

Minutes of regular council meeting held
at 7:00PM at January 10th at the Eastport Town Hall

Attendance

Acting Mayor Monica Bull

Councillors: Shannon Powell, Ben Patey, Roger Bull, David Decker, Kim Powell, Art Crisby
Chantal Lynch – Town Clerk/Manager, Chelsea Harris – Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Acting Mayor Monica Bull and thanked the previous Mayor for his service to the town since the past election in September 2021.

2. Mayor Vacancy

MOTION:	01-24
Proposed by:	David Decker
Seconded by:	Ben Patey
Resolved that Council would vote for Mayor by secret ballot around the council table, as per Section 19(3)(1)(c) of the Municipalities Act that states: 19. (1) Where a vacancy occurs in the office of a mayor who was originally elected in a separate election, the town council shall fill that vacancy by (c) electing, by secret ballot, from among the remaining members of council, a person to assume the office of mayor for the remainder of the originally elected mayor's term. (3) Where a vacancy occurs in the office of a mayor who was originally elected by the town council, that vacancy shall be filled in accordance with paragraph (1)(a) or (c).	
In favour – 6 (Acting Mayor Monica Bull, Councillors: Shannon Powell, David Decker, Ben Patey, Kim Powell, Art Crisby); Opposed – 1 (Councillor Roger Bull). Carried.	

Nomination for Mayor followed with the following nominations:

- Councillor Art Crisby nominated Councillor Kim Powell, seconded by Councillor David Decker, Councillor Kim Powell accepted the nomination
- Councillor Kim Powell nominated Councillor Ben Patey, seconded by Councillor Art Crisby, Councillor Ben Patey accepted the nomination.
- Councillor Roger Bull nominate Acting Mayor Monica Bull, seconded by Councillor Kim Powell, Acting Mayor Monica Bull accepted.

The results of the secret ballot were as follows:

Monica Bull- 2, Ben Patey – 1, Kim Powell – 4

Mayor Kim Powell then assumed chair of the meeting.

3. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:	02-24
Proposed by:	Shannon Powell
Seconded by:	Ben Patey
Resolved that the Agenda be adopted with updates to accommodate the second monthly meeting. Emphasis would be placed on Public Works for the first monthly meeting, with Finance for the second monthly meeting . Other items would be standard at each meeting, while committee reports would be presented as available.	
In favour – 7(Mayor Kim Powell, Deputy Mayor Monica Bull, Councillors: Shannon Powell, David Decker, Ben Patey, Roger Bull, Art Crisby). Opposed – 0. Carried.	

4. Adoption of Regular Council Minutes

MOTION:	03-24
Proposed by:	Shannon Powell
Seconded by:	Roger Bull
Resolved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on December13th, be adopted as presented.	
In favour – 7(Mayor Kim Powell, Deputy Mayor Monica Bull, Councillors: Shannon Powell, David Decker, Ben Patey, Roger Bull, Art Crisby). Opposed – 0. Carried.	

5. Business Arising

- Municipal Conduct Act – Mandatory Training & Codes of Conduct Training
- Branding Eastport – will consult with RTTB
- Electronic Policy – Mayor Kim Powell agreed to compile a draft document, following the recommendations from Municipal Affairs and other available policies.

6. Town Manager Report

Discussion around the new dump trailer purchased through the Shared Services program.
Agreement that, as per the Municipalities Act, Town assets would be used for Town business only.

7. New Business

- Attendance at Fire Dept. – agreed that if there was an issue, the Chief would deal with matters accordingly
- Standard Operating Guidelines – EPVFD – deferred to the next meeting to be tabled. Council to review the document.
- Rules of Procedure – for review and point of reference for everyone around the table
- Rink Opening and Maintenance – Volunteers have cleared, flooded and maintained the rink. Special shout out to all those involved.
- Senior Social Day – agreement that Mayor Kim Powell would move forward with plans for a Senior Social Day. More details to follow.
- Celebrate Winter Activities – Mayor Kim Powell invited council to think of winter activities that could go ahead, agreed to bring ideas forward at the next meeting.
- Joint Council Meeting, January 25th, Happy Adventure – Agenda Item – agreed that the Collaboration grant for Director of Community Services and Collaboration, and Transportation Services for the Peninsula would be asked to be added to the agenda.

8. Finance

MOTION:	04-24
Proposed by:	Ben Patey
Seconded by:	David Decker
Resolved that the following invoices be approved for payment as presented and reports tabled: Line of Credit December - \$937.48 postage, seniors soup supper supplies Fire Dept: Cheque # 1817-1824; \$2,284.12 General Account: Cheque #9862-9916 ; \$68,917.91 Quick stats December 2023 Bank Statements December 2023	
In favour – 7(Mayor Kim Powell, Deputy Mayor Monica Bull, Councillors: Shannon Powell, David Decker, Ben Patey, Roger Bull, Art Crisby). Opposed – 0. Carried.	

Councillor Ben Patey updated that work is ongoing with the 2021 audit. The auditors office was closed during the holidays, but work has been ongoing since the new year.

9. Public Works Committee –

MOTION:	05-24
Proposed by:	Shannon Powell
Seconded by:	David Decker
Resolved that a budget of up to \$1000.00 be used to fix the smaller utility trailer (in-house)to be used for trailering lawn mowers, small equipment and also used for floats for parades.	
In favour – 7(Mayor Kim Powell, Deputy Mayor Monica Bull, Councillors: Shannon Powell, David Decker, Ben Patey, Roger Bull, Art Crisby). Opposed – 0. Carried.	

10. Correspondence

- a. Cpl Mark Walsh, December 18, 2023 – Monthly Crime Statistics – November – agreement to follow up and request a breakdown of communities.
- b. Central Northeast Health Foundation, Donation request

MOTION:	
Proposed by:	Art Crisby
Seconded by:	
Resolved that a donation of \$500.00 be made to Central Northeast Health Foundation.	
No seconder, the proposer withdrew the motion.	

- c. Alicia Legge, Epilepsy NL, January 10, 2024, Purple Day for Epilepsy

MOTION:	06-24
Proposed by:	Art Crisby
Seconded by:	David Decker
Resolved that the Town would sign the proclamation to declare March 26 th as Purple Day in an effort to raise awareness and understanding of epilepsy.	

In favour – 7(Mayor Kim Powell, Deputy Mayor Monica Bull, Councillors: Shannon Powell, David Decker, Ben Patey, Roger Bull, Art Crisby). Opposed – 0. Carried.

Committee reports

Communication and Public Engagement Committee – the results from the Seniors Soup Supper were compiled. Chairperson Mayor Kim Powell asked everyone to review the data and bring forward any ideas at the next meeting.

11. Reading file

- a. Dept of Transportation and Infrastructure, December 13th, 2023, Re: INFC's Rural Transit Solutions Fund

10. Adjournment

MOTION: 07-24
Proposed by: Ben Patey
Seconded by: David Decker

Resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:22PM and the next regular meeting would be held on January 24th, 2024

In favour – 7(Mayor Kim Powell, Deputy Mayor Monica Bull, Councillors: Shannon Powell, David Decker, Ben Patey, Roger Bull, Art Crisby). Opposed – 0. Carried.

Kim Powell – Mayor

Chantal Lynch, Town Clerk/Manager