



P.O. Box 219
Lewisporte, NL A0G 3A0
Phone (709) 535-2737
Fax (709) 535-2695
Website: www.lewisporte.ca

Minutes of Council Meeting

June 3, 2025 7:00 PM

Present:	Mayor (Chair)	Krista Freake
	Deputy Mayor	Brian Hooper
	Councillors	Roxanne Haliburton
		John Mullett
		Ken Tucker
		Derek White
	Town Manager	Todd Champion
	Town Clerk	Coreen Colbourne
Regrets:	Councillor	Perry Pond

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

1. Call to Order – 7:00 pm

Mayor Freake brought forward a land acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

25-073 White/Haliburton

Resolved to adopt the agenda, as presented.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

3. Minutes for Approval - Regular Council Meeting May 6, 2025

25-074 Mullett/Tucker

Resolved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of May 6, 2025.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

4. Mayor's Update:

Mayor Freake extended congratulations on the **100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada**, she said she attended a church service held on Sunday past, to recognize the significant milestone and to also recognize **Rev. Art Elliott's 60th anniversary with the United Church**, congratulations was extended to him also. The mayor remarked that everyone involved in the planning had done an excellent job with the event.

The mayor reminded residents of the upcoming public meeting in Lewisporte on June 11th at the Kin Centre to provide information on the **Family Care Team**.

Mayor Freake briefly spoke of the **communities meeting** held on May 21st with **members of the RCMP** as a follow up to voicing concerns and issues seen by the communities under the Gander District and Lewisporte RCMP Detachment. She noted that the communities as a collective would lobby the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for a component of a crisis response unit or team as well as an additional member for the local detachment.

Mayor Freake spoke of her **visit with the grade two classes** at the Lewisporte Academy, as they were studying politics in their social studies curriculum. She told them a little about her role as mayor and spoke of the council's role in the community, and they asked questions of her. She was delighted to know that children of that age were learning about municipal politics.

Mayor Freake wanted to reassure the public that Council continues to have conversations around **health care delivery** for Lewisporte. She said there will be updates when available.

5. Recreation/Tourism Committee

Update by Deputy Mayor Hooper

Deputy Mayor Hooper announced that the Town is gearing up for another fun-filled summer. **Registration for all 2025 summer recreation programs** will officially open on Thursday, June 5th. He proceeded to announce this year's offerings and said that programs are structured throughout the week to ensure variety and age-appropriate engagement. He said a full weekly schedule could be found on the Town's Facebook page.

Deputy Mayor Hooper updated the public on the softball fields. He said work was progressing well on the **new softball field**, with ongoing maintenance and final preparations underway. Barring any weather delays,

it is anticipated the field will be ready for use within the coming week, just in time for summer programming and community groups to enjoy.

He gave a friendly reminder to all residents to please remember to **clean up after your pets** when visiting town trails, parks, and recreational spaces. Let's all do our part to keep our outdoor areas clean, safe, and enjoyable for everyone. Deputy Mayor Hooper added, that for anyone walking or visiting any space in the Town to **please use the waste receptacles** that have been distributed throughout the town. The Town will be looking into upgrading some of the existing receptacles and adding more to various areas.

Deputy Mayor Hooper on behalf of all of Council, extended congratulations to the **Graduating Class of 2025 at Lewisporte Collegiate and the Kindergarten graduates at Lewisporte Academy**. He spoke of his attendance at the Lewisporte Collegiate Graduation, he said it was a fantastic ceremony. He also spoke of the scholarships that he presented on behalf of the Town of Lewisporte, along with the many others that were awarded during the ceremony. Council is proud of all their accomplishments and wish them all the best as they begin this exciting new chapter.

Motion: Splash Pad Project – Service Building & Site Enhancements Tender

Councillor Mullett was in conflict and left chambers at 7:12:30.

We're excited to share that the long-anticipated Lewisporte Splash Pad project is entering the construction phase. The main splash pad contractor is scheduled to be on site this week. This is a major milestone in creating a dynamic, family-friendly outdoor recreation space for residents and visitors alike.

To support the full functionality and long-term success of the splash pad area, a separate tender was issued for the construction of the service building and surrounding site improvements. This work is critical to ensure the space is not only fun but also safe, accessible, and fully equipped.

25-075 Hooper/White

I would like to make a Motion: That the Town of Lewisporte award the tender for the Splash Pad Service Building and Site Enhancements to Tri-R Construction at a cost of \$449,499.78 (HST included). The scope of this project includes:

- **Construction of a fully accessible service building, including washrooms and mechanical systems**
- **Installation of a brand-new basketball court**
- **Fencing to enhance site safety and define recreation zones**
- **Landscaping and sod installation to complete the surrounding green space**
- **Resurfacing of the skate park to improve safety and usability**
- **Paving of the parking lot, improving access and visual appeal**

This investment will transform the splash pad area into a well-rounded, multi-use recreation hub for families, youth, and community groups.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Mullett re-entered Chambers at 7:15:05.

6. Economic Development

Update by Councillor Tucker

6.1 Occupancy Permit - 25-007R (Residential); Dennis and Diane Goodyear for the occupancy of 8 Reid Street.

25-076 Tucker/Hooper

I so move to accept the permit application, as presented.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Council held a meeting with MHA Bennett during which time there was discussion about the commercial wharf, which prompted a request for a meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Hon. Elvis Loveless to discuss the commercial wharf file and what the future holds for the wharf.

Councillor Tucker reported that the T’railway improvements from Monroe’s Pond to Lewisporte is moving forward quite well. There have been several approvals that have been necessary to be obtained from various government departments with one still outstanding, once received the tendering process can be started. Council is still hopeful that the project will have a summer start.

Councillor Tucker said that there have been some positive developments in the last few days with the Marina Project. There was a meeting held with the consultant and the Lewisporte Yacht Club clarifying some topics, the new constitution and board structure has been determined, and how the Marina will look going forward has been established. Councillor Tucker feels the next phase of the redevelopment will be unfolding soon.

There has been a couple of meetings held with the Heritage Society, at which time, members presented the concept of a Heritage Park. The Heritage Society has requested permission to utilize a Town owned piece of property where the park could be realized. Council has discussed which piece of land would suit their

endeavour and will be offering 235 Main Street as the site of the Heritage Park. Councillor Tucker said the park will be a great addition to the town. Details on the park will be released once they become available.

7. Lands Committee

Update by Councillor White

Councillor White made an appeal to property owners not to forget to visit the Town Office to pick up a **permit** if completing work outside. He was pleased to say that to May 31 of this year, there has been 65 permits issued, two (2) of which are for new builds. He was pleased to know that people are doing their part.

Councillor White indicated that Town staff are monitoring both **personal and commercial properties for tidiness**. It is something that will be monitored until clean up of property is satisfactory.

Motion:

The Town has received an application to raise the roof by approximately four (4) feet at 289 Main Street. After meeting with the applicant and reviewing our current Municipal Plan, it has been determined that this request is at the discretion of Council, therefore:

25-077 White/Hooper

I would like to motion to advertise the proposed changes, giving residents an opportunity to provide comments on the proposed application.

Councillor White explained that advertising is the method the Town uses, as outlined in the Municipal Plan, to inform the public of potential discretionary changes and to invite their comments. He added that advertising will be carried out in several different ways.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

8. Public Works

Update by Councillor Mullett

Councillor Mullett reported that **water line flushing has been completed**.

The **patching of potholes** is ongoing.

Motion:

The Town recently allocated monies in the Canada Community Building Fund to resurface approximately 390 linear meters of asphalt on Pine Avenue. We received three (3) quotes for performing this work.

25-078 Mullett/White

I hereby motion that we award the paving of approximately 390 linear meters of paving on Pine Avenue to Penney Paving for the amount of \$104,109.59 plus HST.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried

Upon receiving a letter from a concerned resident about the amount of refuse being seen in public areas, Councillor White brought forward that Town would look into planning a **community clean up** with the help of public volunteers. Once there has been some decisions made, it will be made publicly known.

With **spring clean-up** having taken place, Councillor Tucker was wondering if there were any details available to share regarding how it went. The Town Manager advised that there were no official complaints over the change in policy around how the clean up has changed. He did say that typically the clean up would take 7 – 10 days to complete, this year it was done in three (3) days. The cost in tipping fees have not come in yet but it is suspected that it will be significantly lower than the previous year.

9. Protective Services

Update by Councillor Tucker

Councillor Tucker spoke of the follow up **communities meeting with upper management from the RCMP**, regarding policing issues and concerns. The meeting brought forward concerns around the staffing resources at the local detachment. During the meeting there was a firm approach made to the RCMP around a **commitment for the 5th member of the RCMP**. Since that time, Councillor Tucker said that an email was received by the mayor from Superintendent MacKinnon that the process is under way to have a seasoned officer, with 10 – 12 years of experience, move into the Lewisporte Detachment. It was also indicated during the meeting that there will be a request put into the RCMP for **an additional member for the detachment**. It is also the RCMP's hope to build up the Gander District Detachment which supports Lewisporte, the Town feels that both are needed. A **mobile crisis unit** was another topic of discussion for this area; this would be a unit to assist RCMP members when dealing with highly sensitive situations. The mayor committed to writing a letter to the Minister of Justice with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for the asks indicated. The mayor indicated the main concerns brought forward at the meeting by the communities involved, included the lack of visibility by the RCMP and uncertainty around response times by the RCMP. It was emphasised again of the importance of **making the call to the RCMP in the event of a crime**, those stats will help support the ask for another member.

Councillor Tucker noted the protective services committee meeting with assistant fire chief Steve Cole, Steve indicated that two members of the fire rescue are attending **fire training sessions**, with one member taking **instructor's course**.

Arrangements between the Lewisporte Fire Rescue and the Embree Fire Department to offer **mutual aid**, if needed, are nearing completion. An agreement has been drafted and reviewed by the committee, the next steps include sending the draft to the Town of Embree for review, once reviewed and if acceptable, the agreement will be signed by both Councils.

An appeal was put forth by Councillor Tucker to all property owners on the South Side of Lewisporte; if there is a need to call the Fire Department, please **indicate when speaking to dispatch that the address is on the South Side of Lewisporte, Road to the Isles**. This clarifies to dispatch that you are a resident of Lewisporte, and the Lewisporte Fire Rescue needs to be called. The address of Road to the Isles is used by many other communities enroute to Twillingate.

Councillor Tucker urged the public to monitor the Lewisporte Fire Rescue and the Town's Facebook pages for **fire ban information**.

10. Finance/HR

Update by Councillor Haliburton

10.1 Cheque Register- Scotiabank (Operating Account)

25-079 Haliburton/Mullett

I motion to approve the cheque register as presented, for cheque numbers 04698 to 04746, with the exception of cheque 04714 and 04741, for a total of \$57,633.39.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried

Councillor Tucker was in conflict and left Chambers at 7:38:20.

25-080 Haliburton/Hooper

Motion to approve cheque number 04714.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Tucker re-entered Chambers at 7:38:39.

Councillor Haliburton was in conflict and left Chambers at 7:38:40.

25-081 Mullett/Hooper

Motion to approve cheque number 04741.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Haliburton re-entered Chambers at 7:39:05.

11. Other Committees and/or Business

Deputy Mayor Hooper gave an update as chair of the Board for the Lewisporte Marina Administrative Authority (LMAA). He said that members of the LMAA, along with members of the Lewisporte Yacht Club (LYC) and members of the economic development committee are working with a consultant to redevelop things at the operational level of the Marina. To date a new constitution has been drafted, along with a new set of by-laws and an MOU signed by all entities involved. This was presented to the Development Committee by the consultant. Deputy Mayor Hooper said the new board of directors will operate under the new constitution, which is more streamlined. The board will move into the next phase of the project which includes what the development project will look like for the Marina facility. Deputy Mayor Hooper said that facility users would not see many changes for the 2025 season. He stated that big changes would be seen in the future, by users and the public, and is very excited about the redevelopment of the Marina.

Mayor Freake gave another reminder of the June 11th public meeting to discuss Family Care Teams.

12. Adjournment

25-082 White/Haliburton

Resolved that the meeting adjourn.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion Carried

Time of adjournment: 7:44 PM.

Next Public Council Meeting to be held on July 2, 2025.

Krista Freake, Mayor

Coreen Colbourne, Town Clerk