

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 18, 2025**

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: Greg Osmond, Town Manager
Randy Brockerville, Director of Operations & Public Works
Melanie Kilfoy, Director of Finance & Administration
Debbie Fitzpatrick, Director of Facilities, Recreation & Community Services
Petrina Power, Town Clerk

Also present: Jeff Dwyer, MHA – Placentia West-Bellevue District
Jocelyn Hickey, Constituency Assistant
Ross Tilley, NTV News

1. Call to Order

Mayor Keating called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Before proceeding with Council's regular agenda, Mayor Keating welcomed MHA Jeff Dwyer to the meeting. Council had extended an invitation for a meeting to Mr. Dwyer in order ask some questions on behalf of the residents of Marystown. It was noted that Mr. Ross Tilley of NTV News was present along with several residents which was great to see.

Mayor Keating started off the meeting by inviting Councillor Nolan to ask the first question.

New Pumper for Fire Department

Councillor Nolan advised he's been involved with the Fire Department for many years and knows firsthand how expensive it can be to operate a Fire Hall. When the Town applied for funding for a new fire truck, Council received an offer of \$100,000.00 towards the purchase of a new truck subject to the reallocation of the truck that was being replaced. Councillor Nolan noted other municipalities, both Liberal and PC, received better funding, primarily an 80/20 Provincial/Municipal cost-shared ratio. The Town paid \$515,815.92 for its new fire truck and gave away an older truck in order to receive that \$100,000.00. A neighbouring municipality that will be getting the same fire truck only has to pay approximately \$125,000.00. Councillor Nolan questioned if Mr. Dwyer was aware of the big difference in funding offers.

Mr. Dwyer recounted that approximately 3-4 years ago, he was approached regarding a new fire truck for Marystown. At that time, his district was allocated only \$100,000.00 towards a fire truck to be utilized in a district with sixteen fire departments. Mr. Dwyer had to decide what municipality would receive the funding. When he spoke with some municipalities, some advised they didn't need a new truck while others advised they couldn't afford a new truck based on the amount of

funding offered. The funding needed to go to a municipality that could afford to purchase a new fire truck and allow their old truck to be reallocated to a community that needed it. The Town of Marystown was the only Town that had the means to pay for a new truck above and beyond the \$100,000.00 being offered. Council agreed to accept the funding with the understanding that an 80/20 Provincial/Municipal cost-shared ratio would be sought when the Town requested funding to replace another fire truck. Mr. Dwyer has already requested a meeting with the Fire Commissioner and funding for another new fire truck for Marystown will be on the agenda.

Councillor Hodder noted the funding arrangement at the time was unfair. The Council of the day had to accept the funding because it was unknown if there would be a better funding arrangement offered to the Town and the Town couldn't hold off on replacing much-needed equipment.

Councillor Nolan agreed that it's very frustrating that Marystown has to pay the bigger portion of a new fire truck when other municipalities only have to pay 20% on an 80/20 cost-shared ratio. The Town had to borrow funds for that purchase, a purchase that supports several surrounding municipalities making it even more important for the Town to have.

The Town is pursuing funding for new SCBA cylinders and a compressor at a cost of over \$60,000.00. Another municipality just received funding for their cylinders. The Town recently replaced four expiring cylinders without financial assistance but will need to replace twenty-six cylinders next year and financial assistance will be required. The Town has also been seeking financial assistance for years for a warming/cooling centre to no avail. While it's great to see municipalities get what they need, Council needs Mr. Dwyer to work on the Town's behalf.

Mr. Dwyer advised that if the Town has equipment that is expiring next year and the funding applications have been submitted, they will be looked at.

Mayor Keating questioned why the Town received a 15/85 Provincial/Municipal cost-shared funding ration when five other municipalities received 80/20. Mr. Dwyer advised that the funding offered to the Town was from a budget separate from the cost-shared funding that was offered to municipalities in subsequent years and is allocated through Fire & Emergency Services. When the funding was offered, the Town accepted it. If it was felt the Town could not use it or it wasn't enough, Council should not have accepted it.

Councillor Hodder again noted that the funding ratio was not fair, especially when two neighbouring communities work together to assist each other and the region and one of those communities only has to pay 20% for its truck. The \$100,000.00 that was offered to the Town was the only deal offered and if that budget didn't allow for more, then something should have been offered in the following budget.

During the push-in ceremony for the Fire truck, Mr. Dwyer made a comment regarding funding for another fire truck. Councillor Myles questioned if the Town could afford a new fire truck if the funding to be offered is not on better terms and questioned whether Mr. Dwyer could confirm at least 80/20 funding. Mr. Dwyer advised that if the Town wants 80/20 funding on the next truck or wants to appeal the funding on the latest truck, he will assist. But it was a different budget at the time. Mayor Keating noted five other trucks were awarded from that same budget with 80/20 funding; Mr. Dwyer advised he wasn't aware of those approvals as he wasn't involved.

As noted, the Town had to accept the funding offered as there were no other offers and on top of that, Councillor Edwards advised the Town had to give up its old truck that was worth more than the funding that was offered. Technically, the Town didn't even receive the 15% Provincial funding. Council did not ask for that deal; it was brought to the Town and it was the only deal available. Councillor Edwards questioned if other municipalities had to reallocate a fire truck. Mr. Dwyer advised that if the old trucks are still viable, they are always reallocated.

Grieg Seafoods

There's been a lot of speculation on what is happening with Grieg Seafoods given certain activity (lay-offs, equipment being removed, etc.). Council wants to see this industry grow and employ residents for years to come. Councillor Keating questioned if Mr. Dwyer had any news on operations at Grieg Seafood or had met with management recently.

While he hasn't met with anyone recently, Mr. Dwyer has submitted a request for a meeting. With the change in management at the company, Mr. Dwyer noted that if there was a need to speak with him, he would expect them to reach out to him. Mr. Dwyer advised he has a busy schedule but goes to where he's invited. He has reached out to the company with no reply to date. Councillor Keating noted that with the Province having provided financial assistance to the company, Mr. Dwyer should have a vested interest in operations. Mr. Dwyer will resend his request for a meeting.

Health Care Professionals

Councillor Keating expressed concerns regarding the lack of family doctors in the area. It's understood that there will be eighty medical university graduates in the next couple of months. While they won't be full-fledged doctors, they are needed and it was questioned if Mr. Dwyer has met with anyone to get more doctors to the area?

Mr. Dwyer is aware of the deficiencies in this area along with the difficulties in recruiting doctors and it comes down to what the Department of Health and Community Services is offering graduates. Mr. Dwyer can follow up with the Minister to determine how many graduates are being recruited for this area. Mayor Keating advised he will be attending the NL Health Services meeting in Clarenville on February 20th and noted that there were no MHAs from the Burin Peninsula at the last meeting. Mayor Keating recommended Mr. Dwyer look into attending those meetings. Mr. Dwyer advised he didn't receive an invite to attend and noted it's up to the Board who they invite. Mayor Keating advised that both Mr. Dwyer and MHA Paul Pike's names were on the attendee list for the first meeting.

Bailey Bridge

Deputy Mayor Walsh has been very vocal on the process and schedule when it comes to the bailey bridge, which has taken two years to get to the stage it's at now. The bailey bridge is a temporary solution until a permanent bridge is constructed. Deputy Mayor Walsh questioned what is happening to ensure the town is reconnected in an expedited manner.

Mr. Dwyer advised he met with the Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure and his Department officials about two weeks ago. The bridge was on schedule, at that time, for completion in June but shortly after that, there were issues and work ceased. There are most always issues with larger infrastructure. Mr. Dwyer agreed there is a need for a faster timeline and has reached out to the Minister again for another update that he hopes to pass on soon. If the timeline can be expedited, he will request it.

Deputy Mayor Walsh pointed out there were a number of delays in getting this project started and one of them was that there was a project in Lamaline that needed to be done first. That project entailed a culvert and should not have been the reason for a delay. While there are other municipalities with important issues, Deputy Mayor Walsh noted this bridge is critical to the residents and businesses of Marystown, most notably on the south side where residents are greatly affected. If there is anything that can be done, Deputy Mayor Walsh asked that Mr. Dwyer follow up. Mr. Dwyer advised that when it comes to the contractors, they are private companies that are contracted by the Department to carry out work for the Department. So scheduling issues are between the Department and the contractor.

There are residents both for and against a temporary bailey bridge. Once in place, Councillor Hodder hopes the bridge is managed well and is not another Red Harbour bridge. It's also hoped the permanent bridge moves forward as promised. Mr. Dwyer noted work on the Red Harbour bridge was 80%-90% completed when the structure was deemed to be poor on one side and reduced to one lane. Measures were put in place to ensure safety and any accidents that have occurred were a result of human error (speeding, running the red light, etc.).

Mayor Keating advised he reached out to the Premier, Minister Hutton and other government officials over the last two weeks about the 'shutdown' on the bridge. Work on the bridge never shut down due to a permitting issue – there was another contract to fulfill in St. John's.

Provincial Roads and Maintenance

Councillor Hodder advised that a number of complaints have been received regarding the condition of the asphalt on Marine Drive and through Black Brook. Complaints have also been received regarding delayed snow clearing on provincial roads.

Mr. Dwyer advised that a request was submitted to have Black Brook repaved and it was approved in last year's budget but could not be done. It is on the books to be completed for this year. Marine Drive needs to be refurbished; Mr. Dwyer has called to get some repairs done, which the Minister is looking at for this upcoming season.

Snow clearing of Provincial roads has been an issue lately for three reasons: equipment breakdowns, difficulty getting mechanics and shortage of operators. Mr. Dwyer advised that some retired operators are returning to work to assist with operations.

Councillor Hodder noted the pending upgrade for Black Brook was welcome news and noted as well that when the time comes, Council will expect Mr. Dwyer's support if they have to lobby the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure for any repairs to Creston Boulevard as a result of damage caused by the heavy equipment travelling on the road to bring rock to the south side for the construction of the bailey bridge.

Councillor Hodder questioned if there was any funding to replace highway signage, which is essential for promoting tourism. Mr. Dwyer agreed that new signage is needed and stated he submitted a request a couple of years ago. Councillor Hodder suggested it would be better to remove the dilapidated signage until new signage is ready to go up simply because of how bad it looks.

Councillor Nolan advised there are a lot of complaints from residents in neighbouring Local Service Districts who work in Marystown and have to drive on dilapidated roads from Jean de

Baie, Spanish Room, Rock Harbour and Beau Bois. The Marystown Volunteer Fire Department responds to calls in those LSDs and maintenance and snow clearing are major issues.

Mr. Dwyer noted that if Route 210 is not drivable, there is no point in going to each LSD to do those roads first. A lot of work has been done on Route 210. Roadwork for Jean de Baie has been on Mr. Dwyer's list for six years and should have been done long ago. Every town has the same issues. There have been some overtures to address issues in Spanish Room and Rock Harbour. LSD roads are an ongoing file that Mr. Dwyer will continue to work on.

With regards to the funding that each MHA receives for their districts for road maintenance, etc., Mayor Keating questioned the amount that was expended from Terrenceville to Marystown out of Mr. Dwyer's allotment. Mr. Dwyer stated that Marystown received the biggest portion of funding for the McGettigan Boulevard Upgrades Project. Upgrades were also done from Red Harbour to Marystown. The issue with funding is that when projects like Canning Bridge and Red Harbour Bridge are added to the list, it affects what funding can be allotted.

Wind Energy Project

As most everyone knows, there is a lack of work on the Burin Peninsula and Marystown's population has dipped to 5,204 as per the 2021 census, the lowest it's been in about 25 years. The overall population of the peninsula is also at its lowest in years. With EverWind Fuels proposing a green energy project for the peninsula, it's anticipated much needed work will employ a large number of residents for several years. Councillor Edwards questioned what support Mr. Dwyer's office was providing to the project.

Mr. Dwyer is cautiously optimistic and is waiting on data to make an informed decision on whether the project will be beneficial to the peninsula. If the project is deemed beneficial, Mr. Dwyer will have no issue supporting it but at the moment, he is neither for or against it until that data is received. Mr. Dwyer noted that World Energy GH2 was one of the first companies to propose a wind energy project in the Stephenville area and now, the company is looking at other options including building a data centre. With World Energy GH2 already changing its business model, Mr. Dwyer felt it was important that everyone understand more about this industry to ensure proper decisions are made. While it's important to have jobs, the peninsula cannot be left 'holding the bag' because of uninformed decisions. If the project is deemed to be of no benefit to the peninsula, Mr. Dwyer questioned getting into that new industry just to deal with remediation of land, removal of windmills, etc. The peninsula needs to get the full benefit of its own resources.

Marbase Marystown Inc/Kiewit Offshore Services

Council has had concerns regarding industries that once held great potential for Marystown and the peninsula. Grieg Seafood has already been discussed, leaving Marbase Marystown Inc. and Kiewit Offshore Services. Councillor Myles noted that the former Marystown shipyard was to be renovated into an aquaculture service hub under Marbase, supplying cleaner (lump) fish to the hatchery. That species was subsequently added to the species at risk list and the company started looking at producing wolffish and halibut. It's unsure what the company is doing now. Council met with Mr. Paul Antle, owner of the company, as well as representatives of Canada Fluorspar Inc. to discuss the barge tied up at the Marbase dock. Councillor Myles questioned whether Mr. Dwyer had any information on the company's plans, including the removal of the barge.

Mr. Dwyer noted that Marbase's plans were reliant on Grieg Seafood's plans. When plans changed for Grieg Seafood, it was up to Marbase, as a private company, to adjust to that change.

As for Kiewit Offshore Services, Mr. Dwyer noted the company has no interest in bidding on projects under \$1 billion in value. There is a great local workforce of shipyard workers, however, as another private company, the government has no control and cannot force the company to bid on projects.

Marystown Shipyard Families Alliance

A meeting has been booked for February 25th at the Marystown Hotel and all shipyard workers and their families are urged to attend. Mayor Keating asked what kind of support has been given to the Marystown Shipyard Families Alliance, noting the Town would be supporting the organization during the meeting at the hotel.

Mr. Dwyer advised that if the organization reaches out to him, he will do what he can to provide support.

Recreational Facilities

2025 is the Year of Sport. The Town of Marystown incurs a lot of expenses to keep its recreational facilities going, especially the arena and YMCA. With funding being announced for other communities, Councillor Nolan stressed the importance of having Mr. Dwyer's support in securing funding for the Town's facilities, which are utilized by residents of other towns.

Mr. Dwyer advised that if the Town makes him aware of funding application submissions, he will follow through on supporting them. Mr. Dwyer noted that Marystown is the hub of the Burin Peninsula and it is to be expected that outside residents and tourists will want to use the Town's facilities. Marystown benefits from that use through the collection of taxes from businesses that are supported by residents and tourists. Councillor Nolan noted however, that taxes alone are barely keeping these facilities open. While Marystown has a big tax base, it also has big costs. Mr. Dwyer suggested that funding applications could be sent to him first prior to being submitted to see if there is anything that could be added to bolster the application. Mr. Dwyer also recommended he be copied on all funding application submissions so that he is aware of each one and can support them. Mr. Dwyer mentioned that he has a good relationship with the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation who approves the Year of Sport funding grants as he is the shadow cabinet minister for the Department.

Deputy Mayor Walsh wanted everyone to understand that no other community is financially supporting the Town's recreational facilities that the Marystown taxpayers pay for. Mayor Keating wanted to recognize that other residents are supporting the facilities through user fees and various expenditures within Marystown.

Mayor Keating advised that the Town did receive two grants under the Year of Sport Program – one for the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena and the other for the YMCA. Mayor Keating questioned if Mr. Dwyer was copied on that correspondence and if not, noted the government should be copying him. Mr. Dwyer confirmed he was copied on the emails and noted it was great to see the Town receive that funding.

Councillor Hodder referred to Mr. Dwyer's comment on going to events, meetings, etc., that he is invited to. Councillor Hodder noted that if an event, meeting, etc., is going on and he is aware but hasn't received an invitation, as an MHA, he needs to demand that invitation. There are major issues going on and those invitations are important. Mr. Dwyer again noted that if he is available,

he will attend, if possible, as sometimes it is difficult to amend his schedule, especially when things have been scheduled for a while.

Mr. Dwyer thanked Council for the invitation to tonight's meeting and noted again that if available, he will attend meetings with Council. Mr. Dwyer thanked Council for their questions and their hard work, which does not go unnoticed. Mr. Dwyer noted the need to work together and communicate.

Before Mr. Dwyer left, Councillor Keating again stressed the importance of healthcare and questioned if there would be a career fair for new graduates. Councillor Keating was told last year that it would be looked after by professionals in the industry but understands that no one from the Burin Peninsula approached any of last year's graduates. Councillor Keating questioned if Mr. Dwyer could find out if there would be a career fair that a delegation from the Burin Peninsula could attend. Mr. Dwyer asked that Council send him an email for follow-up and he can reach out to the Minister to see if there is anything planned for this area and if not, a request can be submitted.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Keating thanked Mr. Dwyer for attending the meeting.

The meeting recessed at 7:23 p.m. and resumed again at 7:50 p.m. without Councillor Hodder, who had work commitments.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/001R

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED the agenda be adopted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/002R

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on February 4, 2025, be adopted.”

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Business Arising

There was no business to bring forward.

5. Delegations

There were no scheduled delegations aside from the meeting with MHA Jeff Dwyer.

6. Committee Reports

Protection to Persons & Property Committee

Councillor Nolan reviewed the minutes of the Protection to Persons & Property Committee meeting held on February 11, 2025.

Councillor Nolan reminded everyone that the Marystown Shipyard Families Alliance would be hosting a public meeting on occupational disease on Tuesday, February 25th, at the Marystown Hotel & Convention Centre. All Marystown shipyard workers, their families and concerned area residents were urged to attend.

A presentation with the CNIB on community accessibility is pending rescheduling.

The Town Manager is following up on funding through the Charged for Change Program to determine if the Town is eligible to apply.

The Director of Facilities, Recreation & Community Services attended the Committee meeting and there was some continuing discussion on this year's anti-litter campaign. The Committee is continuing to source out pricing for various styles of litter bins that will be purchased for the spring clean-up season.

Due to the weather conditions, Councillor Nolan reported that animal control operations have been quiet. Councillor Nolan noted that the owner of a dog who continues to walk the dog untethered on the Landing Place Pond Walking Trail has been identified and a letter has been forwarded to that person on the Town's policy regarding leashes.

Operations remain busy at the Fire Hall with training, maintenance and calls for inspections. There were three calls for services since the last Committee meeting.

A group of firefighters have completed the second half of the HazMat Awareness Operations Course this past weekend. This training was completed in-house. Councillor Nolan thanked everyone involved for their continuing commitment to the Town.

The Emergency Management Plan Education Session took place at the Fire Hall last Wednesday. Councillor Nolan thanked everyone involved for the role they will play in the event of an emergency.

The materials needed for repairs to the Fire Hall roof have arrived and are currently with BP Metal Products for preparation. Repairs will be carried out when the weather permits. Councillor Nolan advised that more leaks in the roof have recently been identified.

On behalf of the Marystown Volunteer Fire Department, Councillor Nolan thanked Council for their continued support of the Fire Department through the 2025 Budget. Fire Chief Bolt is currently working on getting various quotes for the purchase of items that were included in the budget.

With snow continuing to build up, the Fire Department wanted to remind residents to clear all exits and vents in their homes and keep their nearest fire hydrant clear.

The Committee met with two representatives of the Burin Peninsula Chamber of Commerce to discuss their Adopt-a-Spot Program. The Committee received an overview of the program, which was a regional program offered by the Chamber. The program has been inactive for a number of

years and the Town has an interest in revitalizing it. Ms. Christa Power with the Chamber advised she will advise the Board of Directors for the Chamber of the Town's interest after which she will follow up with the Committee.

The Town is also interested in putting more focus on future economic development within town and is looking forward to working with the Burin Chamber of Commerce in the future.

Tourism & Special Events Committee

As Councillor Hodder had to leave during the recess for work commitments, Councillor Myles reviewed the minutes of the Tourism & Special Events Committee meeting held on February 11, 2025.

The Hospitality NL Conference is taking place March 11-13/25. Anyone interested in attending should follow up. Councillor Keating advised that he and Councillor Edwards are already registered to attend.

Applications for the lottery license for the outdoor bingos have started. The bingos this year will take place May 27th, June 24th, July 29th and August 26th at the Club 20 parking lot. Each bingo will be promoted as the date draws close to ensure residents are reminded.

The Marystown Lions Club will be hosting their Winter Carnival from February 22nd to March 1st. The Town will host a sliding party on February 26th.

Plans are underway for the Shining Seas Summer Festival. Five Dock Row is coming on board again with another rock the Dock event. The Committee is also looking at a Family Fun Day at the Track & Field Complex, to be hosted in conjunction with Smallwood Crescent Community Centre.

The Town and Mayor Keating will host a seniors' meal at the Marystown Retirement Centre on March 17th. Anyone interested in that can contact the Director of Facilities, Recreation & Community Services.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/003R

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Edwards

"BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to co-host a Seniors' Meal with Mayor Keating at the Marystown Retirement Centre on March 17, 2025 at a cost of \$200.00."

Motion carried unanimously.

Referring back to the sliding party on February 26th, Mayor Keating noted it will take place on the Town grounds.

Recreation Committee

Deputy Mayor Walsh reviewed the minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting held on February 11, 2025.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/004R

Moved by Deputy Mayor Walsh, seconded by Councillor Edwards

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay the remaining one-third of invoice no. 18308 received from Urban Flooring dated October 16/24 for new flooring for the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena, which amounts to \$27,666.67 including HST as the supplier has rectified issues with the flooring, with the understanding that the full payment of the invoice totaling \$83,000.00 including HST will come from the 2024 budget.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Operations have been busy at the Kaetlyn Osmond Arena with various tournaments taking place every weekend. Deputy Mayor Walsh advised the arena recently hosted the U15 girls’ tournament and there will be another tournament coming up this weekend. The travelling team is doing well.

The Kaetlyn Osmond Arena is currently in 6th place in the Kraft Hockeyville competition. The winner of that competition will receive \$250,000.00, which the arena hopes to win and use towards accessibility upgrades. Deputy Mayor Walsh encouraged all residents to take a few minutes to upload their arena story to the website and boost the arena closer to first place. Anyone needing help uploading their story can contact the Director of Facilities, Recreation & Community Services for assistance. Councillor Edwards advised there will be a table set up at the Home Hardware store for anyone needing help with their story. It was agreed that this is much-needed funding that the Town could put to good use at the arena.

As noted, the Town will host a sliding party on February 26th. And on March 25th, the arena will host an NHL Legends hockey game; tickets are \$40.00 each.

The YMCA is currently at 1,169 members, the highest membership since 2021 which is great. Another lifeguard has been hired and the YMCA is working on recruiting another. The YMCA received a small Seniors Social Inclusion Grant that will be used for a chair fitness class for seniors.

Public Works Committee

Councillor Keating reviewed the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on February 12, 2025.

The committee met with a resident to discuss snow clearing operations. The Committee advised the resident on the Town’s policies and what the Town could and couldn’t do in terms of snow clearing.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/005R

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay Invoice No. 8414 from BioMaxx Environmental dated November 21, 2024, in the amount of \$3,864.00 including HST for a one-time annual fee for monitoring of wastewater in the Town, with funds to come from the 2024 budget.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Keating advised that this fee from BioMaxx is a new fee. The Committee will be requesting a meeting with representatives of BioMaxx to get an update the next time they are in town.

The Committee received some complaints regarding sewer lines on King's Road. The Director of Operations & Public Works has received some quotes and the Department will install a lateral across the road that will allow a resident to tie in to the Town's sewer. This work will be completed in the spring.

Regular operations continue to be busy with several tasks completed such as snow clearing, leak repairs and vehicle repairs/maintenance. Councillor Keating advised that complaints in the Water Street East area have been received regarding discolouration in the water due to the water line dead-ending. The Department will be installing a run-off on Water Street East that can be turned on and off a couple of times a week to allow the water line to be flushed instead of flushing a fire hydrant in the area. The Department continues to do water sampling/testing in the area to ensure everything is okay.

Funding has been allocated in the Town's budget to do some work in the Greenwood Street area to address drainage issues. The Department will complete some ditching and install culverts. This work will be completed in the spring.

Construction of the Chlorination Building will start in the spring as soon as weather permits. Materials have been ordered.

The necessary documentation for the Eugene Hodder's Road Sewer Project has been sent to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure for review.

Wally Drake's Trucking Limited has ordered the bridge for the Glendon Bridge Project and construction will start in the spring.

The Water Treatment Operator has noticed a high volume of water usage at the plant which is indicative of water leaks. The Department will look at buying some leak detection equipment in the spring. Councillor Keating advised residents who hear or notice running water or see water pooling where it shouldn't to call the Town as it may be a potential water leak. The Town will be installing water meters at Grieg to track water usage.

Equipment is running well with the normal wear and tear and breakdowns occurring; the Department is on top of repairs.

A snowstorm hit the area on February 10th and as usual, the Department did a great job with snow clearing and lots of positive comments have been received.

The Town has received complaints regarding residents pushing snow across the road, which is not permitted as per the Town's regulations. Councillor Keating admitted he was also guilty of pushing snow across the road however, he makes sure not to leave snow in the road which can be a hazard to motorists. If residents feel they have nowhere else to put the snow except across the road, Councillor Keating asked that they ensure they do not deposit snow into the roadway. Councillor Keating also asked residents to stop speeding on Marine Drive.

Waste management operations are good.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/006R

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walsh

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to submit an application to Newfoundland Power for the installation of a street light on George Brake’s Road.”

Motion carried unanimously.

The Town was hit with more snow on Sunday past, February 16th. Shortly after the snow hit, a water leak was discovered on Wilson Street, which was a major leak involving several workers for several hours. This resulted in a delay in snow clearing. Councillor Keating reminded residents to be patient during the winter season as while snow clearing is a priority, occasionally, there is other work that takes bigger priority.

Finance Committee

Councillor Edwards reviewed the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on February 12, 2025.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/007R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Myles

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay the December Monthly Claim received from the YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador dated December 31/24 in the amount of \$19,971.00.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Edwards noted that for comparison purposes, the claim amount for December 2023 was \$29,747.00.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/008R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to pay Invoice No. 19444 from Cal LeGrow Insurance dated January 30/25 in the amount of \$437.40 RST included for the addition of the 2025 Cat Loader to Policy No. P04174506.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/009R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to accept the notice of retirement received from Mr. Alje Mitchell from the position of Chief Administrative Officer with the Town of Marystown effective February 8, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED approval be given to pay severance to Mr. Mitchell, former Chief Administrative Officer, in the amount of \$34,503.59 for 14.82 years of service.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Walsh declared a conflict of interest for the next recommendation as he is the President of the Marystown Minor Soccer Association. Deputy Mayor Walsh removed himself from his Chambers seat to sit in the public area.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/010R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to make a donation to the Marystown United Girls Development Team who are travelling to Glasgow, Scotland in August 2025 in the amount of \$150.00 for each of the eight residents of Marystown, for a total donation in the amount of \$1,200.00, as per policy.”

Motion carried on a vote of four to one with Councillor Edwards, Councillor Keating, Councillor Myles and Councillor Nolan voting for the motion and Mayor Keating voting against it and without the vote of Deputy Mayor Walsh who was in a declared conflict of interest.

Deputy Mayor Walsh returned to his Chambers seat.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/011R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED Council ratify Poll Tax Ratification Listing No. 5-1 dated January 29, 2025, in the amount of \$14,350.00.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/012R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED Council approve Accounts Payable Listing No. 8-1 as of February 7, 2025, in the amount of \$203,317.97.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/013R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED Council ratify an increase in the P.O. Limit for the Director of Finance & Administration to facilitate the purchase of the G3 Numatics solenoid manifold for two valve tacks and systems from Trogan Technologies Corp. in the amount of \$163,416.31 including HST.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/014R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Myles

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to engage the services of Mark Gill with Higher Talents to represent the Town on an arbitration panel for a grievance with Local CUPE 1896.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/015R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Myles

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given for the Town Manager to attend the PMA Eastern Regional Meeting in Clarendville on February 20, 2025.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/016R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given for Mayor Keating to attend a meeting with NL Health Services in Clarendville on February 20, 2025.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Keating noted that four of the Town’s loans are up for renewal with Bank of Montreal and requested an update. Councillor Edwards advised that the Bank has been notified that the Town is looking at other rates from other financial institutions for potential savings.

Councillor Keating noted that in the YMCA’s December claim for an operating grant, there is a rental reimbursement. Councillor Keating questioned if that was the mortgage on the building. Councillor Edwards advised that it is a rental cost for the YMCA to utilize the Recreation Complex for their operations and it is an in-and-out transaction that occurs each month as per the lease agreement.

Planning & Economic Development Committee

Councillor Myles reviewed the minutes of the Planning & Economic Development Committee held on February 11, 2025.

*Town Council of Marystown
Regular Council Meeting
February 18, 2025*

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Environment and Climate Change regarding the Burin Peninsula EverWind Green Fuels Project. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines are now available for public review and are on project website. The deadline for public comments is February 26, 2025.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/017R

Moved by Councillor Myles, seconded by Councillor Keating

“BE IT RESOLVED that an application received from Peter Molloy for a grant pursuant to a lease for the purpose of an extension to an existing residential property in Jean-de-Baie be approved, subject to the Local Service District of Jean-de-Baie.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Keating advised that some residents are still having issues with Crown Land due to the freeze put in place for the EverWind Fuels Green Energy Project. Minister Byrne with the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture had advised that any issues with Crown Land had been resolved but it seems this is not the case. The Town has been following up on this item and will be writing a letter to the Minister as documentation has been received from both EverWind Fuels and Minister Byrne that there would be no issues with Crown Land applications.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to bring forward.

8. Approvals to Purchase

Councillor Keating noted there were three quotes for mini splits for the Fire Hall and noted one of them was for Gree units. Councillor Keating questioned if that was a good brand. Councillor Edwards advised he is not familiar with the name and would have to look into it. Councillor Keating noted he read the specs on the mini splits but wanted to ensure it was a good product. It was confirmed that the mini splits have not been purchased yet and that the lowest quote received was actually for Senville units. Councillor Edwards confirmed that the Senville name is a reliable name.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/018R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to the Fire Department to engage M.E.R. Sales and Services Ltd. for the supply and installation of four mini split units at the Fire Hall at a cost of \$18,871.45 including HST which includes a 10-year warranty on the labour and compressor and 5 years on parts.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/019R

Moved by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Nolan

“BE IT RESOLVED approval be given to the Public Works Department to purchase two sets of double carbide blades and two sets of protector blades from PMI Industries at a cost of \$6,337.19 including HST.”

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Regulations

There were no regulations to bring forward.

10. Other Business

Deputy Mayor Walsh had no other business to bring forward.

Councillor Keating had no other business to bring forward. He noted his only concern was the need for more doctors which was discussed with MHA Dwyer.

Councillor Nolan noted the meeting with MHA Dwyer was a great meeting and Council wants to continue to work with MHA Dwyer to get what the Town can in terms of funding, work, etc.

Councillor Nolan reminded everyone that the Lions Club Winter Carnival starts on February 22nd and everyone is encouraged to support the various events.

Neither Councillor Edwards nor Councillor Myles had any other business to bring forward.

Mayor Keating noted it was great to see organizations like the Lions Club and Kinsmen still playing an active and strong role within town and noted as well that it was great to see some sports also coming back strong.

11. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion to bring forward.

12. Adjournment

The next meeting will take place Tuesday, March 4, 2025.

Motion

MMC 2025 02 18/020R

Moved by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Edwards

“BE IT RESOLVED the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Keating
Mayor

Petrina Power
Town Clerk