

## **PUBLIC MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**November 21, 2024**

A public council meeting was held at the Town of Stephenville Town office on Thursday November 21, 2024

Present: Tom Rose Mayor, Chairperson  
Susan Fowlow Deputy Mayor  
Laura Aylward Councillor  
Maurice Hynes Councillor  
Tom O'Brien Councillor  
Darren Roberts Councillor

Regrets: Myra White Councillor

Staff: Bill Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer  
Candace Simon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Jennifer Brake, Town Clerk  
Marilee Joy-Castillo, Communication Officer  
Matt Simms, Planning and Development Manager  
Mike Ratter, Community, Economic, and Industrial Development Manager

### **CALL TO ORDER**

**24-345** Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

The meeting was called to order at 12:10pm

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
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**

**24-346** Moved by Councillor Aylward, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to approve the agenda for November 21, 2024 as presented.

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**24-347** Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved to approve Public Meeting of Council minutes dated November 7, 2024 as circulated

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

None

## **PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

None

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **FINANCE**

#### **Accounts Payable**

**24-348** Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved to pay accounts payable dated November 21, 2024, in the amount of \$154,202.73

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

#### **Expense Cheques**

**24-349** Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved to approve expense cheques for the month of October in the amount of \$384.093.54

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

#### **Water and Sewer Tax**

**24-350** Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Aylward

Be it Resolved to approve water and sewer adjustments of \$2336.33

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

### **Preliminary Engineering for Wastewater Treatment Expansion**

**24-351** Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved to approve Sharpe Management Inc to complete preliminary engineering for future Wastewater Treatment Expansion in the amount of \$7500.00 plus HST

Question was called

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

### **Christmas Adventure Event**

**24-352** Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved to approve \$10,000 for the Town of Stephenville Christmas Adventure Event on Main Street taking place on December 20, 2024 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

### **Community Grant**

**24-353** Moved by Deputy Mayor Fowlow, Seconded by Councillor O'Brien

Be it Resolved to approve Zion Pentecostal Church \$8000 to support changing heat source from oil fueled to electric for the annex portion of the building. The annex offers space and support to many not-for profits community groups. The location also hosts monthly community cafes.

Question was called, Deputy CAO stated the organization received funding from gov't to support the project and the amount requested is their contribution that's required.

In Favor: 4 Aylward, Fowlow, O'Brien, Rose  
Opposed: 2 Hynes, Roberts **Defeated**

## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Approve Comprehensive Development Plan**

**24-354** Moved by Councillor Aylward, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved to approve Comprehensive Development Plan as submitted for Stephenville Medical Clinic located on 150 Minnesota Drive.

Question was called:

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried

## **BY-LAWS, REGULATIONS, POLICYS**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Councillor Hynes**

Extended appreciation to the Public Works Director and Planning and Development Manager for their politeness and diligence when communicating with the residents during the construction of Russell Heights, expressing they were very helpful.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Mayor Rose**

He extended a thank you to the management team and staff in the public works department for their hard work over the weekend to complete maintenance on well No. 1. He acknowledged public works staff responsibilities require working in extreme weather conditions, working long hours to address emergencies; their dedication is appreciated.

Advised that the town has completed Russell Heights Project (water, sewer, curb and gutter work), the town's contribution of twenty percent equals approximately \$226,000. Paving projects on Queen Street and Georgia Drive cost approximately \$400,000 this was allocated from provincial funding and was no cost to the taxpayers. The Town has completed over two million dollars in projects with minimum cost to the taxpayers.

Advised Stephenville has received global attention and Mr. John Risley indicated there is potential to build further industry related to data campus for artificial intelligence in addition to the Hydrogen plant.

#### **Chief Administrative Officer**

The upgrades to Well No.1 have resulted in a fifty percent increase in water production, currently producing 600 gallons per minute; a testament to the effectiveness and hard work of staff, furthermore he thanked businesses for their cooperation during the water consumption notice.

#### **Vandalism of Fire Hydrants**

The town experienced two separate incidents of fire hydrants being opened in acts of vandalism; stating tampering with hydrants can put our community at risk but also, it's a

criminal offence. The incidents have been reported to the RCMP and the Deputy Mayor noted citizens can anonymously report suspicious activity through crime stoppers.

### **Councillor Aylward**

She provided an update on Health Care

### **Public Announcement**

The West Coast Action Committee will be holding an open forum on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at the College of the North Atlantic, Lecture Theater to hear public concerns on health care.

Two additional doctors will be joining the Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital Emergency Department.

### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**24-355** Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor White

Resolved that since there is no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm

In Favor: 6 Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, O'Brien, Roberts, Rose  
Opposed: 0 Carried