

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Regular meeting #1 for 2021 of the Grand Bank Town Council was held on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the 50+ Club.

Mayor Rex C. Matthews, Deputy Mayor Clayton Welsh, Councillors George Bennett, Roger Brooks, Jack Burfitt, Stan Burt (via telephone) and Rick Grikis attended along with Town Manager Wayne Bolt, Town Clerk Sheila M. Dolimount, and Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Tom Burton. Administrative Clerk Michelle Patten was working at the Town Office.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION 2021-3327: R. GRIKIS/J. BURFITT

Motioned that the agenda be adopted with addition to New Business: 11(e) Collective Agreement – Grand Bank Recreation Commission and (f) 50th Anniversary Gifts

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

3. **DELEGATION** NONE

4. **ERRORS AND OMISSIONS – DECEMBER 14, 2020**

Councillor Burt stated he wanted to add to the minutes that he left the meeting to attend interviews with the Fire Department, and Councillor Grikis for personal reasons.

5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOTION 2021-3328: C. WELSH/G. BENNETT

Motioned that the minutes of the Regular Meeting for December 14, 2020 be approved as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2021-3329: C. WELSH/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the minutes of the Special Meeting for December 21, 2020 be approved as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – DECEMBER 14, 2020**

a. **Warming Centre**

Deputy Mayor Welsh questioned if there was any further discussion on the Warming Centre. Mayor Matthews advised that Town Manager Bolt and himself have spoken to Fire and Emergency Services, and advised that we are still in the early stages of gathering information.

b. **Meeting with Clearwater**

Councillor Burt questioned if any meetings had been arranged with Clearwater Seafoods. Mayor Matthews advised they have been very busy with the sale of the Company, however, he will check with Clearwater staff to see what can be arranged.

c. **Grand Bank/Fortune Ambulance**

Councillor Burfitt advised that recently some work has been done by Bennett's Construction to the ambulance bay to allow water to drain off the floor in the bay area.

d. **Joint Town Community Council**

Councillor Grikis advised that there still has not been a meeting of the Joint Town Community Councils however they are hoping to have a zoom meeting soon.

e. **Service NL**

Councillor Grikis questioned if a letter was forwarded to Service NL regarding the shortage of Environmental Health Officers on the Burin Peninsula. He explained that the department is short two people, with no one to do water sampling on the Burin Peninsula,

they have to come from Clarendville. It was agreed to write Service NL and the Executive Staff concerning this issue.

f. Tender for Dam

Councillor Grikis questioned if the meeting and site visit was held regarding the work on the Dam. Town Manager Bolt advised that the meeting and site visit had taken place.

g. Frazer Park Light-up

Mayor Matthews questioned Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton if the issue with the lights at Frazer Park has been worked out for next year. The Mayor was advised that this problem has been corrected.

7. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

a. Concerned Citizen

Received a complaint regarding property on West Street – garbage around the property, burning toxic materials, music playing constantly, etc.. Mayor Matthews advised that a meeting was held with the Town Solicitor and she is looking at some options/direction for the Town on this matter.

b. RMCP

Received an email advising they are setting up a Zoom meeting with the District Policing Officer and proposing this meeting be held on January 28, 2021 at 1900 hours. Councillors Bennett and Grikis attended.

c. Eastern Health

Received an email regarding the Wellness Grant Program. Applications must be submitted by February 1, 2021. Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton advised he spoke with CYN regarding the grant.

d. Grand Bank Volunteer Fire Department

Received a letter advising of the 2021 Executive.

MOTION 2021-3330: S. BURT/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank approve the appointment of Tony Snook, as Fire Chief for another two years, and the Executive for another one year period.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

e. Epilepsy NL & Lab

Received an email requesting we light up the Town Hall purple for Epilepsy Awareness Day which is March 26th.

f. John Burke High School Graduation

Received a letter from the parents of the Class of 2021 that was hand delivered by Ms. Ruth Piccolo requesting Council's help with arranging a special event for the Graduating Class of 2021, they suggested four options. A copy of the letter will be sent to all councilors for their input and comments before the Town replies to this correspondence.

8. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

a. Department of Environment, Climate Change and Municipalities

Received a letter advising that funding has been approved for the Community Enhancement Project number -17-CEEP-21-166 for an additional \$411.37.

b. RCMP

Received an email regarding ATV use in the community.

c. Department of Justice and Public Safety

Received an email advising that the application period for submission of applications for the cost shared equipment and vehicle program is from January 1 to March 31, 2021.

d. Department of Environment, Climate Change and Municipalities

Received a letter acknowledging receipt of the 2021 Municipal Budget.

e. Reaching Home: Rural and Remote NL Funding Stream

Received an email regarding the “Reaching Home: Canada’s Homelessness Partnering Strategy”.

f. Ronald McDonald House

Received a thank you letter for the \$100.00 donation from the Town and also a certificate of appreciation.

g. Grand Bank Fire Department

Received a list of four new members; Mike Warren, Evan Matthews, Clarke Rideout and Jessica Bolt.

h. Concerned Citizen

Received a letter regarding garbage left near the waterfront heading towards Grand Bank Seafoods Inc. Councillor Burfitt advised that he had spoken to the gentleman about the garbage and he will make sure it is cleaned up.

i. Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador

Received an email regarding heritage and historic preservation in Newfoundland and Labrador.

j. Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador

Received the 2021 MNL Membership Letter regarding renewals.

k. Eastern Health

Received an email invitation to attend a Zoom meeting focused on Seniors and Mental Health. Deputy Mayor Welsh advised that he was registered to attend however he became ill and was unable to attend.

l. Burin Peninsula Joint Council

Received an email advising they will not be requesting membership payments for 2021.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Finance Committee

Deputy Mayor Clayton Welsh, Committee Member, presented a written report of a meeting the Committee held on January 20, 2021.

Item #4: After some discussion, it was agreed that Town Manager Bolt speak with all parties and construct a report on the claim to be presented to the Finance Committee.

MOTION 2021-3331: C. WELSH/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the Finance Committee report of January 20, 2021 be approved with the deletion of item #4.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2021-3332: C. WELSH/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank submit its Capital Investment Plan to the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Municipalities for Gas Tax funding in the amount of \$21,565.95 for Waste Water Effluent Monitoring and Sampling.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2021-3333: C. WELSH/S. BURT

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank appoint Innovative NL to be the Town's engineers for the COVID-19 Stimulus Program Project No. 17-CSP-21-088, Nature Trail Upgrades and Repairs.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

b. Development Committee

Deputy Mayor Clayton Welsh, Committee Chairperson, presented a written report of a meeting the Committee held on January 20, 2021.

MOTION 2021-3334: C. WELSH/R. BROOKS

Motioned that the Development Committee report of January 20, 2021 be approved as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

10. OLD BUSINESS

a. Nature Trail Upgrades

Town Manager Bolt advised that with the approval of the engineers, Innovative NL, they will now proceed with tender preparation.

b. RCMP: Speeding & Properties

Mayor Matthews questioned what the RCMP will be doing with the properties in the community. Councillor Grikis stated that the properties have been decommissioned and are to be passed over to Crown assets. Councillor Burfitt questioned with the number of deaths in Grand Bank would the Town need to build a new building versus taking over the RCMP Detachment building. The Town Manager noted that according to the RCMP this building has major structure deficiencies that would cost approximately \$2 million to correct.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. RCMP – Zoom Meeting

Councillor Grikis advised that along with Councillor Bennett, he attended the Zoom meeting with the RCMP on January 28, 2021. They pointed out that the biggest reason for the RCMP to be downsizing their properties, etc., is money. It was stated they would need \$87 million to run the service to full capacity. This is approximately a \$14 million increase over their current budget.

b. Provincial Properties

Mayor Matthews advised that there are a number of provincial properties in the community that could be on the chopping block should there be major cutbacks in provincial spending, they are: the Courthouse, the Health Care Centre, Department of Highways, John Burke High School, Blue Crest Home, Blue Crest Cottages, Public Library, Seamen's Museum and RCMP Detachment. Councillor Burfitt suggested that if those services are taken, no one will want to come here to live. Mayor Matthews questioned if there shouldn't be consultation with Council before any properties are cut; everyone agreed.

c. Affordable Housing

Mayor Matthews questioned Deputy Mayor Welsh and Councillor Burfitt on why the GBDC couldn't provide a building or buildings that could be rented by Seniors or businesses. Deputy Mayor Welsh advised that GBDC can't own property. He will check it out to confirm.

d. Special Request Lighting

Mayor Matthews advised that Town Clerk Dolimount and himself spoke with a representative of Government House to get information on their lighting system. He advised that they have a very expensive system, however the Town could look at something on a smaller scale. After some discussion, it was agreed that Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton get some prices on the lighting.

e. **Collective Agreement – Grand Bank Recreation Commission**

MOTION 2021-3335: C. WELSH/J. BURFITT

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank ratify the Collective Agreement for the Grand Bank Recreation Commission for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

f. **50th Wedding Anniversary Gifts**

Councillor Burfitt questioned if there a solution to the gift ideas for people celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. He had a number of people ask him why they didn't receive anything for their 50th when other people did. Town Clerk Dolimount was asked to get the cost of a picture for the gift.

12. **COUNCILLORS FORUM**

a. **Wharf**

Mayor Matthews inquired if there was any work being done on the wharf since an individual was down there taking pictures for a third party. Councillor Burfitt advised that the Harbour Authority was asked to provide photos of the wharf as well, but the Harbour Authority is not aware of any work being planned for the wharf at this time.

b. **Signs**

Councillor Grikis advised that the signs look good on the Town vehicles.

c. **Thanks**

Clr. Grikis thanked the outside staff for all the great work that they do on a daily basis.

d. **Private Practice**

Deputy Mayor Welsh questioned if there was anything the Town can do to attract someone to open a private medical practice. Mayor Matthews stated the Town would have to work in co-operation with Eastern Health on any such initiative.

e. **Chlorine Smell**

Deputy Mayor Welsh advised that he heard from a couple of people concerning the smell of chlorine in their lines. Councillor Grikis advised it is due to water settling in the pipes overnight, and also people at the beginning of a line would smell it stronger then people at the end of a line.

f. **Boil Order**

Deputy Mayor Welsh questioned, when there is a boil order in Fortune, why doesn't the Town of Grand Bank have one. Councillor Grikis stated that we have a holding tank where Fortune doesn't, and we have an independent and separate chlorine system at our pumphouse where all water is treated.

g. **Poop Containers**

Deputy Mayor Welsh asked if the Town can install more poop containers on the Nature Trail during the upcoming project.

h. **Addresses**

Deputy Mayor Welsh questioned why the Town would not give the GBDC a list of all business addresses in our Town. Town Clerk Dolimount advised it is against the Privacy Act, they would be required to fill out the appropriate privacy forms and get approval first.

i. **Mental Health Plan**

Deputy Mayor Welsh advised that all Councillors should have received a copy of the Mental Health Plan being put forward by the Community Coalition for Mental Health & Wellness on the Burin Peninsula.

j. Summer Festival

Councillor Brooks questioned if there are any plans in place to have a virtual festival this year.

k. Community Youth Network (CYN)

Councillor Brooks advised that Foodland presented a cheque to CYN in the amount of \$16,753 to go towards their programs.

l. Skating Area

Councillor Burfitt questioned if it would be possible to install a skating area in the community park. Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton was asked to contact the City of Mount Pearl to see what they are doing.

m. Swimming Pool

Mayor Matthews asked Deputy Mayor Welsh and Recreation /Operations/ Maintenance Director Burton to investigate ways to open the swimming pool in a safe manner this year.

13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN OFFICIALS

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2021-3336: R. BROOKS/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the meeting adjourn at 4:10 p.m.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED