

Town of North River Meeting Minutes July 6, 2021
Held in Town Council Chambers 43 North River Road, North River, NL

In Attendance: Mayor Joanne Morrissey, Deputy Mayor Blair Hurley
Councillors' Brian Hurley, Kelly Hall, Patrick Mackey, Elsie Morrissey & Dwight Snow
Sheila Hall Town Clerk/Administrator and James Cummings
Absent:

Mayor Morrissey called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Agenda and Minutes:

Motion 2021 –1938– Patrick Mackey / Dwight Snow
Resolved that the agenda for July 6th be adopted as circulated.
All in Favor Motion Carried

Motion 2021 –1939– Brian Hurley / Blair Hurley
Resolved minutes of June 1st meeting be adopted as circulated. No errors or omissions.
Further resolved minutes of June 10th meeting be adopted as circulated. No errors or omissions.
All in Favor Motion Carried

7:05 P.M. Delegation- James Cummings

Mayor Morrissey welcomed Mr. Cummings & explained rules then turned the floor over to him.
Mr. Cummings pointed out 5 items he would like addressed.

- 1-Brook on Effords Road filled in 6 feet, requested council to check into it and no one did.
- 2-Resident on Effords Rd putting more rocks into river and number of wharfs along the river.
- 3-Trees on Effords Rd. 3 weeks ago trailer knocked rocks into brook, still not fixed. Was told waiting on rocks. Should have been fixed when it happened.
- 4-Dogs. Wanted to know number of registered dogs and feces left behind should be picked up.
- 5-Questioned council light fixtures if going out to tender.

Mayor Morrissey explained that these issues will be discussed and a reply will be sent.

7:15 P.M. Mr. Cummings concluded his presentation, thanked council for their time and remained.

3. Business Arising:

Madengail Lane- Ditch and natural flow. Councillor Snow to get topo map. Deferred.

Frosts Lane \$11,200.00 to complete work on old section.

Frosts Lane Extension- divert water & turnaround discussed. Suggest talk to Concord for solutions. Ownership verses crown land-Suggest seek legal opinion. Agreed Deferred.

Motion 2021 –1940– Blair Hurley/ Elsie Morrissey
Resolved that council seek legal opinion on Frosts Lane Extension turnaround.
All in Favor Motion Carried

Filliers Lane- Noted that old section in need of new asphalt. Quote required.

ROW 87A North River Rd- Resident wants services but objects to turnaround.
Two options available-Leave as is with no asphalt & no services or turnaround a must.
Suggested put road in regardless and provide services. If willing to sign off on no roadwork and no services. Clerk to check with Municipal Affairs and legal on providing services. Deferred.



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G & J Quote culvert-supply & install 100 ft of 24" plastic culvert, supply fill and rock and enclose open drain, \$7546.88. Discussion on cost. Agreed this solution is too costly and that this property has a much better appearance now than before. Clerk to contact resident.

Extra garbage bins discussed and agreed this will not solve litter problem.

Hobby Farming Draft regulations - Distance 200 feet discussed. Defer pending more info.

4. New Business:

Mayor's Election Options. Mayor Morrissey pointed out residents advantages to a separate election. Members discussed all options.

17(2) A town council may by a 2/3 vote of the councillors in office, provide for the election of the mayor by a separate election, and may in the same manner change that decision, or a direction made by the minister under subsection (1).

Election of Mayor and Deputy

18. (1) At the first meeting held following the first election and each general election the councillors shall

(a) Where there has not been a separate election for mayor, elect one councillor to be mayor; and

(b) Elect one councillor to be deputy mayor.

(2) An election under subsection (1) shall be conducted by the town clerk or returning officer and shall be done by a secret ballot of councillors.

After discussion on leave as status quo, the following motion was put forth.

Mayors Elections

Motion 2021 –1941– Elsie Morrissey / Patrick Mackey

Resolved that North River elect mayor and deputy mayor by secret ballot of councilors.

Further resolved nominations day be set for Tuesday August 31st from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

All in Favor Motion Carried

Elections Staff and Rate of Pay R/O, Poll Clerk & Door Guard- Clerk advised additional election staff required. Suggested rate of pay. R/O \$300 Poll \$200 door guard \$150 & cleaner \$150

Motion 2021 –1942– Elsie Morrissey / Patrick Mackey

Resolved that Gail Fillier be appointed poll clerk at suggested rate of pay.

Further resolved R/O hire door guard and cleaner at suggested rate of pay.

All in Favor Motion Carried

Playground equipment-Suggest weld or remove it. Will talk to resident concerning welding.

Signs- two signs discussed. Councillor Hall to send Councillor Snow list for quotes. Suggested light reflective letters. Agreed.

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Benches- \$2000.00 budget for cost to build 4 benches. Councillor Snow to price concrete base.

Motion 2021 –1943–Brian Hurley/ Elsie Morrissey
Resolved that council approve \$2000.00 budget for 4 benches.
All in Favor Motion Carried

Speed Sign-Madengail Lane
Motion 2021 –1944–Brian Hurley/ Patrick Mackey
Resolved that clerk order 30 MPH speed sign.
All in Favor Motion Carried

Asset Management Policy-Mayor Morrissey reminded members of new legislation and asset policy is mandatory. Clerk has been working on policy. Deferred pending completion.

5. Development Applications:

Greenhouse/Shed 93-95 North River Road

93-95 North River Road-Greenhouse/ shed
Motion 2021 –1945– Patrick Mackey / Dwight Snow
Resolved that approval in principal be given applicant, as per submitted application, to construct a 10x20 greenhouse/shed at 93-95 & 16x16 house extension North River Rd, subject to the following conditions;
Residential Use Only
Town's Municipal Development Regulations and approval from all other regulatory departments.
All in Favor Motion Carried

7 Burseys Road-Shed
Motion 2021 –1946– Brian Hurley / Patrick Mackey
Resolved that approval in principal be given applicant, as per submitted application, to construct a 10x22 barn style structure at 7 Burseys Road, subject to the following conditions;
Residential Use Only
Town's Municipal Development Regulations and approval from all other regulatory departments.
All in Favor Motion Carried

13-15 Burseys Road-Single Family Dwelling
Motion 2021 –1947– Dwight Snow / Patrick Mackey
Resolved that approval in principal be given applicant, as per submitted application, to construct a Single Family Dwelling at 13-15 Burseys Road, subject to the following conditions;
Residential Use Only
Town's Municipal Development Regulations and approval from all other regulatory departments.
All in Favor Motion Carried

6. Correspondence for Information:

Grants -Mayor Morrissey updated members on Covid stimulus package. Project is on budget. Chamber floors, maintenance to refinish. Blinds discussed, can put lights and blinds out to tender. Garden well finished and boxes to be painted.
Students Supporting Seniors working on different programs. Project has been well received.

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Students-list of chores litter, lanes need trimming and extra whipper snippers needed.

Motion 2021 –1948– Brian Hurley / Patrick Mackey

Resolved that the town purchase two additional whipper snippers for student use.

All in Favor Motion Carried

Walking trail name/plaque -Mayor Morrissey reviewed town logo, and walking trail name ideas received. Suggested place benches with veterans family names around trail and neutral name for track. Agreed good idea.

Discussion on recreation program misunderstanding on all 6 students helping with sports.

All agreed on a couple of students not all 6 as town requires summer workers.

Recreation Committee to send schedule for games.

Noted fencing should be completed this week or early next week.

Discussion on extra 20 amp plug for future concerts. Agreed if demand arises will revisit idea.

Recreation Committee Chair Ryan Gates Safety Concerns copied to all & attached to minutes.

Would like to request Council address these safety issues with the new planned developments.

Discussion on sit down park- Mayor Morrissey and Councillor Hurley both stated that the Sit down park will be situated inside the fence but outside the walking track. Park should not be an obstruction to the field.

St Georges Church-Mayor Morrissey reported email from Andrea O'Brien of Heritage NL recommends if a group of people are committed to taking it over exists, suggests they formalize the group in some way and that they come up with a vision for what the building could be. Heritage NL can help when it comes to creating a buzz about future possibilities for St Georges Church. They are hosting a similar event in Fortune next week. The building was acquired by the town and it needs a use that will keep it open and keep it viable. Heritage NL could come out to North River to host a similar event.

The Town of North River should also consider designating the church a municipal heritage site. Towns can do so under the Municipalities Act. Heritage NL can help the town with the creation of heritage regulations and with documents related to municipal designation. That way, regardless of who owns the building, the exterior heritage features can be maintained and the town can deny any development permits that may threaten the building's heritage value.

Members agreed to move ahead with and designate as a heritage site.

Canada Day –Noted Covid guidelines, masks and distancing in effect until September-Deferred.

Boat launch Environmental Assessment-Councillor Snow reported almost ready for submission.

Garbage Complaint –Clerk reported trash thrown out in lane, letter & schedule sent to resident.

Calm hole Complaint washed up wharf- Requires backhoe. Suggest contact Hayes for removal.

Dog Park - Lumber along boundary being cut. Will look at size of work area afterwards.

Maintenance Tools required. Kevin to submit list for council purchase, pending finances.

6B. Committee Reports

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Bay de Grave- Councillor Mackey report. Truck was broke down & has since been fixed.

Joint Councils- Mayor Morrissey reported MHA Ottenheimer had arranged Ministers site visit. Joint council last meeting no quorum, finished until September.

Seniors Committee- No report.

Animal Control- No report. Dog complaint covered under delegation.

Recreation Committee- Safety issues covered under correspondence for information.

OHS Committee- No incidents reported.

7. Financial Reporting Policy and Procedures

Balance Sheet & Income Statement along with Expense Statement were provided for Council. Financial Transaction Summary June General Ledger Cash outflow / inflow reports and financial statement reviewed by council.

Total deposited \$24,758.31 includes Provincial Gas Tax \$8,550.00, T-Ball registration \$900.00 & Softball registration \$200.00

Receipt# 15999-16046.

Total payable \$33,091.67. Cheque # 1687-1722. Closing Balance \$186,832.09.

Accounts Payable Ledger to June 30, 2021 was provided for Councils' review.

Motion 2021 –1949– Elsie Morrissey / Brian Hurley

Resolved that Operating accounts payable in the amount of \$17,312.44 be approved for payment. All in Favor Motion Carried

Grants Income Statement along with Expense Statement were provided for Council.

Financial Transaction Summary to June 30, 2021 .Grants Ledger Cash outflow /inflow reports and financial statement reviewed by council.

Total deposited \$10,799.41. Total payable \$4,289.50 Cheque # 405. Closing Balance \$74,484.65.

Tax Adjustments/Write Offs to June 30, 2021 No adjustments to report.

Tax Dollar Arrears to June 30, 2021

Detailed aged accounts receivables were provided for the information and review of Council.

Total outstanding includes 2021 taxes \$411,207.82 .Collections percentage at 84%.

Adjournment

Motion 2021 –1950– Brian Hurley / Elsie Morrissey

Resolved that this meeting of council be adjourned until the next regular meeting August 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Council Chambers, 43 North River Road. All in Favor Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Mayor Joanne Morrissey

Sheila Hall
Sheila Hall, Town Clerk/Administrator

21 June 2021

Good day Mayor, Deputy and Councillors,

On Friday, June 18th, I sent out this group message below on Facebook to some members of council as a safety concern as it relates to the Softball field:

Hello All,

I don't have everyone on council here but hope I can at least talk to someone about this.

The plan to put a garden inside the fenced area of the softball field will limit the abilities to host Softball events at the field. For example. We have created a system where as players get older they graduate to the next level, the next levels will involve games. Games can't be played on a field with obstructions.

Outside of that, Once covid is over we hoped to plan bringing back a town festival. This would have involved boat races, concert, and of course a men's softball tournament. The tournament could not be help on a field with obstructions.

I've also been kicking around the idea of a men's and woman's mixed adult softball league. Everyone I have spoken to think its a great idea to get people out to interact in the community. This cannot happen on a field with obstructions.

I am in no way against the idea of a sit down area or garden. It is a lovely concept. However there must be somewhere else we can do this other then an are meant for sports. My question is, is there another spot of land the town owns that could be used for this? le the area across from Cummings Lane with the benches (I'm not even sure if that is town land, but if it is would that be an option)

I'm suggesting this only to not be counterproductive to future endeavours by council or the rec committee.

I'd love to discuss at a meeting if possible.

I did get the following response from Mayor Joanne:

"Our sit-down Leisure Park will not be an obstruction to the field"



The problem here is, if the park is inside the fenced area of the field, then it is an obstruction during a game. You cannot safely play softball or baseball with obstructions. So, teenage, mixed and men's leagues/tournaments cannot be held. That is my concern.

Inside the fenced area is the playing surface. It is no different than placing chairs on a hockey rink or basketball court. While playing a game there cannot be risk of running into obstructions. Therefore, we cannot plan for teenage, mixed or men's Softball.

With the install of lighting, upgrades to the dugouts, and completion of the fence, our field would rival that of fields where men's and woman's leagues are held in Bay Roberts and Brigus. I've played in the Bay Roberts league along with other folks from North River. It would be a shame not to be able to offer the same experience in our town. The issue is, "Is this a softball field or not?" if it is then there cannot be obstructions inside the playing surface. If the towns stance is, that this is not a softball field, then by all means this wouldn't be an issue. But it simply can't be both if you want to have the ability to host the above-mentioned leagues and events

After looking at the field, the light placed in front of the back stop should be moved to outside of the back stop. The current location is prime for someone to get hurt, not to mention whatever is installed there would likely get damaged anyway, hence the back stop.

There is a solution if the council is bent on having a sit-down park at the field. If the seating /park was on the outside perimeter of the track, which is the impression I got when I asked Kelly about this, then the "home run fence" could follow the interior perimeter of the track. This would lightly separate the playing surface from the park area.

I would like to request Council address these safety issues with the new planned developments such that everyone can enjoy and use this area safely. Please forward a written response to my concerns to ryan_gates@hotmail.com

Regards,

Ryan Gates
Resident and Rec Committee Chair
12 Filliers Lane
North River

SH
