



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

Minutes of Council Meeting

July 2, 2025 7:00 PM

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

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

1. Call to Order – 7:09 pm

2. Approval of Agenda

25-089 Hooper/Pond

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.

Mayor Freake brought forward a land acknowledgement.

3. Minutes for Approval - Regular Council Meeting, June 3, 2025

Minutes for Approval - Special Meeting of Council, June 25, 2025

Mayor Freake asked for approval of the minutes from the June 3, 2025, Public Council Meeting and the June 25, 2025, Special Meeting of Council, it was brought forward that there was an error on the June 3, 2025 minutes involving the motion for the splash pad, the error was noted by the Town Clerk, it will be fixed and brought forward at the next meeting for approval.

4. Mayor's Update:

Mayor Freake spoke a little about Council's meeting with the Premier on June 25, she said time was taken to highlight some concerns, projects and Council gave some updates to the Premier, they also looked to him for some guidance on a couple of items. Discussions included health care, the wharf and funding from the Provincial Government.

5. Recreation/Tourism Committee

Update by Deputy Mayor Hooper

The splash pad project is coming along well. The structure is up and sided, groundwork is underway, and the installer is scheduled to install the piping next week. The public was reminded to use extreme caution around the area, as there's ongoing traffic to and from the site and heavy equipment in use.

Canada Day was a great success! There was a strong turnout at both events. The day started with the bike parade to the Town Hall where the Memorial Day Ceremony took place. Deputy Mayor Hooper thanked those that laid wreaths for the occasion. A big thank-you went out to the outside staff and summer students for their help with setup and takedown; Adam Baxter for both sound and performance; Ever Sweet, Dave Thompson, and Austin Thompson for their fantastic entertainment; Lewisporte Regional Fire Rescue for launching the fireworks and their involvement in the morning festivities; the RCMP for leading the parade; and to Kinden's Bakery and Café for the delicious Canada Day cupcakes for the morning celebrations.

The newly improved softball field is finally being utilized by the various user groups, so far positive feedback has been heard. With some future tournaments organized.

A very successful eight (8) week ball hockey session has just wrapped up, under the lead of Hope Tetford. With the end of ball hockey comes the start of an eight (8) week soccer program, starting today. As a future ball hockey event, there is an outdoor ball hockey tournament scheduled for the fall.

Deputy Mayor Hooper took some time to recognize a letter from a concerned resident regarding some of the green spaces and walking trails around town, more specifically about people not using waste receptacles or cleaning up after their pets. He said that all concerns and issues pointed out in the letter is being taken seriously and will be addressed by the departments affected.

Students have started with the Town and summer programs are in full swing. Please note there will be increased traffic in the recreation area with soccer and softball happening at the same time.

Mayor Freake took a moment to recognize that some of the evening summer programs do not happen without volunteers, particularly parents, she wanted to thank them for their time and dedication.

Mayor Freake was excited to report that **Lewisporte Collegiate is hosting a Four A Provincial** for the first time in October. She thanked the Town for providing a softball field with the infrastructure to host the tournament.

Deputy Mayor Hooper spoke of some **possible tournaments** hosted by some of the softball user groups, around the Mussel Bed Soiree.

6. Economic Development

Update by Councillor Pond

6.1 Vendor Permit - 25-001V; The Galley to occupy 147 Main Street.

25-090 Pond/Tucker

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

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Pond reported that the **Dinner Theatre Project** is moving ahead, a new consultant has started managing the project and has provided Council with a revised floor plan.

Councillor Pond reported that the issues with permitting that have hampered the **T’railway improvements** from Monroe’s Pond to Lewisporte from moving to the next stage have been finalized. The tender for construction/upgrade should be out soon, with a start date of late summer or early fall. Mayor Freake noted that she has seen commentary on social media about the condition of the trail and asked Councillor Pond to update the public on the project, for those that are not aware of the scope of the project. Councillor Pond gave a full account of the project. There was further discussion by Council on the project.

Councillor Pond said that Phase One of the **Marina Project** is complete, it encompassed the organizational review. Phase two has commenced which includes the development plan, an initial meeting was held with the consultant for this aspect, with a meeting scheduled for the steering committee tomorrow night. He said the consultants’ mandate is to bring about some class D estimates to seek funding. Council is hopeful that the public will see physical changes by next spring.

A meeting was held with Minister Loveless, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, with the primary focus on the **commercial wharf/port file**. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the Minister that the Town is not in a position to take ownership of the wharf. The Town also expressed interest in exploring whether the Province would be open to seeking expressions of interest from a public partner to upgrade the facility. The Minister was open to the idea but also expressed interest in exploring existing provincial

partnerships. Council is currently awaiting a response from Minister Loveless regarding potential meetings and partnership opportunities.

A meeting was held with Premier Hogan, during that time Council updated him on the challenges faced regarding the commercial port. He advised that he would support Minister Loveless, if he needed to. Council also took the opportunity to talk about multi-year capital funding, it was expressed to him that what the Province is allocating currently is not enough to cover potential projects. The Premier was also given a tour of Die Trac and updated on how the institute operated, Councillor Pond was of the opinion that it was possibly the only post-secondary school that operates by a not-for-profit board of directors.

Mayor Freake pointed out that Council also took some time to speak to the Premier about health care delivery in the area, conversations were had with him and his team while he was the minister of health. The mayor said that Council would speak again with Dr. Jared Butler to see how and when the Family Care Team would move forward.

From Council's knowledge, Councillor Pond said that the Family Care Team was in the infancy stages, he said the team would grow once a site was established. It was said to get access to that Team, any person that has no family physician, must register with Patient Connect, registering will ensure that Health NL will know how many medical professionals will be needed to be hired for the area. There was further commentary by Council.

7. Lands Committee

Update by Councillor White

Councillor White reminded property owners to drop by the Town Office to pick up a permit if completing work outside.

Councillor White made the public aware of a letter of concern that the Council received. It was regarding the site of the Rod and Gun Club Road, and how it was becoming a place where people are choosing to dump their waste. Management reached out to the Department of Environment about the waste site so they can investigate it to possibly lay charges to anyone caught. The Town also reached out to Central Newfoundland Waste Management for clarification on who is responsible for the waste, the Town was told that if the waste is within the town limits, the Town is responsible, so in turn, that would mean that taxpayers dollars will have to be used for the clean up of the site. The public was encouraged to call the Town Office if they see anyone dumping illegally, they can leave the tip anonymously if wanted. There was further discussion by Council on the topic.

It was also noted by Councillor White that properties are being assessed for possible clean up orders.

8. Public Works

Update by Councillor Mullett

Councillor Mullett took some time to report on what the public works department are responsible for as part of their duties. He reported on the extensive list of tasks that was required of them over the past week.

Councillor Mullett asked the Town Manager if there was a date scheduled for the patching of the larger areas of removed pavement. The Town Manager said the contractor was out to assess it and a price was supplied; the date was not determined at that time.

Mayor Freake acknowledged receiving a letter today from a concerned citizen regarding the watershed area. She requested that the Public Works Committee review the concern and either respond directly to the citizen or forward their response to her for distribution.

9. Protective Services

Update by Councillor Tucker

As a follow up from the communities meeting with upper management from the RCMP, where there were discussions around the staffing resources at the local detachment. It has now been confirmed that an experienced officer will be officially joining the Lewisporte Detachment as it's 5th member around the first part of September but working out of Lewisporte filling in during the summer.

The commitment by the mayor has been fulfilled, she has written a letter to the Minister of Justice with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to ask for an additional member for the detachment, and a mobile crisis unit to support the local detachment when dealing with highly sensitive situations.

Councillor Tucker urged the public to call the RCMP with any police related issues or incidents, if additional RCMP members are requested for a detachment, the number of calls received, or incidents reported are going to play a huge roll in determining if a member is required.

Councillor Tucker advised the public to stay alert to fire ban information for the area.

After having a conversation with the new RCMP member, Mayor Freake said that Constable Tulk, is an experienced officer in a busy detachment, he grew up around the area and is looking to moving to the area with his family. The local detachment does have one member transferring but are due a transfer in from Marystown Detachment.

10. Finance/HR

Update by Councillor Haliburton

10.1 Cheque Register- Scotiabank (Operating Account)

25-091 Haliburton/Pond

I motion to approve the cheque register as presented, for cheque numbers 04747 to 04771, with the exception of cheque 04755 and 04758, for a total of \$61,091.39.

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 7:58:16.

25-092 Haliburton/Pond

Motion to approve cheque numbers 04755 and 04758.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Tucker re-entered Chambers at 7:58:40.

10.2 Cheque Register – CIBC Operating Account

25-093 Haliburton/Pond

I motion to approve the cheque register as presented, for EFT's 7 to 44, and cheque numbers 39356 to 39363, with the exception of EFT's 24, 35 and 36, for a total of \$284,675.36.

Councillor White was in conflict and left Chambers at 7:59:35.

25-094 Haliburton/Pond

Motion to approve EFT 36.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor White re-entered Chambers at 8:00:00.

Deputy Mayor Hooper was in conflict and left Chambers at 8:00:00.

25-095 Haliburton/Pond

Motion to approve EFT 35.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Hooper re-entered Chambers at 8:00:26.

Councillors Haliburton and Pond were in conflict and left Chambers at 8:00:26.

25-096 Mullett/Tucker

Motion to approve EFT 24.

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

Opposed: None

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillors Haliburton and Pond re-entered Chambers at 8:00:56.

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 the Marina was very busy in June, it was indicated to Deputy Mayor Hooper that the Marina was seeing a lot of foot traffic so far this season, as well as seeing visiting boats, and phone calls from people planning visits to the Marina.

Mayor Freake responded verbally to a letter that was written to the Town by some concerned citizens regarding the raising of the Pride Flag. Mayor Freake pointed out that the Town does consider several things when making decisions. She said in this instance, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Act of 2010, Municipal Inclusion and Diversity Policy, and National/International Recognition of Pride were all taken into consideration when choosing to fly the Pride Flag. She thanked the citizens for bringing their concerns to the Town.

Councillor White gave an update on the Community Advisory Committee (CAC), he said that a new chair of the committee has been appointed, Chris MacDonald. At the last meeting the focus was on collaborative care, Councillor White also highlighted the importance of registering on Patient Connect to register for the Family Care Team. He said that the CAC was looking into preparing a promotion package to promote health care in the area.

12. Adjournment

25-097 White/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: 8:06 PM.

Next Public Council Meeting to be held on July 29, 2025.

Krista Freake, Mayor

Coreen Colbourne, Town Clerk