



WABUSH

**WABUSH TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING #22-02
February 24, 2022**

- TIME AND PLACE** A meeting of the Wabush Town Council was held on Thursday, February 24th, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm. by Mayor Ron Barron. Mayor Barron welcomed Council and staff and thank everyone for attending and watching live.
- COUNCILLORS PRESENT** Mayor Ron Barron
Deputy Mayor Kelly O'Brien
Councillor Mary-Lou Battcock
Councillor Bob Cole
Councillor Rita Pynn
Councillor Shazia Razi
- OTHERS PRESENT** Mr. Charlie Perry – Town Manager/Town Clerk (A)
Ms. Tara Hynes – Executive Secretary
- COUNCILLORS ABSENT** Councillor Rick Burke – Out of Town
- Mayor Barron took this time to send his condolences to Councillor Burke and his family on the passing of his father Mike. As well to Mr. Johnny McGregor on the passing of his spouse, Ms. Geraldine Collins.
- PROCLAMATION** Heritage Day/Week Proclamation 2022
- PETITION** Save the Recreation Complex Petition
- Mayor Barron thanked the residents for the petition. It has spurred discussions between the two towns. This will be elaborated on further in the meeting.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** It was moved by Councillor Battcock and seconded by Councillor Cole to approve minutes of meeting #22-01 as presented.
- All in Favour.
- Motion Carried
- BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES/ACTION LIST** Everything is current, actioned and in progress



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ADOPTION OF AGENDA It was moved by Deputy Mayor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Pynn to adopt agenda for Council Meeting #22-02. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

BUDGET SPEECH **Attached**

BUDGET MOTIONS Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Councillor Cole

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush adopt 2022 Municipal Budget as presented showing total revenues \$ 12,432,863 and expenditures of \$12,432,863 including \$ 6,391,698 in capital, for a balanced budget. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Councillor Pynn

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve the annual interest rate of 5% for 2022. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve 2022 Tax Structure as presented. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush appoint, in the event that the Town Manager is absent from the office, the Town Clerk to fill the position as Acting Town Manager during his/her absence. All in Favour.

Motion Carried



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Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Councillor Pynn

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush authorize Administrative Clerk and Recreation Administrative Clerk to make deposits on behalf of the Town Clerk. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor O'Brien

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve the Town Manager, Town Clerk and Accounts Payable Clerk to pay routinely monthly invoices (Hydro, phone, etc.) All in Favour.

Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORT: FINANCE

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor O'Brien

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve change order in amount of \$ 50, 149.00 plus HST for contract Re: 17-MYCW-19-00071. All in Favour

Motion Carried

Town Manager Perry commented that this was already approved by Municipal Affairs. It was the geo-work for the WWTP land.

Councillor Razi was declared in conflict of interest and left Council Chambers at 5:53 pm.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor O'Brien
Seconded By: Councillor Pynn

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush reimburse expense amount for Councillor Shazia Razi for attendance of Council meeting February 11th as per policy 413-2 (Amended). All in Favour

Motion Carried

Councillor Razi returned to Council Chambers at 5:54 pm.

Mayor Barron thanked Councillor Razi as she returned for her presentation of the budget.



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COMMITTEE REPORT: PUBLIC WORKS

Report Attached

Councillor Cole spoke on behalf of Public Works. Councillor Cole wished Mr. Lilly good luck and thank you for his dedication to the Town of Wabush. Mr. Lilly is currently on vacation and then retiring.

Councillor Cole informed the public that the water break on Cabot Drive is scheduled for next Wednesday, weather permitting.

The water tower's system is run by a very old system. (Windows 95) that we are trying to repair/replace. Company out of St. John's working on it.

Snowblower is around town and is doing a great job. Will do a second pass this week.

Mayor reported that we are working on water tower issues and that is affecting the water pressure around town.

COMMITTEE REPORT: RECREATION

Report Attached

Deputy Mayor O'Brien has reached out to the chair of recreation in Labrador City. She has not received a response. DM O'Brien is not giving up on recreation. 80% of users are Labrador City. A sustainability report is not feasible at this time and no other communities with this sort of facility is any different.

Town Manager Perry read the letter than was sent to the Town of Labrador City (attached).

Deputy Mayor O'Brien stated that regionalization is going to happen whether we like it or not. In her opinion, the bigger we are the better we are. We need to come up with what's best for Labrador West.

Councillor Pynn stated that provincial funding is NOT available for municipalities but is available for regions.

Councillor Cole stated that they are not giving up. Recreation Centre is in warm idle. Since November 2021 no one has come forward with questions. We are audited by an external source. Let's compare Apples to Apples. Labrador City recreation spent \$ 1,000,000 in Recreation with revenue of 190,000. Wabush spent \$ 215,986 in Recreation with revenue of 114,600. Wabush does not included in recreation their donations to organizations, wages, etc. as Labrador City does. Part of the Mill rate included money put away for a new Rec Plex. Where is that money?



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Councillor Battcock reassured residents we are working hard for them. We are spending wisely and doing the right thing.

Mayor said it was a unanimous decision but not an easy decision. It is not fair to the taxpayers of Wabush. We are trying to work with our sister town. Not looking for a handout or donations. We need something in the meantime before a new complex is built.

Mayor Barron discussed what was accomplished by the Town over the last 4-6 years. Which includes Wabush Business Park development, Cabot Hill replacement, Wastewater Treatment Plants, replacement of old equipment, water main repairs, new chiller, HVAC system (with Labrador City's help), Electric Zamboni, Jean Lake Trail improvements, playground equipment, dog park and the list goes on. But this is mismanagement? Ballfield fencing, Wheelchair accessibility, street sweeper, student hiring, bunker gear, new gate for grader, retaining wall on Snows Drive. All mismanagement?

I believe everyone on this Council and previous Councils wanted what is best for residents. Its terribly relayed on Facebook (or hate book) for former Councillors to spread misinformation. We are not right all the time but try to do our best.

Councillor Razi stated that her children use the facility. She feels for everyone, however, our conscious could not use Wabush taxpayers' money to fund Recreation for all Labrador West.

Deputy Mayor O'Brien thanked everyone for chiming in. We all have to work together and keep moving forward.

COMMITTEE REPORT: POLICY

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Councillor Pynn

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve Personnel Policy: COVID-19 Vaccination Policy as presented.

Votes for:

Mayor Barron
Deputy Mayor O'Brien
Councillor Cole
Councillor Razi
Councillor Pynn



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Votes Against:

Councilor Battcock

Motion Carried

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve Personnel Policy: Helmet Policy as presented to be implemented starting September 2022. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Moved By: Councillor Razi
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor O'Brien

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve Personnel Policy: Recruitment and Hiring Policy as presented. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORT: PLANNING

Report attached

Moved By: Councillor Pynn
Seconded By: Councillor Razi

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of Wabush adopts Municipal Plan Amendment No.1, 2022 and Development Regulations Amendment No.2, 2022, as established under Section 17 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000*. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Moved By: Councillor Pynn
Seconded By: Councillor Razi

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush engage the services of Stan Clinton for Public Hearing for the Municipal Plan Amendment No 1 & Development Regulation Amendment No 2, 2022 for Public Use to be rezoned to Commercial Use. All in Favour.

Motion Carried



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Moved By: Councillor Pynn
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush allow Lots 51 & 52 on Snow's Drive to be transferred from resident to a contractor to construct their home as a "turn key" development. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Town Manager stated it was great to see that four lots are sold and interest in others. There is land available on both sides of Snows Drive.

Councillor Battcock was declared in conflict of interest at 5:56 pm and left Council Chambers.

Moved By: Councillor Pynn
Seconded By: Councillor Razi

BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning & Land Use motion relative to Grenfell Drive Construction permit issue tabled at January 20, 2022 Council Meeting be rescinded due to a procedural error. We do apologize for any confusion this may cause. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Councillor Battcock returned to Council Chambers at 5:57 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORT: MEO/FIRE DEPT.

Report Attached

TOWN MANAGER

Cimco in Town today doing minor repair on Arena main compressor.

Water tower panel is slated to be replaced as part of the current new water plant project. The plant is currently in the design state by the engineers that were awarded the project. We will evaluate options once the company is able to assess.

Grenfell Drive roadwork engineering tender should be out to list today.



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CORRESPONDENCE

Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador

InfoNote: January 17, 2022
 January 24, 2022
 January 31, 2022
 February 7, 2022
 February 14, 2022

MNL Advisory Committees Call for Members

New Course Aims to Foster Empowered Leadership in the
Municipal Sector

Invitation to a Regionalization Conversation Session, Evening
Date Added

New Opportunities to Work with Post-Secondary Students
with Work-Integrated Learning and MNL

Municipal Fact Sheets Now Available from MNL

Info Session: Year of the Garden

Int'l Women's Day Toolkit and Planning Session

No Action Required

Labrador-Grenfell Health

PSA: Labrador-Grenfell Health Urges Caution Around Wildlife
Following Fox Rabies Diagnosis in Labrador

PSA: Walk-in COVID-19 Vaccine and Booster Clinics

Updated Visitation and Activity Guidelines for all Labrador-Grenfell
Health Facilities

No Action Required

Councillor Cole looked at the stats. Our area has a 98.2% fully
vaccinated rate.

Department of Transportation and Infrastructure

Re: Adoption of NFPA 2020 and Electrical Design Considerations

No Action Required



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Statistics Canada

Findings from the 2021 Census are Coming Soon!

The 2021 Census Data are Here! Discover the Latest Population & Dwelling Counts.

No Action Required

Municipal Assessment Agency Inc.

MAA's New Director of Valuation Services

No Action Required

Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs

Acknowledgement Letter – Recreation Complex, Discussion of Regionalization

Re: Joint Working Group on Regionalization – Report and Recommendations

No Action Required

Earth Day.ca

Mobilize for Earth Day 2022!

Book your Climate Action Workshop

No Action Required

Employers' Council

Thank you for Continued Support

No Action Required

Environment and Climate Change

Re: Invitation to Comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines for the Joyce Lake Direct Shipping Iron Ore Project

No Action Required



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Combined Councils of Labrador

Nominations for New Executive 2022

Deputy Mayor O'Brien would have loved to put her name forward. However, contacted Labrador City and they had a name going forward so that was great. Mayor Barron stated that it usually alternates between the two communities.

Environment and Climate Change Canada

WSER Reporting Reminder and Newsletter

No Action Required

Communities in Bloom

2022 Miracle-Gro Best Garden Selection

No Action Required

Destination Labrador

2021 AGM Board Nomination Form and Guidelines

No Action Required

Vianne Timmons, President, Memorial University

From the Desk of Dr. Vianne Timmons – Responding to Tech Industry Needs

No Action Required

CBC/Radio-Canada

A Remarkable Start to 2022 on our Platforms

No Action Required

Mayor Barron stated that he did not see anything from CBC on the passing on their long-time employee, Mike Power. He hopes he is wrong on that. If he is correct, shame on you CBC for not recognizing the contributions of Mr. Power.



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Conservation Corps NL

2022 Call for Internship Project Applications, Last Call for Green Team Project Proposals

No Action Required

Department of Industry, Energy and Technology

Province Supports Recovery of Artists and Tourism and Hospitality Industry

No Action Required

Multi-Material Stewardship Board

MMSB Announces Come Home Year Cleanup Funding Initiative

No Action Required

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Moved by: Councillor Razi
Seconded by: Councillor Pynn

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve Accounts Payable from January 14 to February 11, 2022 in the amount of \$ 597,118.26 as presented. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Councillor Battcock declared a conflict of interest and left Council Chambers at 6:49 pm.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve Accounts Payable to Dexter Institute in the amount of \$ 736.00 as presented. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Councillor Battcock returned to Council Chambers at 6:50 pm.

Mayor Barron declared a conflict of interest and left Council Chambers at 6:51 pm.

Deputy Mayor O'Brien chaired.

Moved by: Councillor Razi
Seconded by: Councillor Battcock



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BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve Accounts Payable to Labrador Motors in the amount of \$ 15.31 as presented. All in Favour.

Motion Carried

Mayor Barron returned to Council Chambers and resumed chair at 6:52 pm.

PERMITS:

Moved by: Councillor Pynn
Seconded by: Councillor Razi

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Wabush approve the following permits:

6498	205 Scully Drive	Excavation/Grubbing/Tree Removal
6500	Jean River Crossing 6B	New Railway Section/Culvert (renewal)
6501	3 Bond Street	Occupancy Permit
6502	207 Scully Drive	Excavation/Grubbing/Tree Removal
6503	201 Scully Drive	Excavation/Grubbing/Tree Removal
6504	208 Scully Drive	Excavation/Grubbing/Tree Removal

All in Favour

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor O'Brien

Some of the issues brought up by residents to Deputy Mayor O'Brien:

1) Shortage of Housing

There is a Facebook group started that are looking for stats for those looking for rental/housing and those renting their homes. They need numbers for CMHC to show the housing crisis in the area. Housing cost are extremely high, and anyone looking for housing with kids or animals it's almost impossible.

Anyone looking for housing or are landlords please reach out to this group at labcityhousing@gmail.com. The stats may benefit the area and show the housing shortage.

2) Child Care Issues

Nobody here to watch kids. Families have had to leave because they can not get babysitters. Some families are now doing fly in/fly out because childcare issues.



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Mayor Barron commented that in meetings with IOC etc., he has stated not to bring anyone else in here. It is just compounding a problem that has not been resolved.

3) Seniors – Assisted Living

Again, the issue of housing shortage and affordable Senior living and assisted living facilities.

4) Pavement – Arena Area

This was no cost to the town as such. It was donated from Greyrock and the ground work done by the Town. The overflow of Arena parking was becoming a huge issue before COVID times and needed a solution. Mayor Barron stated again that this was not a mismanagement of funds.

Councillor Razi

1) Street

Residents have commented that they really appreciated the widening of streets.

2) Recreation Director

Councillor Razi requested Councillor Battcock in conflict for a short discussion. Councillor Battcock left Council Chamber at 7:03 pm.

Councillor Razi discussed concerned as to why the Recreation Manager was not laid off or part time even though the building was idled.

Town Manager stated that the building is idled but still in use. The recreation director is also a power engineer. Without his knowledge, the repair by CIMCO this week on the compressor would not have been noticed. As well, he covers on call duties, a backup supervisor, and busy season is a short few months away.

Councillor Battcock returned to Council Chambers at 7:06 pm.

3) Contracting Out

There was a miscommunication when it came to contracting out. There is no contracting out of driveways and hydrants while people are laid off. In fact, two people have already been recalled for



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vacation relief.

4) Doctor Shortage

So many families without family doctor. What as a town can we do? Mayor stated lobby government is the only way. What they are doing isn't working.

Problem is not attracting doctors; it is retaining them. It is not sustainable. They are overworked and they have no family time. They can not maintain that kind of workload. There are now three family doctors in the area.

Mayor stated that the amount of tax dollars from this area should not have the level of care that is here.

Councillor Razi also stated that Newfoundland qualifications and regulations for doctors are too rigid.

Mayor suggested calling on-line programs and writing government.

Councillor Pynn

Did we receive a response from government on the long-term care letter?

Nothing yet. It is a huge issue for the area.

Mayor Barron stated that Cheryl Hardy's family is not alone. Many families have their loved ones shipped out of here because there is nothing here. The money that flows out of here, it should not happen.

Mayor Barron

It is disheartening to see the rhetoric on Facebook when you see people trying to undermine Council because they don't like me. That the Mayor is mismanaging money from people that sat around this table. Mayor described how people use hatebook and its great for keyboard warriors. Councillor Battcock said it is sad and such a shame.

Deputy Mayor O'Brien

Final comment on recreation. Hope to hear from Labrador City soon. It is time to meet up. I will make time for this very important issue. Open for discussion and working together whether it is regionalization, amalgamation or whatever. Realize the Mayor is shaking his head and not saying it is the answer, just open to the conversation.



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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, meeting was called to adjournment by Deputy Mayor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Battcock at 7:23 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for March 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Barron
Mayor

Charlie Perry
Town Manager/Town Clerk (A)

RB:CP:tgh