



The Town of Fortune

P. O. BOX 159
Temple Street
Fortune, NJ
A0E 1P0

TELEPHONE: (709) 832-2810
FAX: (709) 832-2210

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Council
Of the Town of Fortune, held through
Conference Call on April 6, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Mayor	Charles Penwell
Deputy Mayor	Frazer Smith
Councillors	Levi Curtis Terence Fleming Roy Kendell Patrick Parsons

Also Present:

Chief Administrative Officer	Linda Collier
Town Clerk	Lacey Symes

Additions/Adoption to Agenda:

Mayor Penwell asked for approval of the agenda for the April 6, 2020 Council Meeting.

Motion 2020-04-06-01: DEPUTY MAYOR SMITH/COUNCILLOR CURTIS

Resolved that the Agenda for April 6, 2020 meeting be adopted as presented.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried



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Adoption of Minutes:

Mayor Penwell asked if there were any errors or omissions to the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting held on March 9, 2020 as presented.

Motion 2020-04-06-02: COUNCILLOR KENDELL /DEPUTY MAYOR SMITH

Resolved to adopt the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 9, 2020 as presented.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried

Mayor Penwell asked if there were any errors or omissions to the Minutes from the Emergency Meeting held on March 17, 2020 as presented.

Motion 2020-04-06-03: DEPUTY MAYOR SMITH /COUNCILLOR CURTIS

Resolved to adopt the Minutes of the Emergency Meeting of March 17, 2020 as presented.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. COVID- 19 Human Resources:

The temporary lay- off for Municipal Clerk Mullins, Arena Attendant Tulk & Arena Attendant Simms were previously discussed & motion made via email; however, need to be identified in official minutes.



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Motion 2020-04-06-04: DEPUTY MAYOR SMITH /COUNCILLOR CURTIS

Resolved to lay-off Municipal Clerk Mullins, Arena Attendant Tulk & Arena Attendant Simms due to COVID-19.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried

Normally Arena Attendant/Public Works Tulk would start working in the Public Works Department beginning the first week in May, which would result in him being laid off for approximately one month.

Arena Attendant/Groundskeeper Simms would normally start his Groundskeeper position the first week of May as well.

It was a consensus of Council to wait to discuss when to start the Groundskeeper position under the next Council Meeting.

2. COVID-19 Delay of Interest Charges:

Motion 2020-04-06-05: DEPUTY MAYOR SMITH /COUNCILLOR KENDELL

Resolved to defer interest charges for two months on municipal tax accounts.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried

Council to revisit interest charges matter for deferral beyond two months.

Councillors discussed the option of offering a break on business taxes, because of the position of many Councillors operating their own businesses it was agreed for CAO Collier to get a ruling from Municipal of Environment & Affairs.



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3. COVID-19 Janitorial Services Update- There was previously a suggestion via email regarding temporary suspending janitorial services during COVID-19 as an additional way to reduce exposure to additional individuals at the Town Office. Office Staff are currently sanitizing their workstations routinely.

CAO Collier has since met with the janitor & after discussion with Council it was agreed to get as is for the janitorial services.

4. Water Shut Off Request (after hours- CAO Collier looking for clarification on a motion regarding water shut off requests during after regular hours.

"Motion 2013-01-14-10 Keeping/Smith

Resolved that if the outside workers receive a call to shut off water outside of regular working hours they have to let residents know that there will be a charge of \$90.00 unless it is an emergency"

CAO Collier was looking to clarify whether this motion was still valid or not as it hasn't been in place within the last couple of years.

Council agreed this motion was still valid & suggested sending this information via mass email to advise residents.

5. Public Right of Way- Received concerns from residents on Haddock Road (known as Mavin's Lane) regarding a resident accessing property on Brunette Avenue through Mavin's Lane & in times blocking the lane. The above said residents stated that Mavin's Lane is private property; however, after research Office Staff have found documents showing this property is a public right of way.

Council discussed the matter & agreed for CAO Collier to send a letter advising resident to not block the right of way & Public Works Employees to erect no parking signs in the right of way.

6. Arena - The Grand Bank Rec Hockey team cancelled a practice on March 11th due to goalie issues & inquired whether they would still be required to pay the hourly fee. Town Clerk Symes advised that the Grand Bank Rec Hockey team did give a few days notice & does not normally cancel.

Motion 2020-04-06-06: DEPUTY MAYOR SMITH /COUNCILLOR PARSONS

Resolved to not charge the Grand Bank Rec Hockey team for the cancelled hockey practice in March 11, 2020.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried



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7. Resident Request- Review of Accommodation Invoices- Received a request via email to review invoices/tax structure for certain "unlicensed accommodations" within the Town of Fortune to ensure equal and fair application of taxation and municipal and provincial regulatory laws.

Council previously discussed this matter in an earlier Council Meeting held in February & advised to defer until 2021 budget as there is currently no official ruling from the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding Airbnb properties- CAO Collier to send letter to resident to advise & to also send a copy of the letter to Legendary Coasts as they were the first initial request.

8. Emergency Plan Revisions- Defer

9. Downtown Development Street Routes- Deputy Mayor Smith advised he attended a meeting along with CAO Collier & the Fortune Port Authority regarding the changing of direction of a few streets (ie; Piercey Street & Community Street is now considered a one way street). CAO Collier to bring further information to the next Council Meeting.

10. Eldon Street- Water Issue- CAO Collier advised Council that there is a resident on Eldon Street who is having an issue with excessive flooding in their yard, apparently it has been an issue for years. CAO Collier was wondering if it was a possibility to install a french drain, much similar to the issue with a property on Sunset Crescent.

CAO Collier to ask Public Works Supervisor Caines for suggestions/price quote & bring back to next Council Meeting.

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS:

Motion 2020-04-06-07: COUNCILLOR KENDELL /COUNCILLOR PARSONS

Resolved to approve the financial transactions for March 7- April 3, 2020.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried

PERMITS/EXEMPTIONS/ADJUSTMENTS: NIL

CORRESPONDENCE:

Municipal Assessment Agency COVE-19- For Councillor's Information



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Miles for Smiles Foundation - 2020 Miles for Smiles- VIRTUAL Proclamation Child Abuse Prevention Month-
Councillor's Information, Councillor Curtis will be attending

Motion 2020-04-06-08: COUNCILLOR CURTIS /COUNCILLOR KENDELL

Resolved to proclaim April 2020 Child Abuse Prevention Month.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried

FCM- Income support for Municipal Employees -For Councillor's Information

COUNCILLOR'S FORUM / COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor Penwell- Advised that the Geology Centre will not be hiring any geology students this summer & the Geology Centre itself may not be opening due to COVID-19.

Deputy Mayor Smith- NIL

Councillor Fleming- Contacted Town Clerk Symes earlier last week to advise of several street lights out- Town Clerk Symes had reported them to Newfoundland Power.

Councillor Kendell- Suggested in advising the Public on how to report a street light out. Inquired what is currently happening with the Masonic Hall, CAO Collier advised she had made contact with the Heritage Committee; however, still to date haven't received a reply, CAO Collier will make contact again.

Councillor Parsons - NIL

CAO Collier- Advised Council that Office Staff have restricted going to the mail & bank to once a week. Many residents are paying their municipal taxes through electronic payment & only mailing out receipts when requested.



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ADJOURNMENT / Next Meeting

Motion 2020-04-06-09: COUNCILLOR CURTIS /COUNCILLOR KENDELL

Resolved to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 3:10 p.m., next Council Meeting scheduled for April 20, 2020.

In favour: Mayor Penwell
Deputy Mayor Smith
Councillors: Curtis, Fleming, Kendell & Parsons

Opposed: 0
Motion carried



Mayor Penwell



Lacey Symes- Town Clerk



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AGENDA - Council Meeting
Fortune Town Council Chambers
April 6 2020 @ 2:00 p.m.

Additions/Adoption to Agenda

Adoption of Minutes: March 9, 2020 / March 17, 2020 Emergency Meeting Minutes

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. COVID-19 Human Resources
2. COVID-19 - Delay of Interest Charges
3. COVID-19- Janitorial Services Update
4. Water Shut off Requests (after hours)
5. Public Right of Way
6. Fortune Arena- Grand Bank Rec Hockey Rental
7. Resident Request- Review of Accommodation Invoices (as per previous inquiry from Legendary Coasts)

(If time permits/defer)

8. Emergency Plan Revisions
9. Downtown Development- Street Routes- Defer
10. Eldon Street- Water Issue- Defer

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS: (March 7- April 3, 2020)

PERMITS/EXEMPTIONS/ADJUSTMENTS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

Dated	From	Particulars	Anticipated Action
March 18, 2020	MAA	COVID-19	Councillor's Information
March 30, 2020	Miles for Smiles Foundation	2020 Miles for Smiles Proclamation- Child Abuse Prevention Month VIRTUAL	Request for Proclamation
April 3, 2020	FCM	Income supports for municipal employees	Councillor's Information

COUNCILLOR'S FORUM / COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CAO REPORT

ADJOURNMENT / Next Meeting: