion. Councillor Strickland said he would like to withdraw as well as he seconded it.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Strickland the Privileged Minutes of September 14th, 2021 be adopted as presented and discussed with the exception of motion #0914202104 which was withdrawn by Councillor Lane and Councillor Coffin. MC Unanimously

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

62 Grand Bay Road: A thank you card was received from the owner of 62 Grand Bay Road for correcting the water run off issue on her property.

Mayor Button said it's nice to get a thank you once in a while.

Kids Eat Smart Foundation: Correspondence was received from the Kids Eat Smart Foundation asking for support during their annual Kids Eat Smart Radiothon taking place on Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021.

The Town Clerk explained that past practice was to donate \$100.00 to each of the local St. James schools breakfast programs.

It was moved by Councillor Strickland and seconded by Deputy Mayor Andrews that we donate \$100.00 each to the St. James Regional High and St. James Elementary school breakfast program. MC Unanimously

Municipal Assessment Agency Call for Nominations: Correspondence was received from the Municipal Assessment Agency asking for nominations for the Urban and Western Directors' positions on the board.

The Town Clerk asked that if any councillor is interested to please advise her.

Quest re Net Zero Communities Accelerator Program: The Town Manager noted there are a number of programs from Quest that funnel through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador (MNL).

The Town Manager said there are a lot of projects that we can tap into based on small to mid-size projects that can also be capital. Currently we have approval through the Climate Change Challenge fund – Energy Efficiency and Fuel Switching at the Central Fire Hall for \$146,861.00 and the Bruce II Complex for \$1,408,750.00. We also had Climate Action and Awareness Fund through Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association for the roof at the Grand Bay West Garage.

Currently we are applying through the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Fund with Fundamentals Inc. which can be stacked with the Climate Change Challenge Fund.

The Town Manager said we've also applied through the Brownsfield Remediation Program with FCM for the redevelopment of the former Municipal Depot Site on Main Street which is capital project funding. The application has been initiated through a partnership with MITACS and Memorial University's Grenfell Campus. MITAC is a national, not-for-profit organization that has designed and delivered research and training programs in Canada. Mitacs programs are supported jointly by provincial and federal governments and agencies, industry and universities within Canada, as well as governments and universities overseas. This will be a capital project and our share can be as low as 10% or as high as 50%.

Mr. MacIsaac said for the Bruce II when applying for Climate Change it will be approximately five million to do the whole building so we are aiming for further funding on for this. The project has been initiated through the various partners. He said himself and the Town Clerk pool together with other communities for training for climate change initiatives and that is where the Climate Change Challenge Fund stemmed from. Mr. MacIsaac said we have a good control point with NL Power and NL Hydro.

Mr. MacIsaac said as for the asset management we've been doing this for the past few years for above and below ground.

The Town Manager said for us to get in on some of the projects through Quest we would have to invest \$6,000.00. The deadline for submissions of interest is October 17th, 2021.

It was moved by Councillor Keeping and seconded by Councillor Strickland the Town would participate in this initiative in the amount of \$6,000.00. MC Unanimously

Site Specific Health & Safety Plan: The Town Manager said each year we have to submit a Site Specific Health and Safety Plan to Transportation and Infrastructure because we don't have the space to house our own salt and sand.

Mr. MacIsaac said the Town did apply for funding to construct a new salt shed and received approval for \$692,275.00 however in all likelihood it won't go to tender until the Spring. Once it is constructed we can house all our own salt/sand. Currently the requirement of the Province is anyone going on their site needs CORE which no one in town has or submit a Site Specific Health and Safety Plan.

Bruce II Dehumidifier: The Town Manager gave the background on this project. The Town was provided with \$500,000.00 to construct an extension on the pool and purchase a new dehumidifier which came in over \$200,000.00. Because it was higher we went back to the Department and asked for project management which was denied. We obtained our own quotes for the addition which were a lot lower and this was recently constructed. When we first started this project we went through Anderson's Engineering who relinquished their interest in the project and the Town had to get another consultant. Through all this process Mr. MacIsaac said he forgot to get a motion of Council to award the project to Aguantha Drafting and Consulting (ADC).

Motion #20211005

Moved by Councillor Strickland/seconded by Deputy Mayor Andrews

Be it resolved that the Town of Channel - Port aux Basques wishes to engage Aguathuna Drafting and Consulting Company to provide a Level of Effort price and breakdown for the scope of work required to complete the engineering design work associated with the project: Bruce II Complex Dehumidification Unit and Roofing System Upgrades Project # 17-SCIF-19-00095. Formal Engagement of Aguathuna Drafting and Consulting Company through a Prime Consultant Agreement will only occur if the pricing obtained for this service is considered fair and reasonable by The Department of Transportation & Infrastructure. Council will provide documentation as required by PPA and have this available to PPA representatives if required in the future.

In favour 7 /Against 0 Motion Carried

Committee Structure: Mayor Button presented the Committee Structure that he had prepared. He noted when he looked at this he looked at where people best fit. He said he noticed the past Mayor didn't sit on many committees but he wants to be involved. Mayor Button said at one time the Committee Chair read the report that staff had prepared and they would be present as a resource person which is what he'd like to do going forward.

**Town of Channel-Port aux Basques
Committee Structure
(Effective October 6th, 2021)**

Finance and Human Resources Committee

**Councillor Gwen Davis – Chairperson
Mayor Brian Button
Councillor Jim Lane
Town Manager Leon MacIsaac
Town Clerk Julia Ingram**

Economic Development Committee

**Councillor Melvin Keeping- Chairperson
Councillor Todd Strickland
Mayor Brian Button
Town Manager Leon MacIsaac
Economic Development/Recreation Director – Shauna Strickland**

Public Works/Fishery Issues

**Councillor Terry Ingram – Chairperson
Councillor Melvin Keeping
Councillor Jim Lane
Town Manager Leon MacIsaac**

Recreation/Tidy Towns/Special Events

**Councillor Todd Strickland – Chairperson
Councillor Gwen Davis
Councillor Mark Andrews
Town Manager Leon MacIsaac
Economic Development/Recreation Director Shauna Strickland**

Marine Atlantic Committee

**Councillor Jim Lane – Chairperson
Councillor Todd Strickland
Councillor Melvin Keeping
Town Manager Leon MacIsaac**

Health Care Issues

**Councillor Mark Andrews – Chairperson
Councillor Gwen Davis
Mayor Brian Button**

Liaison Committee For Fire Brigade

**Councillor Jim Lane
Councillor Terry Ingram**

Disaster Plan Committee

**Mayor Brian Button
Deputy Mayor
Councillor Terry Ingram
Town Manager Leon MacIsaac
Work Superintendent**

Southwest Coast Waste Management Committee

**Councillor Melvin Keeping
Town Manager Leon MacIsaac, Resource Person**

Southwest Coast Joint Council

Councillor Mark Andrews

Urban Municipalities Committee

Mayor Brian Button

Port aux Basques and Area Chamber of Commerce

Councillor Todd Strickland

Southwest Coast Historical Society

Councillor Gwen Davis

Peaceful Communities

Councillor Mark Andrews

Stewardship Association of Municipalities (Sam)

Councillor Terry Ingram

Stephenville Airport Cooperation

Councillor Jim Lane

The Town Clerk said that normally she would be on the Disaster Plan Committee not the Works Superintendent.

Mayor Button asked what role the Works Superintendent played in a disaster. The Town Clerk responded the Superintendent would follow the directions of the Town Manager.

Mayor Button noted that he'd like to get together with the whole committee to have some discussions on the Disaster Plan.

Adjournment: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Andrews and seconded by Councillor Strickland with no further business the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 pm. MC Unanimously



Brian Button
Mayor



Julia Ingram
Town Clerk