

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 2024**

Present were: Mayor Brian Keating
Deputy Mayor Andrew Walsh
Councillor Andy Edwards
Councillor Bridget Hodder
Councillor Keith Keating
Councillor Gary Myles
Councillor Ray Nolan

Also present: Melanie Kilfoy, Director of Finance & Administration
Randy Brockerville, Director of Operations & Public Works
Kelsey Kilfoy, Director of Planning & Economic Development
Debbie Fitzpatrick, Director of Facilities, Recreation & Community Services
Petrina Power, Acting Town Manager
Leeanne Augot, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Mayor Keating called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/001R

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED the agenda be adopted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/002R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on November 5, 2024, be adopted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/003R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Hodder

“BE IT RESOLVED the minutes of the special Council meeting held on November 5, 2024, be adopted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Business Arising

There was no business to bring forward.

5. Delegations

There were no scheduled delegations.

6. Committee Reports

Recreation Committee

As Deputy Mayor Walsh reviewed the minutes of the Recreation Committee held on November 13, 2024.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that all is quiet with the outdoor facilities however the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena is kept very busy with the start of the winter season.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that the Recreation Committee had a delegation at the last Recreation Committee Meeting. Mr. Vince Brake from Brake's Engineering was present to have a discussion regarding a report completed on the former Ville Marie Swimming Pool. Mr. Brake confirmed that the structure of the facility is very good however the roof is in desperate need of replacement. The Town will be seeking three quotes for the replacement of the roof of the former Ville Marie Swimming Pool in the spring however there will be temporary repairs completed to ensure no further damage occurs over the winter season.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that operations at the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena are kept busy. Vandalism did occur in the washroom facilities which have been repaired. Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that the new flooring looks good however there are some issues with the quality and communication is ongoing with the supplier.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/004R

Moved by Deputy Mayor Walsh, seconded by Councillor Hodder

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to purchase an Announcer Speaker System for the exterior of the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena from Audio Systems at a cost of \$878.09 HST included plus shipping, with the understanding that the system will be installed by Town forces.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that the speaker system can be compared to the system used at the Burin Peninsula Health Care Centre to deter the public from smoking near the entrance of the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena. Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that this can be a solution to an ongoing issue that has been happening for years.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that all the fields have been winterized for the season. More vandalism has occurred at the washroom facilities on the Track & Field Complex. Additional security options such as the installation of additional streetlights will take place to deter future vandalism. Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that the Town has a beautiful facility and it's a shame to see damage being done in the area.

*Town Council of Marystown
Regular Council Meeting
November 19, 2024*

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/005R

Moved by Deputy Mayor Walsh, seconded by Councillor Hodder

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to adopt the Summer Games Building Usage Policy.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that there was a discussion during the last Recreation Committee Meeting regarding a list of items that will be added to the wish list for the upcoming 2025 Municipal Budget. The items will assist with upgrades to the outdoor facilities. The Director of Facilities, Recreation & Community Services will bring the wish list forward during the budget process.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that the next Recreation Committee Meeting will take place on November 26, 2024.

Deputy Mayor Walsh advised that, due to work commitments, he was unable to attend the last Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2024 and brought forward information received from the Marystown United Soccer Association. Marystown United has partnered with Celtic Football Club in Glasgow, UK and has signed a three-year contract. The contract will provide coaching clinics and allow coaches from Under 7 to Under 17 to train here and abroad and obtain their Canadian Soccer Licencing. Players will also be trained by the Celtic Football Club here in Marystown as well as will have an opportunity to travel to Glasgow to train. Deputy Mayor Walsh expressed his gratitude and congratulations to the Marystown United Executive how worked hard on this partnership and is looking forward to seeing Marystown soccer put back on the map. It was also advised that this will have no effect of the taxpayers of Marystown and is fully funded by the Marystown United Soccer Association.

Councillor Keating advised that funding through ACOA and the Provincial Government has been obtained in the past to assist with costs for the soccer association to partner with clubs abroad. Councillor Keating suggested that the Marystown United Executive speak with past members to obtain further information.

Due to work commitments, Deputy Mayor Walsh left the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Protection to Persons & Property Committee

Councillor Nolan reviewed the minutes of the Protection to Persons & Property Committee meeting held on November 14, 2024.

In the Animal Control – Anti-Litter Report, the Animal Control – Anti-Litter Officer brought forward her daily log book of calls that have been received since the last Protection to Persons & Property Committee Meeting. The Animal Control – Anti-Litter Officer also advised that calls were received regarding roaming animals which were resolved. Some live traps were also placed around town to assist with capturing of some cats which were passed over to the local cat rescue group. The Animal Control – Anti-Litter Officer also advised that a previous issue involving several dogs and cats in an apartment was resolved.

Also, during the Protection to Persons & Property Committee Meeting, the Animal Control – Anti-Litter Officer advised that the Burin Peninsula SPCA is currently at max capacity with animals at the shelter. Councillor Nolan encourages the public to consider adopting a pet from the shelter or supporting their operations. Councillor Nolan advised the public to reach out to the Burin Peninsula SPCA if interested.

Councillor Nolan advised that the Animal Control – Anti-Litter Officer is also following up with complaints received from residents in the Ville Marie Drive, Pittman's Hill and Drake's Cove areas regarding a numerous number of ducks and a possible rodent issue. The Town will be contacting pest control to complete an inspection of the area.

In the Fire Department Report, Fire Chief Bolt advised that overall operations remain busy with the Department responding to six calls of service since the last meeting.

The Marystown Volunteer Fire Department and the Town wanted to congratulate the English Harbour East Fire Department on acquiring the Marystown's used pumper truck. Training on basic operations took place on November 11, 2024 and a small exchange ceremony took place that evening. The English Harbour East Fire Department members were very grateful to receive the pumper truck and thanked everyone involved.

Councillor Nolan advised that the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting the Fire & Emergency Services Annual Training School in May 2026. This will be a great opportunity for the local firefighters to train with others from all over the provinces at our local facilities. Fire Chief Bolt also advised that the annual Occupational Health and Safety Work Term Student is scheduled to begin in early January 2025.

Councillor Nolan advised that, although the weather did not cooperate for the planned day drill of the Junior Fire Fighters Program on Saturday, November 16, 2024, the closing banquet took place that evening in which Councillor Nolan attended. Councillor Nolan advised that the ten-week program was very much enjoyed by all participants and a big thank you to the Junior Firefighters Committee and the members that committed to the program over the past ten weeks. Councillor Nolan gave a special thank you to the sponsors of the Junior Firefighters Program.

Councillor Nolan advised that the Fire Department's Muscular Dystrophy Committee has their annual Christmas ornaments available to purchase. Anyone interested in purchasing an ornament can contact one of the Fire Department Members.

In conclusion, the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department reminds the residents that, as the season turns colder, please ensure all fuel burning appliances are in good working order as well have a working carbon monoxide alarm installed in your home as the Department has already had two emergency calls involving carbon monoxide.

Councillor Nolan advised that the Protection to Persons & Property Committee continues to follow up with purchasing more community litter containers to be placed in various locations around town. The Committee is also following up with the Charge for Change Program to determine if there is possible funding to upgrade existing charging stations or purchase new stations for the town.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/006R

Moved by Councillor Nolan, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to engage the services of a contractor to inspect the roof of the Fire Hall to determine the source of several leaks and recommend repairs for same.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Tourism & Special Events Committee

Councillor Hodder reviewed the minutes of the Tourism & Special Events Committee meeting held on November 13, 2024.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/007R

Moved by Councillor Hodder, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given for Councillor Hodder to attend the 2025 Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador Conference taking place in St. John’s, NL March 11-13, 2025.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Hodder advised that there will be three councillors attending the Hospitality NL Conference in March, 2025. The reason for this is the Town will be purchasing a booth during the conference to promote the town and what it has to offer. The three in attendance will allow the booth to be monitored as well as councillors are able to attend the sessions.

Councillor Hodder advised that the Marystown Model Ship Gallery is closed for the season however the Town is in discussion regarding a possible permanent location for the gallery. This will for further discussed once more details are made available.

Councillor Hodder advised that the Annual Tree Lighting is scheduled to take place on the Town Hall Grounds on Thursday, December 5, 2024. The Public Works Department will be preparing the tree for the tree lighting and the Recreation Department will be decorating the Town Hall Grounds prior to the event.

Councillor Hodder advised that the Annual Santa Claus Parade will be taking place Saturday, December 7, 2024. Councillor Hodder took this opportunity to thank Steller Equipment for the use of their transport truck and flatbed for the Santa float. As the Santa Claus float has not had upgrades for many years, the Recreation Department is in the process of building a new float for Santa.

Councillor Hodder advised that there will be many activities during the Christmas Season and is hoping Mayor Elf will be returning again in the near future. Mayor Keating advised that Mayor Elf will be returning the end of November.

Public Works Committee

Councillor Keating reviewed the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on November 12, 2024.

Councillor Keating advised that, during the update on existing capital works, it was advised that the Glendon Bridge Brook Project has gone to tender and the surveys for the Creston Boulevard Phase I Project, the Rennie's Road Project and the Farrell's Road Project have been completed.

Councillor Keating advised that the Public Works Department has been busy repairing several water leaks around town in such areas as Harris Drive, Mount Vincent Crescent and Kilfoy's Road and also assisted with the preparation of the land for the building of a gazebo at the Track & Field Complex through the Community Employment Enhancement Project. Councillor Keating also advised that some washouts have been repaired due to the excessive amount of rain received for the past week.

Councillor Keating advised that he has received many calls from residents requesting an update on the Bailey Bridge. Councillor Keating advised that it has been very frustrating with no update received since the contract for the Bailey Bridge was awarded. Councillor Keating advised that if no update is received by next week, Council should take further action on behalf of its residents.

Councillor Keating advised that there are still issues with flooding being reported by residents in the Greenwood Street area. The Town will be speaking with the Town's Engineers to have a review completed to determine if a capital works project can be completed in the area.

Councillor Keating advised that the MIOX Vault has been installed at the Water Treatment Plant and commissioning of the vault will take place in the near future. Regular maintenance of the Public Works Equipment is ongoing with the Public Works Department only completing one ice control since the start of the season.

Finance Committee

Councillor Edwards reviewed the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on November 12, 2024.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/008R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

"BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay Invoice No. CINV3151776 received from BDO Canada LLP dated October 31/24 in the amount of \$14,458.38 including HST for the assistance in the implementation of the new PS 3280 – Asset Retirement Obligation Standard."

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/009R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to contribute \$900.00 towards the Fire Department’s annual Christmas Dinner, which is an annual donation in lieu of turkey gift cards represented by 30 members x \$30.00 each as per the Donation, Grant and Sponsorship Policy.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/010R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Hodder

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to donate two gift cards in the amount of \$50.00 each to the Salvation Army in support of the annual Happy Tree Launch, as per the Town’s Donation, Grant and Sponsorship Policy.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Edwards advised that financial institutions such as TD Canada Trust and Bank of Montreal have advised customers that the Town’s Property Tax will no longer be collected through mortgages and residents will be required to pay their taxes directly to the Town. The Town encourages any residents who have mortgages through TD Canada Trust or Bank of Montreal to contact the financial institution to confirm that their Property Tax will not be included in their mortgage payment. Mayor Keating advised that this information will also be placed on the Town’s Facebook Page to advise the public.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/011R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keith

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given for Councillor Keating and Councillor Edwards to attend the 2025 Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador Conference taking place March 11-13, 2025 in St. John’s, NL.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Edwards advised that the Town will be purchasing a booth at the 2025 Hospitality NL Conference which will display a screen promoting the area. Businesses in the Marystown area can contact the Town if they are interested in having their information added to the display.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/012R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Hodder

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to reserve a booth at the 2025 Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador Conference and Trade Show taking place in St. John’s March 11-13, 2025, at a cost of \$1,731.52 including HST, with the understanding the Town would seek partners interested in sharing the Town’s booth.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Keating also advised that the purchase of a booth includes one free registration for the conference.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/013R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to issue a letter to a member of staff who is currently on unpaid leave from the Town to advise that the Town will no longer provide group insurance and pension benefits effective December 1, 2024, while the employee is on unapproved unpaid leave and further advise that benefits will be reinstated should the employee return to the Town.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/014R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to engage the services of a contract lawyer to review the Town’s tax agreement with Marbase Marystown Inc.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Planning & Development Committee

Councillor Myles reviewed the minutes of the Planning & Development meeting held on November 14, 2024.

Councillor Myles advised that the Planning & Development Committee met with a delegation at the last Planning & Development Committee Meeting. Mr. Frances Farrell from the Little Bay Harbour Authority was enquiring on future plans for the former Jerome Walsh Museum property. Councillor Myles advised that this was discussed by Council and a letter will be sent to Mr. Farrell to advise of the decision made.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/015R

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given for the Town to write a letter of support to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador on behalf of the Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association to express concerns for the potential establishment of a National Marine Conservation Area along the south coast of Newfoundland and Labrador.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Myles advised that there was a discussion regarding fencing regulations. The Town’s Development Regulations do not include fencing regulations. Councillor Myles advised that, even though a resident is not required to erect fencing inside the property line, the Town will continue to encourage the property owners to erect fencing one to two feet from the property line to allow for repair and maintenance to the exterior of the fencing.

Councillor Myles advised that it was brought to Council’s attention that a structure was built on a property on Creston Boulevard and hooked into the Town’s water and sewer with proper permits in place. Councillor Myles advised that the Director of Planning & Economic Development has attempted to contact the resident on a couple occasions without success. Another attempt will be made to contact the property owner to advise that permits were needed for the development and hook up. Council was in agreement that, if no contact is made on the third attempt, the Town will take further action and possibly complete a water shutoff to the property.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/016R

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to advertise a Request for Proposals for the development of land off Ville Marie Drive formerly occupied by CHCM Radio.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/017R

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Edwards

“BE IT RESOLVED that an application received from Northwest Arm Trail Development to lease Crown Land for the purposes of maintaining the first 1.8km of the existing road at Northwest Trail off Columbia Drive Route 210 be approved, subject to approvals from all other government agencies.”

Discussion

Councillor Keating questioned if this was a road or a trail. Councillor Myles advised that it is considered a trail however being utilized as a road. Councillor Myles also advised that the

applicant must lease the Crown Land in order to apply for funding for the upkeep and maintenance of the road and this is at no cost to the Town.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to bring forward.

8. Approvals to Purchase

There were no approvals to purchase to bring forward.

9. Regulations

There were no regulations to bring forward.

10. Other Business

Councillor Myles advised that, as he works in an establishment with high public traffic, he has heard the frustrations of many residents regarding the status of the Bailey Bridge. It has been almost two years since the bridge was deemed unsafe and there is still not further information received since the tender was awarded two months ago. Councillor Myles advised that questions should be answered by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding a more suitable timeline for the start of the Bailey Bridge. Councillor Myles was also in agreement with Councillor Keating regarding drawing more attention to the Provincial Government regarding this issue.

Councillor Edwards advised that he receives questions from the public on a daily basis regarding the status of the Bailey Bridge and suggested contact be made with MHA Dwyer as well as Provincial Government. The loss of Canning Bridge is restricting a large number of residents and Councillor Edwards advised that he fully supports taking further action if no update is received this week.

Councillor Edwards also wanted to advise the public of a telephone scam circulating. The scammer is disguising as Bell Canada and is using a 709 Area Code. Councillor Edwards encourages residents to not share any personal information with scammers.

Councillor Nolan advised that he is in agreement with Council regarding the frustration from the lack of information being received by the Town on the Bailey Bridge update.

Councillor Nolan advised that, as the Christmas Season approaches, there are many groups and organizations offering opportunities for residents to help their community. Councillor Nolan encourages anyone who can support the efforts of the fundraising such as Tim Hortons' Smile Cookies, the Happy Tree and local food banks.

Councillor Keating voiced his concerns regarding the Canning Bridge and Bailey Bridge. Many businesses and residents have been affected by the closure of the bridge which occurred approximately 20 months ago and no information has received recently from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. Councillor Keating suggested that, if the Town does not receive an update this week, then a demonstration should be scheduled by the residents to bring forward their concerns.

Councillor Keating brought forward concerns regarding the status of doctors on the Burin Peninsula. In the past couple weeks, it was determined that two doctors from Burin and one doctor from St. Lawrence will be leaving the area. This is resulting in a large number of residents without a doctor on the Burin Peninsula. Councillor Keating suggested scheduling a meeting with Eastern Health in the coming weeks prior to the next Regular Council Meeting to have a discussion and determine options that may be available to encourage doctors to stay in the area. Mayor Keating advised that he will be bringing this issue forward to Ms. Debbie Walsh to a meeting that is scheduled.

Councillor Keating advised that the Burin Peninsula Joint Council will be holding their Annual General Meeting on November 23, 2024. The meeting will take place via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. Mayor Keating advised that the Zoom Meeting can be set up here at the Town Hall for any of Council that would like to participate.

Councillor Keating advised that an email was received from the Department of Industry, Energy and Technology regarding an application for Regional Development Funding and questioned if the Town will be applying for the funding. The Director of Planning & Economic Development advised that she received the application as part of the proposed wharf in the Marine Industrial Park and is in the process of completing the application.

Councillor Keating also advised that the Department of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada has announced the launch of the \$1 billion Direct Delivery Stream of the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF). The deadline to apply for this funding is March 31, 2025.

Councillor Hodder took this opportunity to remind residents of the proper use of the traffic lights located at the Red Harbour Bridge. Councillor Hodder advised that she has witnessed traffic not obeying the red light at the construction site. There has already been one serious accident there since the bridge was reduced to one lane and the public is encouraged to obey the traffic lights to deter the cause of another serious accident.

Councillor Hodder advised that the health care on the Burin Peninsula is in a crisis in terms of mental health and addictions support. Councillor Hodder advised that, if a person in need attends Emergency at the Burin Peninsula Health Care Centre, there is a possibility of a seven to eight hour wait to see a physician. When a crisis occurs, help should be available as soon as possible. Councillor Hodder was also advised that the Opening Doors Program at the Eastern Health Building in Marystown is now requiring appointments for attendance. Councillor Hodder questioned when the protocol on this program changed. Councillor Hodder emphasized the necessity of a Detox/Mental Health Centre on the Burin Peninsula.

Mayor Keating advised that he recently attended the opening of the Salvation Army Happy Tree on November 15, 2024. Mayor Keating advised that it is great to see organizations in the town assisting those in need and encourage the residents to please donate if they can.

Mayor Keating advised that he recently spoke with the Town of Burin about starting a program for those suffering from dementia. The program will be based in Burin however Mayor Keating has offered to work in conjunction with Burin to develop the program.

Mayor Keating advised that he spoke with the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure today and requested an update on the Bailey Bridge including exact dates to expect construction to begin. Mayor Keating advised that if information is not received from the Department of Transportation

& Infrastructure by Friday, November 22, 2024 the Town will take further action. The Bailey Bridge is needed now and Mayor Keating is encouraging the Provincial Government and MHA Dwyer to step forward and get the residents the answers they deserve. At this time, Mayor Keating also thanked the Town and Council for allowing him to speak on their behalf with regarding to the Canning Bridge/Bailey Bridge.

Mayor Keating advised that there will be an Open House Town Hall Meeting scheduled in December for residents to attend.

Mayor Keating advised that, with the Christmas Season approaching, he encourages the public to Don't Drink and Drive and Don't Do Drugs and Drive.

11. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion to bring forward.

12. Adjournment

The next meeting will take place December 3, 2024.

Motion

MMC 2024 11 19/018R

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Edwards

“BE IT RESOLVED the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Keating
Mayor

Petrina Power
A/Town Manager