

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, APRIL 16TH, 2024

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

Prior to the meeting the Mayor signed Proclamations for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, 2Spirit + Honouring Awareness Day – May 5th and Volunteer Week 2024.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #590 of March 26th, 2024.

Motion

Noel\Coady

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #590 of March 26th, 2024 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 \$595,708.63.

Motion

Dwyer\Little

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$595,708.63 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.

Department of Industry, Energy and Technology Correspondence

The Director gave the Committee an update on the funding application approval letter from the Department of Industry, Energy and Technology to support the Health Simulation Project. The funding will assist with financing the project in partnership with ACOA, Northpine, NL Health Services and the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to work with the partners to implement the Simulation Lab.

Summer Student Update

The Director gave the Committee an update on the Summer Student positions for the summer. The Director informed the Committee that no correspondence or notification has been given yet by either Federal or Provincial Governments to-date.

The Committee recommends that staff proceed with its planning for hiring summer students and update the Committee later on the progress of Federal and Provincial Grants when those updates are received.

75th Anniversary of Confederation Grant

The Director informed the Committee that they have received a grant from the Provincial Government to help with the celebration of 75 years of Confederation. The money received will be used to help support this year's 2024 Kelly Ford Exploits Valley Salmon Festival scheduled to take place from July 11th-15th.

The Committee recommends that the Council support the use of the Confederation Celebration Grant funds within the Salmon Festivals overall plans.

Atlantic Lotto Grant

The Director informed the Committee that they have been successful in receiving an Atlantic Lotto Grant to help with the Sponsorship of the 2024 Exploits Valley Salmon Festival scheduled for July 11th – 15th.

The Committee recommends that the Council support the use of the Atlantic Lotto Grant funds within the Salmon Festivals overall plans.

Fifty Plus Club Correspondence

The Committee reviewed a letter from the Exploits Fifty Plus Club thanking the Town and the Community Services staff for all their hard work in helping the Club get the financial grant support required to install two (2) heat pumps in their facility. The Committee was very appreciative that staff were acknowledged for their efforts.

Bouncy Castle Game Request

The Director informed the Committee that the Department of Community Services staff require a new Bouncy Castle structure to support more diversified fun opportunities for the kids during special events, concerts, and special days.

The Committee recommends that the Director work with the staff to identify the best possible structure and price, and to strive for having the game delivered for the upcoming summer season.

MNL Conference Overview

The Director informed the Committee that the Community Services Department helped run the 2024 Regional Municipal Meeting last weekend. The Organization Committee were very impressed with the level of support and

organization provided by the Town and thanked them for their efforts. The Committee was very appreciative that staff were acknowledged for their efforts.

Ticket Program Update

The Director informed the Committee that the first two (2) events have been developed and opened to the public using the Town's new online ticketing service. The service has been well received by users, organizing groups, and staff. Staff will continue to work with the software provider to explore other user options and resources to allow for the best user-friendly service that is achievable. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the progress made towards establishing this new service.

Salmon Festival Update 6:00 P.M. (Rod Drake and Angela Dawe)

The Committee was updated by Community Services staff on the proposed 2024 Kelly Ford Exploits Valley Salmon Festival Schedule for July 11th – 15th, 2024. The update included proposed new activities on the weekend, and some changes to entertainment that is being considered. Staff will work with the Communications Officer in the coming week and refine the formal announcement on the activities and ticket sales. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the progress made towards developing the schedule of activities.

Faculty of Nursing Correspondence

The Committee reviewed a letter from the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing thanking the Town for all their support in offering a special event for the Nursing students and staff. The Council was very appreciative about being recognized for this targeted effort.

The Committee recommends that staff continue to develop activities for students, so that they become better integrated into the community. It is the Council's objective that students be given the best experience possible while living in the community, and it is on that foundation that Council hopes these students will stay living in our community.

Community Services Economic Development Update

The Director informed the Committee of the various activities being worked on by the Economic Development staff. The Committee were impressed by the work being carried out and encouraged staff to continue to work on those files.

Community Garden Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from the Community Garden Committee about work they hoped to get Council to complete leading up to the 2024 growing season.

The Committee recommended that the Community Services and Public Works and Development Departments meet to discuss what is achievable and report back to Council at a later meeting.

Recreation NL

The Director informed the Committee that he has met with the new Executive Director of Recreation NL on hosting the 2025 Provincial Conference here in Grand Falls-Windsor. The Committee agreed to the request and looks forward to inviting all delegates to the community in the spring of 2025.

New Business

Solar Eclipse Event

The Committee had some discussion of the Solar Eclipse that is scheduled to take place in the afternoon of April 8th. The Committee thought it was important to remind the community about being safety minded when looking into the direct light of the sun and the possible damage that could happen to a person's eyesight.

The Committee recommends that the Town organize a community event at the Exploits Nordic Ski Club on the afternoon of April 8th from 4:00-6:00 P.M. to acknowledge this astronomic rare event. Staff will have 200 pairs of ISO Certifies disposable glasses for people to use\share to be a part of this once in a lifetime event.

Canada Day Celebrations

The Director informed the Committee that several companies have bid on the tender for fireworks for the 2024 Canada Day Celebrations\75th Anniversary of Confederation event being held on July 1st, 2024. The Community Services Department will review the bids and order the fireworks in the coming weeks, to ensure their arrival in early summer.

Easter Egg Hunt Activity

The Director informed the Committee that this past weekend's Easter Egg Hunt saw 400 people participate and was very well received by all participants.

Parks and Playgrounds

The Committee had some discussion about what appears to be an early spring and the corresponding need to clean up around our recreation facilities. Councillors have already observed a lot of use this past weekend with the warm weather. The Director will meet with the Public Works and Development Department and review the plans for the facilities and report back at a later 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 advised that the Post Office is collecting eclipse glasses, so if you would like to donate your glasses bring them there.

Councillor Dwyer wanted to acknowledge the work of our Business\Economic Development Officer and all the hard work he put into getting the Health Simulation Project approved. This project is going to help Physicians in Grand Falls-Windsor and surrounding areas, and our Health Care students in the area will probably be able to access that as well.

Mayor Manuel said it is a retention tool of sorts, because the Simulation Lab will be located at the EXCITE Building in Grand Falls-Windsor and that was our contribution to the project that we have been working on for the past couple of years. The Lab will have equipment to enable Doctors, Physicians and Nurses to better prepare themselves for when they are called upon.

Councillor Coady said she attended the Town Easter Egg Hunt, and she appreciated that the clues directed you to Town organizations and community involved groups. The clues allowed you to go into various facilities and find out where they are located and what types of activities they offer. It was fantastic and she would like it to continue as we go forward because a lot of people are not aware of some of these groups and what they have to offer.

Deputy Mayor Browne wanted to thank the Community Services Department for bringing the Eclipse event to Grand Falls-Windsor and congratulated staff for the great turnout of the event.

Mayor Manuel said we host so many events to give people reasons to want to stay in Grand Falls-Windsor. A good example is the Health Care students, we can't recruit them, but we can certainly show them that Grand Falls-Windsor is a great place to live.

Councillor Dwyer noted we are hosting a movie event for the Health Care students on April 18th and invitations have been sent to all Health Care students in Grand Falls-Windsor.

Mayor Manuel wanted to acknowledge that they would like to see an increase in efforts around budgeting for the parks and playgrounds. This time of year, we just don't know if we are going to have snow or summer conditions and as soon as the snow melts people are out using our playgrounds and facilities, so we need to make sure they are as safe and ready as possible. However, it is difficult because we have seasonal staff that we call back each year and sometimes the timing does not coincide, but I am sure we can figure something out to make sure we have the resources available to clean up, repair and make sure those facilities are ready for all the people that enjoy them.

Corporate Services

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week twelve (12). Total labour was \$790,691. This was \$27,105 (3.6%) over budget.

The Committee thanks staff for their efforts so far in 2024 and encourages management to monitor the labour budget as we continue through the year.

Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$595,708.63 and recommends this be presented at the next Council meeting.

Animal Control

The Committee reviewed a draft agreement with the Town of Bishop's Falls formalizing the cost of services provided by our Municipal Enforcement. This new agreement was negotiated by the staff of each municipality and will reduce the administrative burden of hourly billing, which was done previously.

The Committee recommends staff finalize this agreement with the staff of Bishop's Falls.

Mayor Barry Manuel had a previous commitment and was excused from the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Policy Revision HR-3

The Committee reviewed the draft changes to Policy HR-3 Banking Annual Leave and recommends accepting the changes as proposed.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

The Committee reviewed a package of information from the Accessibility Advisory Committee, including meeting Minutes and actionable items.

The Committee was very pleased with the valuable information provided by the Accessibility Advisory Committee. The actionable items include reaching out to specific businesses that have some apparent accessibility issues and sending a letter to businesses in Town introducing the Accessibility Advisory Committee and asking for feedback or comments. The Committee thanks staff and volunteers for their work so far on this initiative.

I move the recommendations and report of this Committee.

Motion

Dwyer\Hiscock

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

Councillor Little advised the Accessibility Advisory Committee is going to be a great Committee and has already provided us with some great feedback. They are all willing to help by going out to sites and provide feedback on accessibility wherever they can. Their feedback is very important because until you see things

from their perspective, it is hard to see these barriers at all so this Committee will help tremendously going forward.

Mayor Manuel said these Committees are very helpful for Council and he hopes that Councils in the future continue to utilize these Committees. We also have a successful Health Care Committee, we have an EXCITE Business Committee, we have talked about having an Indigenous Committee, an Environment Committee, a Youth Advisory Committee all of which typically have members who are in-tune with the issue or topic. He encouraged anyone out there interested in any of our Committees to get involved because they are very valuable to Council and to this Town. He would like to thank anyone that is involved and their commitment to the community. It is not very often that we see the Labour Report over budget, so far it is over by \$27,000 (3.6%) which is not a lot, but it is still over. Residents should realize that although we did not have a lot of heavy snow, we had a lot of events that require Town workers to be out and about whether that be sanding the roads, plowing the roads, pushing back the snowbanks among other things that they do. It was a winter that created a lot of work, certainly more than normal, which will relate to why we are over budget.

Public Works and Development

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady.

Water Quality

The Committee was updated on the results of the routine water sampling within Town and any other areas that had reported discoloration. These records indicate the water quality has improved. The Committee was also presented with a quotation and estimate to purchase flushing valves as recommended in the Consultant's Report. The original estimate is approximately \$65,000.

The Committee recommends that staff move forward with the purchase and installation of the flushing valves. This should help keep the water clear and control the amount of water used in flushing of these areas.

Capital Works – Schedule “A”

The Committee was presented with the updated expenditures of Capital Projects under the Multi-Year Capital Works Funding for 2020-2023. As projects are finalized, reprofiling of the funding is required that were completed under budget to those that had overruns. The remaining funds can accommodate a small

project and staff recommends it be used to repave the trail around Church Road Park to address a concern from the Accessibility Report. The total transferring of funds will result in total savings of \$156,000 for the Town's portion of the joint agreement.

The Committee recommends the proposed Schedule "A" be approved as presented and a Resolution be prepared for the next Public Council Meeting.

Public Works Production Reports

The Committee reviewed the latest reports from Public Works. Up to March 31st, 2024, there has been two hundred and nineteen (219) square meters of asphalt patching, nine (9) waterline leak repairs, three (3) main break repairs, twenty-eight (28) plugged services, four (4) frozen water calls, approximately 1,400 tonnes of salt and sand mixture placed over the winter with approximately 7,000 cubic meters of snow removal. In addition, the staff has completed eleven (11) maintenance holes\catch basin repairs along with twenty (20) curb stop repairs.

Interfaith Cemetery Road

The Committee discussed recent correspondence regarding the condition of the pavement at the Interfaith Cemetery on Union Street. Paving this section would possibly require a lot of subgrade repairs and is very costly. There is approximately 7,300 squares of paved area and is not a Town owned road.

The Committee recommends staff continue to assist with any maintenance repairs as per previous years, but the replacement of the roadway or future upgrades is not the Town's responsibility.

Divided Highway Extension

The Committee was updated on a meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and their staff regarding the divided highway extension east of Scott Avenue on the Trans-Canada Highway.

The Committee recommends staff continue to work with the Department on the project to maintain open communication to ensure all Town's concerns are addressed.

Lane's Development

The Committee reviewed a proposal from Lane's Industries for a new subdivision development in the vicinity of the Golden Years Estates. If developed,

it would generate up to one hundred and twenty (120) dwelling units. The developer is looking for preliminary approval from Council to continue with additional engineering and hope to commence construction this year. The developer is also requesting acquisition of one acre of Town land to incorporate some additional units on one side of the new proposed roadway.

The Committee recommends that preliminary approval be granted including the sale of the requested land and for staff to work with the developer to enter into a Subdivision Agreement. In addition, the Committee recommends staff complete an analysis of the water and sewer distribution systems to ensure there are not negative effects to the systems.

Main Street Development

The Committee reviewed a design and proposed estimate to complete work along Main Street West to service the lots for Phase II of the development. The estimated cost is approximately \$440,000 and this will be recuperated from land sales of approximately \$400,000 and future taxation on the properties.

The Committee recommends this be approved and for the work to be completed this construction season. The Committee also recommends a letter be provided to future purchasers to disclose the previous issues of discolored water that occurred in that area of Town.

Discretionary Use – Rothermere Street

The Committee reviewed the submission received concerning the Discretionary Notice to permit construction of a little home (approximately 75 square meters) at 22 ½ Rothermere Street. The submissions received were from both neighbours of the property. One also requested to purchase the property for their own use.

The Committee recommends denying the proposed use of a little home at this time and for staff to reach out to the adjacent property owners to offer them the chance to purchase the property.

Northcliffe Street Rezoning

The Committee reviewed the Commissioner's Report from the Public Hearing held regarding the rezoning of Northcliffe Street Development to Low and Medium Density Multi-Unit residential Zone (RM-1). The Commissioner has recommended that the area remain as the current zoning.

The Committee recommends accepting the Commissioners recommendation and not rezone the area.

Main Street West Rezoning

The Committee was updated on the proposed rezoning of a section of Main Street West Development from Single Unit Compact Residential Zone (RS-1) to Two Unit Urban Residential Zone (RT). This rezoning is to provide areas for duplex development. The next step in the process to make the Regulation change is for Council to adopt the proposed amendment.

The Committee recommends this be approved and for a Resolution to Adopt be presented at the next Public Council Meeting.

Development Regulation Amendment – Childcare

The Committee was updated on the proposed Regulation change of portions of Section 14 of the Development Regulations 2022-2032. These are text changes proposed to update the language to reflect the Childcare Regulation 2017 and to reduce obstacles on where a Regulated Childcare Service can operate. The next step in the process is for Council to adopt the proposed amendment.

The Committee recommends this be approved and for a Resolution to Adopt be presented at the next Public Council Meeting.

Letters to Residents – Grenfell Heights

The Committee reviewed drafted correspondence to some residents on Grenfell Heights to gauge interest if they would consider selling some of the backland for possible future residential development.

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 Hiscock stated residents are familiar with the asphalt breaking up on the Interfaith Cemetery through the winter into the spring, but the Town will continue to help out where we can even though it is not our road.

Mayor Manuel agreed that the road is in poor shape, and it is not widely known that the road is not owned by the Town. We have so many needs within the community; particularly for asphalt and paving on our streets that we do own which makes it very difficult to take money for an unowned street and put that ahead of the streets we do own even though we would love to see it improved.

Councillor Dwyer said she is glad to see that the Church Road Park paving is happening as she hears from a lot of seniors that are looking for a place to walk safely and it is great that it will be accessible for wheelchairs as well.

Mayor Manuel said the Park is used for many events and enjoyed by many, so this is nice to have added accessibility into the park itself.

Councillor Coady wanted to let residents know that the work that we have been doing to improve the water quality is starting to show improvements to give residents the best water possible and we will continue to work further to enhance more improvements in water quality. She stated again, that if people experience dirty water, it is crucial that they report it to us, so we can make sure to monitor all areas that have issues and look for trending causes on that particular day. She wanted to give residents some perspective when it comes to paving, the estimated cost to do the repairs to Church Road Park is \$80,000. That is the cost for just the small walkway at the Park, so when you compare that to the size of the road at the Interfaith Cemetery you can imagine what the cost would be to Council and the residents of this community to do the upgrade. We are committed to doing some upgrades to that road to make it passable, but it is just not possible to use our Town funds when we have infrastructure depleting that is ours and needs to be maintained and upgraded. There is a lot of information in our Minutes on housing development which is fantastic because we know our community needs to have places to live as it grows. There will be a lot of possible new housing developments and rezoning going forward to accommodate for duplexes, quadplexes, apartment building, tiny homes and garden suites, so make sure you are following our Facebook page. We will be sending letters out to neighbours in vicinities where we are talking about rezoning to obtain feedback, but it is important to make these changes to make our community accessible for those that want to come in. We are still waiting to hear on the housing Accelerator Fund, and if we could access some of that money it could go toward a lot of this development and help us tremendously in adding the infrastructure we need to grow our community, so we are hopeful to hear some news on that soon.

Mayor Manuel said development does not happen overnight, and just because we have identified an area in Town as potential for development it does not mean that Council are looking to develop it. We are just trying to see what the potential is, put notices out there to get feedback from the community and use that as consideration as to what we will decide. The costs are high and when you look

at a lot of land in our community most of the good spots you see are privately owned and we must encourage the property owners to either develop or sell to somebody that would like to develop. It is not clear cuts and that is why the Accelerator Fund would be a big boost to us and developers in the community that are looking to develop. He advised residents to check for posts and updates on our Facebook page regularly for flushing so people in the area can expect discoloured water. We also have a Voyent Alert App that can be downloaded to your smart phone, and it is an App that can geographically send out messages based on the area you select. It is an excellent way for Council and staff to communicate with people in the community, especially when it comes to important messaging.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Coady:-

Resolution GF-W 2024-384

URBAN AND RURAL PLANNING ACT, 2000
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
TOWN OF GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
AMENDMENT No. 11,2024

Under the authority of Section 16 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000, the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor adopts the Development Regulations Amendment No. 11, 2024.

Motion

Coady\Hiscock

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2024-384 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Coady:-

Resolution GF-W 2024-385

URBAN AND RURAL PLANNING ACT, 2000
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
TOWN OF GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
AMENDMENT No. 8, 2023

Under the authority of Section 16 of the Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000, the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor adopts the Development Regulations Amendment No. 8, 2023.

Motion
Coady\Little

Re it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2024-385 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The following Resolution was also presented by Councillor Coady:-

Resolution GF-W 2024-387

REVISED SCHEDULE "A"
MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor qualifies for funding under the Provincial Multi-Year Capital Works Program;

WHEREAS: all projects and funding allocation under these Agreements must be approved through the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor has available funding remaining in the Multi-Year Capital Works Program and has to re-profile funding;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Schedule "A" be revised and funding be re-allocated as per the attached Revised Schedule "A".

Motion
Coady\Noel

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2024-387 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Committee of the Whole

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Purchase of Day Cab Truck

The Committee reviewed a tender report for the purchase of a new Day Cab Truck. Three (3) bidders were considered, with Griffiths Investment Limited offering the lowest acceptable bid of \$163,500 plus HST.

This lowest acceptable bid exceeds the budgeted amount of \$125,000; however, the Committee recommends staff proceed with this purchase.

Snow Clearing Services Agreement

The Committee discussed the need to provide snow clearing services for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure on Grenfell Heights Extension.

The Committee recommends authorizing staff to enter into an Agreement and prepare a Resolution for Council approval.

Correspondence from Seniors Advocate

Concerns were raised about housing issues affecting seniors in Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Committee recommends that staff follow up with the Seniors Advocate for more information and report back to Council.

Staffing Supports for Grand Falls-Windsor Cancer Clinic

The Committee discussed a public statement issued by a group of Internal Medicine Physicians who were working at the Cancer Clinic in Grand Falls-Windsor and who were expressing their concern for the lack of necessary staffing supports they required to continue practicing. Council issued a letter of support to the Physicians and participated in follow-up meetings; thereafter, ultimately resulting in NL Health making commitments to providing the requested support.

The Committee expressed appreciation to NL Health for their engagement and willingness to make the necessary commitment of resources.

Request for Full-Time Park Supervisor Position

The Department of Public Works and Development requested funding to convert the part-time Park Supervisor position to full-time.

The Committee recommends approving this request.

Correspondence from Status of Women Central

The Committee discussed a flag-raising event and parade request from Status of Women Central. The Parade would go from the Town Hall to Church Road Park.

Staff are recommended to follow up on the correspondence and report back to Council if any requests are unachievable.

Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Municipal Symposium

The Committee recommends that available Councillors register for the Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Municipal Symposium planned for May 2nd-4th in Gander.

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 noted some people may think the purchase of the day cab truck is a bit costly, but it is not. The piece of equipment is in good shape, and it is a great deal and our old one that served us well is in rough shape. For those that don't know that piece of equipment is used to float our excavators and other equipment around Town and it is needed for our operations.

Mayor Manuel advised we are very close to acquiring the Grenfell Heights Extension Road and we are entering into a Snow Clearing Agreement with the Government, so the people who live down there can rest assured that it looks like this is going to happen. The Chief Administrative Officer and I have met with representatives from NL Health Services to discuss the needs of the Cancer Clinic, and he is happy to report that some of their needs and resources have been provided to satisfy those Physicians. We were able to secure the seats that were to be taken from our Nursing Program, but now we hear that a new MRI machine is

going to Gander. We hold nothing against Gander, but we want to make sure our residents and people in this region are served the best possible way and we feel that the MRI machine should be in Grand Falls-Windsor. We ask the community to help us when it comes to lobbying Government to help protect the well-being of this community. We have also met with the Provincial Government regarding the extension of the divided highway to Bishop's Falls that will be taking place, we mentioned some issues and concerns we had. We want them to consider New Bay Road exit in their planning and it was also suggested that there be a connection to Bishop's Falls from Grenfell Heights Extension, and we have also requested a pedestrian underpass that could be utilized by an ATV or side-by-side, so we look forward to hearing those items in future planning.

The following Resolution was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne:-

RESOLUTION GF-W 2024-386

GRENFELL HEIGHTS EXTENSION AGREEMENT

Authorization to Enter into an Agreement with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure of Newfoundland Labrador for Snow Clearing and Ice Control Services on Grenfell Heights Extension.

WHEREAS: the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor is committed to ensuring the safety and accessibility of its roadways for all residents and visitors;

WHEREAS: the Department of Transportation of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador has offered to provide a grant for upgrading a portion of Grenfell Heights Extension;

WHEREAS: the section of Grenfell Heights Extension in question extends 1.7 KM beyond the boundary of the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor up to the turn around past the last residential properties;

WHEREAS: the proposed grant from the Province is in lieu of the Town undertaking snow clearing and ice control services on this section of Grenfell Heights Extension;

WHEREAS: the specific section of road to be upgraded using the Provincial Grant

is 450 meters long, from the New Bay Road intersection to the transmission line that intersects Grenfell Heights, representing the boundary for the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor;

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Town Council of Grand Falls-Windsor hereby authorizes the appropriate Town staff to enter into an Agreement with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure of Newfoundland and Labrador for the Town to undertake snow clearing and ice control services on this specified section of Grenfell Heights Extension (1.7 KM);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Town's responsibility is limited to snow clearing and ice control and does not include any other maintenance for this section of Road;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Mayor and/or Administrative Officer are hereby authorized to sign the Agreement and any related documents necessary to implement this arrangement.

Motion

Browne\Little

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2024-386 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Browne expressed congratulations to the Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Hockey groups who travelled across the Province to represent the Town in the Easter Tournaments and did very well. We hosted the Under 15 Tournament that was very successful and very well attended. An update on Laura Horwood who was playing in the United Kingdom for the World Ladies Hockey Championship, she did very well and was selected Player of the Game against Slovenia, so congratulations to her. Congratulations to Oliver Tuck who had a

great season of hockey this year with forty (40) goals and forty (40) assists in his sixty-six (66) games with the West Coast Hockey League, which is very impressive. Lastly, we lost a good community guy this week, Jim Dobson who was involved in many different organizations in this Town. He was a member of the Interfaith Cemetery Committee, Heritage Society Committee, and Grand Falls House Committee. He was also an educator at Grand Falls Academy. We send sincere condolences to his family as he was a true community leader that will be missed.

Councillor Coady noted in honour of Red Dress Day and in honour of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, 2spirit the “Stuff the Truck Event” is happening on Sunday, May 5th from 1:00 – 4:00 P.M. at Walmart here in Grand Falls-Windsor. They are collecting various comfort items, such as gift cards, groceries or gas station cards, foods, baby needs, hygiene products, cleaning supplies, tissue products and pet food. If you can contribute to this cause, it would be appreciated. The Voyent Alert App that was spoken about is posted on our Facebook page and is a reoccurring post that is scheduled to be posted every week. You can go to the website and either download the App or register for the alerts so they can come to your home phone number, email address or text even without the App. Lastly, she wanted to shout out to all the business community and residents for stepping up to assist the Community Kitchen with donations since their break in two (2) nights in a row. All the work that the Community Kitchen does to feed those that need a healthy warm meal, it is no surprise that the community always comes together to help them as they do whenever anyone is in need. These companies deserve recognition for everything they do for this community, and it is important to support these establishments.

Councillor Noel advised tomorrow evening the Classic Theater is running a re-run of Top Gun 2 and donations are being donated to the Community Kitchen. It is Volunteer Week, and he encourages residents to get involved, check with the schools and other community-based organizations as they are always looking for volunteers. He has been notified that people are dumping household garbage on the railbed and he asks that people wait for the spring clean-up or use our Saturday Drop-off facility. He also asks if anyone is aware of people doing this illegal dumping to report it. Lastly, he wanted to mention pedestrian safety and the importance of wearing something reflective when walking at night time and walk on the side of the road facing oncoming traffic.

Councillor Hiscock said the Circular Road Salvation Army Citadel is celebrating their 115th Anniversary and they have some events planned for Friday, April 26th to Sunday, April 28th with services at 10:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Fire Prevention Week had a School Contest and this year it was to plan an escape route, and there was an Open House. However, one little girl London Holloway was very

disappointed because she was sick and could not make it. Today, he, Chief MacKenzie, Firefighter Nathan Sullivan got in the fire truck and went up to the school to pick London up, gave her a little ride in the fire truck, a tour of the Fire Hall and Captain Mike Mackey served her a pizza dinner. It was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated. On Sunday he had the pleasure of presenting a 95th Birthday Certificate on behalf of the Mayor and Council to Dorothy Moore, and that was also very much appreciated.

Councillor Little advised that on Saturday, May 4th we have our Household Hazardous Waste Day at Shanawdithit Centennial Park from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. so residents can drop off any items they have there. We are accepting applications for summer student employment positions, open until April 30th and information is on our Facebook page and website. A teacher in our community, Ms. Ashley Harris, was recognized recently with the Teachers' Building Leaders Award through the Loran's Scholarship, so congratulations to her on her well-deserved accomplishment.

Councillor Dwyer noted volunteers certainly help to enhance the quality of life in Grand Falls-Windsor, in saying that the Health Accord Coalition welcomed two (2) new members this week, Scott LeMessurier and Dennis Frampton who she is confident will bring a lot to the Coalition. They all met this week and talked about the Family Care Team, Faculty of Nursing and Social Determinants of Health. Cyril Farrell, the Chair has organized a Forum next week for the Family Medicine Residency Program that will bring representatives together from Government NL, Health Services, Physicians, Health Care Workers and Council representatives. The Forum is the first of its kind, so hopefully it will make some ground in terms of the Residency Program because we know how important it is for recruitment and retention of Family Physicians here in Grand Falls-Windsor.

Mayor Manuel said by way of the Municipal Stewardship Wetlands Agreement Grand Falls-Windsor is a member of the Stewardship Association of Municipalities, and they have their Semi-Annual Meeting in Grand Falls-Windsor this weekend, so we will welcome forty (40) to fifty (50) guests from outside of Town who also have protected wetland areas and share common goals, stories and advice. We would like to get the Special Olympics group into a Council Meeting to congratulate them on their results from the National Games that they attended. Spring Clean-up is coming up and also Household Hazardous Waste Day, so please take advantage and we will have more information posted soon. We continue to lobby and work with Government to get an Agreement that is fair for the community so that we can utilize the former Abitibi property to the benefit of this community. One thing that comes to mind is the desperate need for side-by-side and ATV route that can provide safe access from the T' Railway to across the river. We have fought for this for eight (8) – nine (9) years and you can rest assured that

we continue to do so. Lastly, Happy Volunteer Week to everybody that volunteers and where would we be without them.

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, May 7th, 2024. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 P.M.

Barry Manuel
Mayor

Darren Finn
Chief Administrative Officer