



**PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 20, 2024**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held in Chambers on February 20, 2024, at 4:35 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
Mayor Dave Aker	Dana Spurrell, Chief Administrative Officer
Councillor Isabelle Fry	Gerry Antle, Director of Planning, Engineering & Development
Councillor Jim Locke	Cassie Pittman, Director of Corporate Services
Councillor Bill Antle	Jason Collins, Director of Recreation & Community Safety
Councillor Mark Rice	Glen Dollimount, Director of Public Works
Councillor Chelsea Lane	Stephanie Walsh, Legislative Officer/City Clerk
Absent	Arlene Mullins, Executive Assistant
Deputy Mayor Nicole Kieley	

**Mayor Aker chaired the meeting**

24-02-070 Adoption of Agenda

Motion – Councillor Locke/Councillor Lane

RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented

Question called. Motion carried unanimously.

24-02-071 Lands Acknowledgement

Read by Mayor Aker

24-02-072 Moment of Silence

The Mayor offered condolences to the family of Elizabeth Laurie and to her council colleagues in the Town of Paradise. Council observed a moment of silence.

24-02-073 Adoption of Minutes

Motion –Councillor Antle/Councillor Rice

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the public meeting held February 6, 2024 be adopted as presented.

Errors & Omissions: none

Question called. Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING - none

ACTION REPORT

The action report was accepted as presented.

PRESENTATIONS – None presented

PROCLAMATIONS

21-02-074 Wear Red Canada Day

The Mayor signed a proclamation from the Canadian Women's Heart Health Alliance declaring February 13, 2024 as Wear Red Canada Day and advised City Hall was lit in red on February 13.

Council members acknowledged the importance of awareness of heart health and spoke to personal experience and recognizing this disease presents differently in women and men.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

24-02-075 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mount Pearl Frosty Festival February 9-17, 2024

The Annual Mount Pearl Frosty Festival was a huge success even working through some weather challenges. Congratulations extended to the frosty board, volunteers and City staff for all their work in putting all the events together, specifically Denise French, Chairperson.

24-02-076 Mount Pearl Frosty Festival | 2<sup>nd</sup> Installment 2024 Operating Grant

Motion: Councillor Locke/ Councillor Fry

RESOLVED THAT, approval be given to release the second (final) installment of the Frosty Festival's operating grant in the amount of \$32,500; as per the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Frosty Festival Inc.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously

24-02-077 Admiralty House Communications Museum | 1<sup>st</sup> Installment 2024 Grant

Motion: Councillor Locke/ Councillor Fry

RESOLVED THAT, approval be given to release the first installment of the Admiralty House Communication Museum's operating subsidy in the amount of \$57,500; as per the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Museum.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously

24-02-078 Accessible Communities Grant Application – Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs  
Portable Vertical Lift Mount Pearl Glacier Arena

Motion: Councillor Fry/ Councillor Locke

RESOLVED THAT, the City of Mount Pearl will submit an Accessible Communities Grant Application to the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs for a portable vertical lift, in the amount of \$22,906.98 (inclusive of HST), to add to the existing Mount Pearl Glacier Arena stage set up.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously

24-02-079 Special Assistance Grant (SAG) Application – Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs  
Modification of Existing Floor and Dasher Board System Mount Pearl Glacier Arena

Motion: Councillor Fry/ Councillor Locke

RESOLVED THAT, the City of Mount Pearl will submit a Special Assistance Grant (SAG) Grant Application to the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs for the modification of the existing floor and dasher board system at the Mount Pearl Glacier, in the amount of \$27,468.90 (inclusive of HST). A cost shared ratio of 40/60 with Municipal Share of \$18,312.60

Question called – Motion carried unanimously

Director Collins noted that this initiative improves accessibility at the Glacier and will allow for para-hockey to be played at the rink.

24-02-080 Life Skills Slow Cooker Classes with Mary Hunt

The City is offering Life Skill Cooking Classes (slow cooking) to residents. This program will focus on how to cook nutritional foods on a budget. Developing a skill set to stretch budget to eat nutritionally. This information is posted on the city's website, as well as on our BookKing system for registration.

Councillor Locke encouraged seniors to sign up and reach out to city if registration cost is an issue. He also discussed the possibility of an educational session for seniors would be helpful

and acknowledged it was important to take initiative to reach all seniors.

PLANNING, ENGINEERING & DEVELOPMENT

24-02-081 2 Stapleton Road – Former Pool Underground Storage Tank Removal | Request for Contractor Change Order # 2 and # 3

Motion: Councillor Antle/Councillor Rice

RESOLVED THAT, approval be given for Change Order # 2 - additional fieldwork for removal of Underground Storage Tank in the amount of \$2,195.18 (HST Included) and Change Order # 3 - Phase II Environmental Site Assessment in the amount of \$21,318.00 (HST Included), payable to Pinchin Ltd.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-02-082 New Community Centre Splash Pad , Ice Surface/Path and Site Upgrades Owner’s Advisor Services Request for Change Order # 2 | Supplemental Environmental Site Assessment

Motion: Councillor Antle/Councillor Rice

RESOLVED THAT, approval be given for Change Order # 2 – Supplemental Environmental Site Assessment, payable to WSP E&I Canada Limited, in the amount of \$49,154.85 (HST Included).

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

Director Antle provided clarification on the need for a third phase environmental assessment. He noted that the phase two assessment detected a contaminant at the site. The third phase is required to determine the extent of the contamination.

24-02-083 Municipal Plan Review and Renew, Including Integrated Transportation Plan Contract Recommendation

Motion: Councillor Antle/Councillor Rice

RESOLVED THAT, approval be given to award the contract for Municipal Plan Review and Renew (Including Active Integrated Transportation Plan) to Tract Consulting for the amount of \$271,664.50.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

Council members acknowledged their excitement for the plan and encouraged the public to become involved and provide their input for the plan and what they want for the City’s future growth. They noted this was an important opportunity for the public to make contributions. The Mayor asked for the support of staff and Council to ensure that it was still business as usual with regard to current development during the plan review.

The CAO confirmed that the City would not put anything on hold and would move forward with prioritizing key developments.

24-02-084 Building & Occupancy Permit Listing | January 15-26, 2024

Motion: Councillor Rice/Councillor Antle

RESOLVED THAT, the residential and commercial building permits issued for this period, showing a total construction value of \$234,650.00 be approved, and further that the occupancy permit list be accepted as presented

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-02-085 Development Permit Listing | January 15-26, 2024

Motion: Councillor Rice/Councillor Antle

RESOLVED THAT, the following Development Permits for the period of January 15-26, 2024 be approved as presented

Development Permit #	Date of Issue	Type of Use	Civic Address
DP23-0373	January 29/24	Change of Use	5-7 Commonwealth Avenue
DP23-0348	January 30/24	Family Childcare Use	22 Pollux Drive
DP23-0573	January 30/24	Family Childcare Use	48 Moffatt Drive

Question called – Motion carried unanimously

CORPORATE SERVICES AND PUBLIC WORKS

24-02-086 Invoices for Approval

Motion: Councillor Lane/Councillor Rice

RELOLVED THAT, approval be given for payment of the following invoices:

1	Amtruck Ltd Rental Truck	\$ 10,695.00
2	Avalon Coal Salt and Oil Road Salt	\$ 206,427.91
4	Black & McDonald Traffic Control Service	\$ 5,918.31
5	City of St John's Tipping Fees Dec 2023	\$ 45,316.95

6	City of St John's Water/Wastewater Fees (3rd Quarter 2023)	\$ 164,851.93
7	City of St John's Water Consumption (January 2024)	\$ 224,705.36
8	Grand Concourse Authority Member Contribution 2024	\$ 7,784.45
9	Granicus Software License	\$ 11,644.33
10	Madsen Construction Snow Clearing Parts	\$ 18,667.16
11	Saunders Equipment Ltd Vehicle Parts	\$ 9,556.18
12	St John's Transportation Commission Transit Costs (Jan 2024)	\$ 102,194.51
13	Stewart McKelvey Professional Services	\$ 6,967.28
14	TOK Transit GoBus Rides (January 2024)	\$ 26,359.39
15	TOK Transit Admin Fee	\$ 8,797.10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 849,885.86</b>

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-02-087 Payment Register and Purchase Card Report

For the information of Council, the following payment register February 1 – February 16, 2024, totaled \$ 1,126,674.91. The Purchase Card Report for December 26, 2023 – January 25, 2024, totaled \$ 468,179.33.

24-02-088 Professional Development Request, Director of Planning, Engineering and Development, Gerry Antle | 2024 American Concrete Institute Convention March 24-28, 2024

Motion: Councillor Rice/Councillor Lane

RESOLVED THAT, approval be given for the Director of Planning, Engineering and Development to attend the 2024 American Concrete Institute Convention from March 24-28, 2024, in New Orleans, LA.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously

24-02-089 Public Works Status Report

Councillor Rice provided a status update for public works noting the primary focus is on snow clearing and ice control with snow removal from streets, sidewalks, cul de sacs and fire

hydrants. He advised that service and maintenance were ongoing for snow clearing equipment.

The Mayor acknowledged the amount of snowfall at approximately 80 cm and asked the Public Work Director where the city stood in terms of snow clearing 48 hours post storm. The Public Works Director advised that the snow on most of the main roads had been blown back and noted crews were moving to the secondary routes to complete blowback of snow, clearing the fire hydrants and the cul de sacs. He noted crews are working 24/7. He did advise there were concerns about the next system with mild temperatures and rain, noting crews would also be working to clear the catch basins.

Council members passed on their appreciation and thanks to the Public Works staff for their snow clearing efforts.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 24-02-090 Frosty Festival

Council members thanked the Frosty Festival Board and volunteers for their work on this year's festival, noting they did a fabulous job. They noted it was a huge event and was highly successful.

#### 24-02-091 Be Visible

Councillor Antle acknowledge that City crews did a great job snow clearing and wanted to advise residents of safety information on the City's website and the importance of being visible by wearing reflective vests/bright colors while walking the trails and roadways.

#### 24-02-092 Mount Pearl Blades 15UA Male Hockey Team

Councillor Rice congratulated the Mount Pearl Blades 15UA hockey team who won gold at the CAN/AM Hockey Challenge Cup in Montreal this past weekend.

#### 24-02-093 Condolences

Councillor Rice wanted to offer his personal condolences to the family and friends of Councillor Laurie on her passing.

#### 24-02-094 Frosty Festival Events

Councillor Lane wanted to highlight festival events such as the Park Kids Carnival at the Park Avenue Pentecostal Church. She thanked Paster Kent, church members and volunteers for their efforts in putting this event together, noting it was important to offer free events for families.

Councillor Lane also acknowledged the Ecumenical Church Service, noting it was well attended and good to see the church community come together.

Councillor Locke highlighted the Children's Game Night at the Gloria Pearson Community Centre which was hosted the Mount Pearl Lion's Club. He noted there was an extremely good turnout, and he commended the Lion's Club.

Councillor Fry noted that attendees at events were engaged and seemed to enjoy themselves.

24-02-095 Pink Shirt Day

Councillor Lane advised that tomorrow was Pink Shirt Day to bring awareness to bullying and to treat others with respect and kindness. She encouraged everyone to wear their pink shirts in support.

Councillor Fry wanted to acknowledge this day a well in light of some of the events that occurred recently in the City. She briefly gave background on how the initiative was started in an effort to stop bullying and noted the significant impact that one or two people can make.

Councillor Locke also acknowledged the anti-bullying campaign and identified different types of bullying that occur and noted the message to send out would be care and respect for everyone.

24-02-096 Outdoor Rinks

Councillor Locke referenced the outdoor rinks and the fact they were closed because the city could not dedicate resources to clear them. He wanted to clarify the public could access and clear the rinks for use while city crews were focused with snow clean up and roads. The Public Works Director advised that residents can access and clean the rinks for use if desired.

24-02-097 Contractor Snowclearing

Councillor Locke advised he had some inquiries regarding private contracts who do snow clearing, but the equipment they use can only push the snow, but not deposit at a higher elevation. He asked if it could be brought to committee to see if anything could be done, even if it was a matter of education for the contractors.

24-02-098 Sunday Facility Closures

Councillor Locke had inquiries as to the decision to keep recreation facilities closed on Sunday afternoon, even though it was sunny and no longer snowing. He advised that crews were doing circuits around the city and dedicated to keeping the streets open. The snow was being cleared around facility entrances and emergency exits but was drifting back as fast as crews could clear it due to the high winds and elevation.

24-02-099 Community Spirit.

Councillor Fry acknowledged volunteers who helped shovel out residents who need help after last week's snowstorms. She thanked John Riche for organizing.



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24-02-100 Community Supper

Councillor Fry advised that the community supper would take place tomorrow and was sponsored by the Mount Pearl Kinnettes at the Church of the Good Sheppard.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 pm on a motion by Councillor Lane and seconded by Councillor Fry.

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Chairperson

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City Clerk