



MEETING OF THE ST. JOHN'S TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

REGULAR BUSINESS

A meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission was held on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at Noon at the Metrobus Transit Centre, 25 Messenger Drive, St. John's. The meeting was streamed live via Webex.

Present at the meeting were:

Paul Walsh	Chair
Colleen Galgay	Commissioner
Kirsten Morry	Commissioner
Jamie Korab	Commissioner/City Councillor
Derek Coffey	Deputy City Manager, Financial Management
Judy Powell	Metrobus General Manager
Joan Mahon	Administrative Assistant

Present via phone:

Debbie Hanlon	Commissioner/City Councillor
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Absent:

Maggie Burton	Commissioner/City Councillor
Kevin Breen	City Manager

I. PROCEDURAL

- The Chair called the meeting to order.
- J. Mahon recorded the minutes of the meeting of this date.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

➤ AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Galgay and seconded by Commissioner Morry that the agenda for this meeting date be approved.

➤ MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Hanlon and seconded by Commissioner Korab that the minutes of the November 26th regular business meeting of the Commission be approved as distributed.

III. BUSINESS ARISING

1. COVID-19—Update

➤ RIDERSHIP/MAXIMUM PASSENGER LOADS

- Ridership is at just over 60% of normal (pre-pandemic) ridership levels. An increase has occurred in the past month believed to be due to Christmas.
- A significant change is not anticipated until post-secondary students return full-time.

2. Tender—New Bus Stop Signs

- The General Manager stated that subsequent to the commission meeting of November 26th, 2020, the tender for the new bus stop signs was reviewed and it stated "a minimum of .08 aluminum".
- The tender was awarded to Impact Signs.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Financial Statements—November, 2020

- The financial statements for the month of November, 2020 were tabled and reviewed.

2. Executive Summary (Regular) —November, 2020

- The Executive Summary for the month of November, 2020 was tabled for members' information. The following items were noted:

- **Diesel Prices**

- Diesel prices are consistently below budget.

- **Collective Agreement**

- D. Coffey questioned the allowances as stated on the Executive Summary. The General Manager informed that they are tool and coffee allowances. The signing bonuses and retirement allowances will continue on through December. D. Coffey stated that the group insurance premiums have reduced with the General Manager indicating that it is Covid related.

- **GoBus Assessments**

- It was noted that the Manager of Accessible Transit Services noticed an increase in the "no shows". It was further noticed that the contact information supplied to Medisys was provided a year ago. Letters for appointments were sent out without updating contact information.

Action: The Manager of Accessible Transit Services, D. Power, will update contact information.

3. Budget 2021 – Winter Service Schedule

- The General Manager stated that for the completion of the minutes St. John's City Council has made the decision to continue service at regular service levels up to the end of March. There will be budget adjustments to account for them.

- Chair Walsh thanked the Councillors for that sign of commitment to public transit.

4. Opening of Hebron Way – Route 3 Change

- The General Manager noted that Hebron Way opened within the past few weeks. On January 4th, 2021, our Route 3 will be making changes to continue on through Hebron Way to Major's Path and on to Torbay Road. This route will service Eastern Health and miss two bus stops on Torbay Road. Information has been distributed to inform customers using these two stops of optional stops available.

5. Application for Funding – Replacement Buses for GoBus

- The General Manager reported that the typical life span of the Goshen GoBuses is five years. Our buses will be four years old in May/June of 2021. The contract with the current service provider – MVT – ends December, 2021. We presently own the 18 buses and lease them to MVT. The General Manager requested approval to apply for funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (PTIF 2) to replace the aging GoBus fleet. Approval was granted to proceed with the funding application.

ACTION: The General Manager will submit an application for funding.

6. Community Bus Application – Follow-up

- The General Manager advised that the application was submitted on Friday, December 11, 2020 and will be followed up with staff in a week or two to see when we can expect a decision.

7. Transit Operator Training Program

- Interviews will be held the first week of January to screen applicants for the Transit Operator Training Program.

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V. OTHER (Information/Community)

1. Appointment of Chair Walsh

- Councillor Korab officially advised Chair Walsh of his official appointment to Chair of the St. John's Transportation Commission.

- Chair Walsh recognized Commissioner Galgay's last meeting and thanked her for her contributions and input over the past four years.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further regular business to discuss at this time, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:25 PM.
- Live streaming of the public meeting ended immediately followed by an in-camera business meeting of the Commission.
- The next regular business meeting of the Commission will be held at the Metrobus Transit Centre, 25 Messenger Drive on Thursday, January 28, 2021 commencing at Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Walsh
Chair

Joan Mahon
Recording Secretary