

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD BY TELECONFERENCE

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 5<sup>Th</sup>, 2020

PRESENT: Mayor: Barry Manuel  
Deputy Mayor: Mike Browne  
Councillors: Rod Bennett, Amy Coady-Davis, Holly Dwyer,  
Shawn Feener, Mark Whiffen  
Staff: D. Finn, Chief Administrative Officer  
N. Chatman, Director of Public Works and  
Development  
K. Antle, Director of Community Services  
S. Gosse, Director of Corporate Services\Clerk  
K. Hutchinson, Executive Assistant

Prior to the meeting the Mayor signed proclamations for Mental Health Week, Economic Development Week and World Ovarian Cancer Day.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #524 of April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Motion

Browne\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #524 of April 14<sup>th</sup>, 202 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

## DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Bennett presented the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,450,569.66.

Motion

Bennett\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,450,569.66 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Community Services

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

#### Lat49 Report

The Director gave the Committee a detailed overview of the Lat49 Report with the Committee having some discussion on these results.

The Committee recommends the Director set up a meeting with Lat49 for them to give Council details of the Report and to answer any questions they have about the Report.

#### Salmon Festival

The Committee discussed the possible postponement of this year's Salmon Festival due to COVID-19.

As the majority of the planning is completed for the Salmon Festival, the Committee recommends to wait until the next Community Services meeting to make a final decision on the fate of this year's Salmon Festival.

#### Town Website

The Director presented the Committee with more detailed information on the proposal from Prime Creative, our current website development provider.

The Committee recommends going ahead with Option 1 of their proposal which is a full re-design of our existing website and to be implemented on a more up-to-date platform, Wordpress.

### Community Gardens

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Grand Falls-Windsor Community Gardens outlining their plans for the gardens this summer.

As all recreational facilities are closed at this time, the Committee recommends to review their plans at the next Community Services meeting in three (3) weeks.

### Edible Cannabis Business Correspondence

The Committee discussed correspondence from a company looking to open an Edible Cannabis Business here in Grand Falls-Windsor.

The business is currently in the planning stages and the Committee recommends they follow all the Provincial and Municipal guidelines as with any new business.

### Marathon Gold Update

The Director informed the Committee staff have been in touch with Marathon Gold as they are working on their Environment Assessment. Staff have a meeting planned to discuss with them the next steps in the community engagement process.

The Committee recommends staff continue to work closely with Marathon Gold to help move their project along as quickly as possible.

### Reaching Home Update

The Director updated the Committee on the Reaching Home Project that has received \$870,270.00 in COVID-19 funding to assist with the Homelessness Strategy in Newfoundland.

### Canadian Cancer Society

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Cancer Society that are interested in working with the EXCITE Corporation to apply for funding to do Cancer Research here in Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Committee recommends the Business Development Officer work with the Cancer Society to help develop this potential project.

### Windsor Stadium Score Clock Sponsorship

The Director informed the Committee the current sponsorship contract for the Windsor Stadium Score Clock has expired and is up for renewal.

The Committee recommends the Director contact the current Lessee to extend the contract for the 2020 season.

### Online Programs

The Director presented the Committee with the idea to offer online recreational programs during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Committee recommends staff work on developing new online programs ensuring we are following all the physical distancing protocols. Some preliminary work has already been completed for online gymnastics.

### Salmon Trails

The Committee discussed the need to develop and enhance the Salmon Fishing Trails to get access to the Exploits River from Scott Avenue and the South Side Road.

The Committee recommends staff investigate possible new trails and to research funding opportunities to help with the planning and construction of these trails and report back to the Committee.

### Queen Street Dinner Theatre

Councillor Whiffen updated the Committee on the tentative plans for the operations of the Queen Street Dinner Theatre this summer and informed the Committee they are holding a Board Meeting in the next few days.

Realizing the COVID-19 situation, the Committee recommends the Dinner Theatre look to operate alternate plans for this summer as they may not be able to operate as normal under the current Government COVID-19 Regulations.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

## Motion

Coady-Davis

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

Councillor Coady-Davis advised that while we have not made an official announcement at this point, the Province announced that all festivals for the summer would be postponed and cancelled for this year. It is quite obvious that Salmon Festival 2020 will not be happening this year which is unfortunate because a lot of the planning had already been done, but we look forward to holding the Festival in 2021.

Councillor Whiffen gave an update on Marathon Gold that it was announced on Facebook that their main office will be located in Grand Falls-Windsor, which is great for the economy. This is positive news and a step forward for the project and a boost to the area. We would like to welcome Marathon Gold to the Exploits Region. He also advised that the Queen Street Dinner Theatre had a Board Meeting and came up with some really great ideas on how they can deliver the Dinner Theatre in a modified way during the summer season. They still have some of the details to work out and an update is expected in the next month or so.

Prior to the reading of these Minutes Councillor Coady-Davis was excused from the meeting due to a perceived conflict of interest.

## Community Services

The following report was presented by Councillor Feener.

### Minor Baseball Correspondence

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Baseball Association requesting assistance with the purchase and installation of a score clock at the Goodyear Avenue Baseball Fields. They have a Community Healthy Living Grant approved for \$9,000.00 and request to have Council provide the installation and any necessary additional funding required to purchase the score clock. Revenue generated from the score clock advertising after installation will be used to cover any costs Council have to provide to the purchase of the score clock.

The Committee recommends to purchase the score clock under these conditions which will result in no cost to the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Feener\Whiffen

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

Councillor Coady-Davis returned to the meeting at this time.

### Public Works and Development

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

#### Crosswalk Evaluations

The Committee reviewed additional crosswalk evaluations completed by staff. All evaluations follow the latest edition to the TAC Pedestrian Control Guide.

The following crossings were reviewed:-

- Harris Avenue at the trail from Bartle Place
- Finn Avenue at Bouzane Street

The Committee recommends staff continue with recommendations outlined in the evaluations and look forward to further assessments once completed.

#### Sidewalk Addition to Toulett Drive

The Committee reviewed a proposal from the Development Department to extend the sidewalk on Toulett Drive from Gentleman "B" to Hickman Honda. This would require an investment of approximately \$70,000.

The Committee recommends this not be completed at this time. Pedestrian traffic in this area is very low and there is a wide gravel shoulder suitable for walking along this section. In addition, a portion of this area has the Corduroy Brook Trail adjacent to the roadway.

### 2020 Paving

The Committee reviewed the proposed tender package for the 2020 Paving Project. This includes work from existing funding sources and is smaller than projects in past years. The Town is still waiting on new Multi-Year Capital Works Agreements with the Provincial Government to complete additional projects.

The Committee recommends this proposed tender be approved.

### Rezoning Request – Main Street Extension

The Committee reviewed a request from a resident to rezone a large parcel of land at 50 Main Street Extension from Conservation Zone to Residential Zone. The resident would like to construct a new home in the area. Past requests to rezone land in this area were denied.

The Committee recommends this request be denied.

### Home Based Businesses

The Committee reviewed information from staff regarding Home Based Businesses. This information included how other large towns address the limitations on the number and location of certain businesses.

The Committee recommends staff develop a report on the overall location and type of Home Based Businesses in Town, including the taxation received, and forward to the Corporate Services Committee for further discussion.

### Juniper Kitchen & Bistro

The Committee discussed a plan by Juniper & Bistro to alter their business to provide a grocery store with restaurant grade products. They have been advertising this on their Facebook page and operation is contrary to the conditions on their Business Permit.

The Committee recommends staff inform the owners that the operation must cease immediately. In addition, they must provide information on their proposal with all the appropriate Government approvals and it is to be brought back to the Committee for further discussions.

### Compost Yard\Saturday Drop-Off

The Committee discussed the operations of the compost yard and the Saturday Drop-Off moving forward. Both areas have been closed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic to ensure public safety.

The Committee acknowledges that both areas are important to the public, however, recommends keeping it closed until Provincial restrictions have been lifted. The Committee also recommends the plan to reopen be a part of the Emergency Operations Committee's overall phasing plan to re-open Town facilities.

### 7 Exploits Lane – Land Request

The Committee reviewed a request from the resident of 7 Exploits Lane for backland to facilitate the construction of a garage. This land is former Abitibi land and the Town must be the applicant with Crown Lands. Also, the land requested is adjacent to an existing sewer line.

The Committee recommends that this request be approved, however, the land must be limited to the requirements of the Public Works Department to ensure adequate distance from the sewer line. The Committee also recommends an application be submitted to Crown Lands and once approved the land is to be sold as per the Town's policy.

### Crown Lands Referral – 25 Pondview Drive

The Committee reviewed a Crown Lands Referral from Universal Fabricators at 25 Pondview Drive. The request is for five (5) acres of backland. The area is zoned appropriately and is to be used as an extension to their existing business including a metal fabrication shop.

The Committee recommends the land requested be approved, however, the size be adjusted to keep consistent with boundaries between adjacent properties. Also, a minimum of 20m buffer to be kept from Toulett Drive.

### 1C Valley Road Access

The Committee reviewed the latest proposal for the access to Scott Avenue from 1C Valley Road. The prospective owner is in favour of the latest proposal provided by staff.

The Committee recommends the proposal be approved 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 Dwyer advised that with respect to the Juniper Kitchen & Bistro, since this Public Works and Development meeting, it was discovered that their permit included retail and restaurant. This topic was re-discussed during the Committee of the Whole meeting and documented in those Minutes. She also noted with respect to the Community Compost Site that she wanted to let residents know that the compost drop-off site will be open at the Whitmore Street location as of Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and further information is available on our Town Facebook page.

#### Committee of the Whole (1 of 5)

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### COVID-19

The Committee met to discuss updates from staff and other news related to COVID-19. The following updates were provided:-

- Central Health will be moving their Testing and Assessment Centre from the Corduroy Brook Nature Centre building to the College of the North Atlantic location on Cromer Avenue.
- Councillors are hearing from Central Health sources that the Central Newfoundland Regional Hospital in Grand Falls-Windsor will become the primary COVID-19 Treatment Centre for the Central Newfoundland Region. Staff will follow up.
- The Committee had a discussion on general concerns for the public's mental health, the longer restrictions are in place.

The Committee recommends that staff periodically publish contact numbers to link individuals with mental health supports.

- The Committee had a discussion about the possible financial impact on the Town's Budget.

The Committee recommends that staff review potential impacts and present it to the Corporate Services Committee in the next round of Committee meetings.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Bennett

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

#### Committee of the Whole (2 of 5)

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### Union Street Overpass

The Committee received an update from staff about the pending construction on the Union Street overpass that is being planned by the Department of Transportation and Works. There are some issues with respect to attracting contractors to bid on this work due to the COVID-19 and other constraints for completing this work while the overpass remains accessible to traffic.

The Committee recommends that the Town be supportive of a two (2) month complete shutdown, if this timeframe is needed to complete the work this year. The Town would require a minimum of three (3) weeks notice to allow for proper communication to the public. When this two (2) month shutdown has ended, the area must be changed to a minimum of one open lane by the end of August regardless of the construction progress. The Committee also recommends that the contractor install signage on either side of the overpass indicating the dates the bridge will be shut down.

## Town Hall

Management updated the Committee about the poor condition of the roof over the side extensions of the Town Hall.

The Committee recommends that staff development cost estimates for repairing or replacing these roof areas and updated Council in a future Committee meeting.

## Central Newfoundland Waste Management

Councillor Bennett updated the Committee and a decision made by Central Newfoundland Waste Management to not process the recycle materials because of coronavirus related safety issues. No changes in our Waste Management Policy are recommended at this time.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Coady-Davis

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

Councillor Bennett advised that we were informed by the Provincial Government to take all the blue bags and clear bags and put them into the landfill facility. The Recycling Program was down for a month, but since yesterday it is now back up and running.

Mayor Manuel noted that the message there to the public is to make sure we are still separating at the curb. So residents, please use your clear bags and blue bags, and that will be dealt with accordingly at the Central Newfoundland Waste Management now that the materials recovery facility is open again.

## Committee of the Whole (3 of 5)

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

## COVID-19

The Chief Administrative Officer and Mayor gave an update on activities related to COVID-19. Some of the updates are as follows:-

- The Mayor will be releasing a video statement to the public today.
- The media has inquired about why Council is cancelling the Spring Clean-up Event.  
The Committee recommends that it will be postponed, but not cancelled.
- Councillors have gotten some inquiries about our plans for providing shelter to individuals that are required to quarantine. The Committee agrees this is the responsibility of the Provincial Government Emergency Operations Committee and NL Housing and all inquiries will be directed to them.
- The Committee discussed a concern with respect to protocols being followed by the taxi industry should a driver get COVID-19. The question was asked about the ability of the companies to provide contact tracing information, if necessary.  
The Committee recommends staff forward this concern to the Provincial Emergency Operations Committee.
- The Committee discussed concerns from the public about businesses that are remaining open and/or the public congregating in areas that appear to be contrary to the Provincial restrictions.  
The Committee recommends that such complaints be referred to the Provincial on-line form as the rules are the responsibility of Provincial Enforcement and the Municipality does not have jurisdiction.
- The Committee discussed the Queen Street Dinner Theatre summer operations in light of the COVID-19 and recommends the topics be referred to the next Community Services Committee meeting.
- The Committee discussed the Labour Report and the fact that we are currently over budget.  
The Committee recommends that Management monitor the costs and make any adjustments to ensure we get back on budget.
- The Committee is hearing concerns from the public about the closure of the compost site.  
The Committee recommends that the Public Works and Development Committee add this topic to the next Committee meeting agenda.

- The Committee discussed the need for mental health telephone support because of the stresses related to the Pandemic.

The Committee recommends that staff post the Provincial Government contact numbers on the Town's Facebook page as often as possible.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Feener

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

#### Committee of the Whole (4 of 5)

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### COVID-19 Update

The Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer gave an update on activities related to COVID-19.

Some of the updates are as follows:-

- Deputy Mayor Browne informed the Committee that the Provincial Government still have not given permission for golf course maintenance to start.
- The Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer will be participating in an Urban Municipalities Committee meeting on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M. The agenda items will include discussions about what work is considered essential, municipalities' role in enforcing physical distancing and possible Capital Investment Incentives.
- The Chief Administrative Officer will circulate a Memorandum to staff encouraging them to pose questions that they would like answered in future communications.

- The Emergency Operations Committee is preparing some social media posts that will be contest based. The objective is to promote community engagement and community spirit. Prizes will be awarded.
- The Mayor will be doing another weekly video update to the community and will be responding to questions from the community this week.
- Staff are developing some fire pit guidelines for residents that will provide safe practices while enjoying the use of backyard fire pits.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Coady-Davis

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

Councillor Whiffen stated that there seems to be some confusion about backyard fire pits, so for clarification backyard fire pits are allowed and the rules are posted on our Facebook page.

Councillor Dwyer mentioned that the Emergency Operations Committee are preparing some social media contests, and there is one that the deadline is tonight that has three (3) age group categories. The idea is that the Town will buy gift cards supporting local businesses and they will be the prizes for contests.

Mayor Manuel noted that we all thought it was very important at this difficult time to support our local businesses, and the gift cards are showing our support. We would also like to encourage residents to support our local businesses at this time, even though a lot of these businesses may not be operating business as usual, some have means of purchasing gift cards.

### Committee of the Whole (5 of 5)

The following report was also presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

### COVID-19

The Committee reviewed the Provinces five (5) new alert levels with respect to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the different stages of restrictions that would

apply to each level. The Committee also received an update from the Chief Administrative Officer and the Mayor about the recent Emergency Operations Committee activities and subsequently held a discussion about lifting restrictions within the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Committee recommends that walking trails, parks, the mountain bike\ski trail and the Community Compost Drop-off Site be opened by the Town will have onsite signage reiterating the Provinces guidelines with respect to maintaining physical distancing. The Committee also recommends that staff work with PBO to get the Saturday Drop-off operation reopened as soon as possible.

The Committee also discussed the Spring Clean-up and Community Litter Clean-up Program.

The Committee recommends that staff review for scheduling a “Spring Clean-up” later in the year.

The Committee also recommends that the Litter Clean-up Program that is designed to fund community groups for cleaning various areas within the community be cancelled for this year.

All other public buildings in Grand Falls-Windsor will remain closed to the public until the Provincial Government guidelines or the Provincial alert levels dictate otherwise.

The Committee recommends that staff prepare a Press Release to update the public immediately on the changes in restrictions to our facilities and the effective date.

Management informed that they are working on a Business Continuity Plan that would expand the scope of work currently being undertaken by the workforce. Recent clarifications from the Provincial Government allows municipal employers to do more planning and work. Management will review all of its work to verify what can be carried out safely and within the guidelines of the Provincial Government with respect to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The Committee also discussed a recent contest post on Facebook and the general plan to do other posts that would contribute to building community spirit.

The Committee recommends that these posts not be combined with the Coronavirus communications templates so that the messaging is not confused or lost.

### Mobile Vendor – High Street

Council discussed a concern with respect to a loud generator that was being used by a mobile vendor on High Street in the Farmer’s Market area and requested that staff investigate.

### Chamber of Commerce

The Mayor discussed a concern that was relayed to him from the Chamber of Commerce President about a mobile vendor that was newly established on High Street in the Farmer's Market area. The Chamber did not relay any specific opposition, but rather only wanted to know if it was permitted and to gather information.

Additionally, the Mayor and the Chamber of Commerce President discussed having a meeting soon about the potential impact on local businesses as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic. The President of the Chamber agreed to poll his membership and gather information on these potential impacts and that a meeting would be arranged in the near future between the Chamber and Council to discuss the findings. The Chamber Executive Director will get back to the Chief Administrative Officer with a potential future meeting date.

### Canadian Red Cross Office

The Mayor discussed communication from the Chamber of Commerce that reported the Canadian Red Cross Office in the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor would be closing permanently. The Mayor subsequently inquired to the Canadian Red Cross to verify this report and it was determined that the closure was only related to the Pandemic and limited office hours or access. The Canadian Red Cross affirmed that Grand Falls-Windsor was a key location for their services and there was no future plans to close.

### Juniper Kitchen & Bistro

The Committee discussed a citizen's inquiry as to whether or not Juniper Kitchen & Bistro would be permitted to sell grocery items. Staff reported that the permit covers restaurant and retail, therefore it is a permitted activity. However, reselling grocery items is something that must be inspected by Service NL, so the inquiry must be referred to that Department.

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 Coady-Davis advised these meetings are all virtual and we have had no face-to-face meetings. Even meetings with other organizations are held virtually.

Mayor Manuel advised that in regards to the Canadian Red Cross Office and the communication that went out from the Chamber of Commerce Executive Director to the entire membership of the Chamber suggesting that the office was going to be closing in Grand Falls-Windsor, I checked and was told that it is not the case and we have asked the Chamber to correct that message by using the same mailing list they used to send out the original message. He advised that Council have been meeting regularly and have been fully engaged in the situation that is why there are so many Committee of the Whole Minutes. Myself, the Chief Administrative Officer, all Directors as well as the Municipal Police and Fire Chief participate in daily meetings with the Emergency Operations Committee, which also reports to Council. The things that are opening this Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> is obviously great news, but we cannot lose sight that this is still a very serious situation. We will continue to follow the daily updates from the Provincial Government and continue to abide by their advice and direction. These decisions are not easy to make, we would like nothing more than to open up a lot more in our community and try to get back to some normalcy, but we have to understand that as a municipality we really have to look at everything as a hypothetical worst case scenario. We need to realize that we have been fortunate to this point to have low cases, but are still nowhere near to the end of this Pandemic. We have a tough road ahead of us and Council agrees that a lot of these measures that were put in place have not been a coincidence of why we have been doing so well. It is important not to let our guard down, we still need to tread carefully and that is exactly what we are doing here. We are hopeful that in the coming weeks we can open additional facilities and services to the community, but we certainly do not want to do that in a hurry. We want to be able to monitor every step of the Provincial Governments plan, so we can see how things are being adhered to and hopefully the cases remain low to go to the next level. The reality is that we can also take a step backwards, which would likely coincide with people not adhering to the measures set forth by the Province. Recently, I have heard some disturbing reports about our own community about gatherings in different stores within the community. There has been reports that people are not adhering to the Provincial guidelines, but we want you to recognize that this is still a serious situation, the physical distancing request is real and we need to take every precaution to stay within six (6) feet of all other individuals. Just because a bubble can become a double bubble with another household, it is not an indication that we can start doing things like we used to because in reality as we saw at Caul's Funeral Home in St. John's one (1) infected person can expose many and quickly put you in a

very different situation than we find ourselves in now. So “thank you” to all residents that are adhering to the guidelines and restrictions, we know it is frustrating and difficult and believe me we share that frustration with you, but we have to make sure we are being careful and safe.

### Corporate Services

The following report was presented by Councillor Bennett.

#### Teck Community Investment

The Committee discussed funding from the Teck Community Investment regarding COVID-19.

The Committee directed staff to follow up with Teck Resources to get more information about the projects that would be acceptable within their criteria.

#### COVID-19

The Chief Administrative Officer provided the Committee with an update regarding the ongoing COVID-19 situation. The discussion covered core services, stimulus money options and progress on the Town’s plan to eventually return to normal operations.

The Committee recommends staff continue to work on these measures and use any relevant guidelines from the Province as it is provided.

#### COVID-19 Financial Situation

The Director of Corporate Services provided an update regarding the financial impact of the COVID-19 situation. The Committee also discussed the importance of communication with businesses to help them transition to the “new normal” of online and physical distant operations.

N. Chatman, Director of Public Works and Development and Keith Antle, Director of Community Services excused themselves from the remainder of the meeting.

### Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week sixteen (16) and the COVID-19 situation. Total labour was \$1,005,597. This was \$39,416 (4.1%) over budget.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs.

### Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,450,569.66 and recommends this be presented at the next Council meeting.

### EXCITE Rent

The Committee reviewed a request for rental relief from a tenant at the EXCITE Building.

The Committee recommends that there would not be any changes to rental amounts right now, and would rely on further guidance from other levels of Government.

### Adventure Central Newfoundland Sponsorship Request

The Committee reviewed a request from Adventure Central Newfoundland for Corporate Sponsorship.

The Committee recognizes the important role that Adventure Central Newfoundland has as it relates to tourism in the area and recommends the Corporate Sponsorship to remain at the \$8,000 (which was already budgeted for).

### Roof Repairs

The Committee reviewed a request from the Development Department for repairs to the roof of the Town Hall in two (2) different sections. The original estimated budget for this work is \$45,407.25 plus HST.

The Committee recommends that this be approved.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Bennett\Browne

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

Mayor Manuel noted that with regards to the roof repairs we have been dealing with a lot of leaks at the Town Hall and with the renovation plans we would not be able to complete them without repairing the roof. This roof repair can be considered essential work or the renovations would be a waste of money with leaks on new gyproc and flooring.

Prior to the reading of these Minutes Deputy Mayor Browne excused himself due a perceived conflict of interest.

Corporate Services

The following report was also presented by Councillor Bennett.

Grand Falls Golf Club

The Committee reviewed a request from CIBC for deferral of the Grand Falls Golf Club loan, (of which the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor is a guarantor). The Grand Falls Golf Club applied for this deferral because it is unknown whether there will be a golf season this year.

The Committee recommends that this be approved. However, if there is a golf season, the loan payment is expected to be made as originally scheduled.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Bennett\Feener

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.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

## OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Browne wanted to wish everybody to hang in there. We have been under the COVID-19 restrictions for a while now, but there is a light at the end of the tunnel. We will stay in this together through May and then hopefully we will go down another level and further restrictions will be lifted. Thanks again to the frontline workers for keeping us going. To the Emergency Operations Committee “thank you” for keeping the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor updated and to all the staff for your continued co-operation.

Councillor Coady-Davis gave a big shout out to everybody, and all the businesses that have been so creative in getting through this Pandemic and trying to keep people occupied and active in their organizations. To the Youth 2000 Centre, I really want to say how impressed I am with them. They have reading clubs, virtual baking and cooking classes and they have been delivering food hampers. So to all the members of that organization you are doing some great work and I look forward to participating in some of the events that are upcoming. Looking at all the children that are keeping active and participating in these activities, they are all having a great time. So I encourage members of the community to like the Youth 2000 Facebook page and watch for some of the activities they are doing. Also our local businesses have gotten very creative with their online presence, some stores have different contests, online sales and curbside delivery. Shop local where you can because we have a lot of great products here in Town. Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Baseball have started highlighting with their past coaches online skills and competitions, and each week they are posting a video of a skilled development. They are asking the kids to practice the skill, record themselves and send it to the Baseball Association through the Facebook page. The coaches can see what they are doing and give them some tips to keep them fresh and encourage them to get outside. It is tough on all individuals with regards to our mental health during this Pandemic. I think it is great that there is so much support and encouragement out there. If you are struggling. I recommend you reach out to the resources that are available to provide support for you. But also all these other organizations that are doing so much to increase awareness and give us some hope and joy and show us that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, “thank you”.

Mayor Manuel noted a good add-on to that is that on our website on the banner at the top of the page you will see a link saying COVID-19, when you click on the link you will find a number of different links to relevant resource information.

Councillor Bennett advised the compost site will be open on Friday, just asking residents to be very patient when you go there as it will probably be busy.

He expressed congratulations to Cody Drover who just signed a pro contract with Mulhouse Scorpions in France. He also wanted to thank the Grand Falls-Windsor Fire Department. We have forty (40) plus firefighters that are self-isolating and it is easier to sleep knowing that they are willing to go into your house while it is on fire and put it out.

Mayor Manuel noted at the compost facility we want everybody to practice good physical distancing and there will be signage posted of the guidelines expected to be followed. With regards to the Fire Department, yesterday was International Firefighters Day, so a big shout out to firefighters across the world. We as a Council feel that our Fire Department is the best Volunteer Fire Department anywhere and I will stand by that and debate anybody on it. So Happy International Firefighters Day to our crew.

Councillor Feener gave a big shout out to the Mayor, Chief Administrative Officer and senior staff for doing a great job and getting the messages out loud and clear so the public are well informed.

Mayor Manuel stated as we always say we are all accessible as Mayor, Councillors and staff, so if you do have a concern, please reach out to us.

Councillor Dwyer wanted to reiterate what Councillor Whiffen mentioned earlier about Marathon Gold, and she is so pleased that they have made the announcement that they are going to be opening their Head Office here in Grand Falls-Windsor. It is some welcomed positive news for the area and surrounding communities and the local businesses that they will be undoubtedly supporting. She also mentioned we have four (4) new Nursing Grads from Grand Falls-Windsor who just graduated, so congratulations go out to them.

Councillor Whiffen just wanted to mention a few dates such as International Firefighters Day, so “thank you” to our firefighters for the services they provide to our community. This week is a Commemorative Week, and he would like to reference it because it is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a lot of milestones that ended the Second World War. It started on Sunday because the first Sunday in May is always recognized as the Battle of the Atlantic and that was the longest battle of the War that lasted six (6) years. Also on Sunday, the National Cadet Program Support Group out of Ottawa put together a commemorative video and he would like to recognize that a local Sea Cadet was featured in that video. Today is May 5<sup>th</sup> and it is the day we celebrate the liberation of the Netherlands, which in 1944 there was a task given to the Canadians to liberate the Netherlands and that led to the end of the War. On May the 8<sup>th</sup> we commemorate V Day which celebrates the formal acceptance of the unconditional surrender of the Germans which ended the War in Europe. So it is seventy five (75) years since all ended, today we fight a different battle and we could spend some extra time remembering and reflecting on what led up to this War and all hope that it never gets to that same place again.

Mayor Manuel wished all our residents the very best and ask you to continue to follow the guidelines that are set forth by the Province. I know that it has been difficult at times to do it, and we have all had our struggles at sitting at home a lot more than you would want. But this is all part of ensuring that our case numbers remain low and that we can get back to normal as soon as possible. Continued co-operation is crucial and we would like to thank our residents that have been following the guidelines to this point.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Bennett

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 P.M.

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Barry Manuel  
Mayor

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Darren Finn  
Chief Administrative Officer