

**PUBLIC MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**August 22, 2024**

A public council meeting was held at the Town of Stephenville Town office on Thursday August 22, 2024. The meeting was also live streamed.

Present:            Tom Rose            Mayor  
                      Susan Fowlow      Deputy Mayor  
                      Maurice Hynes    Councillor (joined virtual)  
                      Tom O'Brien      Councillor (joined virtual)  
                      Darren Roberts   Councillor  
                      Myra White       Councillor  
                      Laura Aylward    Councillor

Staff:                Bill Ramsay, CAO (joined virtual)  
                          Deputy CAO, Candace Simon  
                          Marilee Joy-Castillo, Communications Coordinator  
                          Matthew Simms, Manager, Planning and Development

**CALL TO ORDER**

**24-254**      Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor White

The meeting was called to order at 12:17pm

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

**24-255**      Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved that the agenda for August 22, 2024 be approved as presented.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**24-256**      Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to approve Public Meetings of Council Minutes dated August 1, 2024 as circulated.

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

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

NO MATTERS

## **PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Finance committee met on August 20, 2024 and the following items were recommended for council approval.

#### **Accounts Payable**

**24-257** Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Aylward

Be it Resolved to pay Accounts Payable for August 22, 2024 in the amount of \$181,242.73

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

#### **Tax Recovery Plan**

**24-258** Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville Council approve the Tax Recovery Plan as presented.

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

#### **Water Demand Study**

**24-259** Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Mayor Rose declared a conflict of interest as a resident of Hillier Avenue and left the table at 12:22 p.m.

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville Council approve a water demand study for future development capabilities of Hillier Avenue at a cost of \$23,495.00 plus hst.

In Favor: 5 White, Fowlow, Hynes, Roberts, Aylward  
Opposed: 1 O'Brien Carried

Mayor Rose returned to the table 12:32 p.m.

**GICB – YMCA Upgrades Professional Services**

**24-260 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow**

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville Council accept the quote given by Fougere Menchenton Architecture in the amount of \$180,080.00 to complete upgrades at the YMCA.

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

**September 11 event**

**24-261 Moved by Councillor, Seconded by**

Be it resolved that the Town of Stephenville Council host a social at the Royal Canadian Legion on September 11 to recognize the organizations and groups who assisted with the tragic events of September 11, 2001

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

**Rescind Approvals**

**24-262 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts**

Be it Resolved to Rescind the following resolutions: 24-222, 24-223, 24-224, 24-225, 24-226 and 24-227

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

**Approval to Borrow – 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 1500**

**24-263 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts**

Be it Resolved that the Town Council of Stephenville approve to borrow \$65,115.14 from the Royal Bank of Canada, St. John's, NL for the following: 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4 WD Crew Cab Work Truck with Utility Box Cap Net amount for Capital Equipment \$65,115.14 GST Rebate of \$6,689.71 paid out of town funds. Interest rate 5.30%, Monthly Payment \$929.66, term of 5 years, amortization 7 years.

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

**Approval to Borrow – Yukon Fire Response Vehicle  
24-264 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts**

Be it Resolved that the Town Council of Stephenville approve to borrow \$91,097.49 from the Royal Bank of Canada, St. John's, NL for the following: 2023 4WD Yukon, Net amount for Capital Equipment \$91,097.49 GST Rebate of \$9,359.06 paid out of town funds, Interest rate 5.30%, Monthly Payment \$1,300.61, term of 5 years, amortization 7 years.

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

**Approval to Borrow – YMCA Building Renovations  
24-265 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts**

Be it Resolved that the Town Council of Stephenville approve to borrow \$600,217.29 from the Royal Bank of Canada, St. John's, NL for the following: YMCA Building Renovations. Net amount for Capital Equipment \$600,217.29 GST Rebate of \$61,664.35 paid out of town funds, Interest rate 5.45%, Monthly Payment \$6,499.94, term of 5 years, amortization 10 years.

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

**Approval to Borrow – Vacuum Sweeper Truck  
24-266 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Aylward**

Be it Resolved that the Town Council of Stephenville approve to borrow \$475,231.30 from the Royal Bank of Canada, St. John's, NL for the following: Vacuum Sweeper Truck, Net amount for Capital Equipment \$475,231.30, GST Rebate of \$48,823.70 paid out of town funds Interest rate 5.45%, Monthly Payment \$5,146.43, term of 5 years, amortization 10 years.

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

**Approval to Borrow – Ventilation System and Installation  
24-267 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts**

Be it Resolved that the Town Council of Stephenville approve to borrow \$96,432.48 from the Royal Bank of Canada, St. John’s, NL for the following: Ventilation System and Installation, Fire Department, GST Rebate of \$9,907.16 paid out of town funds

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

**PLANNING & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

The Planning & Traffic committee met on August 20, 2024 and no items were recommended for council approval.

**BY-LAWS / REGULATIONS/POLICIES**

NONE

**CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT DECISION**

**24-268 Moved by Mayor Rose, Seconded by Councillor Aylward**

Deputy Mayor Fowlow stated she was in a conflict of interest and left the table at 12:46 p.m.

Council reviewed materials related to a Conflict of Interest complaint 2024-05-23-01 against a member of Council made pursuant to the *Municipal Conduct Act*, section 8(7)(a) at privileged meetings held on July 16, 2024, and on August 20, 2024. Council determined that there was no basis on which to conclude that the member of Council had engaged in a conflict of interest. A formal investigation was not warranted.

Be it resolved that Council dismisses the Conflict of Interest Complaint 2024-05-23-01 and adopts Motion #24-252 as presented.

In Favor: 6 Hynes, O’Brien, Aylward, Roberts, Rose, White  
Opposed: 0 Carried

Deputy Mayor Fowlow returned to the table at 12:48 p.m.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

NONE

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Deputy CAO Simon**

She noted that the Regional Aquatic Centre are having a celebration at 1:30 p.m. in recognition of their upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There is a free Swim and BBQ.

### **Councillor O'Brien**

He noted that 30 years ago he was at the opening day of the pool and if he was home he would ensure that Councillor Roberts was getting wet that day, as he did Mayor Cecil Stein and Councillor Mike Vickers in 1994.

### **Councillor Aylward**

She stated that MP Gudie Hutchings and Minister Holland recently met with herself, the Mayor, the Chief of Staff at the hospital, another Doctor and a nurse practitioner. She said the biggest issue discussed were the lack of salaries for physicians not being on par with other areas and that is causing us to lose physicians and specialists in our area, as well as the long waits at the emergency room. She added that the Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital does have a new surgeon arriving in October.

### **Mayor Rose**

He mentioned that the Town and Regional Aquatic Centre are very fortunate to be able to say that we have an Olympian who trained for many years in our town and came home with a medal and we wish her luck at the Paralympic games in Paris.

With regards to the meeting at the hospital he said that the fact Medical Personnel are getting paid higher in bigger centres than in rural and remote areas and how we can make it better are things being addressed. In bigger centres they have many more support services, on call is lessened and those in rural areas don't have the same support services and are on call more yet are being paid less. He is very proud of the town and council and to see the new collaborative clinic being built next to the hospital.

He also showed the sign that has been created for the ITU International Appalachian trail. This trail starts in the United States and goes to the top of Lewis Hills. The top of Lewis Hills is the highest point on Newfoundland and Labrador where the earth's

mantle has service. He added that the Town has the best access to the earth's mantle, so we will get our signage out and start developing and start capitalize on that from a tourism perspective.

**CAO Ramsay**

He mentioned that there has been an initial review of our water system. He said our water system is our biggest priority and today is the first steps being taken to do preventable measures, and help get things under control such as losing water pressure and water staining. He asked Manager of Planning and Development Matt Simms to explain further.

**Matt Simms, Manager of Planning and Development**

He said we are one of three municipalities in Canada which will use satellite technology approximately 400 miles above earth to detect leaks. The other two municipalities are Calgary and Toronto. He said it's the same technology that was used by NASA to find frozen water on Mars. The area was scanned last week and will help locate the leaks, prioritize them and increase the amount of leaks that get fixed. Mayor Rose added the company is Asterra and will detect if the leak is portable water, Storm drainage, or sewer.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**24-269** Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor White

Resolved that since there is no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:02 pm.

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

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Mayor

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Town Clerk