

## Northeast Avalon Joint Council Meeting

# MINUTES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.  
Admiralty House and Museum, Mount Pearl, NL*

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### **ATTENDEES:**

- Joedy Wall, Pouch Cove (Chair)
- Bill Antle, Mount Pearl (Vice Chair)
- Sam Whalen, Colliers (Treasurer)
- Jordon Blackwood, Wabana
- Allen English, Paradise
- Sam Stack, Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove
- Sam Lee, Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove
- Michelle Martin, Flatrock
- Bridget Hynes, Colliers
- Lucy Carew, Witless Bay
- Maureen Murphy, Witless Bay
- Andrea Power, Mount Pearl
- Corrina Martin, Flatrock
- Kevin Costello, Holyrood
- Craig Williams, Conception Harbour
- Richard Murphy, Conception Bay South
- Chris Palmer, Bauline
- Mike Doyle, Harbour Main-Chapel's Cove-Lakeview
- Jamie Korab, St. John's
- Isabelle Fry, Mount Pearl
- Jim Locke, Mount Pearl
- Bradley Power, Eastern Regional Service Board & Logy Bay-Middle Cove-Outer Cove

### **DELEGATION(S):**

- Chief Joe Boland, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

### **REGRETS:**

- Mr. Andrew Boland, Logy Bay-Middle Cove-Outer Cove

### **PROCEEDINGS:**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Wall welcomed everyone and thanked the City of Mount Pearl for hosting the meeting.

## 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Antle, that the agenda be adopted as presented. All in favour. Motion carried.*

*Ref#: NEAJC2018-001*

## 3. DELEGATION

### a) **Chief Joe Boland, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC):**

Chief Boland thanked the Chair and council for the invitation to attend. He sees great value in expanding on the relationship between the RNC and the Northeast Avalon Joint Council.

Chief Boland went on to say he is originally from Outer Cove. He comes from a family of 11 children. His father was a WWII veteran. He brings strong family values to his job. Everyone has a purpose and a job to do. He assured everyone he will be sure to uphold his side of things (responsibilities) as Chief of Police and will be accountable every step of the way.

He went on to say that the Northeast Avalon region has changed dramatically in the last number of years. It will take support from everyone to solve the issues we collectively face. Mental health and addictions are key priorities for the Chief, and he feels he can make a difference. It is important however that everyone works together to address the issues.

Chief Boland noted that the messaging to the public from the RNC will change in the coming days. They will be very focused on recruitment of new candidates, and are not necessarily looking for the best of the best, rather individuals who are committed and want to make a difference in their community. The RNC is committed to working together to build safe, happy and healthy communities. That will be their mantra moving forward.

Mental health issues are a major concern in the RNC jurisdiction. Their response to mental health-related calls has changed. They now respond with a plain clothes officer and a clinician (nurse or social worker). This new type of response is aimed at support the individual, instead of them feeling like a criminal as such. They will show up in unmarked vehicles, which will create less attention. He is very excited about this new approach.

The Chief went on to say that mental health is not a justice issue, it is a medical issue. He did a lot of research and found that in 2013 there were 200 calls that were mental health-specific. There were over 100 encounters where people were taken from their homes but never admitted to hospital. The relationship between police and health officials was strained. The new approach will support repairing that relationship.

Chief Boland stated that there are 404 officers in the RNC. There are also 105 civilian staff. There are 144 police vehicles in the region, and 40 marked patrol cars. Crime reduction and traffic services are the focus of the patrol vehicles, and there will be a drastic change in the future that will see more marked patrol cars to better show the presence of police in the community.

Chief Boland noted that the RNC has a larger jurisdiction and bigger population to serve now than in the past. This is a challenge for the police service whereas budget cuts have affected the RNC in recent years.

He added that their community policing strategy will include more community outreach moving forward. He would like to see more uniformed officers in the community, and being more visible than in the past.

Finally, Chief Boland noted that the corporate strategy for the RNC will be released soon and council members will be invited to the launch. He is excited to see what we all think of his plan for the future through the implementation of the updated strategic plan.

Mr. Stacked asked how often routine traffic checks occur. Chief Boland said there are regular patrols and check that take place. He said speeding is still a big issue, which they are focusing on. There were 6,355 collisions in 2013, with 13 fatalities. That was the worst year ever. The number of collisions has gone down to 4,750 in 2017. Much of this reduction is because of public education, but also because of the support of the RNC's increased patrols. Education, awareness and enforcement must go together. He said we need to work collectively more frequently, instead of being in silos.

Mr. Locke asked if the RNC supports photo radars to help curb speeding. Chief Boland said that's an issue for the justice department and Provincial Government. He noted there are many considerations that must be brought forward before photo radars can be implemented. He will work with government if they choose to pursue it.

Mr. Murphy noted the by-law enforcement partnership between Portugal Cove-St. Philips and Torbay. They engaged the Commissionaires to support their towns. Chief Boland said that's a great way to support the community and commended the communities for taking it on. He said the RNC works closely with Commissionaires. They bring great value to the community.

Ms. Murphy asked about the legalization of marijuana. Chief Boland said the RNC has many concerns related to the new marijuana laws. He said that the testing process for impaired driving is going to be a challenge, but they are working on it now. There are a lot of unknowns at this point, but they are working hard to ensure the law can be upheld when it comes into effect. It will undoubtedly put a strain on RNC resources in the beginning.

Chief Boland highlighted the strong working relationship between the RNC and Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They share resources and work together on drug enforcement in particular. He noted the joint task force on drugs which has been quite successful in recent years. He is however looking to implement more street teams so they can address smaller drug-related issues faster. This will be a priority for him moving forward.

In conclusion, Chief Boland thanked the group for a great discussion and looks forward to working with everyone in the future. He said he's always accessible and will do what he can to make our communities safer.

The Chair thanks the Chief and reminded everyone that the Assistant Commissioner from the RCMP would be joining us at the next meeting to elaborate on their role in policing on the Northeast Avalon.

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

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. English, seconded by Mr. Korab, that the Minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting be adopted as tabled. All in favour. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: NEAJC2018-002***

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

There was no business arising from the minutes.

#### **6. FINANCIAL REPORT**

The financial report was delivered by the Treasurer. He noted that invoices will be issued in the coming days. He suggested that the membership fee remain at \$300 annually for all communities.

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Antle, seconded by Ms. Martin, that the 2018 Northeast Avalon Joint Council Membership fee remain at \$300 per community. All in favour. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: NEAJC2018-003***

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

Mr. Whalen delivered the Eastern Regional Service Board update.

Since the joint council AGM in December, there hasn't been a meeting of the Eastern Regional Service Board. However, there are a couple of quick points that Mr. Whalen wanted to note:

Invoices for 2018 waste and fire fees have been sent to all clients this month. The deadline to make payment or confirm a payment plan is January 31. If applicable, members are asked to please encourage their residents to make contact with the ERSB office as soon as possible.

Also, 2018 waste collection calendars and guides are available on the Eastern Waste Management website. These guides are downloadable and have some very important information contained within. If possible, members are asked to please encourage their community to put a notice up on social media that these guides and collection calendars are now available online.

Finally, the ERSB is more actively utilizing its Twitter account. Any collection delays or weather-related service impacts will be noted on this account. It can be found at [https://twitter.com/Eastern\\_Waste](https://twitter.com/Eastern_Waste).

The next meeting of the Board is Wednesday, January 24, in St. John's. These meetings are open to the public and take place at 7PM at the Fairfield Inn and Suites on Kenmount Road. They typically run for about an hour and a half.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Regional Governance:** Mr. Power noted the Provincial Government recently released its What We Heard document stemming from the province-wide consultation of regional governance. He encouraged everyone to read the document so they can provide input for the next meeting where we will develop a position for a letter to the government as part of the joint council's monthly advocacy plan.

## 9. ROUNDTABLE

- a) **Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove:** Mr. Stack asked if communities give out fines for by-law infractions. The Chair noted that only some municipalities have the legislative authority to ticket and levy fines. He asked Mr. Power to look into this for the next meeting.
- b) **Paradise:** Mr. English noted that his town only received one submission for the line painting contract in his community. He asked if anyone else has had the same experience. Mr. Power noted his community only received one bid last year too. Mr. Locke said the City of Mount Pearl is looking at developing its own in-house capacity in this regard. He suggested we can all work together and this idea should be explored more in the future.
- c) **Harbour Main-Chapel's Cove-Lakeview:** Mr. Doyle introduced himself as the new Mayor of the Town of Harbour Main-Chapel's Cove-Lakeview. He moved to the community from Alberta. He is glad to see a discussion occurring on regionalization. He thinks it is a very important issue for the long-term sustainability of the province. He also raised the issue of water supplies in the Conception Bay South and Centre areas. He noted his community has a big arsenic issue. He said there's a million dollar water system in Avondale that was intended for the entire region, but is being underutilized. He suggested he and the neighbouring communities should open a dialogue

on better utilizing the water system in the area. Mr. Costello agreed and provided a quick background in the issue. He is open to talking about a partnership for the future.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on February 14, 2018 in the Town of Paradise.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

*MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Whalen, seconded by Mr. Antle that the meeting adjourn. All in favour. Motion carried.*

*Ref#: NEAJC2018-004*

*The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.*