

Town of North River Meeting Minutes May 7, 2024
Town Council Chambers 43 North River Road, North River, NL

In Person Attendance: DM Blair Hurley, Councilors' Joanne Morrissey, Elsie Morrissey, John Newell and Dwight Snow (7:05pm),

Absent: Mayor Hurley, Councilor Hall

Also Present: Katie O'Flaherty - Town Clerk/Administrator, Cathy Mahoney, Cheryl Edmunds, Jenelle Snow and Candice Snow (7:05pm)

Agenda and Minutes:

Motion 2024-2320 – Councilors J Morrissey/ Newell

Resolved that the agenda for the April 2, 2024, meeting be adopted as presented.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

Motion 2024-2321 – Councilors Newell/E Morrissey

Resolved that the minutes of the April 2, 2024, meeting of council be adopted as circulated.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

Delegation:

Cathy Mahoney attended the meeting as a concerned resident to discuss issues she has with recent decisions of council which she feels is an injustice to the children of North River. She spoke of the last meeting and the letter that was to be sent to North River Rec requesting the organization change its name and how she felt some members of council were very indecisive on the decision due to how it would affect the children. The decision of the council was to instruct North River Rec to change its name or be denied access to town facilities, which she said would directly affect the children of North River and surrounding communities. She felt that the facilities throughout the town were town facilities and not North River Council facilities. Furthermore, she asked that if a request was being made for North River Rec to change its name as it has no affiliation with the town, shouldn't all groups using this name receive the same request. Cathy noted that groups such as North River 50+ Friendship Club nor North River Guide unit operate in the town but still bare its name.

Cathy expressed that when NRR is brought up at meetings, the only name thrown around is Ryan Gates and not the committee as a whole. She noted that Ryan is the chair of the committee, just as she is the chair of the events committee, not the whole committee. She felt there are personal issues and conflicts between some members of council and Ryan Gates. Personal issues and conflict between adults have no place in council chambers. Councilors need to be able to set aside personal opinions when discussing and voting on town business and feels anyone who cannot do this, should not be on council.

Cathy feels that NRR brings positive feedback to the community and the town should be proud to have residents who want to be involved in their community. NRR is bringing people into the community with sports programs, several of which have waitlists. One would think it would bring council pleasure to see children using the facilities in North River and not having to go to other communities for these types of programs.

She noted at the meeting council mentioned student positions they felt were taken from the town and given to NRR but felt this was misleading as the groups operate under two different categories of Incorporated and not-for profit with two different business numbers.

In conclusion, Cathy addressed a statement made by Mayor Hurley that NRR is a for profit organization. This is false, having been a member of the committee she confirmed NRR is a not-for-profit organization. Cathy spoke on how much work members of the committee put in and the uphill battle they have had with the council every step of the way. Cathy feels this should stop for the betterment of the community, especially the children.

Business Arising:

The Clerk advised that Councilor Hall informed her that due to family commitments, she was unable to attend the meeting but provided notes she wished to have presented, should council have no objection.

The Clerk proceeded to read.

Councilor Hall wrote of the special meeting she had requested following the April meeting of council, which would allow councilors an opportunity to try and resolve an issue with North River Rec, citing that she is not stating she supports nor don't support North River Rec but feels as councilors it is our duty to try and come up with a solution that's in the best interest for the Town and it's resident. The response to this request was met with an email from

Let's build a great community together.

Town of North River Meeting Minutes May 7, 2024
Town Council Chambers 43 North River Road, North River, NL

Mayor Hurley who felt that any councilor who could not support the motion made by council, should consider resigning from their position on council.

Councilor Hall wrote that her aim was to address statements and incorrect information discussed at the April meeting.

1. North River Rec did not take summer students from the town. The town applied for 2 students last year and we got 2. Applications must include a business number and are applied for in different categories such as incorporated, not-for profit, etc. This is what sets the organizations separate from each other.
2. The Events Committee does not plan on doing summer sports activities.
3. 2024 Summer Students. We applied for 3 federal positions and received 2, which are maintenance. We did not apply for a provincial grant this year. If we want to change this from maintenance to working with kids, we will have to seek approval. Also, if we were going to use our students to run a kids program it would be run from Town Hall. We would not have resources to transport kids to the tennis court. We would need a coordinator to run this and in previous years, this did not work well.
4. I have looked at North River Rec schedule online and they are only wanting to use the facilities the following times:

Using Tennis court – Tuesday 2-3:30 (1.5 hrs.); Wednesday 2-5 PM (3 hrs.); Thursday 3:30-5 PM (1.5 hrs.) Total 6 HRS.

Using walking track – Tuesday 5:30 – 6:30 PM; Wednesday 5:30 – 6:30 PM (2 hours)

I see no reason they cannot use our facilities.

5. North River Rec is a non-profit corporation - A non-profit corporation provides a service to its members or the public. Profits received from its activities must be used to further its purpose. They carry insurance as we requested to use town facilities.
6. There are currently 3 companies bearing the "North River" name, with no association with the town council.

The clerk was instructed to contact appropriate Government department and Legal for advice on the matter. As per the response received from both, unless the Town could show that the activities being carried out by the corporation (North River Rec) without necessary permits, there is not likely to be any legal recourse in obtaining a court order to prevent the corporation from its activities.

Considering the new information received, the council agreed to call a special meeting to discuss and address.

Councilor Hall also sent a note in relation to Riverside Road after quotes were presented at the November 7, 2024, meeting. The council motioned to accept the quote from G&J backhoe Services. On November 15 or thereabouts, Riverside Road was paved, which was unknown to most council members. Councilor Hall questioned who authorized Concord to pave that late in the year? Why was all the council not informed? It was her understanding after a phone conversation with mayor hurley that at the time, only prep work would be completed and paving to follow in 2024. Councilor Hall felt that the paving was completed extremely late in the year, and it should not have been completed until the work approved at the November 7th meeting was completed. Councilor Hall suggested council contact Concord and request the area to be re-paved as it has since cracked. Also, the pre-work that was completed was not as per the contract awarded. The proper amount of stone and type was not put down and noted that there are pictures on file prior to payment being laid.

Councilor E. Morrissey also noted she visited the site and confirmed the cracking and expressed the same concerns as councilor Hall.

DM Hurley also visited, noted one crack but felt the paving was fine.

The council agreed there needs to be shouldering work completed.

The council instructed the Clerk to contact Concord and confirm that class B and class A were laid as per the approved quote.

Let's build a great community together.

Town of North River Meeting Minutes May 7, 2024
Town Council Chambers 43 North River Road, North River, NL

New Business:

Motion 2024-2322 – Councilors E Morrissey/Snow

Resolved that the 2022 draft Financial Statements prepared by beacon Accounting be approved.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

Clerk to advertise summer job positions. The council will meet June 4 at 6pm to review resumes before the next meeting.

The clerk presented dates to meet with Anna Myers to discuss the Town Plan. Clerk to go back and ask for a Tuesday-Thursday evening.

The Clerk noted she had received a call regarding the status of the boat launch. The clerk advised that the council was exploring options and would not happen in the near future. Councilor Snow has made contact to investigate next steps. It was previously noted that councilors Hall and Snow would work on approvals prior to committing to anything and that council would hold a public meeting for input before moving forward.

Some garden beds need repairs. Maintenance personnel inspect and report to clerk for repairs.

Councilor Morrissey spoke on the proposed memorial. She is working to locate a parcel of land to house the memorial. John Neville proceeding with fundraiser to assist with memorial costs.

Councilor Newell noted paving repairs needed on Ashford's Lane and noted large rock in roadway that needs to be removed as it protrudes through the pavement. Council to review.

DM Hurley requested that the council obtain a quote from G&J Backhoe Services for grading the town section of Snows Pond Road. The council agreed, quote to be brought forward at the next meeting.

Development Applications:

Motion 2024-2323 – Councilors J Morrissey/Snow

Resolved that the application for development for 284 North River Road – Shed, be approved.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

Motion 2024-2324 – Councilors Snow/ J Morrissey

Resolved that the application for development for 252 North River Road – House, be approved in principle, pending confirmation of location and approval from Service NL.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

Development Applications:

Motion 2024-2325 – Councilors Snow/ E Morrissey

Resolved that the application for development for 308a- Garage, be approved.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

Correspondence for Information:

North River recreation	False information in letter received from Council	Council to discuss at special meeting.
Department of Canadian heritage	Celebrate Canada Funding	File
All Clear Asphalt Maintenance Ltd.	Sweeping/ Line Painting	File
MNL	Infor Note	File
Justin Parsons – Town of Bay Roberts	Community Collaboration Grant	Meet in near future
223-225 North Riber Road	General Maintenance request	Maintenance to address
Royal Canadian legion Branch 32	70 th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet	Motion

Motion 2024-2326 – Councilors J Morrissey/Snow

Let's build a great community together.

Town of North River Meeting Minutes May 7, 2024
Town Council Chambers 43 North River Road, North River, NL

Resolved that council purchase a ½ page advertisement.
All in Favor, Motion Carried

Council noted the town ad in the Bay de Grave Ball booklet was outdated. Council to look at new ad for town sponsors such as the town sign.

Committee Reports

Events Committee – Mother's Day event happening May 11 at full capacity. Committee proposed a Father's Day brunch on June 15 at St. George's Hall from 11am-1pm.

The council agreed that the committee move forward with the event.

The committee also requested use of a couple community garden beds to use for seniors/children garden project and to also use vegetables for future events.

No issues. Clerk to review list for beds and repairs to see what is available.

Bay De Grave – Councilor Snow noted that coverage of Brigus Junction is now in place but will not take from community services.

Joint Council – Didn't have quorum for April. Next meeting May 30, 2024.

Animal Control – Awaiting date to meet to discuss moving forward with Enforcement Officer.

Occupational Health Safety – Nothing to report.

Bills

Clerk to submit a copy of invoices with agenda package.

Motion 2024-2327 – Councilors J Morrissey/E Morrissey

Resolved that council pay bills as presented in the amount of \$51,760.80.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

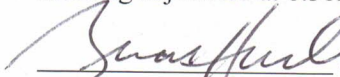
Adjournment

Motion 2024-2328 – Councilors J Morrissey/E Morrissey

Resolved that this meeting of the council be adjourned until the next regular meeting on June 4, 2024, at 7PM.

All in Favor, Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:31P.M.

 Mayor Brian Hurley

 Katie O'Flaherty - Town Clerk

Let's build a great community together.