



**Minutes
Committee of the Whole Meeting**

**November 19, 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
Deputy Mayor Ereaux

Staff Present: Linda Sabourin – CAO
Jillian Hutchinson – Treasurer
Kim Beers – Director of Community Service
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 Deputy Mayor Ereaux and **SECONDED** by Councillor Elderkin **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) **Ann Elliott – zoning**

Ms. Elliott spoke about her views about the changes being made in Fundy Albert with the new Rural Plan. She asked what the reasoning behind the changes were? She discussed her concerns on the new Plan and how the current zoning affects her properties.

Mayor Rochon suggested that she send all her concerns to the CAO so she could then give them to the Rural Plan Committee so they may take them into consideration when working on the Plan. Deputy Mayor Ereaux committed to contacting Mr. Elliott.

b) Melody Land – Hillsborough Library

Ms. Land gave an update on what has been going on at the library and the plans they have for expansion in the future. There has been an increase in traffic over the last 12-18 months and there are plans to hire a second full-time librarian. 1st phase of the expansion is expected to start this winter.

Ms. Land also presented proposed plans to expand and renovate the library space to make it more functional. As the space occupied by the library belongs to the municipality, Council will need to fund any renovations. Ms. Land was thanked for her presentation and was informed that Council would consider her request.

2 minutes presentation

- Richard Faulkner

Mr. Faulkner talked about White Rock Park and the condition of the trails. He feels it is important to have Codiac Cycling Trails continue to be able to look after the trail system in White Rock Park and urged Council to provide the financial assistance they need to continue doing the work that they do. Mr. Faulkner was thanked for his letter to Council and for his presentation.

c) Anglophone East School District Reciprocal Agreement

Mayor Rochon explained what the agreement entailed.

CAO stated the administration's position on the agreement and the downfalls of entering into the agreement as it is now.

Deputy Mayor Ereaux stated that he is in agreement with the administration's position and believes we should try to negotiate some different terms.

Councillor Jonah and **Council Land** both believe also that we should see if there is any wiggle room.

Councillor Ward Russell is concerned about the soccer field and all the work that needs to be done to it. She stated that she believes we should suggest some solutions and changes to the district.

Councillor Elderkin does not feel that we have the manpower to enter into this agreement right now.

Mayor Rochon inquired as to whether the AESD was aware that they were no longer paying for the space used at the Recreation Centre. The CAO confirmed that they are. He also inquired what was going to happen with the new playground if we sign the agreement? **Councillor Elderkin** stated that it would school district was responsible to maintain that as that was the agreement made prior to construction.

d) Administration Report

CAO gave an update on where we currently sit with the 2024 Grants. She mentioned that the Tender has gone out for the Alma Water Project. She also gave an update on the building permits. Some discussion on the Bylaws being worked on as well as discussion on the Voyent Alert system.

Treasurer informed council that the accountant that was in charge of our account left the firm, so we now have a new accountant looking after our account. We are currently waiting to hear when the financials for 2023 will be completed. The treasurer made recommendations on what to do with the surpluses that we have. The treasurer talked about the aging receivables.

Director of Operations talked about the slow roll out of the public QR code for residents to report issues within the community. An update on the water systems was given, the temporary supply from Fundy National Park has been removed. There was some discussion on Legion Street and what needs to be done for the new property owner to receive services. Christmas decorating will commence next week. Having a regular tree in Alma this year and not the Lobster trap tree. Gave an update on Grey Brook and Pound Hill project has been completed.

Director of Community Services mentioned the grants that have been applied for. We have received two benches for the Hillsborough trails. The veteran Banners and the store front grant were discussed.

Mayor Rochon gave an update on the Greensboro Lagoon.

6. New Business

a) Chipoudy Communities Revitalization Committee (CCRC) Request

Mayor Rochon explained what they were requesting. There was some discussion, and it was decided that the details of the agreement need to be worked out before a motion can be brought before council. A motion to proceed with negotiations will be made at the next meeting.

b) King Charles III Nominations

There were 6 nominations received for 5 nominees. 1 has received this award previously so is not eligible to receive again. Councillors are to provide their vote for the nominee and 1 alternate to the CAO by November 26, 2024.

c) 2025 Multi-Year Community Grant Requests

Mayor Rochon explained the council report form and suggested we park this topic until after the budget talks have ended.

7. Mayor and Council Statements and Inquires

Councillor Elderkin stated that the veteran banners are lovely, and the community appreciates them. Inquired whether public works installs them or not? The response was that it is contracted out, and supervised by an employee. She attended the Riverside-Albert Remembrance Day celebration. Talked about Federal funding that we may be able to get for our lift stations.

Councillor Ward Russell attended Riverside-Albert Remembrance Day ceremony. We should send a thank you card to the Girl Guides and Peter Jubb for their working organizing the ceremonies. Updated that the streetlights in Lower Coverdale have been installed. A resident was asking about a noise by-law. The Riverview Fire Department would like to have a conversation about dry hydrant in Lower Coverdale.

Councillor Land attended the Hillsborough Remembrance Day Ceremony. Mentioned there was hydrant in Hillsborough area with a bag on it, wondering why? CAO to look into this. Asked if there were any updates on Golf Club Road or the Shoreline trail.

Councillor Coates attended the Riverside-Albert Remembrance Day Ceremony. He mentioned the Rec Centre in Riverside-Albert needs a new PA system.

Councillor Jonah wanted to thank the Kiwanis for doing the Remembrance Day meal themselves this year. He also mentioned the hydrant with the bag on it. CAO asked that going forward when they see something that needs looked into that they use the QR reporting system previously mentioned in the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Ereaux wanted to thank the Girl Guides and Peter Jubb for their work on the Remembrance Day Ceremonies. And also wanted to thank the CAO and public works for removing the unsightly flag in Alma.

Mayor Rochon attended a Remembrance Day Church service on November 10th, a ceremony at the Albert County Museum on November 11th and attended the Hillsborough ceremony at the Kiwanis for Remembrance Day. Also attending the reception at the Kiwanis on November 11th. Update on Golf Club Road is that we are waiting on the Capital Borrowing Board and the 2023 Financial statements. If we do not get all the information together by December 20th we will be delayed until June 2025. Two strategic plan meetings have now taken place with 4 people total in attendance. There are 2 more meetings left.

8. Public Statements and Inquiries

CCRC wanted to thank council for their support they have given to this project. They will get the information that has been requested to council as soon as possible. They have spoken with Department of Transportation and Infrastructure about the possible traffic issues that may occur at the proposed light house site. They agree with Mayor Rochon that a 10+ year agreement would be better for all involved.

9. Closed Session

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Land and **SECONDED** by Councillor Coates **THAT** council move into closed session as per:

- a) Local Governance Act, SNB 2017, 68(1)(d) the proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Jonah and **SECONDED** by Councillor Coates **THAT** the meeting move back into open session.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

10. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Jonah
that the meeting be adjourned at 7:05pm

Mayor

Clerk