

A Public Meeting of Council was held at the Town Office on January 28th, 2025, with the following in attendance.

Councillors Present:

Mayor Andrew Shea
Councilor Mark Budden

Deputy Mayor Alexander Crawford
Councilor Damian Roebbotham

Staff:

Daphne Coles, Deputy Town Clerk
Pauline Payne, CAO

Absent:

Councilor David McKenna
Councilor Adam Young
Councilor Lary Roebbotham

1. Call to Order:

- Mayor Shea welcomed everyone viewing the meeting on the ZOOM Platform, the public meeting was called to order at 7:03PM.
- Mayor Shea reviewed the meeting agenda for the public joining in on the ZOOM platform.

2. Agenda:

2025-001

Crawford/D. Roebbotham

Resolved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

3. Delegation - RCMP

- Mayor Shea welcomed Corporal Peter Boland to the meeting on behalf of the Fogo Island RCMP Detachment.
- Corporal Boland provided a brief work history of the 3 members of the detachment now stationed on Fogo Island and provided statistics on case files for 2023 and 2024.
- Topics discussed were:
 - Plans for future enforcement
 - Police presence in the communities and Island events
 - Speeding, ATV use, Impaired driving and drugs
 - Occasionally bringing an unmarked patrol car to the island.
 - Use of Crimestoppers if residents want to report information and remain anonymous. Staff will post information on Town social media.
- Brief discussion on the procedure for fire investigations as per the recent fire in Fogo. Town will contact Fire Inspector for further information on why the property wasn't inspected after the fire to determine the cause.
- Mayor expressed how pleased Council is that Fogo Island did not lose its detachment as was planned last year and that we now have 3 RCMP personnel stationed on the island again.
- Mayor thanked Corporal Boland for attending the meeting and that Council would like to maintain a close relationship with the RCMP. Corporal Boland left the meeting at 7:37pm.

4. Minutes:

2025-002

D. Roebbotham/Budden

Resolved that the minutes of the Regular Public Meeting held on December 17th, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

5. Business Arising

- No business arising from previous meetings.

6. Department Reports

6.1. Economic Development & Special Projects presented by CAO Pauline Payne

A meeting of the Economic Development & Special Projects Committee was held at the Town Office on January 22, 2025, at 6:00PM with the following present: Chairperson, Councilor Adam Young, Councilor Lary Roebbotham, CAO Pauline Payne, with virtual attendance of EDO Cheryl Gardner and Project Coordinator Hillary Vallis.

The following items were discussed:

A. Town of Fogo Island Housing Initiative #4 – Housing Infrastructure Alignment Program

- This initiative aims to find solutions to address the infrastructure gaps for potential housing development. Utilizing green infrastructure will provide allowance to leverage additional funding opportunities.
- Through this initiative we have identified one type of sewer infrastructure technology that is the 'greenest' solution and has the lowest long-term maintenance needs. We are exploring what this technology could look like for an identified housing densification area (as a test project), which will include a feasibility study conducted by Abydoz (the identified environmental engineer).
- To complete this study, we will require the completion of a LiDAR survey from Landmark to determine the terrain details.
- The survey is quoted at \$7,500 + HST and the feasibility study is quoted at \$4,950 + HST. Both of which are fundable through the HAF program.

2025-003

Crawford/Budden

Resolved that Council approve the use of the Housing Accelerator Fund to proceed with the LiDAR survey and feasibility study for a constructed wetland system, totaling the amount of \$14,317.5 (HST included).

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

6.2. Recreation & Tourism presented by Deputy Mayor Crawford

A meeting of the Recreation and Tourism Committee was held at the Town Office on Tuesday, January 21st at 1:30pm. In attendance were Chairperson, Deputy Mayor Alexander Crawford, Councilor Adam Young, CAO Pauline Payne, Director of Recreation and Tourism, Colette Wells – Coish.

The following items were discussed:

A. Recreation

- Experienced serious mechanical issues in the refrigeration plant with our large 50hp compressor. On January 8th we discovered the motor was not working properly and needed to go off island for repairs and repairs needed in the electrical panel caused further issues.
- Fogo Island Central Academy is offering an 8-week skating program for kids K- 6 starting on February 7th. It is sponsored through the 'Remembering Robbie' initiative. A public post has been prepared asking the community to recycle and reuse skates and helmets. All skates and helmets will be FREE, and we will also sharpen the skates for them for free.
- The Town has received \$1,000.00 funding through Immigration Population Growth and Skills in support of a Multiculturalism celebration of food and friendship. The Town will partner with the Fogo Lions Club and community volunteers to host this event. It is scheduled for Saturday February 8th,

2025. Any funds raised from the event will be shared between the Community Food Sharing Program, and Fogo Island Central Academy.

- IV. The school is purchasing a new stage and has asked if the Town is interested in the stage they currently have.

2025-004

Crawford/D. Roebbotham

Resolved that Council approve donating to Fogo Island Central Academy for the concert stage the school is removing to replace the wooden stage in the stadium; it meets safety requirements and can be assembled and removed more efficiently.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

2025-005

Crawford/D. Roebbotham

Resolved that Council approve donating \$500.00 to Fogo Island Central Academy for the concert stage.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

- V. Applications have been submitted for the following summer projects.

- a) Canada Summer Jobs- Federal Government Funding
- b) Young Canada Works – Federal Government Funding

- VI. This week government announced several funding opportunities in support of this year being the “Year of Sport.” We will wait for specific dates, review each opportunity, and apply accordingly.

- VII. The Annual Iceberg Cup - Men’s Hockey Tournament is scheduled for February 7 – 8, 2025.

B. Tourism

- I. The Brimstone Cultural and Heritage Society are applying for funding under the National Trust for Canada – “The Next Great Save” to complete roof repairs at the Bleak house Museum.
- II. We are discussing our tourism season for 2025 and reviewing plans and goals. We will be reviewing our sites and making plans. We are reviewing our Town App and encourage all registered businesses to add any current information, photos, or phrases to help visitors and locals.

C. Other:

- I. February 17 -23, 2025 is National Heritage Week, and the third Monday, February 17th is National Heritage Day. Heritage NL is challenging all municipalities to sign a proclamation and highlight their heritage sites. We will prepare a post and celebrate our heritage sites.

6.3. Planning & Public Works/Enforcement & Permitting

- No meeting was held for January.

6.4. Fire Services presented by Councilor Budden

A meeting of the Fire Services Committee was held on January 27th at 6:30 pm at the Town Office. In attendance: Councilor Mark Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham as alternate, Acting Station Chiefs Paul Torraville, Bobby Parsons, and Dion Harnett, along with CAO Pauline Payne and Enforcement Permitting Officer, Germaine Morgan. Missing from meeting was Chairperson Councilor David McKenna.

The following items were discussed:

A. Fire Calls Update

- I. All stations participated in a House Fire
- II. 4 Chimney Fires

B. Training Update

- I. All stations are committed to once-a-month training on the new pumper as well as training on the other trucks, therefore Bobby Parsons developed a schedule for truck & driver training to begin in February.

C. Items for discussion:

- I. Tower Light – Electrical assessment to be completed by Town Staff and Electrician.
- II. Funding available – Each station to provide the CAO with a list of PPE Equipment required and we will obtain quotes to apply to have all PPE covered under new funding program 90/10.
- III. CAO was advised to schedule Cold Water Training with the boat.
- IV. CAO was asked to get more information on pricing for a washer & dryer that meets regulations for fire gear.
- V. Inspections were completed on all Fire Trucks, 1 passed inspection – Quotes for Repairs total \$9,590.86 in total.

2025-006

Budden/Crawford

Resolved to move forward with the repairs to the Fire Trucks by Central Technical Services at a total cost of \$9590.86.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

- VI. The CAO was asked to have an assessment completed at Station 3 for the Garage Door and to replace and boost ceiling support. Inspections have been carried out, awaiting a list of materials.
- VII. Fire Chiefs are asking for a meeting of all Emergency Services coordinators on Fogo Island with representatives from RCMP, Ambulance, and Rangers to better understand roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

2025-007

Budden/D. Roebbotham

Resolved that Council approve that the CAO organize a meeting of Emergency Services on Fogo Island and to invite Fire Protection Officer Chris Foster to attend on behalf of Fire Services Division of the Dept. of Justice and Public Safety.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

D. Round Table:

- I. Station 1 needs rain gutters installed along the front of the building above the garage doors.
- II. Six new radios requested, 2 per station.
- III. Air brake testing required for all stations to have more drivers.

6.5. Finance and Administration

- Finance and Administration Committee did not meet in January.

The following items are for Council discussion:

I. Approval to Pay Invoices

2025-008

Crawford/Budden

Resolved that Council approve payment of Invoice #FB49218 to Allnorth in the amount of \$26,019.30 plus HST for professional services for MCW Project #17-GI-24-00063 - Fogo Road Upgrade.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

II. Approval to Award Bid – 2013 Sierra 4WD Pickup,

- a) Town posted a public call for bids, pickup sold “As Is, Where Is” condition.

b) 2 bids were received.

2025-009

Crawford/Budden

Resolved that Council award the bid for the 2013 Sierra 4WD Pickup to the highest Bidder, Sheldon Hoffe in the amount of \$300.00.

Resolution Carried. In favour – 4. Mayor Shea, Deputy Mayor Crawford, Councilor Budden, Councilor Damian Roebbotham. Against - 0.

7. Correspondence

7.1 Department of Provincial & Municipal Affairs – Towns and Local Service District Act

- Effective January 1st, 2025 the Municipalities Act, 1999 will be replaced by the Towns and Local Service District Act.

7.2 Department of Municipal & Provincial Affairs – Tourism Accommodations Tax

- Under the new Towns and Local Service District Act, towns are permitted to charge a tourist accommodation tax. Before this new tax can be implemented, the Town must first pass a by-law in accordance with Section 129 of the Towns and Local Service District Act.
- Funds collected from this tax must be used to develop tourism within the town and towns are limited to charging a maximum of 4% of the daily rate, and only 12% of the revenue can be used to support the collection of the tax.

7.3 Municipal Assessment Agency Update

- The Board of Directors for the Municipal Assessment Agency met in St. John's on December 5th, 2024. Some of the following items were discussed:
 - Financial Statements & Accounts Receivable Report as of September 30th, 2024.
 - Reviewed the key components and results of the Agency's Summer Wellness Initiative.
 - Results of a Customer Service Survey that was mailed out to 430 residential property owners regarding 2025 property assessment notices.
 - Clar Simmons Memorial Scholarship Awards.

8. New Business

8.1 Update on Repairs to MV Veteran

- Repairs to the vessel are expected to be completed by the end of February. No update on whether the MV Veteran will be servicing Fogo Island or Bell Island.

9. Date of Next Regular Meeting:

- Public Council Meeting – February 25th, 2025 @ 7:00pm.

10. Adjournment:

2025-010

D. Roebbotham/ Crawford

Resolved the public council meeting of January 28, 2025, be adjourned at 8:17PM.

Pauline Payne
Chief Administrative Officer

Andrew Shea
Mayor

