

MEETING #515MINUTES OF MEETINGGRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCILHELD IN THE TOWN HALL7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor: Barry Manuel  
 Deputy Mayor: Mike Browne  
 Councillors: Rod Bennett, Amy Coady-Davis, Shawn Feener,  
 Mark Whiffen  
 Councillor Elect: Holly Dwyer  
 Staff: D. Finn, Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk  
 N. Chatman, Director of Engineering and Works  
 K. Antle, Director of Parks and Recreation  
 S. Gosse, Director of Finance and HR  
 G. Hennessey, Economic Development Officer  
 K. Hutchinson, Executive Secretary

Darren Finn, Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk performed the swearing in ceremony for Councillor Elect Holly Dwyer.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Manuel congratulated Councillor Holly Dwyer.

Councillor Dwyer thanked everyone and said it was a pleasure to be here this evening. She thanked her husband John and her daughters Kaitlyn and Claire for supporting her in her decision to run for Council, and also her incredible family and friends for their tremendous support throughout the campaign. Many of whom are here this evening still supporting her. She also thanked Reg Hamilton, her Campaign Manager for his hard work and dedication. She spoke to residents of Grand Falls-Windsor and stated that she was overwhelmed and humbled by their support. She considers it an honour and a privilege to be elected Councillor and looks forward to working for them and with them over the next two (2) years. She also said she will work hard and make decisions after considering the best interest of Grand Falls-Windsor.

Councillor Dwyer stated while she was officially sworn in tonight at this meeting, she has attended four (4) or five (5) meetings over the past couple of weeks and now has a better sense of the work and commitment involved. She

commented that she is even more convinced that she will be able to make a strong positive contribution and truly looks forward to working collaboratively with the rest of Council, Town employees, residents and volunteers to help make this already beautiful community even better.

Prior to the meeting the Mayor signed a Proclamation for Wrongful Convictions Day on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.

The Mayor called the Meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #514 of Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Motion

Bennett\Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #514 of Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 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 \$1,153,182.81.

Motion

Coady-Davis

Be it resolved that the disbursement report in the amount of \$1,153,182.81 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Economic Development, Tourism and Heritage

The following report was presented by Councillor Whiffen.

### Hotel Feasibility Report

Staff continues to work with Cushman and Wakefield to finalize the Hotel Feasibility Study and are hopeful that a final report will be available to Council within a month.

The Committee recommends staff work with the company to finalize as soon as possible.

### Giant Flea Market

The Flea Market was held on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and was a success in terms of significant public participation. There were seventy-four (74) vendors registered for the market and there was no one on a waiting list.

The Committee recommends that staff continue with plans to host future events (June and September) and to consider other partners to get involved.

### Scale AQ

Representatives from aquaculture supply company Scale AQ will be in Grand Falls-Windsor in late September to recruit for a Field Service Technician and to continue their prospecting to identify office space.

The Committee recommends staff continue in their efforts to support Scale AQ.

### Mineral Resources Trade Show

The NL Mineral Resources Trade Show is scheduled from November 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in St. John's. The Economic Development Officer and Councillor Bennett will attend this Trade Show on behalf of the Town. Staff are also arranging new trade show booth presentation materials for this Show.

The Committee recommends that Council continue with its efforts to engage this mining industry.

### Mission to Campbell River

Staff have tentatively arranged a mission to Campbell River, BC to meet with supply companies and aquaculture industry partners from October 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The purpose of the mission is to make introductions with companies that will be considering expansion into Newfoundland in order to support the

aquaculture industry. The Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk, Business Development Officer and the Mayor will participate in this mission on behalf of Council.

The Committee recommends Council's participation in this mission and wants staff to engage companies and industry partners who will be considering expansions into Newfoundland. As well, on the return portion of this mission the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk will arrange meetings in Toronto with Innovations Norway Officials and Genomics Researchers associated with the genomics research ongoing in Grand Falls-Windsor.

### AquaNor

The Mayor and Business Development Officer attended the AquaNor Conference and Trade Show on August 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 in Trondheim, Norway. This Conference and Trade Show would be considered to be among the largest aquaculture events organized annually with more than 30,000 delegates. Aquaculture industry players are telling us that Newfoundland is the next major growth region for this industry which means there will be significant business and employment opportunities for communities.

The Committee was pleased with the outcome from this Conference and recommends staff follow up on its contacts that were established.

### Genomics Research

Staff provided an update on three (3) funding applications related to genomics research. These applications are valued at \$550,000 for Hearing Genomics, \$359,000 for Familial Psychiatric Disorders and \$1,000,000 for research related to genomics and cholesterol.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to follow up on these applications as required.

### NL Dizzy and Balance Clinics

This Clinic is associated with the genomics research and is tentatively rescheduled to open November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the EXCITE Centre.

### Annual Seniors Trade Fair

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Seniors Trade Fair is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium. Staff are anticipating thirty-five (35) vendors participating.

The Committee recommends that staff continue with their planning.

### Botwood Port Authority

The Botwood Port Authority has contracted Rob Strong and Associates to assist with strategic planning for offshore oil and gas opportunities on the north east coast. Part of their consulting work includes the co-ordination of an Oil and Gas Seminar on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Botwood.

The Committee recommends that staff and Council participate where their schedules permit.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Whiffen\Feener

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

Councillor Whiffen advised we recently had representatives attend the Cold Harvest Conference in St. John's, which is the Trade Show and Conference for the Newfoundland and Labrador Aquaculture Industry Association. While there we made lots of successful contact and had meetings with proponents that are considering Grand Falls-Windsor for a potential location to establish their operations, and that is a result of the work that we have put into this over the last several months. He wanted to stress that it is important to support the aquaculture industry because it is going to benefit us greatly. We already see that some of the companies are starting up and hiring people locally and if not locally then people are moving here. These are well paying jobs, skilled jobs that require Science Degrees, Technical Degrees, Engineering, Robotics and those kinds of skills. He also wanted to remind people to start looking for careers in the aquaculture industry because they are coming in large numbers and will need skilled people to work for them. NAIA awarded our Mayor with the Ambassador Award, so it is great that the industry itself has recognized the Mayor and the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor for the work that we have been doing to promote the industry.

In regards to the Mineral Resources Trade Show, we have all seen on the news about the Valentine Lake Development and we move along with prospecting there and we hope to see that ramp up within the next five (5) years and hope it will bring economic development to the region.

Mayor Manuel advised it is important for the citizens to educate themselves the same as we do as Councillors to make the best informed decision we can no matter what the topic is. He wanted to point out that in getting the Award it was very much a Council Award because everybody has been involved in this both staff and Council. He stated that he was very happy to receive it and to be recognized for all of our efforts that have gone into the aquaculture industry. He stated that he agreed with what Councillor Whiffen said that there is so much technology involved in the aquaculture industry and there will be a need for people with education in Engineering, Science, Technology and Robotics, so we hope that will bring training opportunities from local colleges that will also support the industry. He wanted to point out that there are critics out there that are trying to discredit the aquaculture industry globally, and because of that you may occasionally hear bad news stories. He also wanted to encourage people to educate themselves and get the facts. The Technology has grown so much that there is less and less issues with the industry and they work very hard to eliminate any potential issues when it comes to the standard farming industry. He stated that he is confident to say that this is going to be an industry that is going to be a big part of our Province for decades to come.

### Parks, Recreation and Special Events

The following report was presented by Councillor Bennett.

#### The Opportunity Project Youth Association Request

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Opportunity Project Youth Association requesting the Town to be the title sponsor for a “TOP Talent” musical fundraiser similar to the “Got Talent” TV Show.

The Committee recommends staff obtain more details about the Town’s required input and report back to the Committee.

### Lat49 Stakeholder Interviews

The Director informed the Committee Lat49 will be in Town from September 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to conduct the Stakeholder interviews for the Recreation Needs Assessment Study.

### Windsor Collegiate Building

The Director informed the Committee the Engineering Department completed their review of the old Windsor Collegiate building and that it would take in excess of \$2,000,000.00 to make the necessary repairs for the building to be usable for our Gymnastics Program.

The Committee recommends to not pursue this option, but for staff to further investigate the use of the old Millcrest Gymnasium.

### Billy Ballard Monument Update

The Director presented the Committee with several styles of monuments available and the approximate costs associated with each.

The Committee recommends the Director prepare a formal estimate and report back to the Committee.

### Craft Beer Festival Update

The Director updated the Committee on the plans for the Craft Beer Festival scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup>. Staff and ticket holders are very excited about our first ever Craft Beer Festival which is sold out.

### Town Staff Skating Request

The Committee discussed a request from a Town employee for the Town to offer a free skating session each week for Town employees.

As all public skating sessions are free of charge, the request is denied and it is recommended staff to partake in the skating sessions already offered to the public. The Parks and Recreation Department will schedule as many skating sessions as possible to give Town employees and all our citizens several options to go skating.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

## Motion

Bennett\Browne

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

Councillor Bennett stated he wanted to comment on the Craft Beer Festival as he did attend the event. He said it was a wonderful event and he wanted to thank all of the employees that were involved in making it such a success. He received a lot of positive comments from people that also attended and he is looking forward to it again next year.

Mayor Manuel advised in regards to the Recreation Needs Assessment Study being done by Lat49, it goes hand in hand with the topic of the former Booth Memorial High School and that we asked to look at the gymnasium to see if it was usable. We are really pressed for gym space in the community, which is great in one way because we have so many programs that we have been running and the uptake from the community has been so good that the programs like gymnastics have outgrown themselves. So we recognize that programs like gymnastics will have a long life in Grand Falls-Windsor and we are trying to rectify the situation to make sure we do have adequate and suitable space. Millcrest Academy was another former school that has been mentioned and we have been trying ever since the school closed (approximately 3 years) to access the gymnasium to run some programs from it. To say it is frustrating is an understatement, we have been getting the run around when it can be so simple to just allow us to use it and if we need to pay rent that's fine. The gym is in great shape and we would like to use it for our programs, but we have just not been able to get through the red tape and bureaucracy to make that happen. We do have a history when it comes to these old schools, such as the old GFA Elementary School that unfortunately was burned because it was left and there was nothing done by Government. We have the old GFA High School Building, which had a perfectly good gymnasium as well when the school closed about ten (10) years ago, but ended up being used as a storage facility for the School Board. By the time we got access to the gymnasium, it was not usable due to it being a hangout for people, setting fires, drinking and smoking. Now we have the School Board Office that burned to the ground about a month ago because it was just sitting there. Windsor Collegiate School was also damaged, so now we have Millcrest a perfectly good school that is also starting to deteriorate. I would like to encourage Government to figure out the use for this building for the future, so that it does not end up like some of these abandoned building I just mentioned which could potentially risk public safety.



## Public Works and Planning

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

### Carmelite Road – Sidewalk Update

The Director of Engineering and Works provided the Committee with updated information regarding a request for a new sidewalk on Carmelite Road. The requested area was from Hill Road to Cabot Road. This section has a narrow roadway and is adjacent to rock walls at the property boundaries. Construction of a sidewalk in this area would most likely cause extensive damage to these walls.

The Committee recommends this request be denied and the resident who requested the sidewalk be notified.

### Fall Clean-Up

The Committee reviewed a request from a resident for the Town to implement a Fall Clean-Up Schedule similar to the Spring Clean-Up. An additional schedule will increase cost significantly.

The Committee recommends this request be denied and staff to contact the resident. The Town has invested significantly into the Saturday Drop-Off and this provides residents with numerous opportunities throughout the year to dispose of their trash.

### NF Power Re-Route Proposal

The Committee reviewed the updated information from NF Power concerning their proposed re-route of a transmission line on the west side of Town near Penney Paving's asphalt and concrete plant operations. The transmission line needs a complete replacement and NF Power proposed to move the line from crossing the construction yard to the perimeter.

The Committee supports this proposal. It does not affect the Town and makes it safer for workers in the area.

### Whitmore Street

The Committee reviewed a request from G. L. Enterprises to have upgrades to Whitmore Street from the residential area to Toulett Drive. The request is for water, sewer and road upgrades in the industrial area.

The Committee recommends the Engineering Department provide a detailed cost estimate and bring back to the Committee for review.

### Cul-de-Sacs

The Committee reviewed possible parking lay-outs in the cul-de-sacs off Brown Avenue. It was previously decided to permit seasonal parking from May 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Committee recommends the proposal be implemented in 2020. Additional painting is required for the parking stalls and new signs to be installed. In addition, all residents in this area need to be notified of the change.

### Union Street Overpass

The Committee discussed further the request from Transportation and Works to close the Union Street Overpass for one (1) month in 2020 to complete extensive repairs. Although the bridge will be completely shut down for one (1) month, it will still be required to reduce it to one (1) lane for an additional month or two (2). The alternative would be to have it reduced to one (1) lane for six (6) or seven (7) months. Pedestrian traffic will be maintained throughout construction. Transportation and Works would like to work with the Town to ensure any closures and detour routes are implemented as the Town requires.

The Committee recommends staff work with Transportation and Works to establish the two (2) possible options and further discuss with the Committee. Also, discussions are required with businesses and emergency services that will be impacted.

### Fence Regulations

The Committee reviewed the latest Fence Regulations.

The Committee recommends these Regulations as presented be adopted.

### Capital – Hardy Avenue

The Committee reviewed a request from the Engineering Department to move an additional \$36k of Gas Tax from unallocated funds into the Hardy Avenue Paving Project. The additional funds are required due to the liquid adjustment that had to be paid as part of the contract and there is additional asphalt required to tie in the businesses that was not originally anticipated.

The Committee recommends this be approved.

### Grenfell Heights Mailboxes

The Committee reviewed a request from a resident to relocate mailboxes from near their home on Grenfell Heights. This location has traffic drive over their driveway causing issues. There were some alternate locations that could be used.

The Committee recommends staff contact Canada Post to ask for the mailboxes to be relocated. Also, Public Works can assist the homeowner with the potholes, etc... in the driveway in the interim.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Feener

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

Councillor Bennett wanted it noted that he also attended the Public Works and Planning Meeting.

Deputy Mayor Browne explained in regards to the request from a citizen to have a Fall Clean-up, there are plenty of opportunities to rid yourself of your trash. We spend \$58,000 per year on the Saturday Drop-Off; \$54,400 on the Annual Spring Clean-up and \$3,000 on the Hazmat Waste Day, so we do include a significant amount of resources into the clean-up and it has been going well.

Mayor Manuel stated when it comes to not only the cost, we also have staff hired for three (3) weeks during clean-ups when they could be working on other initiatives in Town. That also plays a big part in the decision to not provide a Fall Clean-up.

Councillor Bennett noted the residents that live on the three (3) cul-de-sacs off Brown Avenue have very narrow driveways and they find it difficult when they have friends visiting having to park on the side of the road. Council decided to put some parking in the middle of the cul-de-sac so that their visitors could park there. This parking will not be for a long period of time and it will only be for visitors. There will be a letter send to all residents on those streets and the regulations will be included.

Mayor Manuel stated this will be short term seasonal parking and there will be signage to make sure those parking there are aware of that.

Councillor Coady-Davis wanted to clarify that there will be no parking on the cul-de-sacs during the winter months and the reason for that is because that is

where the snow is piled during snow clearing. It is only when there is no snow that the parking in the cul-de-sacs will be available.

Mayor Manuel advised during the last meeting we talked about how we felt based on correspondence from Government, that they would be able to shut down the Union Street overpass completely for a month and get the work done. We have since learned that it is not just the closure of the overpass for one month, but there will also be a couple of months when it is closed down to one lane. We know that there is going to be some significant inconveniences, but we do plan to get the information out as soon as we possibly can. We plan to work with the businesses in the area and emergency responders to make sure we have the best detour plans and that the contractors who are working will have all the measures in place to make sure that we make this as inconvenient as possible.

The following Resolution was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne:-

Resolution GF-W 2019-287

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 shortfall in Project #99-2018-6452 of \$36,473.01;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Gas Tax Capital Investment Plan be amended to increase funding for Project #99-2018-6452 by \$36,473.01 for a total allocation of \$414,591.05.

Motion

Browne\Whiffen

Be it resolved that Resolution 2019-287 for the Revised Capital Investment Plan be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

## Finance and Administration

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

### Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week thirty-seven (37). Total labour was \$2,613,973. This was \$24,801 (0.9%) under Budget.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs.

### Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,153,182.81 and recommends this be presented at the next Council meeting.

### Art Procurement

The Committee reviewed the proposed date for the Art Procurement and recommends that it be held October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Corduroy Brook Nature Centre. The drop off deadline will be October 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M. All artwork is to be dropped off at the Corduroy Brook Nature located at Conservation Place.

The Committee recommends that this event be publicized on our Town Website, Facebook and Town Apps as well as through contact with the schools.

### Sports Hall of Fame

The Committee reviewed a request for funding towards a Sports Hall of Fame display in the Joe Byrne Memoria Stadium.

The Committee recommends that staff obtain additional details regarding the displays and more detailed financial information to help in the decision making.

### Non-Smoking Policy

The Committee reviewed the current Non-Smoking Policy.

The Committee recommends that this be discussed further at a future Finance and Administration meeting after staff make additional changes.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Tender

The Committee discussed a Tender for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion.

The Committee recommends that staff obtain additional information and bring back to a future Finance and Administration meeting.

Resolution – Main Street Softball Clubhouse Extension Funding

The Committee reviewed the Resolution for the Main Street Softball Clubhouse Extension Funding.

Total funding is \$93,404 as follows:-

Provincial	-	\$31,132
Federal	-	\$31,141
Municipal	-	\$31,132

The Committee recommends this Resolution be presented at the next Council meeting.

I move the recommendation 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 7-0.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Coady-Davis:-

RESOLUTION GF-W 2019-288

2019\2020 Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program Funding

WHEREAS: the Minister and the Council have agreed to enter into an Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program Agreement for the financing of the Main Street Softball Clubhouse Extension Project No. 17-CCR-20-00008 and have agreed to cost not in

excess of \$103,000 which amounts to \$93,404 after the GST\HST rebate calculation;

WHEREAS: the Cost-Shared Funding for this Agreement is as follows:-

Provincial	-	\$31,132
Federal	-	\$31,141
Municipal	-	\$31,132

AND WHEREAS: the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment has been authorized to negotiate an Agreement on behalf of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the Council.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Bennett

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2019-288 for the 2019\2020 Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program Funding be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Deputy Mayor Browne advised that this was a paving project for Hardy Avenue that the costs went up so the reallocation will go towards that project.

Mayor Manuel explained he had a lot of positive feedback from residents about the amount of paving that is going on around Town. We do have more paving planned that we are hoping to carry out, sometimes the companies that carry out the paving work for us have other projects on the go too so timing is not always in our control. We would like to see paving started in May and finished in July, but we know that is not reality, so we are hoping for a nice October so we can get the paving plans completed. We do recognize that there are a lot of streets in Town that are not in the best condition, keeping in mind the traffic flow and residents of that particular area. We are looking at software that will track the depreciation of our infrastructure assets that will be able to inform Council on what our priorities should be.

### Finance and Administration

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady-Davis.

### Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Tender

The Committee reviewed a tender summary for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion.

The Committee recommends that this be awarded to Springdale Forest Resources Inc. in the amount \$7,264,217.00 plus HST.

### Permit Revocation Process

The Committee reviewed the Permit Revocation Process and recommends that this be approved.

### Blue Sky Family Care

The Committee reviewed information surrounding the Blue Sky Family Care permit that was revoked in 2014, along with the Supreme Court Appeal decision on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

The Committee recommends to cancel the original permit revocation and for staff to continue to monitor the operations moving forward to ensure compliance with Town policies.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Feener

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 several years ago we looked to revoke the permit for Blue Sky Family Care, not because we do not believe in what is supposed to be achieved in these houses for youth, but because there was an outcry from the neighbourhood who were experiencing some significant issues related to the home. We met with Blue Sky, then we went through a process with the Appeal Board where our revocation was upheld, then it was taken to the Supreme Court and we lost. I will say that when it comes to Blue Sky things do seem to have improved, particularly in the neighbourhood. We certainly support the young people that avail of these homes. We are looking at our Permit Policy now to make the appropriate changes so that we are best prepared in the future for incidents that may occur or any revoking of permits.



Darren Finn, Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk stated we did not lose the case for the reason of revoking the permit, we lost because of our procedural technicalities with the process taken to revoke the permit. So the case has been sent back to the Appeal Board to be heard again, but at this time we felt it was best to cancel the permit revocation order rather than go through the Appeal Board again. We will monitor the situation and act accordingly based on what has happened historically and what may happen in the future and we will hold them to the permit conditions like any permit holder.

### Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### Fire Department Honorarium

Council reviewed a request for an increase in the Fire Department Honorarium and a separate request to cover some supplemented volunteer insurance that would cover wages lost in the event of an injury.

The Committee recommends that staff review the request and carry out any necessary follow up discussions with the leadership so that the requests can be considered as part of the 2020 Budget discussions.

#### Business Development Opportunity

Council has been approached about a business opportunity related to converting plastic fuels into energy, therefore creating local and regional employment.

The Committee recommends that staff follow up with Company Officials to identify the opportunity and provide support where necessary.

#### Choices for Youth

Choices for Youth is a Government funded organization with a mandate to provide services to youth between the ages of 12 – 29.

This organization will be setting up in Central Newfoundland so the Committee recommends that staff engage with their staff and support them in possibly establishing an office in Grand Falls-Windsor.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

## Motion

Browne\Whiffen

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

Mayor Manuel stated there has been a lot of talk about the proposed Lewisporte Power Plant Project in the media in the last week. We have been in this process for the last couple of months working with the stakeholders to see what possibilities exist. There has been a lot of misinformation, particularly in the media and there was a CBC story last week that had a lot of accusations that we know are not factual from the meetings we have had. So we are back to a situation where we encourage people to educate themselves and get the facts. I am not going to sit here and defend one hundred (100%) this proposal because I am still learning about it myself and Council is as well, but what I have learned about it is that there are many answers to these questions with regard to the environment, the importing of plastics, landfills and wastes. The people that are behind this synergy world power group have some very impressive credentials, they have PHD's and they are scientists, and they have been around for a long time. This technology is a newer technology and they are suggesting that they import plastics which are already sorted from other regions. These plastics will show up in bails and be free of a lot of waste. Once they arrive they will be cleaned for a second time then that plastic goes through a process to turn it into liquid diesel fuel and through that process there is electricity generated. Government has a big part in this, although this company is not looking for any financial investment from Government, they are looking for:-

- a) An overpass to be built on the highway between Lewisporte and Twillingate which would allow traffic not to be inconvenienced while their equipment and trucks are transporting from the docks to the facility.
- b) A tax holiday for the first few years while the facility is being built.
- c) Their permitting request to be expedited.

We want Government to look at this opportunity to potentially create a large amount of jobs in Lewisporte (approximately 400). These will be good paying jobs such as Engineers, Welders, Trade People, also in conjunction with that will be an opportunity for training. They would like to use the electricity that is generated to support a data centre industry in Grand Falls-Windsor and we have been working hard to try and secure data centre opportunities for our community. These are long term sustainable industry opportunities that we need that will in

turn create good paying jobs which we need so desperately (approximately 400). So the potential is there for around eight hundred (800) jobs here in Central Newfoundland, which would have a huge impact. I would like for Government to say how can we make this happen, but that means looking at all the information, looking at the proposal and looking at all aspects. We have a lot of smart people in Government and those people need to look at and ask questions about the importing of this material, what kind of waste is produced, what kinds of impacts on the environment and if it ends up that for whatever reason this is not a good project for the Province, then at that time say it. But, please look at it, it deserves a chance to be looked at and looked at quickly. We have seen evidence from cases before from proposals that we felt were good, and Government kicked it around for so long that the companies lost interest and went elsewhere. So do analysis, meet with this company like we did, and you will see that the environmental impact is almost nil when it comes to the emissions, at least that is the way we see it. It is a very clean process, no noise, no odor, in fact the actual waste that comes from this is like a road grit and can be used as a substitute for ice salt. We as a Government and as a Province have to be looking at these opportunities, we have to do our due diligence and we have to do it quickly because this could potentially work. And if it did work what a boost to Central Newfoundland as a whole. We wanted electricity for a data centre no matter what, we were after Government for years to try to get the electricity and get a cost on the amount required, so that we could get some big companies to come here (Fortune 50 companies). We are looking for opportunities all over the world to build data centres so that they can have disaster recovery sites and Newfoundland and Labrador, especially Grand Falls-Windsor is good because of our climate, because of our lack in natural disasters and because of our lack or terrorism and other factors. We tried to encourage Government to use the electricity that is generated in the Province and use it to support jobs in Newfoundland and Labrador and not try to ship it out and lose the value. To dismiss this opportunity without checking the facts is shameful.

### NOTICE OF MOTION

None

### OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Coady-Davis expressed congratulations to our new Councillor, it is certainly a pleasure to have her sit at the table with us and your voice is a

welcoming addition. She also advised that she attended the Central Health Strategic Planning meeting and they are working on a new Strategic Plan for 2020-2023. They had a survey that residents and staff have completed and that was posted through social media. They did get some significant response to that, but are going to be doing some public engagement sessions starting in October. So I would encourage residents in Central NL to please keep your eyes open for those dates and attend those sessions about our healthcare system and how they want to be able to serve Central NL to the best of their capabilities.

Councillor Bennett welcome aboard Councillor Dwyer. He is positive she will do quite well.

Councillor Dwyer advised the local students and artists are encouraged to make submissions to the 2019 Annual Art Procurement Program. The deadline for submissions is 4:00 P.M. on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Corduroy Brook Nature Centre and judging will take place the following day on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Any additional information can be found on the Town website under the news or by contacting the Finance Department.

Councillor Whiffen welcomed and expressed congratulations to Councillor Dwyer. He also advised this is going to be our last meeting before “Small Business Week” happens which takes place October 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be a number of events around Town to celebrate small business and provide small business owners for opportunities and networking information session. Two (2) events in particular is on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a Business Coffee Break at Common Grounds from 9:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. and that is sponsored by the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor as well as CBDC, NLOWE, Chamber of Commerce and Connectors. The other event is on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> in Botwood, which is the Oil and Gas Symposium. That is going to be a half (1\2) to three quarters (3\4) day event where in the morning there is an information session followed up by a business luncheon. You can contact the Chamber of Commerce for more information.

Deputy Mayor Browne expressed congratulations to Councillor Dwyer. He advised it is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Exploits Valley Community Coalition, so congratulations to them and the good work they have done for the past twenty-five (25) years with young families in the area and their Executive Director Karen Beresford who has been there for eighteen (18) years. Keep up the great work, it does not go unnoticed.

Mayor Manuel expressed congratulations to Councillor Dwyer. I know that she will make a good contribution to this Council. And I just wanted to remind everyone that we have our Seniors Fair this Thursday at the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., so we welcome everybody to come out for that. There is no admission to get in, there will be music, yoga and healthy eating

demonstrations. There are a lot of businesses and services represented there to be able to show seniors in our community how they can be supported and helped to make sure that they are living healthy active lifestyles. There will also be some giveaways and prizes. It is a good event and we would like to see you there.

Motion

Coady-Davis\Browne

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 P.M.

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Barry Manuel  
Mayor

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Darren Finn  
Chief Administrative Officer\Clerk