PUBLIC MEETING OF COUNCIL NOVEMBER 18, 2021

A Public Meeting of Council of the Town of Stephenville was held on November 18, 2021 @ 7:01 pm in the Council Chamber and was livestreamed.

Present Tom Rose Mayor Susan Fowlow Deputy Mayor Laura Aylward Councillor Tracy Boland Councillor Tristan Hulan Councillor Lenny Tiller Councillor Myra White Councillor

Staff: Mike Campbell, Town Manager Jennifer Brake, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion No. 21- 345 Hiller/White

That the Agenda of the Public Meeting of Council of November 18, 2021 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously

MINUTES

Public Meeting of Council October 21, 2021 Motion No. 21- 346 White/Boland

That the Minutes of the Public Meeting of Council for November 4 2021, be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously

Privileged Meeting of Council November 4, 2021 - Disclosure Statements <u>Motion No. 21- 347</u> Boland/Fowlow

That the Minutes of the Privileged Meeting of Council to review disclosure statements on November 4 2021, be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES None

PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Property Tax

Motion No. 21- 348 White/Boland

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that property tax write offs in the amount of \$5,399.44 be approved. Carried Unanimously

Water & Sewer Tax

Motion No. 21- 349 White/Tiller

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that water & sewer tax adjustments in the amount of \$672.00 be approved. Carried Unanimously

Remission of Tax

Motion No. 21- 350 White/Fowlow

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that remission of tax in the amount of \$699.29 be approved. Carried Unanimously

Business Tax

Motion No. 21- 351 White/Aylward

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that Business Tax adjustments in the amount of \$13.78 be approved. Carried Unanimously

Account Payable Listing for October 2021

Motion No. 21- 352 White/Tiller

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Accounts Payable listing for September 2021 totaling \$ 286,993.57 be approved. Carried Unanimously

Award of Tender-Equipment Rental 2021

Motion No. 21- 353 White/Hulan

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Town of Stephenville award the Tender for Equipment Rental 2021-009 to Boyd and Bungay & ELC Contracting LTD as bid prices submitted. Carried Unanimously

Request for Grant-Go Western

Motion No. 21- 354 White/Fowlow

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Town of Stephenville provide a grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Go Western Newfoundland.

Carried Unanimously

Request for Grant- Stephenville High Scholarship and Bursary Committee

Motion No. 21- 355 White/Boland

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Town of Stephenville give grant in the amount of \$500.00 to the St. Stephen's High School Bursary Committee. Carried Unanimously

Christmas Adventure on Main Street

Motion No. 21-356 White/Boland

It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Town of Stephenville establish a budget of \$10,000 for the Main Street Christmas Event Carried Unanimously

Request for Funds- Stephenville Airport Corporation

Motion No. 21-357 White/Tiller It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Town of Stephenville give an operational grant in the amount of \$39,977.10 to the Stephenville Airport Corporation. Carried Unanimously

PLANNING & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Russell's Funeral Home- 57-67 Prince Rupert Drive

Motion No. 21-358 Aylward/Boland

Request to subdivide land located at 57-67 Prince Rupert Drive as per survey provided.

It was the recommendation of the Planning and Traffic Committee that this request be granted subject to compliance with all Town Regulations. Carried Unanimously

Guardian Angel Volunteer Program

Motion No. 21- 359 Aylward/Tiller

Councillor Boland has created a Guardian Angel Volunteer Program to assist seniors in the Town of Stephenville. The volunteer group will be external to council and more details will be available to residents in the near future.

It was the recommendation of the Planning and Traffic Committee that council recognize the volunteer group in the community and support the Guardian Angel Volunteer Initiative.

Carried Unanimously

Request for Proposal – Sale of Land 24 Dakota Drive

Motion No. 21- 360 Aylward/Hulan

It was the recommendation of the Planning and Traffic Committee that the Town of Stephenville issue a Request for Proposal for the Sale of Land located at 24 Dakota Drive as per public procurement act. Carried Unanimously

Valarie Alexander-30A Hillier Avenue

Motion No. 21- 361 Aylward/White

It was the recommendation of the Planning and Traffic Committee that Council approve transfer of land adjacent to 30A Hillier Avenue to the family in accordance with procedures as described in the Chapter E-19 Expropriation Act. Carried Unanimously

BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Rose Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital

Mayor Rose stated he will be advocating for the Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital at every public meeting of council until its guaranteed that no services will be lost due to Health Care Accord recommendations. The hospital supports residents regionally from Port Aux Basques to Burgeo and provides air ambulance services up to 150 times a year. He suggested our area needs to execute a strategy that includes all mayors in the region and request a meeting with Premier Furey and Minister Haggie. The Mayor indicated because of political decisions the

taxpayers are being defrauded; a 35 million modern hospital is not functional and operating at its capacity.

He also acknowledged that the towns retention and recruitment package was communicated from the medical association, and he was contacted by a military medical student studying at Memorial University. He indicated he was not eligible to complete two-year residency in Stephenville because Western Health did not recognize military student for residency, but eastern and central health would. The mayor said he is meeting with Dr. Rashleigh to further discuss the hospital, and this will be one of the concerns mentioned.

Councillor Aylward indicated the only surgeon Dr. Hassen is leaving to work in Gander and the education department (the library) at the hospital is closing. She noted doctors are not being supported by senior management or other doctors. The Operating room (OR) at Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital is not being utilized, meanwhile Corner Brook OR is booked. Furthermore, the doctors from Corner Brook are not permitted to use the OR in Stephenville. Deputy Mayor Fowlow suggested a strategy for the hospitals future needs should be considered and not focus on what is being taken right now. Councillor Boland acknowledged that a burn victim life was saved because we had a hospital nearby.

NEW BUSINESS

Councillor White

Councillor White inquired if the Town would be considered for the government's resettlement program.

Councillor Tiller

Councillor Tiller stated that during Covid, medical appointments were cancelled, and backlogs were created; he noted this probably killed more people than Covid did. Recognizing that public safety measures were needed, he voiced with 90% of the province vaccinated (with at least one dose) Health care facilities need to get back to normal and move forward. There is a health care crisis, and they are cutting while completing consultations on the future of the health care, when its already decided what the outcome will be.

Councillor Boland

Councillor Boland noted donations for furniture and clothing are needed for Ms. Arlene Murphy, she lost all her belongs in a recent fire.

Councillor Aylward

Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital - The Tree of Love

There will be no gathering this year, members will be taking donations and writing recipients; further updates will be posted on foundations facebook page.

NOTICE OF MOTION None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion No. 21-362 Tiller/White

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:31 pm. Carried Unanimously

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK