

As the summer fanfare fades and classrooms buzz with excited little learners, we're reminded that shorter days and earlier sunsets are back in town! But fear not, because Eastport is still bursting with fun! Our stunning beaches and trails are downright magical as the leaves don their autumn attire, calling you to come out and soak in nature's splendor.

This fall, Eastport is rolling out the red carpet for a host of fabulous events! Get ready for Thanksgiving festivities, the Agriculture Exhibition, cozy bonfires, and a smorgasbord of delightful happenings. Your Council can't wait to welcome both locals and visitors to join in the seasonal shenanigans, and we hope you have an absolutely amazing autumn in Eastport!

As we dive into our Thanksgiving gratitude, let's also take a moment to tip our hats to our Veterans and military personnel on November 11, honoring their brave sacrifices for us all.

#### **EVENTS IN EASTPORT**

#### **OCTOBER 10-13**

EASTPORT PENINSULA
AGRICULTURE EXHIBITION
Get ready for a weekend
packed with fun-tastic
activities! They've got an
opening ceremony, a crafty
fair, a parade, a tree planting
extravaganza, a Scarecrow
Bash (yes, a dance with
scarecrows!), a pet show, and a
whole lot more! Celebrate the
bountiful history of
agriculture—there's
something here for everyone!

#### **OCTOBER 31**

Get your candy fix at the Halloween Trunk or Treat in the school parking lot @ 6 PM —costumes encouraged!



#### NOVEMBER 5

GUY FAWKS NIGHT
Join us for a sizzling Peninsula
Bonfire at 6 PM behind the
rink!

#### **NOVEMBER 11**

REMEMBRANCE DAY
CEREMONY
Let's honor together.

#### **NOVEMBER 20**

EASTPORT SENIOR SOUP
SUPPER
Hosted by the Town Council at
5 PM in the SUF Hall—come
for the soup, stay for the

company!

Every Monday from 2-4 PM Join The Beaches Scrabble Club—open to all word nerds!

## **By-Election Results**

Engagement in municipal politics is fundamentally a volunteer endeavor, necessitating a commitment that extends beyond the confines of a monthly meeting. During the nomination process for the By-Election, three highly capable individuals stepped forward as candidates. We extend our gratitude to each of you for your willingness to serve the Town of Eastport and its residents.

As a result of the By-Election, we are pleased to congratulate Barry Brown on his election as the new Councilor.

Welcome to the team, Barry!

### **Transparency and Accountability**

As a public entity, the Council is dedicated to upholding accountability and transparency. Many records and pieces of information maintained by the Councils are accessible to the public.

Individuals wishing to obtain records can submit a request through Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATTIP). However, processing these requests can be time-consuming, which may hinder the Town Clerk's ability to address other essential Council matters. This year, the Town of Eastport has received eight ATTIP requests, requiring approximately 200 hours to compile—equivalent to five weeks of work. Meeting minutes of the Council are readily available on the Town's website for public access.

#### <u>Addressing Concerns</u>

Councilors and staff are committed to acting in the best interest of the town. Occasionally, there may be disagreements regarding Council decisions. We encourage anyone with concerns or complaints to reach out to the Central Office of Municipal Affairs at 709-256-1050.

# OUR COUNCIL

Mayor:

<u>Kim Powell</u> kim.powell@eastport.ca

### Deputy Mayor:

Monica Bull monica.bull@eastport.ca

#### Councilors:

<u>Barry Brown</u> barry.brown@eastport.ca

Art Crisby arthurcrisby@eastport.ca

<u>David Decker</u> david.decker@eastport.ca

Benjamin Patey benpatey@eastport.ca

Shannon Powell shannon.powell @eastport.ca

Town Clerk/
Manager:
Chantal Lynch

Chantal Lynch townclerk@eastport.ca

Clerical Assistant: Chelsea Crisby

Public Works
Supervisor:
Marvin Bull

## Public Works Employees:

Harvey Senior Geoffrey Heffern Garland Heffern

(Casual/Call-In Maintenance) Stephen Durdle Ches Crisby

Janitorial: Sheila Dyke

Office: 709-677-2161 (P) 709-677-2144 (F) website:



## What's Happening at Council

As we enter the final quarter of 2024, one might expect a decrease in activity; however, the reality is quite the opposite. In the coming months, both the council and staff will be exceptionally busy.

- Finance News: It is officially budget planning season for the council. Municipal budgeting is a detailed process that requires considerable time and effort. The Town of Eastport adopts a service-based budgeting approach, starting with the estimation of expenses. Fixed costs, such as salaries, insurance, and utilities, represent only a segment of the overall budget. The finance committee must also forecast variable expenses, including supplies, fuel, and maintenance. These estimates often necessitate careful consideration of the quality, quantity, and frequency of services, leveraging historical data, obtaining quotes, and adhering to industry benchmarks. Once expenses are established, the next step involves identifying revenue streams, which include Government Operating Grants, taxes, fees, and sales. The ultimate goal is to achieve a balanced budget that meets service standards while aligning with resident expectations.
- A Little Good News: During our meeting on September 11th, councilors were pleased to announce the receipt of a \$500 stipend from Targa 2023. Since this amount was not included in the budget, it was decided to donate it to a worthy local cause. The Mayor and councilors have chosen to allocate these funds to the Peninsula Christmas Hamper Fund.
- Public Works: Our application for funding through the Municipal Capital Works Program to replace the underground infrastructure on Church Street was unsuccessful. Consequently, the funds initially designated in the 2024 budget for the Town's share, had the funding been approved, have now been redirected to other Public Works infrastructure projects. A Request for Quotes for road upgrades on Baxter Drive, which will include asphalt work, has been sent to contractors. Stand by for more information as it becomes available.
- One Annual Clean-Up: Several factors contributed to the decision not to hold a Fall Clean-Up. A recommendation from Shared Services suggested conducting only a spring clean-up due to time constraints faced by Maintenance and Public Works employees. Additionally, tipping fees at the Waste Management site have increased for 2024. During the budget process, it was deemed more prudent to forego passing this increase on to residents, opting instead for a spring clean-up only, as has been the tradition in previous years. The council sincerely apologizes for the late notice given to residents regarding this decision; it was an oversight for which we truly regret.

#### \*\*2024 Tax Bills\*\*

The 2024 tax payments are now due. Please be advised that if payment was not received by July 1st, interest charges will be applied to your account. The Town of Eastport operates on a service-based budget, making timely tax payments crucial for sustaining optimal services for all residents. If you need to discuss payment arrangements, please contact the Clerk's office at 677-2161. We offer various payment options for your convenience, including cash, cheque, Visa, Mastercard, debit, and EMT.





Monday, November 11th Remembrance Day

**Monthly** 

WE FORGE

Public Council

Meeting Schedule
October 9 & 23

November 6 & 20

Members of the public are invited to attend the regular council meetings. To raise an issue with the council, please notify the Town Clerk's office by the Friday before the meeting.

The Beaches Library

Beaches Library is open
to the public.
The revised hours are:
Tuesday, Wednesday &
Thursday
2-4 pm
Saturday 1:30-3:30pm

