

## SOUTHERN SHORE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

# MINUTES

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Ferryland Town Office, NL-10, Ferryland, NL

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### ATTENDEES:

- Harold Mallowney, Bay Bulls (Chair)
- Hannah Power, Tors Cove
- Harry Bryan, Ferryland
- Debbie Windsor, Aquaforte
- Adrian Sullivan, Calvert
- Rene Estrada, Witless Bay
- Diane Tee, Burnt Cove
- Frances Smith, Trepassey
- Gerard Conway, Renewes
- Joan Luby, Bay Bulls
- Evelyn Tucker, Bay Bulls
- Carol Ann Cose, Aquaforte
- Lucas Ward, Portugal Cove South
- Ida Perry, Portugal Cove South
- Joan Power, Trepassey
- Bradley Power, Eastern Regional Service Board
- Chris Snow, MP Ken McDonald's Office

### DELEGATION(S):

- Keith Hutchings, MHA

### PROCEEDINGS:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by the Chair.

2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Luby and seconded by Ms. Tucker, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of September 13, 2018, be adopted with the additions. All in favour. Motion carried.*

*Ref#: SSJC2018-023*

3. **DELEGATION**

a. **MHA Keith Hutchings, District of Ferryland:**

Mr. Hutchings thanked the group for the opportunity to provide an update.

**Roads and Infrastructure** - Mr. Hutchings noted that the Department of Transportation and Works recently completed some work on the Sir Robert E. Howlett Drive. The painted lines will be completed into Bay Bulls and the City of St. John's jurisdiction in the near future.

Mr. Hutchings also noted that patching and some repairs have been completed on the Witless Bay Line. He believes that only time will tell whether these repairs will last through the winter season. He continues to advocate for additional repairs on the road in the interest of enhancing safety for motorists. Witless Bay Line is an essential part of the road network in the area. Mr. Hutchings added that a tender for brush cutting on the road has been let. The work is expected to be completed in the fall.

Mr. Hutchings highlighted patch work and/or resurfacing that has been completed, or is nearing completion, in the communities of Tors Cove, Cape Broyle, Fermeuse, Aquaforte, Trepassey, St. Shotts, and Bear Cove. The road to Cape Race is in good shape. There is no additional roadwork planned for Cappahayden on through as part of the Provincial Roads Plan until 2019.

**Community Enhancement Employment Program** – Mr. Hutchings noted that details of approved CEEP projects will be distributed soon. He will follow up with the successful communities as soon as possible.

**Fisheries Adjustment Program** – Mr. Hutchings noted that details of the Fisheries Adjustment Program will be announced soon as well.

**Waste Recovery Site in Renews** – Mr. Hutchings comments that a recent meeting between the Town of Renews-Cappahayden and Eastern Waste management was very positive. Some reasonable solutions to the issues presented by the town were actioned and the amount of materials on the site is decreasing. He commended the Chair and CAO of the Eastern Regional Service Board for working with the community to address their concerns. Mr. Conway added that he's seen an improvement on the site since the meeting.

Ms. Cose asked if the WRF in Renews collects commercial waste. Mr. Mallowney said commercial waste is only accepted in Clarendville and at Robin Hood Bay. Ms. Cose suggested the Board consider some type of program to help communities deal with dilapidated buildings. Mr. Mallowney said he will bring the issue up at the next ERSB Board meeting.

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

***MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Tucker, seconded by Ms. Cose, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meetings of June 14, 2018 and April 12, 2018 be adopted as tabled. All in favour. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2018-024***

## 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. **LETTER – One Use Plastic Bag Ban:** Mr. Mallowney read the letter regarding a request for the province to institute a ban on one use plastic bags into the record. The letter will be sent immediately to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment.
- b. **Regional Collaboration Initiative (Pat Curran & Associates):** Mr. Mallowney noted that a letter will be sent to all communities informing them of the opportunity to commence a regional collaboration initiative per the proposal submitted by Mr. Pat Curran over the summer. The cost to participate is \$5,000 in total for all communities and groups to be involved. Towns and communities will need to budget for this expenditure if they so choose, so the letter will note that the joint council would like to proceed with this opportunity in early 2019. An update will be provided in November or December.

## 6. EASTERN REGIONAL SERVICE BOARD (ERSB) UPDATE:

Mr. Mallowney noted the summer has been a busy time for the Eastern Regional Service Board. The Board of Directors met last on Wednesday, June 27.

At the last Board meeting, a number of tenders were awarded. They were for a new pick-up truck for day-to-day operations, as well as roadwork and a sewer line upgrade at the Clarenville Transfer Station.

The waste collection contract for the Clarenville area was also approved at the last Board meeting.

Over the summer the Board received an enhanced mandate from the Provincial Government for the delivery of fire and emergency services throughout the region. Mr. Power will elaborate on this later in the meeting as a follow-up to the presentation given by Mr. Ken Kelly during the joint council meeting in May. This is a significant step forward for the Board. Many communities have already indicated their interest in signing on.

The Household Hazardous Waste events held in communities throughout the region in June were very successful. The specific volume of material collected is not yet available. Additional collection events will take place on September 15. The full list of communities holding these events is available online. Participating fire departments get a \$1,000 grant for their time coordinating these events.

The Board recently became a sustaining member of the NL Association of Fire Services. This membership will bring the ERSB closer to the fire departments in the region. Some of these departments will eventually be contracted to deliver fire and emergency services as part of the expanded service mandate from the Provincial Government. ERSB Staff will have a presence at the NLAFS conference at the end of September in Clarenville.

Staff at the ERSB will also be attending the upcoming MNL AGM in Gander. Mr. Mullaney encouraged mayors, deputy mayors and councillors to reach out to ERSB representatives on the ground if they have inquiries or ideas about regional service delivery in Eastern Newfoundland.

Joint Council members are also reminded the monthly ERSB Board meetings are open to the public. The next one will take place on Wednesday, September 26.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **2018 Premier's Forum:** Mr. Mullaney noted that elections for delegates to attend the third Premier's Forum before the MNL AGM are now underway. He encouraged anyone in the area who might be interested to submit their name for consideration. The deadline has been extended, per the handout provided, which gives everyone some additional time to coordinate their plan to attend.
- b. **Taxation of Councillor Remuneration:** Mr. Power noted that the Federal Government has changed the policy regarding taxation of council remuneration. The change which will see all remuneration taxed now is anticipated to come into effect in 2019. Mr. Power asked if any communities on the Southern Shore would be affected. By show of hands, none of the communities in the area receive remuneration. Mr. Power will provide an update on the issue when available.
- c. **ERSB Fire and Emergency Services Mandate:** Mr. Mullaney and Mr. Power noted that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador recently provided an enhanced mandate to the Eastern Regional Service Board for the delivery of fire and emergency services. Mr. Power reminded those in attendance of the presentation Mr. Ken Kelly delivered earlier in the year. The next steps Mr. Kelly discussed are now occurring. Communities interested in soliciting the support of ERSB to deliver these services can reach out to their office anytime at 709-579-7960 or e-mail [info@ersbnl.ca](mailto:info@ersbnl.ca).
- d. **La Manche Provincial Park:** Mr. Mullaney read out an e-mail from Ms. Beverly O'Brien regarding La Manche Provincial Park and the need for the park to get some much needed upgrades and additional accessibility features like signage. Ms. O'Brien wrote that the park is apparently one of the very few that is sustainable. Attendance at the park is very high. She encouraged the joint council to write a letter to support her ideas. Mr. Mullaney said the East Coast Trail is working on some additional signage for the area, and the group agreed the park needs some work. Mr. Power was asked to make contact with the park manager and determine if a letter is warranted (check on what work is being completed over the winter), and to determine where a letter should be sent if appropriate. Mr. Power will provide an update in October on this issue.
- e. **Summer Student Employment Programs:** Ms. Power noted that her community has had some difficulty with student funding requirements this past summer. They haven't had a summer student in a number of years, but did get one grant in 2018. Unfortunately, the age requirements of the program prevented them from hiring and they had to seek special approval to hire someone under 16. She felt this was unfair as other communities have hired individuals under the age of 16 without a

special approval. She asked that MHA Hutchings and Mr. Snow (on behalf of MP McDonald) look into the issue. An update will be provided when available. Mr. Snow also suggested that communities reach out to him if they have any issues with the federal summer student programs. He provided his contact info to the group.

- f. **Internet Service in the Region:** Mr. Mullooney raised the issue of bad cell phone service in the Horse Chops area. He asked if any other communities are having issues. Ms. Power said FiberOp was installed in their community and it has made a big difference for residents. MHA Hutchings said FiberOp service is now available from Bauline to St. Michaels. Civic numbering is required for FiberOp service. MHA Hutchings and Mr. Snow highlighted the Connect to Innovate Program offered by the federal government which was intended to support the expansion of internet and cell service. Cappahayden was included in the program and they should see improvements implemented in 2019. They both also suggested the joint council advocate for another program to be implemented to provide enhancements in the area similar to Connect to Innovate. Mr. Power will follow-up with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation about their recent announcement of a pilot project for enhanced cell service in rural areas. An update will be provided at a later date.

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

- a. **Ambulance Service:** MHA Hutchings noted the ongoing issues with ambulance service on the Southern Shore. He encouraged the joint council to write a letter to the Department of Health and Community Services to advocate for the additional licence for the area. An audit is being completed on province-wide ambulance services and a report can be expected in the future. Mr. Estrada said his town will be writing a letter to highlight the impact on his community from the absence of ambulance services in the area. The letter will be shared with the joint council and presented at the next meeting.

9. **NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Joint Council will take place in Ferryland on Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

***MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Luby, seconded by Ms. Power that the meeting adjourn. All in favour. Motion carried.***

***Ref#: SSJC2018-025***

***The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m.***