

**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**  
**OCT 23 2023**

**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**

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

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

**5. Agenda Approval**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield approve the Agenda of October 10, 2023, as presented.

Motioned by: Councillor Balcomb

Seconded by: Councillor Balemans

Carried

**6. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

None

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

**8. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

a) **Regular Council Minutes of September 25, 2023**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield adopt the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2023, as presented.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Toole

Carried

**9. Unfinished Business**

**10. By-Laws**

**a) By-law No. PD-008 Municipal Plan By-law**

**Third Reading (by title):**

**By-law No. PD-008 Municipal Plan By-law**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield adopt by title and enactment By-law No. PD-008 Municipal Plan By-law.

Motioned by: Councillor Balemans

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Toole

Carried

**b) By-law No. PD-009 Zoning By-law**

**Third Reading (by title):**

**By-law No. PD-009 Zoning By-law**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield adopt by title and enactment By-law No. PD-009 Zoning By-law.

Motioned by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Seconded by: Councillor Balcomb

Carried

**c) First and Second Readings: By-law No. PD-010 Subdivision By-law**

**First Reading (by title):**

**By-law No. PD-010 Subdivision By-law**

Motioned by: Deputy Mayor Toole

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

**Second Reading (by title):**

**By-law No. PD-010 Subdivision By-law**

Motioned by: Deputy Mayor Toole

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

d) **First and Second Readings: By-law PW-002: Town of Grand Bay-Westfield By-law Respecting Snow and Ice Control**

**First Reading (by title):**

**By-law PW-002: Town of Grand Bay-Westfield By-law Respecting Snow and Ice Control**

Motioned by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Seconded by: Councillor Balemans

Carried

**Second Reading (by title):**

**By-law PW-002: Town of Grand Bay-Westfield By-law Respecting Snow and Ice Control**

Motioned by: Deputy Mayor Toole

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

**11. New Business/Recommendations**

a) **Apparatus Conversion**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield approve the refurbishment of Engine 1 as per the quote from Metalfab Ltd. for a cost of up to \$37,960.87. And further, to authorize the transfer of the cost of the work from the General Capital Reserve Fund.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

b) **UMNB Resolution: DTI Funding Agreement**

Whereas DTI is responsible for all provincially designated highways running through municipalities.

Whereas DTI is responsible for cost-sharing repairs on provincially designated highways within municipal boundaries.

Whereas DTI funds repairs, maintenance and replacement of designated highways based on their fiscal and timeline priorities with consultation from municipalities.

Whereas DTI's budget process changes due to fluctuating economic conditions and local road priorities.

Whereas DTI's process does not align with municipal processes for determining capital budgets.

Whereas municipal asset management requires a transparent and predictable process to address the ongoing maintenance, repairs, and replacement of designated highways within municipal boundaries.

Whereas municipalities are investing in the provincially designated highways to ensure an adequate condition for use that DTI is unable to provide on a timely basis.

Be it resolved that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) advocate with the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) to develop a new funding agreement with a funding formula, based on a per kilometer basis, that is tied to the economic growth of the province.

Motioned by: Councillor Balemans

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

**c) UMNB Resolution: Operating Reserves**

Whereas current regulations state that municipal Operating Reserves are capped at five per cent (5%) of revenue.

Whereas the best practice identified by the Government Financial Officers of America, is that municipalities should set aside twenty per cent (20%) for Operating Reserves.

Whereas Operating Reserves are required for a multitude of purposes including cash flow, financing costs for capital projects such as the procurement of fire trucks and investment in buildings, unexpected equipment and facility repairs, natural emergencies, and financing costs related to projects that have grants from other levels of government.

Be it resolved that The Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) advocate with the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) to change the Local Governance Regulation capping Operating Reserves at five per cent (5%) to twenty per cent (20%).

Motioned by: Councillor Balcomb

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

**d) UMNB Resolution: Property Tax Regulations**

Whereas there are only two (2) property tax classes used in New Brunswick municipalities.

Whereas the two (2) property tax classes are 'residential' and 'non-residential.'

Whereas the tax rate differential between the two property tax classes is 1.7.

Whereas the lack of property tax classes limits a municipality's tool kit to encourage and direct development within its municipal boundaries, including economic development and housing.

Whereas the lack of property tax classes limits municipality's ability to manage property owners' tax burden.

Whereas municipalities in other provinces permitted the utilization of multiple property tax classes have experienced success with multiple property tax classes.

Whereas municipalities in other provinces effectively utilize property tax classes to manage economic development and property owners' tax burden.

Be it resolved, that The Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) advocate with the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) to permit municipalities to utilize a wide range of property tax classes to enhance economic development, increase housing, and manage property owners' tax burden effectively and efficiently.

Motioned by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Toole

Carried

**12. Bills for Payment**

- a) That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield authorize the October 10, 2023 bills for payment as presented in the amount for \$122,328.94.

Motioned by: Councillor Balemans

Seconded by: Councillor Balcomb

Carried

**13. Consent Agenda**

- a) Overview – Crane Mountain Height Increase CMEI
- b) PAC Minutes – August 8, 2023
- c) EMO After Action Report – Operation Hurricane Lee
- d) Fire-Rescue Department Monthly Report July 2023
- e) Fire-Rescue Department Monthly Report August 2023
- f) Animal Control Reports January – August 2023
- g) Email – Confirmation of Accreditation – Rainbow Registered

**End Consent Agenda**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield receive and file the consent agenda items for October 10, 2023.

Motioned by: Deputy Mayor Toole

Seconded by: Councillor Burpee

Carried

**14. Council Reports**

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

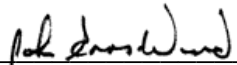
**16. Adjournment**

That the Council of the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield adjourned the meeting at 8:02pm.

Motioned by: Councillor Burpee

Seconded by: Councillor McIntosh Lawrence

Carried

  
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John Enns-Wind  
CAO

  
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Brittany Merrifield  
Mayor