

**PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14TH, 2024**

A public council meeting was held at the Town of Stephenville Town office on Thursday March 14th, 2024. The meeting was also streamed.

Present	Tom Rose	Mayor, Chairperson
	Susan Fowlow	Deputy Mayor
	Myra White	Councillor
	Laura Aylward	Councillor
	Darren Roberts	Councillor
	Tom O'Brien	Councillor
	Maurice Hynes	Councillor

Staff:

- Jennifer Brake, Town Clerk
- Mike Ratter, Economic Development Officer
- Marilee Joy-Castillo, Communications Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rose called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

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

24-69 Roberts/Aylward
Be it resolved that the agenda be approved as presented.
In Favor: 7 Roberts, Aylward, Fowlow, Rose, White, Hynes, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

24-70 Rose/Aylward
Be it resolved that the minutes of February 22nd, 2024, public council meeting be approved as presented.
Councillor O'Brien asked if Town hiring policies followed to which Mayor Rose confirmed they were followed under legislation.
In Favor: 7 Rose, Aylward, Fowlow, White, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts
Opposed: 0 Carried

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Councillor Roberts inquired as to the process of writing off taxes. Mayor Rose explained the steps and process that is followed from start to finish. A process which Councillor Roberts acknowledged putting into place during a previous term on council.

PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor White presented the recommendations from the finance committee meeting held on March 11th, 2024.

Accounts Payable March 14, 2024

24-71 White/Roberts
Be it Resolved to pay accounts payable for March 14, 2024 in the amount of \$167,736.98
Councillor O'Brien gave a brief description of items listed in the accounts payable to explain some of the larger amounts.
In Favor: 7 White, Roberts, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, Aylward, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

Award of Tender Vacuum Sweeper Truck 2024-002

24-72 White/O'Brien
Be it Resolved to purchase the Vacuum Sweeper Truck from Saunders Equipment Ltd. for the bid price of \$455,700.00 plus HST
In Favor: 7 White, O'Brien, Roberts, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, Aylward
Opposed: 0 Carried

Tender – Crew Cab 4 x 4 Pickup Truck with Commercial Cap

24-73 White/Roberts
Be it Resolved to repost tender for new crew cab 4 x 4 Pickup with Commercial Cap No. 2024-003
In Favor: 7 White, Roberts, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, Aylward, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

Request for Donation – Bay St. George Sick Children's Foundation Inc.

24-74 White/Fowlow
Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville give a donation in the amount of \$500.00 to the Bay St. George Sick Children's Foundation.
Councillor Roberts acknowledged a conflict of interest through his former business and left the table.
In Favor: 6 White, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, Aylward, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

Councillor Roberts returned to the Council table

Sale of Property – 150 Minnesota Drive

24-75 White/Aylward

Be it Resolved as per motion No. 23-372, to proceed with the sale of 7.994 acres of land for the new Collaborative Care Clinic located on the property 150 Minnesota Drive to GDR Enterprises Ltd. in the amount of \$441,969.27. The accessed value of land was \$559,569.27 less cost to remediate land \$117,600.00

In Favor: 7 White, Aylward, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, Roberts, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

Approval of Signing Officers

24-76 White/Roberts

Be it Resolved that the signing officers for the Town of Stephenville: For Council – Mayor Tom Rose, Deputy Mayor Susan Fowlow. Staff: Chief Administrative Officer Bill Ramsay, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Candace Simon and Town Clerk Jennifer Brake

In Favor: 7 White, Roberts, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, Aylward, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

Approval to Appoint Acting Town Clerk

24-77 White/Aylward

Be it Resolved as per Section 62(3) of the Municipalities Act, 1999 in absence of Town Clerk to Appoint CAO Bill Ramsay as Acting Town Clerk

In Favor: 7 White, Aylward, Roberts, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

PERMITS AND MUNICIPAL PLAN

The Planning and Traffic committee met on March 11th, 2024, and the following items were recommended for council approval.

217 – 219 Main Street – Imagine Nations Inc.

24-78 Aylward/Hynes

Be it resolved to approve a permit to operate a sports bar to be named Time Out Sports Bar & erect signage on the building located at 217-219 Main Street, pending approval from Service NL

In Favor: 7 Aylward, Hynes, White, Roberts, Fowlow, Rose, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

219 Hansen Memorial Highway – M & F Motors Ltd.

24-79 Aylward/White

Be it resolved to approve a permit to construct a two-story extension at rear of building located at 219 Hansen Memorial Highway, as per drawings submitted, pending approval from Service NL

Councillor Roberts declared himself at a conflict of interest because of his former business and left the table

Public Meeting of Council March 14th, 2024

In Favor: 6 Aylward, White, Fowlow, Rose, Hynes, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

Councillor Roberts returned to the Council table

New Mexico Drive – Tri-Sun Realty Limited

24-80

Aylward/Hynes

Be it Resolved to approve a permit to construct two four-plex apartment buildings on the parcel of land to be named at 8A New Mexico Drive as per drawings submitted, pending approval from Service NL

In Favor: 7 Aylward, Hynes, White, Roberts, Fowlow, Rose, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

176-186 Hansen Memorial Highway – Myron & Delores Gallant

24-81

Aylward/Fowlow

Be it Resolved to approve Outline Planning Permission to construct two proposed auxiliary efficiency units, as per plot plan submitted, on the property located at 176-186 Hansen Memorial Highway.

In Favor: 7 Aylward, Fowlow, White, Roberts, Hynes, Rose, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

Approval to Adopt – Town of Stephenville Municipal Growth Plan

Aylward/Fowlow

Be it Resolved to adopt the Town of Stephenville Municipal Growth Plan prepared by UPLAND Planning + Design Inc.

Councillor Hynes mentioned that he is not familiar with the Plan therefore not comfortable voting on the motion as presented. Mayor Rose showed on the map the areas and explained how the phases would be. He suggested that the Community, Economic, and Industrial Development Manager Mike Ratter give a presentation to Council.

24-82

Motion to defer

Hynes/Roberts

Be it Resolved to defer the Town of Stephenville Municipal Growth Plan prepared by UPLAND Planning + Design Inc. for 2 weeks

In Favor: 7 Hynes, Roberts, Aylward, Fowlow, White, Rose, O'Brien
Opposed: 0 Carried

BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councillor Roberts

Would like copies of 5 years of finance and budgets as well as 2023 interim statements.

NEW BUSINESS

ATV Use Petition

A petition was received by a resident of Georgia Drive who presented a concern of ATV misuse and speeding in areas throughout town. Mayor Rose and Deputy CAO Candace Simon recently had a meeting with the RCMP and the Chamber of Commerce,

Councillor Alyward

Councillor Alyward spoke on the approximately 2500 residents who will be without a family Doctor due to retirement. She would like for the Town to meet with the CAO regarding recruitment of new Doctors and the retention of Specialists and Doctors currently in this area.

Councillor O'Brien

Councillor O'Brien would like to see an organizational chart of new and current staff, copy of budgets, 6 months of council meeting minutes, accounts payable, code of conducts, standing offers, copies of any other town business and standing offers that are outstanding or any upcoming business. Councillor O'Brien also asked to see a copy of the deal of the sale of the airport. Mayor Rose noted that Stephenville airport was privately owned and sold and the Town had no part in that sale.

Councillor Fowlow

Councillor Fowlow said that there has been changes in the code of conduct act regarding procedural processes and that the Mayor is the conduit to the CAO and council are not permitted to ask questions directly to staff.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

ADJOURNMENT

24-83

Aylward/Hynes

Resolved that since there is no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

In Favor: 7 Aylward, Hynes, Fowlow, White, Roberts, Rose, O'Brien

Opposed: 0 Carried