

**January 7, 2008**

The Regular Meeting of the St. John's Municipal Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4:30 p.m. today.

His Worship the Mayor presided.

There were present also Deputy Mayor O'Keefe, Councillors Duff, Colbert, Hickman, Hann, Puddister, Galgay, Coombs, Ellsworth and Collins.

The Chief Commissioner/City Solicitor, Associate Commissioner/Director of Corporate Services and City Clerk, Associate Commissioner/Director of Engineering and Manager, Corporate Secretariat were also in attendance.

**Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda**

**SJMC2008-01-07/01R**

**It was decided on motion of Councillor Hann; seconded by Councillor Duff: That the Agenda be adopted as presented.**

**Adoption of Minutes**

**SJMC2008-01-07/02R**

**It was decided on motion of Councillor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Collins: That the Minutes of the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting be adopted as presented.**

**Development Committee Report dated December 18, 2007**

Council considered the following Development Committee Report dated December 18, 2007:

- 1. Proposed Residential Building Lot  
Mr. John Molloy  
Fowler's Road – Ward 5**

The Development Committee reaffirms its recommendation of December 4, 2007, and recommends that Council reject the above noted application as being contrary to Section 5.1.3(3) of the St. John's Development Regulations (Premature Development), which states :"*No permit shall be issued for development within the City when it is, in the*

*opinion of Council, premature by reason of the site lacking adequate road access, drainage, sanitary facilities, or domestic water supply or being beyond the natural development of the area at the time of application unless the applicant contracts to pay the full costs of construction of the services deemed necessary by Council and such costs shall attached to and upon the property in respect of which it is imposed.”*

**Art Cheeseman, Chairperson**  
**Associate Commissioner/Director of Engineering**

**SJMC2008-01-07/03R**

**It was moved by Councillor Duff; seconded by Deputy Mayor O’Keefe: That the Committee’s recommendation be approved.**

**The motion being put was unanimously carried.**

**Audit Committee Report dated December 12, 2007**

Council considered the following Audit Committee Report dated December 12, 2007:

In Attendance:           Councillor Ron Ellsworth, Chairperson  
                                  Councillor Shannie Duff  
                                  Councillor Tom Hann  
                                  Mr. Bob Healey, Committee Member  
                                  Mr. Ron Penney, Chief Commissioner/City Solicitor  
                                  Mr. Robert Bishop, Director of Finance & City Treasurer  
                                  Mr. Paul Mackey, Director of Public Works & Parks  
                                  Mr. Jason Silver, Auditor I  
                                  Mr. Derek Coffey, Team Lead – ERP/IMM (former Auditor I)  
                                  Ms. Debbie Reid, City Internal Auditor  
                                  Ms. Kelly Butler, Recording Secretary

Councillor Ellsworth called the meeting to order.

**Adoption of Minutes**

The minutes of the September 21, 2007, meeting were adopted as presented.

**Internal Audit Report B Follow-up Review: Finance Tax Collection – Assignment No. 07-03**

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The City Internal Auditor and Mr. Coffey provided an in-depth review of the above noted report for the Committee’s information. **(A copy of the report forms part of these minutes and is on file with the City Clerk’s Department.)**

Some of the points highlighted in the presentation include the following:

- Taxpayer compliance and collection efforts together have seen 95.6% of municipal tax and 93.2% of business tax received in the year in which it is billed. Both tax types are showing an overall upward trend, and receipts on both taxes are experiencing an upward trend
- Even though non-compliance rates are fairly small, the dollar value is still quite significant.
- The majority of success with collection efforts is attained in the first two years.
- The success rate for accounts referred to a collection agency improves the earlier the account is referred.
- The tax sale process serves the City well in recovering taxes owing which are still covered by a lien. However, the weaknesses in the current system include: (a) by the time a property is sold, the dollar value of the taxes outside the lien period is very high; (b) the period between sales is significant; (c) and no assessment of progress towards the goal of selling all tax sale eligible properties is made.
- There have been Council directives to implement and evaluate the success of a new tax collection protocol, however, no formal policy has been adopted.
- Regular reporting on tax collection efforts/issues to the Finance Committee would aid in ensuring that the tax collection process flows smoothly, informs all interested parties thus reducing confusion, and allows for an assessment of performance for the process as a whole.

Following the presentation, a brief discussion ensued wherein it was noted that the high rate of successful tax collection is something that the City should be very proud of. Regarding the adoption of a new City-wide tax collection protocol, the Director of Finance advised that a presentation was prepared for the Finance Committee, however, due to unresolved issues pertaining to lien expiry, formal adoption of the protocol was deferred. He noted that the majority of the collection protocol has been implemented in the interim even though there is no formal policy. The City Internal Auditor indicated that there is a need to have a formal City-wide policy in order to clearly delineate the division of responsibilities between the various departments involved in the tax collection process. Councillor Ellsworth noted that while the Finance Department and Taxation Division are doing everything they can with respect to tax collection, it seems the main stumbling block in collection efforts is ensuring that the correct legal name of a business entity is listed on the tax roll. Tax collection efforts can be hampered without the correct information. It was suggested it may be necessary to create a quality control process for the Assessment Division to ensure that information being collected is accurate. The

Chief Commissioner/City Solicitor indicated that he would discuss the matter with the Director of Corporate Services.

**The Committee recommends that the attached follow-up report and its recommendations be adopted as presented.**

(Mr. Coffey retired from the meeting.)

**Internal Audit Report B Follow Up Review: Budgeted Salt Expenditures Follow-Up Assignment No. 07-05**

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Prior to discussion on the above noted report, Mr. Healey indicated a potential conflict of interest and abstained from discussion on the report and its recommendations.

The City Internal Auditor and Mr. Silver provided an in-depth review of the above noted report for the Committee's information. **(A copy of the report forms part of these minutes and is on file with the City Clerk's Department.)**

The four main issues outlined in the report are as follows:

1. Budgeted salt expenditures
2. Cost of raw materials
3. Pre-Wet and Anti-Icing Salt
4. Moisture Content of Salt

Following the presentation, discussion ensued with it being noted that there are limitations on the City in negotiating the price paid for salt due to a monopolistic market and the City's lack of on-site storage for salt. With respect to the issue of the moisture content of the salt delivered to the depot from by the supplier, it was suggested that more consistent and frequent testing of the product would ensure that the quality meets the specifications as outlined in the tender, and that the City is being credited for any inferior product it receives.

**The Committee recommends that the attached follow-up report and its recommendations be adopted as presented.**

(Mr. Mackey and Mr. Silver retired from the meeting.)

**2008 Audit Plan**

The Committee considered a memorandum dated December 6, 2007, from the City Internal Auditor identifying the items to be reviewed under the 2008 Audit Plan.

The City Internal Auditor noted that the only item outstanding from the 2007 Audit Plan is the risk assessment review for St. John's Sports and Entertainment. This item was

deferred to accommodate restructuring that was taking place within the organization. In this regard, Committee's direction in this matter was requested.

The Committee agreed to defer the risk assessment review for St. John's Sports and Entertainment until 2009.

A brief discussion ensued regarding Enclosure A of the memorandum, specifically the risk ranking for the budget. The Director of Finance noted that the ranking had been changed from an R3 ranking to an R1 ranking, and he inquired as to why this was done. He noted that the budgetary process is basically a political process involving the decisions of Council. For that reason, it would be difficult to review the budget process. The City Internal Auditor advised that in terms of risk to the City, the budget process would have significant impact on the City given the future projection for stagnant revenues and increased expenditures. Therefore, the ranking of the budget was changed to reflect same.

It was noted that while this concern may be valid, the risk assessment rankings were agreed upon by all Directors and the City Internal Auditor and subsequently adopted by Council. Therefore, changes should not be made without further consultation. It was also noted that as the Director of Finance has expressed concern about the audit of the budget process, it would be best for the City Internal Auditor to prepare the audit plan and then meet with the Director of Finance to review and discuss it. Following that, a special meeting of the Audit Committee will be convened to review the audit plan and determine how to move forward on the matter.

The City Internal Auditor advised that she would make the requested revision to the 2008 Audit Plan document so that the information can be brought to Council for approval.

**The Committee recommends that the 2008 Audit Plan (as revised) be approved.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the main Committee meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. and was followed by a short in-camera session.

**Councillor Ron Ellsworth  
Chairperson**

**SJMC2008-01-07/04R**

**It was moved by Councillor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Hann: That the Committee's recommendations be approved.**

**The motion being put was unanimously carried.**

**Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities Report dated December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

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Council considered the following Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities Report dated December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007:

**Attendees:** Kelly Heisz, Co-Chairperson  
Ed Sawdon, CHANNEL  
Betty Osmond, Canadian Council of the Blind  
Marjorie Winsor, Independent Living Resource Center  
Art Norris, Canadian Hard of Hearing Association  
Anne Malone, CNIB  
Marguerite and Debbie from Interpretive Services  
Bob Wilson, Manager – Division of Property Management  
Scott Winsor, Construction Engineer  
Michelle Winsor, Family & Special Services Coordinator  
Karen Chafe, Recording Secretary

**Recommendation:**

**Accessible Playground Funding**

The Committee was updated by staff with respect to the establishment of accessible playgrounds throughout the City. A budget of \$70,000 has been allocated for this purpose, however, due to the expense of such, it was felt that the number of playgrounds, originally proposed for three, be reduced to one (to be located in Bowring Park) to ensure that it is built to a high quality and sufficiently accessible standard. Each year, the Committee has been permitted to budget \$25,000 toward enhanced accessibility in various areas of the City, i.e. building accessibility, recreational programming, etc. This year, the Committee would like to ensure that this year's allocation is invested in accessible playground development.

**The Committee recommends that Council allocate a further \$25,000 toward the cost of the accessible playground initiative in addition to the \$70,000 already budgeted.**

**Kelly Heisz  
Co-Chairperson**

**SJMC2008-01-07/05R**

**It was moved by Councillor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Collins: That the Committee's recommendation be referred to the Finance and Administration Standing Committee for discussion.**

**The motion being put was unanimously carried.**

**Development Permits List**

Council considered as information the following Development Permits List for the period December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 to January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008:

**DEVELOPMENT PERMITS LIST  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING  
FOR THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 14, 2007 TO JANUARY 3, 2008**

ISSUED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Code	Applicant	Application	Location	Ward	Development Officer's Decision	Date
Com.	Perennial Management Limited	Proposed Extension to Piper's Department Store	Fall River Plaza / Civic No. 272-276 Torbay Road	Ward 1	Application Approved	2007 12 19
Com.	PHB Group Inc.	Proposed NLC Liquor Store	Civic No. 123-125 New Gower Street	Ward 2	Site Plan Approval	2007 12 21

*	Code Classification: RES  COM  AG - Agriculture	- Residential Institutional - Commercial Industrial	INST IND	- -
**	This list is issued for information purposes only. Applicants have been advised in writing of the Development Officer's decision and of their right to appeal any decision to the St. John's Local Board of Appeal.			

**Ed Murray  
Development Officer  
Department of Planning**

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**Building Permits List**

**SJMC2008-01-07/06R**

**It was decided on motion of Councillor Coombs; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That the recommendation of the Director of Building and Property Management with respect to the following Building Permits list be approved:**

2008/01/02

Permits List

**CLASS: COMMERCIAL**

G.J. CAHILL & CO. LTD.  
WINNERS MERCHANTS

671 SOUTHSIDE RD - VALLEY CAR SW WAREHOUSE  
60 ABERDEEN AVE MS RETAIL STORE

PETS UNLIMITED	89 ABERDEEN AVE	MS RETAIL STORE
REITMANS (CANADA) LIMITED	95D ABERDEEN AVE	MS RETAIL STORE
IRVING OIL LTD	8 BAY BULLS RD	MS COMMERCIAL GARAGE
DIAGRO RUM - DOMINION	260 BLACKMARSH RD	MS RETAIL STORE
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION	57 BLACKMARSH RD	MS CLUB
PROFESSIONAL APPAREL C.N.I.B.	203 BLACKMARSH RD	MS RETAIL STORE
NEEDS	70 BOULEVARD	MS OFFICE
PERIDOT SALES LTD	100 BROOKFIELD RD	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
MARIE'S MINI MART	30 CORDAGE PL	MS RETAIL STORE
DIAGRO RUM	44 CROSBIE RD	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
BODY QUEST	10 ELIZABETH AVE	MS RETAIL STORE
NELLA LTD (J.W. ALLAN CO LTD)	92 ELIZABETH AVE, BODY QUEST	MS SERVICE SHOP
ACHIRVA TUTORING	94 ELIZABETH AVE	MS RETAIL STORE
IRVING OIL LTD.	11 ELIZABETH AVE	MS OFFICE
CHERYL DEBRA HAWCO	71-77 ELIZABETH AVE	MS SERVICE STATION
DICKS AND COMPANY LIMITED	398 EMPIRE AVE -CROSSTOWN HAIR	MS SERVICE SHOP
NEEDS CONVENIENCE	385 EMPIRE AVE	MS RETAIL STORE
PENNEY'S UNISEX	174 FRESHWATER RD	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
SUPER 8 MOTEL	12-20 HIGHLAND DR	MS SERVICE SHOP
BOSTON PIZZA	HIGGINS LINE	MS HOTEL
SOBEYS PROPERTIES LIMITED	35 KELSEY DR	MS RESTAURANT
GLOW TAN	45 KELSEY DR	MS RETAIL STORE
KENMOUNT BILLIARDS INC.	30 KENMOUNT RD - GLOW TAN	MS SERVICE SHOP
CARMAX INC.	58 KENMOUNT RD	MS PLACE OF AMUSEMENT
AUTO SOURCE	120 KENMOUNT RD	MS RETAIL STORE
LOOKING GOOD	229 KENMOUNT RD	MS RETAIL STORE
CAPITAL MITSUBISHI	409 KENMOUNT RD	MS RETAIL STORE
DOMINION	475 KENMOUNT RD	MS CAR SALES LOT
NEEDS CONVENIENCE	12 LAKE AVE	MS RETAIL STORE
NEEDS CONVENIENCE	330 LEMARCHANT RD	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
NEEDS	330 LEMARCHANT RD	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
KAREN MURPHY	430-432 MAIN RD	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
WANNA BUT WANNA SELL	484 MAIN RD, BEAUTY WORKS	MS SERVICE SHOP
SOBEY'S LAND HOLDINGS LIMITED	355B MAIN RD	MS RETAIL STORE
C & C AUTOMOTIVE INCORPORATED	8 MERRYMEETING RD	MS RETAIL STORE
CITY OF ST. JOHN'S	101 MERRYMEETING RD	MS RETAIL STORE
SOOTHE	40 MUNDY POND RD	MS ADMIN BLDG/GOV/NON-PROFIT
MR. SUB	119 NEW COVE RD, SOOTHE	MS CLINIC
ACTIVE WOMEN	446 NEWFOUNDLAND DR, MR SUB	MS RESTAURANT
ACTION INSURANCE	446 NEWFOUNDLAND DR	MS CLUB
NEEDS CONVENIENCE	446 NEWFOUNDLAND DR	MS OFFICE
NEWLOOK UPHOLSTERY & FABRICS	449 NEWFOUNDLAND DR	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
THE FURR FACTORY	31 PEET ST	MS CUSTOM WORKSHOP
SIGNAL HOBBIES	71 O'LEARY AVE	MS RETAIL STORE
NEEDS	36 PEARSON ST	MS RETAIL STORE
HICKMAN SATURN SAAB	36 PEARSON ST	MS CONVENIENCE STORE
HOLIDAY INN	20 PEET ST	MS CAR SALES LOT
HOUSE OF HAIR	PORTUGAL COVE RD	MS HOTEL
BLOOD SERVICES	39 AIRPORT HEIGHTS DR	SN SERVICE SHOP
MR. SUB	PRINCE PHILIP DR	MS OFFICE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	117 ROPEWALK LANE, MR. SUB	MS RESTAURANT
IRVING OIL LIMITED	ST. CLARE AVE	MS CLUB
GALLERIA ENTEAK INC.	2 STAVANGER DR	MS SERVICE STATION
SAMSHARA	16 STAVANGER DR	MS RETAIL STORE
PRINCESS AUTO LTD.	386 STAVANGER DR, SAMSHARA	MS RETAIL STORE
LOBLAWS PROPERTIES LIMITED	410 STAVANGER DR	MS SERVICE STATION
STAVANGER DRIVE PIZZA COMPANY	55 STAVANGER DR	MS RETAIL STORE
ANCHOR ENTERPRISES INC.	415 STAVANGER DR	MS RESTAURANT
SHOPPERS REALTY INC.	86 THORBURN RD	MS SERVICE STATION
NORTH ATLANTIC REFINING LTD.	390 TOPSAIL RD	SN PHARMACY
IRVING OIL CO. LTD.	446 TOPSAIL RD	MS SERVICE STATION
TOPSAIL BILLIARD INC	632 TOPSAIL RD	MS COMMERCIAL GARAGE
IRVING OIL CO. LTD.	681 TOPSAIL RD	MS PLACE OF AMUSEMENT
	192-194 TORBAY RD	MS SERVICE STATION



CURVES	272-276 TORBAY RD	MS CLUB
BALLY ROO BUILDING	280 TORBAY RD	MS RETAIL STORE
T&M INVESTMENTS LIMITED	430 TORBAY RD	MS PLACE OF AMUSEMENT
HARVEY'S OIL	714 TORBAY RD	MS PETROLEUM USE
TOULON DEV. ST. JOHN'S LTD.	145 TORBAY RD - CAMPUS RINGS	MS RETAIL STORE
ORIENTAL STAR RESTAURANT INC.	TORBAY ROAD-TORBAY RD MALL	MS RESTAURANT
BULLDOG FITNESS	141 TORBAY ROAD BULLDOG FITNES	MS SERVICE SHOP
ICT CANADA GROUP INC.	TORBAY ROAD-TORBAY RD MALL	MS COMMUNICATIONS USE
TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES	240 WATERFORD BRIDGE RD	MS RETAIL STORE
IRVING OIL LTD.	544 WATER ST	MS COMMERCIAL GARAGE
JOHN FRANKLIN	193 WATER ST, AWNING	SN HOTEL
KAMELIA MALAKOFF	147 LEMARCHANT RD-DESLAVA SPA	CR SERVICE SHOP
DOWNEAST COMMUNICATIONS	AVALON MALL - DOWNEAST COMM.	CR COMMUNICATIONS USE
DOWNEAST COMMUNICATIONS	215 WATER ST - DOWNEAST COMM.	CR COMMUNICATIONS USE
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR HSING	47 CHALKER PL	EX PLACE OF ASSEMBLY
COLIN DALTON	265 DUCKWORTH ST	RN TAVERN
GARY HOLDER/EARL NORMAN	320 WATER ST	CR RESTAURANT
THE GARAGE	AVALON MALL, THE GARAGE	RN RETAIL STORE
ST JOHN'S MEDICAL HOLDINGS LTD	427 NEWFOUNDLAND DR	RN CLINIC
ONE TO ONE PHARMACY INC.	THE VILLAGE-430 TOPSAIL RD	CR PHARMACY
NAUTICAL NELLIES	201 WATER ST	RN RESTAURANT
WENDY'S	35 KENMOUNT RD	RN EATING ESTABLISHMENT
SOUTHWEST PROPERTIES	215 WATER ST, 6TH FLOOR	RN OTHER
KERR CONTROLS	683 WATER ST	RN WAREHOUSE

THIS WEEK \$ 662,000.00  
TO DATE \$ 662,000.00

**CLASS: GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTIONAL**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	ST. CLARE AVE	MS CLUB
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THIS WEEK \$ .00  
TO DATE \$ .00

**CLASS: RESIDENTIAL**

MICHEAL CRAWFORD	18 FIRDALE DR	NC FENCE
GIRALTAR DEVELOPMENT	18 LUCYROSE LANE	NC SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
TERRY WALSH CONSTRUCTION LTD.	27 OTTER DR, LOT 111	NC SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
BEN & CAROL LEE	130 SHOAL BAY RD	NC ACCESSORY BUILDING
FABIAN O'DEA	18 SPENCER ST/2 UNIT INFILL	NC INFILL HOUSING
DSV CONTRACTING	3 CORNWALL AVE	CC SINGLE DETACHED &SUB.APT
IAN HALE	16 MOUNTBATTEN DR	CC SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
NFLD & LABRADOR HOUSING CORP.	71 ERIC ST	RN TOWNHOUSING
ERCO HOMES	22 GOLF COURSE RD	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
JOHN W. FELTHAM	65 PENNYWELL RD	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
DOUG BOLAND	18 PRINCE OF WALES ST	RN SEMI-DETACHED DWELLING
NOLAN HALL	23 RENNIE'S MILL RD	RN SEMI-DETACHED DWELLING
MAJED KHRAISHI & ANGELA BYRDE	189 WATERFORD BRIDGE RD	RN SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
SHAWN LAMSWOOD	55 WILLIAM ST	RN SEMI-DETACHED DWELLING
DAVID BARTLETT	218 TOPSAIL RD	SW SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING
GARY CLARKE &	220 TOPSAIL RD	SW SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING

THIS WEEK \$ 660,750.00  
TO DATE \$ 660,750.00

**CLASS: DEMOLITION**

R W & CO.	AVALON MALL, BUCK OR TWO SPACE	DM RETAIL STORE
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THIS WEEK \$ 30,000.00

TO DATE \$ 30,000.00

THIS WEEK'S TOTAL: \$ 1,352,750.00

TOTAL YEAR TO DATE: \$ 1,352,750.00

REPAIR PERMITS ISSUED:

2007/12/13 TO 2008/01/02 \$ 20,800.00

2007/12/13 TO 2008/01/02 \$ 20,800.00 YTD  
LEGEND

SW	SITE WORK	RN	RENOVATIONS
MS	MOBILE SIGN	NC	NEW CONSTRUCTION
SN	SIGN	CC	CHIMNEY CONSTRUCTION
CR	CHNG OF OCC/RENOVTNS	DM	DEMOLITION
EX	EXTENSION		

**Rejection**

1 Runnymede Place (Wayne Gulliver) - File #B1-073043

Application for construction of a fence rejected as contrary to Section 8.3.3 (2) of the St. John's Development Regulations due to sight distance issues.

**Payrolls and Accounts**

**SJMC2008-01-07/07R**

**It was decided on motion of Councillor Coombs; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That the following Payrolls and Accounts for the weeks ending December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007 and January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 be approved as presented:**

**Weekly Payment Vouchers  
For The  
Week Ending December 27, 2007**

**PAYROLL**

Public Works	\$ 732,211.71
Bi-Weekly Amalgamation	\$ 523,033.06
Bi-Weekly Management	\$ 517,934.90
Bi-Weekly Administration	\$ 488,725.92
Bi-Weekly Casual	\$ 13,285.98

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Cheque No. 125845 – 126227	\$2,673,492.42
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**Total: \$4,948,683.99**

**Weekly Payment Vouchers  
For The  
Week Ending January 3, 2008**

**PAYROLL**

Public Works	\$ 379,751.46
Bi-Weekly Casual	\$ 4,420.21

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Cheque No. 126228-126532	\$3,091,562.18
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**Total: \$3,493,733.85**

**Tenders**

- a. Tender – Loader Tires
- b. Tender – Collection & Disposal of Recycle Paper Contract (City Facilities)

**SJMC2008-01-07/08R**

**It was decided on motion of Councillor Coombs; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That the recommendations of the Director of Finance and City Treasurer and the Director of Building and Property Management be approved and the tenders awarded as follows:**

- a. **GCR Tire Centres in the amount of \$123,960.00 (taxes not included)**
- b. **Avalon Recycling Services in the amount of \$24,059.70, HST included and is for a three year period.**

**Assessment Rates 2008**

Council considered a memorandum dated December 27, 2007 from the Associate Commissioner and Director of Engineering regarding the above noted.

**SJMC2008-01-07/09R**

**It was moved by Councillor Colbert; seconded by Deputy Mayor O’Keefe: That the Assessment Rates for 2008 be approved as follows:**

**Re: Assessment Rates, 2008**

Under the City’s Assessment Policy Council has to set the new assessment rates in January of each year for civic improvements which are to be undertaken in the coming year. Assessment rates are determined by multiplying established base assessment rates by an adjustment factor. This adjustment factor is the ratio of current construction costs to costs estimated using the City’s base unit prices. This procedure allows the adjustment factor to reflect changes in construction costs from year to year. It is recommended, therefore, that the rates for 2008 be approved as listed.

	<b><u>Assessment Rates for 2008</u></b>
Watermain	\$ 158.00/m
Sanitary Sewer	\$ 144.00/m
Storm Sewer	\$ 93.00/m
Water Service	\$1,027.00 EA
Sanitary Service	\$1,058.00 EA
Storm Service	\$1,058.00 EA
Commercial Water Service	\$3,887.00 EA
Commercial Sanitary Service	\$1,877.00 EA
Commercial Storm Service	\$1,720.00 EA
Street Improvement	\$ 84.00/m
New Street	\$ 357.00/m
Sidewalk	\$ 20.00/m
Rural Street Upgrading	\$ 72.00/m

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Art Cheeseman, P. Eng.  
Associate Commissioner/Director of Engineering

**The motion being put was unanimously carried.**

**Loan Guarantee – St. John’s Transportation Commission**

Council considered a memorandum dated January 8, 2008 from the Director of Finance regarding the above noted.

**SJMC2008-01-07/10R**

**It was moved by Councillor Duff; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That the City provide a loan guarantee to the Royal Bank of the amount borrowed by the St. John’s Transportation Commission extending its borrowing limit from \$4,500,000.00 to \$7,500,000.00 to allow for the purchase of new buses.**

**The motion being put was unanimously carried.**

**NL Sports Center, M.R.I.F. Application**

Council considered a memorandum dated December 20, 2007 from the Director of Building and Property Management regarding the above noted.

**SJMC2008-01-07/11R**

**It was moved by Councillor Colbert; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Municipal Rural Infrastructure Funding Agreement for the NL Sports Center as amended, amounting to an additional funding amount of \$1,295,475.00 approved by the Federal/Provincial Management Committee, be accepted, and that a letter of confirmation be forwarded to the Department of Municipal Affairs.**

**The motion being put was unanimously carried.**

**Landscape Deposit**

Council considered a memorandum dated December 18, 2007 from the Director of Building and Property Management regarding the above noted.

**SJMC2008-01-07/12R**

**It was moved by Councillor Ellsworth; seconded by Councillor Hann: That a request from the Board of Directors of the CHBAEN for deferral of the implementation of the landscape deposit system from January 1, 2008 to May 1, 2008, in anticipation of an alternate resolution, be granted.**

**The motion being put was unanimously carried.**

**Travel - FCM Annual Conference**

**SJMC2008-01-07/13R**

**It was decided on motion of Councillor Coombs; seconded by Councillor Puddister: That travel by Councillors Galgay and Colbert to Quebec City, May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 to attend the FCM Annual Conference, be approved.**

**Economic Update January 2008**

Council considered as information the January 2008 Economic Update.

**Deputy Mayor O'Keefe**

Deputy Mayor O'Keefe as well as other members of Council expressed concern with respect to the problems experienced recently by Air Canada passengers, with flight delays, lost luggage etc., and the inadequate handling of the situation by the corporate airline's office. They expressed concern that the situation diminishes us

as a destination, impacts our reputation as a City and a Province, and therefore creates a potential for negative impact on economic growth.

The Deputy Mayor asked that the Mayor on behalf of Council write a letter to Air Canada as well as to the Federal and Provincial Ministers of Transportation indicating how “appalled” Council is at the level of service provided by the carrier to residents travelling in and out of the province.

Deputy Mayor O'Keefe asked that Howley Avenue Extension be included for consideration under the 2008 Streets Rehabilitation Program.

**Councillor Ellsworth**

Councillor Ellsworth reminded residents to ensure their vehicles are parked in their driveways to avoid impeding snow clearing operations noting that it has come to his attention that motorists are leaving their cars at the end of their driveways to avoid being plowed in. He pointed out that vehicles interfering with snow clearing operations can be towed.

**Councillor Collins**

Councillor Collins noted that he intends to ask the Public Works Committee to look at the City's current practice with respect to the purchase and storage of salt.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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**MAYOR**

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**CITY CLERK**