

PUBLIC MEETING OF COUNCIL

May 23, 2024

A public council meeting was held at the Town of Stephenville Town office on Thursday May 23rd, 2024. The meeting was also live 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:

- Bill Ramsay, CAO
- Candace Simon, Deputy CAO
- Jennifer Brake, Town Clerk
- Marilee Joy-Castillo, Communications Coordinator
- Mike Ratter, Community, Economic, and Industrial Development Manager.

Call to Order

24-170 Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor O'Brien

The meeting was called to order at 12:04pm

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

Land Acknowledgment

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

24-171 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved that the agenda for May 23, 2024 be approved as presented.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

24-172 Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved to approve the Public Meeting of Council Minutes dated May 9, 2024 as circulated.

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

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

No Matters

PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

The Mayor acknowledged May 19 to May 25 as National Public Works Week and May 19 to May 25, as National Paramedic Services Week

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

The Finance committee met on May 21, 2024 and the following item was recommended for council approval.

Accounts Payable

24-173 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to pay Accounts Payable for May 23, 2024 in the amount of \$152,882.43

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

Property and Collection Officers Report

Property Tax

24-174 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to approve property tax write-offs in the amount of \$ 883.26.

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

Water & Sewer Tax

24-175 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Aylward

Be it Resolved to approve adjustments to Water & Sewer Tax in the amount of \$ 1408.42.

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

Remission of Tax

24-176 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to approve remission of tax in the amount of \$864.88.

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

Business Tax

24-177 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to approve Business Tax write-offs in the amount of \$2410.71 and adjustments of \$4694.55

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

Request for Proposal - 137 Carolina Avenue

24-178 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor O'Brien

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville issue a Request for Proposal for parcel of land located at 137 Carolina Avenue.

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

Request for Grant - CanAm Lodge

24-179 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to approve a grant in the amount of \$4841.50 to the CanAm Lodge.

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose, White
Opposed: 1 Fowlow
Question Called: Carried

MOU with Stephenville Dymond International Airport

24-180 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville Council sign Memorandum of Understanding with Stephenville Dymond International Airport for Emergency Response Services.

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

24-181 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville purchased forty trees in the amount of \$6,000 including shipping to be planted by the beautification committee.

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

PLANNING & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

The Planning & Traffic committee met on May 21, 2024 and the following items were recommended for council approval.

Permits

24-182 Moved by Councillor Aylward, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved that the following permits be approved as presented.
 Applicable permits will require inspections, licenses, and permits as required by Service NL.

38-40 Main St.	Construct fast food restaurant with drive-thru
6A Willowdale Dr.	Construct porch and replace deck
26-28 Main St.	Roadside Vendor - One year
83A Main St.	Replace staircase and deck
57-61 Main St.	Replace shingles, exterior maintenance
70 Hansen Hwy.	Construct accessory building 40X50
171 Queen St.	Subdivide into two parcels of land to be named 171 and 171-1
79 Cold Brook Rd.	Subdivide into two parcels of land, alter existing structure for residential dwelling

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

BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Town Hall Visitors Policy

24-183 Moved by Councillor Aylward, Seconded by Councillor White

Be it Resolved to adopt Town Hall Visitors Policy as presented.

In Favor: 3 White, Fowlow, Rose,
 Opposed: 4 Aylward, Hynes, O’Brien, Roberts
 Resolution Defeated

Committee & Council Meetings Policy

24-184 Moved by Mayor Rose, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved to adopt Committee & Council Meeting Policy as presented.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councillor O'Brien requested a status update on legal files, CAO stated meets are scheduled with legal consultants next week and it's anticipated a report can be provided to council for the next meeting.

Acknowledged the achievements of Katrina Roxon, being the first lady to qualify for the fifth time for the Paralympics.

Councillor Hynes – acknowledged that the Newfoundland Wire printed two great articles on individuals in our area. One recognized Debbie Wilton for 30 years in business, and her support for non-profit organizations. Councillor Hynes stated Nancy Cormier, (Councillor Aylward noted the last name was Pearson) was also recognized for organizing beach clean-up. Councillor Hynes sent congratulations to both individuals.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Rose

Clean-Up Day

The town will be organizing a community clean-up day, the event will include incentives and fun activities. We take pride in maintaining a beautiful clean community and encourage community volunteers and organizations to join our staff and beautification committee in maintaining a cleaner & greener community.

Extended condolences to the Gibbon Family. On behalf of the Town of Stephenville we express our deepest condolences on the passing of Ms. Gibbon; mother to one of our dedicated firefighters and wife to a former town councillor.

Councillor Aylward

Provided an update on West Coast Healthcare Action Committee meeting with Western Health last week. Currently there is a technologist position advertised for Mammograms. She acknowledged our hospital is receiving some support for shared services for surgeries, and there was communication of extra ER doctors and a nurse practitioner hired. However, our hospital still does not have an anesthesiologist, she noted the STRH is a pain management site for the region. She assured the public that STRH will not be affected with the opening of the new hospital in Corner Brook.

Deputy Mayor Fowlow referenced a government program whereby medical professionals visit sites to complete surgeries, for example St. Anthony. Councillor Aylward stated Western will not agree to having this service here. Councillor O'Brien stated the workload and demands for mammograms will only increase as they lowered the screening age from 50 years old to 40 years. Councillor Hynes praised Councillors Aylward as the town's representative and advocate for healthcare.

Councillor O'Brien left the council chambers 1:03pm to 1:04pm

NOTICE OF MOTION

With prior notice, Councillor O'Brien brought forward the following (NOM)

24-185 Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor Roberts
Be it Resolved that staff not act on the directions from any one member of council or council committee but only act on the decisions of council.
In Favor: 3 Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts
Opposed: 4 Aylward, Fowlow, Rose, White
Defeated

24-186 Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor Hynes
Be it Resolved no one member of council or committee of council to commit the town to dispose of town assets or financial obligation without the prior approval of council.
In Favor: 4 Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, White
Opposed: 3 Aylward, Fowlow, Rose
Question Called: Carried

24-187 Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor Roberts
Be it Resolved that council members travel, as well as other town travel expenses being recorded by name and for what purpose and be approved separately from accounts payable and expense check listing
Motion to Defer to the finance committee, Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor O'Brien
In Favor: 7 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose, White
Opposed: 0 Carried

Deputy Mayor left the council table at 1:21 – 1:22pm

ADJOURNMENT

24-188 Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor White
Resolved that since there is no further business the meeting adjourned at
1:34pm

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