

MINUTES OF MEETINGGRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCILHELD IN THE TOWN HALL7:00 P. M., TUESDAY, MAY 10TH, 2022

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

Prior to the meeting a presentation was made to Mr. Mark Griffin, who is the Chair of the Lionel Kelland Hospice for \$25,000 towards the project, the first of three (3) over the next three (3) years.

Mr. Mark Griffin thanked Council for the support and noted that they are now in week six (6) of construction, and they are doing fundraising such as a gift campaign that has been very successful along with several events one being the “Hike for Hospice”. The hike is a Universal Hospice Fundraiser throughout Canada that they are doing their own Chapter of throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. There are lots of ways to donate and get involved and all information for that is on their website and they are a registered charity so donors will receive charitable receipts. It is a very special project, and first of its kind in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Foundation are very excited about the project, and they know the community is also. They appreciate the support and the invitation to appear here tonight as every little bit of Public Relations helps.

Mayor Manuel congratulated Mark and asked when the target date is that they expect the Hospice to be open.

Mark advised their hope is to see their first residents in late spring of 2023.

Mayor Manuel stated a lot of people are very enthusiastic about the project that has been in the works now for some time, they have been very diligent with lobbying Government to get this up and running. We hear too often of people that have to die in not so dignified circumstances, so this project is aiming to fix that by providing comfort for them and their family. It is a project that is overdue, and we are glad to be the first in this Province.

Also prior to the meeting the Mayor signed three (3) Proclamations: Municipal Awareness Week May 9<sup>th</sup> – May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022; Fibromyalgia Awareness Day – May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Melanoma and Skin Cancer 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 #558 of April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Motion

Coady\Dwyer

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #558 of April 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 323,206.90.

Motion

Dwyer\Browne

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$323,206.90 would be received as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Corporate Services

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

#### Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week seventeen (17). Total labour was \$993,489. This was \$64,888 (6.1%) under budget.

The Committee is pleased with the 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 \$323,206.90 and recommends this be presented at the next Council meeting.

#### Claims Policy

The Committee reviewed draft Policy AF-21 – Claims. This Policy is important to summarize responsibilities when residents have possible claims against the Town.

The Committee recommends this Policy be approved and for staff to develop some education for residents regarding insurance for their properties.

#### Fire Dispatch Analysis

The Committee reviewed an analysis of dispatching services for the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor. This included information on the costs incurred and the number of calls received by the dispatcher.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to monitor costs of dispatch services and ensure all relevant stakeholders are met with to discuss the results.

#### SPCA

The Committee reviewed a request from the SPCA to discuss funding options for the year 2022. The Committee also reviewed the SPCA's charity return for the year 2021.

The Committee recommends staff follow up with the SPCA Board to set up a time for them to join a future meeting.

### Exploits Valley High Grad

The Committee reviewed a request for a donation towards the 2022 Exploits Valley High Graduation.

The Committee recommends approval of a donation of \$1,000.

### Municipal Awareness Week

Municipal Awareness Week runs from May 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Staff provided the Committee with an overview of the events planned to promote and acknowledge the efforts of our workforce. Residents are asked to check the Town's website and social media pages for more details.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Little

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

Deputy Mayor Browne wanted to remind residents that it is very important that they check their Insurance Policy to ensure that they are covered for any back-up sewer, water breaks, etc... The problems that seem to keep arising is that the homeowner is not covered on their insurance, and the Town's insurance will not cover it because the Town has not been negligent.

Mayor Manuel agrees that it is very important that residents are aware of what they are covered for through their insurance, and we will be doing an education campaign to help remind residents to check and the importance of it. There are times that we have wanted to help, but our insurance has been very clear that if the Town is not negligent for damage, then there is no coverage available. It is unfortunate when this happens, but the best thing they can do to protect themselves is to check their policy to make sure they are covered.

### Public Works and Development (1 of 2)

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady.

## Capital

The Committee reviewed the proposed changes to the Capital Investment Plan and to the Multi-Year Capital Works Program. Proposed changes to the programs include additional projects such as re-shingling the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium, replacement of the Maloney Street Lift Station, Town Hall HVAC Upgrades, and replacement of the culvert at Corduroy Brook Lane.

The Committee recommends these changes be approved and the Resolutions be prepared for the next public Council meeting.

Chad Clendenning was excused from the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

## Residential Subdivision Standards

The Committee was presented with the final draft of the Residential Subdivision Standards for the Town. This document will complement the Development Regulations and future Subdivision Agreements to ensure new developments meet a common standard moving forward. All new subdivisions will be designed to meet these updated standards.

The Committee recommends these Standards be adopted by Council.

## Gorge Park – Beaver Relocation

The Committee discussed the issue where a colony of beavers have inhabited Gorge Park near the boat launch. The beavers have felled several trees near the river and along the trails. Town staff have placed chicken wire around the trunks of the trees to protect them and will clean up other areas of downed trees. Staff has also reached out to the Department of Environment and Wildlife to have the beavers relocated; however, they will not move them until June.

The Committee recommends staff continue the work to protect this area from the beavers, clean up what has been damaged, and continue to follow up with the Department of Environment and Wildlife.

## Garbage Regulations and Enforcement

The Committee was provided with an update on the adherence to the new Regulations by the residents. There are still approximately ten percent (10%) of citizens per week that have not fully complied. Several letters were written to violators and an Education Campaign was completed that comprised of pamphlets

distributed to every household explaining the Regulations, and information was posted on the Town's social media outlets.

The Committee recommends staff continue enforcing the Garbage Regulations and issue violation notices as required.

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 7-0.

### Public Works and Development (2 of 2)

Prior to the reading of this report Councillor Noel was excused from the meeting due to a perceived conflict of interest.

The following report was also presented by Councillor Coady.

#### Toulett Drive Land

The Committee reviewed the bid received for the two (2) parcels of land at 32 and 34 Toulett Drive. The total bid was for \$40,000 from A & A Realty Ltd. The business would like to use the properties as one lot as opposed to two (2)

The Committee recommends this be approved and proceed with the sale. However, the successful bidder must provide an updated design for the proposed building, a landscaping plan, water and sewer connection plan, and any other documents as required in the Development Regulations before a Purchase and Sales Agreement is signed.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady\Little

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

Councillor Noel returned to the meeting at this time.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Coady:-

RESOLUTION GF-W 2022-342

REVISED SCHEDULE "A"

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor qualifies for funding under the Provincial Multi-Year Capital Works Program;

WHEREAS: all projects and funding allocation under these Agreements must be approved through the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor has available funding remaining in the Multi-Year Capital Works Program and has to re-profile funding;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Schedule "A" be revised and funding be re-profiled as per attached revised Schedule "A".

Motion

Coady\Browne

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2022-342 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Coady:-

RESOLUTION GF-W 2022-343

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 \$239,805.87;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor approves adding the following new project under the Gas Tax Capital Investment Plan;

Replacement of Storm Sewer Pipe – Corduroy Brook           \$117,130.00

Motion  
Coady\Noel

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2022-343 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The following Resolution was also presented by Councillor Coady:-

RESOLUTION GF-W 2022-344

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION STANDARDS

WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor receives new requests from Developers to construct a new residential subdivision.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: under authority of Section 16 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000, the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor adopts the new Residential Subdivision Standards dated April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Motion  
Coady\Browne

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2022-344 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.



## Community Services

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

### Salmon Festival

The Director updated the Committee on the plans for the 2022 Kelly Ford Exploits Valley Salmon Festival noting online ticket sales for all events opened to the public on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council encourages citizens to get their tickets soon as some events have limited space.

### Civic Awards

The Committee discussed the plans for the 2022 Civic Awards which are now scheduled for a later date in October.

The Committee recommends leaving the online nomination process open for all citizens and for staff to develop a Nominating Committee and a Judging Committee to enhance the nomination process.

### Scouts Correspondence

The Committee discussed correspondence from the 4<sup>th</sup> Grand Falls Scout Troop looking for a donation to their fundraising efforts to attend the 2022 Harlem Jamboree in the Netherlands.

The Committee recommends a donation of \$250.00.

### Welcome\Recruitment Program

The Committee discussed a Welcome\Recruitment Program for new citizens and healthcare professionals coming to Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Committee recommends staff set up a brain storming session for Council and staff to lay out the details for this Program.

### Arena Boards Sign Advertising

The Committee discussed the current Arena Boards Sign Advertising Agreements.

The Committee recommends putting out an “Expression of Interest” to all our Arena User Groups to see who would be interested in looking after this work as a fundraiser for their organization.

### Director's Report

The Director updated the Committee on the events and activities that have been going on in the Community Services Department for the last several weeks as well as the upcoming events and activities for this summer.

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 informed the public that they have been doing a lot of work behind the scenes with the Health Accord Community Coalition Committee that is being Chaired by Mr. Cyril Farrell of which she is a Council representative on the Committee. Recently, they struck a Sub-Committee of that group for recruitment and retention of physicians in keeping with one of the focus areas. Because the Sub-Committee and the Central Health Community Advisory Committee have the same focus and mandates, it was suggested that they combine the Sub-Committees, so that is what they have done. Recently, they have been brainstorming some ideas about what they can do as a community and as a Town Council to improve recruitment and retention. Any time they talk about new programs and infrastructure as a Council they discuss the cost, but also the benefits, which are impossible to put a value to, but it is so important to attract people and professionals to our community. She reached out to the spouse of a physician, and they are going to get as many spouses of physicians together for a focus group to find out what it is that brought them here to the community and what is keeping them here. The Advisory Committee also held a Virtual Conference recently, and there were discussions on what different communities are doing to attract and retain physicians. What was discovered was that there was an opportunity for them as a Council to collaborate with the Shallaway Group. They will be participating in a BBQ with them at the Golf Course as part of welcoming them here and hopefully there will be an opportunity for them to return.

Mayor Manuel advised that he has been meeting with some of the students studying to be physicians here in Town and gave them an opportunity to talk about the community. The Town has been sponsoring social activities for those students for years when they come, because we know that it really is the connections that they make when they are here that draws them back to a community. Young

physicians need work-life balance, they feel that we do our part to help and give them the opportunity to see our community and show them what we have to offer here. The more physicians that choose Grand Falls-Windsor, the easier it is for them to get time off, because what we are seeing now is that they cannot get the time off that they are entitled to because there is no one available to take care of their patients when they do.

Councillor Little advised ball hockey is back for the first time in a long time, and the Men's League are still accepting players. Youth ball hockey is also being offered again, and spring training for baseball has also started. So, it is an exciting time in our community with more activities offered along the way that children will benefit from.

Mayor Manuel agreed that it is time that we get back to sports and activities, and information for all will be on our Town Facebook page or call the Community Services Department at 489-0450 and they will answer any question you might have.

### Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### Healthcare Coalition Committee and the Provincial Health Accord

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Grand Falls-Windsor Community Healthcare Coalition Chair, Cyril Farrell. The Chair provided an update on the Committee's priorities to-date, but noted that the entire Province is waiting for the release of the "Blueprint for Implementation" from the Provincial Government. As well, the Chair recommended that attention be focused on the Provincial Government's recent decision to consolidate all health regions into one Provincial Health Authority system. Specifically, he recommended that Grand Falls-Windsor collaborate with the Town of Gander and advocate for protections in rural healthcare when this new one Health Authority is formed.

The Committee recommends that Council invite the Town of Gander into a discussion on this matter. As well, Council wished to thank the Committee for their efforts to-date.

#### 14 Church Road

The Committee reviewed the status of an application to rezone 14 Church Road to accommodate a café. Staff are still gathering information from the

proponent with respect to property changes and will report back to Council at a later time.

The Committee recommends that the process for evaluating this rezoning request proceed and report back to Council.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Hiscock

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 that it says he was at the meeting, but he was not.

Mayor Manuel noted it takes a community to lobby Government, it is not just one person or one Council or one community that is going to bring about positive change and positive outcomes. To that point Mr. Farrell and the Coalition Committee are reaching out to the regional communities that are all impacted. He encouraged people to not be afraid to get educated on what is going on in healthcare and how the changes may impact Grand Falls-Windsor and surrounding communities and have their voice heard. Pick up the phone and call your local representatives, write the Premier, call the CEO of Central Health or Management and you can reach out to us for further information also. It is so important for everybody to dig in and do what they can, because it will be too late when the changes are enforced.

Councillor Dwyer stated that this is a huge priority for us, and we are extremely busy and to the point of talking daily about it. We have met physicians and physician recruiters, we have spouses lined up for a focus group, and we have been meeting with residents. It is not just retention and recruitment of physicians or the one Board that is important, those are the two (2) areas that we are focusing on right now, but there are others. The provision of services at this Healthcare Center is extremely important, of which the blueprint is expected to come out mid-May. We are being proactive, as it is a complicated and complex system, so we have been bringing everyone in with the knowledge and competencies to help us understand what our best action is to go forward.

### NOTICE OF MOTION

None

## OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Little advised that the Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association are hosting two (2) events at the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium on May 18<sup>th</sup>. One of these events is to inform people about various business and partnership opportunities within that sector, and the other event is a career opportunities event that they are hosting. This sector is growing, and it is very exciting, these events will have exhibits and information that will be useful to anyone who wishes to attend and there is more information on our Facebook page. Secondly, he said that he has seen a lot of medals from players in the Easter Tournaments and with that a lot of smiles. He thought it was great to see them playing again and he congratulated all players, coaches, parents and volunteers involved.

Mayor Manuel advised that it is a different time in 2022 with increased pricing, etc..., but there are some bright lights in the future here when it comes to the aquaculture sector and others as well. The technology sector, mining sector and many others that give young people an opportunity to look into getting a career in Newfoundland and Labrador, and that is something that has been lacking for decades. We are certainly not there yet, but we know Marathon Gold will be starting next year and creating jobs, the technology sector that allows anyone now to be able to work from home which is great. This is exciting for people that had to move away for work, because they can now move back and keep their current job while working from home here.

Councillor Dwyer is happy to confirm that there will be an intake of nursing students in Grand Falls-Windsor this coming September which is exciting news because that is something that previous Councils have been lobbying for a long time. This is National Nurses' Week and she wanted to take the opportunity to publicly thank nurses who play a pivotal role in our healthcare system and just as we acknowledge the difficult time that patients are having with our healthcare system, we have to acknowledge the complex, physically and emotionally demanding work of our nurses. We need to acknowledge that their work is important and valued, so thank you for all that you do. She claimed that she has been hearing a lot of negative stories around our healthcare in social media lately, and she realizes that it is important to acknowledge that there are problems, but she fears that physicians will be reluctant to come here because of the negativity. We have to be careful and promote the positive just as much if not more, because we want them to come here. As a community we can do more of that, we can also highlight the things we are doing to promote social deterrents of health. She also wanted to remind parents to encourage their children not to ride their bikes inside

the Sutherland Drive playground because a lot of seniors find the track there good for walking because it is flat. This is important in healthy aging, because everyone is looking to get out safely walking and sometimes children do not realize that seniors are fearful of bikes around them as they may fall. She asked the Director of Public Works and Development for an update on the waterline break.

The Director of Public Works and Development advised they had do a fix on the line from New Bay Road so many people experienced low water pressure for several hours. The water is back on now, so pressure should resume, however brown or discoloured water may be experienced throughout the evening into tomorrow.

Lastly, she attended the Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Symposium this past week-end in Gander. It was a successful event with a great line-up of speakers. It was nice to meet Councillors from other municipalities and she was grateful to be able to attend. She congratulated Councillor Coady and Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador on a job well done from a participant perspective, it was professional, effective and seamless.

Deputy Mayor Browne congratulated Pauline Power who was inducted into the Newfoundland and Labrador Golf Hall of Fame. This is very deserving as she has been a member of the Golf Club since the early 60's. She was instrumental in developing the Junior Girl's Program, she is the Past Chair of National Junior Girl's Golf Program, and she was one of two (2) who wrote the first constitution for Golf Newfoundland and Labrador. He reminded everybody about Municipal Awareness Week, and the free skate offered tomorrow morning at the Windsor Stadium. He was talking to George Hart who walked from Badger to Grand Falls-Windsor some years ago in support of the Lionel Kelland Hospice and he and two (2) of his friends are doing it again on June 25<sup>th</sup> – George, Wally Edwards and Bill Mayne are walking from Pearson's Peak to the Ski Chalet. He thanked the men for their great show of support for the Hospice and encouraged people to also support the cause by donating. Finally, the community group spring clean-up has started and this is an excellent fundraiser for community groups, so if you are interested call the Community Services Department and you and your group can earn some money by helping us to clean up the community.

Councillor Coady advised this week-end the Footloose Musical is happening presented by Exploits Valley High at the Gordon Pinsent Centre for the Arts. She encouraged people to get out for something a little different this week-end as tickets are still available. She advised that she signed a Proclamation with Minister Krista Lynn Howell, Municipal and Provincial Affairs and President of Professional Municipal Administrators Brian Hudson on Friday at the Symposium, normally it is a Municipal Awareness Day, but now it is a full week which is well deserved. She encouraged all municipalities to promote the work that Councillors

do, that Administrative Staff do, on social media. As part of Municipal Awareness Week we have colouring contests, free skates, daily introduction videos to staff of different Departments and Council. Paint crews were out today, our sweeper is out, garbage information pamphlets, social media activity are just a few of all the work that happens within your Municipal Councils. She encouraged residents to acknowledge the great work our staff is doing if they see them around. Spring clean-up is happening starting May 24<sup>th</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup> and the schedule is on our Facebook page and mailed out to every household within the community. Please note the date for your particular street, you are not permitted to put any garbage out until forty-eight (48) hours before your pick-up date. Our Municipal Enforcement Officers will be asking you to take your items back in if it is too early to put them out, so please wait until forty-eight (48) hours before. Our line painting crew is out and doing a great job, and pothole patching is ongoing, so please pay attention to the signs around the community. Our flag people are out soon, please be cautious and do whatever you can so that they get home safely at the end of the day.

Councillor Noel thanked Mark Griffin for coming by for the Lionel Kelland Hospice, and it is great to see some headway on that project. It is great to see projects like this to put us on the mark in areas we have not seen before. The community clean-up is a great opportunity for groups to avail of some funding for fundraising initiatives, he said that he was out there cleaning up and was amazed of how much garbage there is and how it all gets there. He encouraged residents to keep your garbage in your vehicle, because out of all the garbage they found there was thirteen (13) water bottles full of cigarette butts which has routinely been dumped on a drive route. We have a beautiful community, it is stellar and an amazing place to live, with so many groups trying to keep it clean, yet we still have this rationale from certain people that it is ok to dump garbage anywhere they want. He also encouraged walkers to perhaps take a bag and pick up any litter they may see along their route to help be part of the solution.

Councillor Hiscock noted he is getting many inquiries about eFleet Management, somewhere along the way people are getting misinformation at what we are looking at with this. There will be no lay-offs, the vehicles that we are going to be getting will mean that in the next three (3) years the oldest vehicle in our fleet will be three (3) years old that will be a safer vehicle for employees and lastly throughout the course of this investment we will be saving in excess of \$500,000. We are here to be fiscal managers of our Town's money, and this is one of the ways that we think is a great idea for safety, more economical, no lay-offs and excess monies that we can use in other areas for the Town. Lastly, the Holy Trinity Anglican Church will be having a concert on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. and tickets are \$10.00 each in aid of Ukraine Relief and it is going to be done through

the Primate's World Relief Fund with ninety-seven (\$0.97) cents of every dollar going to help Ukraine.

Mayor Manuel expressed condolences to the family of the former Mayor of the Town of Windsor, Clarence King who passed away recently. We are sad to hear of his passing, he had a good life and made a lasting contribution to this municipality.

Motion

Dwyer\Little

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

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Barry Manuel  
Mayor

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Steve Gosse  
Director of Corporate Services\Town  
Clerk