



**Minutes
Regular Meeting**

**November 5, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Alma Cultural Building, 13 School Street, Alma, NB**

Present: Mayor Rochon
Deputy Mayor Ereaux
Councillor Elderkin
Councillor Jonah
Councillor Coates
Councillor Ward-Russell

Absent: Councillor Land

Staff Present: Linda Sabourin – CAO

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Rochon called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Coates and **SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Ereaux that the agenda be adopted with the following amendments:

- Addition of # 12 Public Comments and Statements
- Addition of 13b Pending Acquisition of Land – closed session

Motion Carried (unanimously)

3. **Conflict of Interest Declarations**

NONE

4. **Adoption of Minutes**

a. Regular Council Meeting October 1, 2024

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Jonah **SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Ereaux **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting October 1, 2024, be approved.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

b. Committee of the Whole Meeting October 15, 2024

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Elderkin **SECONDED** by Councillor Coates **THAT** the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting October 15, 2024, be approved.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

5. Consent Agenda

None

6. Public and Administrative Presentations

a. **Patrick Kemp** – Cooperative Bank

Mr. Kemp appeared before Council to request that a previous resolution to sell the former village office in Riverside-Albert be revisited and rescinded in favor of leasing it to Forestdale Homes to facilitate the establishment of a credit union in Fundy Albert. An exchange took place between Mr. Kemp and Councillors. Mr. Kemp was asked to submit his request, in writing, to administration. Mr. Kemp was further informed that council would discuss his request at an upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting.

b. **Elizabeth Collins** – Riverside-Albert Road Concerns

Ms. Collins asked that the catch basin near her home in Riverside-Albert be looked at as she feels that it was placed incorrectly causing the water from the road to flow onto her property. This in turn is causing damage to her property and it has been happening for the past three years. Ms. Collins also requested that Fundy Albert remove a Red Maple tree from her property that was planted by the village as it is near power lines and could be dangerous. Her last comment was about the grading on Bicentennial, she stated that she believes that the culvert at Water Street is unsafe causing a dangerous situation for children in the area who may need to pass over it.

Deputy Mayor Ereaux asked where the catch basin was located. It is located at 5910 King Street.

Councillor Elderkin thanked Ms. Collins for her presentation and stated that we would have to see what our Director of Operations had to say about this issue.

Councillor Jonah stated that the village had done all the water basins three years ago.

Councillor Ward Russell thanked Ms. Collins for her presentation and then asked if there was a maintenance plan in place for this? Have the culverts been cleared? A maintenance plan is being created. The problem is not that the basin is clogged it is that they were not installed properly.

Mayor Rochon wanted to clarify that the Maple tree was planted by the village. Which it was. He was also wanting to clarify whether it was on the right of way or on her property. It is in fact on the right of way, so it belongs to the village. Mayor Rochon stated that we have our Director of Operations investigate this issue and get back to her on it. He mentioned that the catch basin issue may be that Ms. Collins driveway is lower than the road so this may be the issue of the water going onto her property. We will have someone look into this and get her a response out to her.

7. **Reports and Recommendations from Committee and Private Meetings**

a. **Committee of the Whole of October 15, 2024**

- Motion related to the Christmas in the Country Grant Request

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Elderkin and **SECONDED** by Councillor Coates;

THAT the Council hereby approve a grant of \$2,500 to Albert County Tourism Association to cover the costs of printing and signage for the upcoming community event, Christmas in the Country, scheduled to take place on November 30 and December 1, 2024, at various locations throughout Fundy Albert. Additionally, it is recommended that reusable signage be considered to promote sustainability and reduce future costs.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

- Motion related to the Codiac Cycling Trails

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Jonah and **SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Ereaux **THAT;**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby approves the request from Codiac Cycling Trails (CCT) for the procurement of liability insurance in the amount of \$2,575 annually.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council approves the request from CCT for the ongoing maintenance costs of the White Rock Recreational Area, not to exceed \$6,000 in 2025 for repairs and upkeep of the existing trail system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that a new agreement between the CCT and the municipality be drafted and presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting January 21, 2025, and contain, at least, the following:

- CCT Board of Directors presents to council each March and September an update of their work and expenditures.
- CCT will review their insurance premiums on a yearly basis and seek cost savings where it can.
- CCT and the Administration review maintenance costs annually as part of the budget for the upcoming year.
- CCT presents to council any trail development plans (i.e. trail consultant to draft a 5-year plan) for approval.

Deputy Mayor Ereaux supports this motion in principle. He believes that the \$6,000 should be part of a broader discussion that should be included in the upcoming budget talks.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Ereaux and **SECONDED** by Councillor Ward Russell that this motion be tabled.

Councillor Coates stated that there should be an additional quote.

Councillor Elderkin does not feel that postponing for 30 days would be an issue.

Mayor Rochon stated that this is part of our Strategic Plan, and it is the 5th time it has been brought before council.

Motion carried (Mayor Rochon and Councillor Jonah against)

- Forming of the Fundy Albert Rural Plan Committee

It was moved by Councillor Jonah and **seconded** by Deputy Mayor Ereaux that Councillor Elderkin and Deputy Mayor Ereaux be appointed to the Fundy Albert Rural Plan Committee.

Councillor Jonah agreed to sit on the committee.

It was moved by Councillor Elderkin and **seconded** by Councillor Jonah that the motion be amended to include Councillor Jonah as a committee member.

Motion to amend Carried (unanimously)

On the Motion, as amended. Carried (unanimously)

b. Emergency Measures Committee

Nothing to report

c. Personnel Committee

Nothing to report

d. Water and Wastewater Bylaw Consolidation Committee

Nothing to report

8. Reports from Administration

- a. Update:** Surrender of Lease to the Canadian Railroad Historical Association (NB Division)

The CAO stated that the lease is currently being reviewed by the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development and we are just waiting to hear back from them for final signing.

9. Bylaws

None

10. Mayor and Council Statements Inquiries

Councillor Jonah mentioned that since the paving was done on Pound Hill there is now a dip at the bottom of the hill when you are coming from Moncton going up the hill.

Councillor Coates inquired about the procedure of enforcing building permits. The current system runs on complaints from people received at Plan 360 at which time they then investigate. A By-law officer could be tasked with the enforcement of this however we would need more officers to do this.

Councillor Ward Russell had nothing to report at this time.

Deputy Mayor Ereaux talked about the monthly report from Fundy National Park and that they have moved into their winter schedule. He also mentioned that he had sent along to the CAO some budget requests for the upcoming 2025 budget talks.

Councillor Elderkin mentioned that she attended the Albert County Chamber of Commerce Meeting.

Mayor Rochon stated that there is no new update on the Golf Club Road project. He mentioned the unveiling of the new firetruck in Riverside-Albert on October 26, 2024. Mayor Rochon wanted to congratulate MLA Sherri Wilson on her re-election. Lastly, he wanted to mention the Remembrance Day ceremonies that will be taking place in Fundy Albert.

11. Notices of Motion and Resolutions

Councillor Ward Russell entered a notice of motion;

Motion to Enhance Fiscal Reporting to Include Subunits and Project Performance

Whereas regular fiscal monitoring of revenues and expenditures allows comparisons to the budget in order to identify discrepancies, and promote awareness of fiscal and operational performance of the municipality and its operations and projects: and

Whereas the budgets are created, in part, according to planned revenue and expenditures are shared among the subunits; and

Whereas regular fiscal reporting according to subunits permits easier preparation of the next year's budget which has unique tax rates established according to the individual subunits: and

Whereas Council recognizes that enhanced fiscal reporting requires administrative resources to implement and maintain, but Council also believes that this is needed to receive proper rates among the subunits, and that enhanced fiscal reporting is essential.

Be it Resolved that the Council hereby directs the administration to begin, effective immediately, to provide regular reports on the fiscal position of revenue and expenditures according to the individual subunits and the aggregate total for municipality. Additionally, the regular reports shall identify areas of the approved work plans that are failing to be achieved or are expected to cost considerably more, or less, than budgeted.

A written copy of this motion was presented to the Clerk and will be placed on the agenda for the next Regular Council meeting on December 5, 2024.

12. Public Comments and Statements

Sean Blewett inquired about the Railway Lease and what that was all about. **Mayor Rochon** explained the details of the lease on the property that the replica train station sits on, and the reason for council surrendering its interest in it.

Elizabeth Collins asked that we contact DTI about putting in either a yield or stop sign at the four corners as it is currently quite dangerous at this intersection.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Ereaux and **SECONDED** by Councillor Coates that council move into closed session.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

13. Closed Session

- a. Local Governance Act, SNB 2017, 68(1)(j) labour and employment matters, including the negotiation of collective agreements
- b. Local Governance Act, SNB 2017, 68(1)(d) the proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land

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

Motion Carried (unanimously)

14. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Coates

that the meeting be adjourned at 6:06pm

Mayor

Clerk