

ST. JOHN'S

Minutes of Regional Fire Services Committee

October 23, 2019

12:00 p.m.

Conference Room A, 4th Floor City Hall

Present: Wally Collins, Representative CSJ - Co-Chair
Bill Antle, Representative - City of Mount Pearl - Co-Chair
Cassie Pittman, Representative City of Mount Pearl
Dan Bobbett, Mayor Town of Paradise
Sherry Colford, Director of Regional Fire Services/Chief
Kevin Breen, City Manager - CSJ
Derek Coffey, DCM Financial Management, CSJ
Kris Connors, Manager of Budgetary Services - CSJ
Lisa Niblock, CEO, Town of Paradise

Regrets: Lynnnann Winsor, DCM Public Works - City of St. John's
Danny Breen, Mayor - City of St. John's
David Day, Manager of Emergency Preparedness

Staff: Maureen Harvey, Legislative Assistant - CSJ

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3.1 Adoption of Agenda - October 23, 2019

Resolution

Moved By Wally Collins

Seconded By Dan Bobbett

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Adoption of Minutes - July 17, 2019

Resolution

Moved By Dan Bobbett

Seconded By Wally Collins

That the minutes of the meeting held July 17, 2019 be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Information Note Dated October 16, 2019 re: 2019 Financial Update and 2020 Fee Projections for St. John's Regional Fire Services

The Committee reviewed the information note and supporting attachments. Some members expressed concern that in 2020 another lump-sum pension payment is budgeted while it was their understanding this was to be done in 2019 only. The concern is that their respective Councils were not advised of this requirement which will result in an additional expense of approximately \$200K.

Discussion also took place on the matter of excessive overtime with staff asserting it is mandatory to replace staff. The analysis of hiring additional permanent staff to replace fire fighters is continually taking place with members being reminded that the expense may be substantially higher to recruit permanent staff for such leave.

It was agreed that member municipalities be provided with a more concise document that can be presented to their respective Councils. The Committee had no other suggestions, comments or questions.

6.2 Information Note dated October 17, 2019 re: 125th Anniversary of St. John's Fire Department

Ms. Colford presented an information note identifying potential events and activities (open houses, parade etc.) that are being considered for celebration of the SJRFD 125th anniversary. A committee is being formed

to begin planning for an event which will take place in the summer of 2020. Committee members were encouraged to bring forth suggestions for consideration.

6.3 Meeting schedule

The Committee agreed that there should be a quarterly meeting schedule. If the agenda contains only information and does not require discussion, the meeting will be cancelled and information will be forwarded to members by email. Legislative Services will book the meetings for 2020.

6.4 Old West End Station

Members were informed that an RFP for the de-commissioning of the former West End Fire Station will be issued in the near future.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm

Wally Collins/Bill Antle - Co-Chairs