



**Minutes
Committee of the Whole Meeting**

**December 17, 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 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 Councillor Jonah 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

If the Budget deadline of December 31st is missed, Province could set our tax rate. It is possible that the Province will take the latest numbers in the portal to use to establish the 2025 budget.

Councillor Elderkin stated that we need the final audit numbers before we can approve budget. Administration to provide the latest budget reports and canvas councillors availability for a meeting to finalize the budget.

5. Public and Administrative Presentations

- a) **Jeff Cooke** talked about the Golf Club Road and Grey Brook project and the issues that could arise if we were to have a weather event. Was looking for an update on both projects. Mayor Rochon stated that the Golf Club Road culvert replacement project is held up due to not having our audited financials. Work is not permitted between December 20, 2024, and June 1, 2025. The tender for the Grey Brook/Rte. 114 project may be tendered again, with work starting in early June. The other project (DTI) on Route 114 will be going for tender in February 2025 with work starting by August 2025.
- b) **Alex Berry/Jeff Russell** from Canada Community Building Fund discussed the Greensboro Lagoon project. They updated where the project was at and where they were hoping it would end up. They are needing a partnership with an owner/operator once the project is completed as they do not operate them themselves. The hope is that the construction will commence in June 2025 and be complete in one season, however it may have to be done in two phases meaning completion would not be until 2026.

Councillor Ward Russell asked about the projected 150m setback from the houses and why it was not further. It was stated that the guidelines were this and to go any further would require the purchase of more land. It was also asked if they were in contact with DTI about the possibility of resurfacing the streets in Greensboro at the same time as the construction of the Lagoon.

Councillor Elderkin asked what the expectations were for Fundy Albert if they became the owner/operators. The owner/operators would take on the whole system. What that path would look like can be discussed at a later date.

Councillor Jonah left at 5:22pm came back at 5:24pm

2 minutes presentation

- **Keith Steeves** discussed the water and sewer hookup issues he was having with his lot on Legion Street, Hillsborough.
- **Shawna McGaw** talked about the Greensboro Lagoon proximity to her property and her concerns about it.

c) Administration Report

CAO gave updates on the following:

- Building permits
- Tenders

- Grants
- Animal control report
- Riverview Fire Department calls

Treasurer discussed the yearend forecast as well as gave her recommendations on investing and reinvesting of GIC's. There were questions and comments from council about the treasurer's report. CAO and Treasurer to change the wording for the motion in regard to the Alma Public works garage.

Mayor Rochon suggested for council to send all questions about the investing and reinvesting be sent to administration for responses.

Director of Community Services gave updates on the following:

- Voyent Alert
- Grants applied for and status
- Fundy Albert Signage in Lower Coverdale
- Applications for Summer Students

Director of Operations gave updates on the following:

- Response to complaint from a resident of Riverside-Albert concerning stormwater issues and removal of a tree from property
- Ticket Tracker
- Water and Wastewater
- Alma water turbidity
- Stormwater issues

6. New Business

a) Helmet Policy

Director of Operations discussed the proposed helmet policy.

b) Alma Recreation Centre Insurance Request

CAO discussed the possible options and gave her recommendation on which option would be best for Fundy Albert.

c) Forestdale Home Lease Request

There was some further discussion on length of lease.

7. Mayor and Council Statements and Inquires

Councillor Land inquired about a fire hydrant that needs repairs – It will be fixed this week.

Councillor Coates attended an EMO meeting last week and a summary was sent to the CAO. He participated in the Hillsborough Santa Claus parade

Councillor Jonah wanted to congratulate the Kiwanis on having just under 200 seniors attend their annual seniors Christmas dinner.

Councillor Elderkin stated that Santa would be in Alma on December 19th and there will be a parade in Riverside-Albert on December 22nd.

Councillor Ward Russell mentioned that Core Property Services had been contracted by DTI for the snow maintenance of the side roads in Lower Coverdale. She had contacted Core Property Services about the service that was received during the last snow fall to which they responded with a letter, Councillor Ward Russell read the response.

Mayor Rochon attended the Fundy Tourism Social and the Hillsborough Fire Department retirement event. Updates on the Golf Club Road and Germantown covered bridge were given.

8. Public Statements and Inquiries

Alisha Sanford from Alma Recreation Council thanked Administration and Council for considering insurance for their council.

Kathy Weir spoke about Forestdale/Credit Union possible lease of 5823 King Street, Riverside-Albert.

Jeff Cooke spoke briefly on his conversation with Fredericton on the equalization fund.

Anne Elliot gave administration an envelope to be looked at later

9. Closed Session

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

- a) Local Governance Act, SNB 2017, 68(1)(c) information that could cause financial loss or gain to a person or the local government or could jeopardize negotiations leading to an agreement or contract
- b) 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 Elderkin and **SECONDED** by Councillor Jonah **THAT** the meeting move back into open session.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

10. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Land **THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 7:35 pm

Mayor

Clerk