

# ROTHESAY

## OPEN COUNCIL MEETING BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

Pursuant to the *Local Governance Act* and  
the Province of New Brunswick  
State of Emergency (declared 19 March 2020)

**Monday, July 13, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.**



**PRESENT:** MAYOR NANCY GRANT  
DEPUTY MAYOR MATT ALEXANDER  
COUNCILLOR GRANT BRENNAN  
COUNCILLOR PETER J. LEWIS  
COUNCILLOR TIFFANY MACKAY FRENCH  
COUNCILLOR BILL McGUIRE  
COUNCILLOR DON SHEA  
COUNCILLOR MIRIAM WELLS

TOWN MANAGER JOHN JARVIE  
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT (DPDS) BRIAN WHITE  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS (DO) BRETT McLEAN  
DIRECTOR OF REC/PARKS (DRP) CHARLES JENSEN  
TREASURER DOUG MacDONALD  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT LIZ POMEROY

**ABSENT:** TOWN CLERK MARY JANE BANKS

Mayor Grant called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. noting the meeting is being held via videoconference to ensure adherence to proper social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Grant extended condolences to Town Clerk Banks and her family on the recent passing of her mother.

### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOVED** by Counc. Mackay French and seconded by Deputy Mayor Alexander the agenda be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED.**

### 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

➤ Regular Meeting 8 June 2020

**MOVED** by Counc. Lewis and seconded by Counc. McGuire the Open Session Council minutes of June 8, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. Wells noted Council opted against sending a letter of support to Sylvie Nadeau, regarding a review of the recruitment process for the current Provincial Librarian/Executive Director of the New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS), because the Premier had already made a decision. She requested Council's rationale be included under Item 9.3.

**CARRIED.**

#### ➤ Business Arising from Minutes

Counc. Shea requested an update regarding the proposed letter from Rothesay and Quispamsis to Premier Higgs requesting reforms to the Police Act. Town Manager Jarvie advised a letter (*see Item 6.9*) was sent to Quispamsis, and staff are awaiting a response.

### 3. OPENING REMARKS OF COUNCIL

Mayor Grant commented on the successful virtual Canada Day celebration. She thanked DRP Jensen, and ICT Coordinator Mike Kean for their work organizing the event.

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### 3.1 Declaration of Conflict of Interest N/A

### 4. DELEGATIONS N/A

### 5. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

5.1 11 June 2020 Email from resident RE: Traffic concerns on Rothesay Road  
**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Shea the email from resident RE: Traffic concerns on Rothesay Road dated 11 June 2020 be referred to the Works and Utilities Committee.

**CARRIED.**

5.2 15 June 2020 Email from resident RE: Request to reduce the speed limit on Grove Avenue  
**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Alexander and seconded by Counc. Lewis the email from resident RE: Request to reduce the speed limit on Grove Avenue dated 15 June 2020 be referred to the Works and Utilities Committee.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. Brennan commented on the regularity of reports of speeding in Rothesay. He suggested the concerns are misdirected to the Town, and are better suited to be addressed by the Kennebecasis Regional Police Force (KRPF). Mayor Grant agreed noting residents should be encouraged to report speeding to the KRPF. Town Manager Jarvie advised it is standard practice to forward correspondence related to speeding to the KRPF. He added the Works and Utilities Committee also discusses individual concerns as some resolution can be found in incorporating physical or structural traffic calming measures in problematic areas. Deputy Mayor Alexander and Counc. Wells listed stop signs and flashing speed radar signs as examples. Counc. Wells added referring correspondence to the Works and Utilities Committee allows the authors an opportunity to discuss their concerns in person with Town representatives.

**CARRIED.**

5.3 24 June 2020 Email from resident RE: Rothesay Road bike lanes  
**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Mackay French the email from resident RE: Rothesay Road bike lanes dated 24 June 2020 be referred to the Works and Utilities Committee.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. Wells asked if a Committee discussion was necessary as the request appears straightforward. Town Manager Jarvie recommended the item go to the Committee as the request pertains to property owned by Saint John. Counc. Brennan suggested the author be encouraged to forward the letter to Saint John.

**CARRIED.**

5.4 6 July 2020 Email from Counc. Lewis RE: Outdoor Exercise Equipment  
**MOVED** by Counc. Lewis and seconded by Counc. Shea the email from Counc. Lewis RE: Outdoor Exercise Equipment dated 6 July 2020 be referred to the Parks and Recreation Committee.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. Lewis acknowledged the Parks and Recreation Committee had considered the initiative in the past. He suggested revisiting the idea as more individuals are participating in outdoor activities, rather than attending indoor gym facilities, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted it may be worthwhile to allocate funds for the equipment in the 2021 budget.

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Counc. Wells explained the idea was explored but not recommended because of the substantial cost and minimal use reported by municipalities with similar equipment. Counc. McGuire questioned if Town staff would be required to sanitize the equipment regularly during the pandemic. Counc. Mackay French commented that playground equipment is not sanitized. When questioned, DRP Jensen advised there are signs notifying the public that playground equipment is not sanitized, however individuals are encouraged to bring personal sanitizer, as well as adhere to proper social distancing. He added public washrooms are also open to allow individuals to wash their hands.

**NAY vote recorded from Counc. Wells.**

**CARRIED.**

### 6. CORRESPONDENCE - FOR INFORMATION

6.1 1 June 2020 Letter from resident RE: Mulberry Lane improvement costs (*previously sent to the Works and Utilities Committee, see Item 7.6*)

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Shea the letter from resident RE: Mulberry Lane improvement costs dated 1 June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

6.2 4 June 2020 Thank you letter from the Imperial Theatre

**MOVED** by Counc. Mackay French and seconded by Counc. Shea the thank you letter from the Imperial Theatre dated 4 June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

6.3 9 June 2020 Letter from Premier RE: Sustainability Saint John

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Alexander and seconded by Counc. Shea the letter from Premier RE: Sustainability Saint John dated 9 June 2020 be received/filed.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Mayor Grant noted the letter is a response to a letter from Saint John to Premier Higgs concerning the April 30, 2020 letter from the regional mayors to Premier Higgs.

**CARRIED.**

6.4 10 June 2020 Letter to Saint John RE: Greater Saint John Regional Facilities Commission  
**MOVED** by Counc. Mackay French and seconded by Deputy Mayor Alexander the letter to Saint John RE: Greater Saint John Regional Facilities Commission dated 10 June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

6.5 10 June 2020 Letter from Minister Carr RE: Federal Gas Tax Fund – 2020 Allocation  
**MOVED** by Counc. Shea and seconded by Counc. Lewis the letter from Minister Carr RE: Federal Gas Tax Fund – 2020 Allocation dated 10 June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

6.6 14 June 2020 Rothesay statement for Black Lives Matter event in Saint John  
**MOVED** by Counc. Mackay French and seconded by Counc. McGuire the Rothesay statement for Black Lives Matter event in Saint John dated 14 June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

6.7 19 June 2020 Thank you card from Gail Samaan RE: 2020 Canadian Masters Curling Championships

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Mackay French the thank you card from Gail Samaan RE: 2020 Canadian Masters Curling Championships dated 19 June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

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6.8 22 June 2020 Thank you letter from Muscular Dystrophy Canada  
**MOVED** by Counc. Shea and seconded by Counc. Lewis the thank you letter from Muscular Dystrophy Canada dated 22 June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

6.9 2 July 2020 Letter to Quispamsis RE: Extraneous Police Costs  
**MOVED** by Counc. Shea and seconded by Counc. McGuire the letter to Quispamsis RE: Extraneous Police Costs dated 2 July 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

## 7. REPORTS

### 7.0 July 2020 Report from Closed Session

#### ➤ Economic Development Prospectus

Council agreed to discuss the matter under Item 9.2.

**CARRIED.**

7.1 27 April 2020 Fundy Regional Service Commission (FRSC) Meeting Minutes  
**MOVED** by Counc. Lewis and seconded by Counc. Mackay French the Fundy Regional Service Commission (FRSC) Meeting Minutes dated 27 April 2020 be received/filed.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Mayor Grant noted a one hour closed session meeting preceded the open meeting.

**CARRIED.**

7.2 2019 Kennebecasis Public Library Audited Financial Statements  
**MOVED** by Counc. Shea and seconded by Counc. Mackay French the 2019 Kennebecasis Public Library Audited Financial Statements be received/filed.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Treasurer MacDonald advised the auditor's report indicates a standard "clean audit" in accordance with the Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS). He noted, similar to other charitable organizations, the Library receives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. He added there is an \$8 surplus reported for the 2019 Operating Fund.

**CARRIED.**

7.3 2019 KRJBPC Audited Financial Statements  
**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Alexander and seconded by Counc. Brenan the Kennebecasis Regional Joint Board of Police Commissioners (KRJBPC) 2019 Audited Financial Statements be received/filed.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Treasurer MacDonald advised the auditor's report indicates a standard "clean audit" in accordance with the Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS). He added there is a \$0 surplus reported in the 2019 Operating Fund.

**CARRIED.**

7.4 31 May 2020 Draft unaudited Rothesay General Fund Financial Statements  
**MOVED** by Counc. Brenan and seconded by Counc. Shea the draft unaudited Rothesay General Fund Financial Statements dated 31 May 2020 be received/filed.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Mayor Grant commented that some variances are a result of the pandemic.

**CARRIED.**

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31 May 2020 Draft unaudited Rothesay Utility Fund Financial Statements

**MOVED** by Counc. Brenan and seconded by Counc. Shea the draft unaudited Rothesay Utility Fund Financial Statements dated 31 May 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

31 May 2020 Donation Summary

**MOVED** by Counc. Brenan and seconded by Counc. Mackay French the donation summary dated 31 May 2020 be received/filed.

### ON THE QUESTION:

Mayor Grant reported the \$1,000 Fairweather Scholarship was distributed.

**CARRIED.**

25 June 2020 Draft Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

**MOVED** by Counc. Brenan and seconded by Counc. Shea the draft Finance Committee Meeting Minutes dated 25 June 2020 be received/filed.

### ON THE QUESTION:

Mayor Grant noted the proposed schedule for budget deliberations was included. She added budget submission schedules were changed by the Department of Environment and Local Government thus municipal budgets are expected a month earlier than previous years.

**CARRIED.**

#### ➤ Vocational Training Centre

**MOVED** by Counc. Brenan and seconded by Counc. McGuire Council authorize correspondence to the town of Quispamsis requesting cost sharing of the 2020 rent subsidy to be provided to the Vocational Training Centre in a manner similar to the Rothesay cost sharing agreement related to the KV Food Bank.

### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. McGuire questioned if data is available that indicates which municipalities the Vocational Training Centre participants hail from. Town Manager Jarvie advised the information is not immediately available but can be acquired. Counc. Lewis withdrew his conflict of interest as it no longer applies. He questioned if the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) and KV Food Bank are comparable enough to request a similar arrangement. Counc. Shea questioned if the VTC has sought funding from Quispamsis in the past.

**MOVED** by Counc. Shea and seconded by Counc. Lewis the proposal to cost share the 2020 rent subsidy for the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) be tabled pending discussion with the VTC.

**CARRIED.**

7.5 10 June 2020 Draft Rothesay Hive Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Mackay French the Draft Rothesay Hive Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated 10 June 2020 be received/filed.

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### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. Wells summarized the minutes highlighting that the Committee's discussion focused on options to reopen the facility. She noted members of the Rothesay Hive will be encouraged to answer a questionnaire to help plan for the future of the facility. Counc. Shea commented that the agreement between the Town and the YMCA expired as of June 30, 2020. Town Manager Jarvie advised further discussion is required with the YMCA to determine how to proceed. Counc. Wells added she anticipates a productive discussion at the next Rothesay Hive Advisory Committee meeting as YMCA representatives will be in attendance.

**CARRIED.**

7.6 17 June 2020 Draft Works and Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Alexander and seconded by Counc. Shea the Draft Works and Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes dated 17 June 2020 be received/filed.

### ON THE QUESTION:

Deputy Mayor Alexander gave a brief summary of the minutes. Counc. McGuire noted traveling to, and from, the Bill McGuire Centre for a recent Council meeting revealed the issues faced by residents on James Renforth Drive. Counc. Lewis expressed interest in exploring the possibility of converting James Renforth Drive to a one-way road which could mitigate some concerns. It was noted the narrow width of the road, and its close proximity to the playground, is problematic for the safety of community members.

**CARRIED.**

➤ Spruce Street and Clark Road crosswalk

**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Alexander and seconded by Counc. Shea Council consider a signalized crosswalk at Spruce Street and Clark Road during 2021 budget deliberations.

**CARRIED.**

7.7 June 2020 Monthly Building Permit Report

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. McGuire the Monthly Building Permit Report dated June 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

7.8 8 July 2020 Capital Projects Summary

**MOVED** by Counc. Shea and seconded by Counc. Brenan the Capital Projects Summary dated 8 July 2020 be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

## 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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### TABLED ITEMS

**8.1 Wiljac Street Reconstruction and Extension – Design** (Tabled March 2019)

*No action at this time*

**8.2 Mayor's Round Table on Climate Change** (Tabled October 2019)

*No action at this time*

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## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### ADMINISTRATION

#### 9.1 Committee and Commission Appointments

7 July 2020

Memorandum from the Nominating Committee

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Mackay French Bill Kean be appointed to the Kennebecasis Regional Joint Board of Police Commissioners for a term to expire December 31, 2022; and further Angela Prosser be appointed to the Rothesay Hive Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2022.

**CARRIED.**

#### 9.2 Economic Development Prospectus

July 2020

Final Draft - Economic Prospectus

*(Collaborating on economic development in Greater Saint John to ensure prosperity in the 2020s)*

Mayor Grant reported a revised copy of the final draft of the Economic Prospectus was released to the public this morning. Rothesay is the first municipality to vote on the proposal. Mayor Grant highlighted the following: Rothesay Council is voting on participating in the establishment of a new economic development agency for the Greater Saint John region; the initiative was initiated unilaterally by Saint John; after consultation with its Economic Development Advisory Council, it was revised to make a new regional multifunctional economic development agency – one overarching agency replacing four, with one board, one budget, and one CEO; Grand Bay-Westfield, Quispamsis, and Rothesay have contributed to regional economic development for more than 20 years; Hampton was encouraged to the table by the Provincial government; in 2020, Rothesay will contribute \$98,700 to Economic Development Greater Saint John (EDGSJ); core funding for the new economic development entity would be funded per capita, over a five year period, by all municipalities in the Saint John Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) in order to approach the current purported Saint John allocation; regional municipalities, with the exception of Saint John, are asked to incrementally increase their contributions with the intent to grow economic development in the region rather than focus on costs savings or cost efficiencies; and by 2025 Rothesay's contribution will rise to \$283,000 equivalent to roughly \$0.02 on the tax rate.

Mayor Grant reviewed Rothesay's contributions to the proposed five year revenue forecast for the new economic development agency. She expressed appreciation that the funding formula is based on per capita contributions, rather than an assessment base; all the municipalities will have consistent representation; and there is an option to opt out of the plan in three years if there is inadequate return on investment. She added there are some disadvantages including: funding from the nine local service districts (LSDs) has not been confirmed at this time, however the Provincial government has contributed \$500,000 to offset the imbalance and Rothesay may see significantly less benefit from the real estate and tourism aspects of the new entity than Saint John.

Mayor Grant acknowledged that mutual concessions are required in collaborations, and while the relationship between Saint John and surrounding municipalities may not be equally symbiotic, there is still value in the proposal. She added, if the proposal receives regional approval then it will be incumbent on Council to identify desired outcomes, ensure proper key performance indicators (KPIs) are set to monitor for results, and track Rothesay's return on investment.

In response to an inquiry, Town Manager Jarvie advised a PowerPoint presentation on the proposal will be available to view on the Town website.

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**MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Alexander and seconded by Counc. Shea:

Recognizing its limitations and inspired by its promise, Rothesay Council endorses the Prospectus (prepared by the Advisory Committee on Regional Economic Development, July 13, 2020) and commits to its realization, working cooperatively with others in the region.

### ON THE QUESTION:

Council commended Cathy Simpson, David Campbell, Paulette Hicks, and the Economic Development Advisory Council for their work developing the proposal. Council acknowledged the challenges faced to ensure the proposal is amenable to all parties, and reiterated the importance of regional collaboration for all the municipalities.

**CARRIED.**

9.2.1	26 May 2020	Letter from Develop Saint John Inc.
	24 June 2020	Letter from the Saint John Hotel Association
	25 June 2020	Letter from Premier Higgs
	25 June 2020	Letter from Aquila Tours Inc.
	29 June 2020	Letter from Peter Stoddart
	30 June 2020	Letter from the YMCA of Greater Saint John
	3 July 2020	Letter from Elias Management Group
	3 July 2020	Letter from Living SJ
	3 July 2020	Letter from Innovatia Inc.
	3 July 2020	Letter from Wayne Long, MP
	4 July 2020	Letter from Martin Chiasson, Past Chairperson EDGSJ
	4 July 2020	Letter from Dr. Shelley M. Rinehart
	5 July 2020	Letter from YSJ Saint John Airport
	7 July 2020	Letter from ISpire & ConnexionWorks
	7 July 2020	Letter from Area 506
	7 July 2020	Letter from Cooke Aquaculture
	7 July 2020	Email from resident
	9 July 2020	Letter from Frank McKenna
	10 July 2020	Letter from the Architects' Association of New Brunswick
	10 July 2020	Letter from Rob Belliveau

**MOVED** by Counc. Shea and seconded by Deputy Mayor Alexander the correspondence (20) regarding the Economic Development Prospectus be received/filed.

**CARRIED.**

## OPERATIONS

### 9.3 Utility Pipe Bridge – Rothesay Road at College Hill Road

8 July 2020 Report prepared by DO McLean

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Lewis Council authorize the Director of Operations to solicit quotations and issue a purchase order (not to exceed \$100,000 including rebateable HST) for the rehabilitation of the existing pipe bridge supporting the water and sewer mains across Taylor Brook.

### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. Shea requested clarification. Town Manager Jarvie advised, a minimum of three, quotations will be sought, instead of engaging a consultant to complete a full design and tender package, as the nature of the project is more to rehabilitate and strengthen the original design. There was general discussion regarding the location of the deteriorating infrastructure.

**CARRIED.**

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### 9.4 Intersection Traffic Studies: Grove/Church/Hampton & Hampton/Rothesay/Gondola Point/Rothesay Park

8 July 2020

Report prepared by DO McLean

**MOVED** by Counc. Mackay French and seconded by Counc. Wells the proposal submitted by Crandall Engineering Ltd. in the amount of \$38,000.00 plus HST be accepted and that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute the appropriate documentation in that regard.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Council expressed frustration that various measures to alleviate traffic concerns at the Hampton Road, Rothesay Road, Gondola Point Road, and Rothesay Park Road intersection (Rothesay Corner) were considered in the past, to no avail. Council questioned how a traffic study for the Rothesay Corner intersection will produce a different outcome. Town Manager Jarvie advised the intent of the traffic studies are to determine if traffic signals are warranted at the intersections. If so, in order to proceed evidence, in the form of the traffic studies, must be provided to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to demonstrate that traffic signals are necessary on the aforementioned provincially designated highways, in order to receive approval. Counc. Wells noted although traffic signals were not recommended following the traffic studies completed in 2012, both areas have experienced an influx of vehicles. Counc. Mackay French expressed concern that the busyness of both intersections creates safety concerns for children and community members travelling to, and from, Rothesay Park School or other facilities. She added if traffic signals are installed at the Grove Avenue, Church Avenue, and Hampton Road intersection it will likely have an impact on the Rothesay Corner intersection.

**NAY vote recorded from Counc. Brennan.**

**CARRIED.**

### 9.5 Engineering Design and Construction Management Services 2021 Asphalt Resurfacing And Microseal Placement Program

9 July 2020

Report prepared by DO McLean

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. Shea the proposal submitted by exp. in the amount of \$158,106.60 including HST for the 2021 Asphalt Resurfacing and Microseal Placement Program be accepted and further that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute the appropriate documentation in that regard.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Mayor Grant noted the design portion is budgeted in 2020 and under budget, and Council will confirm the list of streets in early 2021.

**CARRIED.**

## RECREATION

### 9.6 R-2020-002-B Wells Park Ballfield

13 July 2020

Report prepared by DRP Jensen

**MOVED** by Counc. McGuire and seconded by Counc. Mackay French Council award contract R-2020-002-B-Wells Park Ball Field in the amount of \$682,364.00 + HST to TerraEx Inc. and further that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute an agreement in that regard.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

In response to an inquiry, DRP Jensen advised \$682,364 plus HST is the total cost to produce a “complete” field. Counc. Shea questioned if there is a standard ratio of ball fields per capita for municipalities. DRP Jensen advised he is unsure however a ratio does exist for the number of arenas per capita. Currently, Rothesay maintains four ball fields (three on town owned land) that accommodate different age groups. Counc. Mackay French questioned why the cost presented exceeds the \$550,000 approved by Council to be allocated in 2020. Town Manager Jarvie advised the 682,364 plus HST is the total cost of the contract, however only \$550,000 will be spent in 2020.

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When questioned, DRP Jensen noted the Scribner Crescent ball field experiences “washouts” and “drop-offs” creating a playing field that is not level, the surrounding fence is in poor condition, and the field is undersized for its intended age group. For these reasons, construction of a ball field in Wells Park was proposed. Counc. Brennan asked if the intent is to sell the Scribner Crescent ball field property to offset the cost of the Wells Park ball field. Town Manager Jarvie advised the future of the Scribner Crescent property will be at Council’s discretion once construction of the Wells Park ball field is complete.

**CARRIED.**

### 9.7 Tender – Arena Structural Repairs

10 July 2020

Memorandum from Town Manager Jarvie

Mayor Grant noted the lowest bid is roughly double the estimated cost. Town Manager Jarvie suggested the project could be deferred to the 2021 construction season, and a full scale renovation could be explored to allow minimal disruption to the regular schedule.

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. McGuire Council reconsider renovation of the arena in favour of a new build.

#### ON THE QUESTION:

Counc. Wells noted it is more cost, and energy, efficient to build a new arena with an anticipated lifespan that doubles its renovated counterpart. She added it will also allow the Town to add a walking track to its multigenerational recreation assets.

Counc. Brennan contended Council pursued renovation of the arena because external funding was, *and is*, not forthcoming. He noted there is no reason not to proceed as the lowest bid is less than the \$1,000,000 allocated in the 2020 budget to renovate the arena.

Counc. McGuire acknowledged Council’s rationale for pursuing renovation. He expressed concern this may be “the tip of the iceberg” as more unexpected problems could arise and substantially increase the overall cost. If so, he suggested it may be better to abandon the project completely rather than spend significant funds to extend the lifespan for a 20 year period.

Counc. Lewis stated his support for renovating the arena. He noted the presence of lead paint is not surprising for a facility constructed in 1972, and will require a lengthy process for removal. He expressed frustration with the slow progression and contention surrounding the entire project.

Deputy Mayor Alexander acknowledged the matter is of a divisive nature. He expressed concern the significant variance between the estimated and actual cost of the first action item may be indicative of what is to come. He stated he is not in favour of proceeding with a renovation if taxpayer funds will be spent imprudently on renovations that significantly exceed estimates.

Counc. Shea commented on the worsening condition of the arena. He noted if no action is taken it could result in the closure of the facility. He commented on Council’s consideration of refurbishing the existing arena into another recreational facility following a new build. Therefore, the additional costs may be incurred regardless. He stated his preference for moving forward with the renovation.

Counc. Mackay French noted since external funding is not forthcoming, Council’s options are to either renovate or close the arena. She noted millions of dollars were spent on designs for a new build that never came to fruition. She stated her support for moving forward with renovating the facility.

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Counc. Wells acknowledged that external funds are unavailable. She stated she is not in favour of using significant funds to renovate the facility when its lifespan could be extended two-fold if a new facility is constructed. She noted her comments echo concerns identified by the Parks and Recreation Committee. She added she would prefer closure of the facility rather than spending excessive funds renovating a deteriorating building.

**YEA votes recorded from:** Deputy Mayor Alexander, and Councils. McGuire and Wells.

**NAY votes recorded from:** Councils. Brennan, Lewis, Mackay French, and Shea.

**DEFEATED.**

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. McGuire Council abandon the project for the current construction season.

**YEA votes recorded from:** Deputy Mayor Alexander, and Councils. McGuire and Wells.

**NAY votes recorded from:** Councils. Brennan, Lewis, Mackay French, and Shea.

**DEFEATED.**

**MOVED** by Counc. Brennan and seconded by Counc. Shea Council proceed with *Option i*: the contract be awarded to the low bidder at a cost of \$748,252 including net HST.

### ON THE QUESTION:

Deputy Mayor Alexander stated, for the record, he is vehemently opposed to this course of action. He expressed frustration that some seemingly trivial expenses are questioned by Council members that consent to an expenditure that exceeds the original estimate two-fold. He commented on the difficulty explaining Council's rationale, for pursuing a renovation, to members of the public that disagree with Council's decision.

Counc. Mackay French noted it is incumbent that, despite varying opinions prior to a vote, all Council members support the final outcome. This ensures a single cohesive voice for Council. She added there are members of the community that also support the decision to renovate the facility.

Counc. Lewis contended it could be argued the considerable funds spent on past designs for a new build may be viewed as an imprudent use of taxpayer funds. He noted proceeding with the renovation is a reasonable way to move the project forward. He added he has spoken with members of the public that do agree with Council's decision. He further noted it is likely a new build would require additional costs associated with potential damage to the recently repaved arena parking lot.

Counc. Wells noted Council was presented with a preliminary cost for the initial stage of renovation. This substantial cost has provided some insight and Council is in a position to analyze and potentially re-evaluate its options. She cautioned that moving forward could result in severe financial implications for the Town.

**YEA votes recorded from:** Councils. Brennan, Lewis, Mackay French, and Shea.

**NAY votes recorded from:** Deputy Mayor Alexander, and Councils. McGuire and Wells.

**CARRIED.**

## 10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

**ROTHERSAY**

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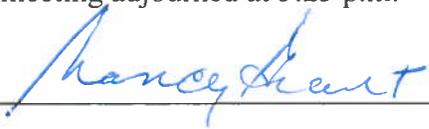
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**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED** by Counc. Wells and seconded by Counc. McGuire the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nancy Hunt", written over a horizontal line.

MAYOR



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Jane E. Burt", written over a horizontal line.

CLERK