

MAY 20, 2020

A Special Council Meeting of the Riverside-Albert Village Council was held at the Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. Mayor Jim Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with Councillors Brewster, Morrissey, and Murphy, as well as Village Clerk Deborah Murray-Butland.

MEETING AGENDA

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – MARCH 9, 2020 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Morrissey, to adopt the meeting minutes of March 9, 2020 Council Meeting as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Dated March 4, 2020 from DTI with response from our DOT Five-Year Plan submission; DTI is unable to commit funds to us for the 2020 year.
- b) Dated March 16, 2020 from Beulah Morrissey with request for trees for Albert County 175; there was brief discussion that planting could be done at McClelan Park or the Riverside-Albert playground.
- c) Dated March 16, 2020 from Tele-Drive Albert County with request for financial support; it was consensus that a letter be written that an amount has already been budgeted for Go Transpo for 2020.
- d) Dated March 25, 2020 from Nature Conservancy Canada with thanks.
- e) Dated March 30, 2020 from Shepody Food Bank with request for emergency financial support; it was moved by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Morrissey, that \$200.00 be donated to the Shepody Food Bank. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- f) Dated March 31, 2020 from business owner Tammie Morrissey with request concerning the water and sewer rates for her hair salon; it was consensus that there be no changes in the rates at the present time.
- g) Dated April 7, 2020 from Bell Aliant with request for letter of support for Broadband; the letter was sent on April 15, 2020 and is on file.

- h) Dated May 5, 2020 from Village of Hillsborough with approval that their staff member Scott Reid be extended as Riverside-Albert's Water Operator in Charge for the next six months to October 11, 2020.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Significant water loss was noted at the March Council meeting and later that week, a major waterline leak was discovered and repaired on Forestdale Road; Public Works Supervisor Wally Morrissey and Water Operator in Charge Scott Reid were onsite with repairs completed according to guidelines from Departments of Health and Environment. Water loss has dropped significantly since the repairs were done.

The local Department of Transportation has agreed to provide cold patch to help repair Village streets, with work to be completed by our Public Works staff. Sweeping of Village streets will be arranged before the end of this month.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

There was no Fire Department report presented for tonight's meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning & Co-ordination

There has been no SERSC board meeting held over the past several months; the next meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2020 via ZOOM web conferencing. Last week, a flyer was sent out to Village residents with provisions for Hobby Farms under the Riverside-Albert Rural Plan By-law No. 2.

RCMP

RCMP Sgt. Patrick Tardif submitted several policing reports related to our local area, and they have been very busy. The reports are on file in the Clerk's office. Sgt. Tardif will be transferred to the Major Crimes Unit on May 3, 2020; his replacement is Cpl. Tamara Patterson who is now Acting Sgt. for Riverview until a replacement is named.

Recreation

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre was closed to the public on March 17, 2020. It will remain closed until further notice.

Animal

It was consensus of Council that, due to restrictions under the pandemic, the lower prices of dog tags & registrations be extended to the end of June.

A complaint was received by a Village resident about dogs running at large from a property on King Street; the Clerk will contact the owner about the incident in relation to the Animal Control By-law. There was brief discussion about the possibility of amending the By-law to increase fines for each offence.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Last month, the 2019 annual audit package was delivered to the accounting firm of Stevenson & Partners. The Clerk presented the budget updates for the General Revenue Fund up to and including April 30, 2020.

ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Councillor Brewster, seconded by Councillor Morrissey, to accept the bills for March and April 2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

Enabling Accessibility Project – Recreation Centre

The Enabling Accessibility Project at the Recreation Centre has been completed with the exception of testing of the chair lift, which will be done following lifting of the Province of NB State of Emergency due to COVID-19.

Potential Sale – Municipal Office Building

It was consensus that potential sale of the Village Office remain tabled.

Federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) 2019/2023

The new Capital Investment Plan under the Federal Gas Tax Fund will remain tabled until a revised draft plan is presented to Village Council.

Safe Affordable Housing Committee

Plans are moving ahead to construct a six-unit apartment complex for seniors on King Street.

New Horizons Grant Application – Recreation Centre

An amount of \$25,000.00 has been received under the New Horizons Grant Application for upgrades to kitchen equipment at the Recreation Centre.

ICIP Applications – Water System & Streets Upgrades

A letter dated March 2, 2020 was received from the Regional Development Corporation in relation to our Integrated Bilateral Agreement (IBA) funding applications. The status of both applications is pending, and the applications will be kept open for future consideration.

Hiring for the Position of New Village Clerk

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, hiring of a new Village Clerk has been tabled.

2020 SEED & Young Canada Works Programs

On May 19, 2020 Jacob Wilson of Hillsborough was hired under the 2020 SEED Program for 12 weeks; the student will be working with the Public Works Supervisor with social distancing and face coverings. There is no news about our application to the Young Canada Works Program.

NEW BUSINESS

COVID-19 Worldwide Pandemic – NB State of Emergency March 19, 2020

On March 19, 2020, the Province of New Brunswick declared a State of Emergency due to the increased presence of COVID-19 worldwide pandemic and its risks to the health and safety of all citizens. Physical distancing, health screenings, physical barriers, hand washing, surface cleaning, face coverings, and travel restrictions are in place. The Village Office is closed to the public until further notice. The Village Clerk, the Public Works Supervisor, and the summer student are working using social distancing and face coverings.

2020 Municipal Election

The 2020 Municipal Election has been re-scheduled to May 2021.

Big Spring Garbage Clean-up

The Big Spring Clean-up is set for Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

June Council Meeting

The regular June Council Meeting is set for Monday, June 8, 2020 at the Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Mayor

Village Clerk