



The City of Saint John

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAINT JOHN
NOVEMBER 25, 2024 AT 6:00 PM
2ND FLOOR COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL

An Electronic means of communication will be used at this meeting. The public may attend the meeting in person in the Council Chamber or view the meeting on the City's Website (www.saintjohn.ca) or on Rogers TV.

Present: Mayor Donna Noade Reardon
Deputy Mayor John MacKenzie
Councillor-at-Large Gary Sullivan
Councillor-at-Large Brent Harris
Councillor Ward 1 Greg Norton
Councillor Ward 1 Joanna Killen (virtual)
Councillor Ward 2 Barry Ogden
Councillor Ward 3 Gerry Lowe
Councillor Ward 4 Greg Stewart
Councillor Ward 4 Paula Radwan

Also Present:
Chief Administrative Officer B. McGovern
General Counsel M. Tompkins
Financial Director C. Lavigne
Fire Chief R. Nichol
Commissioner Utilities & Infrastructure Services I. Fogan
Commissioner Public Works M. Hugenholtz
Commissioner Human Resources S. Hossack
Commissioner Growth & Community Services A. Poffenroth
City Clerk J. Taylor
Deputy City Clerk P. Anglin

1. Call to Order

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Deputy Mayor MacKenzie read aloud the Land Acknowledgement and called for a moment of reflection.

“The City of Saint John/Menaquesk is situated is the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik/Maliseet. The Wolastoqiyik/Maliseet along with their Indigenous Neighbours, the Mi’kmaq/Mi’kmaq and Passamaquoddy/Peskotomuhkati signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the British Crown in the 1700s that protected their rights to lands and resources.”

1.2 National Anthem

The Saint John Symphony Youth Orchestra performed O Canada by video.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Minutes of November 12, 2024

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Sullivan:
RESOLVED that the minutes of November 12, 2024, be approved.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Norton, seconded by Councillor Sullivan:
RESOLVED that the agenda for November 25, 2024, be approved with the addition of Item
16.1 Harbour Bridge Closure; 17.1 IRCC Contribution Agreement – Amendment 5 – LIP 2024; 17.2 License Renewal – West Side Food Bank; 17.3 99 King Street – Tier 2 Urban Development Incentive Grant; 17.4 Anglin Drive Surplus Recommendation; and 17.5 Legal Proceeding against BGC Engineering Inc. (West Wells).

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 RESOLVED that as recommended in the submitted report *M&C 2024-307: Proposed Public Hearing Date for a Zoning By-Law Amendment regarding the Refunding of Application Fees*, Common Council schedule a public hearing on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. for Zoning By-Law Text Amendments submitted by City of Saint John for amendments to the Zoning By-Law related to the refunding of application fees, to be held in the Council Chamber, City Hall 2nd floor, 15 Market Square, Saint John, NB.

5.2 RESOLVED that as recommended in the submitted report *M&C 2024-298: Contract 2023-18: Carmarthen Street (Mecklenburg Street to Orange Street) Water, Sanitary and Storm Sewer Renewal and Street Reconstruction*, the contract be awarded to the low tenderer, Steele Trucking Ltd., at their tendered price of \$1,788,988.46

(including HST) as calculated based on estimated quantities, and further that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary contract documents.

5.3 RESOLVED that the Council Community Fund application submitted by Councillor Stewart for PRO Kids for one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) be approved.

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Radwan:
RESOLVED that the recommendation set out in each consent agenda item respectively, be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Members' Comments

Members commented on various local events.

7. Proclamation

7.1 The Mayor proclaimed December 3, 2024, as International Day for Persons with Disabilities in the City of Saint John.

8. Delegations / Presentations

9. Public Hearings – 6:30 p.m.

10. Consideration of By-Laws

11. Submissions by Council Members

12. Business Matters – Municipal Officers

12.1 Climate Change Action Plan and Progress

Moved by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Ogden:
RESOLVED that the presentation entitled "City of Saint John Climate Change Action Plan" be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED.

12.2 Winter Management Plan (WMP) Update

Moved by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Stewart:
RESOLVED that the submitted report M&C 2024-304: Winter Management Plan (WMP) Update, be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED.

13. Committee Reports

13.1 Finance Committee: Amendment to the Wage Escalation Policy FAS-007

Moved by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Radwan:
RESOLVED that as recommended by the Finance Committee, having met on November 18, 2024, Common Council approve the amended Wage and Benefits Budget Escalation Policy FAS-007.

MOTION CARRIED.

13.2 Finance Committee: 2025 General Fund Operating Budget

Moved by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Stewart:
RESOLVED that as recommended by the Finance Committee, having met on November 18, 2024, Common Council reflect upon the proposed 2025 General Fund Operating Budget, make all inquiries to staff and receive and file this report and presentation.

MOTION CARRIED with Councillor Radwan voting nay stating the tax rate is not affordable at this time until there is tax reform.

13.3 Finance Committee: 2025 Utility Fund Operating Budget and Water and Sewerage By-Law Amendment (1st and 2nd Reading)

Moved by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Stewart:
RESOLVED that as recommended by the Finance Committee, having met on November 18, 2024, Common Council approve the following:

1. That the estimated revenue for the Water and Sewerage Utility for the year 2025 in the amount of \$55,393,340 be adopted (Appendix "A"); and
2. That the estimate of expenses for the Water and Sewerage Utility for the year 2025 in the amount of \$55,393,340 be approved (Appendix "A").

MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Harris:
RESOLVED that the by-law entitled "By-Law Number M-16 A Law to Amend a By-Law respecting Water and Sewerage" repealing and replacing Schedule "E", effective January 1, 2025, be read a first time.

MOTION CARRIED.

Read a first time by title, the by-law entitled, "By-Law Number M-16 A Law to Amend a By-Law respecting Water and Sewerage."

Moved by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Sullivan:
RESOLVED that the by-law entitled "By-Law Number M-16 A Law to Amend a By-Law respecting Water and Sewerage" repealing and replacing Schedule "E", effective January 1, 2025, be read a second time.

MOTION CARRIED.

Read a second time by title, the by-law entitled, "By-Law Number M-16 A Law to Amend a By-Law respecting Water and Sewerage."

13.4 Finance Committee: MOU Uptown Saint John Inc.

Moved by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Radwan:
RESOLVED that as recommended by the Finance Committee, having met on November 18, 2024, Common Council approve and execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Saint John and Uptown Saint John Inc.

MOTION CARRIED.

14. Consideration of Issues Separated from Consent Agenda

15. General Correspondence

15.1 Hospice Gala 2025: Ticket Purchase Request (Recommendation: Refer to Clerk to purchase tickets for interested members of Council)

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Harris:
RESOLVED that the Hospice Gala 2025 Ticket Purchase Request be referred to the Clerk to purchase tickets for interested members of Council.

MOTION CARRIED.

15.2 Saint John Police Association: 175 Anniversary of SJ Police Force – Request for Proclamation (Recommendation: Request staff to prepare proclamation and return to Council on or before the last meeting of 2024)

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Sullivan:
RESOLVED that the Saint John Police Association request for a proclamation be referred to staff to prepare the proclamation and return to Council on or before the last meeting of 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

15.3 Johnson Engineered Solutions Limited: Request to Present (Recommendation: Receive for Information)

Moved by Councillor Harris, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie:
RESOLVED that the Johnson Engineered Solutions Limited Request to Present be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED.

15.4 K. Greenhalgh: Excessive Noise from modified exhaust vehicles (Recommendation: Direct staff to forward a copy of the vehicle noise concern to the Saint John Police Force, authority who enforces the Saint John Noise By-Law)

Moved by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Sullivan:

RESOLVED that the K. Greenhalgh correspondence regarding excessive noise from modified exhaust vehicles be forwarded to the Saint John Police Force, the authority who enforces the Saint John Noise By-Law.

MOTION CARRIED.

15.5 Uptown Saint John: BIA Construction Mitigation (Recommendation: Receive for Information)

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Lowe:

RESOLVED that the Uptown Saint John correspondence re: BIA Construction Mitigation be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED.

16. Supplemental Agenda

16.1 Harbour Bridge Passage Closure Update

Councillor Norton advised that there was an unannounced closure of the Harbour Bridge on Sunday November 24th causing delays of 10 – 40 minutes. Commissioner Hugenholtz advised that the Harbour Bridge construction is not a City project and the Province manages the project. The City does communicate with DTI staff and will advise of the unannounced lane closure to permit the contractor to sweep the 4 lanes. The City will discuss with DTI penalties in the future, and better signage.

Moved by Councillor Norton, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie:

RESOLVED that the Harbour Bridge Closure Update be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED.

17. Committee of the Whole

17.1 IRCC Contribution Agreement – Amendment 5 – LIP 2024

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Harris:

RESOLVED that as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, having met on November 25, 2024, the City enter into the Contribution Agreement Amendment Number (5) in the form as attached to M&C 2024-296 with His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, for the purpose of reallocating \$14,700 in previously approved funding for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the said Contribution Agreement and any documents ancillary thereto.

MOTION CARRIED.

17.2 License Renewal – West side Food Bank/Horizon Health

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Lowe:

RESOLVED that as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, having met on November 25, 2024, the City enter into License Agreements with West Side Food Bank

Inc. and Horizon Health Network, as attached to M&C 2024-311, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the said License Agreements and any other documents ancillary thereto or necessary to effect the transaction.

MOTION CARRIED.

17.3 99 King Street – Tier 2 Urban Development Incentive Grant

Moved by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Harris:

RESOLVED that as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, having met on November 25, 2024, Common Council approve the following:

1. That the City of Saint John enter into the Urban Development Incentive Tier 2 Grant Agreement generally in the form as presented to Committee of the Whole on November 25, 2024 with 99 King St. G.P. Inc.: and,
2. That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the said agreement and any other documents necessary to effect the transaction.

MOTION CARRIED.

17.4 Anglin Drive Surplus Recommendation

Moved by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Radwan:

RESOLVED that as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, having met on November 25, 2024, Common Council declare the property located at 19 Anglin Drive (PID 55054779) as surplus.

MOTION CARRIED.

17.5 Legal Proceeding against BGC Engineering Inc. (West Wells)

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Sullivan:

RESOLVED that as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, having met on November 25, 2024 the City settle its claim against Fundy Engineering and Matthew Alexander in the West Wells litigation on the terms and conditions outlined to Committee of the Whole at its meeting held November 25, 2024, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any documents necessary to effect the settlement.

MOTION CARRIED.

18. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Lowe, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacKenzie:

RESOLVED that the meeting of Common Council held on November 25, 2024, be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

City Clerk