

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – MARCH 8TH, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M

Minutes of regular council meeting held
at 7:00PM at March 8th at the Eastport Town Hall

Attendance

Mayor Art Crisby, Deputy Mayor Amanda Handcock

Councillors: Monica Bull, Kimberly Powell, Shannon Powell(arrived at 7:06PM), Ben Patey, Roger Bull

Staff: Chantal Lynch – Town Clerk/Manager

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM by Mayor Crisby

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION:	22-23
Proposed by:	Monica Bull
Seconded by:	Kim Powell
Resolved that the agenda be adopted as presented.	
In favour – 6; Opposed – 0. Carried.	

3. Adoption of Regular Council Minutes

MOTION:	23-23
Proposed by:	Ben Patey
Seconded by:	Monica Bull
Resolved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 8th, be adopted as presented.	
In favour – 7; Opposed – 0. Carried.	

4. Business Arising

- a. Municipal Conduct Act – Mandatory Training & Codes of Conduct Training – It was agreed that at the beginning of the next meeting, there would be training on the adopted Code of Conduct.
- b. Disclosure Statements review –

MOTION:	24-23
Proposed by:	Kim Powell
Seconded by:	Shannon Powell
Resolved that the meeting would enter into privileged meeting at 7:10PM for the purpose of reviewing Disclosure Statements as required by the Municipal Conduct Act Section 4.(4)(b.)	
In favour – 7; Opposed – 0. Carried.	

A review of disclosure statements followed.

MOTION:	25-23
Proposed by:	Shannon Powell
Seconded by:	Roger Bull
Resolved that the privileged meeting would conclude, and the regular meeting would continue at 7:15PM.	

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In favour – 7; Opposed – 0.Carried.

c. Appointment of Assessment Review Commissioner

MOTION: 26-23

Proposed by: Ben Patey

Seconded by: Shannon Powell

Resolved that Kathleen Hodder would be appointed as Assessment Review Commissioner as per the Assessment Act. Noted there were no submissions received after the public notice was posted.

In favour – 7; Opposed – 0.Carried.

d. MNL Municipal Symposium 2023- May 4-6 – Gander

It was decided Deputy Mayor Amanda Handcock and Councilors Ben Patey and Roger Bull would attend the MNL Symposium.

e. EP Rec & Wellness, January 31th, 2023 – Commitment

Councilor Monica Bull presented a draft response to the letter received. After a discussion about certain suggestions, it was agreed Councilor Monica Bull would edit the response and it would be forwarded on to EP Rec & Wellness.

5. New Business

a. Councilor Technology & email – Deputy Mayor Amanda Handcock indicated that some Councilor email contact information was missing on the newsletter. Discussion ensued around issues setting up the email properly. Councilor Kim Powell advised she had been in contact with our IT support concerning specifications for Councilor devices and quotes. More information would be available on this for the next meeting.

b. Branding Eastport – Councilor Kim Powell previously sent a presentation concerning Branding Eastport and how best to move forward with marketing and development, etc. Agreed that it was needed, and expertise would need to be engaged, and also that further discussion would take place. It would be deferred to the next regular meeting of Council.

c. Thriving Regions Partnership Workshop #1, April 3rd, 2023 – The Town Clerk/Manager advised she is registered for this workshop and Councilor Roger Bull is as well. It will hopefully be an interesting forum for great discussion. It is open to anyone in the region.

d. Joint Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 19th 3:30PM in Salvage – Agreed that Councilors Roger Bull, Monica Bull and Ben Patey would attend the Joint Council meeting.

e. Stipend/Mandatory Training – Councilor Monica Bull led the discussion in that when training is mandatory there should be a stipend. Agreement to review this for budget 2024.

f. Streetlight for corner of Legion and Main – Councilor Ben Patey proposed a motion to have a new streetlight installed at the corner of Legion Road and Main Street. There was no seconder. Motion withdrawn.

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It was agreed that all councilors would visit the area to assess whether or not it is needed.

Andy Handcock and Alex Handcock arrived at the meeting at 8:37PM

6. Finance

MOTION:	27-23
Proposed by:	Ben Patey
Seconded by:	Kim Powell
Resolved that the following invoices be approved for payment as presented and reports tabled: Line of Credit February 2023 - \$409.19; postage and clothing allowance Fire Dept: Cheque #1754-1758; \$1,810.28 General Account: Cheque #9441-9475; \$47,050.60 Bank Statements February 2023 Quick Stats February 2023	
In favour – 7; Opposed – 0. Carried	

7. Correspondence

- a. Fr: RCL Branch 41, February 20th, 2023 – Property Tax – agreed this would be processed the same as in previous years.
- b. Ashley O Keefe, Downhome Marketing, Festival/event listing 2023 – deferred.
- c. Nancy Parsons, March 6, 2023 – Request reduction in Water and Sewer Tax – discussion around when this process was started, if there is a policy or agreement, and that the Town Clerk/Manager would contact Municipal Affairs for clarification on allowing a water tax break for seasonal accommodations businesses.
- d. Lori Moss, March 08, 2023, - Cultural Events Funding – Councilor Roger Bull agreed to pursue ideas for this funding.

8. Reading File

- a. MAPA, Circular – International Women’s Day March 8th
- b. Government of NL, ECC, - 2023 Water and Wastewater Workshop

9. Committee Reports

Public Works

Deputy Mayor Amanda Handcock left the room citing conflict of interest. Deputy Mayor Amanda Handcock questioned whether Councillor Kim Powell was in conflict, to which Councillor Powell responded that there had been a vote of council in a previous meeting and it was agreed that she was not in conflict. Mayor Art Crisby and Town Clerk/Manager confirmed this vote had taken place and it was recorded in the minutes. Some heated discussion ensued and to settle the moment, Councilor Kim Powell left the room and wished it would be noted in the minutes that she felt pressured to leave the room and did not appreciate the behavior of Deputy Mayor Handcock.

Councilor Roger Bull advised that the Public Works Committee had met with G & R Contracting concerning their proposal for a Septic Tank/Field in the location of the former Septic Disposal Site. Andy Handcock

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then submitted a development application for the proposal. It was agreed at the time this use falls under Discretionary in the Municipal Plan, that a Public Notice be sent out to residents advising of this proposal and that if anyone felt they were adversely affected, to submit their concerns in writing on or before March 22nd.

Andy Handcock and Alex Handcock left the meeting at 9:50PM

Finance/Admin/HR

MOTION:	28-23
Proposed by:	Kim Powell
Seconded by:	Ben Patey
Resolved that the Town would advertise for a casual/call in position, to compile a list of skilled workers for an as-needed basis.	
In favour – 7 ; Opposed – 0, Carried.	

Agreed that the current Tax Recovery Plan would be distributed to Council for review and adoption at the next regular council meeting.

Agreed that the office assistant would be invited to the next meeting to discuss the updates on the audits.

Planning and Development

Further discussion around the proposed development at the end of Tulks Road. Agreed to inquire with the Public Works Supervisor regarding adding extra capacity to the water and sewer system.

Noted that the Peninsula is in need of housing for families.

There was also a brief discussion about the possibility of incentives for new businesses, both of these topics will need further discussion.

Communication and Engagement

Deputy Mayor Amanda Handcock advised the first Coffee and Chat session was deemed a success! The next one is not scheduled yet but hoping to build on the first one. The Newsletter has gotten great reviews and if any councilor has ideas for the newsletter to submit their articles.

Recreation and Social

Councilor Kim Powell advised the weather has not been cooperating for all the Winter Carnival events to take place as scheduled, but that the activities that had taken place drew numerous people. She advised she is hoping to build on this for next year.

MOTION:	29-23
Proposed by:	Kim Powell
Seconded by:	Ben Patey
Resolved that Councillor Roger Bull would apply for \$1,500.00 funding under the NL Multiculturalism Grant Program to facilitate a welcome tour of the area and meet and greet for the Ukrainian families that have settled in the region.	
In favour – 7 ; Opposed – 0, Carried.	

Fire Hall Liaison

MOTION:	30-23
Proposed by:	Ben Patey
Seconded by:	Shannon Powell
Resolved that the election results for Fire Chief – Kirk Bull, Deputy Fire Chief – Sean Turner, Assistant Deputy Fire Chief – Jeff Jewison, Training Officer – Mike Coady would be accepted.	
In favour – 7 ; Opposed – 0, Carried.	

RTTB

Councilor Roger Bull advised that the Eastport Peninsula would be a pilot project for directional signage for the Damnable Trail system and will update more when possible. In other directives, a total of eleven storyboards will be placed or replaced on the Peninsula in conjunction with the Main Street Stories.

Emergency Management

The plan has been reviewed and signed by each town to be sent for departmental approval. It will then come back to each town to be adopted.

11. Adjournment

MOTION:	31-23
Proposed by:	Roger Bull
Seconded by:	Kim Powell
Resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 10:19PM and the next regular meeting would be held on April 12 th at 7:00PM.	
In favour – 7 ; Opposed – 0, Carried.	

Art Crisby – Mayor

Chantal Lynch – Town Clerk/Manager