

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Regular meeting #12 for 2019 of the Grand Bank Town Council was held in the Council Chambers at the former Federal Building on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 2:05 p.m.

Mayor Rex C. Matthews, Deputy Mayor Clayton Welsh, Councillors George Bennett (via telephone), Roger Brooks, Jack Burfitt, and Rick Grikis attended along with, Town Clerk Sheila M. Dolimount, and Recreation Director Tom Burton. Councillor Stan Burt is out of town for medical reasons, Town Manager Bolt is on vacation and Administrative Clerk Michelle Patten is working.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION 2019-3206: C. WELSH/J. BURFITT

Motioned that the agenda be adopted with the addition to 10. New Business (d) Water Quality.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

3. **DELEGATION**

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOTION 2019-3207: R. GRIKIS/G. BENNETT

Motioned that the minutes of the Regular Meeting for November 20, 2019 be accepted as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2019-3208: C. WELSH/R. BROOKS

Motioned that the minutes of the Special Meeting for November 27, 2019 be accepted as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

a. **Burin Peninsula Regional Service Board (BPRSB)**

Deputy Mayor Welsh questioned if everyone now have their roll-out bins. Town Clerk Dolimount advised that there was no response back to the Town from the BPRSB this week to advise otherwise.

b. **Christmas Dinner**

Councillor Burfitt questioned why the Grand Band Development Corporation and Grand Bank Harbour Authority wasn't invited to the Town's Christmas Dinner and feel they should be invited each year. Mayor Matthews advised that we adjusted the list to invite some citizens to be recognized for what they do for the Town. It was agreed the Christmas list would be reviewed for next year.

c. **Paving**

Mayor Matthews advised that no more paving will be done this year, they will grade the new parking lot behind the businesses on Church Street and put some Class A for now and complete it in the spring.

d. **Burin Peninsula Joint Councils (BPJC)**

Councillor Grikis advised that he attended the Annual General Meeting of the BPJTC on November 30, 2019. He advised it was a good meeting.

e. **Budget**

Mayor Matthews advised that he received some good comments regarding the 2020 Budget.

6. **INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION**

a. **Grand Bank Regional Theatre**

Received a letter requesting to meet with Council regarding a fundraising presentation. Mayor Matthews questioned when would be a good time to hold this presentation, Councillor Burfitt and Deputy Mayor Welsh both suggested setting up the presentation early in the New Year.

7. **INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Municipal Assessment Agency (MAA)**

Received an update on the Municipal Assessment Agency.

b. **Department of Municipal Affairs & Environment**

Received the Procurement Policy Professional Services.

c. **Burin Peninsula Chamber of Commerce**

* Received a letter advising the call for nominations for election of Directors for 2020 is due by Thursday, December 12, 2019.

* Received an email regarding the proposed minimum wage increase
Councillor Burfitt advised that the GBDC will be seeking a seat on the Chamber Board.

d. **Thank you**

Received a thank you card from Minnie Burt.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. **Finance Committee**

Councillor Rick Grikis, Committee member, presented a written report of a meeting the Committee held on December 11, 2019.

MOTION 2019-3209: R. GRIKIS/C. WELSH

Motioned that the Finance Committee report of December 11, 2019 be accepted as presented.

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 December 11, 2019.

MOTION 2019-3210: C. WELSH/J. BURFITT

Motioned that the Development Committee report of December 11, 2019 be accepted with item 3a being deferred.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Downtown Redevelopment Update**

Mayor Matthews advised that the contractors are hoping to have some of the sidewalks poured today and the parking lot leveled and Class A placed in the area so the parking lot can be used for the winter. Mayor Matthews advised the lights are to be installed around January 10, 2020.

b. Town Hall Preliminary Consultation

Mayor Matthews advised that the engineers will be here on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, around 1:00 - 1:15 p.m.

c. Christmas Eve Breakfast

Mayor Matthews advised that the Town's Christmas Eve Breakfast will be held on December 24, 2019 at the 50+ Club beginning at 10:00 a.m.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Emergency Plan

Councillor Burfitt advised that he has been reviewing the Emergency Plan and that the last time it was updated was 2016. He felt that the Grand Bank Harbour Authority should be included in the Plan when it is reviewed. Mayor Matthews advised that a meeting was held with Eastern Health with regards to a control centre being available.

b. Termination of Water Cap-off Policy

POLICY #78

SUBJECT: Termination of Water Services Policy:

When a property owner decides to change the status of their residential property, or demolish their property, and no longer requires water and sewer services to that parcel of land or dwelling, they will make a written request to Council to cancel all applicable taxes and fees.

This request will then be submitted to the Finance Committee of Council for their review and recommendation to Council.

If the request from the property owner is approved by Council, the Town will instruct their Public Works and Services employees to turn-off the water at the standpipe, and to take other reasonable steps as may be necessary to ensure the water is permanently off to the property. Employees of the Town will monitor those properties from time to time to determine the water has not been restored without Council's knowledge and consent.

Once the employees have taken action to permanently terminate the water supply to the said property, they will notify the Town Office and the property owner's taxes will be adjusted from the date the office is notified.

MOTION 2019-3211: R. GRIKIS/G. BENNETT

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank accept policy #78 - Termination of Water Services Policy as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

c. Tax Sales Policy

POLICY #77

SUBJECT: Tax Sales Policy:

Tax accounts that are into their 3rd year of arrears and not paid by June 30th of that year are subject to Tax Sale Proceedings, and the property may be sold at Public Auction.

If the owner of property notifies the Town in writing prior to the 3rd year that they don't intend to pay the outstanding taxes then the Town will include this property in a Tax Sale.

The Town will strive to hold at least one Tax Sale each year depending on the tax arrears of the property. The property will be advertised as required by the Municipalities Act prior to the Tax Sale. Tax Sales notices will be mailed by regular

mail to the last known address of the property owner. If no address is known, the Tax Sale Notice must be posted on the premises.

Once a date has been established for the next Tax Sale, the public will be able to access an up-to-date listing of properties up for the Tax Sale. The Tax Sale will be a public auction with the successful bid being the highest bid at or above the total of all outstanding taxes, interest and expenses (Tax Sale costs). Only at the end of the process, if the property has not been bought back, will the title pass to the successful bidder.

After all costs and expenses associated with the Tax Sale are determined, any surplus money received for the property will be forwarded to the property owner.

MOTION 2019-3212: C. WELSH/J. BURFITT

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank accept policy #77 - Tax Sales Policy as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

d. Water Quality

Councillor Grikis advised that he and Mayor Matthews discussed an issue with respect to a resident who had an aqua colour stain on their garment after washing the item. Aging copper water pipes in anyone's home can result in the water turning acidic. The acid is from carbon dioxide dissolving in the water and appears as a blue stain on garments or fabrics. The staining may or not be permanent.

11. COUNCILLORS FORUM

a. Grand Bank/Fortune Ambulance

Deputy Mayor Welsh inquired to the Town's Ambulance Committee members if they were aware of giving gifts to the Ambulance workers during the Christmas dinner. They advised they were not aware of this.

b. Lighting 50+ Club

Deputy Mayor questioned the Recreation Director about the lighting over the 50+ Club door. Recreation Director Burton advised they are working on the electrical for the light.

c. Walkway – 50+ Club

Deputy Mayor Welsh inquired about the walkway into the 50+ Club. Recreation Director Burton advised that the Town Manager would be looking at this in the Spring.

d. Frazer Park

Councillor Bennett inquired who set up the lights at Frazer Park, it was nice to see. Councillor Burfitt is responsible for the set up. Councillor Brooks suggested contacting CONA to see if they could weld together something that could be used for lights. It was agreed that Councillor Burfitt and Recreation Director Burton arrange a meeting with CONA. Councillor Grikis thanked Councillor Burfitt for taking the initiative to get the park decorated with lights.

e. Ambulance Meeting

Clr Burfitt advised having a meeting set up in the New Year with the Town of Fortune to discuss the Ambulance. It was suggested the books be transferred from Fortune to Grand Bank every third year.

f. Wharf - Clearwater

Mayor Matthews advised that the survey work around the wharf near the Clearwater plant has been completed and the issue positively resolved.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN OFFICIALS

a. Christmas Parade

Recreation Director Burton advised that the parade went over very well, however, there was an issue with Santa Claus leaving the parade before it was over. The other issue was the sale of bulbs by the Fire Department for MS.

Deputy Mayor Welsh and Councillor Burfitt left the meeting at this time due to a conflict of interest.

b. Grand Regional Theatre Agreement

Town Clerk Dolimount advised that an agreement needs to be in place between the Town and the Grand Bank Regional Theatre.

MOTION 2019-3213: R. GRIKIS/R. BROOKS

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank approve a one (1) year agreement between the Grand Bank Regional Theatre and the Town regarding taxes for 37 Grandview Blvd.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Welsh and Councillor Burfitt returned to the meeting at this time.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year greetings was expressed by all.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2019-3214: R. GRIKIS/R. BROOKS

Motioned that the meeting adjourn at 3:35 p.m.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED