

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor: Barry Manuel
 Deputy Mayor: Mike Browne
 Councillors: 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 omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #582 of Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023.

Motion
Hiscock\Noel

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #582 of Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Manuel acknowledged that Councillor Coady is absent as she is in St. John's for the Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Conference and congratulated her as she was elected President again for another two (2) year term.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Councillor Dwyer presented the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,731,717.27.

Motion

Dwyer\Browne

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,731,717.27 would be received as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Services

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Legends of Hockey

The Committee reviewed the proposal from Legends of Hockey to bring a game to Grand Falls-Windsor in November.

The Committee decided that with limited time, lack of noticeable names and the cost of the event it would not be feasible to host the game at this time.

Seniors Wellness Show

The Director informed the Committee of the successful completion of the Seniors Wellness Show that was held on Thursday, October 5th. The Director also informed the Committee that there were forty-five (45) business and organization booths at the show and over seven hundred and fifty (750) citizens attended the event, the largest crowd in the show's history.

Community Kitchen Update

The Director informed the Committee that he has met with the Community Kitchen group to see how the Community Services Department can help with the one hundred percent (100%) increase in demand for their services. The Director

will work with them to find any grants or programs that may be available for them to meet the demand.

Grand Falls-Windsor Softball Group – Invited Guests (6:00 P.M.)

The Committee was pleased to hear from Hannah Russell and Mary Folkes on the growth of Ladies and Mixed Softball in Grand Falls-Windsor. The group informed the Committee that they have over eighty-five (85) new players this year with teams from Botwood, Norris Arm, Bishop's Falls and Peterview in their league. They informed the Committee that they are in the planning stages to start a Youth Division next year and asked if the Community Services Department could help. The Director informed the group that the Department will help in any way they can with scheduling and to provide the necessary equipment to run the program. The Softball group also discussed some field concerns at Main Street with additional infield material required for both fields, a net or drainage solution for outside B Field and the possibility of looking into additional lighting with the increase demand of teams and limited scheduling time to play. The Director will discuss field maintenance with the Director of Public Works and Development for additional funding for next year. The Committee had some discussion on additional lights and the cost associated with them.

The Committee recommends that the Director meet with Softball and Baseball to see if a field schedule for all five (5) fields can be incorporated into next year's programming.

Exploits Valley High Request

The Committee reviewed a request from Exploits Valley High to help develop a soccer field behind the school. This request would review the purchase of two (2) nets that will allow the school and any individuals to use the facility. The Director will work with the school to see if there are grants available to help with the purchase of the equipment or if there are any nets that can be used from existing inventory.

Memorial United Church Request

The Director informed the Committee that the date for the event passed before the Community Services meeting was held.

The Committee recommends that the Director follow up to see if the Department can help with a prize for their next event.

Teen Challenge Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from Teen Challenge on a financial donation to the upcoming event in Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Committee recommends that Deputy Mayor Browne follow up with the group to get additional details on the event and report back at the next meeting.

Community Garden Correspondence

The Committee had some discussion of the request for funding from Community Garden on hiring a staff member for the 2024 growing season.

The Committee recommends that the Director work with the group to find grant funding and to ask the group to fill out a Community Grant Application offered by the Community Services Department for the 2024 budget year.

Other Business

The Director informed the Committee that the Department is looking at the next round of brand purchases for the Department.

The Committee recommends to look at fall\winter toques and coffee mugs that can be used for our Randon Acts of Kindness days in December.

The Director informed the Committee that he has met with the Sparkling Blades Figure Skating Club and that things have improved since the last meeting. The Director will continue to work with the Club on additional ways to promote Figure Skating and additional funding programs available.

The Director informed the Committee that he had several requests from the community, both private and community, on borrowing tables.

The Director informed the Committee that tables will only be loaned out to not-for-profit groups, as per the Loan Out Policy.

The Director informed the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce Gala Event on October 19th at the Royal Canadian Legion.

The Committee recommends anyone interested in attending to contact Economic Development staff.

The Committee had some discussion on a request from Exploits Valley High about involving students in the community clean-ups for the sake of earning community volunteer hours.

The Committee recommended that the Director work with the school and provide garbage bags and gloves for the clean-ups.

The Committee had some discussion on the proposed Kayak Launch that was being considered for Gorge Park.

The Director informed the Committee that the application for funding was not approved and will now be added to the 2024 Capital List.

The Director informed the Committee of another successful Family Fun Day held at Gorge Park on Saturday, October 7th, 2024. The event received record numbers of participation with over twelve hundred (1,200) people in attendance.

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 6-0.

Public Works and Development (1 of 2)

Prior to the reading of these Minutes the Mayor was excused due to a perceived conflict of interest.

The following report was presented by Councillor Hiscock.

Queensway Land

The Committee reviewed the latest proposal for acquisition of a parcel of land (2.9 acres) on Queensway to help facilitate a new roadway easement for more residential development and some land to expand parking at the Corduroy Brook Nature Centre. The current owner of the land, Queensway Shopping Centre Ltd., is also requesting 0.7 acres of land for their subdivision development. The net difference would be 2.2 acres at a cost of \$100,000 per acre.

The Committee recommends this be approved and to work with Queensway Shopping Centre Ltd. to finalize the deal.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Hiscock\Little

Be it resolved that this recommendation and report would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Mayor Manuel was excused because the Corduroy Brook Nature Centre is involved with the acquisition of Queensway land, and because he is involved with them, we are being cautious that it is not perceived as a conflict of interest.

Mayor Manuel returned to the meeting at this time.

Public Works and Development (2 of 2)

The following report was also presented by Councillor Hiscock.

Town Boundaries

The Committee discussed the proposal from the Provincial Government for the Town boundary to be extended further east to accommodate servicing the entire section of Grenfell Heights Extension. Currently the boundary sits at the transmission line approximately 500 meters from the New Bay Road intersection. The Government was proposing upgrades to the road and transferring ownership if the Town Council agreed to complete all future maintenance.

The Committee is in favour of the upgrading and transfer of the first 500 meter section to the existing boundary and recommends staff continue to work with Government. The Committee also recommends more discussion with Government on boundary changes, but Government must work out the details with Bishop's Falls if they intend to work on this change.

Demolition Order – 145 Grenfell Heights

The Committee reviewed the latest property inspection report for 145 Grenfell Heights. This property was previously issued a Clean Up Order, but no work has been completed to date. The foundation of the dwelling has structural issues along with other deterioration which makes it uninhabitable. The property landscape also requires maintenance.

The Committee recommends staff prepare a Property Status Report for the Chief Administrative Officer and a Demolition Order be issued.

Repair Order – 60 Main Street

The Committee reviewed the property inspection report for 60 Main Street. This property has numerous concerns including major structural issues and deterioration of the outside of the structure.

The Committee recommends staff prepare a Property Status Report for the Chief Administrative Officer and a Repair Order be issued. If the owner neglects to complete the necessary repairs, it is to be brought back to the Committee for consideration of a Demolition Order.

8 Ireland Drive

The Committee reviewed information from staff regarding a parked travel trailer at 8 Ireland Drive. The trailer is parked in front of the property and extends out close to the sidewalk. There have been concerns brought forward by a neighbour. The trailer exceeds the allowable length permitted to be parked and the resident at 8 Ireland Drive has request a permit to park the trailer as per the Regulations. Staff have visited the site and have recommended a permit be issued for one (1) year as there is ample sight distance for adjacent properties leaving their driveways.

The Committee recommends that a permit not be issued and for staff to inform the resident that the trailer must be parked elsewhere as it exceeds the length noted in the Regulations.

Environment Resources Management Association (ERMA)

The Committee reviewed a request from ERMA for the Town to develop a parking area for ATV\UTV\Snowmobile users that travel on the south side of the river. At times there are a lot of parked vehicles with utility trailers along this road and interferes with passage to and from the ERMA location. They have indicated a site known as “Cheeco’s Landing” across from the intersection to ERMA. They also requested the Town supply an operating grant to allow them to complete snow clearing of the parking area once constructed.

The Committee recommends staff look into the construction of the parking area and complete it if it can be done within the operations budget. However, the Committee recommends the request for the grant to be denied.

Community Garden Request

The Committee reviewed a request from the Community Garden for more land to expand their operation by the Curling Club off Lincoln Road. This area has also been identified as a future residential development and staff cautions further expansion may interfere with this long-term plan and recommends a relocation to a permanent site that permits expansion for the future. Staff also provided the Committee with several options to consider.

The Committee recommends that the long-term housing development not be jeopardized, and staff continue to plan for a permanent location. However, the Committee recommends that the Community Garden be permitted to expand to a maximum of another 0.177ha and remain at the current location until the new location is ready in the future.

Public Works Reports

The Committee reviewed the latest reports from the Public Works Division on work completed to date. Most maintenance areas have shown a significant increase from 2022.

Water Quality

The Committee had a discussion on water quality. Staff have continued to flush the system to help improve water quality and have also developed a standard approach to deal with reported cases of discoloured water. Staff have also initiated discussion with a consultant to get an independent review of the distribution system.

The Committee recommends staff continue to deal with issues immediately and ensure the consultant understands this issue is a top priority for Council. The Committee also recommends members of the public that experience issues to report it to Public Works at 709-489-0420.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Hiscock\Noel

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 we have seen some Demolition Orders lately, and it is a last resort for Council. By the time it gets to a Demolition Order we have already been through two (2) or three (3) other steps giving the property owners plenty of time to make necessary repairs before we enter into a Demolition Order. It is not something we do lightly as we do not like to do it at all, but it is necessary in some cases.

Mayor Manuel stated we certainly hope we will hear some good news about the Grenfell Heights land boundaries, especially after the long saga of getting the extension road repaired. We will make sure the Government sticks to their commitment because the road would have to be brought up to our standard if we are to obtain that land in the boundary extension. We realize there are many residents in different areas of Town that are experiencing sustained water issues. Most areas of Town have only seen temporary issues, but we continue to work with staff every day to make sure we are doing everything we can to try and resolve all the issues as quickly as possible. It has been a difficult task in some cases, and we have tried several different solutions, but unfortunately it is not one size fits all when it comes to this because we have aging infrastructure that is sometimes up to one hundred (100) years old. We do want people to report their issues and have open conversation with them about it so that we can continue to look to resolve them for the long term. Consultants are starting this week to look at those troubled areas to get an independent perspective that will help us and offer solutions.

Corporate Services

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week forty (40). Total labour was \$2,916,063. This was \$320,795 (10%) under budget.

The Committee is pleased with the results of the labour budget and recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs heading into the last few months of 2023.

Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,731,717.27 and recommends this be presented at the next Council meeting.

Taxation Receivables Analysis

The Committee reviewed the taxation analysis for September 2023. The report analyzes the receivable balances, along with the amounts collected during the month. Total taxation receivables as of September 30th, 2023, is \$3,736,331.00 (\$3,670,464.92 – 2022) an increase of \$65,866.08 (1.8%) from the previous year. Total amount of taxes collected in September 2023 was \$526,329.

The Committee continues to encourage staff to increase efforts to collect all outstanding balances. Reminder that residents and businesses can check their balances and make payments online; instructions are on the back of your tax invoice. Alternatively, you can come to the Town Hall at 5 High Street or call 709-489-0402 or 709-489-0403 to make a payment or set up a payment plan to avoid future interest charges.

Donation Requests

The Committee reviewed a request from the South and Central Health Foundation for support towards its Fall Fundraising Gala Dinner and Auction on Thursday, November 2nd, 2023.

The Committee recommends being the “Safe Ride Home Sponsor” in addition to purchasing two (2) tickets to support the event.

The Committee discussed a request for donations towards the “Teen Challenge Program” and its local gospel concert event on October 28th, 2023, at the Windsor Pentecostal Church.

The Committee recommends providing a donation of \$250 towards the event to help offset the costs of this fundraiser.

Naloxone Memo

The Committee reviewed a memo that went out to all staff which outlines the process when dealing with opioid overdose in Town facilities. The memo outlines who are trained to administer Naloxone and the steps to take if there is a risk of opioid overdose.

Revised Budget 2023

The Director of Corporate Services\Town Clerk provided a summary of the revised Budget for the year 2023 which outlines year-to-date spending in addition to anticipated required purchases for the remainder of the year. The original

budget for surplus from our operations to use towards Capital purchases was \$710,386. After taking into account all revenues and expenses for the year, that number is expected to increase to \$896,139, which will help reduce borrowing for Capital purchases. Additionally, our revised Capital Budget is \$8,522,344.97 less funding of \$5,133,353.73 to total net Capital expenditures of \$3,388,991.24 (which is \$303,122.76 less than originally budgeted). Anticipated borrowing for 2023 projects is approximately \$2.49 million (\$488,876 less than originally budgeted).

The Committee is pleased with the results of the revised budget, especially given the increased costs over the last year in most areas. The Committee recommends staff continue to monitor costs for the rest of 2023 to ensure we stay on target with these anticipated results.

Preparations for Budget 2024

The Committee discussed some preliminary budget items for 2024 and talked about upcoming budget meetings and the plan for timing and completion of this year's budget.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Little

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

The following Resolution was also presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Resolution GF-W 2023-374

WHEREAS: under Section 94 of the Municipalities Act of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, subject to the approval of the Minister, Council may borrow monies and issues securities for the repayment of monies borrowed.

AND WHEREAS: it is deemed necessary to borrow in addition to existing Credit Facilities the amount of \$1,625,603 in relation to 2022 Capital Projects as per the attached schedule.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that subject to the approval of the Honourable Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs, Council borrow this amount from CIBC chartered bank in Grand Falls-Windsor, and that this amount be borrowed over a two (2) year term with a fifteen (15) year amortization period.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Director or Corporate Services be authorized to negotiate said loan and to sign promissory notes and execute all documents pertaining to this Resolution.

Motion

Dwyer\Hiscock

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2023-374 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The following Resolution was also presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Resolution GF-W 2023-375

WHEREAS: under Section 94 of the Municipalities Act of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, subject to the approval of the Minister, Council may borrow monies and issue securities for the repayment of monies borrowed.

AND WHEREAS: it is deemed necessary to borrow in addition to existing Credit Facilities the amount of \$2,478,641 in relation to 2023 Capital Projects as per the attached schedule.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that subject to the approval of the Honourable Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs, Council borrow this amount from CIBC chartered bank in Grand Falls-Windsor, and that this amount be borrowed over a three (3) year term with a fifteen (15) year amortization period.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Director of Corporate Services be authorized to negotiate said loan and to sign promissory notes and execute all documents pertaining to this Resolution.

Motion

Dwyer\Browne

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2023-375 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Manuel advised that is standard business for all towns as most need to borrow funds for Capital Works and legislation requires us to pass the Resolution through Council meetings.

Committee of the Whole (1 of 2)

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Lionel Kelland Hospice

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Lionel Kelland Hospice inviting Council to their Opening event tentatively planned for November 23rd, 2023.

The Committee was very pleased that the project is near completion and recommended all Council make an effort to attend the Opening activities.

Community Centre Consultations

The Committee discussed Public Consultations related to the proposal for constructing a new Community Centre.

The Committee recommends that staff begin some stakeholder consultations as soon as possible.

Grand Falls House Foundation

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Grand Falls House Foundation about funding required to restore the Grand Falls House.

The Committee recommended that staff request a meeting with the Board to discuss possible steps forward.

The meeting recessed at 6:00 P.M.

The meeting resumed at 6:10 P.M.,

Corporate Services – Budget 2024

The Committee reviewed the goals and objectives for the Corporate Services Department related to developing the 2024 Budget.

The Committee was pleased with the presentation and recommended staff incorporate the information into the Budget draft.

Cross-Country Ski Trail

The Committee discussed whether any brush cutting was carried out on the Cross-Country Ski Trail. Staff reported that much of the growth on the Trail was cut and wires on light poles were repaired. As well, the groomer continues to be worked on to get it ready for the upcoming season.

The Committee was pleased with the progress of the Trail. The Committee reinforced its desire to install more video surveillance in and around the Town's public facilities.

The Committee recommends that staff address this need.

Ticket Portal at Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium (Community Services)

Staff reported that the software used for issuing tickets in the Community Services Department is outdated and needs to be replaced.

The Committee recommends that staff investigate replacement options.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Dwyer

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

Councillor Little commented there has been a lot of fundraising over the last number of years for the Lionel Kelland Hospice and all the hard work is finally coming to fruition. It is the first province wide facility in the province, and the people involved deserve our congratulations.

Mayor Manuel noted the Lionel Kelland Hospice project has been in the works for the past seven (7) or eight (8) years, and the people involved have put in so much hard work and we are very proud of them. It does take time for things like this to come to fruition and he expects the people of Grand Falls-Windsor will

be able to use this facility to die with dignity in this beautiful new facility. We look forward to the Grand Opening, and we hope it won't be the last in the province.

Committee of the Whole (2 of 2)

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 Hiscock.

Crown Lands Referral

The Committee reviewed a request from Crown Lands for the Grand Falls Golf Club to be granted ownership of land that is currently occupied by holes one to nine.

The Committee recommends Council support the Crown Lands Referral for ownership of this Crown Lands to be transferred to the Grand Falls Golf Club.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Hiscock\Noel

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

Mayor Manuel explained the Crown Lands application for the Golf Course, they didn't own the land from holes 1-9 even though they have been playing on them for many years. This is the application they must go through to obtain the land.

Deputy Mayor Browne returned to the meeting at this time.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Noel expressed congratulations to the Community Services and the staff involved in the successful first COMIC CON event this past Saturday at the Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium. It was well enjoyed by many, and we look forward to more in the future. To those with water issues he advised that Council are diligent on trying to resolve the issues and have made it their main priority. Our hearts go out to those experiencing discoloured water and we are seeking outside assistance to try and resolve the issues as effectively as we can. Upon his visit to Gorge Park, he realized that it has become a safe haven for ducks, he encourages people to go down and take pictures as there are hundreds of beautiful birds and it is a beautiful sight.

Councillor Hiscock commented that October 16th to 22nd is Waste Reduction Week and a time for focusing on recycling and reusing. He asks people to be diligent and recycle their materials. There are a lot of events planned between now and the end of the year, so congratulations to the Director of Community Services and his staff for pulling them all off. He advised residents to keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information.

Councillor Little advised he and Deputy Mayor Browne attended the Chamber of Commerce Business Awards this past week. Small Business of the Year was Impact Hockey, the Ambassador Award was the Lionel Kelland Hospice, Customer Service Award was Sigma Lab Services, Business Growth Award was Skir Enterprises, Personal Excellence Award was Essence Medical, Businesswoman of the Year was Sherry Sharon, Business of the Year was Badger Diner, Indigenous Award was Sisters Gifts NL, Inducted to the Hall of Fame was Lions Max Simms Camp, South and Central Health Foundation and the Queen Street Dinner Theatre. It was a great night and well attended as it seems to be growing year to year. Halloween is next week, so please slow down and be cautious as there will be children running around everywhere.

Councillor Dwyer mentioned in the Minutes that the South and Central Health Foundation has a Gala and that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor has agreed to sponsor the "Safe Ride Home" opportunity for people who attend that event. Councillor Hiscock and Councillor Coady attended the MADD Exploits Candlelight Ceremony the weekend before last, and they paid tribute to families and survivors who are directly impacted by impaired driving. It was very sad and eye opening to see what people go through when they are victims of impaired driving, and she would like to thank all that participated in the event. Since the last public meeting on October 10th there was an announcement about the establishment of the new Family Care Team in Grand Falls-Windsor, which is great news for primary care access here. Our Community Health Care Coalition has

been advocating and anticipating that announcement ever since it was announced that we would be one of ten (10) communities who would be first to have a Family Care Team established in 2023. Our Chair of the Coalition had been speaking to the Minister and writing back and fourth to make sure they recognize how important it is here in Grand Falls-Windsor given the unique location and services we offer here at the Hospital. Great news, and part of the solution for resolving some of the critical health care issues that we have here in Grand Falls-Windsor and the region, but it is not a full solution because we still have a significant number of residents in Grand Falls-Windsor that don't have a family physician. We will continue to do what we can to recruit and retain physicians in the area, in the meantime any resident that do not have a physician and want to connect with the Family Care Team should go to patientconnectnlchi.nl.ca or just google patient connect NL and they will be assigned to the Grand Falls-Windsor team. The Coalition met with Dr. Jared Butler on October 12th and the Manager of the Family Care Team, to get a clearer understanding of how it is going to be organized. Dr. Butler clarified that it is likely to be more than two (2) Physicians, but equivalent of two (2) Family Physicians allocated. There will be a Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Nurse, one (1) Nurse Practitioners, two (2) Family Physicians and a Pharmacist, and the idea is that when a patient presents themselves to the Family Care Team, they won't necessarily see a Family Physician, but it will be determined who will best meet their needs. The idea is collaborative care, and we look forward to it improving primary care in Grand Falls-Windsor.

Mayor Manuel said we have lost a lot of family doctors and there are a lot of people without a doctor now, and the whole premise of this is to try and streamline things to make sure one family physician is not seeing patients for things that they shouldn't be seeing them for. It is good in theory, although it won't solve our issue totally right now, but it should certainly go a long way to help. Councillor Dwyer along with Cyril Farrell and everyone on the Coalition have done a fantastic job in their lobbying Government efforts and meetings with local Physicians, Government Officials and stakeholders, so thank you to everyone involved.

Deputy Mayor Browne advised he attended a Ceremony at the YMCA recently where they re-dedicated the lobby to Francis Nichols who started the YMCA in Grand Falls-Windsor and Tina Sparkes who had a major role in the aquatics program at the YMCA. He would like to recognize those two (2) individuals and said the lobby could not have been dedicated to two (2) better people. The Seniors Wellness Fair was a huge success with seven hundred and fifty (750) people in attendance, thanks to our Director of Community Services and our Business\Economic Development Officer for making it the success it was. The

new Skateboard Park was officially opened in the last two (2) weeks and the youth of the community are excited to start using the great improvements. The Santa Claus Parade Committee met last week and determined the Parade will be Saturday, December 2nd, special thanks to Wanda Healey who is the Chair, and all involved. He wanted to wish a farewell to Kim McDonald-Wilkes, who was the lead role in the Provincial Special Olympic Winter Games and bringing them to Grand Falls-Windsor. Her and her family are moving to Australia, and we wish them all the best as she will be missed because not only was she a lead role in the Special Olympics, but she also assisted our Community Services Department with some great ideas.

Mayor Manuel noted the Nursing School will have their opening tomorrow evening, at their location on Hardy Avenue which is the old Keyin Tech building. That is something that we have been lobbying for many years, and we want to welcome all the nursing students here. It is a four (4) year program with thirty-two (32) students per class. It is good for the community, and we look forward to having those people as active members of our community. We had the Firefighters Ball since our last meeting, a lot of members were recognized for having service milestones, including our Fire Chief Vince MacKenzie who celebrated twenty (20) years. Vince has been a great ambassador for our community and a very well-respected Fire Chief not only in our Province, but across the country. He wanted to recognize Vince on behalf of Council and the Town and thank him for his service. We can never say enough as to what the firefighters mean to our community and the protection that they provide. It is a service that we don't know what we would do without, and these volunteers give up their free time with their families to help save people and property, so we thank everyone that is involved. As Councillor Little stated we have Halloween coming up and also Remembrance Day before our next Council meeting. There will be a Ceremony on November the 11th at the Memorial Grounds so we hope everyone gets out for that to show their respects. Lastly, he wished Ernest Alfred Duder "Dick Duder" a happy 90th birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Hiscock\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 14th, 2023. This motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

Barry Manuel
Mayor

Darren Finn
Chief Administrative Officer