



**PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 26, 2024**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held in Chambers on November 26, 2024 at 4:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
Mayor Dave Aker	Dana Spurrell, Chief Administrative Officer
Deputy Mayor Nicole Kieley (remotely)	Blair Delaney, Recreation Facilities Manager
Councillor Jim Locke	Cassie Rideout, Director of Corporate Services
Councillor Isabelle Fry	Glen Dollimount, Director of Public Works
Councillor Bill Antle	Scott Batt, Director of Planning, Engineering & Development
Councillor Mark Rice	Stephanie Walsh, Legislative Officer/City Clerk
Councillor Chelsea Lane	Ann Picco, Executive Assistant
	Absent:
	Jason Collins, Director of Recreation and Community Safety

**Mayor Aker chaired the meeting.**

24-11-637 Adoption of Agenda

Motion – Deputy Mayor Kieley / Councillor Fry

RESOLVED THAT, the agenda be adopted as presented.

Question called. Motion carried unanimously.

24-11-638 Lands Acknowledgement

Read by Mayor Aker.

24-11-639 Adoption of Minutes

Motion – Councillor Lane / Councillor Locke

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Public Meeting held November 12, 2024, be adopted, as presented.

Errors & Omissions: None

Question called. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION REPORT

The action report was accepted as presented.

BUSINESS ARISING - None

PROCLAMATIONS - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

CORRESPONDENCE – None

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION – ADDRESS OF RANDOM ACTS OF VIOLENCE

24-11-640 Address of Recent Random Acts of Violence in the Community

Mayor Aker addressed the recent violent events in the Community, which have deeply affected everyone. These random acts of violence were unpredictable, extremely dangerous, and not acceptable in this family, community-oriented city. The Mayor thanked the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) and City staff for their quick actions last Friday evening, including the provision of information, extra resources and patrols, and beginning the investigation which to date have yielded two arrests. Residents require assurance of safety in their community. The region in general has various levels of crime, but it's the violent nature of this particular incident that is extremely bothersome to everyone. Council are planning to hold a public 'Town Hall' Meeting with an invite to the RNC, to raise better awareness of what is happening in our community, creating more accountability for the safety of residents.

All Members of Council acknowledged and provided commentary on the recent startling, disturbing, and unacceptable acts of violence in the City over the past weekend. These recent events were quite upsetting for everyone. The last few days have been difficult, with the understanding that fear has swept through the community.

Council referenced a public meeting to hear feedback from our residents, noting it is one step in addressing a much larger, complex issue of which there is no simple solution. The City's municipal enforcement officers are working with the RNC on this incident, including the review video surveillance. Crime has been discussed over the past year, including issues caused by youth. Bullying still takes place in schools. There is need for more RNC resources and a better justice system to ensure our City and regional areas are safe for everyone, as there is increased crime across our municipalities and Province.

The public were reminded of the importance to look out for each other, neighbours, and those with disabilities; and, it was requested that parents talk to their children about these recent violent events. The community was encouraged to work together, as parents, teachers, citizens, and to ensure to report any information. Residents were encouraged to check any video they may have in the event there was important information captured, and to contact the RNC.

It was further referenced that yesterday marked the beginning of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, including violence in all forms, noting this year's theme is "Come Together, Act Now," which emphasizes how crucial it is for the involvement of everyone to find a solution. The Community does not tolerate violence, and moderate and long-term solutions and goals need to be addressed.

Council expressed gratitude to City staff and the RNC for their quick action in a manner that immediately took care of a major safety issue. Council thanked Municipal Enforcement for doing their part to keep our community safe and the RNC for their quick actions, recent arrests, and increased patrols. Mount Pearl is well known for its sense of community. The randomness of these acts is not a reflection of the City, and it was reiterated that Mount Pearl is a safe place to live. The City is grateful to the RNC for taking this seriously and providing resources to take immediate action.

Council extended heartfelt well-wishes to the victims and their families. The victims were badly hurt and hospitalized. Thoughts are with them as they recover.

#### PLANNING, ENGINEERING & DEVELOPMENT

##### 24-11-641 871-873 Topsail Road – Perham Holdings Limited – Change of Use (Halfway House) – Discretionary Use

Motion: Councillor Antle / Deputy Mayor Kieley

RESOLVED THAT, Council decline this proposed development application based on the intent of Mount Pearl General Development Regulation 4.5 - Discretionary Powers.

Question called – Motion carried.

Against: 1 (Deputy Mayor Kieley)

In opening remarks, Councillor Antle advised that he put forward a motion to decline the proposed development application for reasons including comments heard at the public hearing on August 5, 2024, twenty-one written presentations were received and all against the proposal. A petition was recently received with fifty signatures of residents and business owners within the area against the proposed application. There were several issues and concerns pertaining to the proposed development including security, safety of visiting children including no play or fenced areas, community campus and relevant course offerings, and there were many conflicting questions and answers.

Deputy Mayor Kieley did not support the motion in relation to rezoning based on the information put forth by Planning, Engineering, and Development. With proper regulations in place, the change of use could be supported. She further indicated that the term halfway house is outdated, and the City is working to amend and change in the near future.

Council commented that the proposal does not address key concerns of residents and stakeholders, and valued issues were not adequately addressed. The premise and spirit of the proposal was supported, however, there were inconsistencies and unanswered questions regarding the proposed development. It was felt that the questions and answers from the related briefing session were contradictory and not definite, questions could have been addressed through preparation and research, and it was felt that there should have been protocols in place before application submission.

24-11-642 Delegated Authority – Mount Pearl Development Regulations and Occupancy and Maintenance Regulations

Motion: Councillor Antle / Deputy Mayor Kieley

RESOLVED THAT, approval be given for the delegation of authority under the Mount Pearl Development Regulations 2010, and the appointment of an authorized administrator under the Occupancy and Maintenance Regulations, CNLR 1021/96, to the Planning, Engineering and Development Director.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-11-643 Property Maintenance Order – 14 Frontenac Avenue

Motion: Councillor Antle / Deputy Mayor Kieley

RESOLVED THAT, Council authorize the Director of Planning, Engineering and Development to issue an Order to the property owner 14 Frontenac Avenue, Mount Pearl, to remedy the hazardous condition of the property by the removal or repair of the retaining wall and the removal of a deck connected to the retaining wall.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-11-644 Building and Occupancy Permit Listing | October 21 – November 15, 2024

Motion: Deputy Mayor Kieley / Councillor Antle

RESOLVED THAT, the residential and commercial building permits issued for this period, showing a total construction value of \$1,175,500.00 be approved, and further that the occupancy permit list be accepted as presented.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-11-645 Development Permit Listing | October 21 – November 15, 2024

Motion: Deputy Mayor Kieley / Councillor Antle

RESOLVED THAT, the development permits issued for this period be accepted as presented.

Development Permit #	Date of Issue	Type of Use	Civic Address
DP24 0548	November 01, 2024	Subdivision of Land	37 Spruce Ave
DP24 0544	November 07, 2024	Building Extension	15 Clyde Ave
DP24 0480	November 12, 2024	Building Extension	621 Kenmount Road
DP24-0552	November 14, 2024	HBB – Group Child Care	29 Lancaster Crescent

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-11-646 Capital Projects Update

An update was provided on the City’s capital projects, highlighting information on work that is complete, ongoing, and deficiencies remaining in relation to multi-streets, Olympic Drive, Northlands Development, Jackman Drive updates, asphalt and concrete service, and line painting.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

24-11-647 Mount Pearl Paradise Skating Club, Skating Sectionals – Glacier Arena Cancellations

The Skate Canada Newfoundland & Labrador Sectional Championships will be held at the Glacier, Rink 1, on December 6 & 7, 2024; therefore, the Adult Noon and Parent & Tot skate scheduled for Friday, December 6th is cancelled. The Family Skate scheduled for Saturday, December 7th from 2:00-3:15pm is also cancelled. This information will be posted on all social media platforms. The best of luck to all participants of the Skate Canada Sectionals.

24-11-648 Registration Dates for Winter Sessions | Swimming Lessons, General Programs and Mount Pearl Seniors Independence Group Fitness Programs

The December 2024 registration dates for the Winter 2025 programs are as follows:

Swimming Lessons

Residents – Monday, December 16th@5:00pm

Open Registration – Wednesday, December 18th @5:00pm

General Fitness Programs  
Residents – Tuesday, December 17th @5:00pm  
Open Registration –Thursday, December 19th @5:00pm

Mount Pearl Seniors Independence Fitness Classes  
Residents – Tuesday, December 17th @ 1:00pm  
Open Registration –Thursday, December 19th @1:00pm

All details will be posted throughout all social media platforms.

24-11-649 Glacier Arena – Holiday Season Final Skate

For the information of the public, the final skating dates have been posted at the Glacier and on the City’s website. All public skates will resume on Thursday January 2, 2025.

24-11-650 Recreational Facilities Holiday Hours

For the information of the public, the recreational holiday hours of operation will be posted soon at each facility and on the City’s website.

CORPORATE SERVICES AND PUBLIC WORKS

24-11-651 Invoices for Approval

Motion: Councillor Rice / Councillor Lane

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

1	Amtruck Limited Rental Truck Oct 3-Nov 2 2024	\$ 10,695.00
2	Avalon Coal Salt and Oil Ltd Road Salt	\$ 195,877.05
3	Big Star Lights Christmas Lights	\$ 10,587.11
4	City of St John's Tipping Fees September 2024	\$ 48,741.55
5	City of St John's Water Consumption for October 2024	\$ 206,841.71
6	Pro Circuit Electrical Inc Supply and Install Flood Lights - City Hall	\$ 8,532.07
7	Routeware Program Subscription	\$ 9,267.39

8	Sansom Equipment Ltd Annual Generator Inspection	\$ 7,167.63
9	Saunders Equipment Ltd Trackless Sierra Ribbon Snow Blower	\$ 63,020.00
10	St John's Transportation Commission Transit Service Cost October 2024	\$ 100,418.56
11	Triware Technologies Inc Arctic Wolf Subscription	\$ 63,698.27
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 724,846.34</b>

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

24-11-652 Payment Register and Purchase Card Report

For the information of Council, the following payment register for November 7-20, 2024, totaled \$696,429.87, and the purchase card report for September 26-October 25, 2024, totaled \$597,765.00.

24-11-653 Proposed Land Exchange – 11 Glendale Avenue / 117A Croucher Crescent – MOU for Exchange of Land Parcels between City and Habitat NL

Motion: Councillor Lane / Councillor Rice

RESOLVED THAT, continued support be given for the land exchange of city land at 11 Glendale Avenue and Habitat NL land at 117A Croucher Crescent in principle, and approval be given of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the city and Habitat NL, and authorization for signature of the finalized MOU.

Question called – Motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed that this is great news and to the benefit of both the City and Habit NL. In today's economic desperation, and with concerns of increasing violence and crime rates, this is a great housing initiative and a part of a bigger solution to safety.

24-11-654 Public Works Status Report

A status update for Public Works was provided noting that road work and maintenance continues and winter shift schedules have started, work continues in the Parks Division – St. Davids Park Christmas tree lighting and Christmas parade float, and service and maintenance continue in the Fleet Division with winter equipment maintenance ongoing. Information was provided on UTM general calls, including leak detection, and water levels at Bay Bulls Big Pond.

NEW BUSINESS

24-11-655 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Santa Claus Parade – December 7, 2024

Councillor Fry reminded residents of the upcoming Mount Pearl Lions Club Santa Claus Parade taking place on December 7<sup>th</sup>, travelling from Mount Pearl Senior High School and ending at Mount Pearl Square, Topsail Road. She further advised there is a sensory friendly area in the vicinity of Park Place Community Centre.

24-11-656 All Is Bright at St. David's Park – December 7, 2024

Councillor Fry advised of the upcoming All is Bright event taking place at St. David's Park on December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

24-11-657 All Is Bright - Powers Pond

This is the first year that Powers Pond will be decorated with Christmas lights for residents to enjoy. Intent is to create a beautiful atmosphere for the holiday season. Dates and times to come for holiday cheer, hot chocolate with candy canes, and caroling performances by local community performing groups. The event starts on December 9, 2024, and will run until January 6, 2025. More information to come.

24-11-658 Snow clearing Regulations

Councillor Lock reminded everyone that the City's snow clearing regulations come into effect as of December 1, 2024, until March 31, 2025. Unattended vehicles will be ticketed or towed.

24-11-659 Old Swimming Pool Landmark

Councillor Lock advised that he recently saw some pictures of a major landmark within the City, the old swimming pool, which has now been removed. Councillor Lock and Members of Council reminisced on fond memories and events that took place at the old swimming pool. He further advised this is a good news story, and looking forward to a new development in the area.

24-11-660 Studio Time, The Annex – Wednesdays, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Deputy Mayor Kieley discussed recent weather the City has been having over the past couple of months with considerable amounts of rain. She advised it can be draining on mental health, especially those with seasonal affective disorder and those with physical disabilities. She emphasized an upcoming free event, Studio Time on Wednesdays in the Studio at the Annex. It is a free event, including supplies, and a great opportunity for everyone to get out and socialize. The event is fully accessible.



24-11-661 Mount Pearl Blades Minor Hockey - Hockey with Heart

Councillor Antle discussed the recent Hockey with Heart event held by the Minor Hockey Association. They recently collected funds for the food banks, in the amount of \$11,000. A thank you was extended to sponsors, including Wendy's, Booster Juice, Refs Association, City of Mount Pearl, all the amazing volunteers and players, and everyone who donated.

24-11-662 Merry and Bright Christmas Fundraiser – Alex Taylor

Councillor Antle advised that he attending the successful Merry and Bright Fundraiser on Saturday night, of which donations were provided to Bridges To Hope.

24-11-663 Recent Acts of Violence

Councillor Rice thanked City staff for their quick actions over the weekend including social media updates. All is moving forward and being addressed as a group. The City will continue to pursue as best we can to ensure proper action is taken.

24-11-664 Thank you to Christine Hennebury – Presentation to Class

Councillor Lane discussed the recent presentation by Christine Hennebury, an avid storyteller, to her Drama Class; and, thanked her for her presentation to students.

24-11-665 Seniors Paint Night Event

Councillor Lane discussed last night's free event for seniors. She reported that the event was very well attended, and all enjoyed. Beautiful pieces of Christmas artwork were created and taken home by those who participated. Further events will be offered.

24-11-666 Foodbank Donations

Councillor Lane encouraged everyone to donate to our food banks, especially as we get closer to the Christmas season as there are so many people in need due to financial hardships. The food banks provide food items, hampers, gift cards and gifts for families.

24-11-667 Thank You To Volunteers

Mayor Aker thanked the City's community groups including the Mount Pearl Lions Club and the Kinettes for their work in, and assistance to, the Community, regarding their work in local upcoming food drives. He encouraged everyone to please donate. He advised we live in a great community with lots of support in good times and bad.

Public Council Meeting  
November 26, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:39 pm on a motion by Councillor Rice and seconded by Councillor Antle.

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Chairperson

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City Clerk