

Town of Channel – Port aux Basques

1857th Regular Meeting, July 18, 2023

The 1857th Regular Meeting of Council convened at 6:00 pm Mayor Button presiding. Present in Council Chambers were Deputy Mayor Andrews, Councillors Ingram, Strickland, Keeping, Davis, and Lane. Also present were Town Manager, Leon MacIsaac and the Town Clerk, Nadine Osmond.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Andrews and seconded by Councillor Strickland the 1856th Regular Meeting of Council, be adopted as presented and discussed.
MC Unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

CCCF – Bruce II Fuel Switching & Energy Refit Project: The Mayor asked if we heard anything from the project consultants and contractors on the schedule. The Town Manager said that we did not receive an update. The Mayor said we have sent emails and made phone calls, but we will need to follow up again.

Dilapidated properties – The Mayor asked if there has been any movement on the dilapidated properties. The Town Manager advised that not much has been done by the property owners since our last meeting so he will ask Council to consider a demolition order on the properties that are not occupied. Council can have further discussion on this and make the motion for a demolition order under new business in a future meeting.

New Salt Shed – Town Manager advised that Municipal Affairs just received the drawings from the consultant a couple of days ago. They need to review to approve. The Town Manager stressed it needs approval asap. The Mayor believes that the salt shed will not get completed again this year.

Taverner Drive and Smallwood Drive Subdivision – The Town Manager advised the RFP for the Booster Station for the Grand Bay West subdivision area was out to consultants. There is a request for approval from the Council in new business to approve the selected consultant for Grand Bay West and two other projects.

Grand Bay West Trill: The Town Manager advised that we are expecting an updated report from Mills and Wright next week.

Affordable Housing: The Town Manager advised that appliances will be delivered soon and there is a bit of site work to be done. The paving company will be in town soon and will be paving this site. There is a delay on cabinetry for 2 units but everything else is on schedule. We are hoping to have everyone in by September 1 barring any further delays.

Softball Field: The Mayor noticed that work was being done on the back stop. The Town Manager advised the mechanics had to fabricate a couple of parts and it will be completed very soon.

Line Painting Tender: The Town Manager advised that some line painting is left to complete as we have had a lot of rain. The line painting crew will be back to complete.

Email received from resident of Currie Avenue – Mayor Button asked if the issue with the pigeons on Currie Avenue has stopped. The Town Manager was uncertain, and the Mayor asked him to follow up.

Recreation, Softball Field: The Mayor asked if the application for constructing new washrooms at the Softball Field was submitted. The Town Clerk advised that the Economic Development Officer had submitted a few applications this week and believes one of them was for the washrooms.

Councillor Strickland advised that Eddie MacDonald (softball trainer) did respond to him about some improvements that can be made in the future. This will be part of the next Recreation Meeting.

Basketball Court: Mayor Button said that the basketball court needs maintenance work as some of the fencing is now a safety issue. The Town Manager advised that most of the fencing will be replaced.

Mayor Button said regarding comments about our lawn mowing over the summer, it has been difficult to keep up with the lawn mowing considering the weather we had this year. We need to have more people mowing once the weather allows it. We can consider hiring more companies for the various areas. The Town Clerk advised that there was a company who recently inquired for next summer, but we could ask them to do a certain area to help Parks and Rec for now. Councillor Strickland said that we could ask the various people in town who are lawn mowing to take on a particular spot rather than one company doing it all. We can consider this for next summer.

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

Letter received from Veteran Canada Riding Club – Letter received from a representative of the Veteran Canada Riding Club Canada asking for support in naming a section of the TCH as Valour Memorial Highway. Mayor Button said although naming a section of the highway is not in our jurisdiction, I'm sure we would all support this.

It was motioned by Councillor Strickland and seconded by Councillor Keeping to support the Veteran Canada Riding Club Canada's endeavor to rename a section of the TCH as Valour Memorial Highway. MC Unanimously

Email received from a resident of Regional St – An email was received explaining that water run off from Brook St into the catch basin area is not suitable to handle the water flow. It has been an ongoing issue and has caused flooding in his basement several times. The Town Manager advised that when the work is complete on Brook Street this should mitigate the water run off down to Regional St. He has also asked the consultant for the Brook Street project to look at this issue to prevent the water run off. The Public Works Committee will also check up on this item.

Email received from the Lions' Club – An Email was received asking if we will consider placing a sponsorship ad in the Lions' Club Directory. Mayor Button advised that we had previously approved to do an ad for a Lion's Club publication, but it got cancelled.

It was motioned by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Strickland that Council purchase a full-page ad, at the cost of \$120.00, in the Lion's Club Directory. MC Unanimously

Letter received from Penney & Brown Law representing a landowner – A letter was received on behalf of a landowner of property on the outskirts of Port aux Basques. He wanted to make Council aware that the land is available if they have any interest in the location in the future. The Town Manager advised that the location of the land currently has no value to the Town. Council agrees and suggest he contact the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

Letter received from resident of Taverner Drive – A letter was received from this resident asking if they would visit her property to determine the location of a small storage shed. The Public Works Department committee will visit to review.

Letter received from residents of the Grand Bay West subdivision – A letter was received asking for a review of the outdoor recreational equipment in the Taverner Drive area. They would like to

see a multipurpose court developed as the current playground is mostly suited for young children. Mayor Button advised that both the Public Works Committee and the Recreation Committee can review the area for this request as we are expanding the subdivision and there are young families living in this area. The Town Manager said we can explore funding from the province to include this in the subdivision development.

Councillor Strickland asked about sidewalks for the subdivision. Council had plans to discuss sidewalk development in the area approaching the subdivision on the causeway, but Fiona delayed those plans especially with the causeway needing repairs after the hurricane. This will be considered for future.

Letter received from property owner on Main St – A letter was received informing the Town of an issue of feeding cats and pigeons at 89 Main St. It is causing a big issue for his tenant. Once a resident is informed of the issue, it is not guaranteed that they will not do it again. The Town Manager can send a letter, but enforcement is difficult. The Town Manager also advised that several of our regulations need to be updated. The Mayor said that residents may not follow the advice in the letters they receive because they know we are not strictly enforcing it. A position of an Enforcement Officer may pay for itself. The Town Clerk will check with other towns, similar in size to Port aux Basques, that have this position in place.

Letter received from resident of Cox Avenue – A letter was received explaining the water issue that was experienced at 2 Cox Avenue this past week. She had issues from Hurricane Fiona, again in November and again last week with all the rain on July 12 & 13. She is asking for advice on how to get compensated for the latest damages. Councillor Keeping asked why some of the damages were not covered by a DFAA claim. Mayor Button advised that anyone who had issues from Fiona had to submit a claim to their insurance first and if the insurance covered it then compensation would not come from the province. The resident is inquiring about putting a claim against the contractor who is working on the outfalls behind their property. The Town Manager will contact Transportation and Infrastructure to arrange a discussion with the contractor and consultant so the resident can be advised of how to proceed.

Email received from Citizen's Crime Prevention Association of NL – An email was received asking if we are interested in advertising in their next publication focusing on Suicide Prevention. Council Strickland asked if we could do something local that would be more impactful. The Town Clerk advised that we have informed the High School and local Mental Health Services that we are willing to support a workshop / information session that would address local needs or issues. The Mayor asked if we could approach Western Health again to see if there is a local need that we can offer a contribution. If they provide some suggestions, then Council can decide on an amount for the donation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works Report: Present were Councillors Ingram, Keeping, and the Town Manager. The following items were tabled for discussion:

1. **Anderson's Lane:** The committee reviewed the culvert system in the area and had a discussion with a long-time resident on the street. The committee was trying to confirm if the town had installed this system or if it was private. The committee also checked with a former work superintendent, and he did not recall the town working on this system. The Public Works Committee did check the system for water flow, and it was all working fine that day. It was also checked a few days later after heavy rain and the system was still working fine. We need to determine if this is our culvert so Public Works will do some more investigation.

2. **Dennis Road:** The committee reviewed the retaining wall on Dennis Road that connects with private property. The Town would have installed this retaining wall several years ago, but the traffic has increased on Dennis Road going to the subdivision. Public Works recommends replacing this in the near future with the concrete block system.
3. **Memorial Bench placement at the Bruce II:** Public Works is suggesting installing a concrete pad that will be able to accommodate a few benches. Public Works is recommending doing this sooner rather than later as there are two benches ready to be placed.
4. **Andy's Rainbow Park:** Public Works checked out the bathroom building at the park as it was shifted off the foundation.
5. **Transport Trucks Parking on Pleasant St:** Public Works visited Pleasant St to see about a complaint of Transport Trucks blocking the road. A "No Parking" sign is recommended to be installed along the area by the industrial building.

It was moved by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Davis to accept the Public Works Report as presented. MC Unanimously

The Mayor had asked if there was any news on the pipe that town workers were working on this evening. The Town Manager advised that a large band will be installed in the next half hour. He also said that the pipe is not split, it actually has several pin holes from age and there could be more of these to cause issues soon. Repairs to pipes in this area is a big project that would have to be done over a period of time, not just a one-year project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Contract Award: The Town Manager received notice from the province that consulting services was awarded to Allnorth Consultants for the amount of \$125,264.90 (HST Included) for three town projects: Grand Bay West Watermain Replacement, Pleasant Street Reconstruction and High Street Stormwater Rehabilitation. It was recommended that Council accept the bid for the lowest amount.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Andrews and seconded by Councillor Strickland to accept the province's recommendation to award consulting services to Allnorth Consultants in the amount of \$125,264.90 (HST included) for Project No. 17-GI-23-00042, 17-GI-23-00048 and 17-GI-23-00049, Town of Channel Port aux Basques - Grand Bay West Watermain Replacement, Pleasant Street Reconstruction and High Street Stormwater Rehabilitation. MC Unanimously

Adjournment: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Andrews and seconded by Councillor Lane that with no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm. MC Unanimously



Brian Button
Mayor



Nadine Osmond
Town Clerk