

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

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  
 Nelson Chatman, Director of Public Works and  
 Development  
 Steve Gosse, Director of Corporate Services\Town  
 Clerk  
 Todd Mercer, Director of Community Services  
 Robyn Hannaford, Communications Officer

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or emissions to the Minutes of Meeting #577 of Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Motion  
Hiscock\Coady

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #577 of Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 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 \$492,398.50.

Motion

Dwyer\Little

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$492,398.50 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.

#### Skateboard Park Update

The Committee discussed progress related to the necessary planning for the Skateboard Park expansion. The Director informed the Committee that the equipment is scheduled to arrive and be installed in mid-September and that all work leading up to that date will be done and ready for its arrival.

#### Seniors Fair Update

The Committee discussed planning for the Seniors Fair. The Director informed the Committee that they have been working on the next Seniors Fair and plan to schedule it for early October.

#### Splash and Boots Event – August 11<sup>th</sup>

The Director informed the Committee that the family entertainment events have been well received by the public and that the tickets are going very strong with only limited numbers of tickets remaining.

The Committee recommends that the staff partner with the Exploits Community Centre and Y2C and look at ways to help those families who may not be aware of the performance or have the financial ability to attend and work together on this event.

Grand Falls House Foundation Meeting 6:00-7:00 P.M.

The Committee met with the Grand Falls House Foundation to discuss future steps with the House and its short-term and long-term plans. The Committee will review the recent report and provide written correspondence to the Foundation in the coming weeks.

Salmon Festival Update

The Committee had some discussion about the scheduled Friday Night Concert in the Park with the Ennis Sisters and Landlocked.

The Committee recommends that the Director work with the promoter and the production company to provide the best possible layout for Church Road Park and that we should consider using our tents to cover the stage and the sound system in case of rain.

NAIA Conference Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from the 2023 NAIA Conference being held in St. John's in September.

The Committee recommended that the Department become an exhibitor in this year's Conference.

Walk for ALS Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from ALS community.

The Committee recommended that the Director work with the group to ensure the Walk takes place. It was suggested that another suitable date be considered since September 30<sup>th</sup> is already scheduled for National Indigenous Day. The Director will report back to the Committee with any proposed new dates.

Grand Falls-Windsor Pentecostal Church Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from the Grand Falls-Windsor Pentecostal Church on the availability of using a Town tent for their event.

The Committee recommended that the Director look at the availability of our tents and report back to the Committee at a later date.

### Sisters Gifts Newfoundland Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from the Sisters Gifts Newfoundland.

The Committee recommends the Community Services Department staff work with the group to find a suitable location to place the sign near the Seven Feathers Crosswalk.

### Other Business

The Committee discussed the success of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual ATV\Poutine Festival held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Committee were impressed with the record numbers of participants on the ride despite the wet and cold weather on that day. The Committee also heard all positive comments about the Poutine Night and its organization.

The Committee discussed providing the walkers at Centennial Field with two (2) benches they can use for rest stops along the track. It was also suggested that a garbage can be placed along side one of the benches.

The Committee had some discussion on the Tennis Courts and their use for a pickleball and a tennis program.

It was recommended that the Director and his staff work with the group to see what repairs can be carried out to make the Courts usable.

The Director informed the Committee that he has met with Sean Cooper on the possibility of doing something to highlight the life of Gordon Pinsent. The Director informed the Committee that the Pinsent family are coming home from July 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> for the family celebrations of Gordon's life. The Committee informed the Director to follow up with the family to see if any assistance is required and provide help where possible.

The Director informed the Committee of several complaints he received from participants of the Poutine Festival being harassed for money after the event by panhandlers.

It was recommended that the Chief Administrative Officer discuss this issue with the Chief Municipal Enforcement Officer before the next scheduled special event.

The Director informed the Committee that the Canada Day Celebrations are well underway with activities at Centennial Field starting at 1:00 P.M. and then the giant fireworks display at dusk from the old mill property site on Scott Avenue.

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 Hiscock advised regarding the harassment from panhandlers, he wants to assure the citizens that they are working on trying to alleviate the problem.

Mayor Manuel advised this is a problem in other communities as well, and the RCMP have told us that the difficulty is that they make arrests, they go to Court and get charges and as soon as they are done with the formalities, they go right back to doing it again. These people that find themselves in the situation where they need to do this, need support, and we will talk to the Provincial Government about the need for those types of support in our community.

Councillor Noel congratulated the Community Services Department for pulling off a fabulous and successful Poutine Festival.

Councillor Little stated it is nice to see that we are going to be an exhibiter in the NAIA Conference again this year. He went last year and admitted that it is a fabulous event and a great opportunity to promote the Town.

Mayor Manuel advised we have been involved with NAIA for several years now, and even though Aquaculture has taken a back seat due to other industries, it is still alive and well. He said there is no doubt in his mind that it will become a significant player industry in Newfoundland and Labrador so it is great to have those connections and relationships built.

Mayor Manuel advised the Seven Feathers Crosswalk unveiling will take place tomorrow at 10:00 A.M. at the lower end of St. Catherine Street by the Museum. The crosswalk is from St. Catherine Street across to Shanawdithit Centennial Field. The community are welcome to come out because there will be a free BBQ for all.

Mayor Manuel advised it is great to see that the Seniors Fair will be happening this year, as it is an opportunity for seniors to get out for the day and have some fun interaction and socialize. The booths that will be at the Fair support seniors and they always enjoy this event.

Corporate Services (1 of 2)

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$492,398.50 and recommends this be presented at the next Council Meeting.

Rules of Procedure

The Committee reviewed the Rules of Procedure as prepared by staff and recommends these be approved.

Policy Review

The Committee reviewed the Policy C-8 Use of Council Chambers and recommends this Policy be rescinded.

The Committee reviewed changes proposed to the Policy C-16 Equipment Loan Out. The changes incorporate procedures for staff to follow when loaning out equipment to groups within the community.

The Committee discussed some minor changes to the Policy to be incorporated, and for this Policy to be approved.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Noel

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

Corporate Services (2 of 2)

Deputy Mayor Browne was excused from the meeting at this time due to a perceived conflict of interest.

The following report was also presented by Councillor Dwyer.

### Grand Falls Golf Club

The Committee discussed a request for support for Capital Upgrades at the Grand Falls Golf Club. Since the last meeting, staff had met with the group to get more information and particulars surrounding their request.

The Committee recommends staff continue to work with the Golf Club Executive to find ways for the Town to support this initiative and report back to a future Committee meeting.

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.

Deputy Mayor Browne returned to the meeting at this time.

### Public Works and Development

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady.

#### Rezoning Request – 166 Main Street

The Committee reviewed the submission received from the Public Consultation regarding the rezoning request for 166 Main Street. The existing apartment building at 168 Main Street was also included in the rezoning to maintain consistency with neighbouring properties. The request is to rezone both properties from Commercial Downtown (CD) to Low and Medium Density Multi Unit Residential (RM-1) zone. There were two (2) submissions received.

The Committee recommends that the rezoning process continue, and staff submit the necessary documentation to the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs for review.

#### Amendment Request – Child Care – Home-Based Business

The Committee reviewed a request from the Executive Director of Family and Child Care Connection (FCCC) for some changes to the Development

Regulations surrounding childcare as a home-based business. The FCCC are currently looking to increase the number of homes providing quality childcare spaces.

The request includes the following:-

- a) Under section 14.5, 3, change the reference from “childcare centre” to “regulated childcare service”.
- b) Under section 14.9, 3, remove the restriction that prevents childcare home based business within 300m from a childcare centre.

The Committee supports these requests and recommends staff commence the necessary steps to make these changes.

### Residential Development – Queensway

The Committee reviewed the concept of a residential development off Queensway. The property owner is requesting the area be rezoned from Commercial General (CG) to Low and Medium Density Multi Unit Residential (RM-1) zone.

The Committee recommends staff start the rezoning process which begins with Public Consultation.

### Permit – Biomass Boiler

The Committee was advised of a request to construct a biomass boiler at the College of the North Atlantic. The zoning is suitable and correspondence notes that there will be no visible smoke or smell from the system. Approval has been granted by Service NL.

The Committee recommends staff ensure all necessary documentation and permits are in place prior to construction.

### Clean Up Orders

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the owner of 4 Vine Street and 66 Brown Avenue. These properties were given Clean Up and Demolition Orders due to the poor condition of the properties. The owner is requesting a meeting with Council to discuss.

The Committee recommends staff arrange a meeting at a future Committee meeting.



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.

Mayor Manuel advised there are a couple of rezoning requests in the Minutes again. It is important for citizens to know that they can submit in writing to the Town any concerns or support that they may have for any rezoning that the Town is putting forward. Sending to Government is just the first step, there also must be Public Consultation and an allowance for submission from the general public. Northcliffe Street will run between Rothermere and Harmsworth, and it was a planned street from the beginning. The reason we are rezoning from single-family home is to allow for duplexes, particularly for seniors.

#### NOTICE OF MOTION

None

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Noel advised the Exploits Valley High School Grad starts tomorrow, along with a motorcade on Thursday. Information on the motorcade route is posted on our Facebook page, and he encouraged people to come out and support these young adults. He noted the salmon fishing season is now active, so he wanted to remind people that we do have a world class river and to treat it with respect by taking your garbage home instead of leaving it by the river.

Councillor Hiscock advised a couple of weekends ago we had our Bike Rodeo at the Stadium, and it was well attended with over sixty (60) young kids. Their bikes got inspected and registered with the Town in case they are lost or stolen and found within the Town. “Thank you” to our Municipal Enforcement Officers, RCMP, Fire Chief, local firefighters, Search and Rescue, Paramedics, and Town staff for a job well done. Also “Thank You” to Dominion for providing and preparing the food, and the rest of the business community for stepping up. There were twenty (20) bikes given away and thirty (30) helmets, so it was a well-received fabulous day that the kids thoroughly enjoyed. This past week we had the Junior Firefighters’ Graduation from a phenomenal Youth Firefighters’ Program, so

congratulations to them and “Thank You” to our firefighters and everyone involved. He also wanted to remind people that the Summer Dinner Theatre is getting ready for another season, there are some great shows scheduled, so he encouraged people to get their tickets now.

Councillor Little advised the last day of school is this Thursday, which means more children will be out and about, so he encouraged motorists to slow down and pay attention.

Councillor Dwyer advised the Coalition met with the representatives from Central Health to introduce ourselves and we expressed that we want to pursue the Centre for Excellence in Aging. She and the Director of Community Services attended the Event Summit in St. John’s, it was a three (3) day event and Brad Gushue was the guest speaker. They spoke a lot about team building, collaboration, and best practices. It was an excellent and well-organized event, and she is glad she got the opportunity to attend. She also received a copy of a letter today that was sent to the Volunteer Firefighters, organizers, and instructors of the Youth Firefighters’ Program. The letter was from parents of a child that was in the program, and they said it was an amazing program. When we talk about the amenities and programs that we have here it is tied to recruitment and retention and praise for things that are happening in our community go a long way.

Deputy Mayor Browne expressed congratulations to the two (2) Exploits Valley High School students that we presented the 2005 Legacy Scholarships to this past weekend, which will help to financially assist them in furthering their education. He also attended the College of the North Atlantic Graduation and wanted to congratulate those Grads as well.

Mayor Manuel advised he attended the Gymnastics Show and it was great. There are over four hundred (400) kids in the Gymnastics Program, and they also have some older kids in senior gymnastics. It drew a bid crowd, and it was nice to see. Happy Grad to all graduates out there, and congratulations to all teachers. He also attended the Annual Review of the Cadets, and the Air Cadets, Sea Cadets and Army Cadets were all brought together at the same time for the first time for their Review. They had some educational booths, synchronized marching, and music playing that was impressive. He had a meeting with Ben Hewlett who is a Grade 6 student that had concerns around the environment and the disposal of electronic waste. It was interesting and good to see someone at that young age being so interested, and he has the recycling program going again in his school. We also have the retirement of a Town employee coming up on Friday, Doug Mercer, who is a long-time employee of the Town with the Parks and Recreation Department, and we wish him all the best in his retirement. Sadly, we did lose a Special Events employee from the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and a long-time employee of Sobeys, Mr. Norm Loveridge. Such a good soul that will be missed.

Councillor Coady advised before she attended the Council meeting, she was on a zoom call for her Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador role with the Canadian Federal of Municipalities, and it was a Round Table on integration, refugees, and citizenship with Minister Sean Fraser. They were talking about some of the initiatives that Councils are taking right across Canada, to interest immigration and immigrants to move into their communities. She said she had the opportunity to speak about some of the initiatives that Grand Falls-Windsor has been doing with Physician recruitment, because not only do we have a lot of Physicians come from other countries but when choosing a place to live they look at the accessibility to healthcare. It was a great meeting, and the Minister was very receptive to what everyone had to say. Tomorrow is National Indigenous Peoples Day, and the celebration will be held from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon at the Demasduit Regional Museum. This is a partnership between the Museum, Sisters Gifts and the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor, and the crosswalk is Seven Feathers which represent the seven (7) principles or grandfather teaching of the Indigenous communities. The Seven Feathers stand for Love, Respect, Courage, Honesty, Humility, Truth and Wisdom. This event will also be on Facebook live for anyone that cannot make it in-person. She also reminded our residents to download the Voyent Alert App for notifications and updates on road closures, flushing, emergencies and it can be customized so you receive alerts for specific areas.

Mayor Manuel admits he is very impressed with the Voyent Alert App, as he has downloaded it himself.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Little\Dwyer

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 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

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Barry Manuel  
Mayor

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Darren Finn  
Chief Administrative Officer