

MEETING #463

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 31ST, 2016

PRESENT: Mayor : Barry Manuel
Deputy Mayor: Darren Finn
Councillors: Peggy Bartlett, Mike Browne, Amy Coady-Davis,
Bruce Moores, Tom Pinsent
Staff: M. Pinsent, Town Manager\Clerk
J. Saunders, Director of Engineer & Works
K. Antle, Director of Parks and Recreation
B. Griffin, Director of Finance

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #462 of Tuesday, May 10th, 2016.

Motion

Moores\Bartlett

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #462 of Tuesday, May 10th, 2016 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Pinsent presented the disbursement report in the amount of \$123,983.86.

Motion

Pinsent\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the disbursement report in the amount of \$123,983.86 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Administration

The following report was presented by Councillor Pinsent.

Cash Statement

The Committee reviewed the unaudited cash statement for the year. Total revenue for the year was \$16,406,739. Total expenses were \$15,920,849 resulting in \$485,890 for capital funding. Total capital completed was \$9,532,338 (Town's share - \$3,044,955).

The Committee was pleased with the financial results.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week nineteen (19). Total labour was \$1,011,366. This was \$36,949 (3.8%) under Budget.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs.

Budget Impact

The Committee reviewed a memorandum from the Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee concerning the Budget impact of the recent Provincial Budget.

The Committee recommends staff prepare a full budget analysis of revenue and expenses for the four (4) months ended April 30th, 2016 for review by Council.

Job Description - IT Assistant\Accounting Clerk

The Committee reviewed the revised job description for IT Assistant\Accounting Clerk.

The Committee recommends this be approved.

YMCA

The Committee reviewed correspondence concerning rate increases for users at the YMCA.

The Committee recommends that the Council's YMCA representative meet with the YMCA to discuss this issue.

Cataracts – Canadian Tire Golf Tournament

The Committee reviewed a request to participate in the Grand Falls-Windsor Cataracts Golf Tournament.

The Committee recommends that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor enter a team in this event.

River Gold Community Group – Golf Tournament

The Committee reviewed a request to participate in a 4 Player Best Ball Golf Tournament.

The Committee recommends that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor enter a team in this event.

Exploits Regional Water Supply – Chemical Costs

The Committee reviewed chemical costs for the Exploits Regional Water Supply. Total chemical costs for the quarter ended were \$48,949.72 – an increase of \$9,697.21 over the previous quarter (24.7%). The increase was due to price.

Taxation of Utilities

The Committee reviewed a request for taxation of utilities for 2016. Total revenue from taxation of utilities is \$35,009 less than budget.

The Committee recommends that staff contact Rogers to obtain an explanation for the large reduction in local revenue.

Requests for Approvals

The Committee reviewed two (2) requests for spending approvals from the Parks, Recreation and Special Events Committee.

The Committee recommends that \$4,250 be approved for Goodyear Avenue and roofing for Main Street dug-out. This amount is to be allotted from the current operating budget.

The Committee also recommends that \$9,000 be approved for insulation of beams in the Windsor Stadium. Funding for this will be from the Capital Budget.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Amendment

Moore\Finn

Be it resolved that the River Gold Community Group – Golf Tournament be removed from this report and voted on separately. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Motion

Pinsent\Bartlett

Be it resolved that these recommendations and report would be adopted as circulated with the River Gold Community Group – Golf Tournament removed to be voted on separately. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Motion

Pinsent\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the River Gold Community Group – Golf Tournament would be approved as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Manuel was excused for this matter due to a perceived Conflict of Interest.

Councillor Bartlett advised that Telus was discussed at the meeting and the Director of Finance was going to report on this at the next meeting.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Finn.

Federal Infrastructure Fund

The Federal Government has a new funding program for water and sewer programs. The funding parameters require the Town to pay fifteen percent (15%) as a contribution. The Director of Engineering and Works presented a list of water and sewer projects totaling \$10.5 million. These include Second Avenue\Victoria Street - water, sewer and storm sewer; Lincoln Road – water and sewer; Duggan Street - trunk line sewer; and Grenfell Heights – water and storm sewer.

The Committee recommends these projects be applied for.

Asphalt Plant Permit

Council reviewed the annual permit for the operation of an asphalt plant on the Trans Canada Highway by Penney Paving.

The Committee recommends the permit be approved and that staff monitor the dust and odor conditions.

Grenfell Heights Sewer

The Director of Engineering and Works reviewed the problems with the Grenfell Heights sewer overloading. He has been in contact with Provincial Environment regarding re-establishing the overflow outlet.

The Committee recommends that staff proceed with the planning of this work and discuss the details and budget at the next Public Works and Planning Committee meeting.

Botwood Flow Meter

The Tender for the Flow Meter at the Water Treatment Plant for this water line to Botwood and area is over budget. Other work at the Water Treatment Plant is costing more than expected, as well.

The Committee recommends that the Director of Engineering and Works reformat our Capital Budget to accommodate this work and present it at the next Public Works and Planning Committee meeting.

Energy Retrofit Project

The Town has been in contact with Honeywell regarding an “Opportunity Assessment Workshop” that would examine our energy consumption and look for

opportunities to reduce consumption through capital investment. This workshop does not cost the Town, but could identify areas where we can be more efficient.

The Committee recommends that the Town participate in this project.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Finn\Moores

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 Planning

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

Accessory Building Request – 15 McCarthy Street

The Committee reviewed an application for an accessory building at 15 McCarthy Street. This is an oversized lot (greater than 12,000 square feet).

The Committee recommends this application be approved.

Discretionary Use Notice – 276 Grenfell Heights – Small Engine Repair

The Committee discussed a request for a home based business (small engine repair) at 276 Grenfell Heights. The notice was placed in the local newspaper and mailed to adjacent property owners. The Town did not receive any objections.

The Committee recommends this application be approved.

Medicinal Marijuana Dispensary – Lorraine’s – 4 Lincoln Road

The Committee discussed a request to pen a medicinal marijuana dispensary at 4 Lincoln Road.

These sites are not yet legal in Newfoundland and Labrador and therefore the Committee recommends this request be denied.

Wind Turbine for Residential Use – 54 Pondview Drive

The Committee reviewed an application for the construction and operation of a wind turbine for residential use at 54 Pondview Drive.

The Committee recommends that staff complete a review of regulations covering these turbines in other Canadian Municipalities. Regulation suitable for our area will be drafted for discussion at a future meeting.

Pedestrian Access – Harmsworth Drive to Downtown

The Committee discussed three (3) proposals to have paved access from Harmsworth Drive to the downtown area. Cost for this work is significant.

The Committee recommends this work not be considered for 2016 due to funding. The Committee also recommends that Town staff look at upgrading existing shoulders and walkways to improve access.

Mulrooney Avenue Traffic

The Committee reviewed information from the Municipal Police on traffic speeds and signage on Mulrooney Avenue. Average speeds were within the posted limits.

The Committee recommends that reduced speed limit signs of 30 km\hour be posted and appropriate paint markings be installed. Traffic speeds will be monitored and speed notification signs will be considered on short term basis.

Commercial Development – Cromer Avenue – Penney Automotive Group

Staff updated the Committee on a recent meeting with Mr. Penney on his plans for the commercial development. Preliminary plans have been presented and a development agreement is being drafted.

The Developer is expecting to have the entire infrastructure completed by the fall of 2016.

Correspondence – Dawe's Mechanical

The Committee discussed correspondence from Dawe's Mechanical requesting residential plumbing work for new homes to be completed by a Journey Person Plumber. This is not a requirement of the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor or most Municipalities in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Committee recommends that Council consider the impacts of such a policy for discussion at a future meeting.

Permit Conditions

The Committee reviewed information from the Building Inspector on implementing two (2) new conditions for new construction, soil compaction and footing location confirmation. Both of these issues will result in higher costs to the homeowner.

The Committee recommends that Council consider the impacts of implementing these changes for discussion at a future meeting.

Maloney Street Contract Extension

The Committee discussed concrete work for Maloney Street to be completed under the existing 2015 Street Resurfacing Contract to Penney Paving. This concrete work will be completed prior to base asphalt being installed.

The Committee recommends this work be included as a contract extension to 2015 Street Resurfacing.

Parking on Queen Street

The Committee discussed concerns raised with the amount of on street parking due to events at the Royal Canadian Legion.

The Committee requested staff review this issue with the Municipal Police and Legion staff. All available off street parking should be utilized.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Finn

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

Parks, Recreation and Special Events

The following report was presented by Councillor Browne.

Gorge Park Weddings\Facility Rentals

The Committee discussed the rental guidelines for Gorge Park and other outdoor facilities as many people are calling the Parks and Recreation Department Office looking to book Gorge Park and Church Road Park for weddings. It is likely we could have two (2) weddings at the same time.

The Committee recommends to keep with the current guidelines which state the Parks to be open for the public at all times. People are welcome to use the facilities for weddings, but the Park will not be closed to the public. It is also recommended any expenses incurred by the Town for staffing at any of our indoor or outdoor facilities be charged to the user group.

Community Gardens Update

A public meeting was held at the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium on May 11th to discuss the interest in a Community Garden in Grand Falls-Windsor. A location was selected next to the Curling Club on Lincoln Road where the old Farmers Market was located. There was great interest at the meeting with lots of ideas. Another meeting is planned for May 25th to discuss the site layout and possible programs.

The Committee recommends to purchase topsoil for the facility as soon as it is available to ensure planting will start this spring.

Outdoor Rink

The Parks and Recreation Director presented a budget to the Committee to install an outdoor rink at Centennial Field. The Committee discussed the budget and the possibility of a skating oval at Centennial Field.

The Committee recommends the Director of Parks and Recreation investigate the skating oval and report back to the Committee.

Mud Fest Update

The Director of Parks and Recreation informed the Committee registration for Mud Fest is very low. It was noted the group of riders from the Avalon have not registered as their group has folded.

The Committee recommends moving the date from June 10th-11th to August 19th-20th to give staff more time to increase registrations for the events.

New Soccer Field Plan

The Committee discussed the need for the second soccer field this summer. The proposed plan is costly and too big of a project to complete this summer.

The Committee recommends to refer this issue to the Finance and Administration Committee to be considered for funding under Town Funded Capital. The Committee also recommends to sod over the infield of the Centennial Baseball Field to make the field usable this summer and complete the fencing for the project in next year's Capital.

Roger Lane Memorial Plaque

The Committee discussed the memorial plaque for the late Roger Lane that will be installed on High Street.

The Committee recommends the Director of Parks and Recreation order the plaque.

Windsor Stadium Roof Beams

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented the Committee with an estimate to insulate the beams at Windsor Stadium. This work is necessary to stop the condensation that is forming on the beams and dripping water onto the ice surface during the summer months.

The Committee recommends to refer this request to the Finance and Administration Committee.

Goodyear Avenue - Baseball Storage Building

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented the Committee with an estimate to install siding and roofing on the gazebo at Goodyear Avenue Baseball Fields to make a storage shed for Minor Baseball.

The Committee recommends to refer this request to the Finance and Administration Committee.

Old Farmers Market Request

The Committee discussed a request to install a picnic table at the old Farmers Market on Lincoln Road for the users of the chip van that sets up there.

The Committee recommends this request be denied and all chip van users be encouraged to use the new Farmers Market on High Street. The Committee also

recommends to refer the Vendor Regulations and vendor locations to the Economic Development, Tourism and Heritage Committee for review.

Director's Report

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented a list of events, activities and programs the Department are involved with over the next couple of months.

The Committee recommends the Department continue the promotion and implementation of these activities to ensure maximum participation from our citizens and community groups.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Moores

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Finn referred to the closure of the Supreme Court in Grand Falls-Windsor and expressed his displeasure with the decision. He advised that the legal community in Harbour Grace are taking action against the Province stating that the Province does not have the jurisdiction. It was agreed that Council would approach the legal community to explain how we could combat this. He also informed Council that the announcement was made regarding the construction of an extra lane on the Trans Canada Highway at the weigh scales that Council has lobbied for a number of years.

Councillor Pinsent requested the general public to report people who litter. He encouraged people to get out and support the "Relay for Life".

Councillor Bartlett encouraged the public to download the free Town of Grand Falls-Windsor App for mobile devices. She announced that we have had twenty-one (21) new businesses open, sixteen (16) of which are home based business. She also expressed her concern with the Ernest and Young Report on long term care beds for Central Newfoundland. She felt the Report was flawed and was writing a letter to the Minister of Health and Community Services regarding the Report.

Councillor Moores expressed concern that the Mill Bridge is closed to tour buses and any traffic over ten (10) tonnes. This is detrimental to the tourism industry as well as the construction industry.

Councillor Coady-Davis explained the clean-up rules, particularly, that black bags would not be collected. Also that metal material is picked up separately so it can be recycled. She also reviewed the Parks and Recreation Program brochure and the Town Spring Newsletter. She also congratulated the former Director of Parks and Recreation on winning the Cy Hoskins Award given for significant growth in recreation in the community.

Mayor Manuel reviewed the Salmon Festival events and encouraged everyone to take part.

Motion

Browne\Finn

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, June 21st, 2016. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Barry Manuel
Mayor

M. Pinsent
Town Manager\Clerk