

Public Meeting of Witless Bay Council

Minutes
March 10, 2021

Attending:

Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O'Driscoll, David Ryan, Fraser Paul, Vince Swain

Staff:

Pat Curran (CAO), Geraldine Caul (Town Clerk), Barbara Harrigan (Assistant Clerk)

1. Mayor Moran opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

2. Adoption of March 10, 2021 Agenda

2021-62 Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy/Councillor Dale O'Driscoll
Move that the agenda of meeting of March 10, 2021 be adopted.
Motion carried unanimously.

3. Adoption of Minutes of February 9, 2021 Public Meeting

2021-63 Councillor Fraser Paul/Councillor Vince Swain
Move that the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Public Meeting be adopted.
Motion carried unanimously.

Clarification on the Minutes: The minutes of the Public Meeting of February 9, 2021 referenced a motion of Council in October 2020 to establish a Committee to consider issues relating to Peaceful Enjoyment. While there was a discussion of the Peaceful Enjoyment Initiative and Councillor Hanrahan was asked to consider the matter further, no formal motion was made.

4. Business Arising from Minutes:

a. Purple Day March 6, 2021: Proclamation related to International Awareness of Epilepsy
CAO, Pat Curran noted that at the February meeting Council agreed to light up the Town Hall on March 26th with purple lighting, and we are working on procuring those lights.

Mayor Moran read the Purple Day for Epilepsy Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS: *Purple Day is a global effort dedicated to promoting epilepsy awareness in countries around the world; and,*

WHEREAS: *Purple Day was founded by nine-year old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia who wanted to let people know that if you have epilepsy you are not alone; and,*

WHEREAS: *Epilepsy is one of the most common neurological conditions, estimated to affect over 10,000 people in Newfoundland and Labrador, or over 300,000 people in Canada, and 50 million people worldwide; and,*

WHEREAS: *One in ten persons will have at least one seizure during his or her lifetime; and,*

WHEREAS: *The public is often unable to recognize common seizure types, or how to respond with appropriate first aid; and,*

WHEREAS: *Purple Day will be celebrated on March 26th annually to increase understanding, reduce stigma and improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy throughout the country and globally;*

THEREFORE: *Be it resolved that I, Derm Moran, Mayor of Witless Bay, do hereby proclaim March 26th as Purple Day in an effort to raise the awareness and understanding of epilepsy and support all those who live with seizures each day.*

Dated this 10th day of March, 2021.

b. Regional Wayfinding Update

Pat Curran reported that at the February Public Meeting Council agreed to be a participant in this, pending more information on the budget and the financing part of it. He noted a number of municipalities on the Northeast Avalon have agreed to join this initiative. They are working now on preparing a development proposal to ACOA and possibly to the Government of NL for support. The financial model they have proposed is a flat rate of a \$1,000.00 contribution from the participating municipalities, and with anything over and above that to be required to leverage federal and provincial funding to be cost-shared on a per capita basis. Considering that there are other municipalities participating, he anticipated that the Town's contribution beyond the \$1000 would be low. He noted what they are looking for is a commitment from the Town for an initial contribution of \$1000 to partner in this initiative. They are also requesting a letter of support from the Town.

2021-64 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that the Town of Witless Bay contribute \$1000 toward the Regional Way-finding project and provide a letter of support for the proposal to agencies.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Community Peaceful Enjoyment Initiative - Summary Report

2021-65 Councillor Colleen Hanrahan/Councillor David Ryan

Move for the adoption of the February 16, 2021 Summary Report of the Special Meeting on the Peaceful Enjoyment Initiative.

Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Murphy noted that the minutes of the February 16th Special Meeting need to be revised and the statement “to be confirmed” is to be removed.

Councillor Hanrahan offered clarification on the Summary Report of that meeting:

A Special Meeting was held by the Town Council of Witless Bay on February 16, 2021 to discuss the Peaceful Enjoyment Initiative. Councillors determined that there had not been a motion to establish a committee (to be confirmed). It was agreed that there needed to be discussion around this initiative before it could move forward. The focus of any initiative should be the Town of Witless Bay, not the region. Councillor Swain raised concerns about undertaking any initiative and potential liability of the Town.

Responsible ATV use was discussed as a possible focus for Peaceful Enjoyment Initiative. Users of ATV's are on the roads of the Town. Discussion turned to the possibility of encouraging the formation of an ATV club which could lead ATV trail development. Councillor Paul apprised Council of funding provided in areas such as Ferryland to develop ATV trails. Safe access to ATV's trails was also raised as a concern.

Deputy Mayor Murphy mentioned that a meeting was held previously in the region relating to similar issues. Mr. Curran was to follow-up with one of the individuals involved at the time regarding the status of the committee.

Additional issues raised to enhance the enjoyment of residents of the Town included, building steps to the beach for the benefit of people with limitations on mobility, trail upgrading and building steps to facilitate access to Twelve O'clock Hill.

A meeting of the Whole was held on February 23, 2021 and the Peaceful Enjoyment Initiative was on the agenda.

- *Pat Curran advised that there had not been a motion to establish a committee. Further, he had telephoned one of the individuals noted to be involved previously, but had yet to receive a response.*
- *Councillor Hanrahan agreed to contact a representative of the Canadian Safety Council and the NL Safety Council, who provides training about the responsible use of ATV's to gauge his willingness to participate in a public discussion on the topic.*
- *If there was an ATV club formed to support trail development, it would be independent of the Council.*

February 25, 2021. Pat Curran reported that he had a telephone call from the individual previously involved in what may have been a committee, and he advised that meeting had been called by Keith Hutchings, MHA, with area representatives to discuss the need to step-up policing. No committee was formed.

February 26, 2021. Councillor Hanrahan reported on a telephone conversation with the representative of the NL Safety Council regarding responsible use of ATV's in the Town. He encouraged the Town to work with ATV users. He is willing to participate in a meeting to discuss issues related to responsible ATV use.

- d. Motion - Public Meeting for possible formation of ATV Committee

2021-66 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor Fraser Paul

Move that Council host a public meeting, when COVID-19 restrictions allow, for the purpose of forming an ATV Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Proclamations/Presentations - No submissions received

6. Correspondences and Other Business:

- a. St. John's Urban Region Regional Plan Amendment #2, 2020 (Torbay Municipal Plan Amendment #4, 2020, Torbay Development Regulations Amendment #8, 2020)

Mayor Moran reported this item to be for information purpose, and noted that the information is available if anyone wishes to view it.

- b. Memorial University: Proposed Oil Spill Experiments proposed for location 30 nautical miles off Northeast Avalon Coast

Mayor Moran reported that the proponent is undertaking testing as part of a research project and is willing to make a presentation to Council. There is no urgent requirement to meet with the group and this time.

Pat Curran noted he would be contacting the research group to obtain further information, and will report back on this in April.

- c. Newfoundland Power Take Charge Initiative

Pat Curran reported that the Take Charge Initiative might be utilized to offset expenses for the proposed Fire Department Vehicle Building and Municipal Building refurbishment. If Council is interested in applying for this initiative, he would be prepared to undertake the application process.

2021-67 Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy/Councillor Dale O'Driscoll

Move that the Town apply for the Newfoundland Power Take Charge Initiative.

Motion carried unanimously.

- d. MNL online AGM and Annual Symposium, May 6-8, 2021

2021-68 Councillor David Ryan/Councillor Colleen Hanrahan

Move that Councillors interested in registering for MNL's AGM and Municipal Symposium advise the Town Clerk and have her register them.

Motion carried unanimously.

- e. Proposed naming of Southside Track ballfield

Mayor Moran reported that the current stage at the ballfield is named in honour of Kinsmen member Gary Walsh. The softball field is not named.

2021-69 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that council begin the process to establish a name for the Witless Bay ballfield.

Discussion: Councillor O'Driscoll suggested Council add this to the Town's newsletter.

Pat Curran suggested we also reach out to the Kinsmen to discuss the process they took when they named the Stage, and to the Softball Association as well.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Kinsmen - Establishment of Community Pantry at Puffin Centre

Mayor Moran reported that Council received a request from the Kinsmen who wish to establish a Community Pantry on the Puffin Centre parking lot to enable families in need access of food and other supplies. The Community Pantry is essentially a small structure to hold needed foodstuff, and there are a number of communities on the Northeast Avalon undertaking similar developments.

2021-70 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that Council allow the establishment of a Community Pantry at the Puffin Centre.

Motion carried unanimously.

There was a brief discussion on the security of the Community Pantry. Pat Curran noted that this is in the early stage of the process, and made a suggestion of having the Pantry located close to the Puffin Centre where there is lighting. He also felt that Council could include in the Town's Newsletter that the public be vigilant and keep watch. An additional suggestion is that the Town could incorporate the Pantry's early morning openings into the maintenance employee's duties.

g. Notification of Appeal Decision - Ralph Carey vs Town of Witless Bay

Pat Curran noted that the Eastern Newfoundland Regional Appeal Board has upheld an appeal on the Town's approval of a single family dwelling on Dunn's Lane.

7. Committee/Other Reports

Finance:

a. Finance Committee Summary Report

2021-71 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that the Finance Committee Summary Report of March 5, 2021 be adopted as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Motions from Finance Committee Summary Report

b.1. Request for Tax Consideration - Business Owner

2021-72 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that Council lower the Business Tax portion to 5 mils for 2021 only, and treat the business as seasonal enterprise.

Motion carried unanimously.

b.2. Request for Tax Consideration - Business Owner

2021-73 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that Council lower the Business tax portion from 12 to 6 mils for 2021 only, consistent with past practice for other businesses.
Motion carried unanimously.

b.3. Request for Tax Consideration - Business Owner

2021-74 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that Council lower the Business Tax portion from 12 to 6 mils for 2021 only.
Motion carried unanimously.

b.4. Request for Tax Consideration - Waiver of Tax Accommodation-based Business not operating in 2020 and who may not operate in 2021

2021-75 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that Council waive Business Tax for 2020 for accommodations operators on receipt of confirmation from each operator indicating that they did not operate in 2020. I further move that Council defer waiving Business Tax for 2021 pending assessment of the overall impact on tourism due to COVID-19 this coming year.
Motion carried unanimously.

It was noted by Councillor Dale O’Driscoll that the Government did provide funding to Municipalities for COVID-19’s impact, and Council will use this money for this purpose.

b.5. Revise Tax Structure and 2021 Budget Submission Form

Pat Curran reported that Staff commenced in mid-January the distribution of tax bills to residential property owners while the issuance of some commercial tax bills was deferred pending a detailed review of how commercial properties are considered. One area that can be considered in current year before the update and finalization of the Town’s Municipal Budget Submission, where changes had to be made regardless, is the treatment of the Town’s sale of water and a sale of Goods and Services within the current tax structure, currently at \$17,500 annually. As a Sale of a Goods and Service, this is not reflected in the Town’s Own Source Revenues (OSR), which are based on Tax, and a transition from the current sale of Goods and Services to a commercial Water/Sewer Tax or Tax Agreement would add an additional \$17,500 to the Town’s OSR.

2021-76 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that Council revise the Tax Structure to accommodate either a Commercial Water Tax as per 1.2.2.3 or a Tax Agreement within the Municipal Budget Submission. I further move that amend our 2021 Municipal Budget Submission accordingly.
Motion carried unanimously.

c. Approval of Payable Chart

2021-77 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that the Payable Chart be adopted as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of other Invoices

- d. Boundridge Planning & Development Services Inc., \$3,922.00 for subdivision proposals (all costs to be invoiced back to developers)

Councillor Fraser Paul declared a conflict of interest, stating that he has a development application before the Town. Councillor Paul left the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

2021-78 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that Council pay Boundridge Planning & Development Services Inc. \$3,922.00 for subdivision proposals with costs to be invoiced back to developers.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O’Driscoll, David Ryan, and Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor Fraser Paul

Motion carried.

Councillor Paul returned to the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

- e. DMG Consulting Ltd., \$3,294.75 - Dean’s Road Subdivision Review (BRG) - (all costs to be invoiced back to the developers)

Councillor Fraser Paul declared a conflict of interest, stating that he has a development application before the Town. Councillor Paul left the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

2021-79 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that Council pay DMG Consulting Ltd., \$3294.75 for Dean’s Road Subdivision Review (BRG), with all costs to be invoiced back to developers.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O’Driscoll, David Ryan, and Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor Fraser Paul

Motion carried.

Councillor Paul returned to the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

- f. O’Brien’s Trucking now clearing invoices: WB-85 (\$12,540.15), WB-88 (\$6,930.08), WB-90 (\$20,706.21), WB-92 (\$12,210.15), WB-93 (\$13,732.64) for total of \$66,119.23

Councillor David Ryan declared a conflict of interest, stating that O’Brien’s Trucking does sub-contracting work for his company. Councillor Ryan left the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

2021-80 Councillor Dale O’Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that Council pay O’Brien’s Trucking Ltd. \$66,119.23 for snow clearing from January 1 to February 28, 2021.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O’Driscoll, Fraser Paul, and Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor David Ryan
Motion carried.

Councillor Ryan returned to the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

- g. O'Brien's Trucking Ltd. Invoice #91 for \$575.00 (Old Cemetery Project, Harbour Road)

Councillor David Ryan declared a conflict of interest, stating that O'Brien's Trucking does sub-contracting work for his company. Councillor Ryan left the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

2021-81 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that Council pay O'Brien's Trucking Ltd. \$575.00 for the old Cemetery Project on Harbour Road.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O'Driscoll, Fraser Paul, and Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor David Ryan

Motion carried.

Councillor Ryan returned to the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

- h. O'Brien's Trucking Ltd., Invoice # 89 for \$2,609.98 (general work with mini excavator: ditching Hillsway Drive, removing fallen tree, cleanup of Northside Track, etc.)

Councillor David Ryan declared a conflict of interest, stating that O'Brien's Trucking does sub-contracting work for his company. Councillor Ryan left the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

2021-82 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that Council pay O'Brien's Trucking Ltd. Invoice # 89 for \$2,609.98 for general work with mini excavator.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O'Driscoll, Fraser Paul, and Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor David Ryan

Motion carried.

Councillor Ryan returned to the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

- i. Stewart Mckelvey Invoices: 90867240 (\$979.80), 90869667 (\$163.35), 90869707 (\$921.15), 90869708 (1,990.65), 90869710 (\$1,537.55), 90871836 (\$1,673.83) for total of \$7,266.33

2021-83 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move that Council pay Stewart Mckelvey for Invoices for a total of \$7,266.33.
Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works & Infrastructure:

- j. Public Works Committee Summary Report

Councillor Fraser Paul asked Council to determine if he was in a conflict of interest on the Public Works Summary Report. The CAO noted that the Report does relate to matters to be considered by Council through possible motions, and could potentially be a conflict.

2021-84 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor David Ryan

Move that Councillor Fraser Paul is not in a conflict of interest on the Public Works Summary Report.

For: Councillor David Ryan, Councillor Dale O'Driscoll

Against: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, and Vince Swain.

Abstained: Councillor Fraser Paul.

Motion defeated.

Councillor Fraser Paul left the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

2021-85 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor David Ryan

Move that the Public Works Committee Summary Report of March 4, 2021 be adopted as presented.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O'Driscoll, David Ryan, Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor Fraser Paul

Motion Carried.

Councillor Paul returned to the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

k. Motions from Public Works Summary Report

k.1. BRG - Construction of temporary road to enable groundwater and geo-technical assessment

Councillor Fraser Paul declared a conflict of interest, stating he has a development application before the Town. Councillor Paul left the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Mayor Moran reported that BRG has requested approval to enable construction of a temporary road to enable geo-technical work and groundwater assessment. The temporary road would involve some tree clearing, cut lines and limited soil removal. On referral to both DMG and the Planner, both feel that a permit with specific and restrictive conditions attached to enable temporary road development might be considered for approval by the Town.

2021-86 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor David Ryan

Move that Council approve a temporary road, with strict conditions, to enable geo-technical and groundwater assessment.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O'Driscoll, David Ryan, Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor Fraser Paul.

Motion carried.

Councillor Paul returned to the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

k.2. Greenland Construction - Phase 1 Sub-division Plan

Councillor Fraser Paul declared a conflict of interest, stating he has a development application before the Town. Councillor Paul left the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Mayor Moran reported that the developer has forwarded materials including the original concept plan, surveys for the proposed Phase I development (3 lots), and a contour map, and later an updated concept plan. The Planner indicated a need for further modifications to the concept plan and Greenland provided an updated concept plan, specifying setbacks and grades. Public Works Committee reviewed and is concerned about grades; the homes on each lot should be placed a minimum of 80-90 feet from the building line to enable proper grading.

2021-87 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor David Ryan

Move that Council provide approval in principle for Phase 1 sub-division plan outlining associated conditions as identified within the Planner's report and to ensure minimum setback of 24-27 m.

For: Mayor Derm Moran, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Colleen Hanrahan, Dale O'Driscoll, David Ryan, Vince Swain.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor Fraser Paul.

Motion carried.

Councillor Paul returned to the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

k.3. 28 Murphy's Lane - Permit Extension

Mayor Moran reported that the Town has a request to extend a permit for residential development at 28 Murphy's Lane, first approved in May 2019. The Town's Regulations Manual allows extensions for up to two years beyond the initial 12-month expiration date.

2021-88 Councillor Vince Swain/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Move that Council extend the permit until May 2022, advising the applicant that no further extension can be granted beyond that time.

Discussion: Pat Curran noted that the interpretation of the Town's building development regulations appears to allow the extension up to 3 years at the discretion of Council with a request coming each year.

Motion carried unanimously.

k.4. 156 Gull Pond Road - Order to restore ditching

2021-89 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor Fraser Paul

Move that Council defer Order to restore ditching on 156 Gull Pond Road.

Discussion: It was noted that there is a possibility the property owner isn't the original owner, and Council will need to determine who is responsible for the work initially done there.

Motion carried unanimously.

k.5. Modern Paving - Procurement of Cold Patch

2021-90 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor Fraser Paul

Move that Council purchase a pallet of cold patch from Modern Paving at \$660/pallet and have it delivered to Witless Bay.

Motion carried unanimously.

k.6. 32 Dunn's Lane - Development Application for Residential Dwelling

Pat Curran reported that Council is in receipt of an application for residential development at 32 Dunn's Lane. The development is located on an undersized lot of approximately 4% that is within Council's authority to consider under a variance. The property depth to enable building line and rear yard setbacks, and the building itself is also under town requirements by approximately 3.6% but again, that is within Council's authority to consider under a variance. Combined, the two variances amount to 7.6%.

2021-91 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor Fraser Paul

Move that Council, consistent with Regulations 11, 12 and 32 of the Town's Development Regulations, provide public notice of the application, and variances for lot size, and rear yard and building set-backs to nearby property owners.

Motion carried unanimously.

k.7. 69A Bear Cove Road - Development application for Residential Dwelling

Mayor Moran reported that Council is in receipt of an application for backlot development for residential development at 69A Bear's Cove Road.

2021-92 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor Fraser Paul

Move that Council defer pending more information from the Town Planner.

Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department:

m. Fire Department Summary Report:

Update provided by Pat Curran:

* In relation to the increase in fire protection fees, there is confirmation of agreement with three areas, and a possibility of the 4th. Mobile is considering and their agreement is anticipated, which would bring the financing to 70/30 rather than 60/40. The Town will extend thanks to the Regional partners for coming in on the arrangement.

* The Fire Chief Advertisement closes on March 17, and are about 21-22 applicants as of today's date.

* The Town has been included in distribution list for fire equipment purchases and the town has an opportunity to make application on it. He plans to respond to this once the Fire Department submits a list of equipment they need.

n. Motions from Fire Department Summary Report

2021-93 Councillor David Ryan/Councillor Colleen Hanrahan
Move that Council apply for funding for additional equipment for the Fire Department.
Motion carried unanimously.

Recreation

- o. BBBA

2021-94 Councillor Dale O'Driscoll/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Move for the adoption of the BBBA Report
Motion carried unanimously.

Heritage

- p. Heritage Committee Summary Report - (Submitted by Councillor Colleen Hanrahan)

National Heritage Week - February 15-21, 2021 - Municipal Challenge

The Heritage Committee rose to the challenge! A new logo was displayed with a description of the old cemetery. A post was entered on its Facebook page, Heritage Committee of Witless Bay.

Book

The Book is in progress. Maureen Walsh is identifying the people in the photos while captions for photos are being developed by Bonnie Johnstone. The COVID lockdown is slowing the process as committee members are not able to meet.

Old Graveyard

Holes were dug and the new posts are in place. Plans for the spring will likely involve a clean-up, in accordance with COVID guidelines.

Historic Homes

Information gathering for a funding proposal is ongoing. Software is estimated at \$20-\$25k. The committee has not met to discuss options for the display posts, for example, a metal material vs wood.

2021-95 Councillor Colleen Hanrahan/Councillor Dave Ryan
Move for the adoption of the Heritage Committee Summary Report.
Motion carried unanimously.

- q. Motions from Heritage Committee Report (if required)

Southern Shore Joint Council

- r. Southern Shore Joint Council Summary Report - (Submitted by Councillor Colleen Hanrahan)

**Meeting Report
Southern Shore Joint Council
March 4, 2021**

Guest presentations

The meeting opened with a report from RCMP Superintendent Dan Austin advising that efforts to increase the funding from the Province have been challenged as the election is ongoing. As a caretaker government is in place, no major decisions are being made.

Staff Sgt. Rod Tiller, RCMP reported that February was a relatively slow month with 157 calls, on average 5-6 per day. Specific statistics to track trends will be made available to the SSJC.

Trina Appleby, MNL, advised of a symposium and AGM May 6-8, 2021. MNL has been monitoring two issues of interest to the SSJC, 1. Conducting municipal elections in the pandemic, and 2. Capital works program and the election.

Ken McDonald, MP, was present to let municipalities know he was available if required.

Business Arising

The ongoing provincial election has meant that Government in its caretaker role has not been available to address issues from the last meeting.

Eastern Regional Services Board

Eastern Regional Service Board update. With the COVID, lock-down, staff are working from home. Services have been impacted, e.g., recycling service has been suspended but will be restarted March 8. Bulk collection service has been suspended until Public Health Alert Level 4 is reached.

New Business

Concern about the ambulance service in the area was raised by the Mayor of Cape Broyle. She has received reports of an ambulance not having essential life saving equipment on board. Staff are not trained paramedics and Eastern Health will not provide training of staff to upgrade the skill level. Patients are transferred to another ambulance at Bay Bulls. A letter will be drafted and sent to Eastern Health to determine what services should be available. The Chair suggested that a letter be sent to Hon. John Haggie.

In April 2021 a presentation will be provided to the SSJC regarding the services available at the Ferryland Clinic. Members requested that a presentation be delivered to the SSJC regarding the ambulance service.

NOTE: Ambulance drivers are expected to keep the vehicle cleared of snow.

Next meeting of the Southern Shore Joint Council is April 1, 2021

2021-96 Councillor Colleen Hanrahan/Councillor Vince Swain
Move for the adoption of the Southern Shore Joint Council Summary Report.
Motion carried unanimously.

- s. Motions from Southern Shore Joint Council Summary Report (if required)
- 8. Adjournment

2021-97 Councillor Fraser Paul/Councillor Dale O’Driscoll
Move that Council adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.