

Meeting # 10
December 10th, 2019

Present: Mayor James Cashin
Deputy Mayor Eileen Hann
Councillor Gordon Johnston
Councillor Elaine Martin
Councillor Michael McCann (did not attend)

Guests: Mr. Tony Wakeham (MHA District of Port au Port)
Kip Kaus – Assistant to MHA Tony Wakeham

Mayor Cashin called the meeting to order at 6 p.m and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

Council invited Mr. Wakeham to attend our meeting to discuss issues that are of concern to residents of Port au Port East.

New Romaines River Bridge – Mayor Cashin expressed concern that the new bridge would be built closer to the bay, especially with the amount of erosion and sea on the beach; and that the area inside the present one would be a better option. Mr. Wakeham said that he had spoken to the Minister and that it would be placed on the inside with a softer turn at the top. When asked by Council if plans have been completed yet, he said that government is in the initial planning stages. There is also talk of placing a trailway for walkers/atv's/skidoo's on one side of the new bridge.

Mr. Wakeham told Council that this is our opportunity to have a say in the design and that we should write a letter to the Minister. Also, once the design firm has been selected, we should request a meeting.

Romaines Road – Deputy Mayor Hann said that at one time, Romaines Road was the main link to the peninsula and has 34 resident homes. Council expressed concern that each year we have to tender in order to prove to the Department of Works, Services & Transportation that we are unable to find a contractor to clear, salt & sand this road, at a cost that we can afford. Then we are required to apply to the department to have this work done by their crew, with the Town of Port au Port East paying approx \$9,000.00 per year for this service.

Mr. Wakeham said that we should write a letter and build a case in order to have the Department of Works, Services & Transportation take over the road or at least negotiate a long term contract with the town, with a mutually acceptable fee charge taken into consideration. We have less than six hundred residents and with the rising cost of waste disposal; for example, we are unable to continue to absorb this cost. It was also suggested that we request a meeting with the Minister to discuss the future of this road.

St. Thomas Aquinas School – Council expressed concern that with the impending closure of St. Thomas School, what incentive would there be for families to move into Port au Port East.

MHA Wakeham told Council that since enrollment will increase this year, there is no rationale for the closure. He is also working on behalf of concerned citizens in Point au Mal/ Fox Island River, Boswarlos, Port au Port West, Aguathuna & Felix Cove & Port au Port East to keep the school open.

Main Street Paving – Council expressed their concern that when paving is done, it is of poor quality and doesn't last. Mr. Wakeham stated that the list of roads to be paved in the coming year is listed on the government website.

Romaines Road Waterline Project – This waterline was installed in 1960 and this aging infrastructure needs to be replaced. The town is experiencing expensive repairs (especially during the winter months). The Town of Port au Port East submitted a Municipal Capital Works Application for a 90/10 project to replace this line.

Mr. Wakeham requested a copy of the application so that he could lobby on our behalf. Clerk will forward this information to him.

Mayor Cashin then said that these are the concerns of the Town of Port au Port East and thanked Mr. Wakeham for attending our meeting.

Mr. Wakeham and his assistant left our meeting at 7:30 and Council continued on with our regular meeting.

Minutes of last meeting held on November 12th, 2019

Motion 73-2019

Councillor Johnston / Councillor Martin

Resolved, that, the minutes of last meeting held on November 12 be adopted as presented.

All In Favor

Motion Carried

Correspondence

- St. Thomas Aquinas Christmas Dinner – Donation / Invitation

Motion 74-2019

Councillor Johnston / Deputy Mayor Hann

Resolved, that, The Town of Port au Port East make a donation of \$50.00 for the St. Thomas Aquinas Christmas Turkey Dinner and that Deputy Mayor Hann will attend on behalf of the town.

Motion Carried

Finances: Accounts Payable _____ **23,419.38**

Motion 75-2019

Councillor Martin / Councillor Johnston

Resolved, that, the accounts payable as presented be approved for payment.

All In Favor

Motion Carried

Items for Discussion

- Bacteriological Water Analysis Report Nov 6 & Dec 2, 2019 – Satisfactory
- Sea Containers – Port au Port Regional Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion 76-2019

Councillor Martin / Deputy Mayor Hann

Resolved, that, The Town of Port au Port will pay \$2,500.00 (1/2 of 1 sea container) to correspond with 2500.00 as approved by the Town of Port au Port West, Aguathuna & Felix Cove. This container is for the Port au Port Regional Volunteer Fire Department towards constructing a training facility. Their building has been condemned and not safe to conduct training exercises any more.

In regards to additional funds for 2021, Council seeks more clarification before making a decision.

All In Favor

Motion Carried

Notes of meeting on November 12th.

- Newfoundland Power – Erosion in the vicinity of utility poles along bank. Clerk contacted Newfoundland Power and Shane Pollard (technician) made a site visit. He is satisfied that there are no issues as present and did say that Newfoundland Power is monitoring the area on a regular basis.
- Fuel Tank for Generator – The town has to allow Gorman Engineering and EFCO to finish their work before any additional work can be done.
- Water Meters have been purchased (for water based businesses) and will be installed in 2020.

Other Info

- Infrastructure –Vol 24, Number 10, November 20

Motion 77-2019

Councillor Johnston / Councillor Martin

Time of Adjournment: 8:05 p.m

**All In Favor
Motion Carried.**

Mayor Jim Cashin

Clerk Florence Baxter