

Town of St. George's
Privileged Meeting of Council

Minutes of a privileged meeting of council
held in the Town Hall, March 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present

Mayor	D. Conway
Deputy Mayor	T. Messervey
Councillor	C. White
	R. Blanchard

Also Present


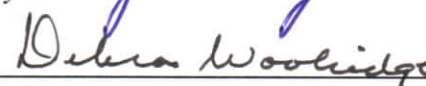
Town Clerk	D. Woolridge
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Joe McGrath, John Doyle, Paul Curran, John Doody, and Vanessa Newman from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Small Craft Harbours Divestiture Program

Purpose

The purpose of the meeting was for the representatives above to meet with council to provide a brief history of the Small Craft Harbours Divestiture Program to the new members and an overview of the presentation prepared for the public meeting scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the RecPlex.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. and all present proceeded to the RecPlex to meet with the general public.

 _____ Mayor	 _____ Clerk
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Public Meeting
March 26, 2018 at 7:30 p.m., held in the RecPlex

Approximately 40 residents were in attendance along with 5 council members and the town clerk.

The purpose of the presentation was to 1) provide an overview of the Small Craft Harbours Divestiture Program and 2) determine whether the transfer of the wharf site in St. George's is of interest to the local community and, assuming so, discuss the next steps.

Mr. McGrath explained that the Federal Budget 2018 proposes to provide \$250 million over two years to Fisheries and Oceans Canada to divest recreational harbours by either conducting necessary repairs/upgrades and transferring ownership to interested third parties, or removing infrastructure and restoring the site to its pre-existing condition. Once transferred the recipient assumes full control/responsibility /liability and must maintain public access for a minimum of 5 years. Afterwards, the recipient can sell/transfer the property. Approximate cost for the contract for the St. George's project would be \$1.5 million in addition to \$2-300,000 for permits, etc.

Many residents voiced the opinion that the infrastructure should be put in Seal Rocks, which was not an option as Fisheries and Oceans does not own property in Seal Rocks - just the government wharf.

Approximately 85% of those present were in favour when Mayor Conway called for a show of hands for or against. A committee will be set up consisting of one member of council and five members of the community to submit ideas for the program. Those interested should contact the Town Office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.