

***Town of Long Harbour - Mount Arlington Heights
Minutes of Regular Meeting
June 16, 2022***

In Attendance

Mayor Walter Keating

Councillor Wayne Kelly

Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald

Councillor Lydia Burke

Councillor Gary Keating

*Absent: Councillor Merrill Norman
Councillor Patricia Burke*

Also, in attendance: Juanita Gosse, Town Clerk/Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Walter Keating called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION 06-16-22-01 Adopt Agenda

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald; seconded by Councillor Lydia Burke.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION 06-16-22-02 Adoption of Minutes of May 19, 2022

Moved by Councillor Gary Keating, seconded by Councillor Wayne Kelly.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of May 19, 2022, Regular Meeting be adopted without errors or omissions.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS FROM THE MINUTES

Water Connection Norman's Lane

According to Municipal Affairs, waterline cannot be extended without a permit from their Water Resources Division. The application must be accompanied by engineering drawings and the waterline must be installed as per the engineered drawings. An estimated cost to extend the waterline 350 ft is \$35,000 - \$40,000.

Council will meet as a working group to discuss policy for new water connections. They will also consider extending waterline as part of the waterline replacement projects.

- Deferred

Request to have new Curb Stop installed at 230 Main Street

This issue was discussed in a privileged session held May 19, 2022.

MOTION 06-16-22-03 Install new Curb Stop

Moved by Councillor Wayne Kelly, seconded by Councillor Gary Keating.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council **will not** install new curb stop at 230 Main Street, however, will ensure the line is capped when the trailer is to be removed from the property.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 06-16-22-04 Tax Write Off

This issue was discussed in a privileged meeting held May 19, 2022.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald, seconded by Councillor Gary Keating.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council **will not** write off the tax amounts levied for 2020 and 2021, and the service charge attached to the account.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Email from Clean Harbours

Clean Harbours is requesting to have the interest charges waved on their business tax account. The matter was considered in a privileged session held May 19, 2022.

MOTION 06-16-22-05 Tax Write Off

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald, seconded by Councillor Wayne Kelly.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council **will not** write off the accumulated service charges for Clean Harbours.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGERS REPORT

Flowmeter: The flowmeter was installed at the water treatment plant. Cahill is in the process of connecting it to VT-SCADA.

Generator: I am trying to schedule the generator commissioning for next week. Cahill is available and I am waiting on a commitment from Toromont Cat.

Airbrakes endorsement – Both of our outside staff have the airbrake endorsement.

ACOA Community Revitalization Grant: The end date for this funding has been extended to allow us to complete the green space behind the Municipal Complex. I spoke with Sinnott’s Hydroseeding and he suggests we add more topsoil before seeding. He says the amount of topsoil in the far end is not sufficient for good growth. Topsoil, delivered and spread will cost approximately \$5,000.00. This is an eligible cost under the funding program, therefore, 57% of this cost will come in under grant funding. I will, however, do a cost comparison to ensure we get the best price.

MOTION 06-16-22-06 Purchase Topsoil for Greenspace

Moved by Councillor Lydia Burke, seconded by Councillor Wayne Kelly.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves purchasing topsoil for the greenspace behind the Municipal Complex.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Professional Municipal Administrators Convention

On June 8th, 9th and 10th I attended the PMA Convention virtually. It was very informative and interesting. Educational sessions delivered included:

1. Municipal Governance and Relationship Management presented by Steward McKelvey
2. Special Event Planning presented by Recreation NL
3. Municipal Capital Works by Department of Transportation and Infrastructure
4. Municipal Conduct Act by Municipal Affairs
5. Gas Tax Funding by Municipal Affairs
6. Regionalization by The Regionalization Working Group
7. Asset Management – The Asset Management Panel
8. Risk Management and Occupational Health & Safety – Workplace NL

Since the Convention PMA has issued a statement saying there were administrators at the convention that has since tested positive for COVID-19, so I am very pleased that I didn't attend the in-person sessions.

Community Garden: This project is slow starting; however, we anticipate a steady increase in participation. Some of the boxes gave us trouble when the soil was added, and we are in the process of repairing them.

Fireworks: The Sports and Recreation is seeking approval to have fireworks for Canada Day. They plan to set them off over Maturin Pond behind the Council Depot/Fire Hall.

MOTION 06-16-22-07 Canada Day Fireworks

Moved by Councillor Gary Keating, seconded by Councillor Wayne Kelly.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves having fireworks for Canada Day.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Quarterly Meeting with Vale: Reminder - this meeting is scheduled for next Thursday, June 23rd at 12:30. Vale declined lunch.

DELEGATIONS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Engineering for Big Head Trail

This issue was brought forward from our Strategic Planning session. Requires a motion to engage an engineer to consider the best route to extend the Big Head trail and provide an estimate of cost to develop the trail.

MOTION 06-16-22-08 Engineering for Big Head Trail

Moved by Councillor Lydia Burke, seconded by Councillor Gary Keating.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves up to \$5,000.00 to engage an engineering firm to provide the best route and development estimate for project, Big Head Trail extension.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Dilapidated Buildings and Car Wrecks within the Town

These issues were raised during our Strategic Planning Sessions. The first step in dealing with dilapidated buildings, car wrecks and other unsightly properties is to first identify what Council wants to deal with. My recommendation is that Council form a working group to work with management in identifying such properties and bring a list to the next regular meeting to present to Council with recommendations on how to proceed.

MOTION 06-16-22-09 Form a Working Group

Moved by Councillor Wayne Kelly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council form a working group to identify dilapidated structures, car wrecks and other unsightly properties.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Councillors who volunteered to join this working group:

Mayor Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillor Wayne Kelly

Gas Tax Audit

The Gas Tax Audit was copied for all councillors to review.

Once approved by Council, this audit becomes a public document and can be shared with the public.

MOTION 06-16-22-10 Gas Tax Audit for year end 2021

Moved by Councillor Lydia Burke, seconded by Councillor Gary Keating.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the 2021 Gas Tax Audit.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Boater's Committee

An email from the Boater's Committee requests Council to temporarily take over the lease from Small Crafts and Harbours to allow the committee to set up the floating wharf's while they work toward becoming a registered committee.

MOTION 06-16-22-11 Temporarily take over Lease from Small Crafts and Harbours

Moved by Councillor Wayne Kelly, seconded by Councillor Gary Keating.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council will take over the lease from Small Crafts and Harbours temporarily, or for a period of time, to allow the Boater's Committee to become incorporated.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

JW Consulting Associates – Strategic Planning

The email from John Walsh was copied to all councillors for review.

There are so many advantages to having a well-developed strategic plan. This is a real investment in your community. For under \$8,500.00 tax included, JW Consulting can facilitate Strategic Planning sessions and design the Strategic Plan.

MOTION 06-16-22-12 Strategic Planning

Moved by Councillor Wayne Kelly, seconded by Councillor Lydia Burke.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council **will not** engage JW Consulting Associates to facilitate and create our Strategic Plan.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Letter from Residents who were employed by Council under a COVID-19 Grant

In September 2021, Council employed eight residents under the COVID-19 Stimulus grant. Under the Stimulus Grant, Services Canada was offering EI benefits to those with 120 hours of Insurable earnings. The eight residents worked the 120 hours, were laid off, and filed for EI benefits.

Services Canada denied the EI claims as, according to Services Canada, the time period for the COVID-19 Stimulus Program had ended and the eight residents did not qualify for EI benefits.

The five residents whose signatures appear on the letter are requesting council employ them for 300 hours each. This program would have to start immediately as their original 120 hours will soon run out.

MOTION 06-16-22-13 Hiring Employees

Moved by Councillor Lydia Burke, seconded by Councillor Wayne Kelly.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council will hire the five residents for 300 hours each.

In Favor:
Contrary Minded: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION FAILED

Lobster Boil

MOTION 06-16-22-14 Lobster Boil

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald, seconded by Councillor Wayne Kelly.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council will host a Lobster Boil for councillors, staff and their spouses on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 at 6pm.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Letter from Long Harbour Development Corporation – Property Easement Compensation

- Deferred

Letter from Long Harbour Development Corporation – Property Tax

- Deferred

DEVELOPMENT

FINANCE

Cheque and Visa List

The cheque list was presented covering the period from May 20, 2022 – June 16, 2022, in the amount of \$108,683.20. The June Visa Statement was also presented for payment in the amount of \$1,125.11.

MOTION 06-16-22-15 Cheque List and Visa Statement

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald; seconded by Councillor Lydia Burke.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the cheque list for the period of May 20, 2022 - June 16, 2022, in the amount of \$108,683.30 and a Visa payment in the amount of \$1,125.11, be approved for payment

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: L. Burke, W. Kelly, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED

Cash Analysis

Cash analysis was not available for this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Municipal Assessment Agency – 2023 Assessment Roll

The Municipal Assessment Agency has completed the valuation for the 2023 tax year. The assessed values are based on market value as of January 1, 2022, as required by the Assessment Act, 2006. This year the average provincial residential value has increased by 4.99%.

Notice of assessments were mailed out to all property and business owners on June 1, 2022.

Rural Economic Development

The economic contributions from rural communities are integral to Canada's success. Rural areas are home to many key industries, yet municipalities under 20,000 populations receive less support from the federal government in comparison to their much larger counterparts.

It is essential to our economy that the federal government work for everyone no matter where they live. We kindly ask you to express the three most important issues impacting your economic development as a rural community. This feedback will be used to ensure that work for rural Canada is as productive as possible and will determine the agenda for the next townhall forum.

1. High Speed Internet Connection
2. Price of Fuel
3. Crown Land

Age Well at Home Initiative

The Member of Parliament for Avalon, Ken McDonald, is promoting an opportunity for a funding program which may benefit organizations in our community which helps seniors. The Program, Age Well at Home Initiative, is funded through Employment and Social Development Canada.

This federal funded initiative has two streams:

1. In-Home Support
2. Scaling up for Seniors

Council is asked to share this funding opportunity to organizations in our town that may be able to avail of this funding. Anyone interested in this funding opportunity is asked to call the town office for the Age Well at Home Initiative program website address.

- It was agreed to send the email from MP McDonald to residents as a householder.

Kids Eat Smart- Thank you

Kids Eat Smart Foundation presented council with a plaque as a thank you for a generous contribution to their Newfoundland and Labrador Foundation. Every school day, in their 269 Kids Eat Smart Clubs, they serve over 38,000 meals to school age children and youth, totaling over 5.4 million meals this school year. School Principals say that their Kids Eat Smart Cub is one of the most important programs they offer.

NOTICE OF MOTION – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Meeting with MHA Jeff Dwyer – Mayor Keating presenting

May 23, 2022 - Councillor Gary Keating and I met with Jeff Dwyer to discuss issues that have come to light over the past weeks.

1. Municipal Capital Works - Waterline Replacement Application

Requested MHA Jeff Dwyer support our Capital Works application and asked the status of the Capital Works funding.

MHA Dwyer said he would support our application and will investigate the status of the funding and get back to us in three weeks.

2. Shoreline Erosion

We talked about shoreline erosion and specifically the dangerous area around the Big Head. According to MHA Jeff Dwyer, there is emergency funding allocated to stabilize the road shoulder in this area. It was noted that much more work is required; however, this is a start and repairs will continue as funding becomes available.

- It should be noted that the emergency work has been completed.

3. Ditches along the roadway – This work will be done as funding becomes available.

4. Transportation Grants

A resident posed a question about available grants to assist people with transportation. MHA Jeff Dwyer's assistant provided information on available funding opportunities and this information was forwarded to the resident.

5. Residents deemed ineligible for EI Benefits

Questioned MHA about this and he said this is a federal issue and not a provincial matter.

Meeting with RCMP – Mayor Keating Presenting

The RCMP invited me to meet with them as part of an RCMP initiative to support communities. They are meeting with all community leaders to discuss policing needs.

It was basically, an information session about their priorities in this district. They asked if our community is getting the service we need and said to call if we need anything.

Sports and Recreation – Councillor Lydia Burke presenting

Sports and Rec . met on May 31, we had two new members join our group. The group is still looking for two more people to join. The group discussed having Canada day on July 1st and will serve hotdogs, beverages and cake. The group is getting ready for Long Harbour Days we will have the Canteen open, selling tickets on duck race and participating in the cardboard boat race and helping out when needed. The group discussed seeing if we could advertise our ballfield so that other groups or towns would be interested in putting off ball tournaments. If interested, they can contact our group. We hope to get this advertised through the town website or flyers. The sports and rec. will be completing a food safety course as per provincial guidelines for working in the canteen. Our group is planning to continue with our 120 card game every two weeks and hope to put off other events that get the community to come together.

DATE FOR NEXT MEETING – July 28, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 06-16-22-16 Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gary Keating, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:17 pm.

In Favor: Mayor Walter Keating
Deputy Mayor Kevin McDonald
Councillors: W. Kelly, L. Burke, G. Keating

MOTION CARRIED



Walter Keating
Mayor



Juanita Gosse
Town Clerk/Manager