

MEETING #593

MINUTES OF MEETING

GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 28TH, 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
 Todd Mercer, Director of Community Services
 Robyn Hannaford, Communications Officer

Prior to the meeting the Mayor made a donation presentation in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Exploits Search and Rescue for the new Truck Replacement Project.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked for any errors or omissions to the Minutes of Meeting #592 of May 7th, 2024.

Motion
Noel\Hiscock

Be it resolved that the Minutes of Meeting #592 of May 7th, 2024, would be adopted as presented. 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 \$570,670.32.

Motion

Dwyer\Little

Be it resolved that the Disbursement Report in the amount of \$570,670.32 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.

Gordon Pinsent Tribute

The Director gave an update on the ongoing work to recognize the legendary Actor, Author, Painter and Writer, Mr. Gordon Pinsent. The Director informed the Committee that a bronze statue has been sourced from a Newfoundland artist and that he has been working with the Provincial Departments to source out funding to help with the project.

The Committee recommends that the Director continue to work on the project and provide an update at a later meeting.

Sprucewood Academy Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from Sprucewood Academy looking for assistance with using the Town property to have a fun day for students.

The Committee recommends that the Director inform the group that the facility and equipment will be made available to them for the June 17th event.

Community Garden Update

The Director informed the Committee about a meeting with the Community Garden Executive, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and himself. At that meeting the

Executive expressed their appreciation for the continued support from the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor and its staff. The Community Garden Committee also informed them that additional beds must be replaced this year and that they also have a waiting list for garden plots and will be looking to expand to meet some of the demand. The Committee will look for community support and any additional community grants that are available.

The Committee recommended that the Director look to help the group with additional support as per our Community Grant Program. It was also recommended that the Director work with the Department of Public Works and Development to look at any possible expansion and trail development in the area and report back at a later meeting.

First Time Skaters Update

The Director informed the Committee that all first-time skater requests for the 2024 season for both Figure Skating and Minor Hockey have been approved. Both groups have extended their appreciation for the Town's continued support and partnership in trying to grow the two (2) sports in our community. The Committee did have some discussion of the last-minute cancellation of funding support from Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador in hosting of the Provincial Tournament in Grand Falls-Windsor. The Committee were disappointed that an organization with financial resources to help would cancel funding the day before the tournament.

The Committee recommends that the Director inquire about the last-minute funding cancellation and report back on the findings at the Committee meeting.

Community Services Special Events Update

The Director gave an update on the upcoming Special Events that the Department of Community Services has, or will be offering, this summer. The Director informed the Committee that the Golden Girls Night was a big success with it selling out in twelve (12) minutes. The Director also informed the Committee that the 90's event for the end of May has been sold out, and the tickets for our new concert with Shanneyganock featuring Bud Davidge, Arthur, and Fred of the Navigators, Nodda Sonata, and Man Down will go on sale May 16th and are available at the Community Services office. The Director also informed the Committee that the Salmon Festival Video and schedule has been released and has been well received in the community.

Girl Power Inc. Correspondence

The Committee reviewed correspondence from Girl Power Inc. for financial support again this year.

The Committee recommended that the Director meet with the group and get additional details on the length of stay in the community, number of shows and cost associated with hosting the event and report back at the Community Services meeting.

New Business

Curling Club\Farmers Market

The Director discussed the opportunity to use the Curling Club as a business opportunity in partnership with the Community Market. The Director informed the Committee that he has had an informal discussion with both groups and will continue the dialog with them and the funding agencies to see if support for the facility can be provided for its modification or expansion.

Spring Clean-up

The Director informed the Committee that the Annual Spring Clean-up has started in and around our sideroads, facilities, and parking lots. The Director was also disappointed to inform the Committee that only days after community groups cleaned areas of Town, litter was present once again. The Committee will look at working with the Communications Officer to do some public announcements of the benefits of keeping our community beautiful and please ask residents to respect the law and put garbage in its proper place.

Swim Club Correspondence

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from the Grand Falls-Windsor Gators Swim Club and their request for financial assistance to help with the loss of support from the Federal Student Allocation the Club usually gets, and the extra cost of equipment required to host tournaments.

The Committee recommended that the Director work with the Club to secure funding opportunities to help with the cost and to provide them with additional Community Grant support if required.

CNVAS Space

The Director informed the Committee that discussions are still ongoing to find space for the CNVAS Committee to start their programming and studio set-up.

The Committee recommended the Director continue the discussion and report back at a later meeting.

Jays Care Foundation

The Director informed the Committee that the Jays Care Foundation will be hosting an event at the Goodyear Avenue Field on May 31st, 2024, and that all Councillors are encouraged to attend with the Opening Ceremonies starting at 11:00 A.M.

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 said we have had many groups spend a lot of time cleaning up the Town, but he noticed the other day that there was a lot of garbage outside businesses. He encouraged business owners to send an employee out to clean up the property. We had students down to the Community Garden to get some community hours, and they noticed that there is a beehive down there from Tuck's Bee Better Farm which is great because they are needed.

Mayor Manuel said there is no doubt that the Community Garden is doing great work, and anybody who has not taken a look up close should really take the opportunity. They are in their planting and early parts of the season now, but as the season goes on you will see more and more things growing. They have several beds there for the Food Bank, Autism Society and others for different uses. It is not just about community gardening, but the benefits to it which is a great thing. We have some people there that are the force of driving it forward, who are very passionate and do a great job forward, so thanks to them for that. A lot of the garbage that we see, especially around supermarket areas, is flyers, paper and cups blowing around and the businesses should be more cognizant of that. He advised that we should contact all businesses as a reminder and he thinks it would be good publicity for the businesses, if it is done right and would make a big difference.

Councilor Dwyer noted with respect to the Gordon Pinsent tribute, it has been a priority for Council to get this project underway and she is happy to say that the Director has made some progress with respect to funding. This is Newfoundland “Year of the Arts” and there certainly isn’t anyone more deserving than the late Gordon Pinsent to be memorialized with a bronze statue in our community. She suspects that there will be a lot of people present for the unveiling of the statue, and she hopes it happens.

Mayor Manuel said Council have been working hard to get the bronze statue in recognition of Gordon Pinsent and have talked about other ways to recognize him because he is our most famous successful person that has ever come from this community. We already have Pinsent Drive, but there is an opportunity to have some highway signage that recognizes that this is the “Home of Gordon Pinsent”. He is sure there are other ideas of recognition too, and it would be great if they had some public support. Support like a group formed of people that are passionate about this being his home or people who knew Gordon, those people could get together and try to help. We have come to find out that a bronze statue is not a cheap venture and there is only so much money available through grants, but if a group like this was formed, they could raise funds and help us out to reach our goal as soon as possible. Grand Falls-Windsor is one of the few communities that provide events, partnerships and the kind of support we give to local community groups, and we hear it all the time from groups and other communities that they wish their town helped more. We get tons of group requests come our way, and we always try our best to do whatever we can for them. It is important to do that, because these are the groups that do the work that make our community such a great place and gives people opportunities to do things. When it comes to events, we try to appease people of all ages and sometimes especially for the younger citizens they do not always succeed, but we keep trying to find ways to capture their interests. If anybody has any ideas, we would like to hear them. We have Concerts in the Park, Rib Fest, bouncy castles in playgrounds, Shanneyganock Concert, Canada Day, Newcomer’s Event, Food Festival, 90’s Event, Golden Girls’ Event, Seniors’ Event and our Salmon Festival, and there are so many more. For the Seniors’ Event that is held once a month, we try to do something constructive to help seniors and give them a social opportunity. The last event was held at the St. Alban’s Anglican Church and tomorrow is another event at the Memorial United Church that will have some health professionals there as guests. The health professionals will be discussing with seniors the importance of mental health, and Tina Jewer will be there to discuss estate planning and wills. We have reached maximum capacity, and the event is not accepting any more attendees, but next time we may look at getting a bigger venue as they become more popular, so keep your eye out for the next event because it is great to get a good crowd.

Corporate Services

The following report was presented by Councillor Dwyer.

Labour Report

The Committee reviewed the labour costs as of week eighteen (18). Total labour was \$1,144,937. This was \$15,759 (1.4%) over budget.

The Committee is pleased that the overall labour cost is near budget as the busy summer season approaches. The Committee recognizes the difficulty in balancing the labour budget against the list of work to be done and encourages management to continue utilizing their resources to maximize productivity throughout the summer.

Disbursement Report

The Committee reviewed the disbursement Report in the amount of \$570,670.32 and recommends this be presented at the next Council meeting.

Taxation Receivables Analysis

The Committee reviewed the Taxation Receivables Analysis as of April 30th, 2024. The total tax receivables at April 30th, 2024 is \$7,267,273 (compared to \$6,976,692 in 2023; an increase of 4.2%). Collection plans are underway for amounts in arrears.

The Committee continues to closely monitor the tax receivables and encourages all residents and businesses to ensure they pay their outstanding balances as soon as possible or contact staff at the Town Hall to set up a payment plan. Interest continues to accrue monthly on outstanding tax balances, so please act quickly to avoid additional interest charges.

Donation to Exploits Search and Rescue Team

The Committee reviewed a request for a donation towards a new vehicle to be used for ice rescue operations and equipment transport for the Exploits Search and Rescue Team. There was some discussion about how important this group is to our community, especially to those who require their services.

The Committee recommends staff compile some additional information and bring this request back to the next Committee of the Whole meeting for further discussion.

Queen Street Dinner Theatre

The Committee reviewed a request for advertising in the annual event program for the 2024 season.

The Committee recommends approval of a half-page advertisement in the program, and for the Communications Officer to provide the necessary information to the Queen Street Dinner Theatre staff.

The Committee also discussed a request from the Queen Street Dinner Theatre related to funding for three (3) student employees; the approximate cost is \$5,000 per student. Due to the recent announcement from the Federal Government that approximately \$625 million in jobs funding was cut from the 2024 Federal Budget, the Queen Street Dinner Theatre received funding for three (3) less summer student jobs for the summer. The shows are an integral part of the tourism industry for Central Newfoundland and additional funding is required to continue them at the same level as in past years.

The Committee recommends providing a grant to the Queen Street Dinner Theatre in the amount of \$10,000 to help cover the reduction in funding for the students and will provide other supports as required so that they can continue with the same number of students as anticipated for this year.

PWD-3 Land Sales Policy

The Committee reviewed draft changes to the PWD-3 Land Sales Policy as proposed by staff.

The Committee recommends staff make some additional changes and bring back to the next Committee of the Whole meeting for further discussion.

Municipal Assessment Agency Correspondence

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Municipal Assessment Agency regarding assessment values for 2025. The average residential property in Grand Falls-Windsor will see an increase of 3.93% and the average commercial property will see an increase of 4.97%. Residents will be mailed their assessment notices on June 3rd, 2024, and will have until August 2nd, 2024, to file a formal Appeal with the Municipal Assessment Agency. Residents with questions on the valuation of their homes can reach out to the Agency directly at the contact information noted on the assessment notices.

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 7-0.

Public Works and Development

The following report was presented by Councillor Coady.

Water Quality

The Committee was provided updates from staff on the number of water complaints and the results of the regular water sampling. The number of calls has been lowered, and samples indicate higher levels of Chlorine and lower levels of iron in areas where there were issues. Public Works staff have completed work on Bishop Street to improve water quality as well. The Town's Annual Flushing Program has also commenced so there may be some slight pressure variances and discolouration during the next several weeks as staff move through the Town.

Asphalt Program 2024

The Committee reviewed the proposed Asphalt Program for 2024. Staff are looking for final approval so the tender can be issued as soon as possible.

The Committee recommends staff make some additional changes and focus more on higher traffic areas in Town. Once updated, it is to be referred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting for the final decision.

Toulett Development

The Committee discussed the development concept prepared by staff for a cul-de-sac from Park Street between the existing schools and the Windsor Pentecostal Church. This preliminary draft is part of a larger review by staff to look for areas of possible housing developments within the Town to help address the housing need. Some of the land is owned by the School Board.

The Committee recommends staff complete some additional work on the proposal and bring it to a future Committee meeting for discussion.

Crown Land Referral – Queensway

The Committee reviewed a Crown Land Referral request from E-Z Property Holdings Ltd. for land adjacent to Toulett Drive. The request is to obtain additional land next to their existing quadplexes to construct another four (4) unit building.

The Committee recommends this be approved and for staff to discuss with the applicant the possibility of future development of Crown Land behind the current properties on Queensway. The Committee also recommends a road easement be provided for future access to this land for development.

8 Ireland Drive

The Committee was provided the results of the Appeal Hearing concerning Councils denial of a permit for the resident to park their travel trailer as it exceeded the permitted length in the Development Regulations. The Adjudicator allowed the Appeal and reversed the decision and directed Council to reconsider the request for a permit and provide a reason for their decision. The Committee then reviewed the circumstances surrounding this request once again.

The Committee recommends that the request for the permit be denied due to safety reasons. The trailer is long, high and it extends very close to the edge of the sidewalk. This blocks the view of those exiting the driveway to see oncoming traffic or pedestrians in ample time to exit safely.

Saturday Drop-Off

The Committee was updated on the use of the Saturday Drop-Off events for 2023 and to-date in 2024. In 2023, there were a total of 3,691 visits over 18 events and 456.74 tonnes of refuse were transported to the Central Newfoundland Waste Management Site in Norris Arm North. To date, there have been 987 users with 93.35 tonnes of refuse collected.

The Committee is pleased with the high use and encourages more residents to take advantage of this great service subsidized by the Town.

Main Street Extension Rezoning

The Committee reviewed requests from several property owners along Main Street Extension to rezone the area from Conservation Zone (CON) to Rural Residential Zone (RR-1) and the land near the pond from Environmentally Sensitive Area Zone (ESA) to Rural Residential Zone (RR-1). One property owner

cannot move forward with residential development under the current zoning. Land currently developed is considered non-conforming developments and cannot fully utilize their property like others in Residential Neighbourhoods. Staff and a Provincial Planner have had discussions with Government concerning the existing Municipal Habitat Stewardship Agreement and have proposed an area of rezoning that meets all requirements. This area continues to provide an ESA Zone 30m from the shoreline of the pond.

The Committee recommends the rezoning request be approved as presented and for staff to commence the process.

Housing Amendments

The Committee was presented with a proposal from staff to make changes to the Municipal Plan and Development Regulations that would help increase housing developments and allow for higher density living. To meet the demand for housing, the Town needs to be less restrictive and encourage additional developments. These proposals include:-

- 1) Allow Garden Suite which would allow additional housing units to be constructed on all properties that are in residential zones.
- 2) Permit two-unit housing in all residential zones.
- 3) Make multi-unit housing discretionary use in all RS, RT, and RR-1 zones.
- 4) Change the restriction on subsidiary apartments to permit more than one per residential lot and to allow it in RM zones.
- 5) Provide the ability as a discretionary use to convert existing commercial properties to residential units. This could help produce multi-unit buildings or apartments.

The Committee recommends these changes be made and for staff to commence the process for the proposed amendments.

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 advised we continue to do our regular monitoring of the water quality, but we do encourage residents to, if they do experience discoloured

water to at least call the Depot at 489-0420 or 489-0430 after hours and report it. This ensures that we get a proper record of what's happening and what's going on in the area at that time, so we can continue to do our regular testing, research and tracking. It is great to see that the Saturday Drop-Off is a very well utilized program that we offer and heavily funded by the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor. In combination with that the Town Clean-Up that's been happening with the contributions to the community groups, and our spring household clean-up, all these programs offered and yet there are still some careless people out there littering which is very disappointing. She encourages residents and visitors in the community to please be respectful, the community groups take great pride in cleaning up this Town and keeping the community clean that needs effort from everybody.

Mayor Manuel said our annual Flushing Program began and started a few weeks ago, and we have seen some tremendous improvement in water quality lately. When we do our annual flushing in certain areas, it is going to stir up any sediment in the pipes and end up in our system. We do our best to get advisories out, so watch for the postings of flushing in your area or download the Voyent Alert App that will also notify you. The housing amendments being proposed for the Development Regulations is just another reflection of Council and staff's effort on being as proactive as we can to meet the challenges that exist. When you talk about the social determinants of health, housing is high on that list, and we know there is a housing crisis. These amendments are to give more flexibility, because we must have housing.

Committee of the Whole (1 of 3)

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

Exploits Search and Rescue Support Request

The Committee discussed Exploits Search and Rescue's request for financial support towards purchasing a new vehicle. This vehicle is crucial for their ice rescue operations and equipment transport, replacing an aging vehicle from 1991.

After considering the vital role played by the rescue team and their extensive volunteer hours, the Committee recommends a donation of \$2,500 to assist with the purchase of the new vehicle or support their general operations. The Committee also commends the volunteer members of Exploits Search and Rescue for their dedication to the community.

Correspondence from Stewardship Association of Municipalities (SAM)

The Stewardship Association of Municipalities, in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, seeks the Town's support in their campaign to prevent aquatic invasive species.

The Committee acknowledges the importance of this environmental initiative and recommends working closely with SAM to identify suitable areas for posting awareness signs. Additionally, the Committee supports organizing educational events to raise awareness about the threat of aquatic invasive species and their impact on local ecosystems.

Health Accord Coalition Update

The Committee received an update on the ongoing concerns regarding staffing levels and recruiting primary care doctors for the newly established Family Care Team. This Team plays a vital role in providing primary healthcare services to thousands of residents. The Committee expresses gratitude to the Health Accord Coalition for their efforts in addressing these concerns and actively engaging with NL Health Authorities.

The Committee recommends continued collaboration with the Coalition and urges immediate action to resolve the staffing shortages in the Family Care Team.

Land Development Adjacent to Toulett Drive and Park Street

The Committee discussed recent public concerns regarding potential land acquisition for housing development. There is inaccurate information circulating about the scale and impact of the proposed development.

The Committee recommends staff gather more information regarding the land in question and to verify with the School Board if they are even interested in transferring this land. Staff shall report to the Council in a future Committee meeting to address concerns and provide clarity on the matter.

Taylor Road Improvements

The Committee discussed the urgent need for repairs and maintenance along Taylor Road, particularly addressing potholes and shoulder areas. These improvements are essential for ensuring road safety and accessibility for residents and visitors.

The Committee recommends action to address the identified issues, including cleanup adjacent areas for parking and installing necessary signage to control parking and a sign for this area that promotes the Exploits River.

Traffic Concerns

The Committee expressed concerns about ongoing issues related to excessive speeding observed across the Town. Efforts to curb speeding behavior have been ongoing with our Municipal Enforcement, including increased patrols and awareness campaigns.

The Committee recommends continued vigilance in enforcing speed limits and ensuring pedestrian safety, especially at high-risk areas such as crosswalks.

Crosswalk for Pride

The Committee discussed plans for painting a Pride crosswalk and the progress of related event preparations.

The Committee acknowledges the importance of promoting inclusivity and diversity within the community. Staff will coordinate with event organizers to ensure all necessary arrangements are in place for a successful Pride event, including the painting of the crosswalk as planned.

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 Dwyer said we do have ongoing concerns about staffing levels and recruiting Primary Care Physicians in Grand Falls-Windsor. The Coalition and members of Council met with Minister Osborne, and we stressed the urgent need in this community for Family Physicians, and for those physicians to staff the Family Care Team. The Chairperson of our Coalition was very frank that we are in dire need and this needs to happen immediately. According to those residents from Grand Falls-Windsor that have registered with Patient Connect, there are approximately four thousand (4,000) people in Grand Falls-Windsor that do not have a Family Physician. She suspects that the number is double or triple because not everyone has registered, so it is really important that residents who do not have a Family Physician to register with Patient Connect because the numbers that the

Government have are not accurate. We also met with Dave Diamond, the Chief Executive Officer of NL Health Services and Dr. Gina Bugden, and we expressed the same sentiments to them. They have been in negotiation with Family Physicians who are interested in working with the Family Care Team, and we believe it will make a difference but until it is staffed with physicians it is not set up. It is our biggest issue in Grand Falls-Windsor, but it is up to them to figure out how to make this work.

Mayor Manuel said we have approximately four thousand (4,000) people that do not have a family doctor, and when you don't have a family doctor you are supposed to go to the Health Hub. The Health Hub is there to pick up the slack, but now that is over capacity. If people can't get in there because they are understaffed, they go to Emerge and have extremely long waits. We are seeing that residents do not go to Emerge because they don't want the long wait, or they end up leaving Emerge because they do not want to wait any longer. Some of these people could have serious conditions and if untreated get worse. Eighty percent (80%) of our Family Physicians have given up their practices in Grand Falls-Windsor, because they are frustrated with the system and the lack of support and having to step away for their own health because they can't keep up with it anymore. Some of these physicians are still living here and want to stay here, so they are taking shifts in different places and moving around between the Hospital, Emerge, OBS, and the Health Hub. But not helping with the Family Care Team that lacks a physician, the most important services due to such a high number of residents (suspected more) without a family doctor. It is ridiculous, and unacceptable, and if we don't get the answer we are looking for, we will soon be ready for public action and want the community to be behind us and actively involved.

Councillor Little noted the land development adjacent to Toulett Drive and Park Street received a lot of negativities on social media, and although respectful feedback is always welcome, the negative feedback that was posted through Facebook was disappointing and did not make the community look good. It was a potential area for development and should we look at it further down the road there will be Public Consultation, but there is no reason for residents to fret about it now.

Mayor Manuel said the comments on that post were so unnecessary, and he has always said that if anyone has any questions to reach out to him and he will answer them. Staff were asked to identify areas in Town that have possibilities for development, and that is what was posted. But we will make sure that whatever development goes anywhere, it will not interrupt the integrity of any trails. Our goal is always Consultation, so please reach out if you want more information.

Councillor Coady said we are changing the Development Regulation to allow for infilling, additional garden suites and additional apartments because there is such a tremendous need for housing. We are in a housing crisis, we have people relocating to neighbouring communities because they can't get housing here. Their tax dollars are going into other communities but coming to Grand Falls-Windsor using our roads, taking advantage of our Parks and Recreation Services of which it is our residents tax dollars who fund all those services. If we don't come up with new ways or additional property tax revenue to be able to provide all of the services we do, the burden falls on our existing residents again, because we still have to maintain those services. We have spent so much time applying for the Housing Accelerator Fund, but with that application there is a commitment to provide a certain amount of housing and a certain number of various types of housing in order to be eligible to receive that money. That money will make a huge difference in our community and will allow us to extend our infrastructure that is required for the housing and repairs and upgrading necessary for our infrastructure, and we are still waiting to hear about that. It is not great news when you see a community coming out and speaking against a thought or exploration of a piece of property that could potentially help fill the needs in the Housing Accelerator Funding Application to get us this money. To be all over the news and social media saying you don't want it because there is trail access in that area, and we have not even had the chance to have the conversation about it or explore other areas. When you are dependent on funding from the Provincial and Federal Governments, it is not good optics that a community is publicly against housing proposal ideas. We are always welcoming people to our community, but it is hard to welcome them if we do not have places for them to live, stay and raise their families.

Councillor Dwyer said we spoke about the vital role the Exploits Search and Rescue play and had a discussion on what would be an appropriate amount to donate given that they had reached their goal. What most people don't know is that in addition to providing the \$2,500 we also insure their vehicles, provide insurance on the land that their building is on, and the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor donated a truck that they use. We are happy to do those things because we appreciate the work that they do, as the service they provide is invaluable.

Committee of the Whole (2 of 3)

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

The following report was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne.

2024 Paving Program

The Committee reviewed the proposed 2024 Paving Program, which includes 1,507 meters of paving with an estimated cost of \$1 million. The Program aims to improve road infrastructure across the Town, addressing some areas with deteriorated road conditions.

The Committee recommends approving the Program and issuing tenders promptly to ensure timely completion of the paving projects.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Browne\Dwyer

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

Councillor Noel returned to the meeting at this time.

Committee of the Whole (3 of 3)

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 Coady.

South and Central Health Foundation Charity Golf Tournament

The Committee discussed the invitation received from the South and Central Health Foundation regarding their Charity Golf Tournament scheduled for August 15th. The tournament aims to raise funds for critical healthcare initiatives in the region. The Council recognizes the importance of supporting such charitable events that contribute to community well-being.

The Committee recommends that the Town enter a team into the tournament.

I move the recommendation and report of this Committee.

Motion

Coady\Hiscock

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

Councillor Coady said the fundraiser is at the Golf Club and proceeds go towards the South and Central Health Foundation, as a fundraiser for that organization. The Deputy Mayor stepped away from this part of the meeting because it is at the Golf Club and there could be some financial benefit from bar sales or patrons of the tournament.

Deputy Mayor Browne returned to the meeting at this time.

The following Resolution was presented by Deputy Mayor Browne:-

RESOLUTION GF-W 2024-392

SCHEDULE "A"

2020-2023 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 been approved for funding under the 2020-2023 Multi-Year Capital Works Program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor agrees to provide the Ultimate Recipients portion for the 2020-2023 Multi-Year Capital Works Program as identified as the Municipal Share in the attached Schedule "A".

Motion

Browne\Little

Be it resolved that Resolution GF-W 2024-392 would be adopted as presented. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Hiscock advised on May 23rd we hosted the New Residents Event, and there were thirty-seven (37) adults and seventeen (17) children and was very well enjoyed by all. Also, that day we held a Seniors Event at the St. Alban's Church with a guest speaker Mr. Dave Morrow, a horticulturalist who spoke about gardening, which was another great event enjoyed by all. Tomorrow at the Memorial United Church there is a Seniors Wellness Event, with guest speakers such as Michelle Critch showing some chair exercises, Dr. Krista Barney speaking about healthy mind and healthy aging, and Lawyer Tina Jewer speaking about Wills and Power of Attorney along with lunch and music by Ralph Angel. The Ride the River Edge Bike Race will take place on June 8th, and that will be a 50 kilometer off road bike race through various terrain. Also, June 9th there will be the Centennial Cup Road Race in partnership with the YMCA. And lastly, June 21st is the Shed Party, which will be another great event. He encourages people to keep their eyes on our Facebook page, because there are lots of things coming up all throughout the summer.

Councillor Little advised on June 5th the Grand Falls House Foundation is having their Annual General Meeting, registration is required, if you are interested email pmbartlett@nf.sympatico.ca and we will have the post on Facebook before then as well. The 90's Event that we held was a huge success, and he was told by a few people that it was the best event the Town has ever had.

Councillor Dwyer said tomorrow May 29th is Red Shirt Day and to show your support to Canadians living with disabilities please wear a red shirt, and we will continue to make Grand Falls-Windsor more accessible.

Deputy Mayor Browne expressed congratulations to Vera Miller for celebrating seventy-five (75) years of service to the Guiding movement and Marie Saunders for sixty-five (65) years of her service, both were presented with commemorative pins and certificates by Dolly Hart who is the President of the Heritage Trefoil Guild. We had our Special Olympians from Grand Falls-Windsor travel to Corner Brook this weekend to participate in Provincial Bowling, and they

did very well. Congratulations to the Exploits Hurricanes Pen Pals who won a Gold Medal, the Exploits Hurricanes Lucky Strikers also won a Gold Medal, and the Exploits Hurricanes Braces won a Silver Medal. Congratulations to all the winners and the coaches representing Grand Falls-Windsor in Corner Brook and coming home with Medals. Michelle Critch won a Gold Medal in Gander this past weekend at the Provincial Gymnastics Championships, who is also the most senior gymnast to win a Gold Medal in a Provincial Gymnastic event.

Councillor Coady said Off the Cuff Community Choir is holding their Spring Concert this Sunday, June 2nd at 2:30 P.M. at the Memorial United Church, the cost is \$20, and you can get tickets from any member of the Choir, and they have a Facebook page for a list of members, or you can pay at the door. She wanted to acknowledge a couple of fine young gentleman from Grand Falls-Windsor that were involved in the Repatriation of the Unknown Soldier who came back to the Province this past weekend, Alex Reid and James Deering both were pallbearers and carried the casket. The families are so proud that their family members are involved in this historic event, a historical moment they will cherish forever.

Councillor Noel said hats off to two (2) students of Exploits Valley High who have reinvigorated the Relay for Life that will take place this Thursday from 1:00 to 6:00 P.M. at the back of Exploits Valley High. They started it off, with a lot of money raised and a lot of school spirit involved, so he encouraged the public to drop by and show support. He is pleased that basketball nets this year appear to be on people's lawns instead of in the road. Salmon season starts this Saturday, he asks that fisherpersons continue to keep the riverbank clean and treat the World Class River with respect. Lastly, congratulations to Mr. Roger Janes on his 90th birthday and reaching such a milestone.

Mayor Manuel expressed congratulations to Mr. Scott James on his 90th birthday, who was one of the main drivers behind the Corduroy Brook Enhancement Association back in 1992. He was also President of the Rotary Club. At the College of the North Atlantic tomorrow afternoon between 2:30 and 3:30 P.M., there is an information session about Shared Spaces. An opportunity to pair people that may have an extra room to rent in their home with students. Lastly, a lot of people are becoming victims of email scams, so he encouraged people to be careful when it comes to online fraud.

Councillor Hiscock said he forgot to mention Salmon Festival tickets are going on sale tomorrow at 10:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Coady\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, June 18th, 2024. This motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Barry Manuel
Mayor

Darren Finn
Chief Administrative Officer