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Website: www.lewisporte.ca

Minutes of Council Meeting

April 9, 2024 7:00 PM

Present:

Mayor

Krista Freake

Deputy Mayor

Brian Hooper

Councillors

Roxanne Haliburton

Perry Pond John Mullett

Ken Tucker

Derek White

Town Manager

Todd Champion

Town Clerk

Coreen Colbourne

Recreation and Tourism Manager

Ashley Ivany

Superintendent of Public Works

Bruce Roberts

Mayor Freake brought greetings to those watching on Facebook, fellow Councillors and Staff.

1. Call to Order - 7:02 pm

24-038

Mullett/White

Mayor Freake brought forward a land acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

24-039

Haliburton/Tucker

Resolved to adopt the agenda, as presented.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

3.1 Minutes for Approval - Regular Council Meeting March 12, 2024

24-040 White/Haliburton

Resolved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 12, 2024.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

4. Recreation/Tourism Committee

Update by Deputy Mayor Hooper

Stadium

Congratulations were extended to the Notre Dame Figure Skating Club and the Lewisporte and Area Minor Hockey Association on another incredibly successful season, showcasing the outstanding talent, teamwork, and determination within their organizations. The dedication is truly commendable, and the achievements bring pride to the community.

Deputy Mayor Hooper also extended heartfelt gratitude to the parents, coaches, managers, and volunteers whose unwavering support and dedication have played a crucial role in the accomplishments of these remarkable athletes. The commitment and tireless efforts are truly appreciated, and without their contributions, none of this would be possible.

He additionally, sent out best wishes to the High School Boys Hockey Group as they host their home tournament this coming weekend. He hoped to see the community come out in full force to support the talented athletes and witness some thrilling matches.

Deputy Mayor Hooper noted that Town staff would be starting to remove the ice at the Mike Austin Arena on April 15th. He said if there are any ball hockey groups interested in weekly rentals, to please reach out to Ashley at the Town office to arrange booking.

Woolfrey's Pond

Woolfrey's Pond Park and Campground is scheduled to open its doors for the season on May 17th, 2024. This anticipated reopening promises to offer the community and visitors alike a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty and recreational amenities that Woolfrey's Pond Park has to offer.

A friendly reminder was given to all trail users and visitors to Woolfrey's Pond Boardwalk: To please remember to clean up after your pets and keep them on a leash at all times. The public's cooperation helps maintain the cleanliness and safety of the town's beautiful outdoor spaces for everyone to enjoy. Thank you for being responsible pet owners and respectful members of our community.

Motion

Councillor Mullet was in conflict and left Chambers at 7:06:23.

The Town of Lewisporte recently conducted an invitational tender to address the pressing need for a new comfort station at Woolfrey's Pond Park, acknowledging the deteriorating condition of the current facility. A comprehensive evaluation process was undertaken to thoroughly assess the proposals submitted by the various bidders.

24-041 Hooper/White

After careful consideration and review, I propose a motion to award the construction of the new comfort station to Mackenzie's Construction at a total cost of \$152,627.50 plus HST.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Mullett re-entered Chambers at 7:08:08.

Softball Field

As the snow melts and the ground softens, preparations will begin for work on the softball field. The Town kindly asks everyone to exercise caution in that area as heavy equipment will be in operation. The public's cooperation ensures the safety of all involved in the maintenance and improvement of the community's recreational facilities.

Summer Programs Student Applications

Student summer applications will be available on April 23rd, 2024. Students were encouraged to keep an eye on the Town's Facebook page or the Town website for further information surrounding summer employment opportunities and summer programing.

Playgrounds

Deputy Mayor Hooper was pleased to announce that the Town's playgrounds will begin to reopen starting May 1st. He said we understand the importance of providing safe outdoor spaces for children to play and enjoy, and are committed to ensuring that the playgrounds meet all necessary health and safety guidelines.

Special Events

Congratulations was offered to the Lewisporte Regional Fire Department on their upcoming 75th anniversary celebrations! This significant occasion is a testament to the dedication, bravery, and unwavering commitment of the firefighters who have served our community over the years. He extended the Town's heartfelt gratitude to all past and present members for their selfless service and tireless efforts in keeping our community safe. Here's to many more years of service and success!

5. Economic Development

Update by Councillor Pond

5.1 Occupancy Permit - 24-001C; Phil Nicholas/Hillside Farm — to occupy 126 Main Street.

Motion

24-042 Pond/Tucker

Occupancy Permit - 24-001C; Hillside Farm - to occupy 126 Main Street.

I so move to accept the permit, as presented.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Pond indicated that all projects that fall under the economic development committee, are working their way through various approvals and funding.

He reported that the Request for Proposals for a Port consultant for the re-development phase of the project is out for review. The original deadline for closing was on April 11th but was extended for another week due to the volume of questions on the RFP.

Council had the opportunity to meet with Minister Coady prior to the Lewisporte & Area Chamber of Commerce event where Minister Coady was the guest speaker. Councillor Pond highlighted as couple of items from that meeting. He said that Lewisporte has received confirmation that it will receive a Collaborative Care Clinic, where it will be and when it will open is not determined yet, but the Town has been identified in the 2024 budget to receive such a clinic. The Town will be working with the Department to ensure it moves forward as expeditiously as possible. Other topics of discussion included Regional Fire Protection, as well as the Town's affiliations such as Lewisporte Community College Inc. and DieTrac. There was conversation around the Colleges treatment by Government around the lack of course offerings, funding and block allocations.

6. Lands Committee

Update by Councillor White

Motion 1

The Town has received a request to extend a previous temporary permit for a shipping container located at 126 Main Street.

24-043 White/Hooper

I hereby motion to extend the temporary permit for twelve (12) months with the option for further extension, provided the owner maintains the shipping container in a good condition and application to extend is received prior to the end of this twelve (12) month extension.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Motion 2

The Town has received a request to sub-divide 8 Old Brition Crescent into two (2) separate residential building lots, as this request complies with the Town's regulations.

24-044 White/Hooper

I hereby motion to approve the sub-division of 8 Old Brition Crescent into two (2) residential building lots.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor White took the opportunity, now that spring has arrived, to remind property owners that if they want to make any outside repairs or make upgrades to their home or business, to be sure to apply for a permit.

Councillor White announced that while clean-up week is not until the last week of May, many property owners are putting their refuse out to the curb already. He appealed to the public to refrain from putting items out by the curb so soon. The Town will put a notice out to the public a week before clean-up week begins, and at that time, items can be put out for collection, provided they are acceptable items. He also asked those that have refuse brought out to the curbs to either cover the items or bring them inside until the week prior to clean-up week.

Public Works

Update by Councillor Mullett

To curb the rat problem in town, Councillor Mullett appealed to the public with the wooden style garbage boxes to take some time to clean any old debris or food items from them, as this will attract rats to the site.

Councillor Mullett also addressed the refuse being placed out by the curb side. He wanted to remind residents that the items for collection were not to include renovation materials, such as shingles, gyproc, etc. nor was it to include

mattresses, sofas, or bigger items. It is meant for people to clean up their yards or cut down some over hanging branches. It was suggested that the public works committee review what will be accepted for clean-up week.

Councillor Tucker brought up Council's discussion with Minister Coady regarding paving in Lewisporte. Minister Coady indicated that the remaining portion of Main Street, Coronation Street to the end of Lewisporte would be repaved, and if there were any funds left over Premier Drive would be started. Council felt that they would like to have received something more official from Government but is hopeful that it will go ahead this summer. It was indicated by Minister Coady that Lewisporte is a priority to be repaved.

8. Protective Services

Update by Councillor Tucker

Fire Protection

A joint meeting was held on April 5th between the protective services committee and the representatives from the Local Service District of Brown's Arm, to discuss fire protection services. The LSD of Brown's Arm was presented with a proposal for the kind of services the Town of Lewisporte wanted to move forward with between both communities.

Regional Fire Rescue

Councillor Tucker pointed out that April 11th is the actual date of when the Lewisporte Fire Department was formed. 75th Anniversary celebrations will be held on that date at the Lewisporte Regional Fire Rescue Hall, a schedule of events was read by Councillor Tucker. He noted that it is a very proud moment for the town and more particularly for the fire department. He also mentioned that the annual banquet for the Fire Rescue was set for Saturday, April 13th to fall in line with the 75th Anniversary festivities. Councillor Tucker spoke on behalf of himself and Council in saying that the Town is very proud of the firefighters that protect us every time there is a call for a fire and also through volunteering for special events, and that they would continue to support their endeavors.

Deputy Mayor Hooper wanted to give a shout out to the mechanics that volunteered their time to help make the old Willy's Jeep and fire truck road worthy for the 75th Anniversary and parade on that day.

9. Finance/HR

Update by Councillor Haliburton

9.1 Motion

In 2022 the Town of Lewisporte applied for funding available through the Canada Community Building Fund to upgrade and pave some of the existing roads in Lewisporte. The total amount approved for the 2022 project was \$1,228,626.00, the total amount spent was \$1,039,494.00. According to legislation, a motion must be made to amend the project to reduce the allocated funding for the remaining amount of \$189,132.00.

24-045 Haliburton/Pond

Be it resolved that the Town Council of Lewisporte amend the 2022 Canada Community Building Fund project to reduce the remaining allocated funding by \$189,132.00.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

9.2 Cheque Register- Scotiabank (Operating Account)

24-046 Haliburton/Pond

I motion to approve the cheque register as presented, from cheque numbers 003621 to 003682, with the exception of cheques 003621, 003629 and 003661 for a total of \$116,082.35.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried

Councillor Tucker was in conflict and left Chambers at 7:33:55.

24-047 Haliburton/Pond

Motion to approve cheque numbers 003621 and 003629.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Tucker re-entered Chambers at 7:34:22.

Councillor White was in conflict and left Chambers at 7:34:36.

24-048 Haliburton/Pond

Motion to approve cheque number 003661.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond and Tucker.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor White re-entered Chambers at 7:35:03.

10. Other Committees and/or Business

Mayor's Update

Mayor Freake took the opportunity to thank Minister Coady for taking time out of her visit to Lewisporte to meet with Council to listen to their concerns and complaints, and some of the endeavours that Council has been pleased with, she felt it was a productive meeting.

The Mayor congratulated the Lewisporte and Area Chamber of Commerce on a successful luncheon, it was well attended and the address by Minister Coady was appreciated and uplifting and promising regarding our Province and our economic state.

Mayor Freake also wanted to congratulate the Minor Hockey families and executive, as well as the Figure Skating Club families and executive on a successful year. She was asked to MC both the ice show and the provincial hockey tournament and said she enjoyed doing it.

Congratulations were extended to the women's hockey league, the She Hawks, as they concluded their hockey season this past Sunday, with over 70 members on the roster.

She congratulated the Town's recreation director, Ashely and special events co-ordinator, Tiffany, on hosting a successful Easter event. It was well attended and there were lots of positive comments heard. She thanked all those that helped during the event.

Mayor Freake congratulated Haley Kinden for the honour of receiving a Business Impact Award under the Newfoundland and Labrador Organization of Women Entrepreneurs.

Mayor Freake spoke of her recent interview with Bernice Hillier of the CBC Morning Show, she was there with a panel of Mayors. She had the opportunity to speak about the Collaborative Care Clinic that the Town was allocated for in the Provincial budget, as well as paving. She also discussed some additional funding for fire protection and the Family Resource Centre that the Town would like to avail of, as well as any other funding streams or grant opportunities that might come the Town's way, such as age friendly funding, that were talked about in the budget.

Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Conference

Councillor White spoke of some things he took away from attending the MNL Central Regional Meetings on March 23rd. There is a new Towns and Local Service District Act that is currently being worked on, it will replace The Municipalities Act. Some of the positive highlights taken away from the meeting was this Act will allow Municipalities to have more control over their own by laws, etc. and give the Town more jurisdiction over what goes on within its boundaries. He also said less Ministerial Approvals will be required.

Lewisporte Marina Authoritative Authority

Deputy Mayor Hooper gave an update on the LMAA, as chair of the board – He said there would be a board meeting on Wednesday night. He thinks that given the early ice melt this year, things will be moving ahead sooner than expected for this season. After the meeting Deputy Mayor Hooper is hoping to be able to update the public as to the start date at the next public council meeting.

Request For Proposal for Dinner Theatre

Councillor Pond gave an update on the Request For Proposal for the Dinner Theatre, he said the RFP for the redevelopment of the Roman Catholic Church in the Performance Theatre was out on the Merks System for review, the closing date is May 3, 2024.

11. Adjournment

24-049 Pond/Haliburton

Resolved that the meeting adjourn.

In favour: Mayor Freake, Deputy Mayor Hooper, Councillors Haliburton, Mullett, Pond, Tucker and White.

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion Carried

Time of adjournment: 7:42 PM.

Next Public Council Meeting to be held on May 7, 2024.

Krista Freake Mayor

Coreen Colbourne, Town Clerk/Treasurer