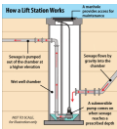




Town Council Meetings: Regular Council meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month and are open to the public. Residents can attend meetings but if you want to make a presentation or address the council you need to be added to the agenda ahead of time. Please call the office a few days in advance to get added. If you have any concerns or requests etc. feel free to put it in writing to be added to the agenda and discussed at the meeting.



Town Taxes: The 2024 property taxes went out in the mail in January. If you did not receive your invoices, please contact the town office. The Mill rate remains the same at 8 mils. Taxes are due June 30th unless you have a payment plan in place. If you don't have a payment plan in place by this date you will be charged 2% interest on all overdue accounts. The early bird discount is being offered again this year and means a 20% discount on all property, water/sewer, and business taxes if your account is paid in full by September 30th. This only applies to taxes for the 2024 year. This does not apply to any taxes owing from previous years. Please feel free to call the office for new totals before doing out cheques or paying online to make sure you pay the correct amount. You can make payments by e-transfer, online banking, cash, cheques or credit/debit cards.



Lift Stations: The town applied for and received funding from Investing in Canada's Infrastructure Program to upgrade three of our lift stations. One in Gargamelle Cove, one by the fish plant and the other on Laver's Drive East. The town's share of the total cost is \$65,702. Work is set to begin this spring.



Sidewalks: The town applied for and received funding from Investing in Canada's Infrastructure Program to extend on our sidewalks. The new sidewalks will continue from the top of the hill coming into town, all the way down Laver's Drive and continue up Point Riche Road and down Farwell Drive. The town's share of the total cost is \$41,277. Hopefully the work will begin this summer.



Daycare: The \$10 a day daycare that is planned for the stadium is still a work in progress. We are still waiting for Service NL to approve the building plans before any work can be completed on the space. In the meantime, a board will need to be formed to oversee the operations of the Daycare. If you would like to join the board, you can call the town office and leave your name. It would be great to have members from the surrounding communities as well.



Affordable Housing: A board has been formed called Port au Choix Affordable Housing Inc and they are working with the town and have put in an application that will, if approved, provide 10 low-income housing units in our town. If anyone else is interested in serving on the board, they can contact the town.



Fire Department SCBAs: The town received funding from the Fire Protection Financial Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$92,196.08 to purchase 6 new SCBA suits and cylinders for the fire department on a cost shared ration of 80/20. The town's share is \$16,721.32 plus hst. The town council has also agreed to purchase 2 extra suits to bring the total to 8 new suits. These will replace some of the outdated ones that the fire dept has now.



Cod Fish Art: The town had previously received some funding to do a cod fish sculpture. We are pleased to say that it is finally completed and will be erected in the beach area in Gargamelle Cove later this spring. More info to follow at a later date.



Streetlights Out: If anyone notices any streetlights that are out or not working properly you can contact the office and we will contact Hydro to get them fixed. Like every other spring there are also many old telephone/internet lines that are hanging low or wrapped around poles. If you see any around your door, please call Bell or Eastlink to let them know. It would be great to get them all removed and cleaned up.



Dump hours: Dump hours are Tuesday – Saturday from 8pm – 5pm. It is closed on Sunday and Monday and every day for lunch from 12 – 1 pm. Regular household garbage fees increased again this year from \$165 to \$185. This fee is paid for by the town and is not an extra cost for residents. There is also no cost for residents to bring household garbage/furniture etc. to the landfill site. There is absolutely no need or excuse to dump garbage anywhere else! The town will also have a clean-up week as in other years. Date to be announced later.



Volunteers Needed: As stated in every other newsletter the town has many volunteer groups/committees that are always in need of extra help. No committee can operate without dedicated members. Some town groups are: The Twin Town Stadium Board, Heritage Committee, Fire Dept, Firettes, Women’s Institute, United Towns Lions Club, Hospitality Committee, Recreation Committee, Boat Lighting Committee, and the GNP Community Place Board. Also, it would be nice to have a Canada Day Committee, and a Community Garden Committee. If you or someone you know would like to join or volunteer with any of these groups, you can contact members of the committee or contact the town and your name will be passed along to the group.



Community Garden: We have 35 beds in our garden plus we have bucket racks. They are assigned every year for a one-year term free of charge. Check out the Facebook page for more info. If you would like to add your name to the list, please call the office. Beds will be assigned in April. You can get the same bed as before if your name is picked again.



ATV Policy: The town developed an ATV policy last year that allows ATVs to operate in town, on town roads. This does not include Fishe Street as this road is not owned by the town. There are strict rules which include having a driver’s license, registration, and insurance, wearing a helmet, speed limits etc. This policy allows ATV riders to use the roads safely and not be charged by the RCMP, but only if the rules are followed. A copy of the policy is posted on the town facebook page and the webpage or a copy can be picked up at the office.



Street Address #s: If you do not already have your civic address # posted on your property somewhere it is a good idea to do so. There are new paramedics and police officers here that do not know all the people in our area or the street addresses that they live on. If you call for help you have to give your civic address and if there are no numbers on your home, it makes it difficult for them to find you.



Contact Information:
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 Information is shared regularly on our Facebook page.