Minutes of a regular meeting of the council of the Town of St. George’s, held in the Town Hall, March 3, 2014

**Members Present**

- Mayor: D. Conway
- Deputy Mayor: A. Tobin
- Councillors: F. Alexander, C. Foote, S. Lee, G. Carroll, A. White

**Also Present**

- Town Manager: R. Chant
- Town Clerk: D. Woolridge

**Call to Order**

Mayor Conway call the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Adoption of Minutes:**

**Regular Meeting of February 3, 2014**

**Motion #14 - 24 Tobin/Alexander**

Resolved that minutes of the regular council meeting of February 3, 2014 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

**Business Arising**

A transmission has been ordered for the white truck.

Fire Fighting Services will go ahead for Barachois Brook. A one-year contract will be drawn up.

Mayor Conway and Ray attended a MNL meeting in Deer Lake on March 1. The Town may qualify to avail of a new program to be adopted in the fall to offset taxes lost from Teck Cominco next year.

**Delegations**

Mr. S. Lucas did not attend the meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

**a) Finance**

1) **Motion #14 - 25 Alexander/Foote**

Resolved that general invoices of $12,618.17 be approved for payment. All in favour. Motion carried.

2) **Motion #14 - 26 Alexander/Tobin**

Resolved that Whitestone Development Inc. Contract Payment #7, Jan. 1-31, 2014 - New Fire Hall - in the amount of $112,785.30 be approved for payment. All in favour. Motion carried.

3) **Motion #14 - 27 Lee/Tobin**


**b) Projects**

Motion #14 - 28 Alexander/Foote

Resolved that we transfer $10,082 allocated for ‘Road Improvements’ (Gas Tax) to ‘Building Retrofit.’ All in favour. Motion carried.
c) Fire Department
The new Fire Hall was commissioned last week, with representatives attending from all branches involved along with the mayor, town manager, and members of the Fire Dept. No official date yet for takeover.

d) Stadium
The kids’ program ends this week with a banquet and a tournament is coming up next weekend with eight teams participating.

e) Roads
Residents are upset with the snowclearing this winter. Some of the complaints include seniors’ driveways not being done and roads not cleared early enough. Councillor Foote suggested forming a committee to meet with the staff and have something put in place for next year. Deputy Mayor Tobin, Councillors Lee and Foote will be on the committee and have recommendations for council for the next meeting.

New Business
1) Snowclearing
This item was discussed under Roads.

2) Come Home Year Celebrations
A questionnaire was presented to council from the planning committee requesting contact information to invite former residents of the town to Come Home Year 2015. Three residents were named as members of the committee; they would be responsible to council. Councillor Alexander recommended that council sanction the committee. All agreed. It was requested that one of our summer students work with the committee. A proposed budget will be discussed.

3) Web-site Proposals
Proposals were requested from three companies; two replied. Ray recommended going with Glacier Cove Design Group from St. Anthony at a cost of $4847.95 + HST ($5,478.18) which includes mobile website and Technical Support.

   Motion #14 - 29 Alexander/Tobin

   Resolved to go ahead with Glacier to do a web design. All in favour. Motion carried.

4) Well Investigation
Dan Hynes of Municipal Affairs suggested we get exp. to look into the problems we are having with wells 1 and 3.

   Motion #14 - 30 Alexander/Foote

   Resolved that we entertain exp. to make an investigation and recommend to the Town what the problem is, with the understanding that town management will expedite the request from Municipal Affairs to come onboard with a grant of $30,000 on the 90/10 formula. All in favour. Motion carried.

5) Gabion Wall Warranty
The gabion wall was not installed as indicated on the drawings with a 20 degree angle. exp. had indicated to the contractor that council was in agreement with a warranty stating that, if the gabion moves within five years, it would be replaced or repaired by the contractor. In actual fact, it was not agreed upon because council wanted options - the
was not agreed upon because council wanted options - the warranty only being one of them. Our response was not forwarded to Whitestone by exp. Councillor Alexander suggested we get back to the engineers to find out the cost of the gabion, cost to replace it, and how much we should retain from the contractor. Ray will report back next meeting.

1) A request from a resident for 35 town pins and 35 maps for his daughter who is acting as a teacher-monitor with the Encounters with Canada Program.

Motion #14 - 31 Foote/Alexander

Resolved that we donate the 35 town pins and 35 maps. All in favour. Motion carried.

2) A letter was received from Calvin Roberts, Staff Sergeant with the Bay St. George RCMP outlining the annual community policing priorities.

3) Dean Ball, Western Representative for the Municipal Assessment Agency reporting on the first board meeting of the year on Feb. 7, 2013 and listing the members of the Board of Directors 2014.

4) A quote from Keith A. Penney, Chartered Accountant, for the audit of year ending December 31, 2013.

5) PMA requests a donation toward the 42nd Annual Convention and Trade Show, Apr. 2-4, 2014.

6) A letter from our M.P., Judy Foote, along with an analysis of the municipal infrastructure funding in the Harper government’s released Budget 2014, which cuts vital program funding for municipalities. Ms Foote assures us that she and her colleagues will continue to pressure the Harper government to provide the funding municipalities require for new infrastructure, upgrades and maintenance.

7) Membership Package from MNL including membership cards, a pocket guide for MNL members, revised by-laws, Benefits of Belonging - 2014, Expression of Interest for advisory committees, registration form for Tidy Towns, information for the James Hiscock Memorial Scholarship and the Torngat Municipal Achievement Awards, and our membership certificate.

8) A request from the Bay St. George Sick Children’s Foundation for their 19th Annual Telethon.

Motion #14 - 32 Lee/White

Resolved that we donate $50.00 to the Telethon. All in favour. Motion carried.

9) A letter from Dan Crummell, Minister, Service NL, re Provincial Development Permitting Requirements along protected roads in our province. Public awareness brochures and a poster were included.

10) A request from a resident requesting that the mouth of her driveway not be blocked in as she has to get to physio
three days a week. Council decided that the resident’s name be put on the list for snowclearing for now, while she is doing physio, until it’s determined what to do (with regarding to clearing driveways).

11) A request from a resident to place job site trailers on his property and connect the sewer to existing clean-outs. Council determined it was not a good idea to tap into a clean-out; but they could hook up to the sewer line and pay the connection fee. Council would also like to see a plan indicating the kind of trailers and where they will be placed.

12) A letter was received from Jason King, Executive Director of the Western Regional Waste Management, with regard to them taking over responsibility for the landfill as of March 1, 2014.

Motion #14 - 33 Alexander/White

Resolved that council support the union in keeping the status quo with unionized town employees in the landfill, supervised by the Town and billed to WRWM. All in favour. Motion carried.

Other Business

Discussion followed re union negotiations. The members rejected the offer of 8% over four years. Another meeting will be held in March with Gerard Ward of NAPE, the employees’ negotiating committee, and council members.

Adjournment

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. to meet again on April 7, 2014.

[Signatures]

Mayor

Debra Woodridge

Clerk