

PUBLIC MEETING OF COUNCIL
March 20, 2025

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

The Meeting was called by Mayor Rose at 4:04 pm.

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

25-59 Moved by Councillor Roberts, Seconded by Councillor White

Be it Resolved to approve the Agenda for March 20, 2025 as presented.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

25-60 Moved by Councillor Hynes, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2025 Public meeting.

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

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

PROCLAMATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None

FINANCE COMMITTEE**Accounts Payable****25-61** Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it Resolved to approve accounts payable for March 20, 2025 in the amount of \$178,493.43 as presented.

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

Approval To Travel**25-62** Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Aylward

Be it Resolved to approve one council member and one staff member to attend FCM annual conference and trade show 2025 in Ottawa from May 29 – June 1, 2025.

In Favor:	6	Aylward, Fowlow, Hynes, Rose, O'Brien, White
Opposed:	1	Roberts Carried

Approval to Borrow – Russell Heights Reconstruction**25-63** Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it resolved that the Town Council of Stephenville borrow from the Royal Bank of Canada, St. John's, NL for Project Number #17-GI-24-00025, Russell Heights Reconstruction, in the amount of One Hundred Eighty- Two Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty-Eight Dollars (\$182,758.23) for a term of three (3) Years with an amortization period of twenty (20) years. The interest rate will be 4.1 % with a payment amount of one thousand one hundred seventeen dollars and forty cents (\$1,117.40) in monthly blended payments.

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

Approval to Borrow - Main Street Reconstruction**25-64** Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Roberts

Be it resolved that the Town Council of Stephenville borrow from the Royal Bank of Canada, St. John's, NL for Project #17-GI-23-00069 Main Street Reconstruction, in the amount of six hundred eighty thousand, two hundred six dollars and ninety five cents (\$680,206.95) for a Term of three (3) Years with an amortization period of Twenty (20) years. The interest rate will be 4.10% with a payment amount of four thousand one hundred fifty-eight dollars and eighty-four cents (\$4,158.84) in monthly blended payments.

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

Request for Sponsorship

25-65 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Hynes

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville purchase advertisement in the local Chapter of Royal Arch Masons souvenir booklet in the amount of \$100.00 to support their Annual Grand Convocation.

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

Request for Sponsorship

25-66 Moved by Councillor White, Seconded by Councillor Aylward

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville purchase ½ page advertisement in Explore Downhome Travel Guide in the amount of \$1,250.

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

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**Approval to submit Application – Green Municipal Fund**

25-67 Moved by Councillor Aylward, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved that the town council approve to submit application to Green Municipal Fund for climate risk assessment and prioritized adaptation plan project for the Town of Stephenville.

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

Development Regulation Amendment No. 19, 2025

25-68 Moved by Councillor Aylward, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

The proposed development Regulation Amendment No. 19, 2025 was advertised and no objections were received.

Be it Resolved that the Town of Stephenville Adopt Development Regulation Amendment No. 19, 2025 – Cluster Development. Cluster Development will be a Discretionary Use within the Zones: Residential Medium Density, Residential Special, Commercial General, and Public Use to increase housing development.

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

BY-LAWS, REGULATIONS, POLICYS

Amendment to Delegation of Planning Authority Policy

25-69 Moved by Mayor Rose, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Fowlow

Be it Resolved to approve Town of Stephenville Delegation of Planning Authority Policy amendment No.1, 2025.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Hynes

Main Street Reconstruction –Acknowledged staff have commenced project discussions.

NEW BUSINESS

Councillor Roberts

At the request of the family, they extended an invitation to join them to celebrate the life of Egbert Gale. Tentative date is April 24 or April 26.

Mayor Rose

He stated he attended the funeral of the late Tommy Gallant, remembering his passion for golf and walking Little Port Harmon. Councillor Hynes expressed he was also a legion member for forty years.

Suggested contacting the Minister of Transportation to proactively address the common issue of flooding in Noel's Pond, and request equipment be deployed to remove the buildup from beneath the bridge before it becomes an issue. CAO confirmed to communicate the concerns.

Chief Administrative Officer

Stated he will follow up with the Minister of Transportation to address future flooding at Noel's Pond bridge.

The Town of Stephenville was one of the communities given the opportunity to be a part of housing needs analysis study in conjunction with Memorial University and with the support of Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador. This study will provide import data on the housing initiatives when applying for government funding programs and for future developers.

Councillor Roberts

Acknowledged the Lighting Senior Hockey team had a successful year overall, and he is looking forward to next season.

Deputy CAO

In response to a question by Mayor Rose, she stated that the cultural space will have two additional wigwams being added this year. Funding from Arts NL has enabled the commissioning of an artist to design these new wigwams, which will be erected in the spring. Additionally, the Mi'kmaw Cultural Foundation has applied for funding to further enhance the space. In partnership with the Mi'kmaw Cultural Foundation and in collaboration with local Indigenous groups the cultural space will continue to expand and develop into a space for everyone to share and celebrate history. An unveiling ceremony is being planned around National Indigenous Peoples Day.

We supported the Lions Club and the Community Education Network in applying for funding to address food security in our community.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

ADJOURNMENT

25-70 Moved by Councillor O'Brien, Seconded by Councillor White

Resolved that since there is no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm

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

Mayor

Town Clerk