

Town of North River Meeting Minutes June 7, 2022
Town Council Chambers 43 North River Road, North River, NL

In Person Attendance: Mayor Brian Hurley, Deputy Mayor Blair Hurley, Councillors' Elsie Morrissey, Joanne Morrissey, Kelly Hall & John Newell
Chantal Roach - Temporary Town Clerk/Administrator
Absent: Dwight Snow
12 Residents/Community Members in attendance

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

Agenda and Minutes:

Motion 2022 – 2094 – Kelly Hall / Elsie Morrissey

Resolved that the agenda for June 7th be adopted with the following additions:

New Business – Main Rd Construction

All in Favor Motion Carried

Motion 2022- 2095 – Kelly Hall / Blair Hurley

Resolved minutes of May 3, 2022 meeting be adopted as circulated. No errors or omissions.

All in Favor Motion Carried

Delegation

Mayor Hurley advised that delegations would be allowed to ask their question and that questions would not be responded to, rather questions will be noted and will be answered in writing in a timely manner.

First Delegation – James Cummings

1. Did the town receive the report back from the Auditors and how much did this report cost the town?
2. What were the findings in the report from the Auditors and when will the results be released to the public?
3. Has the auditors report been distributed to all councilors and when will the public be able to see a copy of the report?
4. When will Council be sending the information to the RCMP to discuss if a criminal investigation should be done and if charges should be laid?
5. Did all Councilors vote to send the information to the RCMP?
6. Why was I called a Guinea Pig by Councilor E. Morrissey at the council meeting on May 3rd? I'd like an apology from Councilor E. Morrissey for being called a Guinea Pig as it was uncalled for.

Second Delegation – Gary Cummings

1. I was made aware that the former town Clerk had informed a resident that there was a discount for taxes if "Paid Early and by Cash" – Is there such a discount for early payment? If so why is it cash only and why is it not listed on the invoice or anywhere as a written notice of discount.

Third Delegation – Ryan Gates

1. Recreational Basketball will begin shortly in the Town of North River, as such I would like to request that the council invest in new Rims for the town basketball nets. The current nets are not the correct type for the poles that were recently installed, which causes balls to bounce uncontrollably out of the court. The suggestion would be to invest in 2 new rims that have the correct shock absorption with the rim to have a proper bounce back from the ball when playing basketball. These rims are approximately \$100 ea.

Let's build a great community together

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2. Last year the community signed a petition, with approximately 300 signatures, regarding the Softball Field. To date the council has not address the petition. When will this be address and what are the Councils stance on the petition.

Fourth Delegation – Patrick Mackey

1. Why has there been no information released to residents on what happened in the 2021 Municipal Election in North River? There should be an inquiry!
 - a. What problems/voting irregularities were identified and what actions will this council put in place to see that this does not happen at the next election.
 - b. How much was spent on the election, including lawyers' fees
2. What exactly happened with the financial irregularity's incident in which the town clerk was fired/resigned?
 - a. What were the results of the audit that was conducted?
 - b. How many years was the audit checked for?
 - c. Was there forgery of signatures or numbers involved?
 - d. Was there an RCMP investigation? What were the findings of this investigation?
 - e. If there was not an RCMP investigation, why not?
 - f. What was the legal advice? Who gave the legal advice? If Dave Power, would that not be a conflict of interest?

Business Arising:

Town Clerk Position – Town has received information from the recruitment office on their suggested hire for the new Town Clerk. The top suggestions were sent listed in alphabetical order, council has requested to get a revised list with the candidates in order of preference from the recruitment officer so that hiring can be done by preference according to the Recruitment Officer. Once the adjusted list is received council will consider and hire the new Town Clerk.

Hall Door keys – Councilor Kelly Hall was unable to locate an account with Babb Lock & Safe Co. Ltd. or Miller Lock and Key for when the keys were last replaced. Councilor Hall will continue to check with additional lock smith company Tulks Glass and Key Shop – update to follow. Town Clerk to try and locate last bill for door keys.

Garden Beds – Question arising from Councilor Joanne Morrissey regarding the allocation of Bed #6. A resident who previously had bed #6 had requested the same bed and was informed the bed was already allocated to someone else. Why did this happen? Town Clerk clarified that the resident requesting the same bed as previous years had not applied via the Town office before the deadline for Garden Applications were due, and had only spoken to a councilor and the information was not relayed to the Town office. Upon the deadline for applications a list was sent to all Council Members with the current list of names, stating that since the amount of applications was less than the amount of beds available all applicants who previously had a bed would be re-assigned the same bed and the applicants who were new to the Community Garden Bed Program would be randomly assigned a vacant bed. Some notes were made to add a few individuals who had spoken to Council and not the Town office were made and then the acting Town Clerk moved forward with the agreed upon method. The resident did not come to the town office until Beds had been assigned and notices given out, therefore bed #6 was already assigned and paid for.

– A resident has requested a 2nd Garden Bed if any remain open. Council stated this would be acceptable and 2nd beds could be assigned on a first come first served basis until all 25 Community Garden Beds were assigned.

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KO

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Come Home Year Event Report – Council discussed that all Come Home Year events have been scheduled. There will be a Folk Festival and Community breakfast and Community Dinner. Council needs to get the flyer and advertisement out for these events as soon as possible.

Facebook Page – The town would like to set up a Facebook account – Council to get a quote from current Tech support for the addition of running a Facebook page.

New Business:

2023 MAA Assessment – Council read the new 2023 report from the Municipal Assessment Agency. The average increase in property assessment for the town of North River was 11.4%

289 North River Road – Non Compliant – Council discussed that the property owner has failed to provide a Real Property Report regarding the home construction.

Motion 2022-2096 – Blair Hurley / Elsie Morrissey

Resolved to send a registered letter to the property owner to send “Notice of Non-Compliance” with next steps.

All in Favor Motion Carried

Main Road Construction – Council had concerns from resident regarding current main road construction blocking driveway access to residents. Council noted that contact will be made with the construction company and Dep. Of Highways to ensure that construction debris and equipment is picked up DAILY and to ensure no resident is blocked from their residence.

Development Applications:

21 Effords Road – Shed 36x48 – Council confirmed previous meetings status that the resident needs to be contacted regarding approval in principal April 5th, **Motion 2022-2076**

153 North River Road – Storage building – Council confirmed application was approved in previous meeting, to contact resident and proceed with permit.

2 Cummings Lane – Shed 12 x 28, Domestic sawmill operation & Fence

Clerk to inform that a Fence Permit may be given at any time for a fee of \$20 – as Fence Permits Fall under General Permits.

Clerk to inform resident that a notice must be put out to the public regarding the intent for the sawmill use and the Shed construction on 2 Cummings Lane.

Correspondence for Information:

Make a Wish – Letter from Make A Wish requesting a Donation

Motion 2022-2097 – Elsie Morrissey / Kelly Hall

Resolved to make a \$100 in support of Make a Wish foundation from the town of North River

All in Favor Motion Carried

Request from resident to have an anniversary certificate made – Council discussed and as this is a very low cost thing Council will offer this service to residents who request it in a timely manner.

Handwritten signature and initials, possibly 'KO'.

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2022 Clar Simmons Scholarship – Copy giving to Councilors/Staff whom the Scholarship is available to.

PSD – Citywide’s Municipal Grant Service – Council discussed and decided to wave this membership at this time.

Committee Reports

Bay de Grave – No new report.

Joint Councils – Mayor Hurley provided a brief report, stating last session had a speaker from the Autism Society.

Animal Control –No report.

Occupational Health Safety – No incidents to report.

Financial Reporting Policy and Procedures

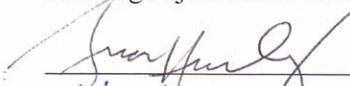
Town Clerk presented a spreadsheet with current May to June bills.

Motion 2022 –2098 – Elsie Morrissey / Kelly Hall
Resolved that Town Clerk pay the bills as present
All in Favor Motion Carried

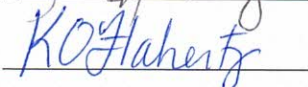
Adjournment

Motion 2022- 2099 – Blair Hurley / Kelly Hall
Resolved that this meeting of council be adjourned until the next regular meeting
July 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Council Chambers, 43 North River Road.
All in Favor Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.



Mayor Brian Hurley



Chantal Roach, Acting Town Clerk/Administrator