

## SOUTHERN SHORE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

# MINUTES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Ferryland Town Office, NL-10, Ferryland, NL

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### ATTENDEES:

- Mr. Harold Mallowney, Bay Bulls (Chairperson)
- Ms. Shirley Stoodley, Aquaforte
- Ms. Donna Keough, Aquaforte
- Ms. Joan Luby, Bay Bulls
- Ms. Evelyn Tucker, Bay Bulls
- Mr. Donny Graham, Cape Broyle
- Mr. Billy Doyle, Ferryland
- Ms. Rose Hamilton, Ferryland
- Ms. Violet Coombs, Portugal Cove South
- Mr. Gerard Conway, Renews
- Ms. Hannah Power, Tors Cove
- Ms. Joan Power, Trepassey
- Mr. Ken Kelly, ERSB

### PROCEEDINGS:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mr. Mallowney.

#### 2. **DELEGATION**

Mr. Mallowney welcomed Ms. Dale Williams and Mr. Chris Dredge to the meeting via videoconference. Ms. Williams is the Director of Audit, Information and Training with ServiceNL, the Government Purchasing Agency (GPA). She was joined by her colleague, Policy Analyst Chris Dredge. Their presentation to the group was about the new *Public Procurement Act*. The presentation deck is included as an appendix to this document.

After the presentation, those in attendance posed a few short questions for Ms. Williams and Mr. Dredge:

The group inquired about the RFP criteria being clear so it can be used for tenderable services. Ms. Williams indicated that GPA will be providing templates for communities to try and simplify the RFP process that must be followed, and to make the process consistent.

A member of the joint council asked about the reference to “supplier performance” in the presentation. Ms. Williams and Mr. Dredge noted the new provision is so that a contractor or supplier can eventually be suspended for bidding. There is a new process in place to suspect a contractor or supplier for a period of time, and it allows for monitoring of performance over

time as well. This provision is not meant for small disagreements and the like, rather for grievous infractions of the rules.

A member asked what happens now if the scope of work of a project or purchase is not detailed enough. Mr. Dredge noted that change orders are still permitted in the new legislation.

Ms. Williams and Mr. Dredge noted they would provide a copy of their presentation for dissemination to councils.

### **3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of April 6, 2017, be adopted as tabled. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2017-008***

### **4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. Power, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of March 2, 2017, be adopted as tabled. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2017-009***

### **5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- a) Update on the Reorganization of the Department of Municipal Affairs:  
The Chairperson noted that a copy of a news release from the Provincial Government is included in the meeting package tonight. It highlights the numerous government departments that have been affected by layoffs and reorganization in recent months. It is presented for information only.

### **6. UPDATE ON ACTION ITEMS**

- a) Transportation and Works Meeting:  
On Friday, March 17, Mr. Mallowney met with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Transportation, Joe Dunford, as well as Eastern Regional Director Gary Spencer and Operations Supervisor Christian Morris.

As directed by the joint council, Mr. Mallowney sought to determine the true impact of staffing changes at local Transportation and Works depots, as well as clarification on the municipal snow clearing policy for the future.

Mr. Mallowney noted there has been much discussion in recent weeks about the depots. MHA Keith Hutchings has been on a vast fact finding mission, having sent e-mails to operations staff and the Minister of Transportation and Works directly. Keith has made

numerous posts on social media with what information he has gathered. What we found was very much the same.

The supervisor for the Trepassey depot is being merged with St. Joseph's. Provincial Government officials said this would not affect the level of service on the ground. The same number of operational staff will remain in place, and equipment will be maintained. The change in management structure may trigger the need for a new lead hand among the remaining staff. This will be contingent on the provincial budget. This new lead hand would work with the supervisor in St. Joseph's to check roads, dispatch trucks and maintain required inventory. Mr. Spencer said there should be no impact on overall service levels.

In regard to municipal snow clearing, in April/May of this year the Department is planning to review its policy change. Mr. Dunford would not confirm whether or not the review was to consider cancelling the new policy or not. He simply said they were undertaking a review. Mr. Mallowney then asked what they recommended communities do for snow clearing moving forward if the new policy stands. Mr. Dunford said that communities are expected to look for their own contractor moving forward. This can be done through a tender process. He also suggested group tenders. If the cost to have a contractor undertake this work is extremely high, government will consider providing the service at the new rate of \$6,600/km. To avail of the new rate, communities will have to show that they looked for an outside contractor. This would include providing a copy of their tender and tender results to the department. Essentially communities need to prove they looked at other options.

Mr. Mallowney said there are 72 communities affected by this new policy. Those communities can expect an updated letter from the Department of Transportation and Works on this topic in May/June.

In conclusion, the meeting was very beneficial. Mr. Mallowney took every opportunity to express the joint council's concerns. They provincial officials certainly appreciated the joint council's point of view, and are committed to working with the communities moving forward.

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Graham that Mr. Power work with the communities on the Southern Shore to compile examples of snow clearing tenders (past and present) to support a recommendation in the future by the joint council on a group tender for snow clearing. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2017-010***

b) **Department of Education:**

Mr. Mallowney noted that included in the meeting package was a letter sent to Minister Dale Kirby in regard to government's plan to expand Mobile Central High School as opposed to building a new school in Witless Bay. The letter outlined the joint council's objection to that plan. The letter was sent to Minister Hawkins as well, whereas the

Department of Transportation and Works coordinates school construction projects. A response to the letter has not yet been received.

Mr. Mallowney said that since the last joint council meeting, there have been numerous school council meetings and a protest at Confederation Building. He asked anyone who attended to provide an update to the group and asked if there was any additional action to be taken by the joint council.

Ms. Luby noted the protest had limited attendance. The plan to expand versus build a new schools seems to be a done deal. Clearly government is not listening as the Southern Shore is a growing area.

It was noted that a new school would cost \$21 million, while renovations and expansion would amount to \$5 million. The current expansion plan does not take into account accessibility needs or septic needs. There's also no traffic study to show the impact on the community of a larger school.

The joint council was clearly disappointed by the decision by government and will continue to express this displeasure at every opportunity.

## **7. EASTERN REGIONAL SERVICE BOARD UPDATE**

Mr. Mallowney noted the last meeting of the Eastern Regional Service Board was held on Wednesday, March 29 in St. John's. The Board had a busy agenda, with numerous tenders being awarded.

Contracts were awarded for waste collection in Conception Bay Centre, collection of recyclable metals, and collection of household hazardous waste. Specific details on each tender can be found in the minutes of the meeting on our website – [www.easternregionalserviceboard.com](http://www.easternregionalserviceboard.com)

In regard to the Conception Bay Center area, tender results were very positive. There was only one bidder and the unit price was reduced dramatically by 33% from the previous contract.

T2 Ventures Inc. were awarded the contract in the amount of \$538,200 including HST for 36 months.

The tender for the collection of scrap recyclable metals from our various waste recovery facilities was also very positive. Metals build up at these sites and we need to remove them. Given that scrap metal has a value we go to tender to get prices for companies to purchase the material. These prices have been in decline from a high in 2014 of \$156.00 per metric tonne plus HST. This year the ERSB received one bidder on the metals tender, Newco Metals Inc. for \$52.50 per metric tonne plus HST. The contract was awarded based on this figure.

The final tender was related to household hazardous waste. There were two bidders to provide summer and fall collection events to 27 communities. The low bidder was Envirosystems Incorporated, formerly Crosbie Industrial Service Limited, at \$31,995.00 plus HST. This equals \$1,185 + HST per event. This is a reduction of 28% per event from last year. As usual, ERSB will also be moving these events around the region to ensure we cover as many areas as we can, and just a reminder that these events are provided in partnership with local volunteer fire departments. Each fire department receives an honorarium of \$1,000 for their participation.

Finally, the Board also discussed video surveillance guidelines for its facilities at its last meeting, as well as a remote attendance policy for Board members.

The meeting was extremely productive, and we will meet again on May 11.

Mr. MULLOWNEY then opened the floor to questions.

Ms. Power asked whether a community with its own waste collection contractor would be considered for the ERSB household hazardous waste events hosted at volunteer fire departments. Mr. Kelly note that ERSB tries to hold events in new areas, but they are based on past performance, volumes collected and are not connected to the curbside collection program.

## **8. COMMUNITY REPORTS/ROUNDTABLE**

- a) **Cost-Sharing Ratios** - Mr. Graham explained that the new municipal cost-sharing ratios are a concern for his community. Ms. Power asked where she could attain the new information on cost-sharing ratios. Mr. Graham indicated the town should have received a letter from the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment.
- b) **Snow Clearing Report** - Ms. Power asked that Mr. Power send out the report presented at the meeting about the recent meeting with Joe Dunford. Mr. MULLOWNEY indicated he will ensure this gets sent out.

- 9. **NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Joint Council will take place in Ferryland on Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting in May will be postponed on account of the Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Municipal Symposium in Gander.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Graham that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2017-011***

***The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.***

## APPENDIX A

### APRIL RECORD OF DECISIONS (MOTIONS)

MOTION NUMBER (Ref#)	MOTION TYPE	DETAILS
SSJC2017-008	Agenda	It was moved by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Doyle, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of April 6, 2017, be adopted as tabled. Motion carried.
SSJC2017-009	Minutes	It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. Power, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of March 2, 2017, be adopted as tabled. Motion carried.
SSJC2017-0010	Snow Clearing Tender	It was moved by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Graham that Mr. Power work with the communities on the Southern Shore to compile examples of snow clearing tenders (past and present) to support a recommendation in the future by the joint council on a group tender for snow clearing. Motion carried.
SSJC2017-0011	Adjournment	It was moved by Mr. Graham that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.