

MEETING #510MINUTES OF MEETINGGRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCILHELD IN THE TOWN HALL7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor: Barry Manuel
 Deputy Mayor: Mike Browne
 Councillors: Rod Bennett, Amy Coady-Davis, Shawn Feener,
 Mark Whiffen
 Staff: D. Finn, Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk
 J. Saunders, Town Manager\Clerk
 N. Chatman, Director of Engineering and Works
 K. Antle, Director of Parks and Recreation
 S. Gosse, Director of Finance and HR
 K. Hutchinson, Executive Secretary

Prior to the meeting Councillor Whiffen presented the team from HMCS St. John's with a donation for their "Run the Rock" Campaign. "Run the Rock" is an annual relay run across Newfoundland in support of the Children's Wish Foundation. Council thanked HMCS St. John's for everything they are doing.

HMCS presented a plaque to Council in appreciation for the hospitality they have received.

Grand Falls-Windsor Sea Cadets\67 RCSCC Windsor also showed their support by presenting a cheque to the crew of HMCS St. John's.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #509 of Tuesday, June 4th, 2019.

Motion

Bennett\Browne

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #509 of Tuesday, June 4th, 2019 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Coady-Davis presented the disbursement report in the amount of \$577,233.72.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Feener

Be it resolved that the disbursement report in the amount of \$577,233.72 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks, Recreation and Special Events

The following report was presented by Councillor Bennett.

Stinging Nettles at Gorge Park

The Committee discussed a concern from a resident about Stinging Nettles at Gorge Park that are located close to the playground. The plant is not poisonous, but does cause a rash when it comes in contact with your skin.

The Committee recommends staff trim the plants down as much as possible with weed trimmers and to keep a close watch on the plants as they will continue to grow back. The Committee also recommends to update the signage in the area to better notify the public of the hazard.

Gulls at Gorge Park

The Committee discussed a concern from a citizen regarding gulls emptying the garbage cans at Gorge Park leaving a big mess around the Park. An extra garbage can was installed at the Park last year to help with the cans that are overflowing.

The Committee recommends staff empty the cans daily to ensure the cans do not overflow. The Committee also recommends staff investigate the cost of new cans with lids.

YMCA Mini Splits

The Committee discussed the status of the Mini Splits that are approved for the YMCA Weight Room. It was noted that the tender has been called and will close on June 20th, 2019.

The Committee recommends to award the tender as soon as possible to ensure the units are installed before the weather gets too warm.

RFP Recreation Facility Needs Assessment

The Director informed the Committee the results for the Recreation Facility Needs Assessment RFP are completed and three (3) bids were submitted.

The Committee recommends forwarding the proposals to Council for review and to discuss at the next Committee of the Whole meeting before final approval.

Pentecostal Cemetery Request

The Committee discussed a request from the Pentecostal Church requesting topsoil to landscape an area in their cemetery plot at the Interfaith Cemetery.

The Committee recommends staff set up a meeting with all churches included in the Cemetery to come up with a plan to better maintain and operate the current Cemetery.

Canadian Ramp Company Correspondence

The Director presented the Committee with several proposals from Canadian Ramp Company for upgrades to our Skateboard Park.

The Committee recommends to consider these upgrades in the 2020 Capital Program requests.

Recreation Facility Rentals

The Committee discussed the current Recreation Facility Rental Contracts for both Profit and Not-for-Profit User Groups.

The Committee recommends staff update our existing contracts to ensure all users who rent our facilities pay for staffing expenses during their rental.

Heritage Building Landscaping

The Committee discussed a request from the Heritage Society for the Town to look after the landscaping needs around their new Heritage Building such as mowing grass, pruning trees and general clean-up of the grounds.

The Committee recommends staff and Council meet with the Heritage Society to formulate a working agreement with them that will address all the maintenance and operational requirements for the building and who is responsible for the appropriate expenses.

Gymnastics Building

The Committee discussed the status of the old Millcrest Academy building with regards to the Social Enterprise Group and the Town obtaining the building to use for social and recreational programs. It was noted there is a deadline of June 30th for the Social Enterprise Group to obtain funding to renovate the building and sign a contract with the School Board.

The Committee recommends that the Chief Administrative Officer contact the Social Enterprise Group to see if the Town are able to assist with the funding application or necessary building maintenance. The Committee also recommends staff check on the status of other vacant buildings or gymnasiums in Town that may be available for rent or purchase.

Billy Ballard Memorial

The Committee discussed the status of the Billy Ballard Memorial Bike and Cart. The site has been selected on the corner of Main Street and Columbus Drive and the Mayor has been in contact with the family working on the cart details.

The Committee recommends staff and the Mayor continue to work with the Ballard family and make all the necessary arrangements to install the monument this summer.

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 6-0.

Councillor Bennett advised that the YMCA Mini Splits Tender has been awarded and they will be installed very soon.

Salmon Festival

The following report was presented by Councillor Feener.

Stingray Advertising Proposal

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented the Committee with the revised Stingray Advertising Proposal.

The Committee recommends approval of this proposal and for staff to set up the radio ads as soon as possible.

Music NL Visit

The Director of Parks and Recreation updated the Committee on the visit Music NL had with staff on Monday, June 10th. The meeting with Music NL was to work out all the schedule details as well as do site visits with the Production Manager.

Sound and Lights

The Committee discussed the Sound and Lights RFP for this year's Festival. The final draft was completed during Music NL's visit on June 10th and the Committee approves this final draft.

The Committee recommends staff put out the Sound and Lights Proposal as soon as possible.

Festival Brochure

The Committee reviewed a first draft of the Festival Brochure noting there are many changes required.

The Committee recommends staff make the necessary revisions to the brochure and send out for print as soon as possible.

Festival Grant Worker

The Director informed the Committee Music NL have received funding to hire a worker to help organize this year's Festival and they started work on June 10th for thirteen (13) weeks.

Ticket Sale Update

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented the Committee with an updated list of tickets sold to each event for this year's Festival. It was noted tickets for several events are selling very well and all citizens are encourage to go online and purchase tickets now as we expect to be sold out very soon for some events.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Feener\Bennett

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

Councillor Coady-Davis stated that she has received comments about only being able to purchase tickets online and suggested that we have one day where people can come in to either the Recreation Department or the Town Hall and purchase tickets using either cash or debit.

Councillor Bennett advised that this problem has been solved and that tickets can now be purchased with cash or debit at the Recreation Department.

Mayor Manuel noted that although we are trying to push people to purchase tickets online they understand that there are people that do not use computers at all and it is nice that we are able to cater to those individuals.

Councillor Feener stated that Council will be making a decision on the Sound and Lights proposal in the next few days.

Public Works and Planning

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Land Request – 11 Valley Road

The Committee reviewed a request from the owner of 11 Valley Road to purchase 35 square metres (376 square feet) of backland.

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

Crown Land Referral – 477 Grenfell Heights

The Committee reviewed a Crown Land referral for the resident at 477 Grenfell Heights. The land requested is to be used for agriculture. This was originally declined in a previous meeting for 6.22ha of land, but the applicant has reduced his requested to 2.19ha.

The Committee recommends this request be approved, but be limited to 2.19ha which is 200 metres beyond the rear property line of 477 Grenfell Heights. Also, the ditch reservation on the west side of the property must be excluded from the approved area.

Cul-de-Sac Parking

The Committee reviewed information on cul-de-sacs in high density areas within the Town. This was requested from a previous meeting regarding parking in the middle of the cul-de-sac. Currently, parking is not permitted in this area for most streets.

The Committee recommends that more feedback be collected from the residents in these areas and be brought to Committee for discussion.

Sea Can Request – 1 Queensway

The Committee reviewed a request from a business at 1 Queensway to place a Sea Can on the west side of the building for storage. Shipping containers are prohibited for this use in the Town's Development Regulations.

The Committee recommends this request be denied. In addition, the Committee recommends the use of Sea Cans be considered as a discretionary use in the upcoming Development Regulations review.

Discretionary Use – 1 Caribou Road

The Committee reviewed a request for a home based business at 1 Caribou Road. The proposed business is for car detailing. This type of business is identified as a discretionary use in this zone in the Town's Development

Regulations. A notice was mailed to adjacent property owners and advertised on the Town's Facebook page and there were two (2) objections and one (1) concern received.

The Committee recommends this be approved.

Discretionary Use – 18 Monchy Road

The Committee reviewed a request for a home based business at 18 Monchy Road. The proposed business is for car detailing. This type of business is identified as a discretionary use in this zone in the Town's Development Regulations. A notice was mailed to adjacent property owners and advertised on the Town's Facebook page and there were two (2) objections and one (1) response in support received.

The Committee recommends this be approved.

Land Request – 26 Hardy Avenue

The Committee reviewed a request from Exploits Valley Animal Hospital at 26 Hardy Avenue to purchase an additional 1,059 square metres (11,400 square feet) of back land for the purpose of extending their parking space.

The Committee recommends this be approved.

Beothuck Crescent

The Committee reviewed a request for further development on Beothuck Crescent to accommodate an additional four (4) to six (6) lots. The original intent was to construct a new home, but the potential for further development will require infrastructure to meet the demand.

The Committee recommends no development at this time, but for the Engineering Department to complete an estimate for the necessary upgrade and bring back to the Committee for discussion.

NL Hydro Safety Signs

The Committee was presented with NL Hydro's plan for safety sign installation along the Exploits River to meet Dam Safety Regulations.

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 6-0.

Councillor Whiffen commented on the home based business requests for both 1 Caribou Road and 18 Monchy Road. He stated that he is reluctantly supporting this request because there will be an unfair tax advantage in comparison to other commercial operators. He feels that this will encourage other commercial operators to move the operation to their residence. He would like to discuss a fair compensation at the next Finance and Administration Committee because there will be an additional requirement for water than normal at these home based car detailing locations.

Councillor Bennett stated there are a number of sea cans being used in the Town for storage. The request for one being placed at 1 Queensway was not an issue for him, had it been at the back of the building. The issue was the request was for it to be placed at the side of the road.

Mayor Manuel advised that the Town will look further into the Discretionary Use Policy and address to see if it needs to be adjusted in order to address sea can locations and similar situations.

Finance and Administration

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week twenty-three (23). Total labour was \$1,438,276. This was \$4,322 (0.3%) under Budget.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs.

Cash Collections

The Committee reviewed taxation collections for May 19th, 2019. Total taxation receivable as of that date was \$5,523,175 (\$4,548,129 – 2018) – an increase of \$1,732,210 (28.91%) from the previous year.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to pursue all outstanding taxes.

Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$577,233.72 and recommends this be presented at the next Council Meeting.

Land Sale Policy

The Committee reviewed the Land Sale Policy and discussed possible revisions.

The Committee recommended no change to the Land Sale Policy be adopted at this time.

Purchasing Policy

The Committee discussed the development of a Purchasing Policy and recommends that a Purchasing Policy be drafted for items that fall under the Public Procurement Act thresholds.

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency – EXCITE Corporation

The Committee reviewed an Application for Financial Assistance for the EXCITE Corporation.

The Committee recommends that the application be approved.

Tenders

The Committee reviewed a Tender for Four (4) New Double-Sided Solar Powered Pedestrian Crosswalk Signs.

The Committee recommends that this be re-tendered as none of the bids met the technical requirements of the tender.

The Committee reviewed a Tender for Speed Notification Signs.

The Committee recommends that this be awarded to Atlantic Construction Elite Services in the amount of \$10,898 plus HST.

The Committee reviewed a Tender for One New 2019-2020 Full Size Extended Cab Pick-up 4 X 4.

The Committee recommends that this be awarded to Marsh Motors Chrysler Ltd. in the amount of \$34,297 plus HST.

2019 Paving Tender Results – Project 2019-GI

The Committee reviewed the 2019 Paving Tender result.

The Committee recommends this be awarded to Penney Paving Limited in the amount of \$1,772,800.05 plus HST (\$185,912.45 or 9.5% under the estimated amount).

Engineering Costs for Signalized Intersection Upgrades

The Committee reviewed a request for Engineering Costs for Signalized Intersection Upgrades.

The Committee recommends that this be awarded to Crandall Engineering Limited in the amount of \$12,950 plus HST.

Funding Requests

The Committee discussed a funding request from the Exploits Valley 50+ Club to provide financial support for members to offset travel costs for a summer trip.

The Committee recommends \$500 be approved.

The Committee reviewed a request for funding related to the H.M.S.C. St. John's "Run the Rock" Charity Relay Run.

The Committee recommends \$250 be approved.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Grand Falls-Windsor Farmer's Market for funding.

The Committee recommends that a one-time Operating Grant be approved in the amount of \$5,750.

Grand Falls-Windsor Farmer's Market

The Committee reviewed a draft agreement between the Grand Falls-Windsor Farmer's Market and the Town.

The Committee recommends that staff make changes to and finalize this agreement based on discussions.

Canadian Federation of Independent Business

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) regarding RV Parks.

The Committee recommends staff gather additional information required and reply to the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Bennett

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

Deputy Mayor Browne stated that in regards to the Farmer's Market and their request for funding, which was approved in the amount of \$5,750, this is a one-time donation from the Town and they intend to operate the Farmer's Market under a volunteer Board of Directors. We wish them well with their continued success.

Mayor Manuel noted that the Farmer's Market adds value to the Town and that they are looking to grow to include more vendors and different kinds of goods. Hopefully, people get engaged in this and we wish them all the best. We also hope they are able to expand and continue a good thing into the future of the community.

Tenders

The following tender was presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

TENDER SUMMARY

FOUR (4) NEW 2019-2020 FOUR-WHEEL DRIVES LOADERS

#19051710

| <u>Company Name</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>HST</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Nortrax | \$ 1,023,600.00 | \$ 153,540.00 | \$ 1,177,140.00 |
| Reefer Repair Services | \$ 1,041,674.43 | \$ 156,251.16 | \$ 1,197,925.59 |
| Toromont Cat | \$ 1,070,360.00 | \$ 160,554.00 | \$ 1,230,914.00 |

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Madsen Construction | \$ 1,074,800.00 | \$ 161,220.00 | \$ 1,236,020.00 |
| Reefer Repair Services | \$ 1,140,556.38 | \$ 171,083.46 | \$ 1,311,639.84 |
| Harvey & Company | \$ 1,185,000.00 | \$ 177,750.00 | \$ 1,362,750.00 |

The Committee reviewed the Tender for Four (4) New 2019-2020 Four-Wheel Drive Loaders.

The Committee recommends that this be awarded to Nortrax in the amount of \$1,023,600.00 plus HST.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Browne

Be it resolved that the Tender for Four (4) New 2019-2020 Four-Wheel Drive Loaders be awarded to Nortrax in the amount of \$1,023,600.00 plus HST. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councillor Coady-Davis stated that this tender is related to our five (5) year replacement strategy that we adopted in last year's Budget and that this is the first major purchase of equipment.

Councillor Bennett stated that we purchased four (4) loaders because our loaders ranged from twenty (20) to thirty (30) years old and we were having a lot of issues with snow clearing last year having equipment down. We spent well over \$100,000 on parts for those machines and Council felt this was a good choice for the Town and this year we should have no issues with snow clearing.

Mayor Manuel stated that the equipment we had was aging and in desperate need of replacement and when you are spending time and money on parts and repairs it becomes counterproductive. That is why we purchased the new equipment so that we can achieve the level of services that residents have become accustomed to.

The following tender was also presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

TENDER SUMMARY

CLEARING OF THE WWTF EXPANSION

17-NRP-17-00005

2019-G2

| <u>Company Name</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>HST</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| Gill's Construction Ltd. | \$36,737.65 | \$5,510.65 | \$42,248.30 |
| NL Vegetation Control Ltd. | \$58,544.00 | \$8,781.60 | \$67,325.60 |

The Committee reviewed the Tender for Clearing of the WWTF Expansion (17-NRP-17-00005).

The Committee recommends that this be awarded to Gill's Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$36,737.65 plus HST.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Browne

Be it resolved that the Tender for Clearing of the WWTF Expansion be awarded to Gill's Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$36,737.65 plus HST. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Manuel stated that this would see some excavation and clearing of material at the site of the Wastewater Treatment Plant for the new lagoon.

Councillor Coady-Davis stated that this will make us compliant with the Federal Wastewater Regulations.

Mayor Manuel noted that we will be one of the very few in the Province that will be compliant with the 2020 deadline of the Wastewater Regulations.

Prior to the reading of this report Deputy Mayor Browne was excused due to a perceived conflict of interest.

The following report was also presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

Grand Falls Golf Club

The Committee reviewed the Grand Falls Golf Club Financial Statements and Budget for 2019.

The Committee recommends that this be approved.

The Committee reviewed a request to enter a team in the 16th Annual Cataracts Golf Tournament at a cost of \$400.

The Committee recommends that this be approved.

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

The Committee recommends \$800 be approved.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Bennett

Be it resolved that these recommendations and report would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Deputy Mayor Browne returned to the meeting at this time.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Appointment of Councillor's to Standing Committees of Council

As a result of the resignation of Councillor Finn on April 23rd, 2019, Council recommends interim adjustment be made to its Committee Structure. The changes include Mayor Manuel being assigned to the Public Works and Planning Committee, Councillor Bennett being assigned to the Finance and Administration Committee, Councillor Feener being assigned to the Exploits Regional Water Supply Committee and Councillor Bennett being assigned to the Central Newfoundland Waste Management Services Board.

All other Council Committee assignments that were approved in October of 2017 will remain as is until a point following the By-Election which is anticipated in the fall of 2019.

Port Authority Council Representative Appointment

Council recommends that Jeff Saunders be appointed as Council's representative on the Botwood Port Authority beyond his retirement that is effective June 28th, 2019. This appointment will be until the end of 2020. Mr. Saunders has served in this role for the past 1.5 years in his capacity of Town Manager\Clerk. Council thanks Mr. Saunders for his past leadership fulfilling this role and we look forward to his future contributions representing the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor.

Grass Maintenance at the Intersection of Taylor Drive and Scott Avenue

Council discussed the condition of grass maintenance and the general aesthetics at the entrance to the Salmonid Interpretation Centre and specifically at the intersection of Taylor Drive and Scott Avenue.

Because this intersection is a point in the community that would attract thousands of visitors, Council recommends that maintenance be carried out around this intersection.

Recently Deceased Citizen – Billy Ballard

Council wishes to recognize Billy Ballard following his passing in September of 2018 at the age of seventy-five (75). Mr. Ballard was a familiar face in the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor who could be seen on his bicycle with a cart collecting recyclables and picking up litter.

Council recommends staff develop his bicycle cart as a landscaping feature to be placed at the corner of Main Street and Columbus Drive.

Ivany's Road Land Owner VS Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and Corduroy Developers Legal Proceedings

Council was updated on legal proceedings between an Ivany's Road land owner, the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and Corduroy Developers.

Council recommends that staff remain engaged with our legal representation and continue with the process until it is concluded.

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 6-0.

Mayor Manuel noted a correction in the Minutes in the first paragraph that stated Appointment of Councillor's to Standing Committees of Council approved October of 2018 should read 2017.

Mayor Manuel also wanted to state some clarity on the Billy Ballard Memorial which is intended to be placed at the corner of Columbus Drive and Main Street. He stated that it was a very appropriate location for the memorial given that it is across from the recycling depot and everyone knows that over the

years Billy visited that facility more than anybody else in Town. The idea is to raise the ground and do some landscaping. They hope to have the actual cart there if not a replica accompanied by an interpretive sign. The sign will show a picture of Billy and a couple of paragraphs explaining the contributions he made to Grand Falls-Windsor. Mayor Manuel also stated that when Council does these sorts of things it is a worry about setting precedence, because there is a lot of deserving citizens out there, but everyone agreed that Billy was a unique case and they hope to get some positive feedback from the community.

Mayor Manuel also stated that at the corner of Taylor Drive and Scott Avenue landscaping is required because we do get a lot of visitors to the Salmonid Interpretation Centre. He also hopes that the Abitibi land will be transferred to the Town in the next couple of months and then there will be more development in that area which we hope will attract additional visitors. That is why it is very important to make sure we are keeping that area presentable and we also talked about our highway strategy to make sure we are presenting our best selves when it comes to any visitors passing through or coming into Grand Falls-Windsor at our various off ramps. He also wants to take it a step further because we have other areas in Town that it would be very wise of us to clean up and do some landscaping, particularly at the subdivisions. There are some subdivisions that need to have their entrances dressed up and landscaped to make them more pleasing and present a clean neighbourhood.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Feener advised that on June 22nd, 2019 he attended the new Lions Club Charter Night and that he was very impressed that it was rejuvenated. After their second meeting they had twenty-five (25) members including one (1) student and he pointed out that new members are welcome. They meet every second Thursday at the IbeX meeting room on Hardy Avenue. Valerie Clarke is the Global Membership Chair. She acknowledged Mayor Manuel and Economic Development Officer Gary Hennessey to let them know that they appreciate everything that they did behind the scenes.

Deputy Mayor Browne congratulated Elmo Hewlett, President of the Corduroy Brook Enhancement Association on celebrating twenty-five (25) years

and the major funding announcement for the boardwalk and Corduroy Brook Trails. There are over twenty (20) kilometers of trail at the facility and one of the leading walking trails on the island. He also advised that the long-term healthcare facility construction has begun and they are in the process of remediating the land so that construction should start August 1st, 2019. We look forward to it alleviating the lack of Level 3 healthcare beds in Grand Falls-Windsor when the new facility opens. He also congratulated the Parks and Recreation Department on their Perfectly Centered Gymnastics Program and year-end show that sold eight hundred and fifty (850) tickets for the event. Two hundred and sixty (260) gymnasts are involved in the Program and there is room for a few more, but recognized a better facility is needed. We are currently looking for a new facility and hopefully will have one for the fall. He congratulated all staff on a tremendous effort. He commented on Canada Day celebrations coming up on July 1st with a lot of free activities, rides, and free admission with everyone invited to Shanawdithit Centennial Field at 2:00 P.M. on Monday to take in the opening ceremonies and a wide array of activities for everybody to participate in. Once it gets dark there will be a major fireworks display and it will be an impressive display as always. He also wanted to say good-bye to Jeff Saunders, our former Town Manager\Clerk and congratulate him on a terrific career with the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and wish him all the best.

Councillor Coady-Davis advised that the Queen Street Dinner Theatre is getting ready to kick off their upcoming season and wanted to encourage residents to purchase tickets. She noted that hydrant flushing is going on around Town and all the updates are posted on our Facebook page and our Town app will have an alert about what areas are being flushed. She also wanted to thank all teachers and support staff in all the schools in this area on another fantastic school year and congratulated all the students who we hope will have a safe and happy summer.

Councillor Bennett advised that he attended the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run with Mayor Manuel and Deputy Mayor Browne on June 11th and give a big “Thank You” to Colleen Ryan because it was an amazing event again this year. He commented on the Poutine Festival that it was a fantastic event with a full week-end of fun. He received many comments from participants that they couldn’t wait to attend again next year. He noted that on Canada Day, himself, Mayor Manuel, Deputy Mayor Browne, Councillor Feener, MHA Chris Tibbs, MHA Pleaman Forsey, Fire Chief Vince MacKenzie and MP Scott Simms are participating in a dunk tank. Money raised for this will be going to a great cause. He also thanked Jeff Saunders for his last twenty-eight (28) plus years with the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and hopes he enjoys his retirement.

Mayor Manuel advised that the Youth Firefighters Graduation was held on June 5th and they had thirty (30) to forty (40) Grads again this year. He wanted to

congratulate them all on this good program. He stated that we had “Pride Week” activities which included a flag-raising, a March and an event at the Stadium along with many other events from local businesses. It was well planned and well attended and he expressed congratulations to all involved. He also attended the “Mothers Against Drunk Driving” candle vigil that takes place annually. He wanted to congratulate the people locally here in the Club that keeps the awareness going both Provincially and Nationally. He commented that we had “Elder Abuse Awareness Day” at the Ski Club where about one hundred and forty (140) seniors took part. This was a great educational piece for people to learn and ask questions to educate themselves on the topic. He also announced that the SPCA held their Provincial AGM this past week-end and wanted to thank them for all they continue to do in our community. He wanted to say congratulations to the College of the North Atlantic graduates and the Exploits Valley High graduates and please stay safe. He advised that he attended the dedication for a room at the Qalipu Building for the late Bernie Hanlon on Friday. Bernie was dedicated to growing the Band Council in the region and celebrating indigenous issues. It was a very nice ceremony and to have the room dedicated to her is certainly fitting. He wished a very happy 90th birthday to Louise Snow of Victoria Street. He stated that it was nice to show appreciation to staff by having a BBQ and it was great to see over ninety (90) staff members attend. On behalf of Council, he wanted to say “thank you” to all staff. He knows it is not always an easy job, but we have great capable staff who do great work all over Town and it is important to recognize it. He also showed the Championship Curling Banner that the local team consisting of Kim O’Neill, Margaret MacNeil, Tony Kyritsis, Gary Wicks, Josh Gardner and Coaches Joe Tremblett and Sara Pinsent won in this year’s Winter Games hosted in Grand Falls-Windsor. The Banner was presented to Council at their Banquet so they will proudly hang it in their honour. Special Olympics Newfoundland and Labrador had their Provincial Awards today and Josh Gardner who was on the local Curling Team and is known as a great swimmer was named the Newfoundland and Labrador Special Olympics “Male Athlete of the Year”. The Curling Team that won the Winter Games also won the Newfoundland and Labrador Special Olympics “Team of the Year”. He expressed congratulations to all the winners. The Exploits Hurricanes are being acknowledged for their success and we want to say “thank you” to their coaches and volunteers as well. He announced that this Sunday, June 30th is Memorial Sunday with the Parade starting at the Armouries at 2:30 P.M. He also wanted to update on the Abitibi land transfer. Government are cleaning up the site for the long-term care facility. We do not expect Government to clean up the entire site. We do expect and Government have agreed that the Provincial Government will assume any liabilities that come from existing contamination. Once the Town accepts the land

we anticipate that a big part of the development on that site would be parks, recreation and leisure related which would involve bringing fill in as opposed to excavating or disturbing soil. If there were ever a location that was being proposed for some sort of development then we would look at that site and evaluate at that time. If there were development that disturbed anything after the transfer, then the Town and or any potential developers would be responsible for the cost. The land transfer is expected to be finalized in the next few months and then we can start planning and using it to the best interest of the community. He wanted to acknowledge Jeff Saunders who is leaving us after twenty-eight (28) years. Jeff is going to be missed because his work ethic is second to none. He has always taken his work very seriously and has been very committed. Through his efforts over twenty-eight (28) years Jeff has made a major contribution to Grand Falls-Windsor and he is very well respected in Municipal Work and the Province. We wish him well on his retirement.

Jeff Saunders thanked Council for the words of encouragement and kind words. He stated that it has been a very rewarding career and he has seen many changes in that period of time. He was here during amalgamation, significant infrastructure development such as the Regional Water Treatment Plant, the new Waste Water Treatment Plant, expansion and added access to the Exploits River, closure of Abitibi, new commercial buildings, now seeing benefits of the aquaculture industry. The Abitibi land transfer is underway and should bring additional tourism potential, so we are looking at a very positive future. I have worked with seven (7) different Council's and four (4) different Mayors and have had a very positive experience with all. He thanked his family and stated that he has developed many relationships and friendships that will follow him into retirement. He thanked everyone for the opportunity that has been provided to him to work and have an impact on the growth and development of his hometown.

Mayor Manuel presented Jeff with a watch and again thanked him on behalf of the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor.

Motion

Bennett\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of Tuesday, July 16th, 2019. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Barry Manuel
Mayor

D. Finn
Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk