

MINUTES

AUGUST 14th, 2012

GRAND FALLS

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Grand Falls Municipal Council was held in the council room at the Grand Falls Town Hall at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 14th, 2012, following the notices required by the Act.

PRESENCE

His Honour the Mayor :

Richard Keeley

Councillors :

Jacques Lafrance
Michel Ouellette
Jean-Paul Proulx
Harry MacPhail

Rino Long
John Bellefleur

As well as the CAO-Clerk Peter Michaud and the Deputy Clerk, Lise J. Ouellette.

PRAYER

The meeting begins with the Lord's Prayer.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Arthelin Rossignol / Harry MacPhail ,

2012-043 that the agenda is accepted as presented. Carried

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

John Bellefleur / Jacques Lafrance ,

2012-44 that the minutes from the July 10th, 2012, regular meeting and the July 23rd, 2012, special meeting, which copies were distributed to Council members, are adopted as received. Carried

CLOSED SESSIONS

The Deputy-Clerk proceeds with the reading of the closed meetings held on July 16th as well as August 7th, 2012.

DRINKING WATER

The potable water analyses for July were received showing « potable water » results.

John Bellefleur / Rino Long,

2012-045 that potable water tests be received and filed. Carried

MOTIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE

The police force warns that fines will be given to people who don't respect speed limits and stop signs.

The chief wishes to remind people to lock their car and building doors given the high number of thefts in the region lately. He also requests that people be vigilant concerning children being left alone and pets being left in vehicles on hot days.

RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Summer activities will be ending by the end of August.

The Cataract baseball team has ended its regular season in second place. Home games will be held this weekend.

The ice should be ready on September 4th.

The tourist centres and campground have had less visitors than in 2011.

The revitalization project continues and is going well.

ART SYMPOSIUM

Lithographs will be on sale at the Saint-André agricultural fair in September.

CULTURAL SOCIETY

The office is closed for the summer. The population is informed of coming activities.

LIBRARY

The reading camp ends Thursday.

GOLF

The golf club has known a good season with more players than last year.

The club is planning improvements to the irrigation system and signage.

FIRE

Firemen answered ten calls in July and took part in a regional meeting.

The Fire Department was also represented in the NB Day celebrations and held demonstrations at the station. The chief attended a conference in Newfoundland.

DOWNTOWN

Council congratulates everyone involved in the general maintenance of the downtown area and specifically the flowers.

FESTIVAL

The committee participated in the Saint-Quentin festival parade.

WATER

Water main flushing was done from July 16th to the 20th.

Services were installed on Morrissey and Rioux Streets.

There is a water main break on Tobique Road. It is noted that the road is temporarily closed.

STREETS

Street line painting is finished and the paving of Broadway Boulevard has started.

FINANCE

Total expenses at the end of July are at 60%.
The committee should have a new way of presenting the financial report in September.

FALLS VILLA

The \$7,105,000 annual budget is currently in deficit.
There are 43 people on the waiting list.
The construction of attached apartment buildings will not go ahead this year.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Permits for the region totalled \$965,745 in value. A total of 33 permits were granted for Grand Falls. It is noted that four variances were dealt with in July.
The new position of Planning By-law officer is a success.

567 Chapel Street – landscaping

Rino Long / Michel Ouellette,

2012-046 Considering the existing situation at 567 Chapel Street, property of Hermel and Lorraine Desjardins, in Grand Falls PID 65005498, Victoria County in New Brunswick, concerning the retaining wall failure as well as the landslide and the flow of water on the adjoining property, and;

Considering the court order from the Court of Queen's Bench in New Brunswick on the subject;

Considering that the respondents have failed to produce the engineering report as well as to complete the work within the delays allowed by the court order;

It is moved that the Town of Grand Falls designate the Gemtec firm for the approximate amount of \$15,000 plus taxes and applicable permits in order to manage the project, proceed to call tenders, repair the landscaping and be responsible for the inspection of the work and that all expenses be charged to the respondents. Carried

91 Deschênes Street – unsightly premises

Jean-Paul Proulx / Rino Long,

2012-047 that motion number 2012-041 adopted on July 23rd, 2012 is repealed. Carried

91 Deschênes Street – unsightly premises

Jean-Paul Proulx / Michel Ouellette,

2012-048 Considering the existing situation at 91 Deschênes Street in Grand Falls, Victoria County, New Brunswick concerning the derelict vehicle in contravention to Section 190-01 (1) c) of the Municipalities Act;

Be it resolved that the Town of Grand Falls request a court order from the Court of Queen's Bench and start procedures in provincial court against owners Lawrence and Nicole Turcotte PID 65015273, under Section 190.4(1) of the Municipalities Act and that costs related to the execution of the work be charged to the owners.

Be it also resolved that Jean-François Cyr be designated under Section 190.01 and that he be authorized to retain the services of a lawyer to undertake the necessary proceedings. Carried

UMNB / AFMNB

The next UMNB meeting will take place in Woodstock on August 24th and 25th.

COUNCIL INTERVENTION

Suggestions welcome

Council invites citizens to bring their suggestions, recommendations or questions to councillors or to the administration.

Tintamarre

Citizens are reminded that a Tintamarre will be held tomorrow starting at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

New Brunswick Day

Congratulations to everyone involved with the organisation of the celebrations which were a great success.

Local governance

A transition team has been put in place and is working on the 2013 budget.

WAC 2014

Mayor Keeley emphasizes the importance of volunteers during the WAC in 2014 and asks that the media comment on it. He requests suggestions on local activities that could be held and reminds that there is still room for family reunions.

Children and animal safety

Councillor Long reinforces the police request to watch children and our responsibility to protect them. He requests that citizens report child abuse cases to the police.

PUBLIC INTERVENTION - other

Frank Johnston

Mr. Johnston mentions certain dangerous sections in the fence along the tourist trails and requests that they be fixed. He is reminded that renovations are ongoing and that the fences should be repaired. He recommends signs indicating the erosion dangers along the trails.

Mr. Johnston objects to the way the trails are constructed in the campground. Mayor Keeley mentions again that the study on slope stability prepared by GEMTEC was shared with the engineering firm planning the reconstruction. The municipality must have confidence that they will take the study under consideration. Mr. Johnston also mentions that the retaining wall in the campground needs repair.

He remarks on the number of trees the town is losing. The CAO informs him that the trees will be replaced where necessary.

He asks if the Malabean building will be LEED certified. It will not. Will the centre be accessible? Yes, it will.

Mr. Johnston requests that future contracts be open to public comment.

Rhéal St-Pierre

Mr. St-Pierre asks if the government or the town have plans to buy his property. Mayor Keeley is not aware of any such plans.

Mr. St-Pierre congratulates municipal employees on their work.

Camille Deschênes

Mr. Deschênes asks for the town's help following an accident he was involved in and complains of changes made to the Dubé residence where he lives. Given that these complaints are not within the town's mandate to address, Mayor Keeley refers him to his insurance adjuster, a lawyer, the Department of Social Development as well as the provincial MLA.

MEDIA INTERVENTION

Le Nord-ouest

Council is questioned on the museum. Who operates it and how it could be improved? The Mayor informs that the Historical Society manages the museum and to contact Madeleine Leclerc or Ann Côté for more details.

The journalist also recommends that citizens be able to contact Councillors directly from the web site. The Mayor explains that each Councillor would require a municipal address instead of using their personal e-mail and that this system is not available yet.

ADJOURNMENT

Rino Long / John Bellefleur, move that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Carried

Richard Keeley, Mayor

Lise J. Ouellette, Deputy-Clerk