

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council Wednesday, December 19, 2018 @ 4:30 pm Council Chambers

Present:	P. Farwell	Mayor
	T. Pollett	Deputy Mayor
	R. Anstey	Councillor
	G. Brown	Councillor
	B. Dove	Councillor
	O. Fudge	Councillor
	P. Woodford	Councillor
Advisory and Resource:	D. Chafe	CAO
	G. Brown	Town Clerk
	J. Blackwood	Director of Engineering
	N. Newell	Director of Recreation & Community Services
	T. Barron	Director of Municipal Works
	H. Lowe	Fire Chief
	R. Locke	Development Director
	K. White	Information and Communications Coordinator
	E. Fisher	Youth Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

2. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

2018 Santa Claus Parade Winners

The Gander Lions Club and Deputy Mayor Pollett presented the Santa Claus Parade awards to the following:

Commercial (Large) – C & P Motorsports/Action Truck Caps

Commercial (Small) – Jerry's Car Sales

Non-Commercial – MADD

Family / Neighborhood – 1st United Scouts

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council reviewed the agenda and approved as attached.

Motion #18-307

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Woodford and seconded by Councillor Fudge that the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council on December 19, 2018 be adopted as amended.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

4. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Motion #18-308

Regular Minutes for Approval

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pollett that the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of Council on November 28, 2018 be adopted as presented.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

6. REPORTS – STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Recreation & Community Living:

The Recreation & Community Living report was presented by Deputy Mayor Pollett.

The Recreation & Community Living meeting was held on December 10, 2018. The meeting was chaired by T. Pollett, Deputy Mayor. Other members present included: G. Brown, Councillor; B. Dove, Councillor; O. Fudge, Councillor; N. Newell, Director of Recreation & Community Services; B. Freeborn, Administrative Coordinator.

The following items were discussed:

Adventure Trail Update

The Director updated the Committee on the Adventure Trail. At a previous Committee meeting, it was explained that this trail falls within the buffer zone for Gander Lake and that the Dept. of Municipal Affairs advised that it would be best if the Town submit the application for approval of this trail within the buffer zone instead of the Adventure Trail Group.

There was a misunderstanding at the meeting with Municipal Affairs and since then, the representative advised that they cannot issue permits for developments inside the buffer zone and the proposal should be modified such that the development is outside the buffer zone. He noted that there is no point in submitting applications for areas that we cannot approve, regardless of who the proponent is.

The Committee would like the Directors of Recreation & Engineering to proceed with putting in the application within the buffer zone as they feel there is no hazard to this area for a natural trail of this type. They would also like this item to be put on the next agenda to discuss with Minister Haggie.

Gander Flyers Request

There was a scheduled Senior Hockey Game for November 23rd, however, the visiting team, Clarendville Caribous, informed the Gander Flyers a couple days before that they would not be coming due to not having enough players. The game is to be rescheduled for a later date. The Gander Flyers wrote asking that they not be charged for the November 23rd game because the game was not canceled but just rescheduled.

The Director noted that there was no staff scheduling problems due to the cancellation and the user group that was canceled for the game was put back in the schedule. The Department has advised the Flyers of some dates for the rescheduled game where no user groups will be negatively affected by putting this game back in. Patrons who had bought tickets for the game were advised that they could use the tickets for the rescheduled game. However, there were still a number who wanted a refund. This did require some time for staff to process the refunds.

The Committee felt that if the game could be rescheduled to a time when there was open ice, they agreed to not charging for the game. However, they feel that there should be an administration fee charged for the time it took for staff to do the refunds which is approximately one day's salary at a cost of \$263.00. Also, if the game is not rescheduled, the Gander Flyers will be required to pay for the game that was cancelled at a cost of \$1,350 plus HST.

Councillor Woodford questioned why would we charge the Flyers if the ice was rebooked. He feels they should pay \$263 plus the three hours of unused ice and asked the Committee to review the recommendation and the Committee agreed.

Outdoor Rink

The Committee discussed having an outdoor rink at the Gander Ball Field again this winter. The Director advised that the Department is not recommending it because of the number of staff hours required to build and maintain the rink and because the weather does not make it feasible.

The Committee advised that they would like to try it again in January because it does get a lot of use from the community. They would like staff to use a plastic liner this year along with the boards. The Director will advise staff to prepare for this in the new year.

Provincial Trail Race

The Director spoke with the Chairperson of the Trail Running Newfoundland and Labrador Committee regarding a race they would like to host at the Cobb's Pond Rotary Park boardwalk sometime between May and September of 2019. This will be an endurance race and it would last for either 12 or 24 hours. The boardwalk would need to be closed to the public while this race was taking place.

The Committee thought this was a good event to host in Gander and asked the Director to work out the logistics with the representative. The Director will also speak with the Gander Running Club who may be interested in helping with the event.

Winter Carnival Date

The Department has selected the weekend of February 22-23, 2019 as the date for Gander's Winter Carnival. Staff will be working on events and a schedule will be released in the new year. Any group interested in running an event is asked to contact the Department at 651-5927.

Upcoming events

- | | | |
|----|------------|--|
| a) | Dec 23: | Minor Hockey Alumni Game |
| b) | Jan 4 - 6: | Gander Minor Hockey Atom Tournament |
| c) | Jan 6: | Kelly Ford Gander Flyers vs. GFW Cataracts |
| d) | Jan 12: | Kelly Ford Gander Flyers vs. Southern Shore Breakers |
| e) | Jan 13: | Kelly Ford Gander Flyers vs. Northeast Eagles |

B. Public Safety & Protective Services Committee:

The Public Safety & Protective Services Committee report was presented by Councillor Woodford.

The Public Safety & Protective Services Committee was held on December 11, 2018. The meeting was chaired by P. Woodford, Councillor. Other members present included: T. Pollett, Deputy Mayor; G. Brown, Councillor; B. Dove, Councillor; O. Fudge, Councillor; H. Lowe, Fire Chief; L. Small, Administrative Assistant.

The following items were discussed:

Delegation – 54 Bennett Drive

The Committee met with the owner of 54 Bennett Drive to discuss safety concerns and incidents that have occurred at her property due to the sharp turn and traffic at this location.

The homeowner cited ten near miss incidents involving vehicles on her and her neighbours property. She feels that the risk is sufficient enough to not allow her children to leave the house unattended, play in the driveway or cross the road without assistance. As an extra precaution, she moved the bedrooms up a level so the children would not be harmed should a vehicle come through the bottom level of the house. It is particularly unsafe during the winter when the sidewalks are not clear and the snowbanks block visibility on the turn in both directions.

The owner is looking for help from the Town to alleviate this serious safety issue on this turn. Some items that were suggested were to install warning signs and possibly speed bumps. Also, in winter, if the slush could be removed better on the turn and spread more salt so vehicles aren't sliding so much into their driveway.

The Committee agreed that this is a safety concern and will check with Public Works and Services and Engineering for other possible solutions to help alleviate this situation for the winter and investigate further in the spring.

Signage -Crosswalk on Magee and Penney Road

At the previous committee meeting in October, concerns were raised about the signage being inadequate on Magee Road when approaching the school zone area while travelling south from Gander Bay. Municipal Enforcement was asked to investigate and have found no issue with the signage in that area. However, the Gander Elementary School Council would still like to see a bigger, more visible sign in this area.

The problem with this area is speed and it was suggested that the Town's flashing mobile sign be put in place as an immediate deterrent. This could be placed at the corner of Rowsell Boulevard, just back from Penney Road or off Raynham where the shoulder is wider. The exact location will be determined after consultation with Public Works.

The Committee is also recommending that a section of Magee should be designated a School Zone and the speed reduced to 30 km per hour.

This item is now referred to the Public Works and Services Department for review and recommendations to Council.

There is also a need for a 15 km per hour speed sign inside the parking lot at Gander Elementary. There is one at the entrance to the parking lot but not on the exit side and vehicles are speeding up when exiting back out onto Penney Road. The Public Works Department will be asked to install another sign until Penney Road is developed.

Crosswalk at College of the North Atlantic

The Committee discussed the pedestrian count conducted during the week of November 5-9th, 2018 on Magee Road by the Regency Apartments and the College of the North Atlantic. The count indicated that 11 people were crossing for a total of 44 crossings per day. It also noted that there were approximately 20-25 people crossing to attend St. Paul's and Gander Collegiate. These pedestrians are coming from the trail behind the Regency apartment building from Memorial Drive.

The Committee agreed that this item would be deferred until April 2019.

Traffic Lights- Airport/Markham Place

The Committee discussed the traffic lights at the Airport and Markham intersection and whether it would be feasible to relocate these lights to the Cooper and Memorial intersection; there will be lights required there within the next few years.

It was also suggested that they be changed to flashing yellow on Airport Boulevard and flashing red on Lindberg and Markham as traffic in this area is not as heavy as it once was. The Committee agreed that a pedestrian count is required prior to relocating them or making any significant changes to the light operations at this intersection.

This item is now referred to the Engineering Department for review and recommendation.

Policy PS-003 Municipal Enforcement Overtime and On Call Policy

The Fire Chief presented the PS-003 Policy for rescinding. This policy is no longer required as Municipal Enforcement officers are no longer on call, overtime is covered under the Town's general overtime policy and this Policy been approved by Management for removal.

Motion #18-309

Policy PS-003 Municipal Enforcement Overtime and On Call Policy

Moved by Councillor Woodford and seconded by Councillor Brown that Policy number PS-003 be rescinded.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Bonfire Site

The Fire Chief reported that at a recent meeting with the Gander Elementary School Council they expressed their displeasure with the annual Bonfire event remaining at the present location. They have concerns about contaminants in the smoke as residents drop off too many items that are not suitable for burning.

The Public Works Department have tried to control this but cannot continuously sort the pile. After exhaustive searching for a better location, no alternative site was found and the Committee recommends that the event be cancelled.

Any funds associated with the event can be used towards another event and if anyone has any suggestions for a new location please contact the Town of Gander.

Council is reluctant to cancel the event but can't continue as is. They need another location or have to change the event to make it more acceptable.

C. Public Works & Services Committee:

The Public Works & Services Committee report was presented by Councillor Fudge.

The Public Works & Services Committee meeting was held on December 12, 2018. The meeting was chaired by O. Fudge, Councillor. Other members present included: R. Anstey, Councillor; G. Brown, Councillor; T. Barron, Director of Municipal Works & Services; G. Whitt, Administrative Support Clerk.

The following items were discussed:

Salt Shed, Public Communication

The Committee is pleased to advise that construction of the new salt storage shed is complete and is under budget by approximately \$120,000.

The salt storage shed will replace the existing shed that had structural and capacity issues and had reached the end of its useful life. Our new salt shed will have a capacity of 3,000 tonnes of salt.

19 Wilcockson Crescent

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the owner of 19 Wilcockson Crescent requesting reimbursement for the costs incurred to free a blocked sewer lateral. It was determined that a recent test pit excavation by the Town in the vicinity was the cause of a collapsed pipe, and the source of the blockage. In this instance, pipe failure falls within Policy MW030 guidelines for reimbursement. It is recommended the owner of 19 Wilcockson Crescent be paid \$655.50 to cover the costs incurred to investigate the cause of a blocked sewer lateral.

Motion #18-310

19 Wilcockson Crescent

Moved by Councillor Fudge and seconded by Councillor Anstey that the owner of 19 Wilcockson Crescent be paid \$655.50 to cover the costs incurred to investigate the cause of a blocked sewer lateral.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tender Summary, 2019 Waste Transfer Station

The Committee reviewed the following Tenders:

1. Tender Summary 18-24, Operation of a Waste Transfer Station
2. Tender Summary 18-25, Provide Containers and Disposal Services

Both tenders received were bid significantly higher than that of the previous contract. The Committee agrees it will require further information before making a recommendation. Staff will prepare a cost estimate showing how much it would cost to do the work in-house.

D. Development, Tourism & Culture Committee:

The Development, Tourism & Culture Committee report was presented by Councillor Brown.

The Development, Tourism & Culture Committee meeting was held on December 12, 2018. The meeting was chaired by G. Brown, Councillor. Other members present included: R. Anstey, Councillor; O. Fudge, Councillor; R. Locke, Development Director.

The following items were discussed:

Memorial University Faculty of Medicine Funding Request

The Committee reviewed a request from Memorial University's Faculty of Medicine, Central Stream.

The Canadian Resident Matching Service is conducting interviews in St. John's January 14-16, 2019 and are requesting that the Town of Gander provide the funding necessary for a local physician to attend these interviews.

The request further indicates that having a physician representative attend in person significantly increases the opportunity of recruiting the best family medicine resident-training physicians for Gander.

The Committee is recommending providing financial support for this initiative. The Committee is aware of the shortage that currently exists in the number of physicians practicing family medicine and the impact it has on the citizens of Gander.

This support would cover the costs of accommodations for 3 nights including the cost of fuel for the return trip to Gander. Funding for the cost of the event has been included in the 2019 budget.

Development of Regional ATV Trails

Councillor Fudge advised the Committee that he has been approached by Councillors from some surrounding municipalities about developing a regional ATV trail.

He communicated that this would have a significant impact on the tourism sector and the regional economy. The proposed trail would connect users travelling from Gander to Lewisporte and communities along the way.

Councillor Fudge indicated that he would be willing to take the lead in coordinating a meeting of regional elected officials to get an idea of their vision.

The Director communicated that the Tourism Development Officer would be able to assist in a supportive role however, due to the priorities set forth by the Committee, does not have the time to take the lead on this proposed initiative.

The Director also suggested that the trails which navigate users throughout the Town should be improved before resources are committed to the creation of a regional trail.

The Committee feels that this is a good initiative for Councillor Fudge to lead and refers it to Council for further discussion.

Council was okay with Councillor Fudge proceeding as long as no commitments are made.

Business Achievement Award Recipients

The Committee would like to extend congratulations to the winners of this year's Joe and Clarice Goodyear Business Achievement Awards. Seven businesses and organizations received awards this year.

Usually six awards are handed out however; there was a tie in the Business of the Year category. They are as follows:

- Robbins Trucking of Lumsden - Joe & Clarice Goodyear Business Achievement Award
- CARSTAR Gander- Business of the Year
- Rebecca Redmond MacLean Law Office PLC Inc.- Business of the Year
- Paws-N-Shop- Customer Service Award
- Gander Lions Club- Helping Hands Award
- Karma Kafe and Find Junque - Environmental Award
- Jumping Bean Gander- Small Business Award

The Committee would also like to extend congratulations to all 44 nominees for their hard work and dedication in growing our regional economy.

The Committee would also like to acknowledge Kyle Fraser of Gander Collegiate for receiving a \$500.00 scholarship from the Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce.

Review of Sign Regulations

The Committee expressed concerns about whether the current sign regulations meet the needs of the business community, our residents and visitors. The Committee feels that these regulations should allow businesses various means of promotion while not negatively impacting the safety, operations, infrastructure and aesthetics of the Town.

The Committee has asked staff to work with the Engineering department to review the current regulations for discussion at a future Committee meeting.

Tax Abatement Investment Incentive Policy -1st Reading

The Committee reviewed the proposed *Tax Abatement Investment Incentive Policy* for the first reading.

This Policy has been established to support Council's mandate which is to encourage significant new business investment within the Town of Gander while helping to diversify the economy and stimulate new private sector jobs.

The Town of Gander Tax Abatement Investment Incentives Policy would be available to individuals, investors, cooperatives or corporate bodies interested in establishing or expanding a commercial, industrial or research and development enterprise within the municipal boundaries of the Town of Gander.

The terms of the Tax Abatement shall be negotiated on a case-by-case basis and specified in a Tax Abatement Agreement. The extent and duration of any granted tax abatement shall be at the sole discretion of Council.

The Town of Gander Tax Abatement Investment Incentives Policy may be offered in conjunction with, or independent of, other federal or provincial incentive programs.

Any incentive approved by Council will not give the business a direct advantage over other existing businesses in the Town of Gander.

The Committee agreed with the Policy and presents it to Council for its first reading.

Mayor Farwell said the policy shouldn't limit it to tax abatements and Council could include other things such as permits, land etc.

Art Procurement

Councillor Brown said she is very pleased with the interest in art procurement this year. We have received 25 submissions which is the most entries we have ever received. Winners will be announced at the January 16th Council meeting.

E. Engineering, Planning & Controls:

The Engineering, Planning & Controls Committee report was presented by Councillor Anstey.

The Engineering, Planning & Controls Committee meeting was held on December 13, 2018. The meeting was chaired by R. Anstey, Councillor. Other members present included: P. Woodford, Councillor; O. Fudge, Councillor; G. Brown, Councillor; T. Pollett, Deputy Mayor; J. Blackwood, Director of Engineering; J. Hillier, Administrative Assistant.

The following items were discussed:

Lindbergh Road – Proposed Adjustments

The Committee discussed the option of completely closing off the entrance to Lindbergh Road from Airport Boulevard and extend the green space in that area. The Director advised that the following items should be considered prior to any further work on that reconfiguration:

- Access road to the ballfield behind Cohen's could be compromised
- May require Parking for Cenotaph
- Installation of signals at Fraser/Airport and eliminate midblock at Curling Club
- Airport entrance to Curling Club may be closed
- Consider making Markham Right Out Only.

The Director advised that before any changes are made, the Engineering Department strongly recommends a traffic study be completed to determine the potential impact of the proposed reconfiguration.

After much discussion, the Committee feels that closing off Lindbergh Road and making those adjustments as proposed is not warranted therefore, does not recommend that the Engineering Department pursue this project further.

54 Bennett Drive – Speed Hump

The Public Safety Committee asked the Engineering Committee to discuss the installation of speed humps in front of 54 Bennett Drive. It was brought to the attention of the Public Safety Committee that some residents are experiencing major concerns with speeding on the turn near 54 Bennett Drive.

The Director advised that according to the Transportation Association of Canada Standards, speed humps may be used as an effective means of traffic calming and also advised that the Engineering Department has no issues with them being installed.

The Committee agrees with the installation and forwards this item to the Public Works Department for further discussion and follow up.

F. Finance & Administration:

The Finance and Administration Committee report was presented by Councillor Dove.

The Finance & Administration Committee meeting was held on December 13, 2018. The meeting was chaired by P. Woodford, Councillor. Other members present included: B. Dove, Councillor/Chair (via telephone); G. Brown, Councillor; T. Pollett, Deputy Mayor; G. Brown, Director of Finance.

The following items were discussed:

Invoice for Approval**OPERATING**

1. Aptean	
Acct: 00-120-1000-7010 – Software Maintenance 2019	\$20,961.60
Spent: \$0.00 Budget: \$20,000.00	
Total operating invoices for approval	\$20,961.60

The Director of Finance advised that the invoice met the policies of the Town of Gander.

Councillor Brown left the meeting.

Motion #18-311**Invoice for Approval**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pollett that the invoice be paid as presented.

In Favour: 6 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Municipal Assessment Agency – Bill 34

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Municipal Assessment Agency regarding changes recently made to the Municipal Assessment Act. Commencing in 2020 property reassessments will be done on an annual basis. They are currently done every three years.

The other change that will have an impact on the public is that the time frame for appealing assessments will be increasing from 30 days to 60 days.

177 Elizabeth Drive – Sign Application Fee

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the owners of 177 Elizabeth Drive about the permit fee for the sign that they erected on their property. They were charged double the normal fee because they had not made application to put up the sign before doing so. The property owner is asking that they not be charged the double fee.

The Committee reviewed the issue with staff that had dealt with the property owner. He advised that there have been several issues with signage and that this was not the first time there had been an issue. The Committee is not prepared to recommend reducing the fee.

Councillor Brown returned to the meeting.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Vehicle Allowance

The Director of Finance advised Council that when the Supervisor of Human Resources was auditing the vehicle allowance payments to staff, she noticed that the amount approved in the minutes for the Director of Recreation did not correspond with the amount she is being paid. When the changes were made in 2017, the Recreation Director was getting \$6,500/year and the plan was to reduce that to \$4,500/year, however the minutes reflected \$3,000.

The Committee was in agreement that the payment should be \$4,500.

Motion #18-312

Director of Recreation and Community Services Vehicle Allowance

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Woodford that the Vehicle Allowance for the Director of Recreation and Community Services be set at \$4,500/year.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tender – Sale of Land 150 Memorial Drive

The Town put residential backland behind 150 Memorial Drive up for public tender and two bids were received. Both bids were for the same amount. The Committee felt that that it made more sense to sell the land to the person whose property it is was behind and as such is recommending the land be sold to Gerald and Diane Lomond.

Motion #18-313

Tender – Sale of Land 150 Memorial Drive

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Anstey that the land behind 150 Memorial Drive under Tender 18-21 be sold to Gerald and Diane Lomond at a price of \$3,600 plus HST.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tender – Sale of Land 10 Cotton Street

The Committee reviewed the tender results for the sale of backland behind 10 Cotton Street. One bid was received.

Motion #18-314**Tender – Sale of Land 10 Cotton Street**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Fudge that the land behind 10 Cotton Street under Tender 18-20 be sold to Fern Inglefield at a price of \$2,990 plus HST.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Tender – Operation of Waste Transfer Station

The Committee reviewed the tender results for the Operation of the Waste Transfer Station on McCurdy Drive. There was one bid received which was from PBO Industrial Disposal Inc. The amount bid was significantly higher than the current contract price and the number of events will have to be reduced in order to keep the service within budget.

Motion #18-315**Tender – Operation of Waste Transfer Station**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Fudge that the tender for the Operation of the Waste Transfer Station be awarded to PBO Industrial Disposal Inc. at a price of \$4,830.00 HST included per event.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Included in the tender PBO is stipulating that the fee charged per user of the site be increased from \$5 to \$10.

Tender – Provision of Containers and Disposal Service

The Committee reviewed the tender results for the Supply of Waste Containers at three municipal facilities namely the Beaverwood and Magee Sewage Treatment Plants and the Steele Community Centre. One bid was received on the tender.

Motion #18-316**Tender – Provision of Containers and Disposal Service**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Woodford that Tender 18-25 be awarded to PBO Industrial Disposal Inc., as attached.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Removal Order – 20 McCurdy Drive

The Owner of 20 McCurdy Drive has constructed a fence that does not meet municipal standards and as such has to be removed.

Motion #18-317**Removal Order – 20 McCurdy Drive**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Fudge that a Removal Order be issued for the fence at 20 McCurdy Drive.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Appointment of Director of Public Safety and Protective Services/Fire Chief

The Town recently carried out a competition for the permanent position of Director of Public Safety and Protective Services/Fire Chief and the Hiring Committee is recommending that Council hire Harold Lowe.

Councillor Dove read out the following biography of Mr. Lowe:

Harold Lowe, the newly appointed Director of Public Safety and Protective Services/Fire Chief, has been in the fire industry for 35 years and has been a structural firefighter in both volunteer and career departments, and in the oil/gas field. Harold also spent 24 years as an active Primary Care Paramedic. In 2007, Harold moved to New Brunswick from Northern Alberta. He is a Serving Officer in the Order of St. John.

Before being appointed Temporary Fire Chief in June of 2018 with the Town of Gander, Harold was the first full time Fire Chief in Sussex, NB. Prior to that, he was a Training Officer with the Moncton Fire Department.

Harold is a proud father of 17-year-old Hunter and 15-year-old Hayley. His wife, Tracey, is from Comfort Cove and is looking forward to returning to Newfoundland next summer.

Motion #18-318**Appointment of Director of Public Safety and Protective Services/Fire Chief**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pollett that Harold Lowe be appointed the permanent Director of Public Safety and Protective Services/Fire Chief with the Town of Gander.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Change Order #9 - CBCL

The Committee reviewed Change Order #9 with CBCL who are carrying out the construction inspections for the Wastewater Treatment Plant project. A Change Order is required because the contract has gone longer than the timeframe specified in the contract, as such an additional inspection fee is required. All charges by CBCL will be recovered from the contractor.

Motion #18-319**Change Order #9 - CBCL**

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Anstey that Change Order #9 with CBCL in the amount of \$27,334.70 HST inclusive be approved.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

G. Other Reports:

None.

7. ADMINISTRATION

None.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

2019 Budget

Councillor Dove presented the 2019 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Motion #18-320

2019 Tax Rates, Rental Rates and Fees

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Woodford approval of the various 2019 Tax Rates, Rental Rates and Fees which have been established within this Budget, as attached.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Councillor Brown stated that she supported the budget with the exception of the stipend increase. She is against the increase and will not be taking it. In principal, she doesn't agree with Council increasing stipends to counter a federal tax increase.

Councillor Anstey stated that he was in favour of the increase and he felt that if Council did not do this now that a future Council would have to bring in a larger increase to catch up.

Motion #18-321

Due Date for Payment of All Taxes

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Woodford that March 31, 2019, be established as the due date for payment of all taxes.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Motion #18-322

Interest Rate on Arrears

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Woodford that all taxes that are in arrears after March 31, 2019, will be charged a simple interest rate of 12% per annum and will be charged at the end of the month. For those property owners who elect to pay their property tax monthly by post-dated cheque or pre-authorized bank payment, the due date is the last banking day of the month in which the tax is payable and will be considered overdue if unpaid after the end of the month. The simple interest rate will be set at 12% per annum.

All other invoices, including those issued because of supplementary assessments, are due 30 days from the date of issue and all invoices in arrears at the end of the month following the issuance will be subject to simple interest charges of 12% per annum.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Motion #18-323
5-Year Capital Plan

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Woodford adoption of the 5-Year Capital Plan as attached.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Motion #18-324
2019 Operating & Capital Budgets

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Councillor Anstey adoption of the 2019 Operating & Capital Budgets as presented.

Included in the budget is an increase in council stipends to offset the change in federal tax legislation coming down in 2019. Currently 1/3 of council stipends are tax exempt. This exemption has been eliminated in 2019.

Councillor Brown stated that she is supporting the budget but does not agree with the stipend increase. She advised that she would not be accepting the increase. Councillor Dove said that he fully supported the increase and that taxpayers have the ultimate say in the next election.

Councillor Fudge stated that he agreed with Councillor Brown and would not be taking the increase.

Mayor Farwell said that he supported the proposed change.

Councillor Woodford stated that he agreed with the recommendation.

Deputy Mayor Pollett said she doesn't like the situation either but she has decided to support it.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Recreation Facility Funding Request

As discussed in the 2019 Budget Speech the Town is planning to apply for funding to construct a new multiplex and soccer/track facility under the new Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program which is a cost shared program between all three levels of government.

Motion #18-325

Recreation Facility Funding Request

Moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pollett that the Town of Gander make application for funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to construct a multiplex and soccer/track facility.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

Mayor's Update

Mayor Farwell said he met with Air Canada in Montreal to discuss concerns with the service and he also met with the new CEO of Central Health to discuss our concerns with the operation of Central Health.

Mayor Farwell wished the residents a Merry Christmas.

Motion #18-326

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Councillor Dove and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pollett that the meeting be adjourned.

In Favour: 7 Opposing: 0

Decision: Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

P. Farwell, Mayor

G. Brown, Town Clerk