



**Minutes
Committee of the Whole Meeting**

**October 15, 2024, 4:30 p.m.
W.H. Steeves House Museum, 40 Mill Street, Hillsborough, NB**

Present: Mayor Rochon
Councillor Elderkin
Councillor Land
Councillor Jonah
Councillor Coates
Councillor Ward-Russell

Absent: Deputy Mayor Ereaux

Staff Present: Linda Sabourin – CAO
Jillian Hutchinson - Treasurer
Kim Beers – Director of Community Services
Ian Barrett – Director of Operations

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rochon called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Elderkin and **SECONDED** by Councillor Coates **THAT** the agenda be adopted with an amendment to add #8 Public Statements and Inquiries

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously)

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

NONE

4. Consent Agenda

None

5. Public and Administrative Presentations

a) **Sean Blewett** – Chipoudy Communities Revitalization Committee (CCRC) revitalization of the route 114/915 corner.

Sean Blewett and William McCallum presented on behalf of the CCRC their plan to improve the corner of 114 and 915 and the moving of the Anderson Lighthouse. They have requested to lease property from Fundy Albert for 5 years to develop and maintain the property with a renewal every 4-5 years.

Councillors had a few questions and comments but overall were pleased with the presentation and letters of support in their proposal. Mr. Blewett was informed that this item will need to be discussed by council at the next Committee of the Whole meeting and a response will be provided to them.

b) Norman Woodworth – Golf Club Road

Norman read a letter he wrote concerning Golf Club Road. Council agreed with his concerns and Mayor Rochon provided an update on the project.

c) Administrative Report

CAO started the report with an update on the community grants program and building permits.

The **Treasurer** reported that finances are on target for Q3 at 75% of the overall budget. She noted there are a couple of areas that are currently below target pending receipt of invoice (i.e. RCMP costs) or unrealized projects (i.e. TMR Radios). There was a large jump in the Recreation sub-unit due to staffing being under funded, which was rectified by transferring funds to make up the difference. Maintenance on some facilities offsets revenues and expenses.

Councillor Ward-Russell asked about the 2023 audit. She also asked about the Budget Block and would like to see what was spent out of the 5.9 and what was not. She feels that the TMR Radios should not be a shared service as Ward 6 is covered by Riverview and they have already paid money to them for this. Mayor Rochon stated that it would be shared by all wards. She asked if a new 3-tonne truck was still in the works to be purchased for public works this year. CAO stated that the Director of Operations would be doing an assessment of equipment prior to a decision on this purchase. **Mayor Rochon** stated that Interest revenue should form part of the budget to help drive overall warrant down.

Director of Community Services reported that the Alma Activity Centre door access system has been completed; the Veteran Banners purchases have increased this year in all areas and will be installed at the end of October; and that she received approval for the Fundy Albert signage to be erected as you enter Lower Coverdale coming from Riverview heading south.

Director of Operations provided an update on the ongoing maintenance of the lift station pumps. He also mentioned that the contract for the temporary water supply for Alma from Fundy Park has been extended to November 1, 2024, as the Department of Public Health is requiring flush system prior to removal of temporary supply, which will be happening the week of October 21st. He is currently working on a more efficient on-call remuneration.

d) **Codiac Cycling Trails**

Mayor Rochon asked for any final questions before a motion goes to the next Regular Council Meeting.

Councillor Ward Russell stated that the resolution should only include the insurance and not any money they are requesting for upkeep and management of trails in 2025.

Councillor Jonah stated that the CCT took the area from something small to what it is today. It's a well-used trail system and they are managing a community asset for us, and we need to support it.

6. **New Business**

a) **Community Grant Request – Christmas in the Country**

Councillor Elderkin stated that it's a great event that draws from all around.

Councillor Land agreed and stated that it promotes local business.

Councillor Coates feels that it has been growing and helps local business.

Mayor Rochon stated that any business within Fundy Albert is able to take part in this.

a) **King Charles III Coronation medal**

Mayor Rochon presented a request from MP Rob Moore asking the municipality to nominate a resident of Fundy Albert to be awarded the King Charles III Coronation medal. The award recognizes individuals who have dedicated themselves to service family, community and country. He stated that council can identify its' own nomination process but that a call for nomination and motion is required prior to the December 31, 2024, deadline.

Council agreed that the public should be able to nominate people. Mayor Rochon will create a request, along with the eligibility requirements, to have administration post on the Fundy Albert website and social media page. Rochon would like to have a council vote on the final nominee at the December 3rd meeting.

7. **Mayor and Council Statements**

Councillor Jonah stated that he attended the UNMB 2024 conference. All sessions were information however one in particular resonated with him and the statistic that the population of NB is growing, however only 3.5% of housing in NB is considered affordable.

Councillor Elderkin reported that she attended the SERSC municipal meeting in Salisbury. The Alma Fleet launch was a great success, and the graduating class did a wonderful job with the breakfast. The Riverside-Albert playground's bricks have arrived and were laid, and it looks great. She was happy to see that the

chipseal was completed on Forestdale Road so that project is now done. She asked that public works note there are potholes and trimming on Water Street that still needs to be taken care of, and the Riverside-Albert rec centre road needs to be graded before winter.

Councillor Ward-Russell also attended the UNMB meetings. She wanted to highlight that Councillor Jonah received an award for 12+ years of service as a councillor. She reported that the broken light on the corner of Baxter and route 114 is not a resident light, and it is a Fundy Albert light. CAO to investigate.

Councillor Coates asked council if there was a way to get DTI to respond to inquiries. He read a response he received from his inquiry which stated that a ticket has been issued however he has received nothing more. He was asking if there was some way for the municipality to intervene. He attended the UNMB conference and while he was there, he polled other municipalities who reported the same issues with DTI. Mayor Rochon stated we can ask them what their process is as a starting point.

Councillor Land wanted to congratulate Councillor Jonah.

Mayor Rochon provided an update on the UNMB conference he attended with councillors Jonah, Coates and Ward-Russell. He discussed the Alma Fleet Launch and the Eric Steeves golf tournament, which is in its' 23rd year now and has raise more than \$100,000 in those years. Lately, he congratulated Councillor Jonah on his dedication and hard work over the last 12 years.

8. Public Statements and Inquiries

None

9. Closed Session

None

11. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Jonah

that the meeting be adjourned at 6:06pm

Mayor

Clerk