



TOWN OF GANDER
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Wednesday, May 06, 2026, 04:00 PM
Council Chambers

Council Present:

Percy Farwell, Mayor
Pat Woodford, Councillor
Sheldon Handcock, Councillor
Tara Pollett, Deputy Mayor
Jim Lidstone, Councillor
Krystle West, Councillor
Samantha Abbott, Councillor

Staff Present:

Brad Hefford, Chief Administrative Officer/Town Clerk/Director of Governance and Legislative Services
Alexa Oldford, Manager of Governance and Legislative Services
James Blackwood, Director of Planning and Public Works
Kelly Hiscock, Director of Corporate Services
Jerry Knee, Director of Community Services
Dave Shea, Fire Chief
Kayla White, Manager of Communications, Branding and Partnerships

Regrets:

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Farwell at 4:00 pm.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Farwell delivered the Land Acknowledgement.

3. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Proclamation- World Ovarian Cancer Day

Mayor Farwell Proclaimed May 08, 2026 as World Ovarian Cancer Day in the Town of

Gander.

3.2 Proclamation- Fibromyalgia Awareness Day - May 12th

Mayor Farwell proclaimed May 12, 2026 as Fibromyalgia Awareness Day in the Town of Gander.

3.3 Proclamation- May 10-16, Municipal Awareness Week

Mayor Farwell proclaimed May 10-16 as Municipal Awareness Week in the Town of Gander.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council was presented for approval.

Resolution: **26-085**

Moved By Councillor Woodford

Seconded By Councillor Handcock

THAT the agenda for the May 6, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council be approved, as presented.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 April 15, 2026 Minutes - Regular Meeting of Council

Resolution: **26-086**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Woodford

THAT minutes from the April 15, 2026 Regular meeting of Council be approved, as attached.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

7. STANDING COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.1 Governance and Legislative Services

The Governance and Legislative Services report was presented by Councillor Lidstone.

a. Community Standards By-Law

The Committee discussed a resident concern regarding the inclusion of a penalties and enforcement section within the Community Standards By-Law. It was noted that this section had been removed following solicitor guidance, who advised that enforcement provisions are already established under the Towns and Local Service Districts Act (TBSDA).

Incorporating such provisions directly into the by-law could create unnecessary risk, as any future amendments to the Act would require corresponding updates to the by-law. Council acknowledged that relying on the existing legislative framework offers greater flexibility and reduces the need for ongoing amendments.

b. Central Northeast Health Foundation - 2026 Golf For Health

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Central Northeast Health Foundation regarding the 26th Annual Golf for Health Tournament. Council recognized the significant and ongoing impact of the tournament, which has raised over half a million dollars in support of healthcare programs, services, and equipment across Central Newfoundland since 2001, and expressed its support for initiatives that strengthen regional healthcare services and community well-being.

The Committee is recommending a Team Sponsorship in the amount of \$1,000. The four attendees for the event will be determined.

Resolution: **26-087**

Moved By Councillor Lidstone

Seconded By Councillor Abbott

THAT Council approve a Team Sponsorship in the amount of \$1,000 for the Central Northeast Health Foundation's 26th Annual Golf for Health Tournament.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Carried (6 to 0)

c. Grand Opening of NLHS Rural Innovation Hub

The Committee received an invitation to attend the Grand Opening of the NL Health Services Rural Innovation Hub, a healthcare-focused centre aimed at advancing rural solutions and strengthening collaboration among healthcare professionals, industry, and community partners. The information provided indicated that the Hub is located in Grand Falls-Windsor and was developed in partnership with the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor. The Grand Opening is scheduled for May 25, 2026, at the Gordon Pinsent Centre for the Arts, and will include a trade show and lunch, formal remarks, and guided tours of the Hub facility. The Committee recommended that attendance be confirmed by RSVP.

d. Journey House

Representatives of Journey House attended as a delegation to introduce staff and provide Council with an overview of current operations. Council was advised that Journey House provides supported residential shelter housing with staff on site 24/7 and that referrals are received through the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing emergency shelter line. The delegation outlined the supports provided to residents, including assistance with housing, identification, health coverage, employment, social work, mental health and addictions supports, and community activities. Representatives also advised that recent funding approval will support building improvements, including upgrades to windows, doors, decks, fencing, and washroom facilities. Discussion also included neighbourhood concerns, resident conduct expectations, communication with the Town, and the importance of continued collaboration. Council thanked the representatives for attending and acknowledged the importance of ongoing communication regarding any future concerns.

7.2 Planning and Public Works

The Planning and Public Works report was presented by Councillor Handcock.

a. Town of Gander Tap Water Quality Report - Summer 2025

The Committee was presented with a summary of the Town of Gander Tap Water Quality Report. The report shows the Town's water quality with reference to the Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines for each parameter.

The most recent report is for Summer 2025, where the Town's Water Quality Index has a rating of 97%, categorized excellent. Water quality is protected with a virtual absence of impairment; conditions are very close to pristine levels. This index level can only be obtained if all measures meet the recommended guidelines virtually all of the time.

Testing is conducted and reported by the Provincial Government and the results may be viewed on the GOVNL – Environment and Climate Change, water resources management webpage <https://maps.gov.nl.ca/water>.

b. Town of Gander Wastewater Effluent Quality Report - 2026 First Quarter

The Committee was presented with a summary of the Town of Gander Wastewater Effluent Quality Report. The report shows the Town's wastewater quality with reference to the Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations for each parameter.

The most recent report is for the first Quarter of 2026. The results show the effluent quality is within the recommended guidelines.

Composite samples are collected by the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators on a bi-weekly basis and submitted to an accredited laboratory for testing.

c. Home Based Business - 4 Griffin Place

An application has been received from North Star Property Inspections to operate a home office for a home inspection service from 4 Griffin Place.

It is noted that a home occupation is permitted as a discretionary use in the zone in which this property is located. The application was advertised in accordance with the Town's Development Regulations, and no objections were received by the advertised deadline.

Resolution: **26-088**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT the application from North Star Property Inspections to operate a home office for a home inspection service at 4 Griffin Place be approved as a discretionary use, subject to the Town of Gander Development Regulations and any conditions outlined in the permit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Carried (6 to 0)

d. Home Based Business - 19 Mifflin Place

An application was received from from Kim White Virtual Assistant to operate a remote/internet-based administrative and consulting service from 19 Mifflin Place.

It is noted that a home occupation is permitted as a discretionary use in the zone in which this property is located. The application was advertised in accordance with the Town's Development Regulations, and no objections were received by the advertised deadline.

Resolution: **26-089**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Woodford

THAT the application from Kim White Virtual Assistant to operate a home office for a remote/internet-based administrative and consulting service at 19 Mifflin Place be approved as a discretionary use, subject to the Town of Gander Development Regulations and any conditions outlined in the permit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

e. Accessory Building Height Variance - 3 Edwards Place

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of Gander has received an application to construct a garage at the above noted address which will exceed the total permitted height for accessory buildings in a residential zone. The proposal is an accessory building with a total height of 6.0 metres.

It is noted that this property is situated in a Residential Medium Density zone which restricts the maximum accessory building height to 5.50 metres. The Town Council of Gander may vary their regulations to a maximum of 10%. The applications was advertised in accordance with the Town's Development Regulations, and no objections were received by the advertised deadline.

Resolution: **26-090**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Woodford

THAT Council approve the application to construct an accessory building at 3 Edwards Place with a height of 6.0 metres which exceeds the maximum permitted height of 5.5 metres by 10% in accordance with the authority granted under the Town of Gander Development Regulations.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

f. 520 Gander Bay Road Application

An application was received to subdivide the property located at 520 Gander Bay Road into four legal lots to accommodate residential dwelling units, as illustrated on Drawing No. 26-1020. Each proposed lot would have an area of 3,999 m².

The subject property is located within a Residential Rural Density Zone, which requires a minimum lot area of 4,050 m². As the proposed lot areas are below the minimum requirement, a variance is required. Council may vary this requirement by up to 10% in accordance with the Town of Gander Development Regulations. The application was advertised in accordance with the Regulations, and no objections were received prior to the deadline.

The Department has confirmed that, upon subdivision, the four proposed properties can meet all applicable requirements of the Town of Gander Development Regulations and the Design Standards for Streets and Subdivisions, subject to the submission and approval of final legal survey plans.

Resolution: **26-091**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Woodford

THAT Council approve a variance to the minimum lot area requirement to permit each of the four proposed lots at 520 Gander Bay Road to have an area of 3,999 m².

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

Resolution: **26-092**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Woodford

THAT Council approve the application to subdivide the property known as 520 Gander Bay Road into four legal properties, subject to the submission and approval of final survey plans to the satisfaction of the Town of Gander, and any conditions outlined in the permit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

g. Planning Departmental Report

The Planning Department report for the period of April 2 to April 22 was presented to the Committee for review. The report summarized applications received, permits issued, zoning compliance letters processed, and new construction activity during the reporting period. It was noted that 15 residential applications were received, nine (9) building permits were issued, nine (9) occupancy permits were issued, and 10 compliance letters were completed.

h. Public Works Departmental Report

Between April 2 and April 22, Public Works crews responded to changing conditions throughout the community. They were dispatched 12 times for snow and ice control and carried out seven pothole-repair deployments, addressing numerous potholes on local streets. The Water and Sewer Division handled 32 service calls and completed three repairs to municipal water and sewer infrastructure.

i. Short Term Rentals - Permitting Workflow

Councillor Abbott left Council Chambers at 4:28 pm due to potential conflict of interested, being an air-bnb owner.

In December 2024, Council adopted Development Regulations Amendment No. 8, 2024, which introduced "Short-Term Rental" as a distinct land-use classification,

separate from hotels, bed-and-breakfasts, and commercial residential uses. This amendment permits short-term rentals in all residential zones, as well as non-residential zones where residential uses are already allowed.

The committee was presented with a Short term Rental Workflow to enable municipal staff to intake applications and permit the use in accordance with the newly adopted Development regulations.

Councillor Abbott returned to Council Chambers at 4:32 pm.

j. Habitat for Humanity Land

The Committee was advised that Habitat for Humanity Newfoundland and Labrador has contacted Council to explore potential partnership opportunities for establishing a residential property in Gander. The Committee reviewed potential locations throughout the community and identified two preferred sites, as shown on drawings 26-1010-2 and 26-1010-16. Management will forward the preferred sites to Habitat for Humanity representatives and continue discussions to further explore partnership opportunities.

k. Discretionary Use 25 Ward Street

Council received an application to operate a core processing and storage facility at 25 Ward Street. The property is currently zoned Commercial General, where Light Industry uses are permitted as a discretionary use under the Town of Gander Development Regulations.

The application was advertised in accordance with the Town's Development Regulations, with the deadline for representations being 12:00 noon on Friday, May 8. If any objections are received prior to the advertised deadline, the matter will be brought back to the Committee for further discussion.

Resolution: **26-093**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor West

THAT the application to operate a core processing and storage facility at 25 Ward Street be approved as a discretionary use, subject to no objections being received by the advertised deadline, and subject to the Town of Gander Development Regulations and any conditions outlined in the permit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor

Carried (6 to 0)

I. Waterton Street Subdivisions and Side Yard Variances

The Committee reviewed several development applications related to properties on Waterton Street. The applications included subdivision requests for 282 Waterton Street and Lot 286 Waterton, as well as side yard variance requests for proposed residential dwelling units at 28, 30, 40 and 42 Waterton Street.

The proposed subdivisions would each create two legal properties, as illustrated on Drawing No. 26-1022 and 26-1021. The Department confirmed that, upon subdivision, the proposed properties can meet the requirements of the Town of Gander Development Regulations and the Design Standards for Streets and Subdivisions, subject to the submission and approval of final legal survey plans.

The proposed dwellings at 28, 30, 40 and 42 Waterton Street each require a side yard variance from 3.0 metres to 2.7 metres. The properties are situated in a Residential Medium Density Zone, and Council may vary its regulations by up to 10%. The variance applications were advertised accordingly, and one piece of correspondence was received in response. The correspondence was forwarded to Council for their review and consideration.

Resolution: **26-094**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Woodford

THAT Council approve the application to subdivide Lot 282 Waterton Street into two legal properties, subject to the submission and approval of final survey plans to the satisfaction of the Town of Gander, and any conditions outlined in the permit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

Resolution: **26-095**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor West

THAT Council approve the application to subdivide Lot 286 Waterton into two legal properties, subject to the submission and approval of final survey plans to the satisfaction of the Town of Gander, and any conditions outlined in the permit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

Resolution: **26-096**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT Council approve a variance to the side yard requirement at 28 Waterton Street from 3.0 metres to 2.7 metres to accommodate the construction of a residential dwelling unit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

Resolution: **26-097**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT Council approve a variance to the side yard requirement at 30 Waterton Street from 3.0 metres to 2.7 metres to accommodate the construction of a residential dwelling unit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

Resolution: **26-098**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT Council approve a variance to the side yard requirement at 40 Waterton Street from 3.0 metres to 2.7 metres to accommodate the construction of a residential

dwelling unit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

Resolution: **26-099**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT Council approve a variance to the side yard requirement at 42 Waterton Street from 3.0 metres to 2.7 metres to accommodate the construction of a residential dwelling unit.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

7.3 Community Services

The Community Services report was presented by Councillor West.

a. Festival of Flight Fireworks & Drone Request for Proposals

The Committee reviewed quotes received for the Festival of Flight drone show. Northstar provided drone show options of 100 drones at \$16,500 plus HST, 200 drones at \$24,500 plus HST, and 300 drones at \$37,000 plus HST, as well as a fireworks add-on option at \$850 per minute.

The Committee recommends accepting the Northstar proposal for a 200-drone show at a cost of \$24,500 plus HST. The drone show is estimated to last approximately 16 minutes.

Resolution: **26-100**

Moved By Councillor West

Seconded By Councillor Handcock

THAT Council accept the Northstar proposal for a 200-drone show for the Festival of Flight at a cost of \$24,500 plus HST.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

b. Steele Community Centre Skate Sharpening Service

The Committee was advised that the current contract for skate sharpening services at the Steele Community Centre is up for renewal. The Committee discussed the service and agreed that an expression of interest should be posted in the coming weeks for the provision of skate sharpening services.

c. Gander Community Garden

The Committee reviewed a request from the Gander Community Garden Board seeking support to install a permanent water source at the current garden site. It was noted that water access is presently provided through multiple hoses connected to a nearby church, which creates physical strain for senior gardeners and potential tripping hazards for users of the space. The Committee acknowledged that a permanent water supply would improve accessibility, safety, and sustainability, and would support continued programming and crop production in support of the local food bank. Management will explore available options and respond to the Gander Community Garden Board.

d. Street Name Suggestion

The Committee reviewed a street name suggestion submitted by the family of Gordon A. Gosse. The Committee discussed the need for a consistent process for considering street name submissions and supported management's recommendation to issue a call for nominations, with submissions to be reviewed on an annual basis.

e. Gigantic Yard Sale

The Committee was advised that the annual Gigantic Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with admission by donation to the Food Bank. Drop-off dates for gently used items will be May 23 and 24 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., May 25 to 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and May 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. It was noted that the event has been successful in previous years and continues to benefit local not-for-profit organizations.

f. Upcoming Events

The following events will take place in the coming weeks:

May 6th: Municipal Awareness Display at Gander Academy and Gander Elementary

May 10th - 16th: Municipal Awareness Week

May 12th: Circus Spectacular at the Steele Community Centre - Two shows 4:30 pm & 7 pm.

May 20th: Seniors' Community Wellness Session at the Steele Community Centre

May 23rd: YQX Running Club hosting the Run From Away Marathon Weekend.

May 30th: Gigantic Yard Sale at the Steele Community Centre from 9 am - 1 pm.

For more information, please contact the Community Services Department at 709-651-5927.

7.4 Corporate Services

The Corporate Services report was presented by Councillor Woodford.

a. Invoice for Approval

The Committee reviewed an invoice submitted from KCS ArtCounsel Inc. for professional fundraising advisory services provided to You Are Here Inc. in association with the 2026 production of *Come From Away* in the Town of Gander.

This amount falls within the allocated budget of \$85,000 for this initiative.

Resolution: **26-101**

Moved By Councillor Woodford

Seconded By Councillor Abbott

THAT the Town of Gander approve invoice # 2526-16 from KCS ArtCounsel Inc. for professional fundraising advisory services in the amount of \$ 40,250 HST included.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

b. Request to Reduce Assessment Value

The Committee reviewed a request from a commercial property owner, Roll # 061510900000, seeking an adjustment to property taxes for the 2024 and 2025 taxation years. The request was submitted following the outcome of the 2023 assessment appeal, which resulted in a revised assessed value for the property. The Committee discussed the timing of the appeal process and the impact on the subsequent taxation years, and agreed that, given the unique circumstances, it would be appropriate to provide tax relief for the affected years.

Resolution: **26-102**

Moved By Councillor Woodford

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT Council approve tax relief for Roll # 061510900000 in the amount of \$255.64 for the 2024 taxation year and \$415.80 for the 2025 taxation year, for a total adjustment of \$671.44, in recognition of the timing and outcome of the assessment appeal process.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

c. Sale/Disposal of Surplus Assets

This item was presented to seek Council approval for delegated authority to dispose of low-value surplus assets in an efficient and transparent manner.

The Sale of Surplus Assets Policy F13 requires assets to be disposed of through public tender. For non-fleet assets with an estimated fair market value of \$500 or less, the administrative cost of tendering may exceed any potential financial return. Accordingly, Administration recommended delegated authority for the disposal of these low-value assets.

Under this authority, the CAO will establish a committee of three staff to estimate the fair market value of assets designated for disposal. Disposal methods may include public auction, recycling, scrap, or donation to a registered non-profit or community organization where appropriate and where a documented community benefit is

identified.

All disposals and donations approved under this delegated authority will be fully documented for audit purposes and will remain subject to Policy F13, including the prohibition on Councillors and Management receiving surplus assets.

Resolution: **26-103**

Moved By Councillor Woodford

Seconded By Councillor Handcock

THAT Council approve delegated authority to the CAO to dispose of low-value non-fleet surplus assets with an estimated fair market value of \$500 or less in an efficient and transparent manner.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

d. RFQ26-05 Scoreboard Foundation & Sign Installation Work

The Committee reviewed the submission received for RFQ26-05 Scoreboard Foundation & Sign Installation Work at the Soccer Facility. EC Boone Limited submitted a compliant bid in the amount of \$90,092.50, HST included, which is \$31,277.30 above the approved budget. The Committee discussed the submission and recommended awarding the work to EC Boone Limited, with the additional budget requirement to be addressed through the appropriate budget process.

Resolution: **26-104**

Moved By Councillor Woodford

Seconded By Councillor Abbott

THAT RFQ26-05 Scoreboard Foundation & Sign Installation Work be awarded to EC Boone Limited at a cost of \$90,092.50, HST included.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

e. Property Tax Reductions

The Committee reviewed seven (7) applications for residential property tax reductions submitted in accordance with the income-based criteria outlined in the Schedule of Rates and Fees. All applications were found to meet Council's established eligibility requirements.

Including these applications, a total of seventeen (17) residential property tax reductions have been approved to date, amounting to \$13,550.21 in reductions.

Resolution: **26-105**

Moved By Councillor Woodford

Seconded By Councillor Lidstone

THAT all seven (7) applications for residential property tax reductions, totaling \$5,701.86, be approved as attached.

For (6): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (6 to 0)

7.5 Public Safety and Protective Services

The Public Safety and Protective Services report was presented by Councillor Abbott.

a. Change in Response Protocol

The Committee was advised that Gander Fire Rescue will undertake a three-month trial to evaluate its emergency response process. During the trial period, members will respond to the fire hall, dress, and staff a truck before proceeding to the call, rather than responding directly to the scene and dressing on site. The purpose of the trial is to compare the effectiveness of both response methods, with statistics to be reviewed at the end of the three-month period.

It was emphasized that there will be no interruption to fire protection or emergency response services during the trial period.

Deputy Mayor Pollett joined the Regular Meeting of Council at 5:30 p.m.

b. Gander Fire Rescue Memorial

The Committee reviewed a request from Gander Fire Rescue seeking permission to place a firefighter memorial on Town property and requesting Council's support for the project. It was noted that examples of firefighter memorials from other areas of the Province were provided for reference. Council agreed in principle to support the project, with management to work with Gander Fire Rescue to review potential locations, design considerations, and any associated requirements.

c. Traffic Calming

The Committee was advised that Public Safety has identified five locations in Town for the placement of traffic bollards in late spring to further enhance traffic safety. It was noted that traffic data recorders will be installed at the identified locations before and after the bollard installation to collect speed data and evaluate the effectiveness of the measure.

d. Department Events

The Committee was provided with an update on upcoming Gander Fire Rescue training and community activities.

It was noted that Ground Cover Fire Fighting for Structural Firefighters training took place May 2 and 3, providing structural firefighters with education on the cautions associated with wildland firefighting.

Six members will attend Fire School in Marystown from May 23 to 30 for various courses, including Fire Officer II and Firefighter Level I and II.

Members will also attend the Muscular Dystrophy Walk at Gander Academy on May 22.

The Junior Firefighter Program graduation will take place on May 14, with the final practical night before graduation to include a live burn exercise at the department's training grounds.

e. April Statistics

The Committee was provided with the April activity update for Gander Fire Rescue and Municipal Enforcement. Gander Fire Rescue responded to 15 calls for service in April, compared to 27 calls in April 2025. Municipal Enforcement responded to 28 resident concerns and issued 54 traffic violations.

The department also reminds residents that Clean Up Week runs from May 4 to May 15 and provides an opportunity to dispose of garbage or refuse from their properties.

7.6 Communications, Engagement and Strategy

The Communication, Engagement, and Strategy report was presented by Councillor Handcock.

a. Wayfinding Signage Approach

Council was presented with a Wayfinding Signage Strategy developed as part of the Branding Project Phase 2. The strategy outlines a consistent approach to signage across the community to improve navigation and better support residents, visitors, and key destinations. It also reflects the Town's new brand, helping to build community pride and enhance overall appeal. Implementation will be phased over time and aligned with regular signage updates and replacements.

Resolution: **26-106**

Moved By Councillor Handcock

Seconded By Councillor Abbott

THAT Council adopt the Wayfinding Signage Strategy as the Town's signage standard, with implementation to occur over time as signage is updated, replaced, or newly required.

For (7): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (7 to 0)

b. Customer Service Update

Council received an information note regarding an update on the implementation of the Town's centralized customer service model, including progress on the Customer Service Centre, new intake channels, and the rollout of Microsoft Dynamics for case management.

Key updates include the completion of the new Customer Service Centre, the launch of a centralized phone number and email, and the introduction of a system to track and manage all service requests. A new online form will also be added to the Town website to further streamline access.

As implementation continues, residents can expect a more consistent and efficient service experience, with improved tracking, better follow-up, and a clear, single point of contact when reaching out to the Town.

c. Hope Air Day

Council received correspondence from Hope Air requesting support in raising awareness for Hope Air Day on May 6th. Hope Air provides free, non-emergency medical travel for residents who must travel outside their communities to access care.

Council was asked to consider supporting the initiative by sharing information through municipal channels. Hope Air Day is a national awareness initiative aimed at increasing understanding of the organization's services and the importance of equitable access to healthcare, particularly for those in rural and remote communities.

The Town will share information on its social media channels in support of this initiative.

8. ADMINISTRATION

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Farwell requested a motion for adjournment.

Resolution: **26-107**

Moved By Deputy Mayor Pollett

Seconded By Councillor Woodford

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 5:39 pm.

For (7): Mayor Farwell, Councillor Woodford, Councillor Handcock, Deputy Mayor Pollett, Councillor Lidstone, Councillor West, and Councillor Abbott

Carried (7 to 0)

A. Oldford, Town Clerk



PROCLAMATION
World Ovarian Cancer Day
May 8, 2026

- Whereas** Ovarian Cancer has no early detection testing, and
- Whereas** Ovarian Cancer symptoms are often confused with other less severe illnesses, and
- Whereas** Ovarian Cancer has the lowest survival rate of all female cancers, and
- Whereas** as many as 23 percent of women with Ovarian Cancer have an inherited genetic mutation, and
- Whereas** genetic testing is a way to identify people at high risk before they develop Ovarian Cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Percy Farwell, Mayor of the Town of Gander, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 8, 2026, **World Ovarian Cancer Day**.

I encourage all citizens of the Town of Gander, and the province, to talk to their health providers about Ovarian Cancer and seek to learn more about the disease.

Mayor

Proclamation

Fibromyalgia Awareness Day - May 12th,

WHEREAS; *Fibromyalgia (FM) is a complex illness whose symptoms vary widely and may include debilitating chronic pain, overwhelming fatigue, and cognitive impairment; and;*

WHEREAS; *There is no known cause of, or cure for fibromyalgia; and;*

WHEREAS; *Fibromyalgia Awareness Day is an opportunity to raise awareness and to show support for those living with FM and their families; and;*

WHEREAS; *Fibromyalgia Association Canada is the only national organization in Canada that supports both FM research and services for people with FM and their families; and;*

WHEREAS; *Fibromyalgia affects about 5% of Canada's population, which is over 2,000,000 men, women, and children of all ages and races are afflicted with this chronic illness; and;*

WHEREAS; *People with FM have a right to be treated with dignity and have a right to pain relief.*

THEREFORE, I, _____

on behalf of _____

do hereby proclaim May 12th, _____ to be "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day", in

Signature: _____



Proclamation

Municipal Awareness Week

May 10-16, 2026

- Whereas** municipal government is responsible for the provision of services that enhance the quality of life of its citizens, and
- Whereas** dedicated mayors, councillors, and staff are essential for the effective governance of their municipalities, and
- Whereas** collaboration, partnerships and citizen involvement are essential for active, sustainable and vibrant communities; and
- Whereas** it is fitting and proper to recognize and encourage the contribution of all who work diligently for the improvement of our municipalities.

Therefore Be It Proclaimed That May 10-16, 2026 be known as Municipal Awareness Week in municipalities of Newfoundland and Labrador in recognition of the vital role of municipal government and in recognition of all those efforts that support it.



**The Honourable
Chris Tibbs**

Minister of Municipal and
Community Affairs

**Councillor
Amy Coady**

President of Municipalities
Newfoundland and Labrador

Ms. Connie Reid

President of Professional
Municipal Administrators

**I hereby declare May 10-16, 2026, Municipal Awareness Week
in the City/Town of Gander, NL**

Mayor

Town of Gander - Tap Water Quality Report - Quarterly

YEAR SEASON	PARAMETER UNITS CDWG	THM'S PPB 100	HAA'S PPB 80	PH READING 6.5 - 8.5	COLOUR TCU 15	NITRATE mg/L 10	IRON mg/L 0.30	LANGELIER INDEX READING	RATING	COMMENTS
2025 - Summer		7.72	28.97	7.45	12	0.14	LTDL	-2.56	97%	

This report shows the Town of Gander's water quality with reference to the Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines (CDWG) for each parameter.

LTDL: Less than detected limit

THM's: Trihalomethanes

HAA's: Haloacetic acids

Both THM's and HAA's are a type of chlorination disinfection by-product that are formed when the chlorine used to disinfect drinking water reacts with naturally organic matter in water.

A Water Quality Index (WQI) is a means by which water quality data is summarized for reporting to the public in a consistent manner. It is similar to the UV index or an air quality index, and it tells us, in simple terms, what the quality of drinking water is from a drinking water supply.

Excellent: (WQI Value 95-100) - Water quality is protected with a virtual absence of impairment; conditions are very close to pristine levels. These index values can only be obtained if all measurements meet recommended guidelines virtually all of the time.

Very Good: (WQI Value 89-94) - Water quality is protected with a slight presence of impairment; conditions are close to pristine levels.

Good: (WQI Value 80-88) - Water quality is protected with only a minor degree of impairment; conditions rarely depart from desirable levels.

Fair: (WQI Value 65-79) - Water quality is usually protected but occasionally impaired; conditions sometimes depart from desirable levels.

Marginal: (WQI Value 45-64) - Water quality is frequently impaired; conditions often depart from desirable levels.

Poor: (WQI Value 0-44) - Water quality is almost always impaired; conditions usually depart from desirable levels.

A detailed report of the Town of Gander's Tap Water analysis results may be viewed on the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment website:

<https://maps.gov.nl.ca/water/>

Town of Gander - Wastewater Effluent Quality Report - Quarterly

YEAR Quarter	PARAMETER UNITS WSER	TSS mg/L < 25	CBOD mg/L < 25	UN-IONIZED AMMOINIA mg/L < 1.25	ACUTE LETHALITY Pass/Fail	COMMENTS
2026 - 1st Quarter		9.8	13.8	0.06	Not Required	

Comments:

This report shows the Town of Gander's wastewater effluent quality with reference to the Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER) for each parameter, including toxicology testing on freshwater trout.

TSS: Total Suspended Solids.

CBOD: Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand.

Both TSS and CBOD require an average less than, or equal to, 25 mg/L to meet Federal Guidelines.

UN-IONIZED AMMONIA: require an average less than, or equal to, 1.25 mg/L to meet Federal Guidelines

ALT: Acute Lethal Testing.

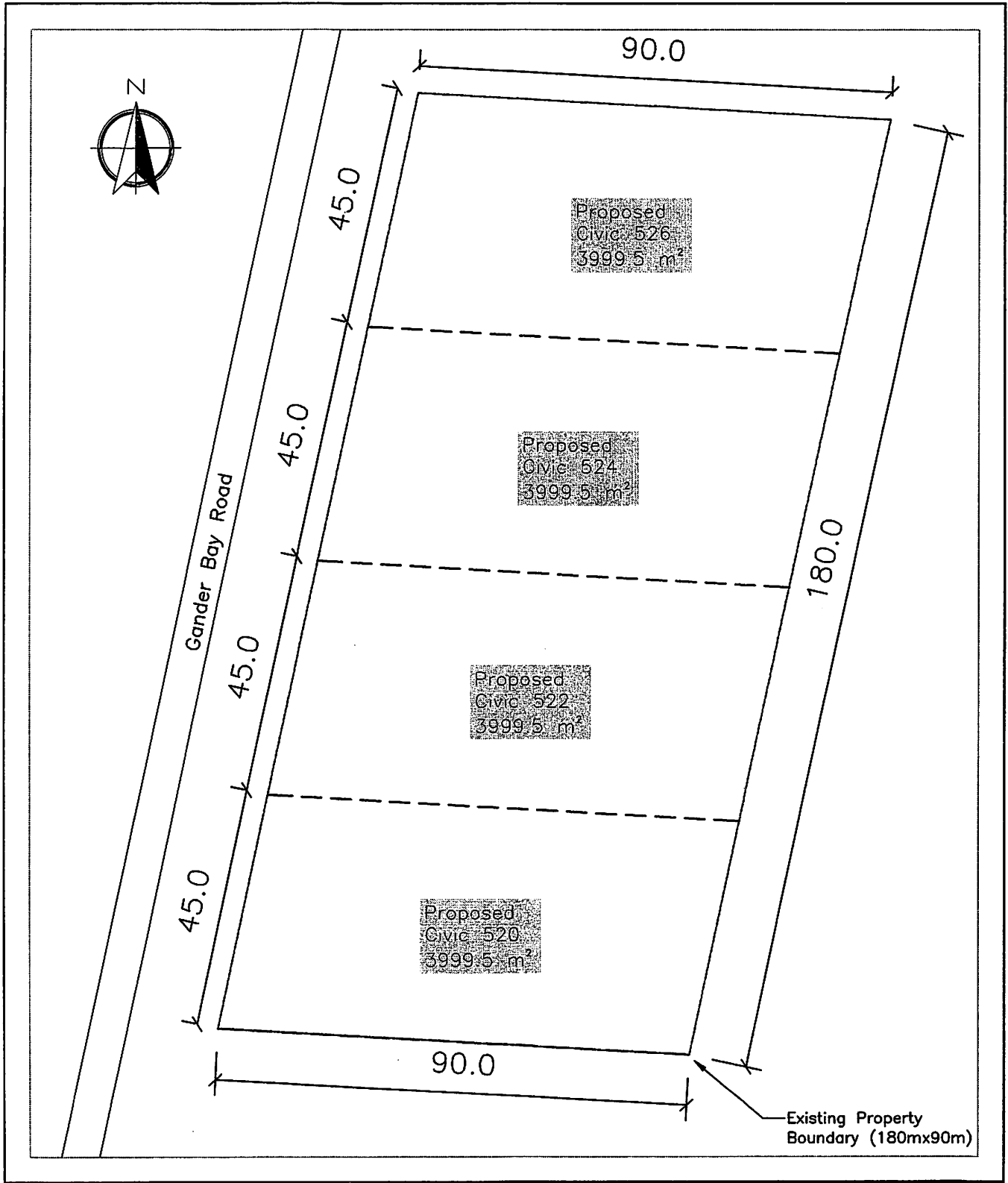
Acute Lethality: In relation to effluent, means that the effluent at 100% concentration kills, during a 96 hour period, more than 50% of the rainbow trout subjected to it.

Requires quarterly testing and will be reduced to annual testing when four consecutive submissions meet guidelines.

Reference Method EPS 1/RM/13 means the *Biological Test Method: Reference Method for Determining Acute Lethality of Effluents to Rainbow Trout* (EPS 1/RM/13 Second Edition), December 2000 with May 2007 amendments, published by the Department of the Environment, as ammended from time to time.

The Town of Gander submits wastewater samples to an accredited lab on a bi-weekly basis. Federal Government requires effluent reporting quarterly and submitted to the online Effluent Regulatory Reporting Information System.





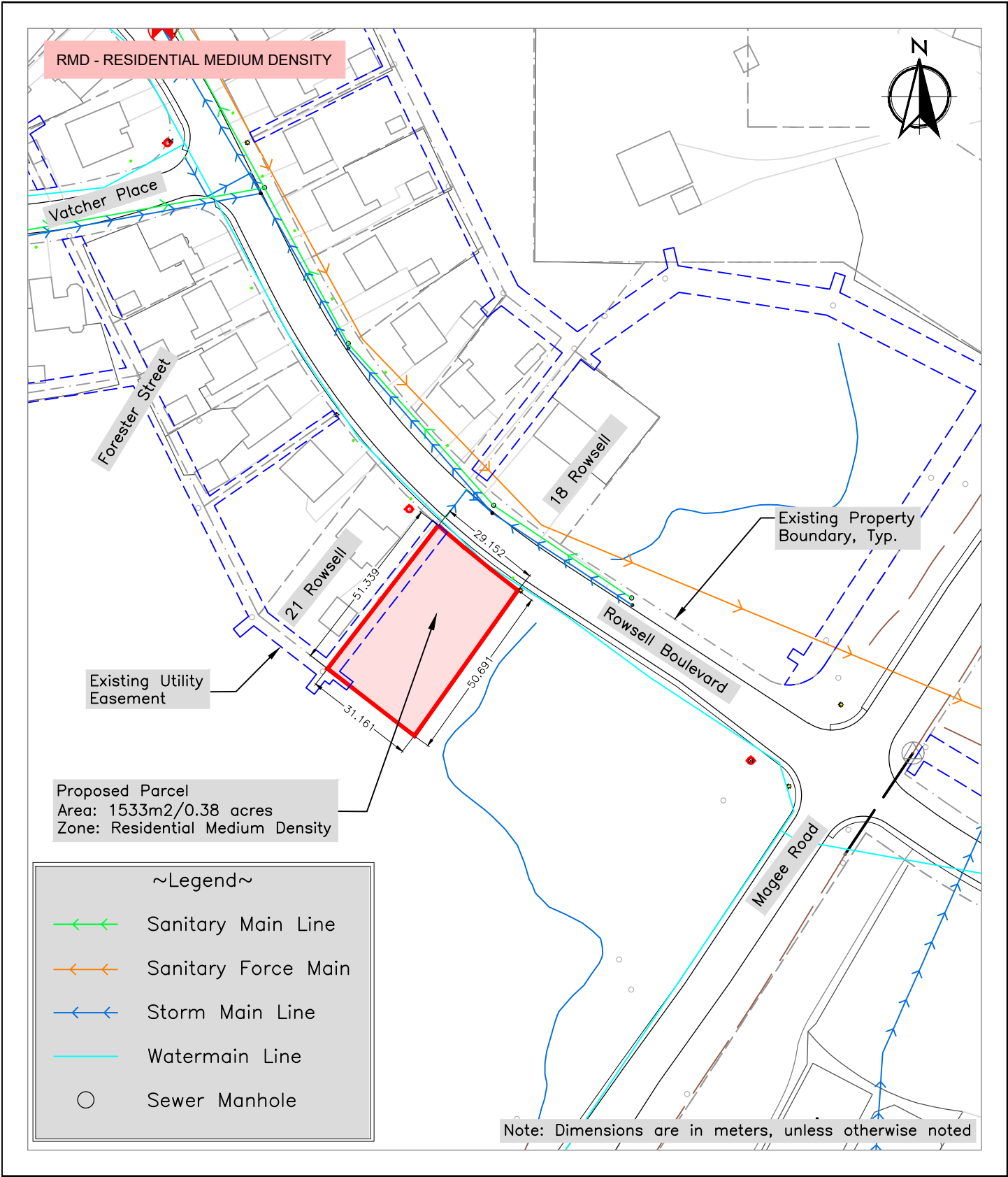
Drawing Title:
 520 Gander Bay Road
 Proposed Subdivision
 of Land

Drawn By:
 B. Howell

Scale:
 1:1000

Date:
 April 27, 2026

Drawing Number:
 26-1020



Drawing Title:

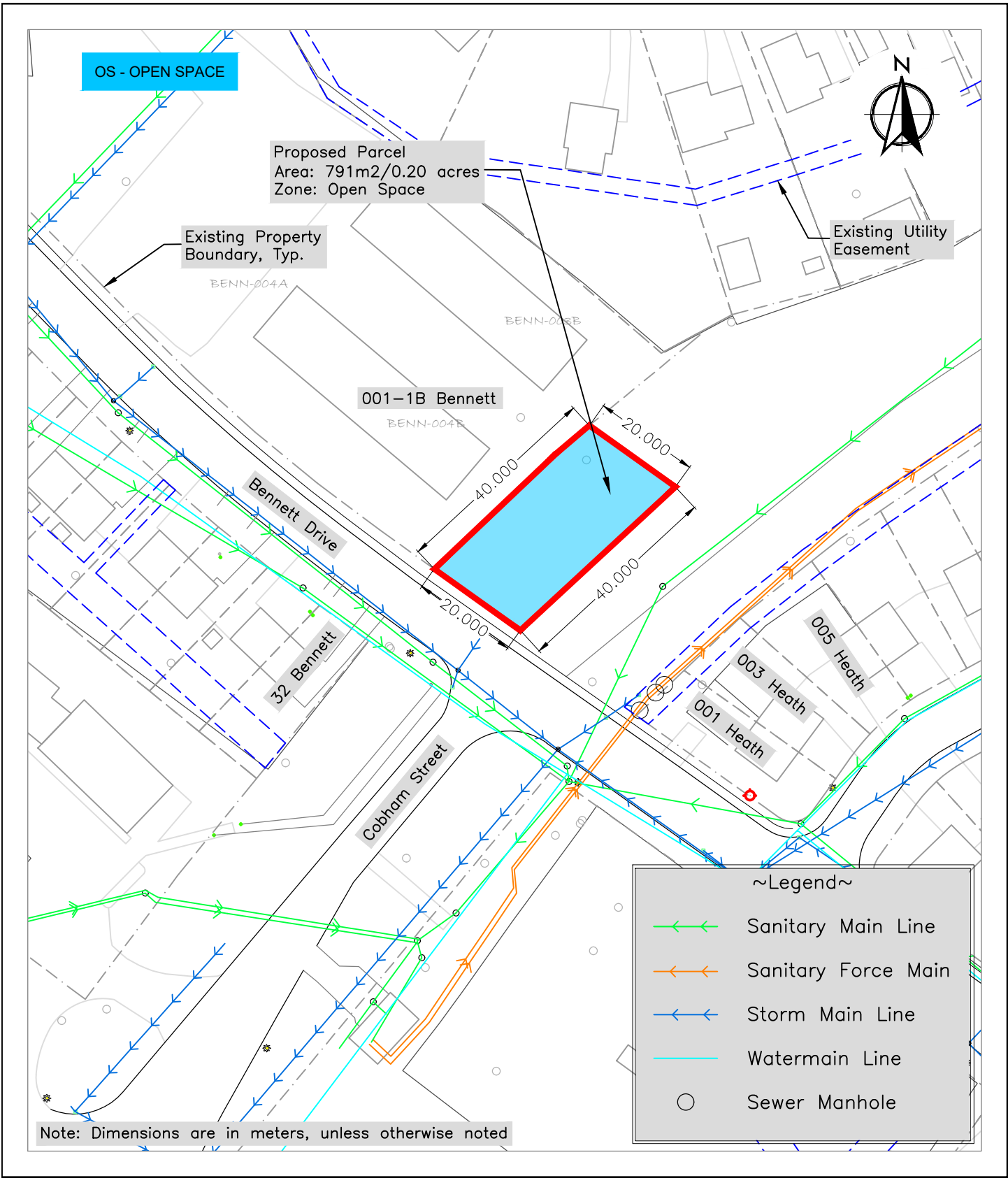
Proposed Parcel of Land
 Rowsell Boulevard

Drawn By:
 T. Noseworthy

Scale:
 1 : 1500

Date:
 March 24, 2026

Drawing Number:
 26-1010-2



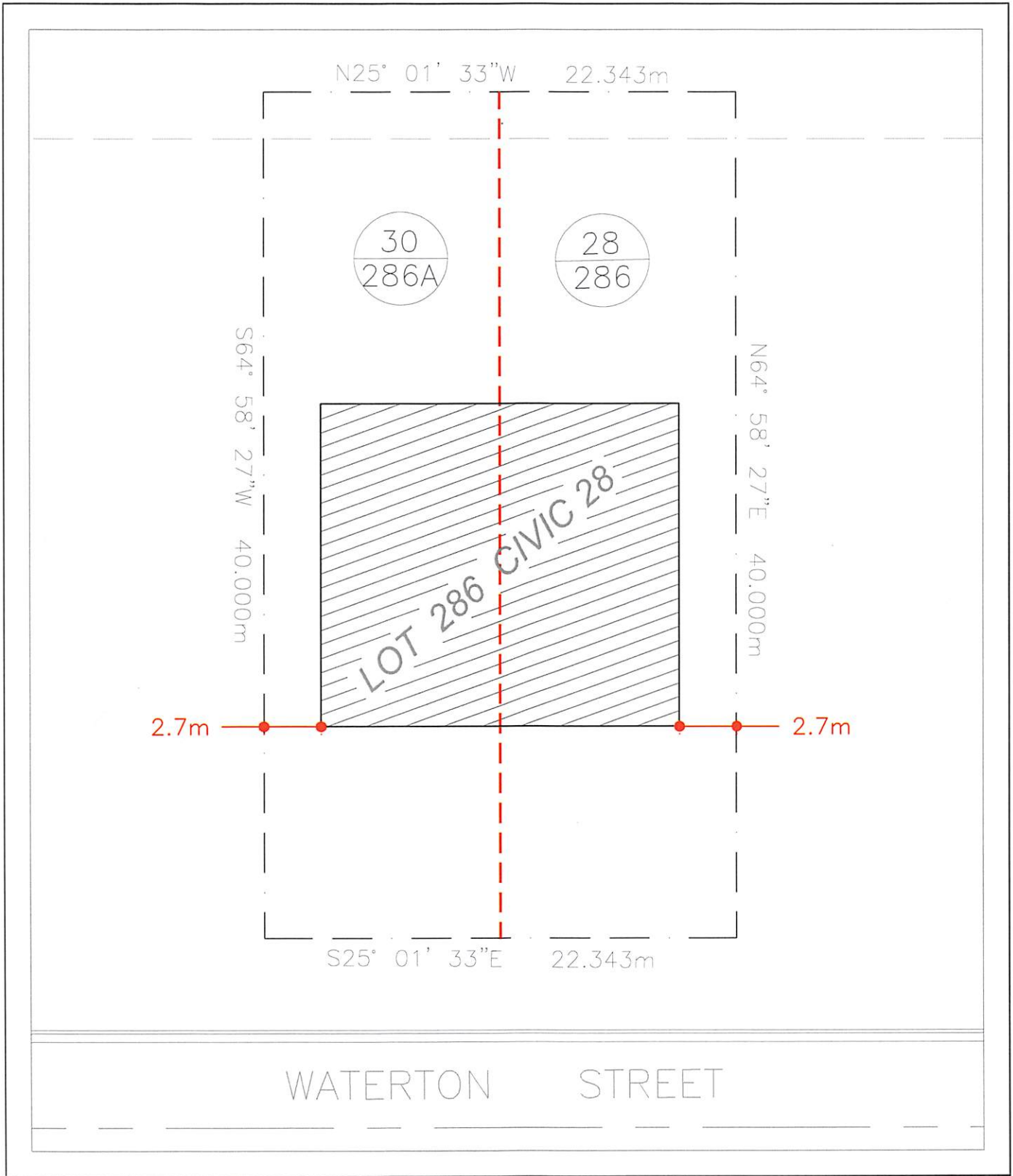
Drawing Title:
 Proposed Parcel of Land
 Bennett

Drawn By:
 T. Noseworthy

Scale:
 1 : 1000

Date:
 March 26, 2026

Drawing Number:
 26-1010-16



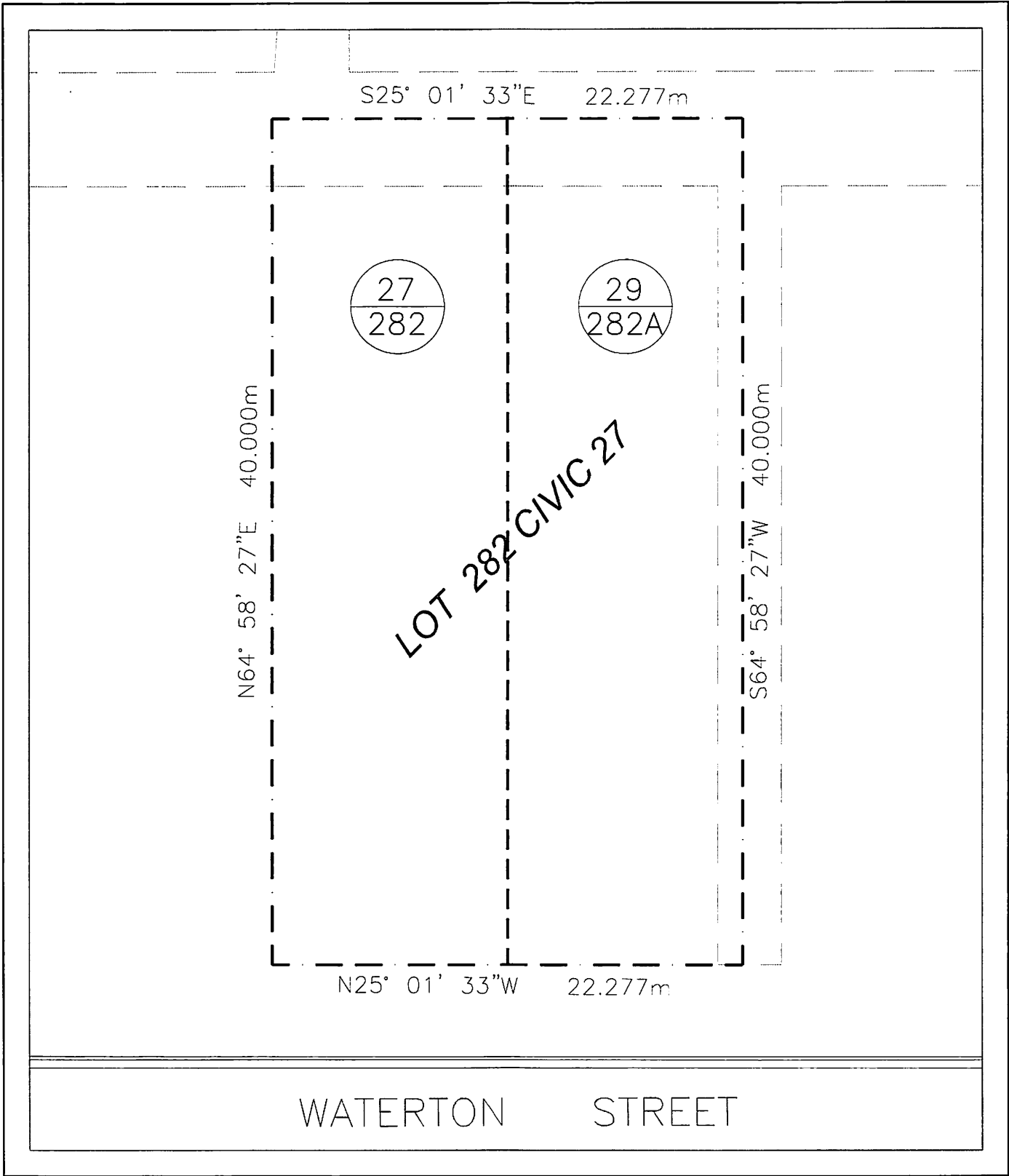
Drawing Title:
 Proposed Lot Subdivision of
 Civic 28 Waterton Street with
 10% Sideyard Variances
 (3.0m to 2.7m)

Drawn By:
 B. Howell

Scale:
 1 : 250

Date:
 April 29, 2026

Drawing Number:
 26-1021



Drawing Title:
 Proposed Lot Subdivision
 of Civic 27
 Waterton Street

Drawn By:
 B. Howell

Scale:
 1:250

Date:
 April 30, 2026

Drawing Number:
 26-1022



PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION APPROVAL FORM

Department: Corporate Services
 Submitted By: Kelly Hiscock
 Date Submitted: May 2026

ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION

- Applicants are the registered owners of the residential property.
- Total household income verified based on supporting documents.
- Reduction applies to the current tax year based on the previous year's income.
- Estimated household income for the current year has been provided.

Property Tax Reductions				
- Residential -				
Year 2026				
Roll Number	2026 Property Tax	% of Reduction	Amount of Reduction	Revised 2026 Taxes
045510120000	\$ 3,816.36	45	\$ 1,717.62	\$ 2,098.74
025500770000	\$ 1,756.94	55	\$ 966.32	\$ 790.62
058010200000	\$ 2,032.96	55	\$ 1,118.13	\$ 914.93
024500300000	\$ 2,305.28	25	\$ 576.32	\$ 1,728.96
014010230000	\$ 2,187.62	25	\$ 546.91	\$ 1,640.72
042212010000	\$ 1,198.06	15	\$ 179.70	\$ 1,018.36
03050010000	\$ 2,387.42	25	\$ 596.86	\$ 1,790.57
	\$		\$	\$
	\$		\$	\$
	\$		\$	\$

MINUTE

The Committee reviewed 7 application(s) for residential property tax reduction that met the Council's policy based on income criteria. The total amount to be adjusted is \$5,701.86. Since the beginning of 2026, the Town of Gander has issued 17 property tax reductions totaling \$ 13,550.21, as attached.

MOTION

The Committee recommends, and I move, that the property tax reduction(s) be approved as presented.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Does the CAO Recommend Approval?

Yes No

Approved for Inclusion in Agenda?

Yes No

Comments (if any)



NOTES

● Proposed Speed Camera Data Collection Locations

- Sullivan Avenue – Civic 156/166
- Airport Boulevard – Civic 30
- Memorial Drive – Civic 5
- Hornell Street – Civic 10
- Blackwood Drive – Civic 55/73

Town of Gander
 Department of Planning & Public Works
 100 Elizabeth Dr. Gander, NL A1V 1G7
 Telephone: (709) 651-5915 Fax: (709) 256-5809

Project:
 Town of Gander

Drawing Title:
 Proposed Speed Camera Data Collection Locations

Drawn By:
 B. Howell

Scale:
 NTS

Date:
 April 28, 2026

Sheet Number:
 1 of 1

Date Plotted:
 April 28, 2026

Checked By:
 J. Newman

Drawing Number: 26-1021

Rev. No.
 R0