



**WABUSH**

**WABUSH TOWN COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING #25-1  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

**TIME AND PLACE**

A meeting of the Wabush Town Council was held on January 23, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mayor Ron Barron.

**COUNCILLORS  
PRESENT**

Mayor Ron Barron  
Councillor Battcock  
Councillor Cole  
Councillor Razi  
Councillor Pynn  
Councillor Burke Via Phone

**ABSENT**

Deputy Mayor O'Brien

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Charlie Perry – Town Manager  
Tiffanee Rideout – Town Clerk  
Darlene Roberts – Administrative Clerk

**PROCLAMATION/  
VISITORS/PETITIONS**

Proclamation: Heritage Day / Week Proclamation 2025

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

Be it so moved and seconded that Council approve minutes 24-12 as presented.

Moved By: Councillor Razi  
Seconded By: Councillor Pynn



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All in Favour  
Motion Carried

### **BUSINESS ARISING ACTION LIST**

#### **Report Attached**

The Tender for the MARC steps and stair lift is nearing completion, with all necessary documentation submitted to the Province via MERX. The Town has obtained Service NL approval ahead of the tender award, allowing the successful bidder to begin work without delay. Mayor Barron reassured residents that work will commence immediately after the tender is awarded, attributing previous delays to bureaucratic processes. This initiative aims to enhance the MARC, ensuring it becomes a more inclusive facility for all residents.

Town Manager Charlie Perry informed the council that the rail cart removal is scheduled for completion this spring, contingent on favourable weather conditions.

The Town plans to extend the turning lane into First Street to alleviate traffic issues and assess its effectiveness. Mayor Barron noted that other streets in the industrial park also face similar problems that require attention, as the turning of tractor trailers disrupts traffic flow.

The Town is issuing all applicable permits, as communicated to the Council.

The Town is currently seeking quotes for the construction of the steps leading from the overflow parking area to the entrance of the Bill Chaplin Arena. Pricing for the enclosure of the steps will be provided after the steps are completed.

The Town of Wabush and the Town of Labrador City will collaborate to gauge interest for public transportation through a survey of the residents. Government funding is available for public transportation, and there is currently a bus service for seniors and persons with disabilities in the area.



Council requested the Town contact CONA to ask for the fast-track teaching programs like those offered during the Pandemic for small Labrador communities.

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Councillor Pynn and seconded by Councillor Battcock to adopt Agenda 24-12 as presented.

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT:      Report Attached** **FINANCE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council approve the destruction of 2017 Accounting Records as per recommendations from the Dept of Municipal Affairs & Dept of Finance.

Moved By: Councillor Burke  
Seconded By: Councillor Razi

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

Accounting records are retained for a period of seven years preceding the current year.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council appoint Mr. Dave Pollock as Assessment Review Commissioner for 2025.

Moved By: Councillor Burke  
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

The motion for an Assessment Review Commissioner is an annual resolution.





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**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council approve the proposal for the Commercial Street WWTP Feasibility Study in the amount of \$49,881.00 plus HST.

Moved By: Councillor Burke  
Seconded By: Councillor Razi

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

The funds required to complete the study have been reallocated from the budget originally designated for the Fresh Water Pump House. The Commercial Street WWTP will require upgrades, and the Town is collaborating with CBCL to determine next steps for both short-term improvements and long-term solutions.

## **PLANNING**

### **Report Attached**

**BE IT RESOLVED** Council approval Land Sale on Snow's Drive.

Moved By: Councillor Pynn  
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

For: Councillor Burke

Against: Councillor Battcock  
Councillor Cole  
Councillor Razi  
Councillor Pynn  
Mayor Barron

Motion Stricken

Council is seeking additional information regarding this land sale bid. The bid was for a reduced cost; however, Mayor Barron has expressed a preference for the lots to remain



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separate and to be sold at fair market value. This decision was influenced by the current housing shortage and an expected high demand for available properties in the future.

**COMMITTEE REPORT:      Report Attached**  
**POLICY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** Council adopt the On-Call Policy as presented.

Moved By: Councillor Razi  
Seconded By: Councillor Pynn

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

This policy is designed to establish and maintain appropriate checks and balances within the process.

**BE RESOLVED** Council adopt the Overtime Policy as presented.

Moved By: Councillor Razi  
Seconded By: Councillor Cole

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

**BE IT RESOLVED** Council adopt the Dressing Room Policy as presented.

Moved By: Councillor Razi  
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

This policy was introduced in response to concerns raised by residents and aims to safeguard the privacy rights of all individuals. To align with this initiative, the Town will be installing changing cubicles in the men's change room at the MARC, consistent with the those already available in the



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woman's change room. The policy will be posted in all changing areas and on the Town's Facebook page.

**BE IT RESOLVED** Council adopt the Progressive Discipline Policy as presented.

Moved By: Councillor Razi  
Seconded By: Councillor Pynn

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

The Policy is to be followed in conjunction with the collective agreement.

**BE IT RESOLVED** Council adopt the Cemetery Bylaw as presented.

Moved By: Councillor Razi  
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

Mayor Barron told residents that the Policy was drafted to ensure the cemetery is a clean, beautiful resting place for families to visit loved ones. He would like to engage residents to form a committee that would ensure this area is kept beautiful. The Town would accept donations towards this endeavor. Residents are asked to follow the guidelines of this Policy.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT:    Report Attached** **PUBLIC WORKS**

Councillor Cole thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work during the recent water repair completed in minus 45-degree weather. There is a boil water advisory in place for the Town and will be lifted when water testing produces two (2) clean test results.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for the Town's Everbridge Emergency Alert System to receive important information. The Town will use Facebook and CRRS in addition to Everbridge to relay all important information. Resident can





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find a link to sign up on the Town's Facebook page, and website at [www.labradorwest.ca](http://www.labradorwest.ca). For assistance signing up call or visit the Town Hall. Mayor Barron reminded residents to reach out to their neighbors in emergency situations to see if they need help. Information regarding Everbridge will be distributed with the 2025 tax bills.

The WWTP now will operate with a remote panel, and parts have been installed. The repair had stalled and will commence in the coming days. The tripod used for the work was damaged during a loan out, however all costs to repair will be incurred by the borrower.

The Red Seal Mechanic Position is still available and recruiting for this position will continue. The six (6) Month temporary position at Public Works has been successfully filled and will start on Monday.

The scheduled street widening with the snow blower has been postponed until next week due to the recent water break.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT: Report Attached RECREATION**

Councillor Burke told residents to come out and enjoy the Lab Cup Tournament that is happening this weekend at the Bill Chaplin Arena and wished all the participants the best of luck.

The repair at the pool has been resolved.

Councillor Burke thanked the recreation department for their work.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT: Report Attached MEO/FIRE DEPT.**

Fire extinguishers in all town buildings have been inspected by Johnson Controls. The alarm system for the MARC will be re-tendered in the coming days. The new Municipalities act has changed, and the Policy Committee will review and make the necessary changes to the regulations.



## CORRESPONDENCE

(Information Package Distributed to Council)

Mr. Perry would like to send a Councillor and one (1) Management person to this year's annual SAM conference. They will pursue funding opportunities for the Jean Lake Trail.

Councillor Cole would like to pursue funding to replace fire protection equipment of concern for the Town of Wabush Volunteer Fire Department. It was recommended to ask stakeholders for donations to help offset the cost.

Councillor Cole would like the town to look into other emergency broadcasting systems for cost comparisons.

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

### Report Attached

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Wabush approves Accounts Payable Listing from December 12 – January 15, 2025, in the amount of \$555,526.30.

Moved By: Councillor Burke  
Seconded By: Councillor Battcock

All in Favour  
Motion Carried

## PERMITS:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council approve the Following permits:

6801                      Occupancy                      5 Squires Avenue

Moved by: Councillor Cole  
Seconded by: Councillor Razi

Councillor Pynn Abstained

All in Favour  
Motion Carried





## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Councillor Razi:**

The Town will apply for a Multiculturalism Grant to subsidize recreational groups. The grants deadline is January 31, 2025.

The Town is continuing to avail of all the opportunities and Government funding to improve fire protection initiatives in advance of the upcoming fire season. Mayor Barron said that the Champion railroad lines will add an extra layer of fire protection as a fire break for the Town. The Town is lobbying government to return the Water Bombers to the area.

The pumps have been installed to the water system and if water pressure continues to be a problem the Town will invest in a pressure boosting station.

Mr. Perry informed residents that the 30-unit seniors' complex proposal in the area has been rejected. The Town of Wabush and the Town of Labrador City will conduct a regional meeting to discuss solutions for this project. Mr. Perry said that Brian Coleman is continuing to work with the Town to obtain government funding for the seniors housing in the area. Councillor Battcock will attend a small round table on this subject in the coming weeks.

Mayor Barron expressed concerns regarding an increase to the fly in fly out workforce in the community. They do not compensate for the increased wear and tear on the Town's infrastructure. He informed all companies that the Town will not support this business model and will strongly oppose any company that uses this type of workforce. Councillor Battcock said many local companies have a large fly in fly out workforce in the area.

The Town will lobby government to ensure that the new Hydro Electric Project in Labrador includes funding to upgrade power infrastructure in our community. The Town is projected to grow exponentially, and we need to be prepared to facilitate that growth. Mr. Perry has a meeting with Kami Urban Planners next week for discussions.



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### **Councillor Battcock:**

Councillor Battcock reminded residents that the Town is hosting Minex, February 18 - 20, 2025. The Town Council do have Councillors signed up to attend.

### **Councillor Cole:**

Councillor Cole would like Council to write a letter to the Government to inquire about the allocation of money collected from the Sugar Tax. The tax has not shown a decrease in consumption and is not an effective initiative.

Councillor Cole would like to extend town boundaries to facilitate infrastructure expansion initiatives that will increase tax revenue.

### **Mayor Barron:**

Mayor Ron Barron sends his deepest condolences to the families of the late Jeannie Martin, Veronica Dillion, Ben Parsons, Dave Kelly, Tony Barton, Sara Jennings-Daigle, Hollis Park, and Bernie Denif.

Local 5795 Union representatives sent a letter to the Town concerning the increase to fly in fly out work forces in the area. Councillor Pynn told residents that this increase will attribute to increased costs in repairing the Town's infrastructure. The Town is willing to collaborate with companies for solutions on this issue.

Valuable low income and professional housing has been eliminated from the area. This has attributed to the decline in recruitment of essential employees to the community. Councillor Razi suggested studying other Municipalities that faced similar growth patterns to project any issues that may need to be addressed.

Councillor Battcock will meet with a softball group to discuss utilizing the Bev Martin field until their field is operational again.

Councillor Burke left the Meeting at 6:45.



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**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, meeting was called to adjournment by Councillor Cole at 6:48 p.m. The next meeting will be held on February 20, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Ron Barron  
Mayor

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Tiffanee Rideout  
Town Clerk

RB:TR:dr