

**Community Centrum: Grand Bay Room – Broadcast for the Public**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Merrifield called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**ADOPTED**

**April 22, 2024**

**2. Acknowledgement of Treaty Land**

*We respectfully acknowledge that Grand Bay-Westfield exists on the traditional Wolastoqey (WOOL-US-TOOK-WAY) land.*

*The lands of Wabanaki (WAH-BAH-NAH-KEE) people are recognized in a series of Peace and Friendship Treaties to establish an ongoing relationship of peace, friendship and mutual respect between equal nations.*

*The river that runs by our town is known as Wolastoq (WOOL-LUSS-TOOK), along which live Wolastoqiyik (WOOL-US-TOO-GWEEG) - the people of the beautiful and bountiful river.*

*We, the staff and elected representatives, pay respect to the elders, past and present, and descendants of this land.*

**3. Mayor's Comments**

**4. Record of Attendance**

Deputy Mayor Toole, Councillor McIntosh Lawrence, Councillor Day, Councillor Balcomb, Councillor Balemans, and Councillor Burpee in attendance.

**Regrets:** Mayor Merrifield

**Staff Attendance:** John Enns-Wind, James Barrington, Troy Gautreau, David Taylor, Bruce Gault, Gary Clark, Rick Adams, Broc Belding, and Nicole Goddard

**Guests:** Nik Malatestinic, Curry & Betts

**5. Agenda Approval**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield approve the Agenda of March 25, 2024, with the addition of item 11.g Federal infrastructure funding not keeping pace with population growth. HAF to be addressed under items 8.c and 8.d.

Motioned by: Councillor Balemans

Seconded by: Councillor Balcomb

Carried

**6. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

None

**7. Public Hearings/Presentations/Delegations/Petitions**

**a) Overview of the 2023 Audit - Nik Malatestinic, Curry & Betts**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield approve the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield Audit Report and Consolidated Financial Statements as at December 31, 2023 as prepared by Curry & Betts, CPA, and forward to the Province of New Brunswick for approval.

And,

That the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield Council appoint Curry & Betts as the Town's auditors for the fiscal year 2024.

Motioned by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

**b) Housing Accelerator Fund – John Enns-Wind**

**8. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**a) Regular Council Minutes of March 11, 2024**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield adopt the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 11, 2024, as presented.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor Balemans

Carried

**b) Email Poll: Records Management**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield ratify the email poll: Records Management.

Motioned by: Councillor Balcomb

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

**c) Email Poll: Housing Accelerator Fund**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield ratify the email poll: Housing Accelerator Fund.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

**d) Email Poll: Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) Action Plan**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield receive and file the Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor Balcomb

Carried

**9. Unfinished Business**

None

**10. By-Laws**

a) Third Reading – By-Law No. PS-006 Prosser Court Street Closing

Third Reading (By Title)

By-Law No. PS-006: Prosser Court Street Closing

Motioned by: Councillor Balemans

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

**11. New Business/Recommendations**

a) 2023 Audit Report

*Item addressed via item 7.a Audit Presentation*

b) Digital Sign Policy

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield approve the Digital Signage Policy, for immediate effect.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor Balcomb

Carried

c) Pavement Marking Tender

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield award tender T02-2024 Pavement Markings to Four Seasons Sports Ltd. for the tender price of \$55,019.25 plus HST for the year 2024, with renewal opportunities for the next two (2) years (2025 and 2026).

Motioned by: Councillor Balcomb

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

d) Public Street, Smith Lane – Harrison Subdivision

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield assent to the Public Street parcels as shown on Subdivision Plan, Harrison Subdivision, as prepared by DeSaulniers Surveys Inc., dated March 8, 2024.

Motioned by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

e) Public Street, Smith Lane – Robillard Subdivision

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield assent to the Public Street parcel as shown on Subdivision Plan, Harrison Subdivision, as prepared by DeSaulniers Surveys Inc., dated March 8, 2024.

Motioned by: Councillor Balemans

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

f) Lions Field Renewal

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield authorize the CAO to engage RC Strategies to develop a concept plan for the purpose of renewing the Lions Field.

Motioned by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Seconded by: Councillor Balcomb

Carried

g) Federal infrastructure funding not keeping pace with population growth

WHEREAS, Canada is experiencing record population growth, having welcomed 1.25 million new Canadians last year alone; and

WHEREAS, According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) we need to build at least 3.5 million additional homes by 2030, and municipalities need to build or expand the infrastructure to accommodate this growth; and

WHEREAS, FCM has estimated that the cost of the municipal infrastructure required support housing development is, on average, in the range of \$107,000 per unit; and

WHEREAS, According to Statistics Canada the cost of upgrade existing municipal infrastructure so that it is in a state of good repair is in the range of \$170 billion; and

WHEREAS, Non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure project without a corresponding growth in revenue; and

WHEREAS, Unlike federal and provincial revenue, municipal tax revenue has not increased in recent years along with inflation, economic growth or population growth; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end, the Canada Community-Building Fund is being renegotiated and the Permanent Public Transit Fund is set to start in 2026;

WHEREAS, The Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), which was formerly known as the federal Gas Tax Fund, provides more than \$2.4 billion in annual

capital funding directly to municipalities through a predictable allocation mechanism, and municipalities of all sizes use the CCBF to deliver direct results for Canadians by building and renewing critical core public infrastructure, including water infrastructure, local roads, public transit and community, and cultural and recreational facilities; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the federal government work with agreement signatories and municipalities to maintain the CCBF as a source of direct, predictable, long-term funding for local infrastructure priorities; and be it further;

RESOLVED, That the federal government commit, in Budget 2024, to the next generation of infrastructure programs, including a new program for water and wastewater infrastructure and an increase to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund; and be it further;

RESOLVED, That the federal government convene provinces, territories and municipalities to negotiate a “Municipal Growth Framework” to modernize the way that municipalities are funded in order to enable Canada’s long-term growth.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

## **12. Bills for Payment**

- a) That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield authorize the March 25, 2024 bills for payment as presented in the amount for \$93,630.54.

Motioned by: Councillor Balemans

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

**13. Consent Agenda**

- a) Letter – UMN Property Tax Insert Reply
- b) Letter – Town Property Tax Insert Reply to GNB
- c) Letter – Regarding Electrical Wiring & Building Permits
- d) CCBF 2023 Annual Report
- e) Building Inspection Report: February 2024
- f) Invitation – Triangle Awards

**End Consent Agenda**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield receive and file the consent agenda items for March 25, 2024.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

**14. Council Reports**

**15. Business Arising from Committee of the Whole**

**16. Adjournment**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield adjourned the meeting at 7:53pm.

Motioned by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

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John Enns-Wind  
CAO

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Brittany Merrifield  
Mayor