

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council
Wednesday, November 24, 2021 @ 4:00 pm
Council Chambers

Present:	P. Farwell	Mayor
	B. Ford	Deputy Mayor
	G. Brown	Councillor
	S. Handcock	Councillor
	W. Hoffe	Councillor
	T. Pollett	Councillor
	P. Woodford	Councillor

Advisory and Resource:	B. Hefford	Town Clerk
	K. Hiscock	Director of Corporate Services
	N. Newell	Director of Community Services
	J. Blackwood	Director of Engineering
	T. Barron	Director of Municipal Works
	H. Lowe	Director of Public Safety & Protective Services
	B. Dawe	Communications Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm.

2. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

16 Days of Activism Proclamation

The Mayor proclaimed November 25 until December 10, 2021 to be a Time of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion #21-206

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Pollett and seconded by Councillor Brown that the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council on November 24, 2021 be adopted.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

4. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Motion #21-207

Regular Minutes for Approval

Moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Pollett that the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of Council on October 20, 2021 be adopted as presented.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

6. REPORTS – STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Community Services Committee:

The Community Services report was presented by Councillor Pollett.

The Community Services meeting was held on November 9, 2021. The meeting was chaired by T. Pollett, Councillor. Other members present included: B. Ford, Deputy Mayor; W. Hoffe, Councillor; G. Brown, Councillor; P. Woodford, Councillor; D. Chafe, CAO; N. Newell, Director of Community Services; B. Hefford, Town Clerk, K. Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services.

The following items were discussed:

Zonta e-Club of Canada

Zonta e-Club of Canada is a member of Zonta International, which is a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women through service and advocacy. They are requesting the Town participate in the 16 days of Activism against Gender Violence by illuminating the Town Hall with orange flood lights from November 25th to December 10th.

The Director advised that the Women's Center in Gander will be requesting the Town support the same initiative during the 16 days but provincially they have a flag raising and wear purple ribbons. The Committee feels that while both initiatives essentially support the same cause, they will support the Gander Women's Institute.

The Director will contact Zonta e-Club of Canada and encourage them to contact the Gander Women's Center if they would like to partner on both projects.

Vaccine Passports

The Director advised that as of October 22, 2021, anyone over the age of 18 entering the Steele Community Centre must be fully vaccinated or have an approved medical exemption. During the hours of 8:30 am – 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, patrons need to visit the administration office to be scanned and staff have been hired for after 4 p.m. The Director advised that there is no indication of how long the centre will be required to perform vax pass scanning for patrons entering the facility, therefore staffing will be considered and budgeted for 2022.

Outdoor Rink

The Director explained that while the outdoor rink has been built in the last few years, it takes many resources and there is no guarantee the weather will be favourable once it is built. The Committee agreed but feels that this is beneficial for the community and would like the Department to continue with the outdoor rink again in 2022. The Director explained that it will not be built on the B Field as this past season it was recapped with new dirt. The Department will look at alternative locations such as the possibility of the tennis court or another ballfield.

Christmas Ice Time & Skating Schedule

The Director advised that the Administrative Coordinator is working to book ice over the Christmas Holidays. If there are any businesses or individuals who would like to book ice for that time, they can contact the Department at 651-5927. The Christmas skating and shiny hockey schedule will be released at the beginning of December.

Upcoming Events

There are a number of events happening in December and I would like to highlight a few:

- Christmas Tree Lighting at the Town Hall on Wednesday, Dec 1st at 6:30 p.m.
- Santa Claus Parade on Saturday, Dec 4th at 6 p.m.
- Seniors Wellness Session, Dec 7th.
- Skate with Santa at the Steele Community Centre on Sunday, Dec 12th at 2 p.m.
- Arrow Air Crash, details to follow

The full listing of events is attached and can also be seen on the Department's Facebook page or you can call the office at 651-5927 for more information.

B. Municipal Works & Services Committee:

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

The Municipal Works & Services Committee meeting was held on November 10, 2021. The meeting was chaired by P. Woodford, Councillor. Other members present included: T. Pollett, Councillor; S. Handcock, Councillor; G. Brown, Councillor; D. Chafe, CAO; K. Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services; T. Barron, Director of Municipal Works & Services; B. Hefford, Town Clerk; G. Whitt, Administrative Support Clerk.

The following items were discussed:

2021/22 Snow Plan

The Director reviewed the 2021/22 Snow Plan with the Committee. The routes, level of service, and timelines will remain the same as the previous year. Minor changes included using more concise wording, updating the heavy equipment operators list and including Magee Road extension in the Priority 2 list.

The Committee agrees with the standards set in the 2021/22 Snow Plan as outlined in the attachment.

Winter Operations - Notices

The Town of Gander is advising the public that winter parking restrictions will be in place from November 1, 2021 until April 30, 2022.

During this time, no vehicle shall be parked on any street between midnight and 8 a.m., regardless of weather conditions, nor may any vehicle be parked such as to impede or interfere with snow clearing operations at any time of the day or night, at any time of the year.

It is illegal to throw, sweep, shovel or place snow or ice from any private property upon any Town street or sidewalk, or such that it obstructs access to fire hydrants.

The fines for snow clearing parking violations are as follows:

Obstructing snow clearing: \$107.00

Parking after midnight to 8 a.m.: \$52.00

Residents are also reminded that it is illegal to throw, sweep, shovel, or place snow or ice from any private property upon any town street or sidewalk. This includes depositing snow or ice in such a manner that it obstructs fire hydrants. This activity creates hazardous conditions for both the general public and Town staff. This issue has become more prevalent over recent years and enforcement of this regulation will increase.

Finally, snow clearing markers must be placed not less than one meter from the curb. Should the property border a sidewalk, markers shall be placed not less than one meter from the inside edge of the sidewalk. In order to effectively remove snow from the street or sidewalk, property must be clear of obstructions. This will help prevent excess snow and ice buildup and maximize snow clearing efforts.

The Town of Gander appreciates your cooperation.

9 Wing Gander – Water Advisory

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Wing Commander of 9 Wing Gander, advising that high lead levels were found in the water tested at 19 military housing units in Town. However, the tests are believed to be inconclusive based on a review by their medical and engineering subject matter experts.

The Director informed the Committee that water testing results from the Town’s potable water supply do not align with the results of the water quality testing conducted in the military housing units that identified high lead levels. There is no cause for concern with the Town’s potable water supply.

The Mayor advised that we received subsequent correspondence from the Wing Commander confirming it is a localized issue within the housing units, not a result of the water supply.

Variance Report, 3rd Quarter

The Committee reviewed the Municipal Works and Services variance report for the third quarter.

The Municipal Works and Services Department is currently operating overbudget by \$8,506.00. While some additional expenditures were brought forward from the previous variance report, the following were unforeseen additional expenditures: water distribution pump failure, increase in laboratory fees for testing as per Federal Requirements for Influent / Effluent sample submissions, and required asphalt repairs. Details of the report are attached for review.

Notable Dates

- Garbage collection scheduled for the Christmas Day Holiday, December 27th, and the Boxing Day Holiday, December 28th, will now be collected on Wednesday, December 29th.
- Garbage collection scheduled for the New Year’s Day Holiday, January 3rd, will now be collected on Wednesday, January 5th.
- Waste Transfer Station events for 2022 are yet to be determined. A notice to residents will be provided when the schedule is confirmed.

Details on these events can be viewed on the Town of Gander Website at www.gandercanada.com.

C. Public Safety & Protective Services Committee:

The Public Safety & Protective Services Committee report was presented by Councillor Handcock.

The Public Safety & Protective Services Committee was held on November 15, 2021. The meeting was chaired by S. Handcock, Councillor. Other members present included: G. Brown, Councillor; P. Woodford, Councillor; H. Lowe, Director of Protective Services/Fire Chief; B. Hefford, Town Clerk; K. Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services; L. Small, Administrative Assistant.

The following items were discussed:

Motorized Snow and All-Terrain Vehicles Regulations

The Motorized Snow and All-Terrain Vehicle Regulations were scheduled for final approval and adoption on September 22, 2021. The province has since proposed new regulations and the Committee felt that it would be best to postpone the final approval of the Town’s regulations until the provincial government ones are finalized and in place; this will enable the Town to review our own to ensure compliance with the province.

Some of the Provincial changes are mandatory use of helmets, safety training requirements, supervision requirements, increased fines, and requirements for operating on a highway.

The Trails Sub-Committee, which has been in place since February 7, 2018, has fulfilled its mandate and two of the councillors are no longer active members.

Motion #21-208

Motorized Snow and All-Terrain Vehicles Regulations

Moved by Councillor Handcock and seconded by Councillor Brown that the Trails Sub-Committee be discharged and all items pertaining to Motorized Snow and ATV Regulations be brought forward at the Public Safety and Protective Services Committee.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Cooper/Briggs/Raynham Intersection

The Committee reviewed two emails from a resident citing traffic concerns at the Cooper/Briggs/Raynham Intersection. He noted incorrect turning onto Cooper by drivers and had suggestions for improving the intersection. He felt the traffic here will get heavier due to the new senior's home being built which would increase staff traffic, delivery trucks, ambulances, etc.

The Director provided statistics on the number of accidents in the last seven years at this intersection which reflected that the intersection at Memorial and Cooper was more of a safety concern and council is currently working on alleviating the safety issues there. The last traffic study completed at this location suggested more lanes and lights be installed in 2030.

The Committee would like to receive input from other departments on the Town Plan as well as the costing etc. for roundabouts, lights, and traffic calming measures and refers this item to the next management meeting for further discussion.

Councillor Ford stated she hopes that the potential pedestrian safety will be considered as part of an overall hazard assessment. She stated that she assumed the traffic study primarily considered vehicular accidents as part of statistical analysis.

Department Activity Report

Clothing Drive- Warm the Wee Ones!

Gander Fire Rescue will hold its second annual clothing drive until December 10th. Once again containers will be placed at the entrance to the Fire Hall for drop off. The public will be invited to drop off new and used winter clothing for children to be distributed later in December via the Salvation Army. This was a huge success last year and the notices will go out to social media etc. this week.

VOCM Traffic Report

The Municipal Enforcement Department will begin doing a traffic report once a week on VOCM, Wednesday mornings at approximately 7:45 am. This is a good community service to keep residents up to date on any traffic concerns around town and provide safety reminders etc.

Gander Firettes

The Gander Firettes hosted a children's Halloween Party for members on October 23rd. They requested and collected food donations at the Firefighters Ball and donated \$ 3000 to Gander Fire Rescue from their fundraising activities to aid with equipment purchases etc.

Fire Fighters Ball and Service Awards

The 53rd annual Fire Fighters Ball was held on November 6th. The following volunteers received awards:

Probationary Firefighter of the Year – John Quinlan
Firefighter of the Year - Craig Hicks

Years of Service

Jordan Walbourne - 5 years
Christian Bartlett - 5 years
Pat Chaulk - 10 years
Dave Shea - 10 years
Jason Hedges - 15 years
Darrell Normore - 15 years
Donna Keefe - 15 years

Probationary Firefighters Badge presentations:

John Quinlan
Justin Stagg

D. Planning & Development Committee:

The Planning & Development Committee report was presented by Councillor Brown.

The Planning & Development Committee meeting was held on November 16, 2021. The meeting was chaired by G. Brown, Councillor. Other members present included: B. Ford, Deputy Mayor; S. Hancock, Councillor; P. Woodford, Councillor; T. Pollett, Councillor; J. Blackwood, Director of Planning & Development; B. Hefford, Town Clerk; K. Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services; D. Chafe, CAO; D. Quinton, Economic Development Officer.

The following items were discussed:

Ramp Installation – 122 Byrd Avenue

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the homeowner of 122 Byrd Avenue requesting Council’s permission to construct a ramp which would project into the sideyard of that property adjacent to 124 Byrd Avenue. Council may, at its discretion, after consulting with abutting property owners, permit an access ramp to be erected within a minimum frontyard or sideyard setback if:

1. There is no alternative means to provide the access ramp, and
2. The ramp does not create a safety hazard or block sight lines.

Staff have assessed the request and determined that both requirements have been satisfied and also contacted the adjacent property owner who brought forward no objections to the proposal.

Motion #21-209
Ramp Installation – 122 Byrd Avenue

Moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Woodford that the owner of 122 Byrd Avenue be permitted to construct an access ramp within the sideyard of that property adjacent to 124 Byrd Avenue.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Building Statistics

The Committee reviewed the Town of Gander Building Statistics for the period January 1 - September 30, 2021. The total building permits obtained in this period totaled 222 with an estimated construction value of \$9,226,035 which is down slightly from the same period last year. The Committee was pleased with the construction activity and is hopeful the trend will continue throughout the remainder of the year noting two major projects have been started however, were not reflected in this reporting period.

Screening – 215 Baird Place

The Committee was presented with correspondence including a proposed site layout and landscaping plan for 215 Baird Place. The applicant has indicated that they plan to fence the front building line but do not wish to incorporate screening. The Committee agreed with the proposal as presented.

Motion #21-210
Screening – 215 Baird Place

Moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Handcock that the site plan as attached for 215 Baird Place be approved without screening provided all requirements of the Town’s development regulations are met.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Correspondence – Roundabout Cooper/Memorial Intersection

Correspondence from a resident was received raising concerns over Council’s proposal to construct a roundabout at the intersection of Memorial Drive and Cooper Boulevard. The resident felt the newly proposed infrastructure was unwarranted, too expensive of a solution for traffic control when compared to conventional traffic lights and that it would not provide safe access for pedestrians.

The Committee briefly discussed the Cooper Boulevard Corridor Traffic Study which recommended the new roundabout and the benefits of roundabouts when compared to conventional traffic lights. The Committee recommends that further discussion about the roundabout during the upcoming budget process and that the Director reach out to the homeowner and further discuss his concerns.

Bee Farm – 29 Griffin Place

The Committee reviewed a request from the owner of 29 Griffin Place to operate a small hobby bee farm from that property. The property in question is zoned residential medium density and the keeping of bees is neither a permitted nor discretionary use within that zone. The Committee sees merit in the application that was made and would like the department to bring forward a recommendation on how to accommodate the request at the next round of Committee. It was also recommended that the department explore opportunities within the community where it is permitted that the applicant may partner with someone to carry out the activity.

Home-Based Business – 28 Brown Crescent

The Committee reviewed a Home-Based Business application from the resident of 28 Brown Crescent. The applicant is seeking Council’s permission to operate Blissfully You, a home-based “one chair” aesthetician service from that address.

The Director advised that discretionary use notices were advertised with no objections being received by the advertised deadline.

Motion #21-211

Home-Based Business – 28 Brown Crescent

Moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Handcock that Blissfully You, a home based “one chair” aesthetician service be permitted to operate from 28 Brown Crescent.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Home-Based Business – 7 Cochran Street

The Committee reviewed a Home-Based Business application from the resident of 7 Cochran Street. The applicant is seeking Council’s permission to operate Grape Leaf, a home-based food catering service from 7 Cochran Street. It was noted that all food services will take place off site with the home being used as an office and for food preparation. It was also noted that the applicant will require Service NL approval to operate this type of business from their home.

The Director advised that discretionary use notices were advertised with no objections being received by the advertised deadline.

Motion #21-212

Home-Based Business – 7 Cochran Street

Moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Handcock that Grape Leaf be permitted to operate a home office and food preparation for food catering from 7 Cochran Street conditional on approval from Service NL.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Departmental Variance Reports

The Variance Report for Planning and Development for the period January 1, 2021, to September 30, 2021, was presented to the Committee. With timing adjustments, the department projected a combined savings of \$130,682 for this period which is attributed to a combination of reduced training due to the pandemic, higher than anticipated requests for compliance records and slightly higher than anticipated housing starts.

The Committee was pleased with the report and is hopeful construction will continue to strengthen as the year continues and forwards the reports to the Corporate Services Committee for their review and consideration.

Municipal Plan Review

The Committee discussed the recently implemented Gander Municipal Plan & Development Regulations 2019-2029. While the plan was in the final stages of registration, several items were brought forward but postponed for actioning until the plan was officially registered. The Committee feels that a Steering Committee should be assembled to review these proposed changes and to have an overall look at planning and development strategies to ensure the Town is well positioned to take advantage of potential growth opportunities.

E. Governance & Legislative Services Committee:

The Governance & Legislative Services Committee report was presented by Deputy Mayor Ford.

The Governance & Legislative Services Committee was held on November 17, 2021. The meeting was chaired by B. Ford, Deputy Mayor. Other members present included: W. Hoffe, Councillor; P. Woodford, Councillor; G. Brown, Councillor; T. Pollett, Councillor; D. Chafe, CAO; B. Hefford, Director of Governance & Legislative Services/Town Clerk; K. Bull, Deputy Municipal Clerk; K. Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services.

The following items were discussed:

Review of Departmental Budget

The Director of Corporate Services, Town Clerk and CAO reviewed some budgetary changes that resulted from the restructuring of the Committees and Departments in 2021. Items previously accounted for in the General Government department are now in Governance and Legislation.

Signing of Financial and Legal Documents

The signing authority for the Town must be updated to reflect the changes in roles in 2021. The Director of Corporate Services will sign as Treasurer, the Director of Governance and Legislative Services will sign as Town Clerk and the CAO will be the alternate for both.

Following the discussion on budget & signing authority, Kelly Hiscock and Derm Chafe left the meeting.

Motion #21-213

Signing of Financial and Legal Documents

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ford and seconded by Councillor Hoffe the adoption of the Signing of Financial and Legal Documents Policy A009, as attached.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Website Updates

Council highlighted some administrative changes required considering the Council schedule changes. The Town Clerk advised that the department will review and ensure updates are completed.

VOCM – Economic Diversification Plan

The Town of Lewisporte was recently featured in local news coverage due to their concerns about what they Lewisporte Councils deems a lack of provincial government support around the Town’s economic diversification plan. Following the closure of the Marine Atlantic terminal, Lewisporte has experienced significant economic struggles. The Town of Gander has experienced similar economic impacts in relation to the airline industry. The Committee feels there is an opportunity for Gander and Lewisporte to work collaboratively to overcome some of these impacts.

Rules of Procedure

As part of the Committee’s initial mandate to provide oversight and recommendations around the governance model for the Town of Gander, the Rules of Procedure for Council Meetings was reviewed.

There are some areas that were identified as dated, requiring modernization. Council also reviewed some citizen representation relating to the overall operations of Council as part of the discussion.

It is acknowledged that some areas can be considered for improvement and the Committee was asked to consider the document for a future discussion. It was noted that the citizen engagement on this topic was welcomed and, as a Council we would encourage any resident to participate in this discussion. At its core, Council’s Rules of Procedure should ensure a productive and transparent conduit for public input.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for each Committee of Council was reviewed and recommended for adoption.

The six departmental committees are ready for adoption. The Committee of the Whole will be referred to the Town Clerk’s office for further refinement.

Motion #21-214

Terms of Reference

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ford and seconded by Councillor Brown the Committee Terms of Reference be approved as attached.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Regulation Framework

An analytical framework is designed to facilitate a disciplined approach to assessing, selecting and implementing instruments. Departments may use the framework as a template for analyzing regulatory/policy priorities for their respective area of responsibility. The framework sketches out a sequence of enquiry, specifies a methodological foundation, and provides guidance for each step in the instrument choice process.

The Committee would like to further examine this a method of determining priorities in the new year.

Gander Public Library Board

The Library Board has asked Council to appoint a liaison. In the past, the Director of Finance held the position of Treasurer on the Board, but since his retirement, there is no Council representative. It was suggested that forfeit its seat on the board but extended an invitation to meet with Council or its Committees at any time.

Mayor Farwell Elected as Central Director of MNL

The Committee was pleased to learn that Mayor Farwell was recently elected as MNL Central Director at the recent convention and AGM in Corner Brook. This is an exciting leadership opportunity for the Mayor. As Council, we are confident that the community's interests will be represented well. It is also critically important to understand that many changes are happening within the provincial landscape that will impact many communities. Opportunities to be to participate in leadership group such as MNL become invaluable for the residents of Gander.

The Mayor noted that the costs associated with this appointment are paid by MNL and does not place any financial burden on the Town of Gander.

The Mayor also noted that he recently attended the Atlantic Mayor's Conference and was appointed as NL Director of Board of Atlantic Mayor's Conference.

F. Corporate Services Committee:

The Corporate Services Committee report was presented by Councillor Hoffe.

The Corporate Services Committee meeting was held on November 17, 2021. The meeting was chaired by W. Hoffe, Councillor. Other members present included: T. Pollett, Councillor; P. Woodford, Councillor; G. Brown, Councillor; K. Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services; D. Chafe, CAO.

The following items were discussed:

Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Funding Agreement

The Committee was presented with the Municipal Infrastructure Funding Agreement for the 2020-2023 Multi Year Capital Works Program.

Motion #21-215

Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Funding Agreement

Moved by Councillor Hoffe and seconded by Councillor Woodford the Town of Gander accept cost-shared funding as outlined in the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure approval letter dated November 5, 2021 for the 2020-2023 Multi Year Capital Works Program. The Town of Gander agrees to provide the municipal share of funding and authorizes the Mayor and Town Clerk to enter into a funding agreement with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure on behalf of the Town of Gander.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tax Write Offs

The Committee was presented with a list of outstanding accounts that are deemed uncollectible after being referred to our collection agency for recovery. Primarily, the list includes businesses that have declared bankruptcy, and accounts that have been settled through legal action.

Motion #21-216

Tax Write Offs

Moved by Councillor Hoffe and seconded by Councillor Woodford that the Town write off \$292,317.64 in outstanding accounts as attached.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tender – Used 2008 International Tandem Salt Truck c/w Wing and Plow

The Public Works Committee referred the results of the tender for the sale of the 2008 International Tandem Salt Truck c/w Wing and Plow. There were two bids received, with the highest bid that met specifications submitted by 50906 Newfoundland & Labrador Ltd. o/a Platinum Builders in the amount of \$15,099.50, HST included.

Motion #21-217

Tender – Used 2008 International Tandem Salt Truck c/w Wing and Plow

Moved by Councillor Hoffe and seconded by Councillor Handcock the tender for the sale of the 2008 International Tandem Salt Truck c/w Wing and Plow plate # GMM 841 be awarded to 50906 Newfoundland & Labrador Ltd. o/a Platinum Builders in the amount of \$15,099.50, HST included.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tender – Used 2001 Ingersoll Rand Compressor P185

The Public Works Committee referred the results of the tender for the sale of one used 2001 Ingersoll Rand Compressor P185. There were three bids received, with the highest bid that met specifications submitted by Fred Bradley in the amount of \$3,768.27, HST included.

Motion #21-218

Tender – Used 2001 Ingersoll Rand Compressor P185

Moved by Councillor Hoffe and seconded by Councillor Woodford the tender for the sale of one used 2001 Ingersoll Rand Compressor P185 plate # GMC 486 be awarded to Fred Bradley in the amount of \$3,768.27, HST included.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Quarterly Operating and Capital Reports

The Committee was presented with the unaudited operating and capital reports for the third quarter of the year. The operating report indicated a small deficit of \$70,000. The major variance that contributed to the deficit were legal fees being over budget by \$77,000 due to a recent court case.

The capital report indicated purchases are within budget for the third quarter of the year.

G. Committee of the Whole:

The Committee of the Whole report was presented by Deputy Mayor Ford.

The Committee of the Whole meeting was held on November 18, 2021. The meeting was chaired by B. Ford, Deputy Mayor. Other members present included: P. Farwell, Mayor; W. Hoffe, Councillor; T. Pollett, Councillor; P. Woodford, Councillor; G. Brown, Councillor; S. Handcock, Councillor; D. Chafe, CAO; K. Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services; B. Hefford, Town Clerk.

The following items were discussed:

Firefighter/MEO Honorariums

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the approved Policy for Firefighter Honorariums P040 did not have the schedule adjusted to account for the approved rate increases in 2021.

Motion #21-219

Firefighter/MEO Honorariums

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ford and seconded by Councillor Brown that the 2021 schedule of rates be approved as attached authorizing officials to process payment.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Disposal of Council Desks

Council will be upgrading the desks in Council Chambers. It was suggested that they be offered to a neighboring community. Councillor Ford asked that they be put forward for auction or tender, considering there may be past officials who would desire the desks as a piece of symbolic memorabilia.

It was agreed that the Town will solicit expression of interest in the surplus desks. If no interest arises, then neighboring communities could be consulted.

Municipal Assessment Agency

Council reviewed the Ballots of the NL Municipal Assessment Agency. Council agreed to vote for Councillor Wilson Hoffe for the Urban Community Director and Tony Keats of the Town of Dover for the Central Director.

CANOE Purchasing Group

The Government of NL Procurement Agency has approved the CANOE Purchasing Group as a compliant source of procuring goods and services for Municipalities.

The Group undertakes a pre-approved competitive process, allowing municipalities to source common goods and services without the traditional tendering process. The framework also includes opportunities to use local suppliers to be agents if they are affiliates of approved suppliers.

The Town of Gander sees many opportunities to create efficiencies and financial savings by utilizing the service without eliminating local businesses. This platform consolidates the buying power of public agencies across Canada to gain preferred pricing with many common suppliers. However, registration as a member of the CANOE Purchasing Group is required.

Motion #21-220

CANOE Purchasing Group

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ford and seconded by Councillor Woodford that the Town of Gander register as a member of the CANOE Purchasing Group.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Hoffe and Handcock stated it is intended that local suppliers are not excluded and in fact will be advised as a potential opportunity to partner with national suppliers as a local agent.

Central NL Waste Management Board Appointment

The Town of Gander has a seat on the Central NL Waste Management Board of Directors. Mayor Farwell has sat on the Board during the last term of Council. He is prepared to continue in this capacity.

Motion #21-221

Central NL Waste Management Board Appointment

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ford and seconded by Councillor Pollett that the Town of Gander appoint Mayor Farwell to the Board of Directors for Central NL Waste Management.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Taxi Licenses

Council reviewed an application to operate a taxi service under the name of Crossroads Taxi. There are vacant licenses available and Council is prepared to approve the application in principle, conditional on all other requirements of the Taxi and Limousine Regulations being met.

Motion #21-222

Taxi Licenses

Moved by Deputy Mayor Ford and seconded by Councillor Hoffe Crossroads Taxi five licenses be approved conditional on all other requirements of the Town of Gander Taxi and Limousine Regulations being satisfied.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillors Woodford, Brown, and Pollett left the meeting due to conflict of interest.

Nav Canada Tax Agreement

Council reviewed a Tax Agreement with NAV CANADA, which expires on December 31, 2021. There is an automatic renewal clause, which will come into effect should neither party request modifications.

NAV CANADA is a great corporate citizen, contributing to many aspects of our community. The provisions of the Tax Agreement is based on air traffic volumes, thus accounts for the challenging economic climate for the aviation sector. Council has no concerns with the Agreement as it has proven fair to both parties.

Councillors Woodford, Brown, and Pollett returned to the meeting due to conflict of interest.

G. Other Reports:

None

7. ADMINISTRATION

None

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None

9. NEW BUSINESS

Banking Services

The Town of Gander's banking services contract with the Royal Bank of Canada is due to expire December 31, 2021. A request for proposals for banking services was issued with five bids received. A Committee was established which included three Town staff to review and evaluate each proposal. The recommendation from the Committee was to award the banking services to the Royal Bank of Canada.

Motion #21-223

Banking Services

Moved by Councillor Hoffe and seconded by Councillor Woodford the request for proposal # 21-05 for banking services be awarded to the Royal Bank of Canada for a four-year period from 2022 to 2025.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Change Order 5 – Gander Sports Complex

In Contract Change Order #1 for the Gander Sports Complex, Council approved to compensate the contractor for unforeseen site conditions which included the excavation of unsuitable material, placement of geogrid, imported rock and comm fill. Within those discussions, there was one item still being disputed by the contractor during and following the signing of the Change Order. The execution of Contract Change Order #5 will bring full and final closure to that portion of the project.

Motion #21-224

Change Order 5 – Gander Sports Complex

Moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Brown that Contract Change Order # 5 for Gander Sports Complex be approved in the amount of \$15,915.20 HST inclusive.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Rogers Hometown Hockey

If you didn't see the exciting news this week - Rogers Hometown Hockey is coming to Gander!

On December 18-19 from 11am-5pm, head to the Steele Community Centre parking lot for an exciting weekend of hockey-related activities including; NHL® Alumni appearances, free food, live music, and Covid-friendly fun for the whole family! Tickets for this event are available NOW by visiting – www.hometownhockey.com

While the festival wraps up Sunday evening, the excitement is just beginning! Join Ron MacLean and Tara Slone on Monday, December 20 at 8:30pm as they broadcast live from the Gander Airport International Lounge. You'll get to watch the game between the Montréal Canadiens vs New York Islanders at the Airport along with hundreds of fellow fans, while celebrating Gander's hockey history and pride. Tickets for this event are also available NOW by visiting – www.hometownhockey.com

As we receive more information, we'll release the details, so keep checking the Recreation & Community Services Facebook page.

Councillor Hoffe left the meeting due to conflict of interest.

McCurdy Enterprises Press Release

The Town of Gander is pleased to announce the resolution of outstanding legal matters with the McCurdy Group of Companies in relation to the Spruce Court Development. Both parties have been engaged in a legal dispute since 2014. This is an important step, allowing the community to realize the vision of Spruce Court's master plan.

As our community emerges from COVID 19, confidence in Gander's economy is strong and opportunities for growth are at hand. Council looks forward to working with the McCurdy Group and other developers and ensuring the supply of quality residential land to support development as part of our recovery and growth. Council is pleased that this dispute has been settled, signaling that the Town of Gander is open for business.

The McCurdy Group has been an active economic contributor and employer since 1969 and has been instrumental in helping to grow our community.

Motion #21-225
McCurdy Enterprises

Moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Handcock that that the previously approved conditions to the development permit for Phase 14 be amended to approved revised working for condition # 8 which states:

8. The developer shall provide a construction schedule 10 working days in advance of commencing site work, allowing the Town of Gander time to co-ordinate inspection staff.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Hoffe returned to the meeting.

Art Procurement

Council acknowledged the submissions of local art as part of the Town of Gander Art Procurement Program. Some of the items displayed will be added to the growing collection of Art that the Town of Gander has procured to highlight the wonderful work within the community.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion #21-226
Adjournment

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

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

P. Farwell, Mayor

B. Hefford, Town Clerk