

MEETING #567

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor: Barry Manuel  
Deputy Mayor: Mike Browne  
Councillors: Amy Coady, Holly Dwyer, Bob Hiscock,  
Andrew Little, Dave Noel  
Staff: Darren Finn, Chief Administrative Officer  
Keith Antle, Director of Community Services  
Steve Gosse, Director of Corporate Services\Town  
Clerk

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #566 of Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Motion  
Coady\Noel

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #566 of Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

## DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Dwyer presented the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$823,812.53.

### Motion

Dwyer\Browne

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$823,812.53 would be received as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Community Services

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### ATV Correspondence

The Committee discussed correspondence from a resident regarding the safety concerns around ATV traffic on Lincoln Road and Riverview Road.

As this concern is already on our radar with the ATV Trail redevelopment, the Committee recommends staff incorporate the resident's suggestions in our ATV Trail Improvement Plan.

#### Curling Club Correspondence

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Curling Club requesting assistance with their refrigeration plant issues. They are working with their insurance company to try and resolve their mechanical issues. If that is not successful, they will be looking to the Town for financial assistance.

The Committee recommends staff work with the Curling Club Executive to help resolve their plant issues and report back to the Committee at the next Community Services Committee meeting.

### Figure Skating Correspondence

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Exploits Blades Figure Skating Club requesting assistance to help train new instructors as their long-time instructor is retiring at the end of this season.

The Committee recommends approval of this request through the Town's Leadership Development Grant Program.

### Qalipu Presentation

Charlene Combdon from the Qalipu First Nation was welcomed to the meeting at 5:30 P.M. She informed the Committee of their groups structure, mission, values and community plans. She is requesting a partnership between the group and the Town to help foster many of their community initiatives.

The Committee recommends staff work with their organization to help access funding for their plans for a medicine wheel within the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor.

Ms. Combdon was excused from the meeting at 6:30 P.M.

### Seniors' Advocate Presentation

Members of the Office of the Seniors' Advocate of Newfoundland and Labrador were welcomed to the meeting at 6:45 P.M. They informed the Committee of the mandate of their office and discussed the many needs of seniors within our community. They will be holding a Public Consultation on October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Seniors Centre on Edwards Place looking for issues seniors have in Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Committee thanked their group for the informative presentation and highlights the many things the Town are doing to support seniors in our community.

Their group was excused from the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

### Grand Falls-Windsor Cataracts

The Director informed the Committee the Grand Falls-Windsor Senior Cataracts have expressed an interest in operating the team again this winter. They are holding an open practice on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> to gauge interest.

The Committee recommends staff work with their organization to help get the team up and running this winter.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Little

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

Councillor Dwyer made comments about the Seniors' Advocate Presentation and their mandate for community engagement. She informed Council that they have a survey available online and are looking for people to complete the survey to obtain as much information as possible at [www.seniorsadvocatenl.ca](http://www.seniorsadvocatenl.ca).

Councillor Little made comments about the Grand Falls-Windsor Cataracts not restarting this year, but will continue to work towards a team for next year.

Deputy Mayor Browne addressed the ATV correspondence. He commented that he believes most ATV's that are traveling roadways to access trails are abiding by the rules and being respectful. He asked for any update on the Mill lands.

Mayor Manuel advised they are working diligently with the Province to get control of the land for trail development.

### Public Works and Development

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady.

#### Public Works Reports

The Committee reviewed the latest reports from Public Works on the work completed and discussed the progress with staff. Asphalt patching has increased to the highest level since 2016.

#### Clean-Up Orders

The Committee reviewed reports on two (2) properties that have been neglected and requires attention:-

- 1) 30 Ireland Drive – This property is in very poor condition on the inside and requires a massive clean-up. Once the garbage is removed, the property may require a full renovation before occupancy is permitted. There is currently no one living at this property.
- 2) 66 Brown Avenue – A Repair Order was issued for this property on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and there has not been any work completed to-date. The foundation is in poor condition and the yard requires some clean-up. Staff has recommended a Demolition Order for the structure along with a property clean-up.

The Committee recommends staff prepare a Property Status Report for the Chief Administrative Officer and Demolition Orders be issued for 66 Brown Avenue with proper clean-up, and a Clean-up Order for 30 Ireland Drive.

#### Discretionary Use – Sawmill – 3 McCarthy Street

The Committee revisited the request for a domestic sawmill at 3 McCarthy Street. This was previously denied, but the resident has met with some Councillors to better explain their intentions.

The Committee recommends this be referred to the Committee of the Whole for further discussion and asked staff to provide information on other Town's Regulations regarding this use.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady\Hiscock

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

Councillor Coady noted that there was additional discussion at the Committee meeting regarding the new Garbage Regulations and the related public communications. The Committee reviewed all social media posts and other information that was publicly released and discussed some pending communications.

## Corporate Services (1 of 2)

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

### Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week thirty-nine (39). Total labour was \$2,782,949. This was \$295,198 (9.6%) under budget.

The Committee is pleased with these results. With the excess budget available, and with plenty of work remaining to be completed, the lay-off of seasonal employees has been delayed by two (2) weeks.

### Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$823,812.53 and recommends this be presented at the next Council Meeting.

### Taxation Receivables Analysis Report

The Committee reviewed the taxation analysis for August 2022. The report analyzes the receivables balances, along with the amounts collected during the month. Total taxation receivable as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 was \$3,670,464.92 (\$4,173,073.38 – 2021) a decrease of \$502,608.46 (12.04%) from the previous year. Total amount of taxes collected in September 2022 was \$480,211.

The Committee is pleased with the September results and recommends that staff remain vigilant in collecting all outstanding balances as we head towards the end of the year.

### Queen Street Dinner Theatre

The Committee reviewed a mid-season report from the Another Newfoundland Drama Company (AND Company) outlining their progress after their summer season. The only show remaining is the Christmas Show which is expected to net another \$8,000 in profit. The Committee is pleased with the success of the Shows in 2022.

The AND Company is also requesting the release of their annual Grant; however, after such a successful year and with a healthy financial position, the Committee recommends that the Grant is not required for 2022.

### Taxi Expression of Interest

The Committee reviewed the responses to the Expression of Interest for the vacant taxi license.

After the review of the three (3) submissions received, the Committee recommends staff contact Coombs\Smith group to let them know that they were the successful submission and to start the licensing process.

### Art Procurement – November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Committee discussed the 2022 Art Procurement and the plan for this year's event.

The Committee nominated Mayor Barry Manuel for the Council representative and decided that this year's Art Procurement will take place on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Staff will work with CNVAS to finalize the Judges and communicate to the public, including the schools for the youth artists.

### Hydro Jetter Purchase

The Committee reviewed a quote for a 3036-750 Trailer Jetter from Joe Johnson Equipment through the Canoe Procurement Program. The total cost of this piece of equipment is \$120,564.12 plus HST.

This jetter should help determine issues in water lines and help improve the water quality in areas of Town where there are issues.

The Committee recommends approval of this purchase.

### Lift Station Control Panel Quotes

The Committee reviewed a summary of quotes for the supply and installation of the new control panels at the Earle Street and Pondview Drive lift stations. The lowest quote received was from Rodco Mechanical in the amount of \$84,000 plus HST. After the rebate this amounts to \$7,600 over the original budget.

The Committee recommends approval of this purchase.

### Health Foundation Dinner & Gala

The Committee reviewed a request from the Executive Director of the South and Central Health Foundation asking for support for their Fall Gala Dinner & Auction on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The Committee recommends the purchase of two (2) tickets in support of the South and Central Health Foundation.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Browne

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

Councillor Hiscock stated that he is very pleased to see another taxi company servicing the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and wishes them much success.

Councillor Dwyer stated the Queen Street Dinner Theatre had an exceptional year and Council is very supportive of the services they offer. This was the first year they did not need assistance from the Town.

Mayor Manuel encouraged local artists of any age to participate in the Art Procurement Program and submit pieces of artwork that may be selected to be displayed in Town facilities. Information about the Program can be found on the Town website.

### Corporate Services (2 of 2)

Prior to the reading of this report Councilor Coady was excused due to a perceived conflict of interest.

### Municipalities NL

The Committee reviewed a request from the Central Director of Municipalities NL looking for contributions toward the 2022 Municipalities NL Conference, Trade Show and Annual General Meeting. The event will be held in Gander from November 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The Committee recommends a donation of \$500 towards the event.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Little



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

Councillor Coady returned to the meeting at this time.

### Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### Domestic Sawmill Use

The Committee discussed a request for a permit to use a sawmill at 3 McCarthy Street. The resident would like to discuss the request with the Committee.

The Committee recommends that the resident be invited to a future Public Works and Development Committee meeting.

#### Speed Limit on Lincoln Road

The Committee discussed a citizen's request to lower the speed limit on a section of the road from 50km\hour to 40km\hour. The road section referred to starts near the Grand Falls House and ends at the Main Street intersection.

The Committee recommends that the speed limit on this section of road be lowered to 40km\hour.

#### Excite Corporation

The Committee reviewed a proposal for the development of a Health Simulation Laboratory. Partners in the proposal include Central Health, South and Central Health Foundation, Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine, and Memorial University. The Simulation Lab would be used to facilitate training for healthcare professionals. The Town's partnership is limited to providing temporary office space and staff resources for project management.

The Committee recommends that Council support an application to Government in the total amount of \$1.38 million.

### Gorge Park

The Committee discussed the overgrowth of trees in the Gorge Park boat launch area and the fact that the river is not as visible as it could be.

The Committee recommends that landscaping beautifications, and tree thinning be undertaken, where possible.

### 2023 Budget

The Committee discussed the preparation of the 2023 Town Budget.

The Committee recommends that the budget review start during the next round of Committee meetings and that communications about how the public can provide input start as soon as possible.

### Traffic Concerns – Brown’s Heights and Keats Avenue

The Committee discussed a concern from a citizen about speeding and vehicles not stopping at stop signs. The citizen is requesting that a speed bump be installed in the area.

The Committee recommends that Municipal Police patrol this area more frequently.

### Building Healthy Communities – Collaborative Meeting

The Committee discussed an invitation from Central Health to participate in a Building Healthy Communities Collaborative Roundtable meeting on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The Committee recommends that staff participate and Councillors participate, if they are available.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Little

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

Councillor Noel encouraged residents to provide feedback to Council via email regarding the Gorge Park beautification.

Mayor Manuel reiterated the importance of the Simulation Lab and the positive impact it will have on Physician Recruitment and Retention in Grand Falls-Windsor.

### NOTICE OF MOTION

None

### OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Browne advised that the Provincial Association of Special Olympics presented Provincial Awards to community members Joe Tremblett, Tyler Thompson, and Megan Price. He offered congratulations and informed Council that the Provincial Winter Games will be hosted in Grand Falls-Windsor in March of 2023. He advised that the Department of Community Services has many events planned for the Fall and wished congratulations to the Department on a job well done. He stated that the Annual Civic Awards are happening on October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Gordon Pinsent Centre for the Arts and tickets are \$10.00. He also reminded residents that free skating begins this week. He commented that the Culinary Festival was a sold-out event with around five hundred and fifty (550) people in attendance and the event was fantastic. He also offered congratulations to the Director of Community Services on its success.

Councillor Coady reminded residents of the NL Federation of Students Provincial Day of Action happening on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. There is information on our social media pages regarding this event. She also advised that if there are streetlights out in your neighbourhood, you can report it to NL Power via an online form at [www.newfoundlandpower.com/streetlightmap](http://www.newfoundlandpower.com/streetlightmap) or call 1-800-474-5711.

Councillor Noel reminds residents, in the interest of safety, to dress in light clothing and utilize the proper side of the road when walking during the nighttime as the evening become shorter.

Councillor Hiscock reiterated Councillor Noel's comments and advised that Councillors have reflective wristbands on hand if residents need to avail of them. He commented on Fire Prevention Week and advised Chief MacKenzie visited K-6 schools and provided information on fire safety. The Fire Hall also held an Open House in recognition of Fire Prevention Week, where approximately 650-700 people attended the event. Chief MacKenzie provided fire safety information to seniors at Golden Years Estates. He also reminded residents to keep their chimneys and stoves clean and practice fire prevention.

Councillor Little encouraged residents to report speeding around playgrounds as speed bumps have been removed for the season. He commented on the NL Agriculture Expo which was held this past week-end at the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium. It was a great event and well attended by the community. He also commented on inquiries from residents about the condition of ice at the Windsor Stadium and reported it would be fixed as soon as possible, hopefully by the end of the week.

Councillor Dwyer reiterated Deputy Mayor Browne's comments on the Special Olympics Provincial Awards and mentioned that their Annual General Meeting is coming up in November. The Association is looking for volunteers to get involved. She also mentioned that the Health Accord Coalition Committee met this past week and received a presentation from the Sub-Committee for Recruitment and Retention of Physicians. She offered thanks to the Committee on their excellent work.

Mayor Manuel recognized recently retired employees with the presentation of retirement watches. Congratulations to Susanne Hillier, Lar Drake, Denise Power and Wayne Tait on their retirement and "Thank You" for your service. He also stated that the Fireman's Ball is coming up on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. He recognized Assistant Chief Dave Byrne on fifty (50) years of volunteer service with our Fire Department. An amazing achievement and accomplishment, congratulations on this milestone and "Thank You" for your service.

Motion

Dwyer\Noel

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

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Barry Manuel  
Mayor

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Darren Finn  
Chief Administrative Officer