

MEETING #557

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD VIRTUALLY VIA TEAMS

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor: Barry Manuel
Deputy Mayor: Mike Browne
Councillors: Amy Coady, Holly Dwyer, Bob Hiscock,
Andrew Little, Dave Noel
Staff: Darren Finn, Chief Administrative Officer
Nelson Chatman, Director of Public Works and
Development
Keith Antle, Director of Community Services
Steve Gosse, Director of Corporate Services\Town
Clerk
Robyn Hannaford, Communications Officer

Prior to the meeting the Mayor read a Proclamation he signed for Purple Day for Epilepsy – March 26th.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #556 of March 8th, 2022.

Motion

Little\Coady

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #556 of March 8th, 2022 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Dwyer presented the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$2,523,122.06.

Motion

Dwyer\Hiscock

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$2,523,122.06 would be received as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Services

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Civic Awards

The Committee discussed the criteria for the 2022 Civic Awards to revise the nomination process to allow more citizens to be nominated.

The Committee recommends staff finalize the nomination forms and have them ready to send out to the public for Friday, March 25th in ample time for the Awards Ceremony which is scheduled for May 5th, 2022.

Salmon Festival

The Director presented the Committee with a final draft for the 2022 Kelly Ford Exploits Valley Salmon Festival.

The Committee recommends the schedule be approved as presented and to have an official announcement for the Festival in the Council Chambers during the week of March 27th to April 2nd.

Aquaculture Event

The Director presented the Committee with the plans for an Aquaculture Career Event scheduled for May 18th. Plans are to have the Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association (NAIA), industry suppliers, industry operators, youth from Exploits Valley High School and the general public attend the event.

The Committee recommends staff finalize the planning for this event.

EXCITE Building

The Director updated the Committee on the status of the request from Central Health to utilize rental space at the EXCITE Building.

The Committee recommends staff continue to work with Central Health to utilize this rental space for health innovation.

Graduated Assistance Grant

The Director presented the Committee with an opportunity to hire a recently graduated student through the Graduated Assistance Funding Grant.

The Committee recommends the Director get more details on the program and report back to the Committee.

Memorial Banners

Councillor Hiscock informed the Committee of a meeting he and Deputy Mayor Browne had with members of the Royal Canadian Legion looking for the Town's support with installation of memorial banners on the Town's light poles on High Street.

The Committee recommends Deputy Mayor Browne gather more information on the request and report back to the Committee at a future meeting.

Fill It Up with Food

The Mayor informed the Committee of the plans so far for the "Fill It Up with Food" initiative this year. The plan is to have several special events besides the regular food drop off at the Town Hall.

The Committee recommends staff continue working on the detailed plans and report back to the Committee with all the final arrangements.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Dwyer

Be it resolved that these recommendations and report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councillor Little just wanted to clarify that the Minutes read that the Civic Awards were revised to allow more citizens to be nominated which is misleading, because it is revised to make sure that people who have contributed a great deal to our Town are recognized.

Mayor Manuel noted the deadline for the Civic Awards is April 8th, and for anyone that wants more information on the Awards or who knows a deserving citizen that they wish to nominate all the information is on the Town's website.

Councillor Dwyer explained some of the Civic Awards was changed this year more to expand it to allow for citizens who are deserving, but perhaps have not contributed within the last twelve (12) months. So, we have added a Civic Award which would be a Lifetime Achievement Award related to arts, music, athletic, business, heritage or a combination. She encourages anyone to nominate a deserving person, group or organization, and the deadline is April 8th at 12:00 P.M. with further information on the Town website and Facebook page. She also noted that this will be one of the first community get togethers since COVID started, and we are really looking forward to it.

Councillor Hiscock stated the Memorial Banners Program is now being offered through the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 12 in Grand Falls-Windsor, and residents are welcome to look at the new banners and learn about what they mean. Residents will also be able to have a banner put up in memory of a loved one that served in any war or who is still serving their country.

Deputy Mayor Browne advised all the plans are made for this year's Salmon Festival, and there will be a press conference on Tuesday, April 5th for residents releasing all the details of the Festival.

Mayor Manuel advised the "Fill It Up with Food" program will be starting up again in April, so he recommended residents check in on our Facebook page and website to find out how you can help support this initiative. We are hoping this year will be the biggest gathering of food and donations ever to help the Food Bank because as we know there is always someone in need.

Public Works and Development (1 of 2)

Councillor Noel was excused from the meeting at this time due to a perceived conflict of interest.

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady.

2022 Paving Program

The Committee reviewed the proposed 2022 Paving Program that is recommended by staff. The total program has a total investment of approximately \$2 million. The recommendations are based on a priority basis for consideration. The Director of Public Works and Development has recommended some of the streets be completed under the Gas Tax Program, while the remainder be done under the Multi-Year Capital Works Program. The Director also noted that construction costs are also expected to rise in 2022 due to higher fuel and material costs.

The Committee recommends the proposed streets be approved and for staff to identify some of the large paving sections to be covered under Gas Tax and prepare a Resolution for the next public Council meeting in order to make the necessary application to the Gas Tax Secretariat.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady\Hiscock

Be it resolved that these recommendations and report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councillor Noel returned to meeting at this time.

Public Works and Development (2 of 2)

The following report was also presented by Councillor Coady.

Capital Projects

The Committee reviewed a summary of Capitals Projects over recent years. The Town has invested approximately \$66.3 million since 2014 including a projected \$11.3 million for 2022. This is an average Capital Investment of nearly \$7.5 million per year for the last nine (9) years. A significant portion of this investment was the upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the construction of the new UV Building to meet the Federal and Provincial Guidelines for wastewater treatment. These numbers do not include additional Gas Tax Investments in other projects. Overall, 34% of the funds have been invested in

roads; 43.9% in water and sewer upgrades; 8.7% in recreation facilities and 13.3% in other buildings.

In addition to completing the Wastewater Treatment Facility upgrades and construction of the UV Building, some other planned projects in 2022 are the annual Paving Program; upgrades to a section of Circular Road waterline; upgrades to Bank Road waterline; new salt shed at the Public Works Depot; and exterior renovations to the Public Works Depot and Fire Hall.

COVID-19 Stimulus Program

The Committee reviewed a final report on the COVID-19 Stimulus Program on five (5) projects that were completed. The Town had been approved for \$150,000 in funding under the Program. The projects included:-

- 1) Windsor Stadium Exhaust Fans that were installed to ensure removal of carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide gases from the Stadium. Total cost was \$110,854.
- 2) Upgrade the main entrance door at the Town Hall to meet accessibility standards. Total cost was \$18,458.
- 3) Replacement of lighting at the Water Treatment Plant. Total cost was \$2,300.
- 4) Installation of lifting frames at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. Total cost was \$12,423.
- 5) Additional excavation and sign installation at the new sliding hill. Total cost was \$8,932.

Exploits River Geodesics Domes

The Committee reviewed a notification that was sent to the Town regarding a project on the Exploits River. This proposed undertaking for the Geodesic Domes has been registered with Department of Environment and Climate Change in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act. The Town has been asked to review the undertaking and to forward any comments and/or concerns to the Minister by March 31st, 2022.

The Committee recommends supporting the proposed undertaking as it would be beneficial for the region. There are no direct concerns as the development is outside the Town boundaries.

Newfoundland Power – Transmission Line Decommissioning

The Committee reviewed correspondence from Newfoundland Power on the decommissioning of the Transmission Line from the Grand Falls-Windsor Substation to the Rattling Brook Substation. There is a total of 32.5km of line of which 7.3km are within the Town boundary. Newfoundland Power has noted that recent upgrades in other areas, and due to its current deteriorated condition, this line is no longer required.

The Committee recommends staff follow up with Newfoundland Power to ensure there is no negative effect on the power grid for the Town. In addition, inquire on the need for existing easements associated with this line as it may help eliminate obstacles in future land developments.

Water Issues

The Committee discussed some concerns of discoloration of water in various areas of Town. The Director of Public Works and Development informed the Committee that all calls are recorded and are investigated. In addition, key staff members are having regular meetings to address concerns. The Public Works Department plans on commencing an early flushing program and addressing several dead-end sections in 2022.

The Committee recommends staff continue to investigate any concerns and to increase regular periodic flushing in localized areas that experience more frequent issues. The Committee also recommends all residents to report any concerns to Public Works at 489-0420 or at 489-0430 after hours. Residents can also obtain a water sample for Public Works for further analysis by staff.

Public Works and Development Policies

The Committee reviewed proposed updates to the Public Works and Development's Sewer Blockages Policy and Sewer Flushing Inspection Policy.

The Committee is satisfied with the changes and recommends it be referred to the Corporate Services Committee meeting for further discussion.

Garbage Regulations

The Committee was updated on the compliance of the new Garbage Regulations that came into effect in January 2022. There are still several households that are not in full compliance and enforcement of this Regulation continues. All garbage and recycling must be in clear white and blue bags respectively and must be placed in a proper garbage bin with a secured lid. Multiple bags can be placed in one container and may be a combination of garbage and recycling bags. The updated Regulations can be found on the Town's website at www.grandfallswindsor.com.

The Committee recommends staff continue to address violations and recommends further education to residents to help clarify any misconceptions. In addition, the Committee recommends all residents review the Regulations online or reach out to the Public Works Department at 489-0420 if they have questions. The Committee would also like to thank all residents who have been complying with the Regulations.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady\Browne

Be it resolved that these recommendations and report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councillor Little noted he and many other members of Council and staff have been getting messages lately regarding the water issues in Town, and it is a matter that they take very seriously. It is extremely important that residents let the Public Works Department know if they are having discoloured water frequently, because they cannot address the issue unless they know about it. Residents should not feel bad for calling in to advise that their water is dirty, because they play a crucial part in getting the matter fixed. If you have issues, please call 489-0420, so we can remedy that problem you are having which may also be affecting your neighbours.

Councillor Coady agrees that calling in with a dirty water issue is not complaining, it is informing, and we cannot do any corrections, trending or forecasting if we do not know how frequently these issues are happening. The geodesic dome are glamorous tents in the shape of domes decorated like a hotel room for an elevated experience, and she is really looking forward to the construction of them as they will be a wonderful addition to the Exploits River area. Lastly, she advised residents that they will be receiving a three (3) fold flyer

called Grand Falls-Windsor Guide to Waste Collection, the Saturday Drop-Off Schedule is in there and a list of what items are accepted at the Drop-Off, frequently asked questions, recycling, how garbage is collected in our split stream trucks and information on how to sort your items for the clear bags or blue bags.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Coady. Councillor Noel was not included in the vote due to a perceived conflict of interest.

Resolution GF-W 2022-340

Revised Capital Investment Plan

WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor qualifies for funding under the Provincial Gas Tax Agreement;

WHEREAS: all spending under this Agreement must be approved through submission of a Gas Tax Capital Investment Plan;

AND WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor has a funding surplus under the Gas Tax Capital Investment Plan of \$760,878.69;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor approves amending the funding under the Gas Tax Capital Investment Plan for the following new projects:-

1) Water and Sewer Engineering Design	\$200,000
2) Smoke Testing for Sanitary Sewer System	\$ 19,554
3) Grenfell Heights Paving	\$353,580
4) Cromer Avenue Paving	\$126,473
5) Lincoln Road Paving	\$125,636

The available funding for the following four (4) projects shall be adjusted to:-

1) 99-2019-6737 – Purchase Water CAD and SewerCAD	\$ 19,164.35
2) 99-2019-6734 – Review of Municipal Development Regulations	\$ 31,023.96
3) 99-2020-7028 - Sanitary Sewer Camera	\$ 86,177.78
4) 99-2021-7329 – Scott Avenue Rehabilitation	\$443,003.18

Motion
Coady\Browne

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2022-340 be accepted as circulated.
This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The following Tender Summary was presented by Councillor Coady:-

Consultant Fee Proposal Summary

Circular Road Area Water, Storm and Sanitary Sewer Upgrades

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>Amount (Part A)</u>	<u>Amount (Part B)</u>	<u>HST</u>	<u>Total</u>
CBCL Limited	\$158,810.00	\$123,480.00	\$42,343.50	\$324,633.50
Englobe Corp.	\$ 85,877.00	\$ 23,043.00	\$16,338.00	\$125,258.00
DMG Consulting Ltd.	\$71,476.74	\$ 19,367.50	\$13,626.64	\$104,470.88

Tender Award

Lowest Acceptable Bid	DMG Consulting Ltd.	\$ 90,844.24
HST		<u>\$ 13,626.64</u>
Total		\$104,470.88
Rebate		<u>\$ 9,733.05</u>
Net		<u>\$ 94,737.82</u>
Budget		\$121,692.58
Variance		<u>\$ (26,954.76)</u>

Motion
Coady\Hiscock

Be it resolved that the Tender Summary for Circular Road Area Water, Storm and Sanitary Sewer Upgrades would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Corporate Services (1 of 2)

Deputy Mayor Browne was excused from the meeting at this time due to a perceived conflict of interest.

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Grand Falls Golf Club

Mr. Doug Evans, President of the Grand Falls Golf Club Executive, joined the meeting to present a plan for upcoming projects at the Golf Club. The Golf Club appreciates the support of the Town in past years and looks forward to continuing this relationship.

The Committee recommends that staff work with the Golf Club Executive to finalize the projects that requires funding from the Town and discuss at a future Committee meeting.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Noel

Be it resolved that this recommendation and report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Deputy Mayor Browne returned to the meeting at this time.

Corporate Services (2 of 2)

The following report was also presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week ten (10). Total labour was \$587,762. This was \$48,912 (7.7%) under budget.

The Committee is pleased with the early results of the labour budget and recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs moving forward.

Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$2,523,122.06 and recommends this be presented at the next Council Meeting.

Taxation Receivable Analysis Report

The Committee reviewed the taxation analysis for February 2022. The report analyzes the receivable balances, along with the amounts collected during the month. Total taxation receivable as of February 28th, 2022 was \$16,480,856 (\$17,660,272 – 2021) – decrease of \$1,179,416 (6.68%) from the previous year. Total amount of taxes collected in February 2022 was \$1,525,560.

The Committee is pleased with the February results and recommends that staff remain vigilant in collecting all outstanding balances. A reminder that the deadline to pay outstanding taxes without interest is Thursday, March 31st. Residents can also avoid interest by signing up for a pre-authorized payment plan by contacting the Corporate Services Department at 489-0402, 489-0403 or 489-0404.

Municipal Assessment Agency Online Training Modules

The Director shared information regarding online training modules offered by the Municipal Assessment Agency for elected officials and staff.

The Committee recommends all members of Council and relevant staff take part in these training modules to become more familiar with how the assessment process works.

Sewer Blockage and Sewer Flushing\Inspection Policies

The Committee reviewed changes to Policies PWD-7 Sewer Blockage and PWD-8 Sewer Flushing\Inspection and recommend these changes be accepted as presented.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Browne

Be it resolved that these recommendations and report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councillor Noel asked a question for a resident. With the pre-authorized payments, would that include twelve (12) postdated cheques and would they still be eligible for the early payment benefit.

The Director of Corporate Services\Town Clerk advised that we prefer that residents set up for pre-authorized payments through our program and a banking institution, but we also accept post-dated cheques, and they would still be eligible for any discounts that they are eligible for.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Dwyer:-

Resolution GF-W 2022-339

Land Sales

WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor owns various parcels of real or personal property; and

WHEREAS: the Town is required to follow Section 201 of the Municipalities Act of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, that refers to the sale, lease or disposal of real or personal property; and

WHEREAS: the Town deems it necessary to sell, lease or dispose of real or personal property in the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor at various times.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that Council will give Public Notice of its intention to sell, lease or dispose of real or personal property as per Section 201 of the Municipalities Act of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Motion

Dwyer\Browne

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2022-339 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Crown Land Application

The Committee had a meeting with Mr. Jamie Marshall regarding a previous Council rejection of a Crown Lands application for land that is behind 264 Grenfell Heights and land that he planned to use for agriculture purposes. As well, the Committee discussed concerns with respect to the Residential Land Sale Policy.

Mr. Marshall was excused from the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

The Committee recommends no further actions.

Central Newfoundland Waste Management

The Committee discussed Council representation on the Central Newfoundland Waste Management Board. This appointment is held by Councillor Noel. Board meetings are monthly, and during the afternoon when he is normally working; therefore, it is difficult for him to attend meetings.

The Committee recommends that Councillor Bob Hiscock be recommended for appointment to the Central Newfoundland Waste Management Board of Directors and thanks Councillor Noel for his participation to-date.

2022 Municipalities NL Symposium

The 2022 MNL Symposium is rescheduled for May 5th-7th in the Town of Gander.

The Committee recommends that all Councillors consider attending, and if interested, to contact the Chief Administrative Office to assist with registration.

Regional Economic Development Proposal from CBDC

The Committee discussed a proposal given to all communities in the Exploits Region from the CBDC. The proposal would result in the formation of a Regional Economic Agreement among all communities in the Exploits Region under the umbrella of the CBDC. This new CBDC service would offer Regional

Economic Development services for all communities of the Exploits Region. The towns of the region would support the expenses on a per capita basis.

The Committee recommends general support for the initiative, but request that staff get more information before proceeding.

Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce – 70th Anniversary

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce whereby they are producing a special anniversary publication to recognize their milestone year.

The Committee recommends that Council purchase a full-page ad in the publication.

Claims Policy

The Committee reviewed a new drafted policy that outlines the Town's practice and obligations with respect to citizens making claims of damage against the Town.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to make revisions based on Committee feedback and refer the discussions to the next Corporate Services Committee meeting.

Manager of Public Works

The Committee recommends that the Manager of Public Works position be changed to a forty (40) hours-per-week position to align better with the working hours of subordinate staff.

GF-W Health Accord Coalition Committee

Councillor Dwyer updated the Committee about the Coalition Committee's activities. The Coalition Committee has had several meetings with local doctors and has more arranged this week. As well, there is a meeting arranged with the Provincial Health Accord Committee and members of the Town of Gander Citizens' Committee next week.

The Committee thanked Councillor Dwyer for the update and thanks the entire Committee for their advocacy efforts.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Little

Be it resolved that these recommendations and report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councillor Dwyer advised the Grand Falls-Windsor Health Accord Coalition Committee has been meeting regularly with community stakeholders since our last public Council meeting, we have met with Joan Marie Alyward and several local physicians on different occasions to get their viewpoints and concerns with the Health Accord and health issues. We are still in the learning stage, but we have learned a lot so far and we continue to learn while also identifying several areas of focus. Moving forward, we are waiting the next part of the Health Accord which is the blueprint and expected to come out in early April. We are also meeting with the group from Gander later this week to try to find some common areas of interest, because if there is going to be one Regional Health Care Centre split between two (2) facilities, we at least need to meet with them to determine what their concerns are as well.

Deputy Mayor Browne expressed congratulations to the Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce on their 70th Anniversary which is a significant milestone for all involved. He is looking forward to meeting with them soon, to continue the great working relationship we have with them.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Hiscock noted residents have been talking about how Toulett Drive is a dark street and advised that thanks to our Director of Public Works and Development and his involvement with NL Power, it is now well lit and we appreciate that. Also, on mild days like today you may notice that the road patching crews are out patching the potholes around Town, and they are doing an excellent job. He asked motorists to please slow down when approaching the crews and allow the flag person to guide you with the traffic flow to void any danger to the crew. Lastly, he noted that he was down to the ribbon cutting of the

Long-Term Care facility, which is a long time coming, but it is an absolutely beautiful building and facility that will be up and running in the next 2-3 weeks.

Councillor Little acknowledged the remarkable life of Flo Cross, who was a tireless advocate for her students and all human beings. Her main focus was to help create better people which she undoubtedly did. She was a legend in the teaching community, and she will be missed by all who knew her.

Mayor Manuel agreed that he was shocked to hear of the passing of Flo Cross, who was one of the most popular, well-liked and best teachers in the history of this community and a great human being.

Councillor Dwyer agreed that Flo Cross was an incredible person.

Deputy Mayor Browne congratulated our Centennial Legacy Scholarship participants for 2021, both Brett Power and Hunter Pike were awarded the Scholarships for last year, although COVID has prevented us from having a presentation ceremony, we do hope to meet them and congratulate them personally. He also wanted to thank the Committee that was tasked to make some very difficult decisions, as the talent of the students that apply for these scholarships was second to none all with 95-98% averages, so it is a very difficult selection indeed. Secondly, he wanted to acknowledge that since the last Council meeting, we claimed two (2) Basketball Provincial Championships from Exploits Valley Intermediate, both a boys and a girls team, we had an under 13 hockey team that won an invitational tournament in Lewisporte, an under 15 hockey team who won an invitational in Harbour Grace and an under 11 hockey team that won medals in Marystown. Great to see the sports community starting up again after the COVID Pandemic. He wanted to recognize one of our own employees, Chad Clendenning who coaches our Grade 7 Boys Basketball Team from Exploits Valley Intermediate who won the Provincial Championship, so congratulations to him a valued employee and coach as well. He mentioned that he was happy to attend the ribbon cutting at the Long-Term Care facility as we lobbied hard for this Centre to come here. We lobbied hard because a lot of our citizens were being relocated when they needed Level 3 Health Care which was so unfair, especially when some had never been out of Town at all in their lives, so hopefully this facility will help this cause and rectify the situation. Finally, he spoke about some of the loud vehicles in Grand Falls-Windsor that is happening all hours of the night and day. Finally, he wanted to give an update to the residents that are concerned about the obnoxious vehicles creating loud noises at all hours of the days and night. Our Municipal Enforcement Officers coordinated with the RCMP to get some of these vehicles off the road, and we were successful doing that as some did have modified exhausts. Unfortunately, we did not get them all off the road, because some of the loud vehicles that were summoned to be inspected turned out

to be legal and met all the Government Regulations. It is very unfortunate, but the next step is to lobby the Federal and Provincial Government to change the Regulations so that those vehicles and their mufflers are also illegal. He asked that those people going up and down the streets with loud vehicles to please stop, as they are making residents unwell because it interferes with their rest and good night's sleep, it is not fair and not acceptable.

Mayor Manuel advised the loud vehicles have been an issue for several years and seems to have gotten a lot worse in the last six (6) months to a year. We have already done a good amount of lobbying and wrote letters to the Government to try and get these Regulations changed in recent years, we may need to freshen this up and get other communities on board with this as well. It is frustrating because you know everyone deserves piece of mind, our hands are tied, but we will still keep trying.

Councillor Coady noted while she appreciates what is being done with the loud vehicle exhausts, she advised that with the nice weather coming this matter is just to get worse with the loud exhausts from motorcycles. It is frustrating to hear the loud noises, whether it is in your house or even out and about within the community. I am sure if it was as easy as changing the Regulations, the Government would have had it done by now, but the problem is that vehicles are made this way by manufacturers. This then would not be an overnight fix, it would have to be in conjunction with the Government and the manufacturer to come up with a solution. Lobbying the Government is important and needs to continue to try and get this changed. The street sweeper is due to arrive soon, and we hope to get it out right away to tidy up our streets, so we can then start with line painting. Last season with the lock-out some of the line painting did not get finished, and we are seeing the effects of that this winter, so it is important to get that done as soon as possible. She encouraged residents to inform us of any potholes they have noticed around Town, so we can get it fixed right away to avoid any damage to vehicles. Our flushing program will be starting soon, it is important for residents to keep updated on all of our social media being either our Town website, Facebook and Twitter for notification of when flushing will be in your area. She also encouraged residents to download the Town app which pushes notifications of alerts that would include emergency water shut-offs, flushing, road closures, etc... which is another form of a way for us to get out the notifications so residents can stay informed.

Councillor Noel advised if you have a loud muffler on either a vehicle or motorcycle and remove it, you are respecting people within the Town which is something that might be lacking on some people's behalf. Instead of getting into an argument with these people, try to get them to look at the bigger picture because there are families that work shift work etc., so it is important to try and get these

people to understand that the loud noise is an issue whether they believe it or not. Lastly, he advised that he noticed a business owner out this morning tidying up their property, which every year seem to be an issue. He wanted to encourage all business owners to take the time to clean up their properties now that the snow is melting.

Motion

Coady\Little

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of April 19th, 2022. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 P.M.

Barry Manuel
Mayor

Darren Finn
Chief Administrative Officer