

The regular meeting of the Mount Moriah Town Council was held in council chambers on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. The Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Lisa Duffney  
Deputy Mayor Shelley LeRoy

Councilors Brad Penney  
Sandra Wells  
Arthur Hamlyn  
Dave Butt  
Brad Porter

Town Clerk/Manager Carol Skeard  
Assistant Town Clerk Tanya Campbell

Deputy Mayor LeRoy asked if the council could defer the payment of the two pairs of boots for the fire department until January 2024. Invoices have to be paid within 30 days.

### **Adoption of Agenda**

Motion 2023-110 LeRoy/Hamlyn

Be it resolved that the agenda for the November 15, 2023 council meeting be adopted.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Councilor Butt arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Councilor Porter arrived at 7:06 p.m.

### **Delegations**

#### **Mount Moriah Recreation Committee**

- The Recreation Committee was inquiring if they had to pay rent for the Town Hall for the Christmas Party for the Children and the Christmas Party for the Seniors. As previously discussed, any event held on the weekend would be charged the regular rate for the Town Hall.

#### **Mount Moriah Volunteer Fire Department**

- The Fire Department is going ahead with its annual ball on January 20, 2024.
- The Fire Department still needs to complete the required training before the Fire Alarms can be installed in homes.
- The council discussed the fact that we have no qualified Firefighters who can legally enter a home. Also, there is no active training happening.
- The Town wants to retain the firefighters we currently have and recruit new ones. However, there are some areas of concern about the fire department having no structure even in regards to holding regular meetings and volunteers that need to use paid holidays from work in order to complete the proper training. All of this combined is a major contributor to why a lot of the firefighters quit.

- The Fire Department is over budget however, no new spending has occurred, just receiving supplies that was previously ordered.

**Mount Moriah Day Park**

- JCP still working on the Day Park.
- Still waiting on the engineering plans for the bandstand from the engineer.
- The JCP project is having a lot of issues with the attendance of the employees. Most are not showing up regularly except for John Perrett.

Deputy Mayor LeRoy left the council meeting at 7:28 p.m.

**Mount Moriah Community Events**

- The Committee will be holding a Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec 9, 2023.
- The Committee is currently waiting for a lottery license so they can sell tickets

Deputy Mayor LeRoy returned to the council meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**Errors or Omissions of Minutes**

Page 2, Deputy Mayor Shelley LeRoy pointed out that it should read “Trunk” not “Truck.”

**Adoption of Minutes**

Motion 2023-111 Hamlyn/Butt

Be it resolved that the minutes from the October 18, 2023 council meeting be adopted as amended.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

**Public Concerns**

A letter was received from David Basha, Stella Street regarding Anthony Basha operating a mechanical garage next to him and burning gas rags, oil rags, grease rags, rubber parts, etc. in a big oil tank outside of the garage. Mr. & Mrs. David Basha attended the council meeting. Mr. & Mrs. Basha was concerned about the chemicals from the garbage being burnt outside and this being an environmental hazard. There was some discussion regarding the burning of this garbage.

Motion 2023—112 Penney/Hamlyn

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council will send Mr. Anthony Basha a letter informing him that the council has received an official complaint regarding him burning garbage in an oil tank outside his garage which is an environmental concern. The council will ask Mr. Basha to refrain from burning garbage in the oil tank. A copy of this letter will be sent to the Department of Environment.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

**Business Arising from Minutes**

The culvert in Paul Roberts's driveway needs to be replaced.

The purchase of the land from Alfred Gosse, 116 Main Street, Mount Morah for access to the sewer outfall has been completed.

The Town of Humber Arm South is still interested in the community sharing grant for a Municipal Enforcement Officer. Three communities are required to participate. The Town of York Harbour and Lark Harbour are not interested. However, the Town of Hughes Brook is interested. However, the deadline has passed for the application for funding for a Municipal Enforcement Officer.

Mayor Lisa Duffney expressed her need for help from all councilors with her involvement with the Town activities and reminded them of their electoral duties to the town residents. Especially in dealing with our current water issues.

The Town has a meeting set with ADC Ltd. for Monday, November 27, 2023, at 6:00 pm to discuss the water/sewer and water pump on Serpentine Road.

The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure did not do much work on Morrison's Stretch. Only seems to be a temporary fix to what is needed there. Going to contact the Department again about that and the other areas on Main Street.

A letter was sent to the Department of Environment, Crown Lands Division, regarding their department giving William Quilty permission to move the skidder onto Crown Land on Serpentine Road. Contact NEWCO Metals to remove the planer.

Need to put a hold on sending a letter to Calvin Bennett regarding replacing the curb on the top of Welshman's Drive until the curb has been installed.

A letter was sent to William Crocker asking him to have his personal belongings removed from the Town's property by April 30, 2023.

Water meters have proven to be very costly both in relation to equipment and servicing fees. The town has discussed the issue many times in the past and tonight as well. Most worry about the money used in the past that will be wasted and the possibility of having to credit previous customers who purchased water meters from the town. Also, we would have to cancel our contract with the company that monitors the system.

Motion 2023-113 LeRoy/Porter

Be it be resolved that the Town of Mount Moriah abolish water meters and anyone that has purchased a water meter from the Town will be given a credit on 2024 taxes.

In Favor: Deputy Mayor LeRoy  
Councilor Porter  
Councilor Penney  
Councilor Butt

Opposed: Councilor Wells  
Councilor Hamlyn  
Mayor Duffney

Motion Carried

The Town Clerk/Manager, Carol Skeard, was concerned with the number of meters that have already been sold, which means since the council is giving the people who purchased a meter from the town a credit, the council will be starting with a deficit of between \$20,000 - \$30,000.

Councilor Dave Butt went to inspect the land in question for a development permit for Dexter and Harley Bellows with Kyle Specker. According to, there is an 8-foot right-of-away that is already on the land. However, they would need to address the legal issues there first before a development permit can be issued.

The Ford truck is sold and has been removed from the premises.

The newsletter was sent out to residents of Mount Moriah.

Time for the maintenance workers to close down for the winter season. Need to put away seasonal items like garden bins, picnic tables, and the picnic tables at the Day Park which have to be stored in the gazebo.

### **Finance (Bills Payable for Approval)**

Motion 2023-114 Hamlyn/LeRoy

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

All in Favor

Motion Carried

### **Finance Committee**

- The 2024 Budget must be adopted by December 1, 2023, and submitted to the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs by December 31, 2023.
- The Town was notified by the City of Corner Brook that there would be a 10% increase in the city water rates. It will be increasing from \$500.00 per unit per residence to \$550.00 per unit per residence. Commercial property water will also, increase. Had a lengthy discussion on the benefits of our own water supply but we are currently connected with the City of Corner Brook. The town also discussed a meter reader for detecting water leaks which could be a good investment.

### **Maintenance Committee**

- Maintenance Men, Paul Murley and Kyle Specker couldn't do the Water Distribution Course due to a water leak at the maintenance building (old fire hall).
- Marine Contracting couldn't give the Town a price on the patching of the pavement, due to them having enough work that they already have to finish.
- The Town received two applications for the temporary position of casual call-in maintenance man. The Maintenance Committee will do the hiring of this position.
- Paul Murley, Loader Operator, will be snow clearing from November 25, 2023 - April 15, 2024. Mr. Murley will be paid his Loader Operator rate, at 60 hours per week with no overtime. Mr. Murley will be calling Kyle Specker as required for salt and sand distribution.

- The council will advertise for Price Quotes for Heavy Equipment for 2024.
- The Town was notified that the truck driver with Murphy's cannot drive down Town Hall Road once the snow hits to pick up garbage from the dumpster behind the Town Hall. Therefore, the council decided to move the dumpster in by the fire hall.

### **Correspondence**

A letter from Kim Kieley, P.Eng., FEC, Director -Municipal Infrastructure, Transportation and Infrastructure regarding Project# 17-GI-21-00079-Water & Sewer City Boundary to Serpentine Road, scope change. Since there was a scope change the project will have to be retendered according to the Public Procurement Act.

A letter from Steve Mercer, CPA, CA, Director, Municipal Finance, Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs regarding the approval of the Community Enhancement Employment Program for Kitchen Renovations in Town Hall in the amount of \$27,702.00.

Email from Western Regional Waste Management regarding the 2024 Budget and 2024 Fee Structure. The fee structure will not change in 2024.

A memo from Amanda Freake, Western Director, Municipal Assessment Agency regarding an Update on the Municipal Assessment Agency

An email from Catherine Morgan, CMP, Executive Assistant/Corporate Secretary/Municipal Assessment Agency regarding the Municipal Assessment Agency Free Training Course.

Canada Summer Jobs are now available. The deadline for applications is January 10, 2024. Not-for-profit employers can receive a wage subsidy up to 100% of the current provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage. Whereas public and private sector employers are eligible to receive a wage subsidy of up to 50%.

Email from Fire Underwriters Survey regarding Petition in support of Bill C-310.

Letter from Kerry Butt, Miss Newfoundland and Labrador Pageant Committee looking for a donation.

Email Jennifer Buxton, BA, Engagement Coordinator, Grenfell Campus, Memorial University inviting the council to a Research Engagement Event on November 21, 2023.

Email Nancy Baker, BBA, Marketing & Special Events Coordinator. Grenfell Campus, Memorial University, inviting the council to a Community Holiday Event on November 30, 2023.

Email Carol Hanlon, Local Governance and Land Using Planning, Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs regarding the link for the new Child Care Demand Portal.

Email from Emil Fraser, Regional Marketing Officer, Go Western Newfoundland, informing the Town of the Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws and Call for Nominations.

Email from Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador regarding Working Toward a Sustainable Future for the Municipal Sector.

Email from Municipalities Newfoundland regarding New Municipal Legislation.

Info Note November 6, 2023.

### **Development and Building Applications**

Building application from Brian Bellows, 14 Stella Street to build apartments at 8 Soper's Drive, Mount Moriah (1-3 Hussey's Lane). Mr. Bellows attended the council meeting and was informed by the council that Hussey's Lane is a privately owned driveway and has not been turned over to the council. Therefore, Mr. Bellows's building application will have to be put on hold.

Mayor Duffney informed the council that she spoke to Don DiCesare, Allnorth regarding Hussey's Lane, there were some concerns regarding Hussey's Lane. Mayor Duffney understood from Mr. DiCesare that he was not going to recommend the takeover of Hussey's Lane by the Town.

### **New Business**

There was some discussion regarding changing the council meetings back to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month.

Motion 2023-115 Porter/Penney

Be it be resolved that the council will have the council meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month from January – June, and September – December 2024. There will only be one council meeting in July and August on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

### **Notice of Motion**

No notice of motion.

### **Next Council Meeting**

The next council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

Motion 2023-116 Penney/Hamlyn

Be it be resolved that the Mount Moriah Town Council meeting that was scheduled for Wednesday, December 20, 2023, will be changed to Wednesday, December 13, 2023.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Check to see if a councilor takes a leave of absence due to work commitments can the councilor still attend the council meeting if they are available?

The eave on the garage, and garage door needs to be repaired.

Fill on Serpentine Road.

The street light on the light pole by the crosswalk on Main Street is dim.

**Adjournment**

Motion 2023-117 Porter/LeRoy

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

---

Mayor

---

Town Clerk/Manager