

**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**August 8, 2022**  
**Town Hall**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Elaine Nash, Kevin McDonald, Brenda Young, Doug Dean, Ian Goudie, F. David Power, Stacey Dean

**REGRETS**

None

**MEETING CHAIR**

Elaine Nash

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion #2022-08-08-338: Ian Goudie; Brenda Young

Adopt the agenda of August 8, 2022.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Motion #2022-08-08-339: Brenda Young; Doug Dean

Adopt the minutes of the July 11, 2022 meeting.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

**RECREATION PRESENTATION**

David Sorenson provided Council with photos and information regarding recreation facilities in Port Blandford which he had recently visited, suggesting that Council could consider a similar endeavor. David discussed census data for Port Blandford, noting the similarity in demographics of the Town of Mount Carmel-Mitchell's Brook-St. Catherine's. It was suggested that funding for recreation facilities could be sought through Active NL and that a recreation area could be completed in stages, as was the approach with the playground area.

Mayor Nash advised Council that Marjorie Gibbons (Rural Development Agency) approached her the day before the CEEP application deadline requesting a list of projects. Mayor Nash suggested the font decks, brush clearing between the playground and garden, lumber, paint, a new office door, etc. Marjorie noted there would be approximately \$10,000 overhead for the CEEP project and that weather would be a consideration as the project runs around November-January.

Council discussed the idea of a Recreation Committee, noting that a Recreation Committee would be geared towards events, as opposed to infrastructure and that Council would be responsible for putting the infrastructure in place and a Recreation Committee could encourage community gatherings and events with the use of that infrastructure.

Council agreed that these are all wonderful ideas, but their slate is quite busy at the moment with other projects. Council advised David they would consult with him when they commence further discussions on recreation. It was agreed that the first step is to get the brush cleared from the area, which is requested under the CEEP program, weather permitting.

**FINANCES:**

**a) Monthly Financial Report:**

Motion #2022-08-08-340: Brenda Young; Doug Dean

Adopt the financial report for the month ending July 31, 2022.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

**b) GIC Renewal:** The Town Clerk provided Council with options for the GIC renewal

Motion #2022-08-08-341: Brenda Young; Doug Dean

Reinvest the \$130,000 GIC at 3.9% non-redeemable for 1-year.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

Council discussed business tax arrears and instructed the Town Clerk to send the business a letter to notify them that the outstanding balance for 2021 must be paid within 30 days of notification with the remaining balance for 2022 being paid in full by December 31<sup>st</sup>, otherwise Council will have to consider further options for collection.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) Reports**

**1) Policy and Procedures Committee:** Nothing to report.

**2) Infrastructure Committee:** Nothing to report.

**3) Recreation Trails Committee:** Nothing new to report as the Chair is awaiting responses regarding the RFP and funding. Mayor Nash noted that she will check in with Marjorie Gibbons to expedite a response.

**4) Come Home Year Committee:** Mayor Nash will contact group members to initiate the meetings.

**5) Fire Department Report:** Nothing new to report. The Town Clerk is still trying to coordinate a date for Council to meet with Fire Department representatives for a discussion.

**6) Town Clerk Report:** The office has received the invoice from Martin B. Hammond for work on the well. As such, the gas tax application is being prepared for submission. Council has received a response from FCM regarding their application to the Municipal Asset Management Program. FCM advises that the funding envelope has been fully subscribed and a decision regarding further applications is on hold until additional funding becomes available. The Town Clerk noted that she is unavailable on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and will request for the Assistant Town Clerk to cover the office that day. In the event that the Assistant Town Clerk is unavailable, the office will be closed for the day.

**b) Property Tax Notice:** Council reviewed and approved the property tax notice with the addition of “in anticipation of impending changes to the Municipalities Act,” added to the first paragraph.

Councillor Power arrived at 8:15 p.m.

**d) Bi-Election:** Council instructed the Town Clerk to write a letter to the Minister requesting a bi-election deferral until mid-November to allow time to work through the town plan and property tax assessments which will hopefully encourage interest in joining Council.

**e) Town Plan:** Council has received the final version of the Town Plan from Anna Myers and suggested a special meeting with Anna to review the documents and mapping. Mayor Nash will contact Anna to set up a meeting. In the meantime, Councillors were instructed to review the documents and make note of any questions, concerns, or required changes.

### **ROUND TABLE**

Councillor McDonald requested an update on the parking lot extension. The Town Clerk advised that quotes have not yet been solicited as the office has been focused on other large projects.

A resident had requested Council’s assistance with feral cats. Council did not approve to take it on at this time, as there are too many other projects happening at the moment. The Town Clerk was instructed to provide the resident with contact information for Feral Felines and to advise them to reach out on their own behalf.

Councillor Power noted that there is a hidden driveway on the Nine Mile Road before traffic approaches the gas station where cars drive by at a high speed. The Town Clerk was instructed to contact the St. Joseph’s Depot to request a hidden driveway sign to increase awareness and safety at that location.

The Town Clerk noted she has not had a chance to look into the AED battery, yet. Councillor Young offered to take this on.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion #2022-08-08-342: Kevin McDonald; F. David Power

This meeting is adjourned.

All in favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.