

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council Wednesday, May 21, 2014 @ 4:30 pm Council Chambers

Present:

C. Abbott	Deputy Mayor
G. Parrott	Councillor
S. McBreairty	Councillor
W. Lorenzen	Councillor
B. Dove	Councillor
R. Anstey	Councillor

Advisory and Resource:

J. Blackwood	Acting CAO
S. Fisher	Acting Town Clerk
K. Hiscock	Acting Director of Finance
K. Sceviour	Special Events Coordinator

Regrets:

C. Elliott	Mayor
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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

2. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

Intergenerational Day Canada Proclamation

The Deputy Mayor proclaimed June 1st as Intergenerational Day Canada in the Town of Gander.

3. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Motion #14-099

Minutes for Approval

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Dove that the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of Council on April 30, 2014 be adopted as presented.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

5. REPORTS – STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Public Safety & Human Resources:

The Public Safety & Human Resources report was presented by Councillor Lorenzen.

The Public Safety Committee meeting was held on May 12, 2014. The meeting was chaired by W. Lorenzen, Councillor. Other members present included: G. Parrott, Councillor; B. Dove, Councillor; P. Fudge, Fire Chief, A. Roberts, Municipal Enforcement Officer; L. Small, Administrative Assistant.

The following items were discussed:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Delegation- RCMP

Cst. Perry Bradbury of the RCMP was in attendance to meet with the Committee and discuss safety issues regarding the flow of traffic off Armstrong Blvd onto Airport Boulevard. In an effort to reduce the number of accidents and close calls, he is suggesting that the Town of Gander consider making some turning lane changes and post signs before there are some serious accidents or injuries at these locations. The recommendations were as follows:

- 1) Intersection of Armstrong Boulevard and Airport Boulevard
 - a. Make this a right turn only, no- left-turn
 - b. Place signage so that it is visible for that flow of traffic only.
 - c. Paint over the existing arrows on the pavement to coincide with the signage.

- 2) Shoppers Drug Mart Parking
 - a) No Left Turn from Airport Boulevard while heading west
 - b) Place signage in appropriate location
 - c) Contact owner to discuss the change

The Town's portable sign could be used in the first few weeks to advertise the change until drivers get used to the changes. A diagram is attached to indicate proposed signage placement.

This problem was not addressed in the traffic study and the Committee agreed that these changes were somewhat urgent and they would like to proceed with the implementation as soon as possible. Cst Bradbury explained that there needs to be fewer left turns on Airport Boulevard to enable a better flow of traffic.

There are other areas in town such as the Mr. T's intersection and the Canadian Tire Gas Bar that may need to be reviewed however, the main two that are causing problems with accidents right now are the two previously mentioned.

Cst Bradbury inquired about RCMP representation on the Committee and advised that he would be available to attend should Council wish to continue that practice. The Committee was pleased to continue this arrangement.

Cst. Bradbury left the Committee meeting at 10:25 am.

Council decided to bring this issue back to the Municipal Works Committee once the Director of Municipal Works gets a traffic study done.

Review of Previous Minutes

The Committee reviewed the previous minutes. There were no omissions or errors.

Mutual Aid Agreement

The Fire Chief explained that the Mutual Aid Agreement Association has not been very active recently however they are about to resume meetings and the first step would be to put the Mutual Aid Agreements in place that have expired. These contracts will be updated and renewed. The Committee was in agreement with this plan moving forward. These agreements outline areas of responsibility for the Jaws of Life response on the Trans Canada Highway and are with Lewisporte, Glovertown and Summerford.

Motion #14-100

Mutual Aid Agreement

Moved by Councillor Lorenzen and seconded by Councillor Dove that new Mutual Aid Agreements be drafted for Gander Fire Rescue to enter into agreements with the Towns of Lewisporte, Glovertown and Summerford.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Policy FD004-Fire Service Requests Outside Municipal Boundaries

At a previous meeting, it was debated whether the wording in this policy should reflect that the Town of Gander "will charge" for services requested or "may charge" for services requested.

Motion #14-101**Policy FD004-Fire Service Requests Outside Municipal Boundaries**

Moved by Councillor Lorenzen and seconded by Councillor McBreairty that Policy FD004 be revised to indicate that the Town of Gander “will charge” for services requested under this policy.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

NL Power Public Awareness Campaign

The Committee reviewed correspondence from NL Power asking Council to remind citizens of the dangers of working with electricity and that it requires ones complete attention to prevent accidents from occurring. Please remember that fatal accidents can be avoided by making sure you prepare properly, evaluate your worksite and by keeping safe distances around power lines. For more information on working safely around electrical equipment, please visit www.HydroSafety.ca or www.newfoundlandpower.com .

Variance Report - Gander Fire Rescue 1st Quarter

The Committee reviewed the department’s variance report for the period covering January to the end of March 2014. Revenue was down on the municipal ticketing due to the police vehicle being in for repairs. The Committee forwards this to the Finance Committee for review and consideration.

Departmental Statistics – Second Quarter

The Fire Department’s training hours for this quarter were 2219.5 as compared to 2220 for the last quarter , fire calls were 31 compared to 34 and there were 28 Fire Inspections compared to 37 last quarter. Fire Rescue training includes 5 hours weekly with additional training at times such as Ice Rescue.

The Police Vehicle was out of service for approximately one week, however, Municipal Enforcement has issued a total of 530 tickets for this second quarter which include 215 speeding tickets, 42 moving violations, 22 non-moving violations and 251 parking tickets. Work has also begun on the Municipal By laws. The new police vehicles haven’t arrived yet but once they do, work will begin on installing the radar system and new laptops to coincide with the new police software program. The Committee was pleased with these numbers and asks that the MEO’s continue the good work.

NL & Labrador Peace Officer of the Year Award

The Committee would like to acknowledge that the NL & Labrador Peace Officer of the Year Award was recently accepted by the Town's MEO, Cst. Oswald Fudge, at a ceremony in Conception Bay South. The Committee extends congratulations to Cst. Fudge on a job well done and thanks him for his hard work and dedication to his position and the community.

HUMAN RESOURCES

There were no items for public report.

B. Parks & Recreation Committee:

The Parks and Recreation Committee report was presented by Councillor McBreairty.

The Parks and Recreation Committee was held on May 12, 2014. The meeting was chaired by S. McBreairty, Councillor. Other members present included: C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor; D. Deschamps, Director of Recreation and Community Services; B. Barbour, Recreation Planner; G. Brown, Finance Director; B. Freeborn, Administrative Assistant.

The following items were discussed:

Tender – Art Walker Fencing

The Committee reviewed the results of the tender for fencing upgrade at the Art Walker field. The tender was over budget by \$15,947.92. The Director advised that the \$15,000 which was allocated to the PA Upgrade at the Gander Community Centre will be deferred to 2015 so this savings can be reallocated to cover the Fencing.

The Committee recommends that the tender for the upgrade of fencing be awarded to H. Wareham & Sons Ltd. and refers the tender to the Finance Committee for its consideration.

The Finance Director left the Committee meeting at 4:55 pm.

Community Centre Expansion Study

The Committee discussed the expansion study which will be done for the Gander Community Centre. While the study will be looking at the expansion of recreation needs in the community, the Committee is not prepared to commit to the Multiplex's Committee's current proposal until the expansion study is complete. They will be exploring all recreation options and the Multiplex Committee is still invited to be part of this process.

Community Garden

There has been a lot of positive feedback with regard to citizens being interested in starting a community garden in the community. The Committee would like the Department to set up a meeting with citizens who are interested so we can begin some initial discussions. The Recreation Programmer was also asked to contact other communities with gardens to find out some more information on how their gardens operated. The meeting will be held on June 4th at 7 pm in Meeting Room #2 at the Gander Community Centre. Anyone interested in attending, can call the Recreation Department at 651-5927 to confirm their attendance.

Variance Report

The Committee reviewed the first quarter report for 2014. The Department is within budget and refers to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

Community Recreation Vision Presentation

The Department, through brainstorming sessions with staff and a public meeting, are setting a vision on where recreation is and where we are going. The Department will be inviting the community to a Community Recreation Vision Presentation in the near future so that the public can ask any questions or share ideas.

Recreation Leisure Guide

The Department will be compiling information from community groups to start a Recreation Leisure Guide which will be updated twice a year. There are a lot of things happening in Gander which need to be collected and put in a booklet. This will provide the public with information on what is available with regard to recreation and leisure. The Department is aiming to have the first publication available in the fall of 2014.

Correspondence re Funding

A letter was received from a citizen who had applied for funding to travel to Normandy in June for the 70th Anniversary of D Day and the Battle of Normandy. Unfortunately the request does not fit the Grants, Subsidies and In-kind Services Policy. However, the Committee would like the Finance Committee to review this further to assess if funding can be made available in the future if Council would like to provide help to such requests.

This is referred to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation.

C. Economic & Social Development Committee:

The Economic Development Committee report was presented by Councillor Anstey.

The Economic Development Committee meeting was held on May 12, 2014. The meeting was chaired by B. Dove, Councillor. Other members present included: S. McBreairty, Councillor; D. Chafe, CAO; R. Locke, Development Manager; D. Quinton, Economic Development Officer. The following items were discussed:

Wilson Fuels Request to reconsider 2nd Access

At its last meeting, Council conditionally approved one access for the Wilson Fuels development proposed off Cooper Blvd.

Following this approval, Wilson Fuels requested that the Committee provide provisional permission for the 2nd access at the North entrance of the development. This access would only be constructed and used when additional tenants have been confirmed for the site.

The Committee discussed the pros and cons of granting permission for the 2nd access at the North end of the property.

The Committee recommends that provisional permission be granted to Wilson Fuels, given that the speed limit will be reduced to 40km/h (from Roe Ave to Memorial Drive) and this access will only be used to accommodate future site development.

This recommendation is forwarded to the Municipal Works & Services Committee for their review.

LSG Construction Ltd Request to Purchase 60 Dickins Street

The Committee reviewed a letter from LSG Construction Ltd requesting to purchase 60 Dickins Street and receive the Deed of Conveyance for the property.

The Town's Land Sale Policy requires 1st floor completion of the building before the deed and ownership can be transferred for the Town.

Council is committed to the fair and equitable treatment of all developers and have had similar request in the past. The Committee is not recommending approval of this request.

Variance Report ending March 31st, 2014

The Committee reviewed the Department's variance report ending March 31st, 2014. The department has a slight deficit of -\$2391.00. This can be attributed to a change in funding agreements associated with a particular project. The Committee fully expects that this short fall will be absorbed throughout the budget year.

D. Tourism Committee:

The Tourism Committee report was presented by Councillor Dove.

The Tourism Committee meeting was held on May 13, 2014. The meeting was chaired by B. Dove, Councillor. Other members present included: C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor; S. McBreairty, Councillor; K. Sceviour, Special Event Coordinator.

The following items were discussed:

Municipal Awareness Day

The Committee discussed hosting an event to celebrate Municipal Awareness Day which took place on May 7, 2014. It was agreed that while the date has past, it is important to have an event that teaches children about municipal government. With that in mind, the Event Coordinator spoke to Gander Academy and they would be able to attend an event later in June. The event staff will put together an event plan and confirm the date at the next meeting of Council.

Super Summer Thrill Circus

The Gander Community Centre is pleased to announce that the Super Summer Thrill Circus will be taking place at the Centre on June 23, 2014 with the first show at 4:30pm and a second show beginning at 7:30pm. The Super Summer Thrill Circus is a celebration of the traditional circus and will feature the extreme acts of the Winn's who will amaze you on the sway poles, motorcycle on the incline wire, cybercycle, and the Wheel of Destiny! Quick change artists, clowns, jugglers, acrobats, and aerialists will also dazzle you. Tickets are \$ 20.00 for children (12 and under) \$30.00 for adults, taxes included, plus applicable fees. For more information, please contact the Administration Office at 651-5927.

Downhome Expo

Destination Gander and the Town of Gander will be partnering to attend the Downhome Expo on May 23-25 at the Glacier Arena in Mount Pearl. This event is the largest consumer show in the province and the Town will be promoting the Festival and newly renovated Cobb's Pond Rotary Park.

Variance Report

The Committee reviewed the first quarter variance report and noted that the support and services account is over budget due to an oversight in the budget for Winter Carnival. The account was supposed to be transferred to another department's budget however, this did not occur. The department will be looking at ways to offset this cost by saving in other areas. This is forwarded to Finance for their consideration.

Adventure Central AGM

Adventure Central will be hosting its sixth Annual General Meeting at Hotel Gander on Tuesday, June 10th, 2014, beginning at 11:30am. The meeting will provide an update on the activity during the preceding year followed by an overview of the upcoming plans and the future direction for the organization. The Chairperson and the Event Coordinator will attend on the Town's behalf.

Gander Heritage Memorial Park

A letter was reviewed from the Gander Heritage Memorial Park Committee requesting a representative from Council attend a meeting on May 14th. Councillor Dove will attend this meeting to see what will be required and if it is necessary to have a Council representative on the Committee.

Canada Day Celebrations

The Town of Gander will be hosting its Canada Day Celebrations in conjunction with the Grand Re-Opening of Cobb's Pond Rotary Park on July 1st from 1pm – 4pm. The event staff and the Rotary Club are working on a plan for the occasion which will include games, entertainment and a number of new activities for kids. Further information will be placed on the Town's webpage and Facebook page once confirmed.

E. Municipal Works & Services Committee:

The Municipal Works & Services Committee report was presented by Councillor Parrott.

The Municipal Works & Services Committee was held on May 14, 2014. The meeting was chaired by G. Parrott, Councillor. Other members present included: W. Lorenzen, Councillor; R. Anstey, Councillor; B. Dove, Councillor; J. Blackwood, Director of Municipal Works & Services; D. Chafe, CAO.

Delegation: K. Noble, 220 Baird Place; M. Goodyear, 2B Memorial Drive; C. Green Tiller, 54 Bennett Drive; J. Dyke, 54 Bennett Drive; G. Rowe, 18 Rowsell Blvd.

The following items were discussed:

Delegation – 220 Baird Place

The owner of 220 Baird Place, representing Edward D. Burry Ltd. relayed to the Committee that he felt the landscaping policy for commercial properties, in his particular circumstance on 220 Baird Place, were excessive and due to the unique layout of his commercial property, he was being forced to landscape and make unusable for his business a large and in his opinion unreasonable portion of the property.

After reviewing the circumstances, the Committee was in agreement that this was indeed a unique set of circumstances and it's forwarded to the Economic Development Committee for their review and recommendation.

2B Memorial Drive

The owner of 2B Memorial Drive relayed to the Committee that over the past number of years they have experienced ongoing problems with the sanitary sewer line at that property through blockages and subsequent flooding. They asked at such a time that Memorial Drive is being reconstructed, if it would be possible for the Town to do camera work on the sanitary lateral, and the possibility of stubbing of the mainline so they could bring a new independent lateral for the property directly to the main line.

The Committee reviewed a letter from the Supervisor of Engineering, sent to the owner back on September 6, 2013, which indicated the same. This was again relayed to the property owner and reassured them that once Memorial Drive construction has started, the water and sewer department would do a camera inspection of the line and if there was a failure in the line, a new lateral would be installed to the property boundary. If the line was in good working order, the Town would provide a stub at the mainline allowing them to have a private contractor bring the lateral from her home to the mainline stub.

54 Bennett Drive

The homeowner of 54 Bennett Drive met with the Committee and explained her desire to purchase a piece of backland for the purpose of the erection of an accessory building. The Director advised that the piece of land in question was currently not in the land bank, however, it was flanked on both sides by properties that were purchased outside the original land sales and therefore the Committee saw no reason why this section of land should not be added to the land bank and is recommending that it be done so and thereafter the piece of property be offered to the owner of 54 Bennett Drive for purchase.

Delegations left the Committee meeting.

Limits of Servicing Agreement

The Minister of Municipal Affairs entered into a limit of service agreement with the Municipalities that detailed the specific areas within the boundaries of Municipalities eligible to be serviced with water and/or sewer and road work through the provisions of Provincial Government funding. Any cost of development taking place outside these limits is the responsibility of the developer, the homeowner, or the Municipality.

The Town of Gander is in the process of having new limits of service agreements done for roads that were added in the last few years. It was noted that the infrastructure being added had to be supported with as built drawings and stamped by a professional engineering firm. The Director advised that several of the subdivisions in town were lacking these documents and hoped that it would not interfere with these streets being added to the limits of service agreement and will work with local developers to ensure this documentation is provided on future projects.

Motion #14-102

Limits of Servicing Agreement

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Lorenzen that the Limits of Servicing Agreement be approved as attached.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

105 and 107 Penwell Avenue

The Committee reviewed correspondence from residents of 105 and 107 Penwell Avenue expressing concerns and frustration with the lack of completion of the infrastructure adjacent to their properties, more specifically, road paving and curb work which was creating numerous problems at their properties. Including, but limited to, dusty, dirty, and muddy conditions during the summer months and rocks, gravel, and debris on their lawns during the spring following the winter snow clearing operations, as well as, safety concerns for walking pedestrians near their property as the sidewalk and curb are cracked and broken. Once again, they're asking Council when this infrastructure could be provided, and if a meeting has been held with the developer and if any resolution has been found or confirmed date determined for the installation for this infrastructure.

The Committee had a brief discussion about the identified deficiencies in that subdivision and advised the Director to send letters to these residents updating them on Council's position on the items discussed.

Variance Report

The Committee noted that the total Municipal Works budget at the time of variances adjustments made was \$39,190 over budget to date. To be noted that almost 50 percent of this overage was due to an increase of fuel consumption due to excessive winter conditions. The Committee is confident that the overall budget will be brought back in line before year end and forwards the report to the Finance Committee for their review and consideration

Building Permit Software / Shredding Engineering Documents

The Committee had a general discussion on the existing building permit software and the way Engineering documents were accepted, stored, scanned, and then destroyed. The Director relayed the current practice and software being used. He indicated that a request had been made in the past for new software, however, the budget did not permit. He also advised, he would work closely with staff and the IT department to once again look at software which was more applicable and present it during the 2015 budget process. In the terms of storing hard files the Director advised he would discuss with staff the existing policy for handling documents and if it was not adequate, would make recommendations for revisions to the policy.

Arts and Culture Centre – Community Centre Parking Lot

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Regional Manager of the Arts and Culture Centre, as well as, the Director of Parks and Recreation which relayed their concerns of snow clearing practices being carried out at or near their respective properties. The Directors advised that the guidelines as outlined in the snow plan were followed and adhered to.

The Committee is recommending that a meeting be scheduled with all interested parties to discuss the snow plan.

The CAO advised that he will make the necessary arrangements for this meeting.

Tenders

Brown Crescent Upgrades

The Committee reviewed the results of the tender for the **Brown Crescent Road Upgrades**. Three tenders were received and the Director advises that the lowest of the tenders that met specifications was submitted by **B&M Paving (1983) Ltd.**

The Committee recommends that the tender for the **Brown Crescent Road Upgrades** be awarded to **B&M Paving (1983) Ltd.** and refers the tender to the Finance Committee for its consideration.

Depot Fence Upgrading and Art Walker Field

The Committee reviewed the results of the tender for the **Depot Fence Upgrading**. Eight tenders were received and the Director advises that the lowest tender that met the specifications was submitted by **H. Wareham and Sons Ltd.**

The Committee recommends that the tender for the **Depot Fence Upgrading** be awarded to **H. Wareham and Sons Ltd.** and refers the tender to the Finance Committee for its consideration.

The remaining portion for the **Art Walker field** will be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Committee for their review.

Councillor Lorenzen left the Committee meeting.

Wilson Fuels Road Access

The Committee reviewed a memo from the Economic Development Committee indicating that at its last meeting, Council had conditionally approved one access for the Wilson Fuels development proposed off Cooper Boulevard. Following this approval, Wilson Fuels request that the Committee provide provisional permission for the second access at the North entrance of the development. This access would only be constructed and used when additional tenants have been confirmed for the site. The Economic Development Committee had discussed the pros and cons of granting the secondary access at the North end of the property.

The Director of Municipal Works again reiterated his departments concerns with the secondary access. The Committee, however, felt that the secondary access was essential to the build out of those properties and were in agreement with the recommendation from the Economic Development Committee that provisional permission be granted to Wilson Fuels, and recommends that the speed limit be reduced to 40 Km/Hr. from Roe Avenue to Memorial Drive. This access will only be used to accommodate future site development.

The Committee recommends and I move that provisional permission be granted to Wilson Fuels and that the speed limit be reduced to 40 Km/Hr. from Roe Avenue to Memorial Drive. This access will only be used to accommodate pending future site development.

Motion #14-103

Wilson Fuels Road Access Amendment

Councillor Anstey asked that the Motion be amended to delete the change to the speed limit.

Moved by Councillor Anstey and seconded by Councillor Parrott that the above motion be amended to delete the speed limit reference.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Motion #14-104

Wilson Fuels Second Entrance

Moved by Councillor Anstey and seconded by Councillor Parrott that provisional permission be granted to Wilson Fuels for a second entrance. This access will only be used to accommodate pending future site development.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

F. Finance & Administration Committee:

The Finance and Administration Committee report was presented by Councillor Parrott.

The Finance & Administration Committee was held on May 15, 2014. The meeting was chaired by C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor. Other members present included: W. Lorenzen, Councillor; G. Brown, Director of Finance; K. Hiscock, Accounting Supervisor.

The following items were discussed:

Amendments to the Municipality Act

The Committee reviewed information regarding the recent amendments to the Municipalities Act, specifically Bill C6. In Bill C6, it allows Council to appoint a youth representative to Council as a non-voting position; it is designed to engage youth into Council activities.

Motion #14-105

Amendments to the Municipality Act – Youth Sit on Council

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Dove that Management be directed to develop a process whereby youth would sit on Council as non-voting but participatory members.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Bill C6 also will allow elected officials to participate in meetings by electronic means. The Committee felt that this would work well in Committee meetings but would be problematic for Regular Council meetings.

Motion #14-106

Amendments to the Municipality Act – Electronic Means

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Lorenzen that Councillors be able to participate in Committee meetings through electronic means.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

The CAO joined the Committee meeting.

Funding Request

The Town recently received a funding request from a local cadet that will be going to Normandy to take part in the 70th Anniversary of D-Day Celebrations. He had asked for a donation and at the time was denied because the request did not meet any of the Council’s Donation Policies. The Committee would like to see a Policy developed for the non-sporting type of activities such as this one.

Motion #14-107

Funding Request

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Anstey that the Town donate \$100 to Jonathan Patey to assist in his expenses to attend the 70th Anniversary of Normandy.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Property Tax Reductions

The Committee reviewed three residential property tax reduction applications which have been submitted in accordance with Council’s policy on tax reductions for residential property. The Director advised that the application met the requirements of Council Policy and recommended approval.

Motion #14-108
Property Tax Reductions

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor McBreairty that the three property tax reduction applications be approved as attached.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Acceptance of Credit Cards

A company called PlastiQ has implemented a new service whereby individuals can pay municipal taxes with a credit card. The way it works is a taxpayer would sign up as a member of PlastiQ, go onto their website and make the payment to the Town of Gander.

If they decide to do this, then they would have to pay a 2% fee which goes to PlastiQ. PlastiQ would then forward the taxes paid to the Town of Gander. The Committee felt this was a good way to allow those who wish to pay with a credit card to do so without incurring a significant cost of the fee charged by the credit card companies. If the resident wants to pay the fee, then they will have the ability to pay their taxes through credit card.

Motion #14-109
Acceptance of Credit Cards

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Dove that the Town of Gander enter into an agreement with PlastiQ to accept credit card payments.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tender – Fencing Upgrade – Depot and Art Walker Field

The Finance Committee reviewed the Tender for Fencing Upgrade for which eight bids were received.

Motion #14-110
Tender – Fencing Upgrade – Depot and Art Walker Field

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Anstey that the Tender for the Fencing Upgrade be awarded to H. Wareham & Sons Ltd. at a price of \$73,279.14 HST inclusive.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

The project costs for the Fencing Upgrade is \$14,965.71 over budget.

Tender – Brown Crescent Road Upgrading

The Finance Committee reviewed the Tender for the Brown Crescent Road Upgrading for which three bids were received.

Motion #14-111

Tender – Brown Crescent Road Upgrading

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor McBreaity that the Tender for the Brown Crescent Road Upgrading be awarded to B&M Paving (1983) Ltd. at a price of \$450,630.44 HST Inclusive.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

The project costs for the Brown Crescent Road Upgrading is \$200,106.17 under budget.

First Quarter Variance Report

The Committee reviewed the first quarter variance report to the end of March 2014. It indicated that 2014 operations would provide a projected surplus for this year of \$15,138. This would reduce our deficit being carried forward from previous years to \$136,692. Revenues for the first quarter were \$40,000 under budget.

Major revenue variances were:

1. Business Taxes from utilities are expected to be \$38,900 under budget due to their 2013 revenues were lower than anticipated.
2. Grant in Lieu of Taxes are \$37,400 under budget as a result of the reduction in property values by the Federal Government.
3. Expenses for the first quarter are expected to be \$56,000 under budget.

Major expenditure variances include the following:

1. Workers Compensation rates are expected to be \$40,000 under budget.
2. Diesel cost is \$18,500 over budget due to the harsh winter.
3. Repairs to the snowclearing equipment are expected to be \$31,000 over budget once again due to the harsh winter.
4. Heating oil costs at the Community Centre are \$9,931 over budget due to increased consumption.
5. Loan costs are expected to be \$72,100 under budget due to a good borrowing rate on our 2013 Capital Expenditures.

Capital Variance Report

The Committee reviewed the Capital Variance Report to the end of March. To the end of March, we are indicating the Capital Budget should be \$2,241 under budget.

6. ADMINISTRATION

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Crime Stoppers – Congratulations to Oswald Fudge

Councillor Lorenzen read out a letter from Crime Stoppers wishing Oswald Fudge their sincere congratulations on being named the inaugural Peace Officer of the year for 2014.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Funding for Boardwalk

The Town of Gander is pleased to announce that funding will be allocated from the Multi-Year Capital Works Plan towards the replacement of the Boardwalk at Cobb's Pond Rotary Park during the third phase of the park upgrade. The Town will be working with the Gander Rotary Club on a plan for replacement of the walkway.

9 MacKay Street

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the owner of 9 MacKay Street indicating that they wished to receive financial reimbursement for an invoice they received from a local plumbing company for thawing of a waterline at that property. The Committee also reviewed a memo from the Water and Sewer Foreman indicating he believed it was reasonable for the Town to reimburse the owners for 10 percent of the total cost of the plumbing bill and that the 10 percent represented the ratio of line thawed on Town property.

Motion #14-112
9 MacKay Street

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor McBreairty that the Town reimburse the owners for 10 percent of the total cost of the plumbing bill and that the 10 % represented the ratio of line thawed on Town property.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Welder/Machinist Contract Position

The Director advised the Committee there was a fair volume of work to be carried out at the Municipal Works Depot, more specifically; rebuilding through welder and machinist work on the undercarriage of the Town owned excavator, as well as, structural repairs to snow clearing equipment and attachments. He indicated that the Municipal Works wages were under budget. He is requesting from Council that these funds or other savings/wages be allocated to the contract position for an individual to come into the organization for the sole purpose of welder/machinist work on this equipment.

Motion #14-113
Welder/Machinist Contract Position

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Lorenzen that funds or other savings/wages be allocated to the contract position for an individual to come into the organization for the sole purpose of welder/machinist work on this equipment.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Placement of No Parking Signs

The Public Safety Committee is recommending a change in Policy No. MW024 - Placement of No Parking Signs. The change will reflect a minimum amount of 5.5 meters clear width for emergency vehicles, the current width is 6.0 meters.

This document is presented to Council for the first reading and any input on this proposed change should be submitted to the office of the Fire Chief by Thursday, May 29, 2014.

Shriners Hospital in Montreal

Council was advised that the Shriners Orthopaedic Hospital in Montreal is currently looking to expand its facility at a cost of \$130 Million, scheduled to open late 2015. As indicated on their website:

“the 17,000 km voyage is an “opportunity to inform parents from coast to coast about the specialized orthopaedic care provided to infants, children and teen. Fundraising efforts are being cross-continent trip to not only raise money towards the construction of a new hospital, but to raise awareness in the communities’ service by the Shriners Fraternity. “

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion #14-114

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Anstey that the meeting be adjourned.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:52pm.

C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor

S. Fisher, Town Clerk (A)