

## SOUTHERN SHORE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

# MINUTES

Thursday, December 1, 2016  
Ferryland Town Office, NL-10, Ferryland, NL

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### ATTENDEES:

- Mr. Harold Mallowney, Bay Bulls (Chair)
- Mr. Adrian Kavanagh, Ferryland
- Ms. Hannah Power, Tors Cove
- Ms. Beverly O'Brien, Cape Broyle
- Ms. Madeline McCaul, Ferryland
- Mr. Gerard Conway, Renews
- Mr. Jerome Kenny, Fermuse
- Ms. Sharon Coady, Aquaforte
- Ms. Donna Keough, Aquaforte
- Mr. Bradley Power, ERSB
- Sgt. Francis (Frank) Flynn, RCMP
- Mr. Keith Hutchings, MHA

### PROCEEDINGS:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Mallowney.

#### 2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. McCaul, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of December 1, 2016 be adopted as tabled.  
Motion carried.*

*Ref#: SSJC2016-004*

#### 3. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

*MOTION: It was moved by Ms. McCaul, seconded by Mr. Kavanagh, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of October 27, 2016 be adopted as tabled.  
Motion carried.*

*Ref#: SSJC2016-005*

#### 4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

- a) Snow Clearing: At the request of the Joint Council, Mr. Power undertook some research on snow clearing as a result of the new Provincial Government policy. He confirmed the

Provincial Government intends to discontinue municipal snow clearing in 2017. It was delayed to next year to allow communities to appropriately budget for the impact. Many affected communities find themselves having to explore other service delivery options for local snow clearing, including contracting out or partnering with other communities to issue a joint tender/contract. Based on Mr. Power's research, most communities have budgeted for the increase cost, but do not have a firm understanding of the impact the new government policy will have on their communities just yet.

- b) Renews Waste Recovery Facility: Mr. Mullooney provided an update on the Renews Waste Recovery facility: The Renews facility has approximately 16 visits per year by supervisors from ERSB. Regular maintenance at the facility is of great importance to the Board and the region. Road improvements were identified as a priority earlier in fall of 2016. Pothole have been fixes as of November 14. Additional work is required, and quotes have been received. Recognizing undertaking any significant work at this point will likely be ruined by a spring thaw, ERSB will wait until the New Year to undertake any work. ERSB is currently assessing the exact level of work required based on the quotes received. The need for road repairs is primarily a product of the high usage at the facility. There were 21 material removals in 2016, which is consistent with last year, constituting 29 total trips. There were 2,500 visitors to the site in 2016, very similar to previous years.
- c) Demolition Debris: Ms. McCaul provided an update stemming from her conversation with an official with the Department of Environment and Climate Change regarding the burying of residential construction debris on private property. Ms. McCaul reiterated that council had taken a hands-off approach, and the Department followed suit, which was confirmed by her inquiry. There's a visible black substance on the ground now which is raising concern. The Town is pursuing testing in the area of the public right of way where the substance has been observed to determine if there has been any contamination. Mr. Kavanagh noted he spoke with the Department of Municipal Affairs. They advised council must first sanction an investigation before any further action can be taken. Ms. McCaul said she hopes council will sanction an investigation quickly. She also noted there is a drinking water well directly below the site in question. Additional update will be provided as they become available.
- d) Regional Service Sharing: Mr. Power presented a draft letter to the group for consideration. The letter is addressed to all communities on the Southern Shore and requests feedback regarding a potential regional partnership for employing a water technician and/or a municipal by-law officer. A response is requested by January 1, 2017.

***MHA Keith Hutchings arrived 7:12pm***

***By consensus, the Joint Council moved to the Delegation portion of the Agenda to accommodate the invited guests present.***

## **5. DELEGATIONS**

**Mr. Keith Hutchings, MHA for the District of Ferryland:**

MHA Hutchings began by thanking the Joint Council for the opportunity to address the group. He went on to comment on winter maintenance policy changes in respect to provincial roads, and the short and long-term impact they will have on communities on the Southern Shore. He acknowledged the short-term impact has been resolved, as the implementation date has been pushed to 2017. In regard to the long-term, he suggested communities are going to have to come together and look at potential service sharing options.

Mr. MULLOWNEY highlighted how the winter maintenance policy changes will mean significant new costs to communities, especially incorporated municipalities. He went on to comment on the roadwork ongoing on Route 10, in particular the replacement of La Manche River Bridge near La Manche Provincial Park. MHA Hutchings commented that it is good to see construction proceeding on the bridge, and he hopes another similar project will be initiated in the future as there are many other priority issues that need to be addressed.

MHA Hutchings noted that inspection reports on all bridges in the area are complete. Over the past number of years there have been upgrades in the area, and La Manche is the priority this year. He is pleased by the completion of the Northeast Trepassey Bridge last year. If the region can get one bridge completed per year, he believes we're doing well. As MHA, Mr. Hutchings will continue to advocate for more roadwork and infrastructure development in the area. He concluded his discussion on roadwork by noting the other bridge going into Trepassey that needs to be replaced.

MHA Hutchings discussed the Community Enhancement Employment Program, and the impact recent cuts to the program are having on the region. He noted that the initial funding allotments for Renewals and Ferryland specifically were lower this year. He's working to confirm additional funding for the region. He's hoping an additional \$10,000 will be allocated in short order.

MHA Hutchings concluded by saying he is grateful for the support of the Joint Council, and will continue to work hard on everyone's behalf. If there are ever issues of importance to the group, he said not to hesitate to reach out to his office for advice, guidance and/or support.

Mr. MULLOWNEY asked if the group had any questions for the MHA, and thanked Mr. Hutchings for attending while inviting him to stay for the remainder of the meeting. There were no questions.

**Sergeant Francis (Frank) Flynn, Commanding Officer, RCMP - Ferryland Detachment:**

Sgt. Flynn thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the group as the new Commanding Officer of the RCMP detachment in Ferryland. He explained he arrived in the community last month from a previous posting in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. While he is still getting used to the area, he was fortunate to have worked with many of his new colleagues in other postings in the past. He currently resides in Witless Bay. Sgt. Flynn went on to outline

the structure of the detachment in Ferryland – there are eight staff, including staff in Trepassey. He does not anticipate any transfers or staffing changes on the horizon for at least one and a half to two years down the road.

Mr. Mallowney noted that the previous Commanding Officer, Daniel (Danny) Williams, previously noted that the policing focus in the region was traffic and property-related crime. He inquired if it was still the case. Sgt. Flynn responded by saying that Mr. Mallowney is correct - the RCMP Performance Plan, which included community input, said traffic (ATV and snowmobiles) is a key issue, as well as speeding enforcement. He concluded by saying the detachment will continue pushing forward on these and other issues.

Mr. Mallowney asked the group if they had any questions for Sgt. Flynn.

Ms. McCaul asked if Sgt. Flynn was aware of any policies in relation to helicopters landing in residential areas. This issue came up at a recent council meeting in her community. Sgt. Flynn responded that he would look into the issue. He anticipated Transport Canada has some rules or regulations that might apply. He committed to following up with Ms. McCaul.

Ms. O'Brien asked if the RCMP would be participating in the Cape Broyle Santa Claus Parade next week. Sgt. Flynn said he will follow-up on this request immediately.

Seeing no other questions, Mr. Mallowney thanked Sgt. Flynn for attending and welcomed him to attend future meetings at his pleasure.

Mr. Mallowney noted that future Joint Council meeting dates may change in 2017. A poll will be sent to member communities in the coming weeks to explore alternate dates.

#### **4. BUSINESS ARISING (CONTINUED)**

- e) Municipal Capital Works (MCW): Mr. Power provided an update on Municipal Capital Works based on his secondary research. He found that projects for 2016-17 have already been announced and details can be found at <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2016/ma/0630n06.aspx>. A call for applications for 2017-18 has not yet occurred. The call for applications typically occurs in October, and officials at the Department of Municipal Affairs were unable to confirm the reason for the delay. Mr. Power will keep the 2017-18 MCW program on his radar on the Joint Council's behalf and will let everyone know if he has any updates.

MHA Hutchings noted the Provincial Government is considering projects under Municipal Capital Works and the Building Canada Fund together. This might account for the delay.

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

Mr. Mallowney provided an update from the last meeting of the Eastern Regional Service Board (ERSB), which was held on November 30 in St. John's. He noted the Robin Hood Bay

budget was tabled and discussed; a fire services agreement template was discussed and adopted; a fire protection service delivery policy was discussed; and, work is ongoing toward finalizing the ERSB Strategic Plan for 2017-2020.

Mr. Mallowney also noted that the Provincial Government's Regional Governance Advisory Committee's work is also ongoing. In that regard, ERSB shared a survey with other regional service boards for input on draft principles on regional governance. MNL was tasked with reaching out to municipalities. Ms. O'Brien asked when regional governance was going to be rolled out. Mr. Mallowney noted the committee is expected to complete its work in 12 months approximately. The next steps have yet to be developed.

Mr. Mallowney concluded by providing a quick update on the development of a formal Outreach Plan for the ERSB. Mr. Power is leading its development and will provide a more detailed update when appropriate.

The next meeting of the Board is Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

Mr. Conway inquired about the Regional Governance Advisory Committee's work and asked if there's talk by the current Provincial Government to force regionalization on communities as a result of this process? Mr. Mallowney said the process of developing a regional governance model for Newfoundland and Labrador is expected to take approximately two years from start to finish, including carrying out a province-wide consultation process. Mr. Hutchings noted communities in many cases can no longer sustain themselves and a solution is needed. He believes forced amalgamation is not likely, rather regions need to lead the charge and come together. Mr. Mallowney said he believes service delivery should be the focus and there are many options in that regard. Ms. O'Brien had the final word and noted its becoming harder and harder for communities to find people to run for council, and notes the vast majority of rural Newfoundland and Labrador is run by volunteers. She concluded by saying something needs to change or begin paying people who serve on council.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Recreational Food Fishery: Ms. O'Brien expressed concern with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans implementing plastic tags to monitor the recreational northern cod fishery. She went on to say the Cape Broyle town council is sending a letter to DFO about the issue. She highlighted the environmental concerns/pollution associated with implementing the use of tags. Mr. Mallowney suggested DFO look at utilizing biodegradable tag. Ms. O'Brien went on to say she believes DFO should have enough science by now to determine current cod stocks, through the sentinel fishery and other methods. She asks for other councils to support Cape Broyle's position.

Mr. Hutchings noted the work he and MHA Kevin Parsons have been doing in regard to this issue. He highlighted that cod stocks are clearly nowhere near the levels of pre-moratorium, and his understanding is that tags are for the purpose of monitoring and conservation.

Ms. O'Brien believes all plastics should be kept out of the water to prevent it from entering the food chain. She also stated we are no different than other Atlantic Provinces, and none of them have tags.

Mr. Hutchings noted DFO is doing a consultation process. Councils should provide their input as soon as possible to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. O'Brien, that the Southern Shore Joint Council send a letter to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to lobby against the use of tags for the Recreational Food fishery. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2016-006***

<b>Action Item(s)</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Write a letter to DFO regarding the Joint Council's objection to using tags in the Recreational Food Fishery.	Bradley Power and Beverly O'Brien	For next meeting - January 2017

**8. COMMUNITY REPORTS**

- a) Ms. O'Brien noted the Santa Claus Parade in Cape Broyle will be taking place in the afternoon of December 10. The Witless Bay parade will take place in the morning of the same day.
- b) Mr. Conway noted Renews has completed installation of new playground equipment, as well as a new pool liner and related upgrades.
- c) Ms. McCaul noted the craft fair taking place in Calvert on Sunday, December 4. She also noted a concert and chase the ace taking place next weekend. She concluded by promoting a pop-up restaurant at Bernard Kavanagh's restaurant in Ferryland being hosted by a local chef from Port Kirwan. The pop-up restaurant will be in operation from December 7-23, and interested parties can call 709-363-2525 for reservations.

9. **DATE FOR NEXT MEETING** - The Chair noted that a poll will be sent out to council members regarding changing the set date of future Joint Council meetings due to a scheduling conflict that currently exists.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

***MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. O'Brien, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2016-007***

## APPENDIX A

### DECEMBER RECORD OF DECISIONS (MOTIONS)

MOTION NUMBER (Ref#)	MOTION TYPE	DETAILS
SSJC2016-004	Agenda	It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. McCaul, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of December 1, 2016 be adopted as tabled. Motion carried.
SSJC2016-005	Minutes	It was moved by Ms. McCaul, seconded by Mr. Kavanagh, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of October 27, 2016 be adopted as tabled. Motion carried.
SSJC2016-006	Position Letter	It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. O'Brien, that the Southern Shore Joint Council send a letter to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to lobby against the use of tags for the Recreational Food fishery. Motion carried.
SSJC2016-007	Adjournment	It was moved by Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Ms. O'Brien, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.