

**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019 AT 1:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Mayor George R. Harding, Deputy Mayor Dawn DeMings-Taylor, Councillor Kent Balish, Councillor Dayle Eshelby, Town Clerk/Treasurer – Joyce Young, and Recording Secretary – June Harding

1. Call to order

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Harding at 1:00 p.m.

2. Silence Electronic Devices

All electronic devices were silenced at this time.

3. Approval of Agenda

11-12-19-01

**It was duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.
Motion Passed**

4. Approval of minutes

11-12-19-02

It was duly moved and seconded that the Minutes from the Council Meeting of October 28, 2019 be approved.

Motion Passed

5. Presentations

- ABLE Engineering – Trestle Trail Project Tenders

ABLE Engineering representatives were not in attendance at the meeting however, Joyce received an email from them with a recommendation regarding the Trestle Trail Remediation Project and quoting the prices from the two companies that submitted tenders. The tenders are as follows:

Harlow's Construction - \$501,319.85

Dexter's Construction - \$853,018.25

The recommendation from ABLE Engineering is to cancel the tenders on the Trestle Trail Remediation Project. The tenders that were submitted came in much higher than was anticipated therefore the following motion was made:

11-12-19-03

It was duly moved and seconded that the Tender #TOL2019-068 for the Trestle Trail Remediation Project be cancelled at the present time and that the Town proceed with a Request For Proposal process to determine a more affordable project.

Motion Passed

- *Offsetting plan re: Trestle Trail Remediation Project (Attached as Schedule "A")*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer explained the necessity of an Offsetting Plan to Council. The plan's purpose is to replace any damage done to the ecosystem during the Trestle Trail Remediation Project. It has been determined by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that the Trestle Trail Project will result in alteration to fish habitat and the offsetting plan is required to compensate for the harmful effects. The Town must commit to a project before DFO will provide authorization to complete the Trail project.

The Offsetting Plan consists of installing a culvert at latitude 43.702442 and longitude 65.114322 (PID 80078728), allowing salt water to flow in and out with each tide cycle. The estimated cost of the Offsetting Plan is approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000 and should be funded by utilizing Gas Tax Funds.

Although the Trestle Trail Remediation Project will be put on hold for now, the Town Clerk/Treasurer will continue the process of acquiring authorization from DFO. The completion of the Offsetting Plan will result in habitat compensation credits toward future projects such as the Causeway Project. The following motion was made:

11-12-19-04

It was duly moved and seconded that Council approve the Offsetting Plan presented which will be completed during the future Trestle Trail Remediation project.

Motion Passed

- *Financial Planning Policy (Attached as Schedule "B")*

Paul Wills, Municipal Finance Corporation reviewed the Financial Planning policy with Council and explained the different variables. The following motion was made:

11-12-19-05

It was duly moved and seconded that Council accept the Financial Planning Policy as presented.

Motion Passed

- *Cash Flow Forecasting Policy (Attached as Schedule "C")*

Paul Wills, Municipal Finance Corporation reviewed the Cash Flow Forecasting Policy with Council and advised that Council should be looking at this policy annually in September.

Mr. Wills informed Council that the Municipal Finance Corporation has a high interest savings account available for use by Municipalities. There are no service charges to the Municipalities for use of this account. The following motion was made:

11-12-19-06

It was duly moved and seconded that Council accept the Cash Flow Forecasting Policy as presented.

Motion Passed

- *Cindy Hagen – Shelburne County Mental Health & Wellness Association (Attached as Schedule “D”)*

Ms. Hagen reviewed her presentation regarding the Shelburne County Warm Line. Some of the key points are that the trends for callers seem to be loneliness and isolation. Ms. Hagen explained how the volunteers for the program are well trained to handle any situation but have direct access to forward any callers that appear to be in crisis to the appropriate people.

Council thanked Ms. Hagen for her presentation and she left the meeting.

Robert Redding, CPA for Belliveau, Veinot – Presentation of Draft Consolidated Financial Statements for 2018/2019

Mr. Redding presented the draft Financial Statements to Council and reviewed the key components. The following motion was made:

11-12-19-07

It was duly moved and seconded that Council of the Town of Lockeport accept the Draft 2018/2019 fiscal year-end financial statements as presented.

Motion Passed

6. “Open Mic”

There was no one in attendance for “Open Mic” this afternoon.

7. Finance

- *Annual Municipal Corporation Borrowing Resolution*

11-12-19-08

It was duly moved and seconded that that the Town of Lockeport execute the Municipal Corporation Borrowing Resolution 2019/2020, allowing the Town to borrow for current expenditures until such time as the taxes to be levied can be collected.

Motion Passed

- *List of Invoices already paid in the amount of \$70,686.62*

The list of invoices already paid was reviewed with no questions arising.

8. Other Business

- *Bell Aliant Repair Service*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer reported that a rate payer came in to the office recently complaining about the wait time to have Bell Aliant come to repair his phone. After calling MLA - Kim Masland’s office, MP - Bernadette Jordan’s office and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s office he was told to contact his Municipal office.

The Town Clerk/Treasurer also had trouble recently when trying to make arrangements with Bell Aliant for internet repair service. The following motion was made:

11-12-19-09

It was duly moved and seconded that a letter be sent to Bell Aliant outlining Council's concerns regarding timelines for telephone and internet service calls.

Motion Passed

9. Council Reports

- *Deputy Mayor Dawn DeMings-Taylor*
 - o October 7, 2019 – Meeting with Department of Municipal Affairs (Shelburne)
 - o October 9, 2019 – Shelburne County East RCMP Advisory Board Meeting (Lockeport)
 - o October 15, 2019 – Council Meeting (Lockeport)
 - o October 28, 2019 – Council Meeting (Lockeport)

- *Councillor Kent Balish*
 - o October 7, 2019 - Meeting with Department of Municipal Affairs (Shelburne)
 - o October 9, 2019 - Shelburne County East RCMP Advisory Board Meeting - (Lockeport)
 - o October 15, 2019 – Council Meeting (Lockeport)
 - o October 28, 2019 – Council Meeting (Lockeport)

- *Mayor George R. Harding*
 - o October 1 – Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 1 - Teleconference Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) (Lockeport)
 - o October 3 - Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 7 – Meeting with Department of Municipal Affairs & Housing (Shelburne)
 - o October 8 – Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 8 – NSHA Teleconference (Lockeport)
 - o October 10 – Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 15- Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 15 – NSHA Teleconference (Lockeport)
 - o October 15 – Council Meeting (Lockeport)
 - o October 22 – Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 22 - NSHA Teleconference (Lockeport)
 - o October 24 - Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 28 – Council Meeting (Lockeport)
 - o October 29 – Office Hours (Lockeport)
 - o October 31 – Meeting Re: Roseway Manor (Shelburne)
 - o October 31 – Office Hours (Lockeport)

10. Correspondence

11-12-19-10

It was duly moved and seconded that the correspondence be accepted.

Motion Passed

- *Thank you certificate from the Lockeport Sea Derby Association*

11. Information Only

- *All-Party Committee on the CAP*

Eliminating the CAP in Nova Scotia has been an on-going discussion for some time now, within the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities. Mayor Harding reminded everyone that this Council is not completely familiar with the details of this proposal and he cautioned Council as to answering questions from rate payers.

- *Amendment to the Workers Compensation Act affecting volunteer firefighters*

The Town Clerk/Treasurer advised Council that there is a great deal of research that has to be covered over the next year, before this new Legislation is enacted. The Town of Lockeport currently purchases accident insurance for our Volunteer Fire Fighters and our Volunteer Medical First Responders. There are questions regarding who would be covered by WCB within the new rules. This may, or may not, result in a cost saving to the Town.

12. Date of next meeting

- *Monday, November 25, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.*

13. "In Camera"

- *Personnel Issue*

11-12-19-11

It was duly moved and seconded that the Committee go "In Camera" to discuss a Personnel Issue.

Motion Passed

The Committee returned to Regular session at this time.

14. Adjournment

11-12-19-12

There being no further business to discuss, **it was duly moved and seconded that the Meeting be adjourned. Time 3:46 p.m.**

Motion Passed

**George R. Harding,
Mayor**

**Joyce Young,
Town Clerk/Treasurer**

Regular Council Meetings 2019/2020 111219.min