

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14<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  
 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 #583 of Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Motion  
Noel\Little

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #583 of Tuesday, October 24<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 \$1,523,349.93.

Motion  
Dwyer\Browne

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,523,349.94 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.

#### Community Grants Review

The Committee discussed Community Grants criteria in 2023 as it pertains to groups running tournaments, but not registered with Provincial sport bodies. The Director will review the guidelines and report back to the Committee but will ensure all current criteria are met by applicants.

#### Medical Community Event

The Director informed the Committee about a planned event for some medical staff on November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The Committee recommends Councillors register online and attend.

#### Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium Opening

The Director informed the Committee that the stadium is scheduled to open November 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### Exploits Regional Curling Club

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from the Exploits Regional Curling Club.

The Committee recommended that the Club receive their annual Community Grant and that the Director set up a meeting with the Club once the 2024 season is over to review their financial status again.

#### Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce – Invited Guest (6:00-6:50 P.M.)

The Committee had a general discussion with the Chamber on past and future activities of the Club. The Chamber Executive discussed the ongoing work

on the new website, membership survey, the development of a new business directory, a new strategic plan, and the continued promotion of the Shop Local Campaign. Deputy Mayor Browne suggested that there be quarterly meetings of both groups to ensure that the partnership continues to grow and foster relations on shared interests such as the proposed Wind Energy Development. The Director also suggested sharing material on each other websites and Facebook for better promotion of events, projects, and grant opportunities for our local business sector.

The Committee recommends that staff coordinate periodic meetings with the Chamber and Council to ensure proactive communications are maintained.

### Indian River High Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the “Thank You” letter from Indian River High and commended Town Staff for their efforts to make the Provincial Girls High School Soccer Tournament happen with limited time to prepare. The Director informed the Committee that the staff did an amazing job, and that the tournament went off without problems.

### Association for New Canadians

The Committee reviewed the request from the Association for New Canadians for a Community Organization Grant to help with the Multicultural Celebration of Diwali.

The Committee recommended that staff work with the Association on their Light Festival by lighting up the Town Hall during the weeklong celebration and that we provide them with the requested Grant, as per our Community Grant Policy.

### Community Services Program Update

The Committee reviewed the list of special events that the Community Services Department have carried out or are planning for the coming months. The Committee was impressed with the variety of programs and services offered to the public and were pleased that there is something for every age and interest.

### Parade\Motorcade Guidelines

The Director informed the Committee that staff have developed a draft set of guidelines to ensure any Town sanctioned Parade\Motorcade follows the same set of rules.

The Committee recommended that the Director review the proposed guidelines with the Municipal Enforcement Officers to finalize them and present them again in a future meeting.

### Other Business

The Committee had some discussion about ongoing work at the Cross-Country Ski Trail.

The Director informed the Committee that trail maintenance should be completed in the coming weeks and the facility will be ready when the snow arrives.

The Committee had some discussion about Wheelchair Accessible parking spots at Windsor Stadium.

The Committee recommended to work with the Public Works and Development staff to add an additional parking space near the main entrances.

The Committee had some discussion about alder growth along the T'Railway.

The Committee recommended that the Director meet with the Public Works and Development Director to coordinate some brush cutting this season or be added to the 2024 work schedule.

The Director informed the Committee that Mid Winter Bivver is scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and that promotion will start in the coming weeks.

The Committee had some discussion on the Health Accord and the Social Determinants of Health and the importance of including some tasks within the Community Services Department's Goals and Objectives for 2024.

The Director informed the Committee that the season tickets sales for the Senior Cataracts have been well received with over 350 purchased thus far, with the first weekend games scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Committee encourages the public to come out and support the team and the new Central\West Senior Hockey League.

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 wanted to say “Thank You” to Indian River High School for saying “Thank You” to us. We were more than happy to help with their event, and it was nice for them to show their appreciation.

Councillor Dwyer wanted to thank the Public Works and Development Department for getting the wheelchair accessible parking spots done as quickly at Windsor Stadium. It was greatly appreciated and glad the paint was put down before the snow.

Deputy Mayor Browne reminded that the Cataracts home games are this weekend, first home games of the season. They face off against the Deer Lake Red Wings Saturday night at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday afternoon at 1:30 P.M. We are hoping to attract a large crowd, and it is nice to see the Cataracts back in action.

### Public Works and Development

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady.

#### Water Quality

The Committee had further discussion on the recent water quality concerns of some citizens. Town staff have completed some additional work to alleviate problems and continue to investigate all areas affected. Initial meetings with a consultant have also occurred and they have commenced work in reviewing the Town’s distribution system. In addition to this, they will update the water model for the Town and provide a detailed flushing program to use in the future.

The Committee is pleased to see progress in some areas and looks forward to the Consultant’s Report. The Committee has requested a meeting with the consultant early in the review and staff will arrange.

#### Public Works Reports

The Committee was updated on the latest Public Works Reports on work completed to-date. Overall, there was an increase in production and most concrete work for 2023 was in sidewalk repairs. Seasonal layoffs have occurred in early October and some work slowed down in preparation for winter season. Fleet is also outfitted with snow clearing equipment in preparation for snow events.

### Rezoning Request – Community Centre

The Committee reviewed a request from staff to rezone a parcel of land between Grenfell Heights and the Trans Canada Highway west of Scott Avenue overpass. The current zones are Comprehensive Development Area One Zone (CDA-1) and Rural Zone (RUR), and the request is to rezone to Commercial Highway Zone (CH). This will facilitate all future planned developments in this area including a new Community Centre and other commercial properties.

The Committee recommends this be approved and staff commence the rezoning process.

### Development Regulation Amendments

The Committee reviewed a request to amend the Regulations to allow shipping containers as a discretionary use in the Public Use Zone (PU) for an accessory building, which is currently prohibited.

The Committee recommends this be approved and staff commence the process.

### Development Regulations Adoptions

The Committee was notified that the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs has completed its Section 15 review under the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000 and has released the documents for adoption for the following:-

- 1) Municipal Plan Amendment No. 3, 2023 regarding 166-168 Main Street rezoning.
- 2) Development Regulation Amendment No. 4, 2023 regarding 166-168 Main Street rezoning.
- 3) Municipal Plan Amendment No. 4, 2023 regarding Cromer Avenue rezoning adjacent to Shanawdithit Centennial Field.
- 4) Development Regulation Amendment No. 5, 2023 regarding Cromer Avenue rezoning adjacent to Shanawdithit Centennial Field.

The Committee recommends these be adopted at the next Public Council meeting and to schedule the Public Hearing for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. with Bryan Blackmore as Commissioner.

## 2024 Budget

The Committee was presented with the 2024 Goals and Objectives for the Public Works and Development Department. The Committee also reviewed the proposed 2024 Budget for the Department along with the 2024 Capital requests and the Five (5) Year Capital Plan.

The Committee recommends this be added to the full Budget document for further discussion at a future Committee meeting.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady\Noel

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

Councillor Coady said there has been no decision made on whether to proceed with the new Community Centre, but we do know that we have this parcel of land in mind for it if we proceed. The rezoning process is a lengthy process, so we wanted to have that at least started so that if there is a decision made to continue with a new Community Centre, we have the initial groundwork completed so there are no further delays. There are still some social media posts on water, while we appreciate residents using social media to notify us, we do still need them to call the Town dispatch at 709-489-0420 to let us know. We will then send somebody to get a sample of your water so that we can do due diligence and investigate further.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Coady:-

### Resolution GF-W 2023-376

#### URBAN AND RURAL PLANNING ACT, 2000

#### RESOLUTION TO ADOPT

#### TOWN OF GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR MUNICIPAL PLAN AMENDMENT

#### No. 3, 2023

#### & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AMENDMENT No. 4, 2023

Under the authority of Section 16 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000, the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor adopts Amendment No. 3, 2023 to the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor Municipal Plan.

Under the authority of Section 16 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000, the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor adopts the Amendment No. 4, 2023 to the Grand Falls-Windsor Development Regulations, 2022-2032.

Motion

Coady\Hiscock

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2023-376 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The following Resolution was also presented by Councillor Coady:-

Resolution GF-W 2023-377

URBAN AND RURAL PLANNING ACT, 2000

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT

TOWN OF GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR MUNICIPAL PLAN AMENDMENT

No.5, 2023

& DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AMENDMENT No. 6, 2023

Under the authority of Section 16 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000, the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor adopts Amendment No. 5, 2023 to the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor Municipal Plan.

Under the authority of Section 16 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000, the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor adopts the Amendment No. 6, 2023 to the Grand Falls-Windsor Development Regulations, 2022-2032.

Motion

Coady\Browne

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2023-377 would be adopted as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

DISCRETIONARY USE NOTICE – 113 MAIN STREET – DAY CARE CENTRE

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor has received an application for a Childcare Centre at 113 Main Street. A Childcare Centre is



identified as a discretionary use within the Commercial Downtown Zone in the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor Development Regulations (2022-2032).

The notice was mailed to adjacent property owners and advertised on the Town's social media page.

The Public Works and Development Department did not receive any objections or concerns and the recommendation from this Department is to approve the discretionary use.

Motion

Coady\Little

Be it resolved that the Discretionary Use Notice for a Day Care Centre at 113 Main Street be approved as circulated. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

### Corporate Services (1 of 2)

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

#### Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week forty-three (43). Total labour was \$3,106,047. This was \$339,946 (10%) under budget.

The Committee is pleased with the results of the labour budget and recommends that staff continue to monitor labour costs heading towards the end of 2023.

#### Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,523,349.93 and recommends this be presented at the next Council meeting.

#### Accessibility Act NL

The Committee discussed recent legislation that requires public bodies to have an Accessibility Plan which involves consultation with persons with disabilities and related organizations and setting up an Accessibility Advisory Committee.

The Committee recommends staff use a consultant to prepare the Accessibility Plan.

### Donation Requests

The Committee reviewed a request from the Canadian Cancer Society for support towards its “One Night Stand Against Cancer” fundraiser to support Daffodil Place.

The Committee recommends donating \$500 towards this fundraiser.

The Committee discussed a request for support from Miss Newfoundland and Labrador Pageant for donations towards its event in 2024.

The Committee recommends against providing a donation to this event; however, any individuals from Grand Falls-Windsor who take part in the event may be eligible for Travel Grant under the Community Services Department.

### Municipal Enforcement Vehicle

The Committee reviewed a quote for a Municipal Enforcement Vehicle which was received as a result of a Tender. The quoted price was for a 2024 Ford Interceptor and costs \$76,774 plus HST. Council originally approved a budget of \$73,000 for this vehicle based on prices from 2022.

The Committee recommends proceeding with the purchase of this vehicle.

This meeting recessed from 6:00 P.M. until 6:30 P.M. and Deputy Mayor Browne left the meeting during this time due to a perceived conflict of interest.

Nelson Chatman, Director of Public Works and Development and Todd Mercer, Director of Community Services joined the meeting at 6:30 P.M.

### Budget 2024

The Committee reviewed the initial requests for Budget 2024 as prepared by staff. This included the operating budget for all Departments, including forecasted revenues and expenditures.

This was the Committee’s first look at the overall budget and look forward to more discussions at future meetings.

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.

Corporate Services 2 of 2)

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

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Correspondence – Concerned Citizens Central (CCC)

The Committee discussed correspondence from a local group called Concerned Citizens Central (CCC) regarding the Grand Falls Golf Course's application for Crown Lands.

The Committee recommends that staff respond to the correspondence on their behalf.

Request from Grand Falls Golf Course

The Committee discussed a request from the Grand Falls Golf Course for the Town to provide a temporary guarantee on their recent funding from BDC. The Golf Course recently received a letter from the Government indicating that they will have the title to the land once certain conditions are met; however, this was not enough for BDC to release the funds under their funding agreement. The temporary guarantee will be in place until the Golf Course meets the conditions and obtains clear ownership of the land.

The Committee recommends providing a temporary guarantee on the Grand Falls Golf Course's BDC loan and for the Director of Corporate Services to have the authority to enter into such an agreement on behalf of Council.

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.

Councillor Dwyer advised the Golf Club requires short term assistance regarding their irrigation project because a land issue arose. It was discovered after a title search that the land on the front 9 hole was not owned by the Golf Course. It was Abitibi land and when it was expropriated, and Abitibi dissolved become Crown Lands. The lender will not release funds until they secure ownership and that could take several months. We do have a letter from the Government stating that this is going to happen, and we do not believe that there is any risk to the Town, and we support their application.

Mayor Manuel advised that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor does not deal with Town land requests, we do get asked for feedback, but that is all. Other than that, we have nothing to do with it, it is a Provincial Crown Lands issue.

Deputy Mayor Browne returned to the meeting at this time.

### Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

#### Correspondence from James Penney

The Committee acknowledged correspondence received from James Penney on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 regarding his property at 374 Grenfell Heights and property on 4 Vine Street.

The Committee has no recommendations at this time.

#### Request for Support from Grand Falls-Windsor, Bishop's Falls Community Food Bank Inc.

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Grand Falls-Windsor, Bishop's Falls Community Food Bank Inc. requesting a donation.

The Committee recommends a donation of \$1,000 be provided.

#### Request for Donation from Make-A-Wish Foundation

The Committee discussed correspondence from the Make-A-Wish Foundation requesting a donation.

The Committee recommends that a donation of \$275 be provided.

MEO Report: Basketball Nets on Roadways and Sidewalks.

The Committee reviewed a report from the Municipal Enforcement Department about their work getting basketball nets removed from roadsides and sidewalks across Town. Twenty-three (23) locations were identified, and all were given notice of a violation and the requirement to remove the nets from the public's right-of-way. All properties identified will be given notice again next week and any basketballs nets still in the public's right-of-way after November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 will be removed by Public Works and Development staff.

The Committee supports this course of action and recommends proceedings.

Correspondence from the Grand Falls House Foundation

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Grand Falls House Foundation about redeveloping the facility.

The Committee recommends that staff have a meeting with the Grand Falls House Foundation Board of Directors to discuss possible ways forward.

Correspondence from Mr. and Mrs. Case (Bank Road)

The Committee reviewed correspondence from Mr. and Mrs. Case about ATV traffic on Bank Road.

The Committee recommends that staff meet with the Cases to discuss this concern.

Budget

The Committee reviewed a revised draft Budget for 2024.

The Committee recommends that changes discussed be reflected in the draft and the Budget be discussed again at the next Committee meeting.

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 7-0.

Councillor Noel commented we have many individuals in this Town that have accessibility issues and the sidewalks are in place to keep them safe, and he would like citizens to be cognizant of that in regard to leaving basketball nets out or parked on the sidewalk because that becomes an obstacle for those individuals. It is great to see the kids out getting some exercise, but please take a second to tip it back at night when you are done.

Mayor Manuel advised people with strollers as well have difficulty maneuvering around basketballs nets. It is nothing against kids out playing basketball, the problem is the nets being left out for days or even weeks at a time and not being used.

Deputy Mayor Browne acknowledged the correspondence from residents regarding ATV use on Bank Road is that of a safety concern, as they say there is ATV's travelling up Bank Road and on a one-way street going the wrong way and it is a bit of a blind hill and they are worried someone is going to get hurt. He asked residents if their kids are out on ATV's or dirt bikes to please stress to them the importance of safety, as going up a one-way road the wrong way on a blind hill is just an accident waiting to happen. We look forward to meeting with the residents to discuss that further.

Mayor Manuel advised this is just one example of the many streets in Town that we have safety issues with ATV's. He had the opportunity to meet with the Premier Saturday past and that was one of the issues brought up to him mainly with regards to the former Abitibi property and being able to open that up to have access for ATV's and side by sides even if we don't have the entire property transition or parts of or an agreement in place because it seems to be a complicated process to be able to have that right-of-way to keep the ATV's and side by sides off our roadway. He encourages us to keep up with the issue, and he will talk to the Minister to see if they can get something done. Bank Road will not be rectified by that, but at the same time if we had the access route across the former Abitibi land it would alleviate a lot of the safety issues in Town. Every time of year it is important to give to the Food Bank if you can, but with Christmas upon us there are more and more people who avail themselves of it. So, if you are in a position that you are able to give to the Food Bank please do so, they accept monetary donations as well as non-perishable food items.

### NOTICE OF MOTION

None

## OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Hiscock noted Saturday was our Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph and it was well attended. On behalf of officers and members of the Royal Canadian Legion he expressed thanks to everybody for attending and also to those who wore poppies the last couple of weeks throughout the campaign in remembrance of those fallen. The "Keep Christ in Christmas Walk" is Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 P.M. from St. Joseph's Parish and the Organizing Committee are asking people to bring a non-perishable item and they will have a social time at the Parish after the Walk. We had the Honorary Night for our Fire Fighters the other day, and Chief MacKenzie stressed to everybody that it is time to change your batteries in your smoke detectors. He also stressed that this being a time that people are starting to burn wood for heating, to keep your chimney clean if you have any troubles with your stove call the Fire Hall and they will send someone out to assist in any way they can. He and a couple of members of staff toured the Marathon Gold site, and he found it very interesting to see this project on the ground floor starting to ramp up. It was a great day, and he expressed his thanks to Marathon Gold staff for treating them so well. Sadly, this past week we lost a great member of our community, Mr. George Hynes, he was one of the organizers of the Post Office in Grand Falls-Windsor. In 1976 when the Windsor Stadium opened, he was a volunteer with the Minor Hockey for many years. Condolences to his family, of this fabulous person.

Mayor Manuel said that he knew George Hynes well, and that he was in his late 90's, a great gentleman who loved to chat and enjoyed his community and he will be sorely missed.

Councillor Little advised the Cataracts are back this weekend, which means our Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium is open and they will be having free pre-school skating at 9:15 A.M. and free adult skating at 10:15 A.M. Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's. All information will be posted on our Facebook page and our website, also any changes will be posted there. Today was World Diabetes Day and the Town was lit up blue in support. It is an Awareness Day because ten percent (10%) of the people worldwide have diabetes and in Newfoundland and Labrador it is thirty-six (36%) of the population. Lastly, we have some of our family programs registrations open and information for them is posted on our Facebook page and website. They are great programs that usually sell out, so he encourages those interested to register soon.

Councillor Dwyer thanked Ruth Down-Robinson who was a member of the Health Care Coalition, she helped with the Physician Recruitment and Retention part of the Health Accord. Ruth was a very valuable member who is now resigning after two (2) years, her dedication and enthusiasm will certainly be missed. At the

Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Convention one of the speakers was Dr. Megan Hayes who is the Assistant Deputy Minister of Health Professional Recruitment and Retention, and we had the opportunity to invite her here to attend the event that we are hosting for Physicians and their families. The Provincial Business Case Competition is being held in Grand Falls-Windsor this coming weekend at the College of the North Atlantic and there will be eleven (11) teams from across the island competing. The competition has been ongoing for approximately fifteen (15) years, so we look forward to that event and hope the participants have a good competition. She wanted to remind people that if they have not already registered with Patient Connect NL to do so, because that is where they are going to be getting their patient roster to assign the patients to the Family Healthcare Team. There was a Facebook post comparing Grand Falls-Windsor mil rates to other communities on the island, for example CBS has a mil rate of 7.3, Paradise 7.4, Gander 7.6, Mt. Pearl 7.7, Grand Falls-Windsor 8.5; however, it is not like you are comparing apples to apples because our average residential assessment is much less. The average household assessment in Gander is \$243,000 in 2023, in Grand Falls-Windsor it was \$186,000, so when you multiply the mil rates by the household average assessment you will obviously get a lesser amount. When you compare Grand Falls-Windsor to Gander in 2023 the average house taxation was \$1,849.00 and in Grand Falls-Windsor it was \$1,587, so she wanted to caution people when they see these posts to question it and look at it critically to understand what is being said. If anyone has any questions, they can certainly contact her or anyone at the Town Hall to discuss.

Deputy Mayor Browne advised the Memorial Day event at the Legion Saturday night was a great event that sold out, proving to be the biggest crowd they have had in quite some time. Leaving the Memorial Grounds that morning he reflected on what it must have been like when these men and women signed up to fight for their country in the world. The men and women past and present who offer their services to go and fight to save their country and the world are the real heroes. The Santa Claus Parade is taking place December 2<sup>nd</sup> starting on Main Street at 10:00 A.M. and the Committee is tremendously pleased with the response thus far. It is bound to be a very successful parade this year, and the people of Grand Falls-Windsor can look forward to that. Throughout the parade there will be free hot chocolate served, and downtown there will be some carolers, congratulations to the Committee for coordinating it. He also acknowledges Deidre Lyver who will be going to Vermont in January to play hockey with St. Michael's College. She is the first female hockey player from Grand Falls-Windsor to play in this D1 College Hockey, which is the highest league for female hockey in her age group. Congratulation Deidre, and good luck, we will be following your career as it moves on.



Councillor Coady mentioned we had a snow event already so our equipment was out, but she would like to remind residents that while we are trying to be as careful as possible with our snow clearing equipment there may be some damage caused to the lawns. We are asking residents that normally do so or if you are so inclined to use markers to mark their lawns' edges so that we make sure we can try not to do damage. Sidewalks and roads can be slippery, so she reminds residents to drive with caution and watch for kids crossing the roads and be extra careful. The overnight parking ban runs from November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M., but to clarify that is if there is bad weather present or expected. Please avoid parking on the road during this time, because if it impedes our snow clearing operations tickets will be issued. Holiday Christmas events are starting, and we have Town events posted, but there are also a lot of other groups with events happening. There are several choirs in Town who are having their Christmas concerts, the Queen Street Dinner Theatre are having their show from December 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, the Salvation Army Happy Tree kicks off on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Exploits Valley Mall, there is caroling at Church Road Park on December 10<sup>th</sup>, and Tim Hortons has a holiday smile cookie this year and all proceeds from the sale of the cookies goes to the Grand Falls-Windsor, Bishop's Falls Food Bank Inc. There are also numerous craft shows and holidays markets happening so there is no need to shop elsewhere, you can get everything here shopping locally.

Councillor Noel advised down at Exploits Valley High he is talking to the students all the time, and sadly it seems like Newfoundland and Labrador used to be a robust outgoing active group of people and times have changed because we now have a lot of electronic sitters and more and more teenagers that see less and less sunlight on a weekend than we would like for them to see. According to the Diabetes Stat Central NL has surpassed the Western Avalon as having the highest rates of juvenile diabetes in the province. This is concerning, so he reminds parents to think about what you are giving your child when packing lunch and start putting an effort into packing healthy eating and encouraging children to get some healthy exercise to offset diabetes possibilities. He also thanked the Public Works and Development team because the community looks good all summer long, and credit goes to them for maintaining our green spaces.

Mayor Manuel stated it is important for residents to know that by our Regulations you are required to have markers if you expect the Town to take care of any damage. He encourages residents to get out and mark the lawn edges because it does help, especially with early snow fall. There are many events coming up as mentioned and we also have random acts of kindness coming up and the give back days in December, so stay tuned to the Town's Facebook page and all events, scheduling, special days will be found there, and he encourages that people get out and take part where they can. He sadly missed Remembrance Day this year

due to prior commitments and cannot remember the last Remembrance Day he missed. But every year he also reflects how hard these men and women fought. When we look around the world at wars that are still happening to this day, we realize how lucky we are to live where we do and have the freedom that we do. We have got freedom to do whatever we want, and it was those people who fought for our freedom. The Badger Diner are going to have a give-a-way of dinners on December 17<sup>th</sup>, stuffed chicken breast with all the fixings, tea\coffee and dessert given away to one hundred (100) sixty-five (65) years of age and over seniors who live on their own. If you know a senior or if you are a senior that lives on their own and over sixty-five (65) and over all you have to do is call the Badger Diner and put your name on the list and they will serve one hundred (100) free dinners on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Dwyer\Little

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council would be adjourned until the next regular scheduled meeting of Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

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Barry Manuel  
Mayor

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Darren Finn  
Chief Administrative Officer