

Minutes

Special Council Meeting of Fundy Albert

Hillsborough Municipal Building

December 14, 2023, at 5:30 PM

PRESENT

Robert Rochon- Mayor

John Ereaux- Councillor, Ward 1

Loretta Elderkin- Councillor, Ward 2

Jeff Land- Councillor, Ward 3

Jeff Jonah- Councillor, Ward 4

Jim Coates- Councillor, Ward 5

Tammy Rampersaud- Assistant Clerk

Heather Ward Russell- Councillor, Ward 6

Note* **Councillor Ereaux** participated virtually.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rochon called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Coates** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Land** to accept the agenda with the addition of item #7 Purchase of winter tires for the Ram truck.

MOTION CARRIED

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

None

4. CIRCULAR MATERIALS

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Coates** **THAT** the Circular Materials be informed that the municipality of Fundy Albert wishes to opt in, providing a suitable agreement can be reached between the two parties, and provided that the municipality receives all necessary approvals and consents in order to enter into an agreement with Circular Material.

MOTION CARRIED- note that **Councillor Ward Russell** voted nay.

Mayor Rochon provided an update. -he had reached out to FERO to inquire about the potential subsidy. They said they would respond but he has not received a response. **Mayor Rochon** spoke about the

regional municipalities and whether they were opting in or out. The majority were opting. Salisbury added some language as per legal advice. Fundy Albert will also be safeguarded with the added, “providing a suitable agreement can be reached between the two parties, and provided that the municipality receives all necessary approvals and consents in order to enter into an agreement with Circular Material.”

\$31.37 per household

Councillor Land supports opting in as there is still control over garbage

Councillor Coates the former LSDs have a contract in place. If FERO will work with them and doesn't want to have contract cancelled on us that is revenue for the village

Councillor Elderkin questioned what a suitable agreement between the two parties means.

Mayor Rochon hasn't been able to provide exactly what the agreement will state. This wording protects the interests of the village. He reminded everyone that there is the possibility to still opt out after.

Councillor Jonah stated that he doesn't want to inconvenience residents.

Councillor Ward Russell added that if the village is to opt in, education is important.

Councillor Ereaux asked about the wording added in the motion.

Mayor Rochon explained that legal needs to weigh in. **Mayor Rochon** shared that he spoke with the SERSC about providing that education. There may need to be some money invested to help with this.

The implementation will begin in May 2024. They are developing educational plans to help get contamination numbers down for maximum impact.

They will be looking for a downward trend in contamination over 18 months to 24 months.

5. STREET LIGHT REQUEST

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Ward Russell** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** **THAT** the Village of Fundy Albert installs additional streetlights at intersections at Route 114 and Baxter Street, as well as Smithfield and Bellfield. The cost is \$8/month if a pole is already present and if not, the cost would be \$16/month.

MOTION CARRIED

This was necessary as these were missed in the original motion and have had several requests for them.

6. VEHICLE PURCHASE COST SHARING

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Elderkin** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Coates** **THAT WHEREAS** the total cost of the 2022 GMC Canyon & 2024 RAM 2500 was \$90,234.31; and

WHEREAS the apportioned costs for the subunits of Alma, Hillsborough & Riverside-Albert are \$18,073.50, \$58,683.90 and \$13,476.91, respectively; and

WHEREAS the revenue from the sale of the 2007 Chevrolet 2500 earned by the subunits of Alma, Hillsborough & Riverside-Albert was \$150, \$488 & \$112, respectively; and

WHEREAS the subunits of Alma, Hillsborough & Riverside-Albert have available Capital Reserves of \$831.93, \$58,195.90 and \$13,364.91 to contribute to the purchase; and

WHEREAS the Alma subunit does not have sufficient reserve funds to cover their portion; and

WHEREAS the Hillsborough subunit has sufficient reserve funds to cover Alma's portion of \$17,091.57;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alma, Hillsborough & Riverside-Albert subunit reserves (Including GIC # 46 & 47), be transferred to General Operating to cover the purchase of the 2024 RAM 2500 & 2022 GMC Canyon.

MOTION CARRIED- note **Councillors Land** and **Jonah** voted nay.

Councillor Land- disagrees with the motion stating that they need to set a precedent going forward. They need to operate as one unit going forward.

Councillor Jonah agrees with **Councillor Land** that there is too much division.

Councillor Ereaux asked to clarify how the truck would be purchased. **Mayor Rochon** explained the shortfall in Alma's share and that Hillsborough would then loan the amount for it to be repaid in 2 years.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Ward Russell** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** **THAT WHEREAS** the Hillsborough Subunit advanced the Alma Subunit \$17,091.57 for its portion of the 2024 RAM 2500 and 2022 GMC Canyon Truck Purchases; and

WHEREAS it has been recommended by the Treasurer that the Alma subunit to repay the Hillsborough subunit reserve over the course of three (3) years;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alma subunit transfer \$5,697.19 to the Hillsborough Subunit Reserves in years 2024, 2025 & 2026.

MOTION CARRIED- note **Councillor Ereaux** voted nay.

Councillor Ereaux referred to comments made earlier about everything being shared. He stated that we need to be aware of what we are doing with subunits loaning other subunits money. Would this be properly tracked and could it lead to more transactions like this? He explained that money would be loaned in this case because Alma doesn't have a reserve, and Hillsborough does. Alma chose to purchase and invest in a truck used for trade-in at approx. 38k while Hillsborough has a truck at the end of its life and instead of replacing it with the money has it in reserve. He agrees with Councillor Land and

Councillor Jonah that moving forward they should purchase a as a collective and dispose as a collective. He feels reserves aren't treated equally.

Mayor Rochon explained that the other option is to cost share both vehicles and would have Alma's share even more that way. The options before them are to cost share both- or cost share just one.

Councillor Elderkin inquired if the loan from other subunits could be paid off earlier by Alma. **Mayor Rochon** said yes.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Elderkin** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Coates** **THAT WHEREAS** the Riverside-Albert Subunit GIC #46 of \$3,517.93 & #47 of \$15,076.85 fully matured on December 5th, 2023; and

WHEREAS the full amount of GIC #46 and \$13,364.91 of GIC #47 was contributed to the purchase of the 2024 RAM 2500 and 2022 GMC Canyon;

BE IT RESOLVED that the remaining amount of \$1,711.94 and interest earned from GIC #46 & 47 be reinvested in a GIC for the subunit of Riverside-Albert.

MOTION CARRIED- note that **Councillor Land** voted may.

7. PURCHASE OF WINTER TIRES

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Jonah** **THAT WHEREAS** the purchase of winter tires and plow accessories are required for the newly acquired 2024 RAM2500 truck;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Fundy Albert authorizes the purchase of winter tires and rims for the 2024 RAM2500 truck from Action Car and Truck Accessories at a cost of \$1,879.88 taxes included;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Village of Fundy Albert authorizes the purchase of a plow bracket and wiring harness for the 2024 RAM2500 truck from Work and Play at a cost of \$2,299.98 plus HST of \$345.00 for a total cost of \$2,644.98;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the purchase of the equipment is to be cost shared by the subunits of Alma, Hillsborough and Riverside-Albert.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Land explained that this truck is used for snowplowing and needs the tires for winter.

Councillor Coates shared that he agrees with the equipment. He asked why the needs aren't listed at the time of purchase instead of after the fact. He inquired about a safety light which **Councillor Land** stated he believes they have.

Councillor Ereaux questioned that in earlier motions the word "portion" in terms of cost-sharing- based on relative portions of the tax base- was used. Is this the same? **Mayor Rochon** replied yes.

8. CLOSED SESSION

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Land** and **SECONDED** by **Councillor Coates** to move into Closed Session of Council under:

- a. *Local Governance Act, SNB 2017, 68 (1)(j)* labour and employment matters

MOTION CARRIED

9. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Coates**

MAYOR

CLERK