



**Town of Mulgrave  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 18, 2019**

**Present:** Mayor Hadley, Deputy Mayor Snow, Councillor Chisholm, Councilor Russell, Councillor Brophy, and CAO, Darlene Berthier Sampson.

**Regrets: N/A**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Mayor Hadley.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by C’lr Russell and seconded by C’lr Chisolm that the agenda be approved as circulated with the following additions:**

- Potholes
- Martin Marietta
- Floating docks at marina
- Public Works apology

**In camera**

- Town Property

**Motion Carried**

**3. Minutes**

**Moved by C’lr Chisholm and seconded by C’lr Brophy that the minutes of March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 be approved as presented .**

**4. Reports/Presentations**

**a. Epilepsy Awareness**

- Epilepsy (purple ribbon) day is March 26, 2019
- Council wore purple ribbons during council meeting to acknowledge and raise awareness as per request of Executive Director.

**b. Connector Program**

- Presentation from Matt Berrigan from ESREN
- Program is based on a networking model created to retain local talent.
- Connector (Matt) focuses on learning needs of business and pre-screens candidates for appropriateness /match.
- Connector program works with other partners who can assist candidates with things like resume writing. The program also host networking and mixers events
- Program is important because only 20-30% of jobs are posted on line
- Premise of program is built on community working together.
- A lot of success with program in Region (Including here in Mulgrave).

### c. Library

- Presentation made by Executive Director, Laura Emery of Eastern Regional Library upon request of Council. Laura presented circulation stats for Mulgrave library showing steady decline over time. Most users are seniors. She indicated traffic flow to the library was negatively impacted when the recreation coordinator moved out of the space. The Library is at a cross-roads.
- Library funding model is changing: will put more financial responsibility on Municipalities and director acknowledged Towns financial challenges and the need to work with the Town to find a long term plan moving forward. She felt it important to point out the Towns cost is increasing however demand for the service is very low.
- Laura presented 3 options: 1).The Town continues to pay full rent regardless of activity, 2). Support the library on seasonal basis or 3). Pull out all together. Executive director noted that the regional library won't turn anyone away in the off months if a seasonal approach is taken. It was also noted that cutting funding from full time to part time would have no impact on the full time staff who are Regional employees.
- Discussion took place on programming: the library noted there is limited programming as they have tried different approaches with little improvement. Using volunteers for programming was also discussed however the Director noted caution with volunteers doing work that may fall in someone's job scope.
- Council asked if a survey was ever completed. Library says no.
- Also noted that book sale was really missed last year.
- Laura also noted that while circulation is much lower here than Port Hawkesbury, Mulgrave likely has a better selection
- A suggestion was made to complete a survey of what library users want.
- Budget to consider the different options.

### d. Recreation report (March 11, 2019)

- New Horizons- had paramedics in to test sugars, blood pressures etc.  
-55+ games –scheduled for May 16
- Grants- Walkability and CPRA grants (beatification) applied for  
-Facility access report complete.
- Winter-Carnival week and Country music night went well.  
-30 tables booked for fair March 30, 2019  
-Fitness events take place in the gym Mon-Thurs nights and indoor walking at 10am.  
- March break events planned
- Other-Recreation coordinator took leadership development  
-Market /garden club –first meeting is April 4 (7pm)  
-Volunteer of year were Alvina Snow and Betty Skinner to be honored Apr 1 in Halifax  
-Local volunteer wine/cheese on April 11 to recognize all volunteers nominated.  
-School rental rates being worked on .

### e. PW Report

- Department successful in dealing with several water breaks and frozen hydrants in the past few weeks.
- Cold weather also has caused basement flooding: department has helped where possible.
- 120 bags of cold mix asphalt to be used to fix worst pot holes. Only a Band-Aid
- Jack hammer to be requested in capital budget (13K) to reduce back breaking work, OT and wear on equipment.
- All PW staff recertified confined space.

#### f. Water Treatment Report

- Regular water treatment duties completed
- Security system now installed at plant
- VHF radio installed in water truck in case of emergency
- Water analysis results are very good.
- Mechanical seal for booster pump installed and no longer leaking
- PHP-better communication required. Large draws of water result in lost water pressure for Town. Would definitely impact fire-fighting if reservoir tanks and clear wells not filled. Letter to be written to PHP-(Jason Spears/Ken Mitchell) ASAP **(ACTION ITEM)**
- Water treatment manager received 4 year treatment level 2 certificate.

#### g. Waste treatment report

- Regular waste treatment duties completed
- Lift station froze. Heat lamp installed to prevent future freezing
- Omnitech calibrated flow meter at WWTP at no cost (saved Town \$423+tax)
- SBR aspirator line has small leak : to be repaired when weather improves
- WWTP flooded again due to rains/melting snow. Ditching to be done to divert water.

#### h/i. Financial report –General fund and water fund

- General fund showing surplus of \$271,571 year to date (Feb 28) however additional payroll, expenses and accruals to be posted.
- Water fund showing surplus of \$73,466 year to date (Feb28) however additional expenses and depreciation yet to be posted.
- It was also noted that council expenses/ stipend are now posted on line.
- Foot clinic-Charge back fee of \$10 per session to be implemented in May.
- CAO noted extra cost with water breaks/digging in last month but also noted the exceptional efforts of all staff to put in long hours on cold days to remedy.

### **5. Additions to Agenda**

Potholes: Discussion over potholes. Temp fix to with cold mix to begin asap. Section of paving to down at harbor to be measured/priced.

Martin Marietta: Concern expressed over tailings / silt in strait and environmental impact. To call and inquire with management as to status of issue. **(ACTION ITEM)**.

Floating docks: Concern over safety and unsightliness of floating docks. Council member on marina association tried to reach out to president and received no response. Letter to be written **(ACTION ITEM)**

PW apology- Councillor provided an apology to PW dep't for assuming a snow pile was created by them when it was not.

### **6. Gallery (7:35 pm)**

**Backyard farm animals-** Gallery member noted CBRM has now finalized by law on farm animals. Question asked of status of Mulgrave's Bylaw. CAO noted, office will now revisit and work on bylaw and or plebiscite.

**Martin Marietta**-Suggestion from Gallery that DFO in Sherbrook be contacted regarding matter.

**7. In Camera**

**Moved by C’lr Chisholm & sec’d by C’lr Russell that the meeting move into In camera at 7:47 pm**

**Moved by C’lr Russell & sec’d by C’lr Chisolm that the meeting move out of In camera at 8:18 pm**

No decisions made in camera.

**Adjournment**

**Moved by C’lr Russell and sec’d by C’lr Chisholm that the meeting adjourn.**

**Adjournment at 8:20 pm**

**Motion c’rd**

**Minutes approved by:**

**Minutes recorded by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor Ralph Hadley**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CAO Darlene Berthier Sampson**