

**Wednesday, April 18, 2023
Town Office – 6:00 p.m.**

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

Also Attending: Tanya Rogers
 Tina Bungay, EDO
 Aaron Bennett, MOWI
 Gideon Pringle, MOWI

Absent: Fabian Manning
 George Drake

Mayor Blake welcomed Mr. Bennett and Mr. Pringle to the meeting. Mr. Bennett gave a quick presentation on MOWI and passed the floor over to Mr. Pringle.

Mr. Pringle discussed the challenges faced in the past but did state that things are turning around in the last year. They know what the issues are now and know how to fix them, they just need the resources to do so. They have been bringing knowledgeable workers in from Scotland and Norway to assist. The limited workforce also poses a challenge as they grow/expand in the coming years but there are strategies to deal with this.

This vision of growing the industry in this area still remains. The fish are now surviving, the markets are strong and things are starting to turn around. As well, the Government's decision on the Hatchery Expansion in Stephenville is expected in the near future.

It was agreed that these meetings should be held 3-4 times per year to keep the lines of communication open.

~~~~~ **Mr. Bennett and Mr. Pringle left the meeting at 6:55pm** ~~~~~

EDO, Tina Bungay then proceeded to provide an update on the splash pad.

- The committee has agreed to proceed with the project given the amount of commitment received from the letter sent to date;
- The Board was put in place with Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Communications/Facebook representatives;
- Agreed to approach the other businesses and organizations in town for donations and their fundraising ideas;
- Committee recommends that the splash pad be located at the Ballfield;
- ABC Recreation will require a financial commitment of \$60,000.00 to secure an installation date for 2024;
- A bank account is needed for funds raised/collected;

**Motion #22-059: N. Bond/L. Abbott**

**Resolved that a bank account is to be open under the Town for the Splash Pad Committee for funds raised for the Splash Pad.**

**In Favour: 6**

**Abstained: 0**

**Opposed: 0**

**Motion Carried.**

Mrs. Bungay also brought to council's attention some issues she has had with a member of the Harbour Breton Investment Corporation. She has spoken to the Chairperson regarding this but wanted council to be aware of the situation.

~~~~~ **Mrs. Bungay left the meeting at 7:30pm** ~~~~~

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. He then asked if there were any additions to the Agenda, as presented and circulated.

Motion #22-060: C. Whittle/D. Stewart

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

In Favour: 6

Abstained: 0

Opposed: 0

Motion Carried.

Meeting of April 4, 2023:

Errors/Omissions: n/a

Motion #23-061: D. Stewart/C. Whittle

Resolved that the Minutes of April 4, 2023 be adopted as presented, as circulated.

In Favour: 6

Abstained: 0

Opposed: 0

Motion Carried.

Business Arising: Minutes of April 4, 2023:

1. UFCW Negotiations – Latest proposed wage rate increase received from UFCW. The Town does not agree with the offer and has agreed that the latest offer from the Town still stands and is the final offer.
2. Resident of 15 South Side Drive – No update as Councillor Manning was absent from the meeting;
3. Fire Hall Application – The application has been submitted. The funding ratio submitted is 60/40 as per the application but can hopefully be adjusted to 70/30 as the application is assessed;
4. Garage Doors – Overhead Door were in on Town on Monday, April 17, 2023 and installed a new opener at the Fire Department. The door at the arena was also looked at and needs to be greased more often;
5. Walk of Hope – A team name has not been decided at this point;
6. Lift Station Control Panel – Clerk/manager was obtaining additional quotes but was informed by the Electrical Inspector that the drawing have to be completed by an Electrical Engineer. Given the limited number of Electrical Engineers available and the urgency of getting the panel installed, agreed to proceed with the quote provided by Meridian Engineering for the Electrical Drawings.

Motion #23-062: R. Drake/D. Stewart

Resolved that the Town will proceed with the quote provided by Meridian Engineering to prepare Electrical Drawings in the amount of \$11,320.08.

In Favour: 6

Abstained: 0

Opposed: 0

Motion Carried.

7. Town Employee – Review of notes from meeting with Acting Superintendent and discussion on time taken off since last meeting as well as the need for two equipment operators. Agreed that, now that the snow clearing season has ended, there is no need to have a second operator at this time.

Motion #23-063: D. Stewart/L. Abbott

Resolved that the least senior Equipment Operator will be laid off due to a shortage of work. A two week notice to be given with a lay off date to be May 5, 2023.

8. Town Superintendent Position – Selection committee met and reviewed the interview questions. One candidate was interviewed on April 5, 2023. Committee recommends that this candidate, Mr. Ed Keeping, be offered the position if the references are favorable. Job Offer, with a salary of \$60,000/year along with other benefits to be developed and reviewed.

Motion #23-064: D. Stewart/C. Whittle

Resolved that, if the reference checks are favourable, Mr. Ed Keeping be offered the position of Town Superintendent.

9. Down Home Show – Deputy Mayor Drake is unable to attend. EDO and two members of the HBIC will be attending;
10. 2023 Water and Wastewater System Operators Training – One person registered. Agreed that the current acting Superintendent will attend the May 2-4 training in Grand Falls-Windsor. The new Superintendent may be able to attend at a later date;

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11. 97 Main Road North – Public works committee looked at the area of the proposed new driveway. Due to there being water/sewer lines in that location and the limited space when the boundary limits are taken into account, permission to construct a driveway will not be given;
12. Green Crab Project – Mayor Blake spoke with MHA Loveless regarding the application not being approved. MHA Loveless will look into this and get back to the Town;
13. 5 Rose Place – Review of notes on April 6th meeting with owner of the property. Recommend the resident get in contact with the owners of Stewart’s Lane again to see if something can be worked out regarding the access;
14. Dodge Pickup – Three quotes for a new pick up were obtained and reviewed. Deputy May Drake will get prices on some used trucks as well;
15. Use of Personal Vehicles – When the Town’s vehicles are not available and an employee uses their personal vehicle for work they will be compensated for doing so.

Motion #23-065: R. Drake/L. Abbott

Resolved that when an employee uses their personal vehicle for work, the Town will cover the fuel expense as well as pay the employee \$150/week.

Public Works/Town Superintendent Reports: Attached;

Building Applications:

1. 230 Canada Drive – Requesting to install a driveway on the property. The driveway would be at the intersection yield sign and would be hidden/blind. Digging out the back may also increase water run off to the road. Request denied.

Correspondence:

1. 76 South Side Drive – Resident inquiring about trail upgrades. Inform resident that funding has been received to do upgrades to the Back Arm Trail and ask for recommendations on what area needs to be repaired;
2. Harbour Authority – Informing that they have hired a new Harbour Master and asking if this person can have the dump key. Agreed this was ok;
3. Department of Transportation – Circular regarding Changes to Master Specifications and other updates from MI;
4. Canadian Heritage – Informing that a grant of \$300 has been approved for Canada Day;
5. 5 Rose Place – Tenant informing that some items have been removed from the property, the vehicles on the property are not scrap and that he was not burning on the property. Resident would like to know what items in particular the Town would like to be cleaned up. Inform resident that the items behind the shed (that are visible from adjacent properties) will need to be cleaned up as well;
6. 10 Jensen’s Lane – Complaint of damage to fence by snow clearing equipment. Inform resident that, as per the Town’s Snow Clearing Regulations, the Town is not responsible for damage to property that is located within 8 feet of the edge of the road;
7. Food Cycle Science – Requesting to make a presentation to council on participating in Impact Canada’s Food Waste pilot program. Not at this time;
8. Saltscapes – Advertising opportunity in the magazine. Not at this time;
9. HIVE Geospatial Inc – Looking for people who may be interested in participating in the Community-based Coastal resource Inventory. The Town is not aware of anyone at this time;

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10. Emergency Services Division – Introductions from the new Emergency Management and Planning Officer. As well, informing that training school will take place in GFW on May 27-June 2, 2023. The new Town Superintendent may be able to attend this;
11. 1 Brunette Place – Inquiring if a permit is required to host a craft fair. No permit is required.
12. Volunteer Week – April 16-22, 2023.
Motion #23-066: R. Drake/N. Bond
Resolved that the Town will proclaim April 16-22, 2023 as Volunteer Week in the Town of Harbour Breton.
13. Strategic Plan – Pat Curran and Associates, the Consultant hired to assist with the Strategic Plan will be in Town on May 1-2, 2023 to host a public consultation and would like to meet with council and the Planning Committee on May 1st.
14. RCMP – Requesting to attend the next council meeting. Agreed to invite to the May 5th meeting;
15. 5 Rose Place – Complaint regarding neighbors’ growing gardens in crab pans and using seaweed that attracts rodents. Inform resident that the Town does not have any issues with residents having gardens on their properties and that the practice is actually encouraged.
16. 25 Jersey Avenue – Expressing concern with rock/gravel from Canada Drive being deposited on his property. Inform resident that the Public Works Committee will investigate;
17. Age Friendly Grant – Applications currently being accepted. Determine details;
18. Ambulance Committee – Requesting a letter of support from the Town in their efforts to have two Primary Care Ambulances in the community. Agreed to support;
19. Councillor Bond – Informing that his work schedule will soon be changing and if the meeting schedule stays the same he will be unable to attend council meetings until Sept/Oct. Clerk/Manager to check into the requirements for attending meetings;

Economic Development Officer Report:

- No update on Landslide Commemoration;
- Age Friendly Grant – The grant for the front entrance has been received. Quotes on installation to be obtained;

Finance Committee Report:

- Accounts payable (attached):
Motion #22-067: R. Drake/N. Bond
Resolved to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$34,503.49.

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

Liaison Reports:

1. Public Relations:
 - Mayor Blake attended the 15U Easter Tournament at the Arena on April 12th and brought greeting on behalf of the Town;
 - Mayor Blake and Deputy Mayor Drake attended the Fire Fighters Telethon on April 16th;
2. Elliott Premises: n/a
3. Sunny Cottage:
 - Arrangements to be made for the Council visit for the first week in early May;

4. Recreation:

- Email from the Recreation Committee regarding bingo. Inform committee that the Town will not be making any changes;
- The bingo equipment needs to be upgraded. Ask local residents who are familiar with this type of equipment to assist with determining what is needed;

5. Arena:

- Update provided on Finances. Agreed to pay \$15,000.00 of the budgeted amount;
- CIMCO started the shut down process today, ice should be up and arena cleaned up by mid week, next week;
- Leak in bathroom has been repaired;
- Articles of Revival to be submitted as presented;
- Three treadmills at the Fitness Centre need to be repaired. Town Superintendent has been informed;

6. HBIC:

- Welcome to Harbour Breton – “Newfoundland’s Riviera” Slogan/Trademark submitted by a member of the HBIC for approval. While the Town agrees a slogan for the Town is a good idea, Newfoundland’s Riviera may not be the best fit. This may be something that may be recommended in the Strategic Plan. As well, any slogan that is developed, would need the Town’s approval;
- Letter sent asking the Town to reconsider the imposed taxes for 2023. Agreed that the taxes for 2023 will remain in place;

7. Aquaculture: n/a

8. Occupational Health & Safety: n/a

9. Beautification Committee: n/a

10. Fire Dept:

- Inquiring on quarterly budget amount. Amount to be paid in May 2023;

11. Health Care:

- Concerns raised over what the plans are for when the two current locums at the hospital leave in June. Agreed to request a meeting with the Minister of Health as soon as possible. Also, letter to be sent to other communities in the Coast of Bays encouraging them to do the same.
- The next Municipalities call will take place on April 24th.

Other:

Motion for adjournment by Councillor Bond & seconded by Councillor Whittle. Adjournment at 9:55pm.

Lloyd Blake – Mayor

Tanya Rogers – Clerk/Manager