

# ***Town of Port au Port East***

## ***Update of Present Council***

### ***2018-2021***

***Where has the time gone? This is the question that we ask as we reminisce on the accomplishments of the present day Council. We would like to outline some of the things that we, as a small town with a population of 600 were able to accomplish during this time, and also, items that we hope to begin working on during the next four years.***

#### ***PROJECTS***

- Installed a liner in the Town Reservoir which has proven to save water. This was a 90/10 Municipal Capital Works project valued at \$338,427. Our share was \$30,689. This resulted in the ability of the town to issue more building permits.
- 2 Emergency Generators were connected to the town water supply (1 at the pump house and 1 at one of the chlorination plants) so that when there is a power outage, residents will still have access to chlorinated water. This project was 50/50 cost shared with a value of \$141,101.93. Town Share was \$70,550.97. The Tourist Chalet has been wired in as well. This was done so that a warming station can be set up in the event of an emergency.
- Romaines Road Waterline Replacement – 90/10 Municipal Capital Works project to replace aging infrastructure. Project valued at \$1,048,605 and the town's share was \$95,091.
- With the aid of our insurance, we were able to replace old and worn out shingles on the roof of the Town Hall. Our cost was \$1,600
- Municipal Plan and Regulations – Application was submitted to Gas Tax Secretariat for funding to update. Received \$
- 21,760.00. Second public meeting was held on July 19<sup>th</sup>, and our plan has now been forwarded to government for approval.
- Covid-19 Stimulus Project valued at \$45,290.39 on a 90/10 cost shared funding agreement. Town share is \$4,529.04. This funding was used to do the following:
  - New siding for Town Hall & Tourist Chalet
  - Emergency lighting & fire doors to bring the Town Hall up to fire code.
  - New Septic System for Town Hall.
  - New energy efficient lights and thermostats for Town Hall.
  - Painting.
  - New Flooring for parts of Town Hall
  - Town Beautification – picnic tables, benches, flower boxes, and garbage boxes were placed throughout town and at Romaines River.

### ***Support***

- Continued support for the Twilight 50+ Club, St. Thomas Aquinas School & Library.
- Sponsor of "BEST" (Bay St. George Extended Senior's Transportation).
- Continued support of Stephenville, Kippen's, Port au Port Search & Rescue – yearly donation.
- Increased funding for Port au Port Volunteer Fire Department.

### ***Office Tools***

- Request for email addresses so that we can better communicate with residents whenever the need arises. Also, use of Facebook and Town Webpage. Proven to be successful
- Set up E-Transfers to make it more convenient for payment of taxes

### ***Other***

- Significant resources were placed at Mclsaac's Ballfield and Walking Track for upkeep, and the town takes great pride that it is attracting more walkers, Little League Baseball and also continued use by students of St. Thomas Aquinas School.
- The Town of Port au Port East & Port au Port West, Aguathuna & Felix Cove jointly sponsored a 50/50 cost shared clean-up of the area of beach on the fishing side below the RC Cemetery. Total cost was \$11,758.13. Our share was \$5,879.07
- Replacing Street Lights with energy efficient LED lights
- Major aging components of the Pump and Chlorination houses were replaced:
  - Ross Valve & Labor (\$13,577.66)
  - 2 Booster pumps ( \$14,368.00)
  - Flowmeter (\$3,674.54)
  - Gas Monitor for Deep Well Entry (\$2,702.78)

### ***Future Goals***

- Find a new source of water ie: another drilled well
- Paving of Side Streets
- Work with Government to have the Department of Works, Services & Transportation to assume all responsibility of Romaines Road.
- Work with Government to have Romaines Bridge replaced in a timely manner.
- Work with Government to have Hynes Road as far as Smelt Brook recapped.

## Special Highlights

- The Town has been in negotiations with the RC Diocese for years to acquire the land on which the Town Hall and what used to be the Tennis Court sits on. We have been fortunate to strike a generous agreement whereby, rather than continuing to lease the land in question; it will now be sold to the town for the sum of \$1.00. In our agreement, the town will provide space for an access road to parish land at the back in the event that they may wish to develop, and to waive all property taxes on parish property. Stagg and Stagg Law is now in the process of writing a Deed of Conveyance.
- ***THERE HAVE BEEN NO INCREASE IN PROPERTY/WATER TAXES DURING THIS PERIOD***

***Please exercise your right - Vote in Municipal Election on September 28, 2021.***