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Minutes of Council Meeting

October 26, 2021 7:10 PM. Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Krista Freake

Deputy Mayor Brian Hooper
Councillors: Rhoda Hannem
John Mullett
Perry Pond
Ken Tucker

Town Manager Todd Champion
Town Clerk Coreen Colbourne

Recreation and Tourism Manager Ashley Ivany Superintendent of Works Ivan Bridger

Mayor Freake brought greetings to those watching on Facebook and to Council, she announced that it is this Council's first official public meeting where all the regular business will be discussed.

1. Call to Order

21-212 White/Pond

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

2. Approval of Agenda

21-213 Hooper/Tucker

Resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Minutes for Approval

3.1 Swearing in Ceremony/Council Meeting October 4, 2021

21-214 Hooper/White

Resolved to adopt the minutes of the Swearing in Ceremony/Regular Council meeting of October 4, 2021, as attached.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Update from the Mayor: A press release was issued on Friday regarding the wharf infrastructure of the Town of Lewisporte and this press release addressed a couple of issues, one being an inability to secure a meeting with the Premier and Minister Loveless and secondly a lack of movement forward since we received a report on the condition of the wharf. Since the time the press release was released, an interview was conducted with CBC and VOCM. Councillor Pond conducted an interview with the Telegram and left a message with the Premier's office, which was followed up on by Fred Hutton and he has indicated that we will indeed have a meeting with the Premier in due time, he will update Speaker Bennett on the date of that meeting. In addition, a letter was sent to both party leaders, David Brazil, and Jim Dinn, updating them on the issue regarding wharf to ensure they are up to date on that profile. A couple of reasons why the people of Lewisporte should know why Council is so adamant regarding this file is that, just this week some communication was shared around some potential losses regarding the use of the Port. One was a report regarding the Labrador South Basin where they're indicating a potential 21.9 million barrels of oil in the future and Lewisporte could play a significant role as that unfolds. The other piece was from CFB Gander regarding a conversation about potential for military deployment from this Port. Currently our Port is not in a condition to have additional conversations with these potential partners. There was a conversation about healthcare and following the announcement from the Health Accord and the Collaborative Health Centres, a letter was copied to the CEO of Central Health, Central Health Board Chair, Don Sturge and MHA Bennett, regarding Lewisporte as a potential Centre as a Collaborative Health Centre, correspondence was received back from MHA Bennett recognizing receipt of that letter and he will assist us in getting a meeting. Lastly, a sincere congratulations to the two Newfoundlanders that were sworn in at Cabinet today, Minister Hutchings for Rural Economic Development and Minister O'Regan in Labour, we will certainly be looking forward to partnering with those individuals regarding our marina.

4. Recreation/Tourism Committee

4.1 Update by Deputy Mayor Hooper

There will be a meeting held on October 28, 2021.

Stadium Compressors:

The Town of Lewisporte was notified on July 29th, 2021, that we had an issue with our compressors. We asked the contractors to supply us with pricing for new compressors which we had received on August 16th, 2021. A motion was made at our next available Council meeting to purchase two new compressors for the Lewisporte Stadium and was passed on August 31st, 2021. Our contractors were notified on September 1st to proceed with ordering the compressors. Due to manufacturing delays these compressors were only shipped today from the USA. We are expecting a delivery date of two weeks (tracking will be sent to us as soon as available from the manufacturer), once delivered our contractors will be on standby for installation and will arrange for Government inspection to take place as soon as possible, once inspection is complete, we will start making ice.

Stadium Gaskets:

While contractors were dismantling the ice plant and draining the ammonia, they had noticed an issue with the gaskets in the chiller unit that causes the ammonia to have a small leak around the gaskets. This is a safety issue to the users, spectators, and staff at the Lewisporte Stadium at which we will need to address before we start making ice. We have received pricing from our contractors for these gaskets at a cost of \$19,478.93.

Vax Pass:

As per the Government Regulation set forth by Chief Medical Officer of Health all Lewisporte Recreation Facilities will require proof of vaccination for all residents and visitors 12 years of age and older. Residents will be expected to show either their Electronic QR Code or a printed QR Code upon entering the Winter Games Lanes, The Lewisporte Stadium, Woolfrey's Pond Park Chalet, The Lewisporte Regional Fire Department, and public Council meetings held in the Town Chamber. Along with your NL Vax Pass residents and visitors aged 12 and older are required to show identification with their proof of vaccination. This must include their name and date of birth. For people ages 19 years and older, the identification must include a photo.

Board Walk and Train Park Trail:

Progress is continuing the train park trail and the Woolfrey's Pond Boardwalk. As of today, over half of the Woolfrey's Pond Boardwalk has been leveled up and the wood has been replaced using the Covid Stimulus Grant from the Provincial Government. Our workers are now commencing work on the trail from the train park to the Town sign, thus far the trail has been capped with crushed stone from the train to 400 feet past the falls, our workers have now started to build a boardwalk from the Town sign towards the falls and have completed approximately 500 feet. Due to the continued work the Train Park Trail is closed at this time.

Winter Games Lanes:

All Lanes are up and running at the Winter Games Lanes. Winter Games Lanes is looking to re-start their Youth Bowling Program, for ages 5 - 19. They will be hosting a parent meeting on Tuesday, Nov 2 at 8 p.m. If you or your child are interested in joining a league or have any questions, please contact the bowling alley at (709) 535-6050.

Upcoming Special Events:

- The Town of Lewisporte will be hosting our Annual Haunted Hike on Thursday, October 28th, 2021, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

- We want to remind residents that we will be having a drive-in movie Friday, October 29th, 2021, where we will be showing Hocus Pocus. The movie will start at 6:30pm, and gates will open at 5:30pm.
- Winter Games Lanes and the Town of Lewisporte will be offering free spooky bowling on October 30th, call (709) 535-6050 and to reserve your lane. 2:00pm 4:00pm will be reserved for families.
- Halloween will take place on Sunday, October 31st ,2021.
- Bonfire night will be going ahead on November 5th from 7:00pm 8:30pm in the overflow parking behind the Water Tower. We will have complimentary hot chocolate, wieners and marshmallows provided by Lewisporte Co-op and The Town of Lewisporte.
- The Town of Lewisporte has been approved for four JCP positions, the deadline to apply for those positions is Monday, November 1st.
- Please stay tuned to the Town of Lewisporte Facebook Page for future events as we near the Christmas season.
- As a note to the delivery time of the compressors, the Town Manager said that the contractor was asked to expedite the shipping and that should cut down the delivery time by ten days.

21-215 Hooper/Mullett

Motion to purchase gaskets for the chiller unit in the amount of \$19,478.93.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

5. Economic Development

Update by Councillor Pond

Meeting to be held on November 2, 2021.

Wharf Redevelopment: A lack of government's response to inquiries and providing the time to sit down with Council and hammer out a way forward, has been a very frustrating component of the whole project. Members have been reaching out to pretty much whoever wants to listen in the last couple weeks to try to get some insight into where this file is going and where we need to go. Council feels that many of our businesses are missing out on revenue because the wharf is unusable.

Marina: There was correspondence sent into the federal government before the Federal Election, and now with the new cabinet sworn in, Council is hoping to hear from Transport Canada about having the lot transferred at a nominal

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fee. Council is hoping that having two Ministers from Newfoundland and Labrador in Cabinet will be beneficial to moving things forward. Minister Gudie has been copied on correspondence sent to Transport Canada.

Councillor Tucker reiterated the lose felt by business because the wharf is no longer usable by the Coast Guard, Provincial Ferries, and the salt boats to name a few, as well as potential losses.

It is felt that without having commitment from Government the Town cannot offer any incentives to any businesses or industry.

Council is welcoming any business owners, workers, or residents to voice their concerns over the loss of revenue or potential revenue to elected officials.

Lands Committee

6.1 Update by Councillor White

Meeting held October 13, 2021.

- Councillor White stressed the importance of residents obtaining permits from the Town for renovations of any kind on or to their property, additions to their property or accessory buildings being built on their property, for development regulations. There are regulations to placement of an accessory building, as well as boundary lines. If it is not approved by the Town, it could cause problems with the sale of that property in future years.
- Residents were told that a list has been compiled for properties that needs to be cleaned up, and residents not meeting Town regulations will be notified. Orders will be issued to the owners of the property and a time frame given for expected clean up. The Town can take further action if the orders are not adhered to in the given time.

Some properties have been looked at as being irreparable and demolition being the next course of action.

21-216 White/Tucker

Motion to issue a demolition order for number 8 Pleasant Street.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

7. Public Works

7.1 Update by Councillor Pond

Meeting held on October 19, 2021.

- The recapping of some of the streets will go ahead in the spring of 2022, mostly due to the asphalt not being able to be laid in colder weather.
- The Water Tank Project behind the Pentecostal Church is very near to getting the green light. A winter or early spring start date is expected.
- The Phase II Sewer Outfall Consolidation Project has been awarded with a spring 2022 start date.
- Beaumont Street Upgrades will be going ahead in the spring of 2022.
- The pumphouse retrofit has been going well.
- Funding for the King Street Outfall Extension did not come through under capital works funding, however the Town did receive money under multiyear funding, and the project will go ahead.

21-217 Pond/White

Motion to allocate our multiyear funding to the King Street Outfall Project.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

A roof project for the Town Hall was included the Budget 2021.

21-218 Pond/White

Motion to accept the tender from Burnt Bay Construction for the sum of \$135, 004.25 HST Included.

There was a question as to when the new metal roof would be installed, it would commence this fall. The color of the roofing was also asked, the question as to whether we would get a lighthouse replica put in the tower was also asked.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor White added a note to residents, when putting cardboard in your blue recycling bags, please leave the cardboard in big pieces so that they can be bailed by CNWM.

Councillor Pond brought up that the Town garbage truck has past it's life expectancy, the options would be to utilize CNWM, which is a 16 - 18 month process, or the purchase of a new garbage truck, the former being the cheaper option.

8. Protective Services

8.1 Update by Councillor Tucker

Meeting held on October 12, 2021.

- The new members of the protective services committee have decided that they have quarterly scheduled meetings with the executive of the fire department, as well as make themselves available for any special meetings that arise. The executive also said that they would like to be a part of some of the protective services meetings to give an update on some of their activities. It was decided that a member of the executive would attend every second meetings. The fire chief has indicated that he would like to attend some of the Council meetings.
- An update was given by Councilor Tucker of our Regional Fire Department

Lewisporte Regional Fire Rescue, September/October 2021 Council Report

- Firefighters of Lewisporte station have participated in approximately 488 person hours of training for these months. Practices have included Jaws of Life, Hose lay, identifying water supplies for southside of Lewisporte and outside coverage areas and Breathing Apparatus training.
- We have responded to 4 calls, which have included fire security alarms, backyard fire, motor vehicle collision and pickup fire.
- Last month we had the opportunity to assist Kingsway Retirement Home in a fire drill of their building. At that time all residence were evacuated from the building with firefighters helped to search the building and familiarizing themselves with the layout. We like to thank Kingsway for the invite. We are currently working with all senior's homes in Lewisporte to upgrade their fire plans.
- Through our fire prevention team on September 28 we hosted Brownies, Girl Guides and Sparkes at the fire hall. Sparky the dog was also present to provide fire prevention tips.
- We're hoping to re-start our Youth Fire Fighting Program in January 2022. Any students that attend levels 1, 2 or 3 at Lewisporte Collegiate can sign up. Please look for information in the coming months.
- The fire department will be out and about on Halloween Night giving out some treats again this year.
- Lewisporte Regional Fire Rescue are now accepting application for new recruits. Please pickup an application at the Town Hall or from any firefighter.
- There is concern that on long weekends the fire department may not have enough members to properly respond to emergencies, to keep members in town there may need to be a monetary incentive offered.

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- The Town Manager reached out to the local RCMP for an update on policing for the community, they indicated that they are still having some challenging times with staffing. But assured him that if anything arises in the town, they are able to respond.
- A reminder to residents and businesses that it is most important to have their property number displayed in the case that first responders would have to come to their property.
- The committee has been asked to take the lead on having the speed zone for route 342 (End of Lewisporte to Old Briton Crescent) reduced. The Town Manager will draft a letter to the Minister of Transportation and Works on behalf of the Town of Lewisporte that the speed be reduced to at least 60 km per hour.

9. Finance/HR

Update by Councillor Hannem

Meeting held October 13, 2021

9.1 Cheque Register

21-219 Hannem/Hooper

Motion to approve the cheque register as presented, cheque numbers 001196 up to and including 001308, for a total of \$240,660.17, with the exception of cheque numbers 001196, 001256, 001257, 001276, and 001291.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Tucker was in conflict and removed himself from Chambers.

21-220 Hannem/Hooper

Resolved to approve cheque numbers 001196 and 001291.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Tucker re-entered Chambers.

Councillor Mullett was in conflict and removed himself from Chambers.

21-221 Hannem/Hooper

Resolved to approve cheque number 001256.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Mullett re-entered Chambers.

Councillor Pond was in conflict and removed himself from Chambers.

21-222 Hannem/Hooper

Resolved to approve cheque number 001257.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Pond re-entered Chambers.

Deputy Mayor Hooper was in conflict and removed himself from Chambers.

21-223 Hannem/Pond

Resolved to approve cheque number 001294.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Hooper re-entered Chambers.

Councillor Hannem was in conflict and removed herself from Chambers.

21-224 Hooper/White

Resolved to approve cheque number 001294.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Hannem re-entered Chambers.

9.2 Water Tax Exemptions

21-225 Hannem/Hooper

Motion to approve the water tax exemption for 357 Main Street for the time period of September 30, 2020 – September 30, 2021.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

9.3 Vaccination Policy

The Town of Lewisporte can reasonably inquire in the vaccination status of its workers if its workers work in a location with common areas or its workers could have contact with clients, customers, or the public. Regardless of how often or how much time spent in their respective workplace, this policy applies to: Employees, Councillors, Contractors, Students, & Volunteers, I will therefore bring forward a motion to implement a more stringent vaccination policy for staff and council.

21-226 Hannem/Hooper

Be it resolved to adopt the Town of Lewisporte's vaccination policy as written.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

The Town's policy will be posted on the Town's website for the public's information.

10. Correspondence

- 10.1 The thank you letter was received from the Kids Eat Smart Foundation for a donation to the breakfast program.
- 10.2 A letter was received from Premier Furey congratulating Mayor Freake on the position.

11. Other Committees and/or Business

Councillor Pond wanted to bring forward for public knowledge that as interim Chair of Dietrac, there are some board position openings, if anyone would be interested.

Deputy Mayor Hooper asked the question if the three positions on the LMAA Board were filled, Mayor Freake said she had to look at the constitution so see what was needed for representation.

The Mayor wished the children of Lewisporte and area, a happy and safe Halloween.

12. Adjournment

21-227 Hooper/Pond

Resolved that the meeting adjourn.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Hannem, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Decision: Motion carried.

Time: 8:10 PM

Krista Freake, Mayor Coreen Colbourne, Town Clerk/Treasurer