



**Minutes
Regular Council Meeting**

**December 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre, 9 Bicentennial Road, Riverside-Albert, NB**

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

Staff Present: Linda Sabourin – CAO

1. Call to Order

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

2. Adoption of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Coates and **SECONDED** by Councillor Elderkin **THAT** the agenda be adopted with an amendment to add #12 Public Comments and Statements.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

NONE

4. Adoption of Minutes

(a) Regular Council Meeting November 5, 2024

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Elderkin and **SECONDED** by Councillor Jonah **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 5, 2024, be approved with the following amendments: OBJ

- i. Item 6A, the last line of should specify the discussion will take place at the December Committee of the Whole meeting.

- ii. In councillor Elderkin’s statement it should state that she attended the Albert County Chamber of Commerce Awards, not meeting.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

(b) Special Council Meeting November 14, 2024

The Minutes of the Special Meeting November 14, 2024, were not approved pending confirmation of votes on all motions.

(c) Committee of the Whole Meeting November 19, 2024

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Coates and **SECONDED** by Councillor Land **THAT** the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole November 19, 2024, be approved

Motion Carried (unanimously)

5. Consent Agenda

None

6. Public and Administrative Presentations

Shawna Butland – Alma Recreation Centre discussed the issue of liability insurance. They are unable to retain insurance on their own and would like to renew their MOU with Fundy Albert to be able to fall under our liability insurance. A Council report form is to be done for the December 17, 2024, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

7. Reports and Recommendations from Committees and Private Meetings

a) Motion to Enhance Fiscal Reporting to Include Subunits and Project Performance

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Ward Russell and **SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Ereaux **THAT**

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.

Mayor Rochon believes that the inside/outside rate would eliminate the need for this motion.

Councillor Elderkin stated that she would like better reporting to council and that the over/under budget items should have a description as to why they are over/under.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Elderkin and **SECONDED** by Councillor Jonah to table the motion.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

b) Motion related to the Harvey Hall Grant Request

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Ereaux and **SECONDED** by Councillor Elderkin **THAT** the Council approve a grant of \$4865.00 to Harvey Hall Company to cover the costs to upgrade their bathroom facility.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Mayor Ereaux that the motion be tabled, no seconder on that motion.

Motion Defeated (Deputy Mayor Ereaux for and 6 against)

c) Motion related to the Rural Credit Union Lease Request (November 5, 2024)

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

WHEREAS the Council has received a request for leasing a building at 5823 King Street in Riverside-Albert;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council hereby directs the Administration to:

- 1) Conduct a thorough review of the lease building request.
- 2) Provide detailed recommendations to the Council, including: OBJ
 - An assessment of the financial implications
 - An evaluation of the alignment with municipal strategic goals
 - Any potential benefits or drawbacks of the lease agreement
 - Suggested terms and conditions for the lease agreement

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administration presents these recommendations at the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for January 21, 2025.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

d) Committee of the Whole of November 19, 2024

- **Motion related to the King Charles III Nominations**

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Land and **SECONDED** by Councillor Elderkin **THAT**

WHEREAS the municipality of Fundy Albert has been requested to nominate one person to receive the King Charles III Coronation medal and two alternate names; and

WHEREAS the Council of Fundy Albert has solicited nominations from the community to receive this prestigious award;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Fundy Albert recommends the awarding of a King Charles III Coronation Medal to Fundy Albert resident Kathy Weir;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the names of alternate nominees, Fundy Albert residents Dawne McLean and Daniel Sacchetto be included in the recommendation to Fundy Royal Member of Parliament Rob Moore.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

- **Motion related to the CCRC Lease Request**

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Elderkin and **SECONDED** by Councillor Land **THAT**

WHEREAS the Council has received a request for leasing their property at PID# 00629311 in Riverside-Albert;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council hereby directs the Administration to:

- 1) Conduct a thorough review of the lease building request.
- 2) Provide detailed recommendations to the Council, including:
 - An assessment of the financial implications.
 - An evaluation of the alignment with municipal strategic goals
 - Any potential benefits or drawbacks of the lease agreement.
 - Suggested terms and conditions for the lease agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Administration presents these recommendations at the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for January 21, 2025.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

e) Emergency Measures Committee

Waiting for the study on the overall program and once received we will review.

f) Personnel Committee

Nothing to report

g) Water and Wastewater Bylaw Consolidation Committee

The Draft Bylaw was shared with the administration and version 5 of the rate structure for their review and to run the rate against the user base to what the financial impact will be. The next meeting will be scheduled once the administration has had time to review.

h) Fundy Albert Rural Planning Committee

Deputy Mayor Ereaux, Councillor Elderkin and Councillor Jonah are not sure how membership will be established with the community. Deputy Mayor Ereaux asked if Administration can put out a call for interested members of the community to be a part of this committee, having them give their name, current planning area they reside in as well as any experience they might have with planning/zoning. Mayor Rochon stated that this would be a common approach.

Deputy Mayor Ereaux will draft the call-out and send it to the Administration.

Councillor Elderkin stated she would like to wait until the new year to start recruiting membership.

Councillor Jonah stated that there should be a maximum of members set as too many members would be ineffective.

8. Reports from Administration

Nothing to report

9. Bylaws

None

10. Mayor and Council Statement Inquiries

Councillor Ward Russell informed everyone that there is an IWK box that was placed in front of the Lower Coverdale Church. There were some damages done by DTI to the roads during the last snowstorm while plowing. Wanted to wish all the residents of Fundy Albert a happy holiday season.

Councillor Elderkin wanted to thank the whole of Fundy Albert for the Christmas in the Country event and public works for the Christmas trees placed in the three villages. She also wanted to say thank you to Mr. Rossiter for erecting the Lobster tree in Alma.

Councillor Land wanted to thank all the volunteers for the Christmas in the Country and also Mr. Rossiter for the Lobster tree in Alma.

Deputy Mayor Ereaux stated that the Christmas in the Country was fantastic. He wanted to thank the community and the Village of Fundy Albert for the two trees that

were placed in Alma. The real tree at the Cultural Centre that Fundy Albert placed and the Lobster tree that Mr. Rossiter placed at the Wharf. He thanked the Alma rink for all their hard work and renovations.

An update on Fundy Park was given, 287,000 visits to the park between May and October 2024 which was a 6% increase over 2023. The annual bird count will be held on December 20, 2024. Camping reservations for the 2025 season will launch on February 7, 2025, at 8am ATL.

Councillor Jonah stated that the Christmas in the Country was well attended, and it appears to grow every year. He mentioned that there will be a breakfast at the Kiwanis Community Centre on December 7, 2024, starting at 8am. The Santa Clause parade will be happening on that same day commencing at 6:30pm. Santa will be at the Kiwanis Community Centre following the parade.

Councillor Coates attended the Strategic Planning Presentation in Lower Coverdale. He mentioned that NB Power is trimming the trees around the powerlines on Route 910 which will hopefully assist with the power outages in the area. He wanted to thank the CAO for solving a complaint one of his residents had with Plan 360.

Mayor Rochon congratulated all for the success of Christmas in the Country. Mentioned the parade on December 7, 2024. Update on the Golf Club Road project, it will not commence until June 2025. The delay is due to not receiving the audited financials. The program coordinator confirmed that the delay would not impact our funding.

NB Power is currently conducting line work from Hillsborough to Alma as the circuit between these places is one of the worst in New Brunswick. They are clearing 12' on each side of the road.

Reminder about the Budget public deliberations continuing tomorrow evening December 4, 2024, at the Hillsborough Kiwanis Community Centre.

11. Notices of Motion and Resolutions

None

12. Public Comments and Statements

Jane Chrysostom mentioned that the last meeting only had audio and no video. CAO explained what happened and apologized. She was inquiring about some Bingo items that seem to have been misplaced. Mayor Rochon will reach out to the past Mayor to inquire about these items.

Shawna Butland just wanted to remind council that Alma Recreation Centre insurance expires on December 31, 2024.

13. Closed Session

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Land and **SECONDED** by Councillor Elderkin **THAT** the meeting move into closed session as per:

- a) Local Governance Act, SNB 2017, Section 68(1)(j) labour and employment matters, including the negotiation of collective agreements.
- b) Local Governance Act SNB 2017, Section 68(1)(c) Information that could cause financial loss or gain to the local government leading to an agreement or contract.

Motion Carried (unanimously)

Tammy Rampersaud, assistant clerk, joined the meeting at 8:01pm

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

Motion Carried (unanimously)

13. **Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Coates that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20pm

Mayor

Clerk