

**Tuesday, January 24, 2023
Town Office – 6:00 p.m.**

Attendance: Lloyd Blake Colby Whittle Roy Drake
Don Stewart Loretta Abbott Neil Bond

Also Attending: Tanya Rogers Jody Soper Tina Bungay, EDO

Absent: Fabian Manning

Guest: Janesta Tibbo & Jennifer Hatcher, Harbour Breton Recreation

Mayor Blake welcomed the guests to the meeting. EDO, Tina Bungay explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of pursuing a splash pad for the community. Mrs. Bungay has done a lot of research on the subject and has obtained a quote on a splash pad. She also explained that several businesses have already expressed an interest in supporting the project. Mrs. Bungay believes a fair portion of the estimated cost can be raised through business donations. Some of these businesses are asking for official donation requests.

At this time, the Town is asking if the Recreation Committee will come on board as the project sponsor, sending the requests to the businesses (with the assistance of the EDO) and commit to fundraising the remaining funds required to reach the goal. If the Recreation is unable to do this, it was also discussed that a separate Splash Pad Committee can be developed to do so.

Ms. Tibbo and Ms. Hatcher explained that this had previously been discussed at Recreation meetings but the committee was also looking at other ideas such as a Skate Park. Ms. Tibbo and Ms. Hatcher will bring the request back to the Recreation members again and get back to the town with an answer.

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:40pm. He then asked if there were any additions to the Agenda, as presented and circulated.

Motion #23-010: R. Drake/N. Bond

Resolved that the Agenda be adopted as presented, as circulated, with the additional items noted.

In Favour: 6

Abstained: 0

Opposed: 0

Motion Carried.

Meetings of January 10, 2023:

Motion #23-011: D. Stewart/L. Abbott

Resolved that the Minutes of Budget meetings held on January 10, 2023 be adopted as presented, as circulated.

In Favour: 6

Abstained: 0

Opposed: 0

Motion Carried.

Business Arising: Minutes of January 10, 2023:

1. 7-9 Elliott Drive – Owner is not interested in asking the Bank for permission to transfer the property. The owner has informed that they will be keeping the property and paying the taxes owing;
2. 88 Main Road North – No update from owner or contractor on removal of the debris. Proceed with contacting MNL Lawyer for advice;
3. 21 Sagona Place – A portion of the work has been completed. Waiting on contractors to finish,;
4. Harbour Authority – Chairperson is interested in meeting with council. Invite members of the Harbour Authority to attend the next council meeting;
5. UFCW & Office Staff – Town’s proposed changes have been sent to the Union and the Unions proposed changes have been received. Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2023 to discuss;
6. Aaron Bennett, MOWI – Confirmed for the meeting on February 21, 2023;

7. Department of Environment – Mayor Blake posted the letter received on the Joint Mayors Facebook page, not much response was received. He will bring up again at the next Joint Mayors meeting;
8. 218 Canada Drive – Public works committee looked at the area and recommended that the residents divert the water (possibly using a pipe) to the road. The Town will then take further action if and when needed;
9. Landslide Anniversary – Committee met to discuss plans. A public service will be held at the Landslide site on August 1st, 2023 followed by guest speakers and finger foods at the Elliott's for invited guests;
10. Cal LeGrow Insurance – Travel Accident Policy. Inquire as to what the cost increase would be to include 18 additional insured as well as those over 75 years of age;

Public Works/Town Superintendent Reports: Attached;

1. 23 Spencer's Brook Road – Public Works Committee met with individual at the boat launch on Grole Lane to further discuss the situation. Letter to be sent informing resident that the Town understands his points regarding the boat launch and will take no further action but will continue to monitor the situation.

Building Applications: n/a

Correspondence:

1. Municipal Affairs – Additional dates provided for the mandatory training sessions. Email each councillor which training is still required for them to complete;
2. MNL – 2023 Water and Wastewater Workshop in Gander, March 28-30, 2023. Town Superintendent approved to attend;
3. 91A Main Road North – Owner requesting that vacant land tax not be charged on the property going forward since there were no land documents provided when purchased and the house has been removed from the property.

Motion #23-012: D. Stewart/N. Bond

Resolved that vacant land tax will not be charge for 2023 and going forward on the property located at 91 Main Road North. As well, a note to be placed in the file that no future permits will be issued for the property.

In Favour: 6 Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0 Motion Carried.

4. Municipal Assessment – Update on meeting held on December 1, 2022;
5. Purple Day for Epilepsy – Requesting the Town proclaim March 26, 2023 as Purple Day for Epilepsy.

Motion #23-013: C. Whittle/N. Bond

Resolved that the Town will proclaim March 26, 2023 as Purple Day for Epilepsy.

In Favour: 6 Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0 Motion Carried.

6. Recreation NL - Inquiring if the Town would be interested in participating in the Eat Great and Participate Program. Not at this time;
7. Earth Day Canada – Applications being accepted under the Charged for Change program for the installation of Level 2 Charges. Agreed this is more of a business venture and not something the Town should take on;
8. MNL – Expression of Interest seeking individuals to serve on one of their advisory committees. Not at this time;
9. J&D Convenience - Asked for approval to sell Cannabis at the Business located at 100-102 Canada Drive. Approval was granted though email responses.

Motion #23-0014: N. Bond/D. Stewart

Resolved to approve J&D Convenience to sell cannabis from the business located at 100-102 Canada Drive subject to the approval of all other Government Departments and Regulations.

In Favour: 6 Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0 Motion Carried.

10. CYN – Inquiring about the Town’s Civic Holiday. Harbour Breton Day will be observed on August 7, 2023;
11. Code of Conduct – Codes of Conduct for Municipal Officials and Councilors (as per the template provided) were reviewed and approved.
Motion #23-0015: N. Bond/C. Whittle
Resolved the Codes of Conduct for Municipal Officials and Councilors be adopted as presented.
In Favour: 6 Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0 Motion Carried.
12. Equipment Operator – Concerns over the amount of time being taken off by an employee. Agreed to contact the Labour Relations Board for advise;
13. 36 Main Road North – Expressing concern with their property/driveway continuously being blocked by parents picking up kids from the school. Asking if the Town can install “No parking Between Signs” signs in the area of their residents. The Town recommends posting a Facebook ad about the issues and asking the school principal to send out a message reminding parents not to block private property during pickups;
14. Ocean Floor Granite – Requested a meeting with council to discuss opportunities for loading aggregates as well as shipping and receiving granite materials. Meeting was held with various council members on Wednesday, January 18 to discuss. Council informed Mr. Brace that there was no area in Town that would be capable of doing this;
15. NAIA – Informing that their AGM and Board Nominations will take place on Tuesday, February 21, 2023;
16. 21 Spencer’s Brook Road – Inquiring about the Commercial Water Tax being charged to her Home Based Business. Since this is only a part-time business that uses little water, agreed that \$100/year will be charged and reviewed yearly. Also agreed that all Home Based Businesses will be looked at on a case by case basis;
Motion #23-0016: R. Drake/L. Abbott
Resolved the water tax for the Home Based Business located at 21 Spencer’s Brook Road will be \$100/year, reviewed annually.
In Favour: 6 Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0 Motion Carried.
17. Brush Cutting Project – Council acknowledged the passing of one of the workers. With 2 participants remaining on the project, the budget permits an additional week for these 2 individuals.
18. Resident of 52 South Side Drive – Requesting that the Commercial Water charged (\$560) to the Home Based Business for 2022 be written off as the Business closed in June of 2022 and the operator of the business no longer lives in the community.
Motion #23-017: R. Drake/N. Bond
Resolved the that the Commercial Water for 2022 (\$560) for the Home Based Business located at 52 South Side Drive be written off as the Business closed in June 2022 and the owner of the business has left the community.
In Favour: 6 Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0 Motion Carried.
19. Owner of 1-3 Rose Place - Requesting that vacant land tax not be charged on the property as he no longer has access to the property as a result of a dispute with a neighbor. Public Works to determine if the land can be accessed from Main Road North;

20. Municipal and Provincial Affairs – Informing that a review of Council’s 2023 Budget has been carried out and no material deficiencies were revealed;
21. St. Joseph’s School – Looking for information/pictures on the Cottage Hospital. There is nothing at the Town Office. Some names were suggested for the school to contact.

Economic Development Officer Report:

- Seeking Councillors who are interested in being a part of the Strategic Planning Committee. Mayor Blake and Deputy Mayor Drake will join the Committee.

Finance Committee Report: n/a

Liaison Reports:

1. Public Relations:
 - Mayor Blake spoke to the Plant Manager and was informed that no one applied for the vacant positions that were posted at the Plant;
 - Mayor Blake presented Council Stewart with his 25 Years of Service Award from the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs;
 - The Town made a donation of \$100 to the family of the late John Sullivan;
 - The Lions Club are hoping to host the Annual Speak Off this year, the Mayors Awards will be given out at this time;
 - AIS Coordinator, Joyce Rose, gave the Town a Thank you card and letter expressing her appreciation for the Town sponsoring this project;
2. Elliott Premises:
 - A carpenter has been arranged to do the outside repairs. The Town will cover the expenses incurred;
3. Sunny Cottage:
 - The interior work began last Monday, January 16, 2023;
4. Recreation:
 - Fitness Equipment: Town Superintendent will take his own trailer and pick up the equipment one weekend he visits his home town;
 - The floor at the Fitness Centre has been repaired;
5. Arena:
 - Funds are getting low. Agreed to transfer \$10,000.00 from the bingo account to the arena. Amount to be repaid when funds are available;
 - Arena Manager requested to meet with Mayor Blake regarding several issues at the arena that have not been addressed by the Office/Superintendent. There is some confusion over who should be responsible for these issues. Meeting to be arranged with Arena manager, Superintendent, Town Clerk/Manager, Mayor Blake and Councillor Whittle;
6. HBIC: n/a
7. Aquaculture: n/a
8. Occupational Health & Safety: n/a
9. Beautification Committee: n/a
10. Fire Dept:
 - There is a leak in the second bay in the Fire Department, Town superintendent will investigate;

- The Hermitage Fire Department no longer has a Fire Chief (resigned). Hermitage is inquiring if the Town can help them out. Arrange a meeting with the Town of Hermitage to determine what type of help is required;
- Still waiting on the bank regarding the Credit Card;
- Updates to the Duties of the Executive were approved;
- Fire Department to be reminded that 3 quotes are required when making large(r) purchases;

11. Health Care:

- Next meeting scheduled for January 30, 2023 at 12:00pm;

Other:

1. The Anglican Parish has been without a Minister since last April. Agreed to write to the Bishop expressing the Town's Concern;
2. Garbage Contract – The Contractor has been changing the schedule without the Town's approval. Obtain a new schedule from the contractor with the times they are going to be at certain areas of Town. Schedule to be posted on Facebook to prevent further confusion;
3. Community Channel – The channel has not been working properly in recent months. CYN have informed that Eastlink has been in to assess the situation but have not resolved the issue. Contact to be made with the Town's contact at Eastlink to see if it can be resolved;

~ Town Superintendent left the meeting at 9:20 ~

4. Town Superintendents Probation – The probationary period ended on December 31, 2022.

Motion #23-018: N. Bond/D. Stewart

Resolved that Mr. Jody Soper be offered the Town Superintendent Position on a full time permanent basis.

In Favour: 6

Abstained: 0

Opposed: 0

Motion Carried.

Motion for adjournment by Deputy Mayor Drake & seconded by Councillor Bond. Adjournment at 9:30pm.

Lloyd Blake – Mayor

Tanya Rogers – Town Manager