

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON DECEMBER 17, 2019**

Present were: Mayor Sam Synard (via telephone)  
Deputy Mayor Gary Myles  
Councillor Mike Brennan  
Councillor Andy Edwards  
Councillor Keith Keating  
Councillor Loretta Lewis  
Councillor Nora Tremblett

Also present: Alje Mitchell, Director of Planning & Development Control – A/CAO  
Melanie Kilfoy, Director of Finance & Administration  
Ben Letemplier, Director of Operations & Public Works  
Petrina Power, Executive Clerk

Also present: Scholarship Recipients and Family  
Colin Farrell, The Southern Gazette

**1. Call to Order**

As Mayor Synard was attending the meeting via telephone, Deputy Mayor Myles called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and welcomed everyone present.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/001R

Moved by Councillor Tremblett, seconded by Councillor Lewis

“BE IT RESOLVED the agenda be adopted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/002R

Moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Edwards

“BE IT RESOLVED the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on December 3, 2019, be adopted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Business Arising from Regular Council Meeting**

There was no Business Arising from the regular Council meeting of December 3, 2019, to bring forward.

## **5. Delegations**

There were no scheduled Delegations.

Deputy Mayor Myles recognized three students who were the recipients of the Town's scholarships.

Richard Kavanagh, son of Rick and Elizabeth Kavanagh, was the recipient of the Dr. Chester Harris Scholarship in the amount of \$500.00. This scholarship is awarded based on academics. Mr. Kavanagh is currently attending Memorial University to complete a Bachelor of Science degree.

The Mary Hodder Scholarship, in the amount of \$500.00, is awarded based on a combination of academics and community service (volunteer work). As there were two students who were very close in academics and community service, the scholarship was split and each recipient was awarded \$250.00.

The first recipient was Darcie Stapleton, the daughter of Shawn and Cindy Stapleton. Ms. Darcie is currently attending Memorial University and is enrolled in General Studies.

The second recipient was Claudia Kilfoy, daughter of Claude and Barbara Kilfoy. Ms. Kilfoy is currently attending the College of the north Atlantic (Burin Campus) to complete a Comprehensive Arts-Science Program.

Council congratulated all three students and took a moment for pictures.

## **6. Committee Reports**

### **Planning & Development Committee**

Councillor Brennan reviewed the minutes of the Planning & Development Committee meeting held on December 12, 2019.

Before proceeding with his report, Councillor Brennan wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Councillor Brennan advised that correspondence has been received about the closure of JJ Tires effective December 31/19. Councillor Brennan commended his aunt and uncle on providing a service to the town and wished them a happy retirement.

### **Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/003R

Moved by Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED that an application received from a resident to operate a Special Occasion Party Supplies business at the Marystown Mall (195-207 Ville Marie Drive) for two weeks in December be approved, subject to site inspection by the Town's Fire Chief.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/004R

Moved by Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED that an application received from Asbestos Abatement Ltd. To remove lead paint and asbestos from the former shipyard at 131-175 Ville Marie Drive be approved.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/005R

Moved by Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED that an application received from GHD Limited to drill boreholes/monitor wells on Town property at 10-14 Bayview Street in order to complete environmental work at the former Ultramar bulk plant be approved.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Brennan noted Marbase Marystown Inc. hosted an Open House yesterday at St. Gabriel's Hall on the new Lumpfish Hatchery that will operate at the former shipyard. The project has been registered as part of an Environmental Assessment under the Environmental Protection Act. The deadline for public comments on the project is January 15/19 and the business community was encouraged to send their letters of support, noting follow-up can be made with Council for contact information. The hatchery will be a state-of-the-art facility and the first in Canada. Due to the deadline, Councillor Lewis recommended information be posted on the Town's social media pages. Councillor Tremblett noted the support letters were crucial to the project moving past the Environmental Assessment and providing crucial economic development to Marystown and the peninsula and recommended all Councils on the peninsula write support letters.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/006R

Moved by Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Lewis

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to write a letter to the Environment Assessment Division of Municipal Affairs and Environment in support of the Marystown Marbase Cleanerfish Hatchery which will be located at the Marbase Integrated Aquaculture Service Hub (former Shipyard).”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Edwards advised the letters of support are crucial to the project moving forward as without them, the comments and letters against the project may prevail.

**Budget 2020**

Councillor Edwards thanked the Director of Finance & Administration for her work on the budget, noting it's always on time and professionally done.

Councillor Edwards advised there are no increases in taxes or fees for the 2020 Taxation Year. The budget is balanced with revenues of \$8,230,888.00 and expenditures of \$8,230,888.00. Overall revenues and expenditures increased by \$436,829.00 compared to the 2019 budget. This is due in part to an increase in revenue resulting from new tax agreements with Grieg NL and Marbase Marystown Inc. The new Model Ship Gallery is expected to open in the spring of 2020. Debt charges have increased with ongoing capital works projects being completed and financed. As well there are increases in all department budgets due to increased operating costs.

The mil rate for residential property will remain at 7.0 mils and the mil rate for commercial property will remain at 8.0 mils with a \$350.00 minimum tax for both. Water and sewer tax rates will remain the same as will poll tax and fees for permits, licenses and development.

The Town will continue to offer the 10-month interest-free equal payment plan for residents without arrears. Additional information on this preauthorized debit plan will be posted on the Town's social media sites and at the bottom of the 2020 invoices in late January/early February.

The rate for overdue accounts will remain the same at 12% annually, compounded monthly.

The Town will continue to accept all major credit cards and offer a discount to seniors.

### **Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/007R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 77, 78 and 79 of the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, Council adopt the Budget for the Year 2020 showing Revenue of \$8,230,888.00 and Expenditures of \$8,230,888.00.”

### *Discussion*

Councillor Brennan thanked Councillor Edwards, Councillor Lewis and the Director of Finance & Administration for their work on the budget. Councillor Brennan also thanked the rest of Council and Directors for their input as well.

Mayor Synard commended Councillor Edwards and Councillor Lewis for taking on the roles of Finance Chair/Co-Chair and helping to bring forward a balanced budget; he also thanked the rest of Council for their time. Mayor Synard noted he looks forward to working with Grieg NL and Marbase Marystown Inc.

Deputy Mayor Myles noted this is this Council's third budget and since the election, there have been no increases in taxes and all audits have been completed on time. Deputy Mayor Myles thanked the Director of Planning & Development Control for taking on the role of A/CAO and commended the Director of Finance & Administration, who has been with the Town for just one year and eight months, for her work noting there have been no financial issues to date.

The Director of Operations & Public Works and the Director of Recreation & Community Services were also commended for staying on top of their budgets as well.

Mayor Synard advised that this Council does not want to raise taxes; Deputy Mayor Myles noted if the economy grows as expected, there should be no need to increase taxes. Mayor Synard noted

there are some large projects being planned, including the McGettigan Boulevard project, the Splashpad project and several water & sewer projects.

Councillor Keating congratulated Council and Department Heads on a balanced budget and commended the Department Heads on staying on top of their budgets during the year.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/008R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Brennan

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 101 of the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, Council adopt the 2020 Tax Structure.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/009R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 101 of the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, Council set the due date for payment of 2020 taxes at March 31, 2020.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/010R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Brennan

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 106 of the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, Council set the interest rate for overdue taxes at 12% annually, compounded monthly.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/011R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 109 of the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, the 2020 Tax Structure be published in The Southern Gazette and by Public Notice in the Town.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee

Councillor Edwards reviewed the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on December 11, 2019.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/012R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay Invoice No. 21023 as received from Municipalities NL in the amount of \$7,567.63 HST exempt for 2020 Membership Fees to Municipalities NL (\$6,928.08) and 2020 PMA Membership Fees to Professional Municipal Administrators (\$639.55), with funds to come from the 2020 Budget.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/013R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay Invoice No. INV-19780-G9C5Q0 as received from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated October 28/19 in the amount of \$1,739.60 including HST for 2020-2021 Membership Fees, with funds to come from the 2020 Budget.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/014R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay Invoice No. 867 as received from GM Malls L.P. dated December 4/19 in the amount of \$857.95 including HST for electricity charges for November 2019 on leased space at the Marystown Mall for the model ship collection.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/015R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Brennan

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay Invoice No. 875 as received from GM Malls L.P. dated December 1/19 in the amount of \$1,833.54 including HST for the operating costs for December 2019 on leased space at the Marystown Mall for the model ship collection.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/016R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay an invoice as received from David R. McCann dated November 22, 2019 in the amount of \$5,040.00 including GST only for the packing and shipping of two hundred and twenty-three pieces of artwork.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/017R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to adjust 2018 and 2019 Mobile Business Taxes for Account No. MOSIA001 in the amount of \$400.00 plus accrued interest as the business ceased operations in 2017 and the account wasn’t adjusted due to an internal error.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/018R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED Council approve Accounts Payable Listing No. 8-1 as of December 31, 2019, in the amount of \$338,804.02 as per policy.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/019R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to award the Dr. Chester Harris Scholarship to Richard Kavanagh based on academic achievement in the amount of \$500.00.”

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/020R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to split the Mary Hodder Scholarship into two awards of \$250.00 and award them to Darcie Stapleton and Claudia Kilfoy based on their combination of community involvement and academic achievement.”

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/021R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Brennan

“BE IT RESOLVED Council approve Contract Change Order No. 1 as received from Livewire Electric & Construction Ltd. for the Marystown Fire Hall Exterior Upgrades & Restorations Project, Project No. 17-MYCW-18-00124 in the amount of \$15,365.15 including HST to add 25mm x 100mm pressure treated strapping to the exterior of the building for the purpose of securing new metal siding to the building, which will provide a greater load carrying capacity and prevent excess movement of the siding during windy weather.”

Motion carried unanimously.

## Public Works Committee

Councillor Keating reviewed the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on December 10, 2019.

Councillor Keating commended the Public Works Department for the work that has been done around town. Between winter road maintenance and water breaks, the workers have been working non-stop in all kinds of weather conditions. Recently, the workers fixed a major leak on Harris Drive, which has resulted in water flow from the Water Treatment Plant decreasing by 800 gallons per minute.

Shift work started on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

A new snow blade will be installed on the Department’s new Ford 550 pickup which will be used to plow light snow on side roads.

Capital Works projects are finishing up. Preparation work is underway for the laterals project on Marine Drive so that project can start in the spring, along with the McGettigan Boulevard project. The Tennis Courts project and the Water Main Transmission Line project have concluded; both went well. There have been some issues with a water pump at Clam Pond that should be addressed in the New Year.

Snow clearing operations are going well. Waste Management operations are being reviewed in the New Year to determine if changes are necessary.

Approximately fifty loads of fill have been brought to the Jerome Walsh Museum site to rebuild the land following the structure demolitions. The item will be discussed with the family of the late Mr. Jerome Walsh Museum in the New Year.

## Recreation Committee

Councillor Lewis advised the Recreation Committee hadn’t met since the last regular Council meeting held on December 3, 2019. Councillor Lewis had a few items to bring forward.

Councillor Lewis started by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, noting it’s been a great year for the Committee and Department.

Construction is underway on a new small building, which will be used for storage. That project is progressing well.

Some hockey schools will be offered over the holidays.

Councillor Lewis thanked Pike's Building Centre for the donation to the arena. They supplied and installed a new mini split for the warm room. The Director of Recreation & Community Services has written a letter of thanks and appreciation to Mr. Albert Pike – the Department appreciated the support.

A new CO2 system was purchased for the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena and staff will be trained in the near future on the proper procedures on how the system will function after installed.

The Committee is hoping to host some outdoor events over the course of the winter such as sliding parties, fires and hot chocolate. Plans are underway for a skating party, with treats, on a Saturday night that would be free to the public.

A new sub-committee has been set up to liaison with seniors to ensure their mental health and well-being are addressed.

Again, Councillor Lewis wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked everyone for the support over the year.

#### Tourism & Special Events Committee

Deputy Mayor Myles advised the Tourism & Special Events Committee hasn't met since the last regular Council meeting held on December 3, 2019.

Unfortunately, the Tourism & Special Events Committee didn't have the time or manpower this year to enter a float in the annual Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade. However, plans are underway for some events in the New Year.

Councillor Tremblett complemented the Kinsmen on another successful parade; Deputy Mayor Myles noted the first Parade of Lights also went over very well.

#### Protection to Persons & Property Committee

Councillor Tremblett reviewed the minutes of the Protection to Persons & Property Committee held on December 12, 2019.

Councillor Tremblett advised that the Fire Hall Exterior Upgrades and Restorations Project has started. The weather is proving challenging, especially the wind, but work is progressing.

Councillor Tremblett wanted to correct a comment she made at the last Regular Council Meeting when she commended the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department on a successful food drive earlier this month. The Food Drive was a collaboration of all emergency services; in addition to the firefighters, Burin Peninsula Ground Search and Rescue, the RCMP and Marystown Ambulance were also involved.

This spring, the Committee will be looking at a tree planting program. Councillor Brennan advised the suggestion came from Councillor Keating and will add to the anti-litter campaign in making Marystown greener and cleaner.

Councillor Tremblett noted Firefighter Adrian Murphy has retired from the Fire Department after thirty years of service. A letter was forwarded to Firefighter Murphy. In turn, Ms. Genevieve Murphy retired from the Fire Wrens, also after thirty years of service.

Councillor Tremblett wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### Model Ship Exhibition and Gallery Interim Helm Committee

Councillor Brennan reviewed the minutes of the Model Ship Exhibition and Gallery Interim Helm Committee meeting held on December 12, 2019.

Councillor Brennan advised that he has three quotes for the vinyl window dressing that will cover all windows at the leased space at the Marystown Mall. The quotes are as follows:

- The Vinyl Frontier Signs - \$1,885.00 plus HST
- M&M Quick Copy - \$4,900.00 plus HST
- Peninsula Signs and Graphics - \$3,200.00 plus HST

All quotes include installation.

#### **Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/022R

Moved by Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Edwards

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to accept a quote from The Vinyl Frontier Signs in the amount of \$2,167.75 including HST and installation for vinyl window dressing to cover all glass windows at the leased space at the Marystown Mall for the new Model Ship Exhibition and Gallery, with funds to come from 2020 budget.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Different members of the Committee are taking on different roles, such as researching sources of funding, but the main task is to get the mall space ready for opening day. Councillor Brennan recognized and thanked Aylward’s Home Hardware for donating the paint. As well, three painters who wished to remain anonymous have donated their time to paint the main walls of the gallery. Councillor Brennan expressed thanks and appreciation to those painters as well.

The Committee is moving forward with a targeted opening date around the Easter 2020 weekend. More artwork has been donated and received that will assist with costs associated with getting the gallery ready.

The Committee will be meeting again on Thursday.

#### **7. Correspondence**

There was no Correspondence to bring forward.

The A/CAO noted each Councillor has received a copy of a ballot from the Burin Peninsula Chamber of Commerce for the 2019 Election for the Board of Members. Five positions are available with seven candidates nominated. Council was asked to stay behind after the meeting to complete a ballot each, after which the top five nominees from all ballots will be recorded on the Town's official ballot.

Referring back to the artwork Councillor Brennan mentioned, Councillor Edwards advised that the last load of art was shipped from BC to St. John's and the Town was to make arrangements to have it shipped from St. John's to Marystown. Emberley's Transport picked up the artwork and delivered it to Marystown at no cost. Councillor Keating recommended sending a letter of thanks.

## **8. Approvals to Purchase**

### **Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/023R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

"BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to the Administration Department to recognize milestones reached by five employees and two Councillors up to December 31, 2019, as well as the retirement of one employee, as per the Employee/Council Recognition Policies at a cost of \$2,060.00 HST exempt."

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/024R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

"BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to the Public Works Department an Eaton SPX200A0 VFD (emergency replacement of Variable Frequency Drive) for the Clam Pond Pump House from WESCO Distribution Canada LP at a cost of \$25,078.58 including HST."

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/025R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

"BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to the Public Works Department to purchase one 12' x 12' overhead door with hardware and two 15' x 14' overhead doors with hardware from AIMS Ltd. at a cost of \$10,806.55 including HST."

Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/026R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to the Recreation Department to purchase 25 meters of ready-mix concrete for the shed being constructed under the Community Enhancement Project from Brenton Investments at a cost of \$4,733.16 including HST, with funds to come from surplus funds in the Recreation budget as concrete is not eligible for material monies in the Community Enhancement Project.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Edwards thanked everyone for their help on Council this year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**9. Regulations**

There were no regulations to bring forward.

**10. Other Business**

Deputy Mayor Myles advised that concerned parents have formed a committee with regards to the school realignment issue and they have been meeting on a regular basis. The committee consists of representatives from four school councils, the Town of Burin, the Town of Marystown (Deputy Mayor Myles) and a Committee Chair (April Pitcher). The committee is looking for clarification on what is being proposed. Two notices of motion have been put forward as follows:

- The first motion would see the closure of Pearce Junior High in June with Grade 8 and Grade 9 students attending a reconfigured Marystown Central High holding Grades 8 to 12.
- The second motion would see Sacred Heart Academy reconfigured to Kindergarten to Grade 4 and Donald C. Jamieson Academy taking Grades 5 through 7. Students would attend the appropriate school in accordance with their grade level in September.

There are questions regarding the second motion as it would also result in Pearce Junior High becoming a Grade 8 to 9 school and MCHS becoming a Grade 8 to 12 school. More information is needed before the parent committee can move forward and formulate a position. The committee is asking for support.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/027R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to write a letter to the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the NL Eastern School District, with copies to all members of the Board of Trustees, the Minister of Education and MHAs, in opposition to any realignment of the Marystown-Burin School System that would result in the closure of any school and ask for clarity on what is being proposed in terms of realignment and the notices of motion tabled.”

Motion carried unanimously.

The Council Chambers will be offered for a Town Hall meeting in the New Year once clarification has been received.

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/028R

Moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Tremblett

“BE IT RESOLVED that, once clarification is received on the notices of motions tabled for the Burin-Marystown School System, approval be given to offer the Council Chambers for a Town Hall meeting in the New Year with concerned parents to further discuss the realignment.”

*Discussion*

Council agreed that now is not the time to close schools. While the economy has suffered, with Grieg NL and Marbase Marystown Inc. moving in and opening two new hatcheries, the economy will pick up as new workers relocate to the area with their families. For now, the first step is to get clarity on the motions.

Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Myles advised the committee is very active and as the Town’s representative on the committee, Deputy Mayor Myles will keep Council informed. Councillor Lewis advised that a parent action group has been established via Facebook.

Council Keating advised that the MNL will have training available through the College of the North Atlantic for elected officials. The training can be done online and Councillor Keating recommended all Councillors take it in. It will become mandatory to do at some point. The Executive Clerk was asked to email Council with the information.

Before adjourning, Deputy Mayor Myles thanked everyone for their past support and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**11. Notices of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion to bring forward.

**12. Adjournment**

**Motion**

MMC 2019 12 17/029R

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Lewis

“BE IT RESOLVED the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.”

Motion carried unanimously.

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Gary Myles  
Deputy Mayor

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Petrina Power  
A/Town Clerk

*Town Council of Marystown  
Regular Council Meeting  
December 17, 2019*