

# MINUTES

## Southern Shore Joint Council Meeting

Thursday, October 27, 2016

Ferryland Town Office, NL-10, Ferryland, NL

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### ATTENDEES:

- Mr. Harold MULLOWNEY, Bay Bulls (Chair)
- Mr. Adrian Kavanagh, Ferryland
- Ms. Madeline McCaul, Ferryland
- Mr. Gerard Conway, Renews
- Ms. Donna Keough, Aquaforte
- Ms. Carol Anne Cose, Aquaforte
- Ms. Joan Power, Trepassey
- Ms. Ida Perry, Portugal Cove South
- Mr. Bradley Power, Eastern Regional Service Board (Administrative Support)

### PROCEEDINGS:

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mr. MULLOWNEY.

Mr. MULLOWNEY introduced Mr. Bradley Power, Board Clerk/Outreach Coordinator with the Eastern Regional Service Board. As Outreach Coordinator, Mr. Power will provide organizational, administrative and logistical support to the Southern Shore Joint Council regarding the continuity of meetings and advancing the various issues that are before the group.

2. Adoption of the Agenda – Moved by **Mr. Kavanagh/Ms. Cose**. The motion was carried and the agenda was adopted.
3. Adoption of Minutes from September 29, 2016 Joint Council Meeting – Moved by **Mr. Kavanagh/Ms. McCaul**. The motion was carried and the minutes were adopted.
4. Business Arising from the Minutes – There was no business arising from the September 29, 2016 minutes.
5. RCMP (New Commanding Officer) - Due to the recent issues at Muskrat Falls, the new commanding officer of the RCMP - Ferryland Detachment was unable to attend the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting. The Chair will request Sgt. Frank Flynn attend the next meeting on Thursday, November 24, 2016.

| Action Item(s)   | Person Responsible      | Deadline                             |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Send invitation to Sgt. Frank Flynn, RCMP Commanding Officer, Ferryland Detachment | Harold MULLOWNEY, Chair | For next meeting - November 24, 2016 |

MHA Keith Hutchings – The local MHA was expected to attend the meeting, but requested a different date recently due to another commitment. The Chair will request MHA Hutchings attend the next meeting on Thursday, November 24, 2016.

| Action Item(s)                         | Person Responsible      | Deadline                             |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Send invitation to MHA Keith Hutchings | Harold Mallowney, Chair | For next meeting - November 24, 2016 |

6. Snow Clearing Issues (Next Steps) – The group noted that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Transportation and Works has confirmed that snow clearing services for 2016 will remain status-quo (\$5,000 per kilometre). Communities will be expected to begin paying the new fee, \$6,600, effective January 1. The Provincial Government’s plan is for municipalities to provide their own snow clearing services by the end of 2017.

Ms. Cose note that the elimination of municipal snow clearing by the Provincial Government will have significant financial repercussions for municipalities on the Southern Shore, especially in 2017-18. Ms. Cose also noted that Aquaforte has received quotes much higher than what is currently being paid to the Provincial Government – between \$40,000 and \$80,000 per kilometre, as opposed to \$5,000 and \$6,600.

Some joint council members questioned whether it would be prudent to get quotes for snow clearing for next year (2017) now that things seem to be on hold. The group agreed that these quotes would be helpful in assessing the overall impact of the new government policy.

Mr. Mallowney noted the Town of Bay Bulls pays between \$200,000 and \$300,000 for the provision of snow clearing, which includes approximately 40km of road. This equates to a very similar fee to what the Provincial Government is charging.

Mr. Mallowney commented that some regions are looking at regional snow clearing contracts; however, this approach presents some difficulties. For example, when multiple communities sign on, which community gets its snow cleared first? This issue will be an impediment to a regional service delivery option in his opinion. Mr. Mallowney also noted there seems to be a significant level of “un-used” heavy equipment in the area that could be utilized to formulate a local contract.

The group would like to continue the snow clearing discussion at a future meeting. For that discussion, Mr. Power will research what other communities are doing in response to the government’s new policy.

| Action Item(s)  | Person Responsible | Deadline                             |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Clarify the new GNL policy; Explore what other communities are doing; and | Bradley Power      | For next meeting - November 24, 2016 |

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| suggest advocacy options for the future. |  |  |
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7. Eastern Regional Service Board (ERSB) Update – Mr. MULLOWNEY provided an update from the recent Board of Directors meeting of the Eastern Regional Service Board. Highlights include:
- a. *Transportation Subsidy Suggested by the Multi Material Stewardship Board (MMSB)* - It was noted that a letter from the Department of Municipal Affairs in response to the MMSB inquiry indicated that this issue was off the table, at this time.
  - b. *Regional Governance Committee* – The Provincial Government held a meeting recently of the Regional Governance Advisory Committee. This meeting was for the group to provide advice on the principles and main components of a potential regional governance model. The ERSB will continue to participate in this committee and will update its stakeholders as things proceed.
  - c. *Board Governance Model* – The ERSB has developed a new governance model for consideration by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The draft model was presented to the Board for consideration, but will not be pushed forward until after the next municipal election in 2017. The new model includes the eastern region being divided into wards for the purpose of representation on the Board.
  - d. *Finance Committee* – The Board approved its 2017 operational budget. The draft budget for Robin Hood Bay Waste Management facility was also presented by the City of St. John’s, and will be finalized at the next board meeting. Fees were discussed and tipping fees are expected to remain the same for next year. Incidental costs incurred by the City of St. John’s were also discussed, which is expected to impact the Board’s annual budget. It is the Board’s hope that this cost increase will not affect tipping fees.
  - e. *Snow Clearing Contracts* – The Board approved contracts for snow clearing at waste recovery facilities throughout the region. The facility in Sunnyside did not receive any bids; therefore, it will now close for the winter season from Monday, December 12, 2016 to Saturday, April 1, 2017.
  - f. *Discussion:*
    - i. Mr. Conway raised concerns about the waste facility in Renew, in particular the condition of the access road and the level of waste being kept on site for long periods of time. Mr. Conway also asked whether a sorting facility was being considered for his community. Mr. MULLOWNEY asked that Mr. Power inquire with Ms. Christie Dean, Manager, Waste Operations, about the quantity of material on the site and what plans are in place to clean things up, as well as if/when road repairs will be made. Mr. MULLOWNEY also highlighted that the Board decided against a sorting facility in the area as the quantity of material being collected in the region didn’t justify it.
    - ii. Ms. Power asked if residential construction material can be brought to Robin Hood Bay by an individual. Mr. MULLOWNEY noted that this type of waste can indeed be brought to the waste management facility by an individual, but in small amounts obviously. Residents already pay for this

bulk disposal service through fees, but if a contractor is used, they will be billed separately as it is a commercial service they provide. The purpose for this process is to ensure residents do not subsidize commercial collection (there is a commercial rate in place for businesses).

| Action Item(s)   | Person Responsible | Deadline                             |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Inquire with Manager of Waste Operations regarding the waste recovery facility in Renew's. | Bradley Power      | For next meeting - November 24, 2016 |

8. New Business

- a. **Residential Demolition Debris** - Ms. McCaul raised the issue of residential construction/demolition debris being buried in her community. Mr. Mallowney noted that this practice is no longer permitted according to the Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change. The group recommended Ms. McCaul contact the Department for clarification and to bring this information back to the group at a later date.
- b. **Regional Water Treatment** – Ms. Keough asked the status of pursuing regional cooperation for the purpose of employing a water management technician. She noted there seems to be a regional demand for this service, and asked which communities present would be interested. It was noted that the Town of Ferryland was looking into this issue and Mr. Kavanagh confirmed there were four or five communities interested. The group suggested Mr. Power draft a letter from the joint council to all communities to determine interest in the region to pursue this opportunity.
- c. **Regional By-law Officer** - Ms. McCaul asked that the joint council look at the possibility of establishing a regional by-law enforcement officer. Mr. Mallowney noted that a similar agreement was conceived between the communities of Bay Bulls, Witless Bay and Petty Harbour, but did not come to fruition on account of a municipal election. The group suggested Mr. Power include this issue in the draft letter from the joint council to all communities determining interest in a regional water treatment.
- d. **Community Enhancement Employment Program (CEEP)** – Mr. Conway expressed his concern with the budget cut to the Provincial Government’s CEEP. Mr. Conway indicated that his community received 12 positions through this program last year, but only received 4 positions this year. He noted the budget cut would put significant pressure on those now unable to get enough hours to qualify for employment insurance. There seemed to be some confusion around the extent of the budget cut, and the group asked Mr. Power to research the program and its associated budget.
- e. **Roadwork and Bridges** – Ms. Power raised concern about the condition of Stoney River Bridge (also known as Mutton Bay Bridge), and the condition of the railings and decking. She shared that the Department of Transportation and Works has indicated to the town that the bridge is a priority for next year; however, the current condition of the structure is a significant safety hazard. She asked that Mr.

Power follow-up with the Department to determine if certain repairs (railings) could be completed sooner rather than later.

- f. ***Municipal Capital Works (MCW) Program*** – Ms. Cose inquired about the deadline for applications for MCW projects. Mr. Power will follow-up with the Department of Municipal Affairs to confirm the deadline.

| <b>Action Item(s)</b>  | <b>Person Responsible</b> | <b>Deadline</b>                       |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Contact the Department of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change for clarification on burying residential/demolition debris. | Madeline McCaul           | TBD                                   |
| Draft a letter to all joint council member communities to determine interest in regional water treatment staff.                    | Bradley Power             | For next meeting – November 24, 2016. |
| Draft a letter to all joint council member communities to determine interest in a regional by-law officer.                         | Bradley Power             | For next meeting – November 24, 2016. |
| Research CEEP and associated budget.   | Bradley Power             | For next meeting – November 24, 2016. |
| Determine if repairs will be made to Stoney River Bridge to address safety concerns.   | Bradley Power             | For next meeting – November 24, 2016. |
| Determine the deadline for 2016-17 and 2017-18 MCW program applications.   | Bradley Power             | For next meeting – November 24, 2016. |

9. Report from Municipalities

- a. ***Calvert Fall Fair*** – Ms. McCaul noted the First Annual Fall Fair at Calvert Hall will be held on Saturday, October 29 and Sunday, October 30. There will be over 35 vendors, including local crafters, artists/artisans, wood crafters, baked good and a 50/50 draw. This event was once coordinated by the Southern Avalon Development Association, but is now spearhead by the Trepassey Management Corporation.

10. Date for Next Meeting – Thursday, December 1, 2016, at the Town Office in Ferryland.

11. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Moved by: **Mr. Kavanagh/Ms. Cose**