

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Regular meeting #2 for 2021 of the Grand Bank Town Council was held on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 2:05 p.m. at the 50+ Club.

Mayor Rex C. Matthews, Deputy Mayor Clayton Welsh, Councillors George Bennett (via telephone), Jack Burfitt, Stan Burt and Rick Grikis attended along with Town Clerk Sheila M. Dolimount, and Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Tom Burton. Town Manager Wayne Bolt was off for personal reasons and Administrative Clerk Michelle Patten was working at the Town Office.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION 2021-3337: C. WELSH/J. BURFITT

Motioned that the agenda be adopted with the addition to Old Business – 10(d) Court Case re Eli Baker.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

3. **DELEGATION** NONE

4. **ERRORS AND OMISSIONS – FEBRUARY 1, 2021**

5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOTION 2021-3338: G. BENNETT/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the minutes of the Regular Meeting for February 1, 2021 be approved as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – FEBRUARY 1, 2021**

a. **John Burke High School Graduation**

Councillor Burfitt advised that he spoke with Ms. Piccolo concerning the Graduation and he stated the issue has been taken care of so the letter that the Town received no longer applies.

Councillor Brooks entered the meeting at this time.

b. **RCMP: Speeding & Properties**

Councillor Burfitt questioned the \$2 million cost of major structure deficiencies to the detachment, he wondered if they are using it as a ploy to move out of Grand Bank. Councillor Burfitt questioned if the Town could see the quote from the RCMP of the cost to repair the building. Deputy Mayor Welsh suggested the Town make some representation to the Crown to get the detachment and houses. The Mayor stated he strongly opposes the Town taking over any property from the RCMP should it become available.

c. **Affordable Housing**

Deputy Mayor Welsh advised that he checked with the Grand Bank Development Corporation regarding the Corporation providing a building(s) for affordable housing. He stated that the Board cannot get involved in this kind of venture.

d. **Special Request Lighting**

Councillor Grikis questioned if Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton had investigated the prices for the lights. Mayor Matthews stated the he did and the prices are very high, however Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton is still investigating further. Councillor Burfitt suggested purchasing a portable system.

e. **Swimming Pool**

Councillor Burt questioned how can pools open during the recent Alert Level? He stated that two government funded pools are scheduled to open. Mayor Matthews recently appointed Deputy Mayor Welsh, Councillor Grikis and Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton to find a safe way to reopen the pool for the summer.

7. **INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION**

a. **Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador**

Received information from MNL advising the Municipal Symposium and 2020 AGM will be taking place online from May 6-8, 2021. Call for resolutions must be submitted by Friday, April 2, 2021. Councillors were asked to let Town Clerk Dolimount know if they want to attend.

b. **Burin Peninsula Health Care Foundation**

Received an email advising they are holding a “Burin Peninsula Trails Challenge”, which will help promote healthy living and exercise. Participants would have to be registered or sponsored to walk/hike all of the municipal trails on the Burin Peninsula between May and September 2021. Deadline is March 31, 2021 to confirm that the Town’s municipal trails are included in their list, and also to advise the distance of our Nature Trail 3.5 km.

8. **INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Provincial Seamen’s Museum**

Received a letter advising they will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and they are trying to develop an exhibit which reflects the history of the museum and its place in the community. They are asking if the Town Council has any archival material that would be an addition to this exhibit.

b. **Grand Bank/Fortune Ambulance Services Inc.**

Received a copy of the minutes for the meeting held on January 7, 2021.

c. **RCMP**

- * Received an email update on the Zoom meeting which was held on January 28, 2021.
- * Received an email update on Financial Information.

d. **Grand Bank Volunteer Fire Department**

Received a copy of the minutes for the meeting held on January 6, 2021.

e. **Department of Environment, Climate Change and Municipalities**

Received an email advising the 2021 Clean and Safe Drinking Water workshop and operator of the year award has been cancelled due to current health restrictions and the Covid-19 virus.

f. **Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner**

Received the quarterly newsletter for January 2021.

g. **Burin Peninsula Chamber of Commerce**

- * Received an email with information of funding available for small/medium businesses and not-for-profit organizations.
- * Received an email advising Metal Manu-Works are celebrating their 30th Anniversary in business.
- * Received an email advising the Annual General Meeting has been delayed. Also, advising they are seeking nominations for new board members.

h. **Digital Government and Service NL**

Received a letter advising an Environmental Health Officer from Clarenville has been travelling to the Burin Peninsula area on a regular basis, when the demand is warranted. They also advised the Department will continue to monitor the situation and adjust its service delivery approach, if required, to ensure public health and safety requirements are met. Councillor Grikis stated that in his opinion the Town won’t see anyone here in the near future.

9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. **Finance Committee**

Councillor Stan Burt, Committee Chairperson, presented a written report of a meeting the Committee held on March 17, 2021.

Item 4: Claim – Some discussion took place.

MOTION 2021-3339: J. BURFITT/C. WELSH

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank split the cost of the claim with bennw001 on a 50/50 basis.

3 Ayes (Burfitt/Burt/Welsh) 4 Nays (Matthews/Brooks/Bennett/Grikis)
MOTION DEFEATED

Councillor Grikis left the meeting due to a conflict of interest.

MOTION 2021-3340: S. BURT/C. WELSH

Motioned that the Finance Committee report of March 17, 2021 be approved with the exception of item 3a.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Grikis returned to the meeting.

MOTION 2021-3341: S. BURT/C. WELSH

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank send a request to use the surplus funds to continue with road upgrades on Main Street, Riverside West and Elizabeth Avenue. Upgrades to include cold milling and placement of surface course asphalt on Main Street and a surface asphalt recap on Riverside West and Elizabeth Avenue, in the amount of \$206,049.54.

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 March 17, 2021.

Deputy Mayor Welsh left the meeting due to a conflict of interest.

MOTION 2021-3342: J. BURFITT/S. BURT

Motioned that the Development Committee report of March 17, 2021 be approved as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Welsh returned to the meeting.

10. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Nature Trail – Design and Tender**

Recreation/Operations/Maintenance Director Burton gave an overview of the Nature Trail project.

MOTION 2021-3343: C. WELSH/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank proceed with the tender process for the Nature Trail Project.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

b. **Update on Dam**

Mayor Matthews advised that the Engineers are working to get a fixed schedule in place for the work on the dam while preliminary work has been ongoing.

c. Update on New Loader and Pick-up Trucks

Mayor Matthews advised that the loader tender is ready to go, and the pick-up trucks should be here in May.

d. Court Case – Eli Baker

Councillor Burfitt questioned if the Town should contact the Lawyer to see if the Town is entitled to a refund as the case was filed under the wrong Act.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Street Upgrades – Gas Tax

Mayor Matthews advised that there a number of areas in the Town that need to be completed with asphalt.

MOTION 2021-3344: J. BURFITT/S. BURT

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank proceed with acquiring funding through Gas Tax for street upgrades.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

b. ATV Regulations

MOTION 2021-3345: C. WELSH/R. BROOKS

Motioned that the Town of Grand Bank’s Recreational Vehicle(s) Regulations 2020 be approved as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION CARRIED

c. Clean Up of Private Property

Mayor Matthews advised that the Town will follow the procedure put forward in the letter and the advice of the Lawyer. The Town will have to define everything that needs to be removed.

d. Meeting with Clearwater Seafoods

Mayor Matthews advised that there will be a meeting held tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. at the Fire Hall with representatives from Clearwater.

e. COVID-19 Vaccinations

Mayor Matthews presented a handout regarding information on the vaccines. Deputy Mayor Welsh advised that when he tried to book an appointment for his shot that Grand Bank was not on the list of places to get it. It was suggested if anyone had any issues with booking an appointment for Grand Bank to make note of it.

12. COUNCILLORS FORUM

a. Email – Poop & Scoop

Councillor Bennett inquired if the Town could forward an email out reminding taxpayers to clean up after their animal(s) when out for a walk.

b. Community Youth Network (CYN)

Councillor Brooks advised he received an email from CYN looking to move ahead with the purchase of a piece of property.

c. Heritage Society

Councillor Burfitt advised that he is concerned that the Heritage Society may be closing, they don’t have good leadership. Mayor Matthews advised that he would make contact with the Chairperson to determine the status of the Heritage Committee.

d. Markers

Councillor Grikis questioned if the Town of Fortune purchased the markers to measure the level of water for the inside dam. It was agreed that Town Manager Bolt follow up on this.

e. Property – Oceanview

Deputy Mayor Welsh questioned if the Town has approached the owners of the property on Oceanview with regards to selling the property to the Town. Mayor Matthews advised that Town Manager Bolt has been in contact with the owners however it's not to the point where the Town Manager can make a recommendation one way or the other.

f. Old Dam

Deputy Mayor Welsh questioned if there is any reason to keep the old dam that is next to the highway, in place. It was noted that it would cost considerable money to have it removed and it would be minimum benefits to the Town.

g. Alert Level Change

Deputy Mayor Welsh wondered if Council would need to meet immediately after the Alert Level changes to decide if the Festival, etc., would go ahead. Mayor Matthews suggested the Committees would need to meet to discuss those issues before Council would make a decision whether this can be done in full compliance to the public health measures in place at the time.

h. Snow Clearing

Deputy Mayor Welsh wished to commend the outside staff on the great job they are doing with snow clearing

i. Newsletter

Mayor Matthews presented the newsletter from MP Rogers' office questioning why Grand Bank did not receive any money for their Theatre when other communities received thousands. Copied for Councillors.

13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM TOWN OFFICIALS

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2021-3346: G. BENNETT/R. GRIKIS

Motioned that the meeting adjourn at 3:50 p.m.

ALL IN FAVOUR

MOTION CARRIED