

**Town of Channel – Port aux Basques  
1839<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting  
May 17, 2022**

The 1839<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of Council convened at 6:00 pm Mayor Button presiding. Present in Council Chambers were Councillors Davis, Ingram, and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager and the Town Clerk. Deputy Mayor Andrews and Councillor Strickland attended by Google Meet.  
Regrets: Councillor Keeping

**Adoption of Minutes:** It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Davis the 1838<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

**Business Arising from Minutes:**

**Aquatic Update:** Mayor Button asked about an update on whether more students were hired to help with the flexibility of the pool staff. The Town Manager informed that they do have a couple more students and will have a couple more in the near future that will be hired through student grants.

**Fireworks:** Mayor Button asked if the Fire Department had any discussions on the fireworks issue and Councillor Strickland advised they have not yet discussed.

**Baseball Field:** Mayor Button asked if the issues with the baseball field has been addressed and the Town Manager advised that work is being done this week to resolve the water drainage issue.

**Multi-Purpose Court:** Mayor Button asked if there has been a timeline established for this work. The Town Manager advised the work schedule for this project depends on the availability of the paving companies. Councillor Lane asked if we could do the paving but the Town Manager said because of the size of the court we would not do a good job. The Economic Development Officer is also looking into an alternative for the surface of the multi-purpose court but delivery of this product is uncertain as well.

**Summer Students:** Mayor Button asked if summer student interviews have been scheduled yet because many students are starting to accept jobs now. Councillor Lane said the ads for these positions are not out yet. Mayor Button commented that this may have to be completed earlier for next year as many businesses start hiring in June and we may be competing to get the students that are available.

**Grand Bay West Gablon Cages & Rain Storm:** Councillor Lane expressed concern over the status of repairs to the Grand Bay West Trail. The Town Manager advised that a couple of staff are designated for certain areas like water and sewer issues and the rest of the staff have been patching potholes and collecting garbage for Clean up Week so they have not been available to work on the trails as well. Councillor Lane said he is concerned the repairs will not get done for Come Home Year. Mayor Button also restated his concern over debris on the trail that may cause a safety hazard. The Town Manager advised that a couple areas of the trail require significant resources with staff and equipment. Mayor

Button stated that when we develop these areas in our Town we need to make sure we can maintain them and not rely on grant workers for repairs. We need to be able to react when maintenance is required.

Councillor Lane also expressed his concern over the dangers on Newfoundland Trailway. Mayor Button advised that the work is currently out for tenders and that repairs are required across the Island and not just in our area. The Town Manager also advised that compiling information on all the damages has been challenging and getting the supplies and equipment to these areas is difficult.

**Marine Atlantic re Cost Recovery:** Mayor Button asked if there has been any correspondence from Minister Hutchings office and the Town Manager advised there has been no response. The Mayor said it is very frustrating that since this council has been in office we have not been able to meet with the Minister or even get a timeline for a possible meeting. The Minister's social media pages show that she is visiting small businesses in her district but have not been to our area at all.

**Community Market:** The Mayor asked if we have the groundwork started for the Community Market and the Town Manager advised that we are waiting on the contractor's availability of his excavator. The contractor currently has just the one excavator and it is being used on the demolition of the old town depot. The Mayor asked if this will hold up the community market project and the Town Manager advised that the contractor is working on getting a second excavator and will attend to the community market location as soon as possible. Councillor Lane is concerned about being held up by contractors and the Mayor asked if we have a backup person that we can avail of? The Town Manager advised that we can't break a tender contract and that the work will get completed. Councillor Lane expressed concern in the language of our contracts and maybe we should revise them if contractors can't deliver in time. The Town Manager reminded the Councillors that the tender just got awarded in the last two weeks and they need to be more patient. Councillor Lane and Mayor Button continued to express that their concern is with not being able to get projects completed on time.

**Proposal for Overhead Amber Light at Intersection of Martin's Corner:** Councillor Lane advised that Public Works need to have further discussions to come up with alternate solution.

**Newfoundland Power Submission to Relocate Poles & Lighting on the Grand Bay West Causeway:** The Town Manager advised the local NL Power office is waiting on final budget approval from the Department head but should be soon ready to proceed.

**SAM – Stewardship Association of Newfoundland and Labrador:** The Mayor asked if the SAM organization were ready to do their presentation on the piping plover and the Town Clerk advised she received an email from them of some possible dates that she will forward to the councillors.

**Tender for Salt Shed:** Mayor Button asked for an update on this tender and the Town Manager advised there have been discussions with the minister on this project that have been positive and the details should be complete soon.

**Tender for Dextron Unit Regarding Bruce II Sports Centre** – The Town Manager advised this project should start in the next two to three weeks. This project is now being reviewed with the government department and the contractor.

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

**Port aux Basques YBC:** A letter was received from Port aux Basques YBC requesting a contribution to assist one of their bowlers who will be travelling to the Canadian YBC National Championship in Oshawa. This youth bowler recently won gold in the NL Provincial Female Bantam YBC Division in St. John's and is guaranteed a place in the national competition to represent Port aux Basques and Newfoundland and Labrador but all expenses are to be covered by the competitor.

Mayor Button noted that Deputy Mayor Andrews left the meeting via Google Meet for this motion as he declared he was in a conflict of interest on this correspondence.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Ingram to donate \$250.00 to Port aux Basques YBC to sponsor Mya McNeil for her travel to the Canadian YBC National Championship. Voting for: (5) Mayor Button, Councillors Lane, Ingram, Davis and Strickland. Motion carried.

**Make a Wish Foundation – Run the Rock:** A letter was received from Make a Wish Foundation asking for our support of the 16 crew members from the Canadian Navy frigate HMCS St. John's in their 27<sup>th</sup> Run the Rock event. Make a Wish Foundation creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Money raised by this event is used for granting wishes to children and families in our province.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Davis to donate \$250.00 to the Make a Wish Foundation – Run the Rock event. MC Unanimously

**Raw Materials and Supply Chain Update:** The Town Manager received an email from the Sales Director of PPG Traffic Solutions regarding Supply Chain constraints and inflation that persists into 2022. The Town Manager advised they are the prime supplier for traffic line paint and we are sourcing other supplies such as other towns that may have stored line-painting supplies. Councillor Lane asked if we accessed the town for the current line markings to see if there are any areas we don't have to paint but the Town Manager said everything has to be repainted. The main concern is getting the crosswalks completed which may have to be simplified and may have to be all yellow if we don't get the paint supply we need. The Town Manager also advised there are no local temporary alternatives as it won't adhere to the pavement like the actual road paint.

Economic Development Committee Report, May 2, 2022

- 1) Minute of last meeting: The minutes of the February 23 were adopted by council.
- 2) Business arising from minutes:
  - a) Astrolabe Day Application: Funding to host events for Astrolabe Days was approved.
  - b) Regional Trails - Active Transportation Fund: An application was submitted to hire a consultant to examine a regional trail network from Rose Blanche to Cape Anguille.
  - c) SEP - Capacity Grant: A meeting with the facilitator is arranged for May 3, this will determine possible dates for the session.
  - d) CHY- Cultural Funding: Funding was approved to develop information panels to be placed at key attractions around town.
  - e) CHY Roof Repairs: Funding has been approved to complete the roof at the Railway Heritage Museum. There were two quotes received. The committee reviewed and recommend the lowest bidder.
  - f) Multi-Cultural Grant: A free evening of bowling and swimming was provided to celebrate multiculturalism.
  - g) Nicor: A quote was reviewed to capture new drone footage and to compile a collection of photos that the town can use for marketing and promotion and on the town website.
  - h) Downtown - Scott's Cove Park: The funding application for repairs to the entertainment area and structure has not been approved to date. There was discussion on the material to make the colourful flags. Shauna has been in contact with the supplier and he is having issues finding material at an affordable cost. Shauna is waiting on a quote. There are 30 hanging baskets ordered, to be placed along the downtown.
  - i) Adopt a Spot: There have been some interest in the Adopt a Spots.
  - j) Community Market Approval: Funding has been approved for the new community market location.
  - k) RV Park: The business person is progressing with land development and is hoping to have water hooked up for this summer.
- 3) New Business
  - a) JCP Grant for CHY: A funding application has been submitted to hire 5 workers for the Come Home Year Celebrations.
  - b) ATV Signage: The ATV signs are installed along the designated route. There are no changes from last year.
  - c) Tourism Southwest: The levy group have agreed to contribute \$1000 to the two larger municipalities to advertise their events through radio ads or other marketing opportunities.
  - d) Salvation Army Partnership - The mayor asked Shauna to reach out to speak to the Captain of the Salvation Army to discuss possible partnerships. They have an interest in establishing a community green space garden for the new senior complex.
  - e) Tourism Luncheon - Tourism Southwest will sponsor a luncheon to celebrate tourism month. Someone from the tourism board will speak and Shauna will seek a venue and make contact with the tourism partners in the region.

- f) **Municipal Awareness Week** - The week of May 9-13 is Municipal Awareness Week. Shauna will contact the school to see if they would be interested in bringing the kids over to look at the equipment.

**CHY Roof Repairs:** The Town Manager Advised the contractor will begin as soon as the weather improves.

**Nicor:** The Town Manager advised that our updated website is live. It is much user friendly and will continue to improve once we upload new photography.

**Downtown:** The Town Manager advised that the Economic Development Officer has received a quote on the cost of the flags and would like Council to review and make a recommendation.

**RV Park:** The Town Manager advised that during a regular town drive around with Councillor Ingram it is not evident that this RV Park will be ready for this summer season unless a lot of work is completed in the new few weeks.

**Municipal Awareness Week:** Kindergarten to Grade 2 from St. James Elementary visited the Bruce II Sport Center where the town had their heavy equipment on display and the kids were provided with a snack.

Councillor Ingram asked about the intended use of the old digital Bruce II sign. Councillor Strickland advised that it will be used for promoting the Community Market.

Mayor Button asked if the JCP in this report will be installing the post to designate the ATV trail. This project may be worked on by both town workers and JCP workers to get all the post installed. Councillor Lane said there is an issue of tractor-trailers parking along the highway near Tim Horton's that is interfering with the ATV trail. The Town Manager advised that some markings will go along there as well to help with the issue in that location.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Deputy Mayor Andrews for the Economic Development Report of May 2, 2022, be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

**New Business:**

**Clean up Week – Cost of Tandems:** The Town Manager advised that the cost of tandems for Clean-up Week has increased 30.00 / hour from last year. This cost increase came from all contractors with tandems so the cost of Clean-up Week will reflect this increase.

**Discretionary Use Applications:** The Town Manager advised of a business application that required a notice of Discretionary Use to be advertised. It is as follows:

- A Nail Service Business located at Civic # 24 Legrow Street

This Discretionary Use Notice will be advertised for 2 weeks with comments to be submitted in writing by 4pm, Friday, May 27, 2022.

Hearing no complaints or concerns, it was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Ingram that if there are no comments received by the published deadline, Council gives approval to grant this business a permit to operate. MC Unanimously

**Motion for Appeals Commissioner:** The Town Clerk advised that we need to appoint an Appeals Commissioner in the case if we receive an appeal if value of property or business tax.

**Motion # 20220517 Appeal Commissioner**

Moved by Councillor Lane / seconded by Councillor Davis

Be it resolved that the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques appoint Jim Mercer as the Appeal Commissioner for the Town of Channel - Port aux Basques.

**Adjournment:** It was moved by the Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Davis that with no further business the meeting be adjourned at 7:28 pm. MC Unanimously



Brian Button  
Mayor



Nadine Osmond  
Town Clerk