

**PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 25TH, 2024**

A public council meeting held at the Town of Stephenville Town office on Thursday January 25th, 2024. The meeting was also streamed.

Present	Tom Rose	Mayor, Chairperson
	Susan Fowlow	Deputy Mayor
	Myra White	Councillor
	Laura Aylward	Councillor (VIA Teams)

Absent:	Tristan Hulan	Councillor
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Staff:	Jennifer Brake, Town Clerk
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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rose called acknowledged the meeting was delayed to power outage in the area which effected the Town Office, the meeting was called to order at 12:29 PM

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

24-21	White/Fowlow
	Be it resolved that the agenda be approved as presented.
In Favor:	4 Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed:	0 Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

24-22	Fowlow/White
	Be it resolved that the minutes of January 11 th , 2024, public council meeting be approved as presented.
In Favor:	4 Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed:	0 Carried

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Duputy Mayor Fowlow presented the recommendations from the finance committee meeting held on January 22nd, 2024.

Property Tax

24-23 Fowlow/Aylward
Be it resolved to write-off property taxes in the amount of \$44,208.46.
In Favor: 4 Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed: 0 Carried

Water & Sewer Tax

24-24 Fowlow/White
Be it resolved to adjust Water & Sewer Tax in the amount of \$ 3027.75.
In Favor: 4 Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed: 0 Carried

Business Tax

24-25 Fowlow/Aylward
Be it resolved to write-off Business Taxes in the amount of \$1,108.00 and adjustments in the amount of \$3,243.20.
In Favor: 4 Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed: 0 Carried

Accounts Payable December 2023

24-26 Fowlow/White
Be it resolved to pay Accounts Payable for December 2023 in the amount of \$214,175.83.
In Favor: 4 Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed: 0 Carried

Municipal By-election

24-27 Fowlow/Aylward
Be it resolved that the Town of Stephenville will hold a Municipal By-Election on March 6, 2024. As per the Municipal Elections Act, SNL 2001, c.M-20.2, as amended Section 13(1): The Town Clerk shall be the returning officer for an election held under this Act.
In Favor: 4 Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed: 0 Carried

Nomination Period

24-28 Fowlow/White
Be it resolved In accordance with the provisions of Section 14(2) of the Municipal Elections Act, SNL 2001, c.M-20-2, as amended that the nomination of candidates will take place on February 5-6 from 9:00 a.m – 4:00 p.m at the Town Office.

In Favor:	4	Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed:	0	Carried

Port Harmon Authority Ltd. and 69385 Newfoundland and Labrador Inc.

24-29 Fowlow/White

Be it resolved that the accrued balance for 2023 and prior for principal property tax, business tax and water & sewer taxes and related interest estimated to be \$415,263.90 as of April 2024 be written off in consideration of \$350,000.00 payment being made by March 31, 2024, on accounts in the name of Port Harmon Authority Ltd. and 69385 Newfoundland and Labrador Inc.

In Favor:	4	Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed:	0	Carried

PERMITS AND MUNICIPAL PLAN

Councillor White presented the recommendations from the Planning and Traffic committee meeting held on January 22nd, 2024.

133 Carolina Avenue- Indian Head Solutions Ltd.

24-30 White/Aylward

Be it resolved to issue a permit to occupy the building, do minor interior renovations and erect a sign on the property located at 133 Carolina Avenue, subject to compliance with all Town Regulations and approval of Service NL.

In Favor:	4	Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed:	0	Carried

43 West Street- Dynamic Occupational Health Services

24-31 White/Aylward

Be it resolved to issue a permit to relocate the existing business to accommodate a medical clinic and an Occupational Health and Safety Testing Centre in the building located at 43 West Street, subject to compliance with all Town Regulations and approval of Service NL.

In Favor:	4	Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed:	0	Carried

263 Carolina Ave- Nixon Metals

24-32 White/Fowlow

Be it resolved to issue a permit to dig 5 boreholes on the property located at 263 Carolina Ave to complete environmental assessment.

In Favor:	4	Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward
Opposed:	0	Carried

BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Councillor White

Councillor White, advised she attended a meeting at the College of the North Atlantic where they introduced a new partnership with SpacesShared. It's an online platform that helps pair seniors with empty rooms in their homes with students.

Mayor Rose

Mayor Rose noted the Federal Government has announced a program for homeowners to receive a subsidy to renovate basement apartments to alleviate homelessness and housing shortages.

He acknowledged staff of the fire department were present in the chambers; he welcomed the fire chief and one of the captains. Stating the fire department is composed of both career firefighters and auxiliary firefighters. He noted the town recently purchased a suburban vehicle for the department, the purchase was allocated in the budget, and it will be used to support rapid response to emergencies. The equipment will also used as a response vehicle for substation in bottom brook, the MOU with Emera provided funding to support the department's ability to respond.

He acknowledged the Town of Stephenville airport was left out of the RFP for Heart Force One; and this is a problem. This service provides air travel to and from the Health Science centre for same day procedures. He noted we will communicate with the elected representatives to demand the RFP be changed to include Stephenville, and he suggested there should be consequences to whomever made this error of omitting. The residents of Stephenville and our surrounding communities deserve this service just like everyone else.

Councillor Aylward

She clarified that the Stephenville Hospital Foundation Board is different than the Hospital Health Board. She acknowledged the Foundation is doing well, and she has volunteered almost 31 years with the board, with 30 years as chairperson.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

ADJOURNMENT

24-33

White/Aylward

Resolved that since there is no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:55p.m.

In Favor: 4

Fowlow, Rose, White, Aylward

Opposed: 0

Carried