

**MINUTES  
PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING  
July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

A public council meeting held at the Town of Stephenville Town office on Thursday July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The meeting was also streamed.

Present	Tom Rose	Mayor, Chair
	Laura Aylward	Councillor
	Tracy Boland	Councillor
	Tristan Hulan	Councillor (attended online via teams)
	Lenny Tiller	Councillor
	Myra White	Councillor
Absent:	Susan Fowlow	Deputy Mayor, Chairperson
Staff:	Colin Maddock, CAO	
	Jennifer Brake, Town Clerk	

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rose called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

**Land Acknowledgement**

We respectfully acknowledge the Town of Stephenville as the ancestral homeland of different populations of Indigenous people. We also acknowledge with respect, the rich histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, Innu and Inuit of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**23-210** White/Tiller  
Be it resolved that the agenda be approved as presented.  
In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,  
Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**23-211** Tiller/White  
Be it resolved that the public meeting of council minutes for June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, be approved as presented.  
In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,  
Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

## MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

## PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None

## Committee Reports

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor White presented the recommendations from the finance committee meeting held on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### Remission of Tax

**23-212**

White/Aylward

Be it resolved to write off Remission of Tax in the amount of \$948.44 & Refunds of \$485.26.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

#### Amend Motion 22-294 - Stephenville Airport Corporation

**23-213**

White/Aylward

Be it resolved approval to amend Motion No. 22-294 that the Town of Stephenville, upon the sale of the airport properties in fiscal year 2023 will write-off & pro-rated property and business tax to the date of sale and all outstanding interest related for the Stephenville Airport Corporation. Estimated Property tax and business tax with interest up to December 2023 is \$417,374.59.

In Favor: 5 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, White,

Opposed: 1 Tiller Motion Carried

#### Accounts Payable June 2023

**23-214**

White/Tiller

Be it resolved approval to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$191,967.15.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

#### Expense Cheques June 2023

**23-215**

White/Aylward

Be it resolved approval to pay Expense Cheques in the amount of \$451,782.11.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**Approval Letter 17-GI-24-00025 Russell Heights Reconstruction**

**23-216**

White/Boland

Be it resolved approval to accept the cost-shared funding agreement as outlined from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure approval letter for Project Number 17-GI-24-00025 Russell Heights Reconstruction with a total project value of \$ 1,248,821. The Town of Stephenville agrees to provide municipal share of 20% totaling \$226,494 for this project 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 Stephenville.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**Approval to Submit – Application for Canada Community Building Fund for Wastewater Treatment Plant**

**23-217**

White/Boland

Be it resolved approval to submit a Capital Investment Plan Application to the Canada Community Building Fund Secretariat, Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs in the amount of \$95,423.76 HST included, to restore flow from the wetland beds and install fence around clarifiers.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**Adoption, Consolidated Financial Statements for the Period Ending December 31, 2022**

**23-218**

White/Aylward

Be it resolved approval to consolidated Financial Statements for the period ended December 31, 2022, and Annual Expenditure Report, Local Gas Tax Funding Agreement for the Year ended December 31, 2022 as presented.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**Request for Funding - Art Fest Stephenville Event**

**23-219**

White/Aylward

Be it resolved to pay supplementary invoices for Art Fest Stephenville events in the amount of \$ 4550.53.

In Favor: 3 Aylward, Rose, White

Opposed: 3 Boland, Hulan, Tiller

Motion Defeated

Question was called before the vote, the Mayor explained the invoices were part of the four-day Art Fest Event, which was filmed by PBS and will be included in the PBS documentary to be broadcast. The invoices were for sound/audio and dinner. He explained as part of the commitment for the PBS event, we had to cover the costs of the hotel for the Mayor of Lake City and CEO of Artfield; because Lake City, South Carolina paid for mine and staff members accommodation during our visit. The invoices for the hotel and the

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dinner were equivalent, who paid the invoices was switched. With Fabian Janes Production paying the hotel invoice. The Art Fest Event was over budget by \$1600.00 if you compare costs for the accommodation verses the dinner. This was part of the art Fest events but also supporting the PBS production.

### **Request for Advertising – Atlantic Business Magazine**

**23-220**

White/Boland

Be it resolved to decline advertising in Atlantic Business Magazine.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

### **Public Meeting Platform**

**23-221**

White/Aylward

Be it resolved that the public meeting of council not be live streamed effective August 10, 2023 and members of the public are welcomed to attend the public meeting of council in person.

Councilor Tiller stated we should be looking at ways to expand options for people to view our meeting, not be more restrictive and regressing. There are individuals who don't have the option to attend in person. Councilor White said live meetings are not leading our town in a positive way, with personal vendettas against council and our community. Councilor Boland, stated the social media slander and bullying is getting harder, she expressed that she joined council for the right reasons and wants to move the community forward. Councilor Hulan, stated social media platform provides accessibility for both viewers and council members to attend and removing these options would be recessive. Councilor Aylward, expressed people have said council is doing a good job so they don't watch the meeting. Online attendance is minimum, and there are only a few individuals that are criticizing and harassing council members. She asserted management and staff are doing a good job with the resources they have. Mayor Rose indicated misinformation is circulated through social media and it resonates through the town which causes negativity. He stated when comments are directed at council that are malicious and criminal; council has legal representation that can be utilized.

In Favor: 3 Aylward, Rose, White

Opposed: 3 Boland, Hulan, Tiller

Motion Defeated

**PERMITS AND MUNICIPAL PLAN**

Councillor White presented the recommendations from the Planning and Traffic committee meeting held on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**35-49 Cornwall Heights - Nfld & Labrador Housing Corporation**

**23-222** Aylward/Boland

Be it resolved to approve a permit to renovate roof on apartment complex located at 35-49 Cornwall Heights.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**47-61 Brook Street - Nfld & Labrador Housing Corporation**

**23-223** Aylward/Tiller

Be it resolved to approve a permit to renovate roof on apartment complex located at 47-61 Brook Street.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**90-94 Queen Street - Dynamic Occupational Health Services**

**23-224** Aylward/White

Be it resolved to approve a permit to operate a health care clinic and erect a sign on the building located at 90-94 Queen Street with approval of Service NL.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**Minnesota Drive – Disposition of Property**

**23-225** Aylward/White

Be it resolved that the Town of Stephenville approve to convey a parcel of land on Minnesota Drive at fair market value for the development of collaborative care centre as advertised by the provincial government.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

Question was called; to clarify the parcel of land would be sold to the successful bidder of the tender, if they wanted to buy the land the town would sell it.

**205 Carolina Avenue - 92577 Newfoundland & Labrador Inc.**

**23-226** Aylward/White

Be it resolved to approve a permit to utilize space and erect a sign on the building located at 205 Carolina Avenue to accommodate a manufacturing business with approval of Service NL.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**24 Pioneer Drive**

**23-227** Aylward/Boland

Be it resolved to approve a permit to construct a single-family dwelling on the property located at 24 Pioneer Drive.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**1, 9 & 17 Main Street - Bell Aliant**

**23-228** Aylward/Tiller

Be it resolved to approve a permit to remove manhole rings and covers and replace with paving, at the locations in front of properties 1, 9 & 17 Main Street.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**44 Queen Street – Easy Home**

**23-229** Aylward/Boland

Be it resolved to approve a permit to install signage for Easy Home on exterior and interior of building located at 44 Queen Street as per drawings submitted with approval of Service NL.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**203 Queen Street – Life is Dandy**

**23-230** Aylward/White

Be it resolved to approve a permit to operate a home-based bath & beauty business from the residence located at 203 Queen Street with approval of Service NL.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

**45 Hillier Avenue**

**23-231** Aylward/White

Mayor Rose being the applicant, declared conflict of interest and left the council table. Councillor Aylward chaired the meeting.

Be it resolved to issue a permit to construct a 14 x 16' accessory building on land located at 45 Hillier Avenue.

In Favor: 5 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

Mayor Rose returned to the council table and resumed as Chair after the vote.

### **Kin Court – Thomas Amusements**

**23-232** Aylward/Tiller

Be it resolved to issue a permit to operate the Thomas Amusements Midway located on Kin Court for the period July 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

### **World Energy GH2**

**23-233** Aylward/White

Be it resolved to issue a permit to dig test pit holes, in consultation with the public works department. Location of testing sites as submitted may have to be modified due to municipal infrastructure.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

### **World Energy GH2**

**23-234** Aylward/Boland

Be it resolved to issue a permit to clean up site in preparation for industrial usage as submitted, on the property located at Dock Area.

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried

## **BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Councillor White**

Requested an update on the hatchery, Mayor Rose stated council will receive an update on the expansion on Monday.

### **Councillor Boland**

Councillor Boland requested an update on the Town water systems and wastewater. In response the Chief Administrative Officer, Colin Maddock stated the town is still receiving minimum support from the Town of Kippens until Well No. 1 is fixed. Next week Well No. 8B should produce another 100-200 gpm. He stated the town's water system is in good shape, and we will be in a position soon to be ready for growth. She asked for confirmation that the wells had little or no maintenance for a number of years, in response CAO stated the wells was last cleaned out in 2014 and also the sewage treatment plant is similar, with maintenance ongoing. Councillor Boland acknowledged an issue of needles and garbage being noticed on the beach and asked if this issue was related to the town's sewage treatment plant. The CAO noted once a year the sewer outfalls will clog and will

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need to be cleaned and some solids will come through the system. The beach was searched for debris, but nothing was located as the tide would have removed any items. Our system captures the solids and it's disposed at waste management.

Mayor Rose acknowledged that the sewage treatment plant and Artisan Wells were a commitment made by great leadership shown by a past Mayor, Cec Stein and council and currently the towns sewage treatment plant is in full compliance with federal regulations.

Music Fest

The music fest that occurred last summer was not a town event, the SPCA held the event and hopes next summer another can be planned.

She acknowledged and attended the North American Indigenous games taking place in Halifax. The Newfoundland athletics are doing great, and she recognized that her daughter is competing in track and field.

Send condolences to the late family of Pixie Hynes, the Mayor stated she was 108 years old.

## **Mayor Rose**

He responded to a question from Councillor Boland, stating the Town did not raise property tax but rather reduced the mil rate from 7.4 to 7.2, no change in business mil rate, and eliminated the poll tax. However municipal assessments are provincial and outside of our control. CAO noted supplementary assessments from the municipal assessment agency occurred and values of homes increased, and the mil rate is applied.

He congratulated Jean House on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the seville singers. He also praised Deputy Mayor Susan Fowlow on her two solo performances.

Stephenville Theatre Festival.

He acknowledged Stephenville Theatre Festival 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, which is the longest professional theater group in the province. He noted the STF is a primer to Broadway for actors and actresses. He praised both shows he attended, Rock of Ages and the dinner theatre and gave recognition to the Board of Directors, Manager Ben Pittman, and the Artistic Director Heather Broaden for their great work. He encouraged everyone to go see a show.

Theres a Airforce memorial at the Legion, and he noted one plane that went down remains in Bay St. George and it's been told in the right conditions aircrafts upon approach can see the plane at the bottom. Theres a gentleman flying into Stephenville tomorrow whose father went down with that plane in 1953.

Councillor Tiller

Acknowledged he met a tourist and his wife whose father served here with the base. Once the base closed, they moved back to the states, and it was his first time back. We found someone who was able to remember the landmarks during the base era and he guided them to places from his childhood.

Councillor Aylward

Western Health

Acknowledged a change in what was known as Dr. McComiskey Clinic.

Two new doctors are starting soon at the BSG Medical Clinic

One Nurse Practitioner is not practicing at the emergency department.

We need to advocate to Health officials and Government that the current setting for BSG Medical Clinic is not sufficient for current staffing requirements.

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**23-235**

Tiller/Boland

Be it resolved there is no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:26pm

In Favor: 6 Alyward, Boland, Hulan, Rose, Tiller, White,

Opposed: 0 Motion Carried