

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council
Wednesday, October 19, 2016 @ 4:30 pm
Council Chambers

Present:

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

Advisory and Resource:

D. Chafe	Chief Administrative Officer
G. Brown	Town Clerk
S. Fisher	Deputy Municipal Clerk
J. Blackwood	Director of Engineering
P. Fudge	Fire Chief
D. Quinton	Director of Development (A)
N. Newell	Director of Recreation & Community Services

Regrets: C. Elliott Mayor

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

Wounded Warriors Presentation

The Director of Recreation presented a picture to the Deputy Mayor from the Wounded Warriors as a gesture of appreciation for the 9/11 ceremonies held in Gander this year.

Tidy Towns Presentation

Councillor Anstey advised that at the recent Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Conference in October the Town of Gander was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for the Town's efforts in community enhancement.

3. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Motion #16-202

Minutes for Approval

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Dove that the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of Council on September 28, 2016 be adopted as presented.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5. REPORTS – STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Recreation & Community Living:

The Recreation & Community Living report was presented by Councillor Lorenzen.

The Recreation & Community Living meeting was held on October 13, 2016. The meeting was chaired by W. Lorenzen, Councillor. Other members present included: B. Dove, Councillor; R. Anstey, Councillor; N. Newell, Director of Recreation & Community Services; K. Sceviour, Special Event Coordinator.

The following items were discussed:

Review of Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were reviewed and approved.

Festival of Flight Report

The Special Event Coordinator updated the Committee on the 2016 Festival of Flight. She advised that there were 33 events, 10 of which were hosted by the Town of Gander. There were many positive comments from the public regarding the Opening Ceremonies, Kitchen Party as well as the Gander Day celebrations at Cobb's Pond Rotary Park. She indicated that the Crafter's Market was not as successful as anticipated due to another similar event nearby at the same time but overall attendance was good at all events. The fireworks were also a highlight of this year's festival back at Cobb's Pond Rotary Park with both high level and nautical fireworks.

The Department was pleased with Gander Day at the Pond and feels that with recommendations from this year on how to improve on activities, it will continue to be successful at this location.

The Special Event Coordinator left the Committee meeting.

Town Crier

The Committee discussed the idea of having a Town Crier for various events. This could potentially be someone with knowledge on the history of the Town of Gander that could be shared with visitors from bus tours, conferences, special events, etc. The Committee feels this is something that should be referred to the Gander Heritage Committee for their consideration and the Recreation and Community Services Committee would consider their feedback.

Arts and Culture Centre Swimming Pool

Council met with the Hon. Dr. John Haggie, Minister of Health & Community Services, on Wednesday, Oct 5th, to discuss the Arts & Culture Centre Pool closure due to the issue with the roof trusses. He advised that an update on the pool would be provided soon and the Director will notify Council at that time. Council is aware that the status of the swimming pool is a major loss to recreation in Gander and to the many individuals who rely on the swimming pool, especially the Gander Lakers Swim Club.

Gander Flyers Contract

The Director met with a representative from the Gander Flyers and noted that the proposed contract for the upcoming 2016-2017 season has no changes from the previous year. This is being referred to the Finance committee for their consideration.

Cobb's Pond Rotary Park Boardwalk re Bicycles

The Director advised that she had received an e-mail regarding bicycles on the boardwalk. Since the re-opening of the new boardwalk, there have been a number of reports with regard to bicycle use. The current rules and regulations indicate that no bicycles are permitted on the boardwalk. There have been questions surrounding bicycles with training wheels, tricycles as well as children using the boardwalk from streets connecting the boardwalk to the Cobb's Pond Park area. The Director advised that there is a safety issue with having bicycles on the boardwalk but there may be exceptions. A meeting is scheduled with the Rotary Club on October 20th to discuss this further. An update will be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.

Upcoming events

- Oct 20 & 21: Haunted House
- Oct 21 – 23: Gander Flyers Training Camp
- Oct 29: Come From Away Play
- Nov 4: Cobb's Pond Rotary Park Boardwalk Official Opening

B. Development, Tourism & Culture Committee:

The Development, Tourism & Culture Committee report was presented by Councillor McBreairty.

The Development, Tourism & Culture Committee was held on October 11, 2016. The meeting was chaired by S. McBreairty, Councillor. Other members present included: W. Lorenzen, Councillor; R. Anstey, Councillor; R. Locke, Development Director; D. Quinton, Development Officer.

The following items were discussed:

Review of Previous Minutes

The Committee reviewed and discussed the Minutes of the previous meeting. No changes were required.

Tourism Pre-Planning Session

The Director provided the Committee with an overview of the "Tourism Pre-planning session" held on Thursday September 29th. The goal of the session was to provide information on the local tourism industry, explain the roles of each stakeholder and determine the next steps for proceeding with a potential tourism action plan for the Town of Gander.

Presenters included:

- **Tourism Development Officer, Department of Business, Trade, Culture and Rural Development** who provided information on tourism trends and patterns as well as tourists demographic information such as; who is coming to Gander, how they arrive and what they wish to experience during their stay.
- **Product Development Manager, Adventure Central** who provided highlights of their Destination Development Plan. Some of the findings specific to the Gander region are as follows:
 - Improved communication strategy required between regional tourism operators (ie. Hours of operation, seasonal versus year-round operators),

- Need to identify “Community Gems” who are community ambassadors with a passion for the history of Gander and would like to share their stories with others,
- Identification of opportunities to collaborate on regional tourism initiatives (such as festivals/events and the development of driving and dining itineraries).
- **Regional Planner, Department of Business, Trade, Culture and Rural Development** who provided an overview of the Opportunity Management (OM) process which included the following:
 - In addition to helping the Town identify and define its role in Tourism Development, the Opportunity Management process will provide a clear understanding of the needs of the business and community sectors in terms of municipal support. This can be achieved through a transparent, fair and inclusive OM process that evaluates potential opportunities so that ideas can be scored and ranked using a number of pre-determined, weighted criteria.

After discussion and consideration, the Committee feels that this is a worthwhile initiative and will proceed with recommending establishment of a Steering Committee following a review of Council’s Rules of Procedures.

Update: Business Coffee Break

The Director informed the Committee that a “Business Coffee Break” has now been scheduled for Wednesday October 26th from 9:30-11:00am at “The Bread Box” (136 Bennett Drive).

This event is going to be a great opportunity to network and chat (over a free coffee) with local business leaders and stakeholders. All are encouraged to attend.

This free event is proudly sponsored in partnership with the Town of Gander, Business Development Bank of Canada and the Gander Community Business Development Corporation.

Downtown Revitalization

The Director provided the Committee with information regarding past efforts to coordinate a Downtown Revitalization project.

Although the Committee feels that revitalization of the downtown is needed, they feel that there are other major projects that require Town resources at this point.

With that said, they have asked staff to attend the upcoming meeting with the Civic Enhancement Committee and present their ideas during a future Committee meeting. In addition, the Committee asked staff to research other downtown revitalization projects that has been implemented in similar communities.

Gander International Airport Authority (GIAA) proposed access off Cooper Blvd.

The Committee reviewed a request from the GIAA for a proposed direct access off Cooper Blvd. to be located across from Dominion as per the drawing attached.

The Committee is in support of this intersection as it will open more land for development thereby; increasing the Town's tax base and allowing for future economic growth.

They also noted that the initial reason for the Town taking ownership of Cooper Blvd. was to access land for development purposes. Ownership of Cooper Blvd. also provided the Town with more authority for the development along Cooper Blvd.

The Committee is referring this item to the Engineering Committee for their review, consideration and recommendation to Council.

If the Engineering Committee is not in agreement with this request, the Economic Development Committee would like to see alternate options for this proposed direct access.

Doctor Recruitment

The Committee discussed ways in which both staff and/or Council could become more involved in Physician recruitment. This item was brought forth as a result of a recent meeting with our MHA, Minister Haggie.

After much discussion about potential options for proceeding, it was determined to invite Minister Haggie's Constituency Assistant, Ms. Jackie Watkins, to attend a future Committee meeting.

Ms. Watkins can provide insight about what role the Town of Gander can play in relation to Physician recruitment.

C. Governance & Community Engagement:

The Governance & Community Engagement Committee report was presented by Councillor McBreairty.

The Governance & Community Engagement Committee meeting was held on October 11, 2016. The meeting was chaired by C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor. Other members present included: W. Lorenzen, Councillor; S. McBreairty, Councillor; D. Chafe, CAO.

The following items were discussed:

Delegation

Council allocated in its 2016 budget, funding for the purchase and implementation of the community information mobile application, PingStreet. At a previous Committee meeting staff recommended against the purchase of PingStreet stating that they did not feel the application would satisfactorily meet the needs and expectations of the community. Staff was directed to bring forward a more suitable mobile application option.

The Manager of Information Systems presented the Committee with an in-house developed application similar in functionality to PingStreet but more flexible and customizable. As an in-house product there are significant savings in upfront and annual maintenance expenses.

The Committee was impressed with the new application and has directed staff to proceed with its implementation.

Review of Previous Minutes

The Committee reviewed and discussed the Minutes of its September 20th meeting. One change was required under the item "Ban on Plastic Bags".

The statement,

"Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador is considering a motion by the City of St. John's, which, if adopted, would see the province wide ban of all plastic shopping bags."

Should have read,

"Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador is tabling a motion, which, if adopted, would see the province wide ban of all plastic shopping bags."

Council's Rules of Procedure

The Committee reviewed the proposed amendments to Council's Rules of Procedure.

Earlier this year, Council indicated that they would like the ability to establish Citizen Advisory Committees to advise Council on matters and issues under consideration. To this end, it will be necessary for Council to amend its Rules of Procedure as follows:

Under section 35 (c) – Special Committees - the Committee is recommending the following addition:

Citizen Advisory Committee:

A Citizen Advisory Committee is a body that provides non-binding strategic advice to Council or a Standing Committee of Council on matters and issues under consideration by Council. They may be established for a number of reasons including to investigate specific opportunities or to lead special community initiatives. Citizen Advisory Committees may be ongoing or for special short term projects.

These Committees are made up primarily of citizens and should be representative of the community. A Councillor liaison may be assigned to sit on the Committee.

A second change arises from a citizen's recent inquiry regarding the posting of Council Minutes following each public meeting. Council's Rules of Procedure currently requires that Minutes be posted within three (3) working day of a Council meeting. While this is achievable under ideal circumstances, there are many instances when Minutes cannot be properly prepared and reviewed in such a short period. The Committee feels that increasing the requirement from three (3) to seven (7) working days is more achievable.

The Committee is recommending that Section 11 – Minutes - be amended to reflect this change.

There were five other minor changes correcting typographical errors, grammar and terminology. A full listing of the proposed amendments is attached.

The Committee requested an additional amendment as follows:

Under Section 12 - Agenda - Public and Committee Meetings - the addition of the following statement:

The Agenda of each meeting must be adopted by Council or the Committee prior to the discussion of any item on said agenda.

The Committee presents the proposed amendments to Council's Rules of Procedure to Council for its first reading.

Regional Meeting update

The CAO updated the Committee on the planning activities for a proposed meeting of community leaders from the Central Region. To date, we have received expressions of interest from eight communities. Staff will be developing a budget for this meeting for consideration during the 2017 budget planning process.

Meeting with Provincial and Federal Representatives

Council recently met with Gander MHA, Minister John Haggie, to discuss a number of outstanding issues including, funding for a new wastewater treatment facility, multi-year funding and physician recruitment. Council recognizes the importance of maintaining regular and productive dialogue with our provincial and federal representatives and would like to schedule regular quarterly meetings with Minister Haggie and annual meetings with MP Scott Simms. Staff has been asked to make the appropriate arrangements.

Shared Services Implementation Study

Last year, Council entered into an agreement with the Gander International Airport Authority to share services and resources in an effort to increase the efficiency and cost effectiveness of our respective organizations. A significant part of that agreement called for the co-location of the Town's Public Works and Services Department to the Airport's Maintenance Garage. Co-location would not only help improve operational efficiency, but would also eliminate the need for a new Town Maintenance Depot, potentially saving taxpayers over \$15M. Upon signing the agreement a Special Joint Technical Committee was established to work through the requirements for co-location.

The Committee recently completed its work and submitted a report of its findings. The concise report summarized the thoroughness of the work undertaken and factors considered by the Committee. Findings indicate that co-location is possible but comes with challenges including a capital investment of more than \$4M.

With higher priority investments, including a new wastewater treatment facility and the potential investment in a second ice surface, the Committee feels that it cannot commit to the capital costs of co-location.

Management has been asked to work with the representatives of the Airport Authority to revisit the terms of the Shared Services Agreement and identify the best way forward in the absence of the co-location piece.

Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW)

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers advising Council of a second opportunity for municipalities to have input into the Government of Canada's review of Canada Post and the delivery of postal services. CUPW representatives state that the closing or privatization of up to 800 offices and outlets located in small or rural towns is under consideration. An enclosed attachment advises municipalities on how to provide input through the completion of an online survey and attendance at public consultations to be held across the country.

The Committee supports the retention of Canada Post services and has asked staff to complete the online survey in accordance with Council's position. Residents wishing to have their opinions and concerns heard can find the survey at www.parl.gc.ca/OGOO-e.

Resident Inquiry

The Committee reviewed correspondence from a resident seeking answers as to the reason why the Minutes of Council's September 7th, 2016 meeting had not been posted online within three days of the meeting as required by Council's Rules of Procedure. The CAO advised the Committee that he had investigated the inquiry and could not pinpoint a single cause. There were a number of staff absences immediately following this meeting resulting in delays in the preparation and review of the Minutes. He also advised the Committee that Management is working on the protocol for the preparation and review of Minutes that will mitigate delays due to staff absences.

The resident also expressed his position that Minutes, especially those preceding a formal motion, should be more detailed in providing information on why the motion is required and the impact of the decision. The Committee agrees that more information should be included in the Minutes and has asked Management to keep this in mind when preparing the Minutes.

The Committee would like to thank this resident for their input.

D. Engineering, Planning & Controls:

The Engineering, Planning & Controls Committee report was presented by Councillor Parrott.

The Engineering, Planning & Controls Committee meeting was held on October 14, 2016. The meeting was chaired by G. Parrott, Councillor. Other members present included: C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor; S. McBreairty, Councillor; J. Blackwood, Director of Engineering; J. Hillier, Administrative Assistant.

The following items were discussed:

Invoice – H. Wareham and Sons Ltd. Contract #3, Airport Boulevard

The Committee reviewed an invoice from H. Wareham and Sons Ltd. for the Airport Boulevard Contract and the Director advised the Committee that the invoice is slightly over budget. The Director explained the overage is due to unforeseen additional work that was required.

The Committee agreed that the invoice should be paid and refers this to the next Privileged meeting of Council for its review and consideration.

Department of Municipal Affairs – Highway Sign Regulations

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Department of Municipal Affairs which indicated that an amendment has been made to the Highway Sign Regulations 1999 under the Urban and Rural Planning Act.

The Amendment states a municipality may now obtain more autonomy to regulate signage along provincially maintained and constructed highways located within a municipal planning area.

The Director informed the Committee that as a municipality, the Town can apply for exclusions to the regulations to the Province. The Committee discussed this amendment and feels that it should be forwarded to the Economic Development Committee for their review and consideration.

Development Application – 303 and 299 Magee Road

The Committee reviewed two separate development applications for dog/cat boarding facilities at 303 and 299 Magee Road. The Director advised that both requests have been advertised and several letters of representation had been received regarding the applications.

The Committee reviewed the letters and has taken them into consideration. The Committee feels that this type of establishment is needed within the Town of Gander and recognizes that Magee Road is one of the only area in town that is zoned for this type of use.

The Director informed the Committee of the descriptions of the proposed developments for the boarding facilities and recommends that the applicants adhere to the provisions on their respective development applications.

The Committee agreed with the Director.

Motion #16-203

Development Application – 303 Magee Road

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Lorenzen approval of the development application for 303 Magee Road as presented.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Motion #16-204

Development Application – 299 Magee Road

Moved by Councillor Parrott and seconded by Councillor Dove approval of the development application for 299 Magee Road as presented.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

64-66 Elizabeth Drive Development

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the owner of 64 - 66 Elizabeth Drive requesting permission from Council to place a loading dock on town property annexed to the existing buildings at the rear of that property.

The Director advised that the request, as presented, would be in conflict with existing town infrastructure and would cause accessibility issues for snow clearing and emergency services and for these reasons is recommending that the application be denied.

The Committee discussed alternative options to accommodate the request of the property owner and the Committee was in agreement for the Engineering Department to contact the owner to discuss these alternatives.

GIAA Proposed access off Cooper Boulevard

The Committee reviewed a request from the Gander International Airport Authority that was forwarded from the Economic Development Committee. The GIAA are requesting a proposed direct access off Cooper Boulevard to be located across from Dominion.

The Director of Engineering informed the Committee that in the past, several other businesses have also requested this access but have been denied. The Director also indicated that one of the main reasons for not approving this access, across from Dominion, was due to the lack of sight lines as this access would be at the crest of a hill. The Director advised that the Engineering Department is not in agreement with this access and has suggested that perhaps a traffic study be carried out for that area to seek a professional opinion.

The Committee is not in agreement therefore refers this item back to the Economic Development Committee and recommends to have a traffic analysis completed.

E. Public Works & Services:

The Public Works & Services Committee report was presented by Councillor Anstey.

The Public Works & Services Committee was held on October 11, 2016. The meeting was chaired by R. Anstey, Councillor. Other members present included: G. Parrott, Councillor; B. Dove, Councillor; P. Fudge, Fire Chief; J. Blackwood, Director of Public Works (A); W. Jenkins, Municipal Officer In Charge; L. Small, Administrative Assistant; G. Whitt, Administrative Support Clerk.

The following items were discussed:

Review of Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.

Fire Prevention Week

The Fire Chief reminded the Committee that Fire Prevention Week takes place from Oct 9-15th. There will be an open house held at the Fire Hall on Saturday October 15th, from 10:00 to 4:00 pm. All residents are invited to drop by, view the fire hall, ask questions, take photos with the trucks etc. and enjoy a moose burger. There will also be a mini Fire-Fit Challenge set up for the children to try out.

The Fire Chief and Administrative Assistant left the Committee meeting.

Invoices for Approval

The Committee reviewed one invoice from Continental Carbon Group for \$ 18,570.83 for Anthracite, a material used in the Water Filtration System.

The Committee also reviewed two invoices from Central NL Waste Management; one in the amount of \$ 28,225.56 for the tipping fees and another for \$ 26,353.41 for collection fees for September.

The Acting Director of Public Works & Services advised the Committee that all goods and services had been received and met the Town's specifications. The Committee recommends that the invoices be forwarded to the Finance Committee for its consideration.

NL Snowmobile Federation – Trail Bridge

The Acting Director of Municipal Works reviewed correspondence received from the NL Snowmobile Federation. This was a letter of request to utilize Town of Gander heavy equipment to relocate the groomed trail and install a new bridge located at Third Pond, Indian Bay Waters. This area covers approximately 10-15 km and would include the grubbing of vegetation in preparation of a new trail.

The Committee discussed the request and recommends that the NL Snowmobile Federation submit an application for Equipment Loans. This should include details of the scope of work including approximate time to complete it and the site location.

F. Finance & Administration:

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

The Finance & Administration Committee was held on October 17, 2016. The meeting was chaired by B. Dove, Councillor. Other members present included: C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor; G. Parrott, Councillor; G. Brown, Director of Finance.

The following items were discussed:

99 Sullivan Avenue Land Expropriation

The Committee reviewed the issue of private land being used on a section of the road between the 99 Sullivan Avenue and DND properties accessing the back of Gander Academy. There is a section of land measuring 26m² where the access road is encroaching on private property.

Council had made an offer to the owner of the property and he has refused the offer. He is requesting 170m² of land in compensation for the 26m² that the Town wishes to take ownership of.

The Finance Committee discussed the proposed swap and does not think that it is equitable. It also discussed moving of the road to take it off the property owner's property. This is very difficult to do as there is infrastructure in the area that prohibits moving of the road, specifically a fire hydrant and a major transmission line. As an agreement cannot be reached, the Finance Committee is recommending that Council expropriate the land.

Motion #16-205**99 Sullivan Avenue Land Expropriation**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Parrott that the Town of Gander write the Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting permission to expropriate the land more particularly described in Red Indian Survey #G-16-163.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Invoices for ApprovalOPERATING

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Stewart McKelvey | 12,786.65 |
| 00-120-1000-7220, legal fees | |
| Budget 39,200 Spent to date 29,181 | |
| 2. Municipal Assessment Agency | 35,525.00 |
| 00-120-1000-7200, assessment services | |
| Budget 145,000, Spent to date 109,718 | |

AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS & SERVICES COMMITTEE OCTOBER 11, 2016

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 3. Continental Carbon Group | 18,570.83 |
| 00-400-1000-6405, Anthracite 1180 KG sacs | |
| Budget 34,000, Spent to date 38,348 | |
| 4. Central Newfoundland Waste Management | 28,225.56 |
| 00-430-1000-7007 total tipping fees September | |
| Budget 347,900, Spent to date 247,523 | |
| 5. Central Newfoundland Waste Management | 26,353.41 |
| 00-430-1000-7008 curbside collection fees September | |
| Budget 301,800, Spent to date 206,636 | |

Total operating invoices for approval \$121,461.45

Motion #16-206
Invoices for Approval

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Lorenzen that the invoices be paid as presented.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Central Newfoundland Waste Management

The Committee reviewed a letter from Central Newfoundland Waste Management regarding curbside collection. It addresses the issue of curbside collection fees and how much the fee would decrease if all Town's in the region participated. CNWM indicates that the rates would go from \$79.00 per household to \$75.20 a household which would save the Town of Gander approximately \$16,000 a year.

Tender – Asphalt Crack Sealing

The Committee reviewed the tender results Asphalt Crack Sealing for which one bid was received. The bid that met the specifications was from Crown Contracting.

Motion #16-207
Tender – Asphalt Crack Sealing

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor McBreairty that the tender for Asphalt Crack Sealing be awarded to Crown Contracting at a price of \$2.68 per linear metre, HST inclusive.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Business Tax Write Offs

The Committee reviewed a list of outstanding business taxes for write off. These businesses have gone out of business and have no assets to pay the outstanding taxes.

Motion #16-208
Business Tax Write Offs

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Parrott that the tax write offs be approved, as attached.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Collective Agreement Amendment between the Town of Gander and Unifor

The Committee reviewed an MOU proposing to amend the current Collective Agreement between the Town and Unifor. It would eliminate the Playground Attendant and Cobb's Pond Attendant wage classifications and in the future, these individuals would be paid under the Facility Attendant rate.

Motion #16-209
Collective Agreement Amendment between the Town of Gander and Unifor

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Parrott that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and Unifor modifying the Collective Agreement, as attached.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Gander Flyers Contract

The Committee reviewed the Gander Flyers Contract as recommended by the Recreation Committee. The Contract is the same as it was in the previous year.

Motion #16-210
Gander Flyers Contract

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor McBreairty that the Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to sign the Contract with the Gander Flyers for 2016 – 2017 season.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

6. REPORT ON MNL CONFERENCE

Councillors in attendance at the recent MNL conference in early October concluded that the conference was well presented and a number of interesting topics were discussed. The following are highlights summarized by those in attendance.

- Municipal Assessment Agency is currently doing a study on how properties are being assessed and the result of such study will determine if changes are required;
- the Insurance Bureau discussed the recent trend of increasing claims directly related to climate change;
- the Town of Gander was present with a Certificate of Recognition for its efforts in community enhancement;
- the towns request for a resolution to have the Provincial ATV regulations reviewed were approved; a representative from Dale Carnegie presented an overview of the program and the benefits to such a program;
- Municipalities were reminded that the Federal Government is very serious about meeting the new Wastewater regulations. It was identified that 117 communities have yet to start work to ensure that these regulations can be met.

It was overall very informative and a great networking opportunity at which the Provincial Government made all cabinet ministers available. It was suggested that a Director presence would be beneficial in the future.

7. ADMINISTRATION

None.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Heritage Advisory Committee: Historical Aviation Project - JCP Project

The Town of Gander, in partnership with the Heritage Advisory Committee, was successful in securing funding in the amount \$67,431.00 through the provincial Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour.

This funding will see the hiring of four JCP participants (2 project Coordinators/Administrators and 2 Site Preparation Labourers).

This project is designed to enhance Gander's tourism potential by highlighting the importance of its aviation history and the role the airport played during WWII. It will identify up to twenty locations in Gander which have historical significance to the community, the province, the country and the world. We want visitors to leave with more than a guided tour of these sites; we want them to remember the significance of each one and be able to reference it following their visit. Promotional materials including print materials such as a travel brochure and digital materials such as a link on the Town's website and a walking tour app will be developed. Some sites will need to be marked and trails groomed whereas others will only need to be promoted and added to the materials.

As the proponent of the project, the Town of Gander will work with a sub-committee designated by the Heritage Advisory Committee to ensure the successful completion of this project.

Motion #16-211

Heritage Advisory Committee – Historical Aviation Project – JCP Project

Moved by Councillor McBreaity and seconded by Councillor Anstey that the Town accept the funding offer from the Provincial Government for tourism development with the project to be carried out in conjunction with the Heritage Advisory Committee.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

H. Wareham & Sons Invoice

The Engineering Committee considered an invoice from H. Wareham & Sons Ltd. for construction of a section of Airport Boulevard. This is a unit price contract and is over budget by \$22,400 due to some quantities being higher than estimated. The project is being funded under the Federal Gas Tax program.

Motion #16-212

H. Wareham & Sons Invoice

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Parrott that the Town pay H. Wareham & Sons Ltd \$221,398.13 for Progress Claim #4.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Plastic Shopping Bags

Whereas Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador (MNL) passed a motion in 2015 to ask the province to introduce a single-use plastic bag ban after the issue was raised by Portugal Cove-St. Phillips

Whereas the Board of Directors of Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador on September 12, 2016, has written the Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change requesting the formation of a joint committee to explore a Provincial Ban of single use plastic bags.

Be it resolved that the Town of Gander write a letter to the province supporting the resolution passed by MNL in 2015 as well as the Board of Directors leadership on its letter to the Province dated September 12, 2016.

Motion #16-213

Plastic Shopping Bags

Moved by Councillor McBreairty and seconded by Councillor Parrott that the Town of Gander write a letter to the province supporting the resolution passed by MNL in 2015 as well as the Board of Directors leadership on its letter to the Province dated September 12, 2016.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Stewardship Association of Municipalities (SAM)

Councillor Lorenzen provided an update on the SAM Meetings he attended in Happy Valley – Goose Bay on September 23 – 25, 2016.

Hurricane Matthew

Deputy Mayor Abbott stated that Gander received rain fall well in excess of normal amounts. The Director of Engineering provided details of the sequence of events. Town staff worked continuously during and after the rain fell to monitor water levels throughout town including at the Gander Lake pumphouse. Water levels at the lake rose by approximately 2 metres and threatened the operation of the pumphouse. Fortunately through the efforts of our staff and some help from mother nature we did not lose the use of the pumphouse.

Deputy Mayor Abbott indicated that while many upgrades to infrastructure had proved successful in preventing reoccurring floods in most areas unfortunately some residents still experienced flooding. Water and Sewer staff are currently contacting those affected to gather information on the details of the flooding. This information will be reviewed to help determine if other measures can be taken to help alleviate this situation in the future. Residents who were affected are asked to advise the town as this will aid in the review of problem areas.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion #16-214

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 6:00pm.

C. Abbott, Deputy Mayor

G. Brown, Town Clerk