

JANUARY 8, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Riverside-Albert Village Council was held at the Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre on Monday, January 8, 2018. Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with Councillors Murphy, Morrissey, and Brewster in attendance. Mayor Campbell congratulated Councillor Kelly Brewster on her recent marriage. Also present were Village Clerk Deborah Murray-Butland, Deputy Fire Chief Kyle Brewster, RCMP Staff Sgt Chantal Ouellette, and several guests. Public Works Superintendent Heather Cail was absent.

MEETING AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Morrissey, seconded by Councillor Brewster, to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Brewster, seconded by Councillor Morrissey, to adopt the minutes of the December 11, 2017 Council Meeting as presented. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Boil Water Advisory of September 26, 2017 will remain in effect until lifted by the Department of Health.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a.) Dated December 8, 2017 from Bev Gaston, Union of Municipalities of NB.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Public Works Superintendent Heather Cail

Public Works Superintendent Heather Cail was absent from the meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Deputy Fire Chief Kyle Brewster

This past month, the Riverside-Albert Fire Department attended the Hillsborough Christmas Parade, the Riverside-Albert Santa in the Park, and held the annual Firemen's Christmas Dinner on December 17th with the Alma Fire Department in attendance. New battery-powered scene lights were purchased, and plans are in place to install new siding on the Fire hall this year. It was moved by Councillor Brewster, seconded by Councillor Morrissey, to accept the December Fire Department report. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Streets

Complaints continue to be received about snow removal and icy streets.

Planning & Co-ordination

There was no Regional Service Commission meeting in December. The new tourism initiative is moving forward.

Terry Steeves, President of the Albert County Exhibition, has requested support from Village Council for the new exhibition hall. They have indicated interest in perhaps cost sharing on a new message board sign at the Rec Centre.

Two 30-foot flagpoles were purchased for McClelan Park, and the Acadian group has pledged to purchase two more flagpoles as well.

Water & Sewer

Water consumption has been noticeably reduced since completion of the recent waterlines replacement project. Serious wastewater problems need to be addressed at a home on King Street; a dig is needed to determine where the blockage is located and who is responsible for the repairs.

RCMP

Staff Sgt Chantal Ouellette was present at tonight's meeting. Last month, she met with the Mayor and Clerk at the Village Office about November, which included a couple of false 9-1-1 calls and two other calls to a residence on Water Street. Tonight, she reported December had two calls, one for a family feud and one for an unrest civil matter. Policing concerns in the Village have been relatively quiet for the past while.

Recreation

Activities at the Recreation Centre were busy in December. Along with regularly scheduled activities, the Centre was rented out for the Vocational Training Centre Christmas party, as well as two Christmas family parties. The annual Firemen Christmas dinner, the Foodbank Christmas distribution centre, and the Mobile Eco-Depot were also held at the Centre in December.

Animal Control

Austin McKinley has agreed to provide animal control this year at the same price as last year, and the 2018 animal control agreement will be ready for signatures soon. The 2018 dog tags have been ordered and, once received, will be available for sale from the Village Office.

TREASURERS REPORT

The Clerk has been working with Alexandra Ferris, Director of Community Finances with the Province, about the large deficit from the 2016 Financial Statements. After going back through the fund balances for the past several years, Ms. Ferris has suggested a draft surplus amount for the General Revenue Fund. When the final amount is agreed upon with the auditors, the correct amount can be posted. It is hoped a Special Council Meeting can be held to adopt both 2018 budgets before the last week of January.

An application will be made to the 2018 Canada Summer Jobs Program before the deadline on February 2, 2018. Last year, the Village was able to hire one summer student under this program.

A cheque for \$12,424.00 in payment of the second half of 2017 for the Gas Tax Fund arrived before the end of December; it was placed in a cashable GIC until utilized. Also, five registered letters were sent out for overdue water & sewer accounts; three of the five were paid in full and two have made payment arrangements.

ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Councillor Morrissey, seconded by Councillor Brewster, to accept the bills for the month of December. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

OLD BUSINESS

Unightly Premises

Regarding unightly premises, Mayor Campbell spoke about changes to the Municipalities Act to enable an inspector access to private properties.

Building Canada Fund and Clean Water & Wastewater Fund

A cheque for \$112,581.00 for Claim #1 for the two projects just arrived and will be utilized to pay down the line of credit with the Royal Bank.

RBC Direct Payments – Water & Sewer Customers

As mentioned last month, the Clerk is waiting to hear back from the Royal Bank regarding the Village as a Corporate Payee for utility bill payments. Village Council and residents will be notified as soon as the bank has everything in place.

Intersection of King Street & Route 915 and the Stoney Creek Bridge

As discussed at the last meeting, a letter was sent out to Minister Bill Fraser requesting a new assessment be done on the Stoney Creek bridge and the intersection of King Street and Route 915. No reply has yet been received.

Nature Conservancy of Canada – Fundraising Caledonia Gorge Project

Fundraising for the Nature Conservancy of Canada Caledonia Gorge Project continues to move ahead.

Offer on Lot – Bicentennial Road

The purchase of land from the Village for an ambulance shed is ongoing.

Special Council Meeting

As soon as a date is decided for a Special Council Meeting to adopt the 2018 budgets, it will be posted publicly according to the Procedural By-law.

New Business

CWWF Project – Deallocation of Leftover Funds

Following brief discussion, it was moved by Councillor Morrissey, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that whereas the Clean Water & Wastewater Fund Project 6990-1064 – Riverside-Albert Watermain Renewals has presently come in under budget, be it resolved that the leftover sum of \$22,213.00 be deallocated and reallocated to a new project – Water Sampling Stations. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Specifications & Tender – Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre

Following brief discussion, it was moved by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Morrissey, that the Specifications and Tender Documents as issued by Crandall Engineering Ltd. for the Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre Upgrades Project #17137 be accepted. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Request – Albert County Chamber of Commerce Mobile Office

Melody Land, Executive Coordinator of the Albert County Chamber of Commerce, has requested to use the Village Office as a home base for a mobile office once a month.

February Council Meeting

The February Council Meeting is set for Monday, February 12, 2018 at the Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Mayor

Village Clerk