

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 8TH, 2018

PRESENT: Mayor: Barry Manuel
 Deputy Mayor: Mike Browne
 Councillors: Rod Bennett, Amy Coady-Davis, Shawn Feener,
 Darren Finn, Mark Whiffen
 Staff: N. Chatman, Director of Engineering and Works
 K. Antle, Director of Parks and Recreation
 B. Griffin, Director of Finance
 G. Hennessey, Economic Development Officer

Prior to the meeting the Mayor signed Proclamations for Mental Health Week May 7th -13th, 2018 and Brain Tumour Awareness Month.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #492 of Tuesday, April 17th, 2018.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Bennett

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #492 of Tuesday, April 17th, 2018 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Coady-Davis presented the disbursement report in the amount of \$317,642.82.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Benntt

Be it resolved that the disbursement report in the amount of \$317,642.82 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works and Planning

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Trevor Tuck – Tuck’s Bee Better Farm

The Committee reviewed additional information from Mr. Trevor Tuck regarding a request to purchase land for expansion of his bee farm on Grenfell Heights. Mr. Tuck is proposing to construct a honey extracting and berry production facility and storage shed. This expansion will accommodate tourist and school bus tours to educate people on the process.

The Committee recommends the Town Manager\Clerk and the Director of Engineering and Works meet with Mr. Tuck to discuss in further details and questions why additional land is needed when he already owns a large parcel of land. This information is to be brought back to the Committee for discussion.

Street Resurfacing – 2018

The Committee reviewed the proposed Paving Program for the 2018 construction season.

The Committee recommends that the final decision be postponed until Council can review further and more discussion is recommended for the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Civic Numbering

The Committee reviewed sixty-eight (68) homes in Grand Falls-Windsor identified by the Engineering Department that has the potential to change their address to a designation of “1\2” from “A” as discussed in the previous meeting for separate dwellings.

The Committee recommends that the current addresses remain as is unless a resident wishes to implement the change. Any future dwellings that meet the criteria are to use the new numbering system for individual dwellings, including existing properties that are sold.

Plumbing Inspections

The Committee discussed further the proposal to mandate plumbing inspections as part of the building permit process.

The Committee recommends plumbing inspections and sign off become mandatory as part of the building inspection process. A Journeyman (Red Seal) Plumber who is registered with the Town is required to sign off on the plumbing work. The Committee also recommends that all the plumbers be notified of the new requirement.

Land Request – 79 Main Street

The Committee reviewed a request from the resident at 79 Main Street to purchase fifty (50) feet of backland.

The Committee recommends this be approved and sold as per policy.

Junior Building\Engineering Inspector

The Committee reviewed the proposed updated job description for a Junior Building\Engineering Inspector for the Engineering Department. This position is to replace an employee who has recently retired.

The Committee recommends this position be approved and referred to the Finance and Administration Committee for final approval.

Common Street Names

The Committee discussed the concern with several common street names in Town. This could cause issues with emergency response. This has been discussed in the past and all emergency responders were alerted about these streets to try and avoid errors.

The Committee recommends information from previous Council meetings be brought back to the Committee for review and further discussion.

Crown Land Referral – Pasture\Barn

The Committee reviewed an application from Mr. Wilson Chippett for 36.3 hectares (89.7 acres) of land at the end of Whitmore Street for use as a pasture.

The Committee recommends that one (1) hectare (2.47 acres) be recommended for approval north of the Access Road. Mr. Chippett's original request is excessive and the Committee recommends not giving up such a large quantity of land that could be used for future development. The proposed one (1) hectare is sufficient for Mr. Chippett's needs.

Earle Street – Amendment Adoption

The Committee reviewed the proposed amendment to the Municipal Plan and Development Regulations regarding a rezoning at 46 Earle Street. The Town has received the release from the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment as per Section 15 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000.

The Committee recommends Council adopt the amendment, provide notice of the adoption, assign a Commissioner and schedule a date\time for a Public Hearing.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Finn

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

The following Municipal Plan Amendment No. 2, 2018 was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne:-

Municipal Plan Amendment No. 2, 2018

The Town of Grand Falls-Windsor wishes to amend its Municipal Plan. The proposed amendment seeks to change the 2012-2022 Municipal Plan's Future Land Use Map. The purpose of this Municipal Plan Amendment No. 2 is to re-designate an area of land at 46 Earle Street from "Public Use" to "Urban Residential" on the Future Generalized Land Use Map of the Municipal Plan.

The intent of this change is to enable the development of Low and Medium Density Multi-Unit residential use.

Motion

Browne\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that this Municipal Plan Amendment No. 2, 2018 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The following Development Regulations Amendment No. 2, 2018 was also presented by Deputy Mayor Browne:-

Development Regulations Amendment No. 2, 2018

The Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor wishes to amend its Development Regulations. The proposed amendment seeks to change the 2012-2022 Development Regulations Land Use Zoning Map. The purposed of this Development Regulations Amendment No. 2, 2018 is to rezone an area of land at 46 Earle Street from “Public Use” (PU) to “Low and Medium Density Multi-Unit Residential Zone” (RM-1) on the Zoning Map of the development Regulations.

Motion

Browne\Bennett

Be it resolved that this Development Regulations Amendment No. 2, 2018 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Deputy Mayor Browne advised that all residents will be given an opportunity to express their views on the above amendments.

Parks, Recreation and Special Events

The following report was presented by Councillor Bennett.

Civic Awards Update

The Director of Parks and Recreation updated the Committee on the plans for this year’s Civic Awards. Plans are going well with lots of exciting things planned for the May 16th event. The Committee encourages the public to purchase their tickets early as it will be a very entertaining night and will surely sell out. Tickets are \$10.00 and available at the Gordon Pinsent Centre for the Arts Box Office.

Professional Exhibition Hockey Game

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented the Committee with a proposal from Glenn Stanford to host an East Coast Hockey League Exhibition Game in Grand Falls-Windsor on October 4th, 2018.

Due to several events already being booked for the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium in October, the Committee denies this request.

From the Rock Culinary Tour

Councillor Whiffen presented the Committee with correspondence from the “From the Rock Culinary Tour” requesting our participation in their culinary event scheduled for the fall of 2018.

The Committee are very supportive of the event and recommends staff contact the group to see if arrangements can be made to host the event here in Grand Falls-Windsor.

Impact Hockey Proposal

The Director presented the Committee with a request from Impact Hockey to host a Spring Hockey Camp for 4-5 weeks in May 2018.

As these dates conflict with existing events, the Committee recommends the Director complete a report highlighting the pros, cons and costs of such an event and report back to the Committee at a future meeting before confirming this request.

Thomas Amusements

The Committee discussed the present location where Thomas Amusements set up each summer here in Grand Falls-Windsor.

Due to the congestion in the area, the Committee recommends the Director contact Thomas Amusements to see if they would be interested in moving to the Industrial Park on Maloney Street.

Canada Day Fireworks

Both fireworks companies who supplied bids for our 2018 Canada Day Fireworks Show expressed concern with the location where we set off the fireworks on Shanawdithit Centennial Park.

The Committee recommends staff contact the fireworks suppliers to address any issues so we are able to continue using Shanawdithit Centennial Park as our location for the fireworks display.

Main Street Softball Fence

The Committee discussed the wooden fence bordering the rear of all the properties on Main Street next to the Main Street Softball Fields. The home owners would like the Town to replace the fence the Lion's Club placed adjacent to their properties years ago as it is deteriorating.

The Committee recommends the Director get an estimate to replace the fence as well as check with our legal representatives as to who is responsible for the fence repairs.

Basketball Nets

The Committee discussed a request from a citizen to put lower height basketball nets at the Outdoor Basketball Courts on Cromer Avenue.

The Committee recommends the Director investigate the cost to install two (2) of these nets and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Spring Clean-up

The Committee discussed the dates for this year's Spring Community Organizations Clean-up.

The Committee recommends staff contact all the Community Groups that participated in last year's clean-up and invite them to be involved again this year. This year's clean-up will take place in early May as soon as all the snow disappears.

Shanawdithit Centennial Park

The Committee discussed the wording on the current sign at Shanawdithit Centennial Park.

The Committee recommends replacing the wording on the existing sign to read "Shanawdithit Centennial Park".

Director's Report

The Director presented the Committee with a detailed list of events and activities the Parks and Recreation Department have operated in the last few weeks as well as a list of upcoming events, activities and programs.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Bennett\Finn

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

Mayor Manuel advised that the discussion regarding the exhibition hockey did not have a past good history and represented a large financial risk. He also addressed the litter situation and encouraged citizens to be more responsible. He commented that the carried price for the Civic Awards Ceremony was \$15,000.00.

Salmon Festival

The following report was presented by Councillor Feener.

Sponsorships

The Committee reviewed the current sponsorships and recommends that staff finalize a list of this year's sponsors.

Social Media

The Committee reviewed the proposal for external social media.

The Committee recommends that a meeting be arranged for further discussion and analysis. The Committee also recommends that staff prepare an in-house Social Media Marketing Plan for further review and discussion.

On Sale Date

The Committee noted that Concert tickets are now on sale at local retailers throughout Central NL and the Town Hall. Tickets are available online at

www.evsalmonfestival.com or at the toll free number 1-877-JULY ROCK. Salmon Dinner tickets are available at the Town Hall and online. Gospel tickets can be purchased at the Town Hall and at local churches. Council anticipates this year's events to be successful and encourages all citizens to purchase their tickets.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Feener\Browne

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

Finance and Administration

Prior to the reading of the Minutes, it was decided to remove the Funding Request – South and Central Health Foundation and the Exploits Valley YMCA items to be removed and voted on separately.

Motion

Whiffen\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the Exploits Valley YMCA item would be removed and voted on separately. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Finn

Be it resolved that the Funding Request – South and Central Health Foundation item would be removed and voted on separately. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

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

Motion

Coady-Davis\Bennett

Be it resolved that the Funding Request – South and Central Health Foundation item would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Deputy Mayor Browne returned to the meeting at this time.

Councillor Finn stated that this does not appear to be a conflict, but supports our practice to ensure conflicts are avoided.

Mayor Manuel commented that we are erring on the side of caution to remove any potential real or perceived conflict of interest.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Browne

Be it resolved that the Exploits Valley YMCA item would be adopted as presented. This motion was defeated by a vote of 4-3 with Councillors Whiffen, Finn, Bennett and Mayor Manuel voting “Nay”.

Councillor Whiffen advised that he will not be supporting any additional funds until a meeting is held to discuss the operations.

Councillor Bennett, the Council representative, advised that there have been a number of meetings and recommended we schedule another meeting with the YMCA.

Councillor Finn advised of the support for the YMCA as it is their responsibility to balance their operation and more forward. He noted most of the electricity expense relates to the pools and facts not supporting this will put the YMCA in a precarious financial position.

Deputy Mayor Browne advised that the YMCA is taking steps to improve their financial position through the construction of a new daycare centre.

Mayor Manuel advised that it is a true partnership with the Town providing the facility for use by our taxpayers. He stated that he would be in favour of meeting with the YMCA to discuss this issue further.

Councillor Finn challenged that the vote should be taken when the vote is called.

Councillor Coady-Davis stated that the YMCA would be requested to attend the next Finance and Administration meeting.

Taxation Request

Mr. Robert Vaters attended this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Vaters discussed his request to reduce taxes due to business loss related to Capital Works.

The Committee recommends that no reduction in taxation be approved.

Mr. Robert Vaters was excused from the meeting at this time.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week sixteen (16). Total labour was \$929,853. This was \$23,707 (2.6%) over budget.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs.

Exploits Valley YMCA

The Committee reviewed the Exploits Valley YMCA Financial Statements for the year-ended December 31st, 2017. The Committee noted the decline of revenue related to daycare operations.

The Committee discussed the Annual Operating Grant for the year and recommends the Town provide a subsidy of fifty percent (50%) of electrical costs for 2017 and 2018. The estimated cost of this is \$58,290.76 for 2017 and an estimated cost of \$80,000 for 2018.

Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$317,642 and recommends this be presented at the next Council Meeting.

Mobile Vendors Tax Rate

The Committee reviewed the Mobile Vendors Tax Rate and comparative annual taxes for restaurant operators.

The Committee recommends that a mobile vendor's fee be established for the High Street\Scott Avenue of \$500.00 for the season and \$50.00 per day.

Discretionary Notices\Variance

The Committee reviewed the fee structure for discretionary notices and variances.

The Committee recommends we approve a rate of \$100.00 for all variances and discretionary notices.

Funding Request – South and Central Health Foundation

The Committee received a request from the South and Central Health Foundation for the “Golfing for Green” Charity Tournament.

The Committee recommends \$800.00 be approved.

Director of Finance & Human Resources

The Committee reviewed the results of the recent job competition.

The Committee is pleased to announce that Mr. Steve Gosse, CPA.,CA, has been appointed the new Director of Finance and Human Resources.

Junior Inspector\Engineering Inspector

The Committee reviewed the job description for the Junior Inspector\Engineering Inspector and recommends that this be approved.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Bennett

Be it resolved that the remainder of the recommendations and report would be adopted as circulated with the Funding Request – South and Central Health Foundation and Exploits Valley YMCA items removed and voted on separately. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Organizational and Operational Review

The Committee had a brief discussion on the document and recommends it be discussed in detail at the next Finance and Administration Committee meeting.

Capital Works – Street Paving

The Committee reviewed the process for selection of streets to be upgraded and recommends the list of streets be finalized at the next Public Works and Planning Committee meeting.

Correspondence – Jeff Andrews

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from Mr. Andrews dated April 11th, 2018. Mr. Andrews is requesting compensation for lost revenue and rental income for his business at 178 Lincoln Road.

The Committee reviewed the information and recommends that the request for compensation be denied. This issue was also addressed at a Council Meeting on February 8th, 2011 and denied.

College of the North Atlantic Strategic Plan

The College of the North Atlantic are in the process of developing a new Strategic Plan and have invited Council and the general public to participate in that process. They will be in Grand Falls-Windsor on May 16th, 2018 and will hold a workshop at the College at 7:00 P.M.

The Committee recommends that Council be represented at this event.

Water Treatment Plant Dam Study

Staff received a call from Municipal Affairs and Environment stating that they had funds available to complete the upgrading of the Dam at Northern Arm Pond. Available funding is \$600,000 at possible one hundred percent (100%) Government funded. Maximum percentage for the Town would be twenty percent (20%).

The Committee recommends this funding request be approved and that staff discuss details with Municipal Affairs and Environment.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Finn

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Whiffen congratulated Petty Officer Sydney Lane who placed 1st overall at the Central Newfoundland Zone Championship. She advanced to the Provincial Championships where she placed 2nd and she placed 26th overall in Canada.

Deputy Mayor Browne congratulated Terry and Noelle Goodyear for organizing the Katarina Roxon visit. She was well received at Exploits Valley Intermediate and Exploits Valley High Schools. He advised citizens in certain areas of Town that they would be getting discoloured water and that it should be over in a day. He also reminded residents to make a donation to the fundraiser for diagnostic equipment for Central Health. He congratulated Cec Thomas on his inductions into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Councillor Coady-Davis advised that the flyer and social media for the summer programs are now being circulated and encouraged citizens to register. She advised that the Queen Street Dinner Theatre tickets are now on sale for the new season. She also advised citizens to exercise caution around Municipal Work sites.

Councillor Bennett congratulated St. Joseph's for the events to raise funds for local residents. He also advised that he attended the recent Army Cadets and Sea Cadets Annual Ceremonial Reviews and congratulated all Award winners. He noted the Cadets movement is alive and well in Grand Falls-Windsor.

Mayor Manuel congratulated the Air Cadets for their Annual Ceremonial Review this year. He wished a "Happy Nurse Week" to all the nurses in Town and the Province. He congratulated the Park Street Citadel on the celebration of their 80th Anniversary. He also advised that the Sew and Sews had a wonderful display of quilts on Saturday at the Memorial United Church. He mentioned that a collections of quilts would be sent to Humboldt, Saskatchewan. He also wished "Happy Birthday" to Mr. Phil Power who will be turning ninety (90) years of age.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Feener

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 29th, 2018. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Barry Manuel
Mayor

B. Griffin
Acting Town Clerk