

**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 27, 2020 VIA CONFERENCE CALL
MINUTES**

Present: Mayor George R. Harding, Deputy Mayor Dawn DeMings-Taylor, Councillor Kent Balish, Councillor Dayle Eshelby, Community Co-Ordinator - Frances Scott, Working Streets Foreman – Kevin Snow and Recording Secretary – June Harding

**Councillor Cory Nickerson joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.
Fire Chief Wayne Chetwynd joined the meeting at 10:30 a.m.**

1. Call to order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mayor Harding.

2. Silence Electronic Devices

All electronic devices not in use for this meeting were silenced.

3. Approval of Agenda

07-27-20-01

It was duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved with the following additions under Other Business – (1) By-Law Notice (2) Draft Minutes of Council Meetings (3) Heat Pumps for the Fire Hall (4) Mandatory Mask Ruling/Town Office Re-Opening.

Motion Passed

4. Approval of minutes

- *July 13, 2020*

07-27-20-02

It was duly moved and seconded that the Minutes from July 13, 2020 be approved.
Motion Passed

5. Department Reports

- *Fire Department Report*

There was nothing to report from the Fire Department today.

- *Public Works Report*

Mayor Harding reported that there are some pot holes that need to be addressed around the Town so he and the Public Works Foreman will meet and discuss the locations of the problem areas.

The Public Works Department has been busy with the new structure being erected at 94 John Street.

- *Community Co-Ordinator Report*

The Community Co-Ordinator reported that the Recreation Committee met on July 20, 2020 and their next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2020. The Committee will be looking for a new student representative after school begins in September.

The Community Co-Ordinator reported that the Friday night concert that was put on by Harmony Bazaar went well with approximately 150 people attending. All Covid-19 protocols were followed. Councillor Balish and Councillor Eshelby both attended this event and commented on how smoothly everything went.

The Community Co-Ordinator stated that if the funding that she has applied for under the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage Active Communities Fund is approved, it is for \$12,000.00. She has not yet heard back on the application.

The application for funding that the Community Co-Ordinator plans to submit an application for through the Nova Scotia Department of Energy & Mines Connect2 Program is for the amount of \$100,000.00.

The Community Co-Ordinator reported that the Public Works Department and the Recreation Department have been working closely together.

The Community Co-Ordinator reported that there has been a second Park Bench placed out at Calf Island Road.

- *Canada Day Committee Report*

- o *Recommended Street Closures for Canada Day Celebrations on Labour Day*

07-27-20-03

It was duly moved and seconded that as recommended by the Canada Day Committee the following street closures be approved for the 2020 Lockeport Canada Day Celebrations on Labour Day:

Monday, September 7, 2020 – Hall Street from Spruce to Beech Streets be closed to vehicular traffic from 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. (Events all Day) When required throughout the day, temporary supervised traffic restrictions may be implemented to accommodate specific events, as detailed below:

Parade Route for Children’s Parade (Line up at 1:30 p.m. and starting at 2:00 p.m.) – Parade entries will line up at the Cenotaph on Hall Street ensuring social distancing from anyone else not in their own small group; from here the parade travels South along Hall Street to Beech Street; turns right and travels west along Beech Street to Howe Street; turns right and travels North Street along Howe Street to the first entry of Surf Lodge; swings left down into the driveway of Surf Lodge and swings back up the driveway to Paradise Street; travels East along Paradise Street to Hall Street; turns right and proceeds South along Hall Street to finish back beside the cenotaph.

Motion Passed

At this time the Community Co-Ordinator reported that the Canada Day Committee held an additional meeting on July 23, 2020 at which time a recommendation was made to hire Paul Randy Mingo and Witchitaw at a cost of \$2500.00 to provide entertainment during the July 1st events planned for September 7, 2020. The following motion was made:

07-27-20-04

It was duly moved and seconded that as recommended by the Canada Day Committee, Paul Randy Mingo and Witchitaw be hired to perform in Lockeport on September 7, 2020 during the scheduled Canada Day events at a cost of \$2500.00.

Motion Passed

After considerable discussion it was decided that the concert attendees should be encouraged to wear a mask to the September 7, 2020 event.

- *Community Works Project Report*

Mayor Harding spoke briefly regarding the shortage of lumber due to the depleted supply of lumber due to Covid-19. All contractors are having the same problem.

- *Administration Report*

There were no questions regarding the Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report.

6. Economic Development

There was nothing for Economic Development today.

7. Finance

- *List of current invoices already paid in the amount of \$19,506.18*

There were questions regarding some of the Nova Scotia Power bills being so high. The Recording Secretary explained that some of the Town owned facilities have a billing period of approximately 8 months which makes the bills appear higher.

8. Other Business

- *By-Law Notice*

At the July 13, 2020 Council Meeting there was a motion passed regarding potential review of the Burning By-Law, the Public Sewer By-Law and the Vending By-Law to be done at the earliest possible time when all guidelines for reviewing By-Laws can be adhered to.

Mayor Harding is concerned that the advertising component may be detrimental to the current Council reviewing these By-Laws.

The Recording Secretary informed Council that there is going to be a new free newspaper (name as yet unknown) being distributed, with the first publication being August 19, 2020. Council found this encouraging and Mayor Harding will research the requirement for Public Meeting for reviewing By-Laws to see if the wheels can be set in motion for the reviews of these three By-Laws as soon as possible.

- *Draft Minutes of Council Meetings*

Mayor Harding discussed the fact that up until Covid-19 it was illegal to hold Council Meetings via conference call and since we have been holding the meetings through conference call because of the pandemic we have been required to post the draft minutes from the meetings on our website within 24 hours of the meeting. Mayor Harding feels that this practice should continue even after we are permitted to hold in person meetings. Council had previously decided to take the month of August off from scheduled Council meetings so the following motion was made:

07-27-20-05

It was duly moved and seconded that starting in September, 2020, once the restrictions ordered by the Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding Covid-19 have been lifted and is deemed to be allowable within the Municipal Government Act . draft minutes from the Council Meetings will continue to be posted on the Town's website within 48 hours after the Meeting is held.

Motion Passed

- *Heat Pumps for the Fire hall*

There was a discussion regarding the need to cut costs of electricity at the Fire Hall by possibly having heat pumps installed. This includes the back hall and the truck bay. The Town Clerk/Treasurer will be asked to research the cost of heat pumps for the Fire Hall and bring the information back to Council.

- *Mandatory masks ruling/Town Office opening to the public*

Council discussed the fact that they have had many inquiries as to why the Town office is still closed to the public so in conjunction with the Government ruling of mandatory masks coming into effect on Friday, July 31, 2020 the following motion was made:

07-27-20-06

It was duly moved and seconded that a plan be devised at the discretion of the Town Office staff to reopen the Town Office. The plan is to be devised by July 31, 2020.

Motion Passed

9. Date of next meeting

- *September 14, 2020 (Time to be determined)*

10. "In Camera"

There was nothing for "In Camera" today.

11. Adjournment

07-27-20-07

**There being no further business to discuss, the Meeting was adjourned.
Time 11:19 a.m.**

Motion Passed

George R. Harding
Mayor

June Harding,
Recording Secretary