

Town of Channel – Port aux Basques
1840th Regular Meeting
June 14, 2022

The 1840th Regular Meeting of Council convened at 6:00 pm Mayor Button presiding. Present in Council Chambers were Deputy Mayor Andrews, Councillors Ingram, Keeping, Strickland and Lane. Also present were the Town Manager and the Town Clerk. Councillor Davis attended by Google Meet.

Adoption of Minutes: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Andrews and seconded by Councillor Lane the 1839th Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

Business Arising from Minutes:

Baseball Field: The Town Manager confirmed that the work for the water drainage issue for the ball field was complete. Councillor Strickland asked what the drainage issue was and Mayor Button advised a French drain was installed to take the water draining from the main road to the culverts and away from the field. Mayor Button also recommended that the Recreation Committee review the overall status of the ball field to do some upgrades that we may be able to get funding for.

Multi-Purpose Court: The Town Manager advised that the alternative surface that the Economic Development Officer was researching came in at approximately \$26,000.00 and the cost of the asphalt surface would be approximately \$19,000.00. The asphalt contractor for the TCH on the Southwest Coast may be set up in the area which the Town Manager will confirm. Since the contractor is in our area, paving the multi-purpose court will be more affordable. Repairs to the fencing will come from the supplies left at the old Town Depot site.

A discussion on paving continued stating the bad condition of our roads from South Branch coming into Port aux Basques, especially during Come Home Year when former residents are returning to the province. The Town Manager will write a letter to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure with our concerns.

Grand Bay West Gabion Cages & Rain Storm: The Mayor asked for an update on the work to the Grand Bay West Trail. The Town Manager advised that the Economic Development Officer is in the process of hiring JCP workers to work on this project. The Town is also waiting to hear from the Minister on our funding request to repair damages from the storm. Councillor Lane asked for an update on the provincial trailway. The Mayor advised the contracts were awarded but the companies who received the contracts were not announced. The Town Manager will get a further update with some timelines.

Marine Atlantic re Cost Recovery: The Town Manager advised there still has been no correspondence received from Minister Hutchings office. There may be some federal funding announcements coming soon so the Minister may visit the area.

Community Market: The Mayor said he noticed that work has begun on the Community Market and asked about the concrete platform. The Town Manager advised the concrete will be poured as soon as the weather improves.

Newfoundland Power Submission to Relocate Poles & Lighting on the Grand Bay West Causeway: The Town Manager advised NL Power will be starting this project.

Tender for Salt Shed: Mayor Button asked for an update on this tender and the Town Manager advised we are still waiting on the final decision.

Tender for Dextron Unit Regarding Bruce II Sports Centre – Mayor Button asked for an update on the Dextron Unit. The Town Manager advised the unit has been ordered but due to availability of products it is estimated that it may not arrive until November or December.

Port aux Basques YBC: Mayor Button wishes luck to the young lady traveling to the Canadian YBC National competition to represent Port aux Basques.

Raw Materials and Supply Chain Update: The Mayor asked if we had any luck locating supplies for the traffic paint. The Town Manager advised that the contractor for the line painting do have some supplies to start line painting and will start as soon as there are a few nice days together in the weather forecast.

RV Park: Councillor Keeping advised that work is proceeding.

Downtown - Scott's Cove Park: The Town Manager advised work will begin early next week to replace some of the decking and get the sail installed on the stage. Kiosks have been repaired and updated and security cameras and new lighting will be installed. Mayor Button confirmed that all kiosks are rented for the summer and Marine Atlantic will be offering the bus service this year for ferry passengers to visit Scott's Cove while they are waiting for the ferry to depart.

Salvation Army Partnership: Councillor Keeping asked if there had been any discussions with the Salvation Army and Mayor Button said the Economic Development Officer did meet and discuss a possible project for the site of the affordable housing. It may start with an Adopt a Spot and once the housing is fully developed further discussions can take place for a possible garden area.

CHY Roof Repairs: Mayor Button advised the roof on the Railway Heritage Museum is now complete.

Clean up Week – Cost of Tandems: Mayor Button said we have completed Cleanup Week but still have a few properties of concern. The Town Manager advised he will issue notices to some properties owners requesting to clean up their property.

Adoption of Special Minutes: Mayor Button explained we had a special meeting after the regular meeting on May 17 to review a quote received to replace various banners at Scott's Cove. This was a request of the Economic Development Officer so an order could be placed as soon as possible to secure delivery. Motion Presented: It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Strickland that the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques proceed with ordering new banners from Awntech as recommended by the Economic Development Committee. – MC Unanimously

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Strickland that the Special Meeting of Council be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

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

RCMP: A letter was received from the new Commanding Officer, Jennifer Ebert, regarding our concerns with the level of RCMP presence in our area. Ms. Ebert thanked the Town for a warm welcome to the province and assured that the RCMP is working with the Department of Justice and Public Safety NL to ensure they provide a sustainable and effective policing model. Ms. Ebert recommends that the Town Council connect with the District Commander and District Officer to discuss issues in our area.

Mayor Button said that we wrote the letter to the RCMP once the federal budget came out and we voiced our concerns on where some of the money should be spent. Mayor Button advised that her suggestion of meeting with the District Commander and District Officer has been done already on a regular basis. The Council will continue to connect with the RCMP and the Minister of Justice to keep voicing their concerns for our area.

Residents of 7 Second Avenue: A letter and photographs were received from residents of 7 Second Avenue regarding the unsightly condition of a property that borders the rear of their property. These residents are concerned that the constant untidy property will affect the resale value of their property once they list it on the market in the near future. The Public Works Committee will visit the property and report back to Council.

Clar Simmons Scholarship: An email was received from the Municipal Assessment Agency asking us to circulate information on the Clar Simmons Scholarship to Council and employees. The fact sheet on this scholarship explains the criteria and the process to apply. The Town Clerk will circulate copies of the Clar Simmons Scholarship to the staff.

Rural Economic Development and Rural Broadband Strategy: The Mayor received a letter from three MPs of the Rural Economic Development and Rural Broadband Strategy requesting us to express the three most important issues impacting our economic development as a rural community. These MPs recognize the economic contributions from rural communities yet municipalities under 20,000 residents receive less support from the federal government. This letter will go to the Economic Development Officer for follow up.

Public Works Committee: The Public Works Committee met on Friday, May 26th, 2022, at 9:00 am and Friday, June 9th, 2022 at 2:00pm. Present were Councillors Ingram, Keeping, and the Town Manager. There were a number of items tabled for discussion and sites visited:

Friday, May 26th, 2022, at 9:00 am:

1. **77 Grand Bay Road – Road runoff and Drainages Issues:** After assessing the Town Manager will arrange to have the open ditch and culverts/catch basin along the road in front the resident's property clean out.

Note – To Infill the ditch along the front of his property could create a problem of flooding in his basement.

2. **15 Kettle's Lane Open Ditch and Drainage problem behind the property:** The open ditch behind the property wasn't installed by the Town and is the responsibility of the homeowner. However, there is a town culvert at the base of the property that this open ditch can be connected to. Town Manager will arrange to have the ditch connected at the base and place a screen in front of the culvert.
3. **Access road to Transfer Shed Property:** The Committee revisit this area and determined there is a catch basin and asphalt gutter directing water from Caribou Road that needs to be cleaned out and repaired. Also, the access road is in need of asphalt repairs. We recommend these patch repairs to be undertaken and the catch basin at the base of the road be cleaned out.

Councillor Keeping advised that this job would need follow up to ensure that there is no water flowing pass the catch basin.

4. **32 Dennis Road Subdivision:** Property owners request to purchase a small piece of Town land adjacent his property to enlarge his lot. We recommend this request be approved.
5. **43 Grand Bay Road:** Water issues on property that started last Fall. We visited the site and conformed there is a problem. The Town Manager will take steps to address the problem.
6. **Industrial Park Land:** The Committee discussed the issue that there is only one building lot remaining in the park. The committee recommends that the Town take steps to investigate and secure the portion of Crown land at the end of the park, near the Town Garage. This area could be used to develop more commercial/industrial lots.

The Town Manager advised that the land that we do own in the Industrial Park has been finalized and registered.

7. **Clement Crescent – Complaint regarding exposed sewer line connections to Town Sewer Outfall:** Committee visited the site and confirmed there is a problem and repairs will be undertaken when we receive funding from the Province/Federal Storm Damage Funding Program.
8. **Martins Corner Intersection:** The committee again visited this site to assess and discuss issues. Given the fact an overhead traffic light won't work in this area we agreed that before the contractor paints the intersection in this area that we the committee be given the layout before they start. Also, we discuss the possibility of a warning light for traffic coming from Brook Street and Lakeshore Drive Intersection. Town Manager will continue to investigate the types and cost of traffic control and lighting.

9. **The Committee also visited the following sites and discussed the following items:**
1. **Town Quarry Site off Isle aux Morts Road**
Councillor Keeping advised that as part of our funding application for repairs from the storm surge we needed to confirm the supply of armour stone. After assessing the area there is more than enough amour stone to do our repairs.
 2. **Town Storage Shed at the Closed Dump Site near Barachois Hill**
Councillor Keeping advised that this storage shed is in good shape so this will be moved down to the industrial park area to store all of our recreation equipment that gets stored currently in the old fish plant building.
 3. **Site for Fire Department smoke training facility off Isle aux Morts Road**
 4. **New Salt Shed Tender**
 5. **Discuss the status of:**
 - 1) **Love of Paws Agreement** – This is currently with the Lawyer's office and will be finalized soon.
 - 2) **Grand Bay West Subdivision Water Pressure Problem** – A funding application has been submitted for this work and the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure had discussions with the engineers on their plan and strategy to fix this issue.
 - 3) **Grand Bay Bottom, Sewer/Wastewater Outfall** – The consultants on this project met with Public Works to discuss the plan going forward.

Friday, June 9th, 2022, at 2:00 pm:

1. **Come Home Year Tent:** The Committee discussed if the tent will be used during Come Home Year and the importance of having it located and checked to assure its ready for use.
2. **School Bus Shelter that was relocated near "Butterfly Book Boutique" on Main St:** The Committee discuss the issue that has risen since relocating the shelter:
 - a. Bus won't stop at this location. (Town Manager will contact the School Board to question why there is an issue.)
 - b. Shelter is blocking the Butterfly Book Boutique's advertising sign on side of the building. When we get a response from the School Board we will have to be relocated to address the pickup/drop off issue. If it stays at its present location we may have to move it back 5 or 6 feet to address the advertising sign issue.
3. **29 Legrow Street:** Resident inquired if the Town has weeping tile drainage in the vicinity of his home that they could connect his surface water drainage to. The Committee visited the area but couldn't determine if there was a weeping system there. The Town Manager will have staff check this out.
4. **Train Site Rail Care Structure at Museum:** This issue was discussed last fall with the plan to have a full discussion with Council. This meeting hasn't taken place yet and we recommend that a meeting be held in the near future to deal with this.
5. **43 Grand Bay Road:** The Committee reviewed Public Work Reports since last October 2021 to determine what has been completed and what needs to be done to complete any and all outstanding jobs/projects. Town Manager explained what is completed to date and the plans to complete the remainder during this construction season.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Deputy Mayor Andrews that the Public Works Reports be adopted as presented and discussed. MC Unanimously

New Business: The Town Clerk advised that with the start of the Affordable Housing Project our auditor requested a motion of Council to confirm our In-kind investment to this project.

Motion # 20220614 Affordable Housing

Moved by Councillor Lane / seconded by Councillor Strickland

Be it resolved that the Town of Channel - Port aux Basques confirms to invest an in-kind contribution, which will include installation of the water and sewer infrastructure, to the Affordable Housing Project.

In favour 7 / Against 0 Motion Carried

Adjournment: It was moved by the Councillor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Lane that with no further business the meeting be adjourned at 6:57 pm. MC Unanimously



Brian Button
Mayor



Nadine Osmond
Town Clerk