Minutes of a regular meeting of the council of the Town of St. George’s, held in the Town Hall, December 4, 2017

Members Present
Mayor D. Conway
Deputy Mayor T. Messervey
Councillors: A. Tobin
C. White
R. Williams
R. Blanchard
M. Fleming

Also Present
Town Manager J. Butt
Town Clerk D. Woolridge

Call to Order
Mayor Conway called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes:
Reg. Mjg. of Nov. 6, 2017
Motion #17-150 Tobin/White
Resolved that minutes of the regular meeting of November 6, 2017 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

Sp. Mjg. of Nov. 20, 2017
Special Meeting of November 20, 2017
Motion #17-151 Tobin/White
Resolved that minutes of the special meeting of November 20, 2017 be adopted as circulated. All in favour. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:
1) Motion #17-152 Tobin/Messervey
Resolved that general invoices of $11,845.22 be approved for payment. All in favour. Motion carried.

2) Motion #17-153 Tobin/Blanchard
Resolved that Harvey Gale & Son Limited, Project Status Report 6, Project 17-MCW-17-00017 - Town Hall Renovations - in the amount of $136,664.99 be approved for payment from the Projects Account. All in favour. Motion carried.

3) Motion #17-154 Messervey/White
Resolved that BioMaxx Invoice 45817, 4th Quarter Outfall, in the amount of $741.75 be approved for payment from the Gas Tax Account. All in favour. Motion carried.

4) Current bank balances and outstanding loans totals were reviewed, as well as the expense report which shows that 68.13% of our budget has been used to date.

5) Aged Receivables Report shows 96.63% of taxes for 2017 have been collected; 98.40% of 2016; and 99% of 2015.

b) Projects
Town hall renovations are almost complete; the rolling counter shutter has not arrived to date.

c) Fire Department
The Capital Investment Plan has been submitted for the Fire Hall Extension and has to be reviewed by Municipal Affairs. Incident report was not available for the meeting.

d) Stadium/Recreation
Stadium is operating at a $68,177.58 deficit.

Motion #17-155 Messervey/Williams
Resolved to change the cancellation policy to 24 hours notice beginning January 2, 2018. All in favour. Motion carried.
A complaint was reported about three teens smoking (at?) in the washroom upstairs during a birthday party rental; also, a complaint about kids not being monitored during general skating (pucks on the ice and horseplay). Jocelyn will make random checks and post rules.

**Building Applications**

An application was submitted to build a chicken coop on Old Mill Road.

Motion #17 - 156  White/Tobin
Resolved to approve the application to build a chicken coop in compliance with the Control of Livestock Regulations. All in favour. Motion carried.

One building permit, three general repairs, and one tax certificate were issued in November.

**Unfinished Business**

a) **Collective Agreement Negotiations - Tentative Agreement**
Negotiations resulted in a proposed six-year contract for council’s approval between the Town of St. George’s and its NAPE employees.

Motion #17 - 157  Tobin/Blanchard
Resolved to accept the negotiated union contract as presented.

In favour:  Mayor  D. Conway
            Deputy Mayor  T. Messervey
            Councillors:  R. Williams, R. Blanchard, A. Tobin,
                           C. White

Opposed:    Councillor  M. Fleming
Abstained:  0
Motion carried.

It was stated by NAPE that, because the town clerk position is unionized, it has to be filled unless the Department of Labour is petitioned by the Town to have it removed from the union.

Motion #17 - 158  Williams/Fleming
Resolved to proceed with having the town clerk position removed from the contract. All in favour. Motion carried.

b) **Offer to Purchase - Portion of 8-16 Main Street**
Motion #17 - 159  Blanchard/White
Resolved to accept the offer to purchase a portion of 8-16 Main Street measuring 30' x 250' for $1500. All in favour. Motion carried.

c) **Growth and Sustainability Plan**
Councillor Fleming presented a proposal to increase housing development by advertising incentives such as offering Town properties free (with conditions), tax free incentives on newly constructed homes for a number of years, obtaining Crown land for development by the Town, purchasing unused private land, and rezoning.

After some discussion, council agreed to remove the assessment values placed on Town properties from the website, and to place the possibility of obtaining Crown land in our 5 Year Plan.

**New Business**

a) **Tax Recovery Plan 2018**
Motion #17 - 160  Tobin/Williams
Resolved to adopt and implement the Tax Recovery Plan drafted for 2018. All in favour. Motion carried.
b) Quotes - Council Display System
In an effort to save on printing and paper, a quote had been obtained for a display system with 7" tablets (without interaction or individual scrolling) at a cost of $1621.10 and a quote of $1943.34 for 10" tablets that will allow councillors to interact with the documents individually.

Motion #17 - 161 Tobin/Williams
Resolved to proceed with the purchase of tablets to use at council meetings with 10" screens, not to exceed $3,000.

In favour: Mayor D. Conway
Deputy Mayor T. Messervey
Councillors: R. Williams, R. Blanchard, A. Tobin, C. White

Opposed: Councillor M. Fleming
Abstained: 0
Motion carried.

c) Town Scholarship 2017
Only one application had been submitted.

Motion #17 - 162 Tobin/Messervey
Resolved to award the Town Scholarship for 2017 to Anita Gough. All in favour. Motion carried.

d) Crown Land Application 152619
An application had been submitted to Crown Lands for land on the TCH around Duck Pond to use as a recreational space/RV park and referred to the Town for our recommendation. Council had no objections to this application.

c) Crown Land Application 152592
An application for property on the TCH between the former Forestry Building and the former Irving Gas Station was also referred to the Town with a proposal for a gas station/restaurant. Council had no objections to this application either.

f) Animal Control Update
The Town of Stephenville is terminating the KLAC contract for Animal Control Services effective 60 days from November 30.

Incoming Correspondence

a) An invitation from Appalachia High to the mayor to attend the Cap and Gown 2017 ceremonies on Dec. 20, 2017. Deputy Mayor Messervey will attend in the mayor’s absence.

b) A circular from the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment re changes to the Municipal Infrastructure Project Guidelines as it relates to Limit of Service (LOS) requirements.

c) Memo from the Municipal Assessment Agency re reduction in fee for assessment services by $1.00 per assessment effective January 1, 2018.

d) A response from Dale Kirby, Minister of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, to our letter of November 15, 2017 re school transportation for students from Steel Mountain Road and Musée’s Lane. He encourages council to work with NLESD regarding our concerns.

e) A letter from Tom Rose, Mayor of the Town of Stephenville, inviting the mayor to attend an informal meeting to discuss common strategies to move our communities forward on December 7, 2017.
f) 2018 Assessment Information from WorkplaceNL.

g) A request for a monetary donation toward Our Lady of Mercy Elementary’s Christmas Dinner for students and staff on December 20.

Motion #17 - 163 Blanchard/Messerey
Resolved that we donate $25 toward OLM’s Christmas Dinner. All in favour. Motion carried.

h) A request for a donation from 194 RCSCC Calypso Cadet Corps to help with extracurricular activities such as a trip to St. John’s, clothing, etc.

Motion #17 - 164 Tobin/White
Resolved that we donate $100 to the cadets. All in favour. Motion carried.

i) A letter from Brian Peckford, President of PMA, with information and costs of upcoming training events for administrative staff.

j) Information from mmsb re the Community Waste Diversion Fund - Guide and Terms of Reference, and eligible projects.

**Outgoing Correspondence**

a) Letter to the Minister, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, re the school bussing issue.

**Privileged**

Motion #17 - 164 Tobin/Messerey
Resolved to declare the remaining portion of the meeting to be privileged. All in favour. Motion carried.

Councillors’ Disclosure Statements were reviewed as per Section 210 (5) of the Municipalities Act.

**Adjournment**

Motion #17 - 165 Tobin/Messerey
Resolved that meeting do now adjourn to meet again on January 8, 2018. All in favour. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

\[Signature\]

Mayor

\[Signature\]

Clerk