

TOWN OF GANDER MEETING REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL Wednesday, October 15, 2025, 04:00 PM Council Chambers

Council Present:

Percy Farwell, Mayor Tara Pollett, Deputy Mayor Sheldon Handcock, Councillor Jim Lidstone, Councillor Krystle West, Councillor Samantha Abbott, Councillor

Staff Present:

Brad Hefford, Chief Administrative Officer/Town Clerk/Director of Governance and Legislative Services
Kelly Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services
Doyle Whitt, Director of Planning and Public Works, Acting
Jerry Knee, Director of Community Services
Dave Shea, Fire Chief
Kayla White, Manager of Communications, Branding and Partnerships

Regrets:

Pat Woodford, Councillor

James Blackwood, Director of Planning and Public Works

Alexa Oldford, Manager of Governance and Legislative Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Farwell at 4:00 pm.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Farwell delivered the Land Acknowledgement.

3. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

There were no visitors or presentations.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council was presented for approval.

Resolution: 25-227

Moved By Councillor Pollett

Seconded By Councillor Handcock

THAT the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Pollett, Councillor Lidstone,

Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

5. ADMINISTRATION

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Election of Deputy Mayor

As per section 37 of the Towns and Local Service District Act, at the first public meeting of the new council, Councillors shall elect a Deputy Mayor.

A motion to nominate a member of the six Councillors for the position of Deputy Mayor was requested.

Resolution: 25-228

Moved By Councillor Handcock Seconded By Councillor West

THAT I Sheldon Handcock, nominate Councillor Tara Pollett for the position of Deputy Mayor. Ms. Pollett accepted the nomination. With no other nominations brought forward, Tara Pollett is named the Deputy Mayor for the Town of Gander.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Pollett, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.2 Adoption of Council Schedule for 2025

Council is required as part of their obligations under the Towns and Local District Act to meet a minimum of once per month. Council, for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year will embark on a three-week council cycle. Committee recommends that the following council schedule be adopted for the remainder of 2025.

Regular Meeting of Council

Every 3rd Wednesday commencing October 15, 2025 @ 4:00 pm

Committee of the Whole

Every 3rd Tuesday commencing October 28, 2025 @ 12 noon

Every 3rd Wednesday commencing October 29, 2025 @ 12 noon

Resolution: 25-229

Moved By Councillor Abbott Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT the following council schedule be adopted for the remainder of 2025. Regular Meeting of Council to be held every third Wednesday, beginning October 15, 2025, and the Committee of the Whole meetings to be held every third Tuesday and Wednesday, beginning October 28 and 29, 2025.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.3 GACC Conference & Luncheon Sponsorship

The Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting sponsorship for their 2nd annual Central Business Connections conference to be held in Gander on Oct 22nd. The full day conference will feature seminars conducted by business experts on various fields such as finance, leadership, work-life balance, and business / government support.

Councillor West left the Chambers at 4:07 pm after declaring a conflict of interest due to being a member of the board with the Chamber of Commerce.

Resolution: 25-230

Moved By Councillor Abbott

Seconded By Councillor Handcock

THAT Council provide a donation of \$500 to the Gander Area Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a luncheon at the 2nd Central Business Connections conference to be held in Gander on Oct 22nd.

For (5): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock,

Councillor Lidstone, and Councillor Abbott

Conflict (1): Councillor West

Carried (5 to 0)

Councillor West returned to Council Chambers at 4:09 pm.

6.4 Arrears Sale - By-Law, 1st Reading

The Arrears Sale By-Law grants Council the authority to conduct arrear sales for properties which are delinquent in municipal tax and levies.

Resolution: 25-231

Moved By Councillor Handcock Seconded By Councillor Pollett

THAT the proposed amendments to the Arrears Sale - By-Law be proposed for the 1st reading, as attached.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.5 Variance from Regulations - Accessory Building, 4 MacLean Place

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of Gander has received an application to construct a garage at the above noted address which will exceed the total permitted height for accessory buildings in a residential zone. The proposal is an accessory building with a total height of 6.05 metres.

It is noted that this property is situated in a Residential Medium Density zone which restricts the maximum accessory building height to 5.50 metres. The Town Council of

Gander may vary their regulations to a maximum of 10%.

There were no objections received by the advertised deadline.

Resolution: 25-232

Moved By Councillor Handcock Seconded By Councillor Abbott

THAT Council approve the application to construct a garage 6.05m high at 4 MacLean Place, which exceeds the permitted height of 5.5m by 10% in accordance with the Town of Gander Development Regulations.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.6 NL Antique and Classic Car Club

A request was submitted to sponsor a meet and greet as part of the annual NL Antique and Classic Car club's central meet. The sponsorship amount is \$1500.

Resolution: 25-233

Moved By Councillor Lidstone Seconded By Councillor Pollett

THAT the sponsorship for the NL Antique and Classic Car club central meet be approved in the amount of \$1,500.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.7 40th Anniversary of Arrow Air Disaster Commemoration

The Town of Gander will commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Arrow Air Disaster with a special ceremony on December 12, 2025. A planning committee has been established, comprising representatives from 9 Wing Gander, the Town of Gander, the North Atlantic Aviation Museum, and the Gander Ministerial Association.

As part of the observance, an Ecumenical Service will be held at Evangel Church, followed by a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Silent Witnesses Memorial. Family members of those lost, along with individuals who assisted at the site, will gather to honour and remember this significant milestone.

This event is open to the public and for further information, please call 709-651-5927.

6.8 Upcoming Events

The following events are taking place from Oct 16 - Nov 5/25.

- Oct 17 19: U15 AAA Male Hockey Tournament
- Oct 18, 25, Nov 1: Gander Grow Co Farmers Market
- Oct 23 26: School Sport NL 2A Soccer Provincials
- Oct 24 26: U13 AAA Female Hockey Tournament
- Oct 26: Halloween Skate
- Oct 28 30: Haunted House, 90 Armstrong Blvd
- Oct 31 Nov 2: U13 AAA Male Hockey Tournament

For further information, please call the Community Services Department at 709-651-5927 or email recreation@gandercanada.com.

6.9 Gander Golf Course Culverts

During the 2025 public budget consultations, the Gander Golf Club requested the Town provide culverts to replace existing and in-kind assistance to carry out the work. This item was not budgeted. However, funds will be re-allocated from the community partnership fund and departmental savings.

Resolution: 25-234

Moved By Councillor Pollett

Seconded By Councillor Handcock

THAT Council approve invoice # 6-373133 from Armtec Limited Partnership in the amount of \$19,553.82 plus HST.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

6.10 NL Housing & Homelessness Network - Request for Sponsorship

The NL Housing & Homelessness Network is requesting sponsorship for their provincial conference held in Gander from Oct 7-9, 2025. There were approximately 150 participants in attendance. The conference helps bring people together to learn about what's going on in the province to address housing and homelessness in rural and remote communities and help strengthen the relationship that it takes to do this work.

Resolution: 25-235

Moved By Councillor West

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT Council provide a donation of \$500 to the NL Housing & Homelessness Network for their convention held in Gander from Oct 7-9, 2025.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.11 Property Tax Reduction

The Committee reviewed one application for residential property tax reduction that met the Council's policy based on income criteria. The total amount to be adjusted is \$598.44. Since the beginning of 2025, the Town of Gander has issued 26 property tax reductions totaling \$20,899.41, as attached.

Resolution: 25-236

Moved By Councillor West Seconded By Councillor Pollett

THAT that the property tax reduction be approved as presented.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.12 Telephone System Replacement

The Town of Gander's current telephone system is set to be discontinued on December 31,

2025. To avoid any significant disruption to municipal communications, it is crucial to implement a replacement system before this date. Bell, the longstanding and current provider of telephone services for the Town of Gander, has proposed a solution that enables a seamless migration to a new system. This solution will integrate with the Town's existing communications infrastructure and includes the porting of all municipal phone numbers to the new platform.

Resolution: 25-237

Moved By Councillor Handcock Seconded By Councillor Abbott

THAT Council award the upgrade to voice over IP phone system to Bell at the cost of \$13.77/month, per telephone line, plus HST, for a three-year term.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

6.13 MNL, Call for Board Nominations

Council is advised that the call for board nominations is open with a closing date of October 22, 2025. The positions of: President, Vice President, Small Town's Director and Urban Municipalities Director, are available for two year terms.

Resolution: 25-238

Moved By Councillor Pollett Seconded By Councillor Abbott

THAT Mayor Percy Farwell be nominated for the position of Vice President.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Farwell requested a motion for adjournment,

Mayor Far	Mayor Farwell requested a motion for adjournment			
Resolution	n: 25-239			
Moved By	Councillor Handcock			
Seconded	By Councillor Pollett			
THAT the	meeting be adjourned at 4:24 pm.			
For (6):	Mayor Farwell, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott			
	Carried (6 to 0			
well, Mayor				

B. Hefford, Town Clerk



Effective the 16th day of April, 2025. Motion #25-084



1.0 Title

1.1 This document shall be referred to and cited as the "Arrears Sale By-Law."

2.0 Adoption

2.1 Whereas Section 7 of the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act* requires that a Council shall adopt an *Arrears Sale By-Law*, the Town Council of the Town of Gander hereby enacts the following.

3.0 Definitions

- **3.1** "Town Clerk" shall mean the Town Clerk of the Town of Gander.
- 3.2 "Town" shall mean the Town of Gander.
- 3.3 "Council" shall mean the Town Council for the Town of Gander.
- **3.4** "The Act" shall mean the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act.*
- 3.5 "Arrears" means unpaid taxes, fees, or other financial obligations as defined under the Act, as amended.
- 3.6 "Appellant" means a person who files an appeal pursuant to section 5 of these By-laws.
- 3.7 "Arrears Sale" means the sale of real property by the Town to recover unpaid real property taxes, water and sewer fees, or local improvement fees in relation to the real property.
- 3.8 "Auction" means a public auction conducted pursuant to section 6.4 of these By-laws.
- 3.9 "Bidder" means a member of public in attendance in person at an Auction.

4.0 Hierarchy of Authority

4.1 This by-law is enacted pursuant to the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act*. In the event of a conflict, the provisions of the *Act* or other higher-level legislation shall prevail.

5.0 Application

5.1 This by-law applies to the sale of real property for which a notice of arrears has been served in accordance with Division 8 of the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act.*

6.0 Procedures

6.1 Resolution

6.1.1 Council shall, by resolution, direct the sale of real property by arrears sale upon confirmation by the Town Clerk that the arrears notice was served under Section 146 of the *Act*.



6.2 Notice of Arrears Sale

- **6.2.1** The Clerk shall serve notice of arrears sale on all parties with a legal interest in the property, including owners, mortgagees, judgment creditors, lienholders, or other persons having a charge or encumbrance upon or against the real property.
- **6.2.2** Recipients may appeal within 14 days of notice service, in accordance with the provisions of section 151(2) of the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act*.
- **6.2.3** If no appeal is filed, the Town Clerk may proceed to advertise the real property for public auction.

A person receiving notice of an Arrears Sale pursuant to section 151(1) of the Act may, within 14 days of service of the notice, file an appeal with the Town.

An appeal under section 1 of these By-laws shall be in writing, setting out in detail the grounds for the appeal and including supporting documentation.

The appeal shall be a rehearing by Council of the decision taken under section 150 of Act and shall be considered at a special meeting of Council.

The Appellant may attend the special meeting of Council referred to in section 7 but shall have no right to make oral submissions at such meeting.

At the special meeting of council referred to in section 3, Council shall make one of the following decisions:

- a.) deny the appeal and direct that written reasons for the decision be provided to the Appellant.
- b.) allow the appeal and rescind the resolution directing the property be sold by arrears sale: or
- c.) require further information of the Appellant or staff and adjourn the meeting to a determined date.
- 6.2.4 If an appeal is filed, the auction cannot proceed until the appeal is resolved.

Where an appeal has been filed, the property subject to the appeal shall not be advertised for sale at an Auction until the appeal has been decided.

6.3 Advertisement

6.3.1 The notice shall be published at least 30 days before the auction date, stating the time, place, and description of the property, in compliance with Section 292 of the *Act*.

6.4 Arrears Sale by Public Auction

- **6.4.1** The Town Clerk shall conduct the arrears sale by live or sealed-bid auction. The sale shall be publicly advertised, allowing all interested parties to bid.
 - For sealed-bid auctions, the Town shall specify the deadline, submission process, and any required deposit or documentation. Bids shall remain confidential until opened by the Town Clerk in the presence of an independent witness. The highest compliant bid shall be accepted if it meets or exceeds the arrears or minimum bid set by Council.

An Arrears Sale shall be conducted by a public auction at the time and in the place within the Town referred to the advertisement issued under section 151(5) of the Act.



6.4.2 The Town Clerk shall sell as much property as needed to recover all outstanding amounts, including taxes, water and sewer fees, local improvements, interest, and sale-related expenses. If proceeds are insufficient, additional portions may be sold without further notice to the owner but in accordance with applicable laws.

The Auction shall be conducted as follows:

- a.) Council may engage a professional auctioneer or other person to act as auctioneer, and in the absence of such person being engaged, the Clerk shall be the auctioneer.
- b.) At the time advertised for the commencement of the Arrears Sale, the doors to the room in which the Auction is being conducted shall be secured so as to allow no new Bidders to enter.
- c.) The auctioneer shall identify the property available for sale by stating the civic address and the names of the owners identified on the tax roll, if any
- d.) Where an Auction is being conducted pursuant to section 152 of the Act:
 - i.) the auctioneer shall state the minimum bid for the property, being the amount equal to the outstanding taxes, fees and interest in respect of the property together with the expense's incidental to the Arrears Sale.
 - ii.) the auctioneer shall call for bids at the minimum bid and then in increasing increments of not less than \$100.00 until there is no Bidder for such increment; and
 - iii.) if, after calling three times for a higher bid no higher bid is made, the auctioneer shall declare the highest Bidder the successful purchaser of the property.
- e.) Where an Auction is being conducted pursuant to section 153 of the Act:
 - i.) the auctioneer shall state the starting bid for the property, being the amount equal to the outstanding taxes, fees and interest in respect of the property together with the expense's incidental to the Arrears Sale.
 - ii.) the auctioneer shall call for bids at the starting bid and (x) if there is a bidder for such amount call for bids in increasing increments of not less than \$100.00 until there is no Bidder for such increment, or (y) if there is no bidder for such starting bid call for bids in such increments as the auctioneer shall determine until there is a Bidder; and
 - iii.) if, after calling three times for a higher bid no higher bid is made, the auctioneer shall declare the highest Bidder the successful purchaser of the property.
- **6.4.3** The Town may bid on properties to recover arrears, subject to provincial regulations and Town policies.
- **6.4.4** The successful bidder must immediately pay in full or provide a deposit covering all arrears, fees, and sale expenses. If the bidder fails to comply, the Clerk shall immediately re-offer the property for sale.



- **6.4.5** Upon sale completion, the Clerk shall issue a receipt and property summary. The sale is not final until a legally binding conveyance is completed per Section 6.10.
- **6.4.6** The sale excludes Crown claims, pre-existing easements, and other exempt encumbrances. The purchaser accepts the property "as is," subject to these conditions.

6.5 Additional Notice for Unsuccessful Arrears Sale

- **6.5.1** If a property remains unsold at the scheduled arrears sale due to insufficient bids or inability to meet outstanding amounts, the Town Clerk shall:
 - **a.)** Postpone the sale to a new date, not less than one (1) week and not more than two (2) weeks from the original date.
 - **b.)** Issue notice of the new sale date to all individuals entitled to receive notice under Section 6.2 of this by-law.
 - **c.)** Publish an announcement of the rescheduled sale in accordance with Section 292 of the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act*, specifying the updated date, time, and location; and
 - **d.)** Proceed with efforts to sell the property at the new public auction date.
- **6.5.2** At the rescheduled auction, the property may be sold for any reasonable amount that can be realized.

6.6 Void Arrears Sales

- **6.6.1** If an arrears sale is deemed void due to procedural errors, irregularities, or other valid reasons, the lien on the property shall remain in effect as if the sale had not occurred.
- **6.6.2** The Town retains the authority to re-sell the property unless all taxes, fees, interest, and expenses are paid in full.

6.7 Allocation of Sale Proceeds

- 6.7.1 The Town shall apply the proceeds of the auction in the following order: accordance with section 155 of the Towns and Local Service Districts Act.
 - a.) Taxes, water and sewer fees, local improvement fees, and interest owed to the Town;
 - b.) Any remaining balance shall be handled as per Sections 6.7.2 to 6.7.5.
- 6.7.2 If the surplus funds are less than \$200, they shall be paid directly to the former property owner.
- **6.7.3** If the surplus funds are \$200 or more:
 - a.) They shall be paid to the former owner if no claim is filed within ninety (90) days of the sale; or
 - b.) They shall be deposited into the Supreme Court if a claim is filed by another party within the ninety (90) days.
- **6.7.4** The Town Clerk shall notify individuals entitled to receive surplus funds, specifying the balance and the procedure for filing a claim within the prescribed timeframe.
- **6.7.5** If the former owner cannot be located, any surplus funds shall be deposited with the Supreme Court.
- **6.7.6** Payment into the Supreme Court fulfills the Town's obligation, and the Supreme Court may distribute the funds to the rightful claimant upon application.



6.8 Consequences of Non-Payment by Purchaser

- **6.8.1** The Town Clerk shall re-offer the property for sale at the public auction without delay if the successful bidder at an arrears sale fails to:
 - a.) Pay the full purchase price immediately; or
 - b.) Provide a deposit equal to the outstanding taxes, fees, interest, and expenses.

6.9 Assessment of Sold Property

- **6.9.1** After an arrears sale, the property shall be assessed to the purchaser or their legal successors.
- **6.9.2** If the Town purchases the property, it shall be assessed in the name of the Town.

6.10 Transfer of Ownership After Arrears Sale

6.10.1 Following an arrears sale, the Town Council shall issue a legally binding conveyance of the property to the purchaser. This document shall be executed in the name of the Town, signed by the Mayor and the Town Clerk (or another person authorized by the Council), and sealed with the Town's official seal.

Following receipt of payment in full of the bid amount, the Town Council shall issue to the successful bidder a valid conveyance in registrable form.

- **6.10.2** The conveyance shall:
 - a.) Serve as definitive proof that all statutory requirements under the Towns and Local Service
 Districts Act related to the arrears sale of the property have been fully satisfied, and all
 actions necessary to legally complete the sale have been performed; and
 - b.) Transfer ownership of the property to the purchaser, or their legal successors, free and clear of encumbrances, except for any claims by the Crown or pre-existing easements.

7.0 General Provisions

- **7.1** Errors or irregularities in the sale process do not discharge liens, which remain enforceable under Section 154 of the *Act*.
- **7.2** All actions taken under this by-law shall adhere to the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Town.

8.0 Regular Review of the By-Law

8.1 The Town Council shall review this by-law every two (2) years to assess its effectiveness and identify potential areas for improvement or amendment.

9.0 Effective Date

9.1 This by-law shall become effective upon the 16th day of April, 2025 by Motion #25-084.

10.0 Publication

10.1 This by-law will be posted to the Town's Website following adoption by Council.

11.0 Repeal of Previous By-Law

11.1 No prior by-laws are repealed by this by-law.







VARIANCE FROM REGULATIONS 4 MacLean Place

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of Gander has received an application to construct a garage at the above noted address which will exceed the total permitted height for accessory buildings in a residential zone. The proposal is an accessory building with a total height of 6.05 metres.

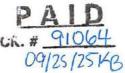
It is noted that this property is situated in a Residential Medium Density zone which restricts the maximum accessory building height to 5.50 metres. The Town Council of Gander may vary their regulations to a maximum of 10%.

Anyone wishing to make representation on this matter must do so in writing and the representation must be received by the Engineering Department, Town of Gander, no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, October 6, 2025.

Further information on this matter may be obtained by contacting the Engineering Department at 651-5915.

John Boland Planning & Control Technician Town of Gander 100 Elizabeth Drive Gander, NL A1V 1G7

TOWN OF GANDE! DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION Planning & Control



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LEGEND

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WAYNE HODDER SURVEYS

REAL PROPERTY REPORT FOR

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PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION APPROVAL FORM

Department: Submitted By: Date Submitted:

Property Tax Reductions - Residential - Year 2025						
Roll Number	2025 Property Tax	% of Reduction	Amount of Reduction	Revised 2025 Taxes		
	\$		\$	\$		
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025, the Town of G	me criteria. The total amour	nt to be adjusted is \$ property tax reduct	ions totaling \$	on that met the Council's . Since the beginning of , as attached. s presented.		

The Town of Gander's current telephone system is set to be discontinued on December 31, 2025. To avoid any significant disruption to municipal communications, it is crucial to implement a replacement system before this date. Bell, the longstanding and current provider of telephone services for the Town of Gander, has proposed a solution that enables a seamless migration to a new system. This solution will integrate with the Town's existing communications infrastructure and includes the porting of all municipal phone numbers to the new platform. The quoted cost from Bell is \$13.37 per telephone line, plus HST, for a three-year term.