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**Town Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025
Town Hall**

IN ATTENDANCE:

V. Joan Nolan, Mayor
Gerard Linehan, Deputy Mayor
Don Corrigan, Councillor
Loretta Nash, Councillor
Paula Linehan, Councillor
Brenda Pike, Town Clerk

Three members of the public were present.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: FEBRUARY 11, 2025

Motion #2025-08: Don Corrigan; Loretta Nash

Adopt the Agenda of February 11, 2025.

All in Favor; None Opposed

Motion Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: JANUARY 14, 2025

Motion #2025-09: Loretta Nash; Gerard Linehan

Adopt the Minutes of January 14, 2025.

All in Favor; None Opposed

Motion Carried

4. FINANCE

a. Monthly Financial Report

Motion #2025-10: Gerard Linehan; Loretta Nash

Adopt the financial report for the month ending January 31, 2025.

All in Favor; None Opposed

Motion Carried

The Clerk brought to Council's attention an overpayment to NL Power which will result in a credit from NL Power in February.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a) Reports

i) Town Clerk Report

- The MMSB Application, Paperless Meetings, for the purchase of tablets for Council was not approved.
- Tax bills, along with the winter newsletter, will be mailed this week. Council approved including the handout re Stewardship Committee with the invoices and newsletter. Eugene Upshall also wanted something included about the Wilderness Reserve; however, nothing has been submitted to date.
- Provincial Home Repair Program – NLHC - Eligibility for homeowners with income less than just over \$30,000 to apply for \$5000 grant for home renovations. Council approved posting this information to the town's Facebook page.
- The Clerk received a response from MUN re 911 mapping – there will be a virtual meeting next week (maybe Monday) to discuss this.
- Wear Red Day Proclamation – Feb. 13 – women's heart health – Mayor Nolan signed the proclamation, which the Clerk will post to the Town's Facebook page.
- Mount Carmel Council would like to get together for an official signing of the Mutual Aid Agreement between Fire Depts – possibly Mayors and Fire Chiefs for a photo.
- Road sign – the Clerk asked if there were materials in the shed or whether she needed to obtain a quote on labor and materials. Councillor Linehan will check the shed for materials.

ii) Infrastructure Committee

1. Hazards on Private/Public Property

- a. Council directed the Clerk to send letters to Susan Barron, Bernadette Mahoney and Robert Grace, requesting they check their properties for open wells which could pose a hazard. The Clerk will also include in the newsletter a request to all homeowners to check their properties for any hazards on their property.

2. Roads

- a. Councillor Corrigan brought to Council's attention concerns that Placentia Road hasn't been graded. Property owners have complained because they are paying a fire service fee; however, the Fire Department won't be able to access properties if the road isn't maintained. Anyone with concerns in this regard should be contacting the MHA. Council directed the Clerk to send a letter to the MHA, copied to Minister Hutton, advising of these concerns.

iii) Administration/Human Resources

1. Committees for 2025

- a. Council doesn't see the need for a number of specific committees, based on the size of the Town. Special committees can be put in place, where necessary, when needed. The Infrastructure Committee will remain in place, with Council as a whole for the membership, and Councillors Nash and Corrigan acting as co-Chairs.

2. By-laws

a. Rules of Procedure

Motion #2025-11: Gerard Linehan; Don Corrigan

Council adopts the Rules of Procedure for the Conduct of Meetings, Municipality of Colinet, as presented February 11, 2025.

All in Favor; None Opposed

Motion Carried

b. Property Tax Collection and Arrears

The Clerk has contacted Municipal Affairs requesting any existing regulations pertaining to Property tax collection and arrears. However, she hasn't received a response to date. Council has laid this topic on the table until the March meeting, with the possibility of a special meeting if the information is received prior to that date.

b) Fire Department

i. Firefighter training

With reference to the invitation from Mount Carmel for firefighter training, Fire Chief Linehan advised the Clerk that members of the Colinet-Harricott-North Harbour Volunteer Fire Department have completed this training. The Clerk will notify Mount Carmel.

ii. Funding Applications

Council has been advised by Government that their applications for funding for a used vehicle and firefighting equipment have been received.

c) Grants

i) Active NL – Community Garden

Council suggested that a Special Committee could be put in place to apply for funding and develop a community garden. The Clerk will contact Brian Eason to ask if he would like to be involved as he has shown interest in a community garden in the past.

ii) Fitness Class

Representatives from the public who are members of the Fitness Class requested that Council apply for funding under Active NL to purchase new mats, fitness balls and bands, etc. which are more suited to senior participants.

Motion #2025-12: Loretta Nash; Don Corrigan

Council will apply for funding in the amount of \$1,000 under Active NL, for fitness equipment.

All in Favor; none opposed

Motion Carried

d) Cell Phone Service

Mayor Nolan provided an update on cell phone/911 service. Municipalities NL had scheduled a meeting with federal Minister Hutchings, Colinet, Holyrood and Ferryland Councils; however, due to weather, the meeting will be re-scheduled. Mayor Nolan provided background information to the public members from Council's previous meeting with Bill Murphy, who had been heavily involved in securing cell phone service and 911 Regulations for Nova Scotia. She emphasized the need for reliable cell phone service based on public health and safety, as well as the need for a law requiring that 911 is operational at all times. As an item of interest, the Southern Avalon has only 7 cell towers in comparison to Iqaluit which has 27. Based on population, this seems to be a very unfair ratio. There are many issues under consideration as NL moves forward, especially discovering who makes the decisions around funding and putting cell towers in place, as well as finding and bringing forward solutions. Hopefully, the meeting with Minister Hutchings will be re-scheduled soon.

6. ROUND TABLE

Members of the Fitness Group had enquired about how their funds are spent. As they collect their own funds, it is up to the group how they are spent.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion #2025-13: Gerard Linehan; Don Corrigan

The meeting is adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

All in Favor; None opposed

Motion Carried