

Vice Chair	Brad Penney
Secretary	Krystal LeRoy
Recording Treasure	Joyce Murley

Errors or Omissions of Minutes

No errors or omissions in the minutes

Adoption of Minutes

Motion 2023-118 Butt/LeRoy

Be it be resolved that the minutes of the November 15, 2023 council meeting be adopted.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Business Arising from Minutes

The letter was sent to Anthony Basha regarding the burning of garbage in the oil tank outside of the garage. The letter was copied to the Department of Environment.

The culvert in Paul Roberts's driveway, 12 Soper's Drive, Mount Moriah was replaced.

The Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, has to contact Newco Metals to have the planer removed on Serpentine Road. The council did not hear from Crown Lands regarding the skidder on crown land on Serpentine Road.

Marine Contracting couldn't do the pavement patching for the Town of Mount Moriah; however, Marine did drop off a truckload of asphalt, and the Maintenance Men, filled in the holes that needed to be patched.

The maintenance committee hired Steve Belfry as the temporary casual call-in maintenance man.

Price Quotes for Heavy Equipment for 2024 were advertised in the saltwire on Wednesday, December 13, 2023. The deadline for submitting price quotes for heavy equipment is January 3, 2024.

The dumpster was moved by the Fire Hall on Tower Road.

The deadline for applications for Canada Summer Jobs is January 10, 2024.

If a councilor takes a paid leave of absence for a period of- time, the councilor cannot attend the council meetings as a councilor within the period of his leave of absence. However, he can attend the meeting and sit in the audience.

Public Concerns

A letter from Leonard Paul Roberts regarding Water meters and Finance Report. Mr. Roberts attended the council meeting.

1. Mr. Roberts's concern was the word has it that the council has or is going to get rid of the water meters and reimburse the people who bought meters the cost, they paid for them. Mr. Roberts was informed that at the last council meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2023, a motion was made and approved to abolish the water meters.
2. Mr. Roberts would like to see and have a copy of the cost analysis report that was done to come to this conclusion, the data collected from the meters that are installed, and the company that did the cost analysis report. Mr. Roberts was informed that the council did not have a cost analysis report done.
3. Mr. Roberts would like to know where the council is getting the money to reimburse the people. This money will be coming from the Taxpayers.
4. Mr. Roberts was concerned with how the council was going to collect the money for water overages. The water overages would have to be paid by all taxpayers.
5. What plan or plans does the council have to help curve the overages? The council is figuring that when the new pipes are installed this will take care of some of the water overages (leaks).
6. Why are the overages not being posted? Some residents felt it was offensive to post the water overages on the bulletin board.
7. Why is the finance report not included with the monthly minutes which are posted on the website? This was an oversight by the Town Clerk/Manager when sending the minutes to Councilor Hamlyn to be posted on the web.

Deputy Mayor Shelley LeRoy pointed out why the water meters were abolished:

- The annual fee is \$4,200.00
- The City of Corner Brook does not have water meters.
- Most residents do not want water meters.
- No resources to read the water meters.
- A new cell phone is required to use the wand for reading the meters.
- There is nothing in place that people have to have a water meter.
- No mandate if meters don't be installed.
- The Town does not have an enforcement officer.

Mr. Roberts pointed out that he feels that the water meters should have been kept in place, even if the council extended the deadline for the water meters. Water should be paid for the same as a utility bill (electricity).

Mayor Duffney pointed out that the council will not be making a motion to rescind the motion regarding abolishing the water meters.

An email from William Quilty regarding the location of his skidder was discussed at the last meeting and the council wanted it removed. Mr. Quilty has 2 locations that he can move the skidder to, 67 Main Street or 82 Main Street. Mr. Quilty also has another skidder in Corner Brook that he is scrapping that he will also move to one of these locations if he got to move one, he might as well move two, to have both together. Mr. Quilty would like to add that this is a working piece of equipment and that he intends to take it back into the woods. Mr. Quilty would prefer to leave the skidder where it is for a little longer. Mr. Quilty would like for the council to let him know what they decide. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this matter. Since the council has already contacted Crown Land regarding this skidder, it will be up to Crown Land as to what they want done with the skidder.

Finance (Bills payable for Approval)

Motion 2023-119 Porter/Butt

Be it be resolved that the bills are paid, see attached list.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Committee Reports

Finance Report

- The loan for the pavement for Sweetapple Drive was up for renewal on November 30, 2023 the amount owing is \$41,945.20. The council has the following options regarding this loan.
 1. Pay in full with no penalty.
 2. Demand Loan at Prime (7.20) + 1.00% + 8.20 – payment of \$1,900.90 monthly (this is a variable rate and can be paid off at any time).
 3. 1-year term 7.66% = \$1,890.57 monthly, with option to renew in 12 months.
 4. 2-year term 7.20% = \$1,881.80 monthly, (will be paid in full at maturity).

Motion 2023-120 Porter/Penney

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council will take out the loan for a 2-year term at 7.20% = \$1,881.80 monthly, (will be paid in full at maturity).

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Discussed giving a raise to Town Employees. Mayor Duffney pointed out that she feels that all Town employees should be given a raise, since only the Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, had a raise last year at only 1.5%.

Motion 2023-121 Hamlyn/Porter

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council give the Maintenance man and Town Clerk/Manager a 1.5% raise commencing January 1, 2024.

In Favor: Councilor Hamlyn
Councilor Porter
Councilor Penney

Opposed: Deputy Mayor LeRoy
Councilor Wells
Councilor Butt
Mayor Duffney

Motion Defeated

Motion 2023-122 Hamlyn/Porter

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council give the Maintenance man and Town Clerk/Manager a 1.75% raise commencing January 1, 2024.

In Favor: Councilor Hamlyn
Councilor Porter
Councilor Penney

Opposed: Deputy Mayor LeRoy
Councilor Wells
Councilor Butt
Mayor Duffney

Motion Defeated

Motion 2023-123 Leroy/Penney

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will pay each councilor a remuneration of \$1,800.00 per year and the Mayor \$3,300.00 per year. The remunerations will be paid quarterly.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-124 LeRoy/Penney

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a mill rate of 7.50 mills on assessed value, with a minimum Property Tax of \$500.00.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-125 Leroy/Penney

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a minimum vacant land tax of \$500.00.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-126 LeRoy/Penney

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a Residential Water/Sewer Tax of \$750.00 per unit per year.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-127 LeRoy/Penney

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a Water/Sewer Tax of \$750.00 on service or serviceable land.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-128 LeRoy/Penney

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a Water Tax of \$660.00 per unit per year.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-129 LeRoy/Penney

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a Commercial Water and Sewer Tax of \$890.00 per unit per year.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-130 Porter/Butt

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a Business Tax of 13 mills on the assessed value of property, basic Business Tax minimum of \$350.00.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-131 Porter/Butt

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge Utility Companies a Business Tax of 2.5% of Gross Revenue.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-132 Porter/Butt

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge Business Tax on farm land at a rate of 13 mills on the assessed value of property.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-133 Porter/Butt

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a Water and Sewer connection fee of cost incurred with a deposit of \$3,000.00. If the cost is less than the deposit paid, the exceeded amount will be refunded to the property owner. If the cost exceeds the deposit balance remaining will be the responsibility of the property owner and due upon completion.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-134 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a Water on/off fee of \$100.00 for shut-offs for tax purposes.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-135 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will not charge the Water on/off fee of \$100.00 if someone must have their water turned off in case of an emergency.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-136 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge \$100.00 for a Compliance Letter.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-137 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge \$100.00 for a Tax Certificate.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-138 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will give a 3% discount on all current year's taxes that are paid in full by March 28, 2024.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-139 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 any resident wishing to pay out their 2024 Water and Sewer and Property Tax from February 28, 2024 to December 31, 2024, must come to the council office to sign an agreement by February 28, 2024. The first payment will be due on February 28, 2024, with each following payment due at the end of each month. Before any resident can set up a payment plan for 2024 Water and Sewer and Property Tax, prior years' Water and Sewer and Property Tax must be paid in full.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-140 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge interest on all outstanding Taxes as of June 30, 2024, at a rate of prime interest charged by the chartered bank on January 1, 2024, plus 3%.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-141 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that if all Water and Sewer and Property Taxes for 2024 are not paid in full by June 28, 2024, or a payment plan is put in place, the council will disconnect water services and start court proceedings to collect taxes. If water is disconnected, it will not be turned back on until all taxes have been paid in full plus \$100.00 off/on fee.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-142 Penney/Porter that the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge a dog licensing fee of \$5.00, this licensing fee will be a one-time licensing fee.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023 -143 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that the deadline for payment of 2024 Business Tax will be June 28, 2024.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-144 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that the cost of a Renovations Permit - \$25.00; New Home - \$250.00; Garage and Shed - \$50.00; Renovations to change Shed or Garage to Residential Home -\$200.00. Development Permits - \$25.00. Permits for pre-existing new homes that were granted in 2020 and 2021 will be the rate of \$200.00 If a building permit is not picked up before construction begins the cost of the permit will double.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-145 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council will charge \$50.00 for an NSF Cheque.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2023-146 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that in 2024 the Mount Moriah Town Council will no longer charge residents a Poll Tax. However prior years poll tax must be paid in full.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Motion 2013-147 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council adopt the 2024 Budget

In Favor: Councilor Penney

Opposed: Council Hamlyn

Councilor Porter

Councilor Wells

Deputy Mayor LeRoy

Councilor Butt

Mayor Duffney

Motion Carried

Councilor Hamlyn informed the council that he is opposed to adopting the 2024 Budget because he feels that Town Employees should have been given a raise.

Correspondence

- The Mount Moriah Town Council received a copy of the letter that Edward Joyce, MHA, Humber-Bay of Islands District sent to Hon. Tom Osborne, Minister, Department of Health and Community Services regarding the Billing of MCP- Nurse Practitioners.
- Letter from Hon. Tom Osborne, Minister of Health and Community Services regarding the Distribution of Naloxone Kits.
- Letter from Kim Kieley, P. Eng., FEC, Director – Municipal Infrastructure Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the Status Reports Submitted through MSIS.
- Email from Judy Bolt, B.A., Constituency Assistant to Eddie Joyce, MHA, Humber-Bay of Islands District regarding FireSmart Canada Now Accepting Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Award Applications. The council will look into applying for funding for Wildfire Community Preparedness Day.
- A letter from Donald DiCesare, P. Eng., Senior Project Engineer, Allnorth regarding Hussey's Lane – Transfer of Land for Street Right-of-Way. Mr. Jay Hussey attended the council meeting regarding the transfer of Hussey's Lane. Mayor Duffney pointed out that before the council received this letter from Mr. DiCesare, she spoke with Mr. DiCesare and he had some concerns regarding Hussey's Lane: Hussey's Lane was not up to code, culvert, and the top of Hussey's Lane could erode. Mr. Hussey pointed out that Mr. DiCesare was down to look at Hussey's Lane again and he was not aware of where Hussey's Lane was located. The council will get Mr. DiCesare to have another look at Hussey's Lane, in regards to the takeover of Hussey's Lane.
- Email from Lucie Papineau Puglies, Telecommunications Alliance, regarding starting February 17, 2024, the new 879 area code will be introduced in Newfoundland and Labrador and will coexist with the current 709 area code.
- The Mount Moriah Town Council received a letter from Gerald Budden, President of, Royal Canadian Legion – Provincial Command, asking the council to purchase an advertisement in the Veterans Service Recognition Book 1/10th Page (Business Card) for \$255.00 taxes included.
Motion 2023-148 Hamlyn/Penney
Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council purchase an ad 1/10th page (Business Card) for \$55.00 taxes included in the Veterans Service Recognition Book.
All in Favor Motion Carried
- Email from Sonya Ramsay, Client Solutions Consultant, Inside Asles, Saltwire regarding a change to the West Coast Wire, it is being combined with the Central Wire and will now be called The Newfoundland Wire. Also, there will be a pricing increase in advertising effective January 1, 2024.
- Email from MMSB regarding the 2024 Compost Bin Distribution Program.
- Email from Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador November 16, 2023.
- Another email from Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador on December 1, 2023.
- Email from Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador December 1, 2023.
- Email from Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador December 5, 2023.

- Info Note November 20, 2023.
- Info Note November 28, 2023.
- Info Note December 1, 2023.

Development and Building Applications

- No Development or Building Applications.

New Business

Motion 2023-149 Hamlyn/Wells

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council cancel the gift cards for the council and staff for Christmas.

In Favor: Councilor Hamlyn
Deputy Mayor LeRoy
Councilor Wells

Opposed: Councilor Penney
Councilor Porter
Councilor Butt
Mayor Duffney

Motion Defeated

Motion 2023-150 Penney/Porter

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council purchase gift cards for Christmas for council and staff, the same amounts as last year.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, would like to carry a week's holiday into 2024.

Motion 2023-151 LeRoy/Porter

Be it be resolved that the Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, can carry a week's holiday into 2024.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

The Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, informed the council that the council did not get a carpenter for the CEEP. Therefore, new cupboards will not be installed in the kitchen of the Town Hall. However, the council will check to see if the council can proceed with the renovations to the kitchen and refurbish the old cupboards.

The Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, gave an update on the pump on Serpentine Road. Steve Osmond was speaking with Dulah Gill of Eco-Contracting Ltd. They plan to do the work tomorrow and the expected cost is going to be between \$2,000.00-\$3,000.00 taxes included. Since this is considered as operating maintenance the project will not cover the cost, the Town will be responsible for the cost.

In regards to the tender for the pump and the water and sewer line for Serpentine Road, the tender documents have been sent to the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs and Department of Environment for approval to go to tender.

Councilor Hamlyn brought it to the attention of the council that the gravel section of Serpentine Road is going to need to be filled in the Spring of 2024. There was some discussion regarding the upgrading of the gravel section of Serpentine Road.

Councilor Hamlyn was wondering if the council could push the fill off Serpentine Road across from Shawn Hann's. Also, steel cable, creosote ties, and perforate pipe need to be moved.

Councilor Porter suggested that the council should contact the Department of Transportation regarding water by Mr. Webber's on Morrison's stretch.

A new grate is required by the old fire hall.

Check on getting a streetlight near Cook's Brook Bridge.

Town Clerk, Carol Skeard, informed the council that a streetlight is required on Tower Road.

The Mount Moriah Events will be taking part with Santa on the fire truck and the Fire Department on Christmas Eve. Any councilor who would like to join the Fire Department and Mount Moriah Events on Christmas Eve is more than welcome.

Notice of Motion

- No notice of motion.

Next Council Meeting

- The next regular council meeting is Wednesday, January 3, 2024, due to the Christmas break the Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, was wondering if the council meeting could be changed to Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

Motion 2023-152 Penney/Hamlyn

Be it be resolved that the next council meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

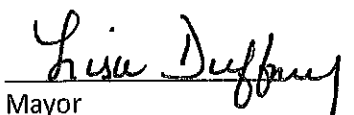
Adjournment

Motion 2023-153 Hamlyn/Butt

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

All in Favor

Motion Carried


Mayor


Town Clerk/Manager

Finance (Bills Payable for Approval)

Marine Contractors Inc. (Asphalt)	\$	2,113.13
D & d Excavating and Trucking Ltd. (Pick up culvert for Soper's Drive)		172.50
D & D Excavating and Trucking Ltd. (Excavator culver 12 Soper's Drive)		716.04
D & D Excavating and Trucking Ltd. (Float charge 12 Soper's Drive)		143.75
Rogers (Telephones Fire Hall)		46.00
Katies Konvenience Ltd. (Gas and Diesel Fire Department)		73.61
Corner Brook Industrial Sales & Service (Hydraulic Adapters)		681.54
Sealand Safety & Prevention Services (Power Line Hazzard)		109.25
Western Petroleum (Diesel)		772.92
A-1Transporation Ltd. (Tandem Water Leak old fire hall)		634.80
Nfld Fasteners Limited (4 x 10 lifting strap)		84.15
Parts for Trucks (Chains)		853.88
Parts for Trucks (Grease Gun)		446.20
Parts for Trucks (Chain Fasteners, snow bushes)		57.17
Stan Dawe Ltd. (culvert & vinyl starter strip)		2,209.31
Stan Dawe Ltd. (Culvert coupler)		114.99
Battlefield Equipment (Propane)		25.88
Humber Arm Contracting (Hauling Sand & Salt)		1,610.00
Western Lock Inc. (Supply cables for an overhead door)		36.80
Parts for Trucks (Rubber Ties, Grease & chain oil)		213.93
Western Hydraulic & Mechanical Limited (Repairs sander)		1,635.54
Staples (Telephones office)		178.93
Air Liquide (Acetylene)		168.79
Fire-Tech Systems (Annual Fire alarm inspection)		402.50
KalTire (Tire for Town Truck)		347.30
Curling One Stop (Gas Town Truck)		308.98
Curling One Stop (Gas)		34.67
Curling One Stop (Gas Town Truck)		292.54
Curling One Stop (Gas Town Truck)		243.06
Newfoundland Power (Fire Hall November 2023)		673.38
Newfoundland Power (Maintenance Building November 2023)		218.20
Newfoundland Power (Office November 2023)		205.72
Newfoundland Power (Water lift station Davis Drive November 2023)		168.35
Newfoundland Power (Garage November 2023)		520.86
Newfoundland Power (Pump Serpentine Road)		370.04
Newfoundland Power (Day Park November 2023)		22.53
Newfoundland Power (Sewer Lift Station Main Street November 2023)		40.37
Newfoundland Power (Town Hall November 2023)		561.02
Newfoundland Power (Street Lights November 2023)		1,512.77
Murphy Brothers Limited (Dumpster Town Hall)		264.52
Western Regional Waste Management (Dump Fees November 2023)		1,777.76
Edmonds Service Centre Ltd. (Change Tire Town Truck)		28.15
Edmonds Service Centre Ltd. (Six Tires changed and balanced)		126.50

Edmonds Service Centre Ltd. (Starter for the sand truck)	564.59
Kangaroo (Swing Set)	8,302.90
Stan Dawe Ltd. (Sonotube, Mason & Chalk line, Orange fluorescent paint)	186.25