

MINUTES

JUNE 13, 2017

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. on Tuesday, June 13th, 2017, following the notices required by law.

PRESENCE

His Honour the Mayor:

Marcel Deschênes

Councillors:

Rino Long

Renaud Ouellette

Jean Maurice Gagnon

Michel Ouellette

Jean Réal Michaud

Denise Lagacé Rioux

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest is reported.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Denise Lagacé Rioux / Jean Réal Michaud,

2017-070 That the agenda is accepted as received. Carried

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Renaud Ouellette / Michel Ouellette,

2017-071 That the minutes from the meetings held on May 9th and 16th, 2017, which copies were distributed to council members, are adopted as received. Carried

CLOSED SESSIONS

The Deputy Clerk reads the items discussed during closed meetings held on May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30th, 2017.

CORRESPONDENCE

Invitations	13
Thanks	3
Complaints	0
Request for financial assistance	1
Request for assistance – other than financial	2
Offer of services, land or other	0
Misc. information (GNB, federal, community...)	3
Answer to a municipal request	2

Jean Réal Michaud / Renaud Ouellette,

2017-072 that the correspondence report is accepted as read. Carried

DRINKING WATER

The potable water analyses for May 2017 were received showing « potable water » results.

Jean Maurice Gagnon / Michel Ouellette,

2017-073 that potable water tests be accepted and filed. Carried

MOTIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Street repairs are completed except Tobique Road which is a Provincially Designated Highway. The repairs would be too expensive for the Town to carry out on its own. Maintenance such as street sweeping and lawn repair is ongoing. Council encourages people to support downtown merchants despite the re-construction. Everyone's patience and cooperation are appreciated. A second inspection of the deficiencies on Portage and Tobique roads was done. The Little River Bridge will be discussed by Council in the near future. Councillor R. Ouellette has doubts concerning the safety of the railing. Collective agreement negotiations have begun but are headed for conciliation on December 4th. Council is open to more negotiating in the meantime. Residents are asked to conserve water during the next few weeks given the repairs that are underway at the Harley Hill reservoir.

PLANNING

59 permits were given in May which were evaluated at \$2,093,000.
The total value to date this year is \$3,273,269.

Toner Realty Ltd. – municipal services easement

Renaud Ouellette / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

2017-074 That Town Council accepts the plan entitled “Toner Realty Ltd. – subdivision – parcel 2017-A”, file 3807 dated May 16, 2017 and showing a municipal services easement. Carried

582 Basin West – Danielle Marie Bergeron

Renaud Ouellette / Michel Ouellette,

2017-075 Considering the existing situation at 582 Basin West in Grand Falls, Victoria County, NB, PID 65005431 concerning the poor condition of the retaining wall which contravenes by-law 1900 “Zoning By-Law” and its amendments for which a non-conforming notice was issued on September 21, 2016;

Be it resolved that legal procedures be undertaken against Danielle Marie Bergeron, PID 65005431.

Be it resolved that the Town of Grand Falls designate, authorize and name Éric Gagnon and / or Jacques M. Desjardins to act for and in the name of Council to carry out by-laws in the existing case at 582 Basin West in Grand Falls, PID 65005431.

Be it also resolved that said designation includes the following: 92(1), 94(1), 95(1) and 98 of the Community Planning Act in order to enter upon the property, request court orders from the Court of Queen's Bench and begin proceedings in Provincial Court.

Be it also resolved that the persons named herein are authorised to retain the services of André Daigle from the firm Droit Juris Law, in order to institute the necessary legal procedures to ensure conformity with the contravened by-law.

Be it also resolved that said authorizations, designations and nominations continue until they have been limited or revoked by Council. Carried

ENVIRONNEMENT

Individuals are asked to dispose of their lawn clippings in the bin at the Town Garage and not along streets or on vacant land. The bin is now accessible 24 hours a day.

Mayor Deschênes thanks Councillor R. Ouellette as well as the CAO, Deputy Clerk and the groups who participated for the success of the 2017 Spring Cleaning Day.

FIRE

Chief Kavanaugh attended a regional fire brigade meeting to discuss mutual aide in case the Hamlin customs office closes.

The Drummond brigade won the Baker Brook muster.

Councillor M. Ouellette mentions the call outs during May.

Planning continues for a new fire station.

JEUX DE L'ACADIE

Planning is going well.

FARMER'S MARKET

Everyone is invited to breakfast on Saturdays.

RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Minor baseball season began last week with a record number of registrations at 141 players.

Minor soccer season starts next week.

Congratulations to the Cataract baseball team who has won its last two games.

The pool opens at the end of June and free swim time will be offered during the festival.

The campground and Malabean center are open. The LaRochelle center will open June 26.

People are invited to the Truck & Tractor Pull and to the Potato Festival that will take place in the next few weeks.

The Grand Falls 9th annual golf tournament will be on July 14th. We have received many positive comments on the course's condition.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Councillor Long reports on contract negotiations with Local 886. It is unfortunate that the negotiations were referred for conciliation.

POLICE

Suzanne Themens – probation

Jean Réal Michaud / Denise Lagacé Rioux,

**2017-076 Having successfully completed her probation period as Chief of the Grand Falls Police Force, that Mrs. Themens' promotion is hereby confirmed.
Carried**

Luc Martin – Deputy Chief

Jean Réal Michaud / Rino Long,

2017-077 Having successfully completed his probation period as Deputy Chief of the Grand Falls Police Force, that Mr. Martin's promotion is hereby confirmed. Carried

Marco Levesque – Sergeant

Jean Réal Michaud / Rino Long,

2017-078 That Marco Levesque is promoted to Sergeant of the Grand Falls Police Force. Carried

The police force created a Facebook page to keep residents informed.

The May 31st joint operation between the Grand Falls and Edmundston forces went very well. 121 tickets were issued. The two forces work well together.

GRAND FALLS CENTRAL BUSINESS DEVELOPPEMENT CORPORATION

Flowers and other décor will be installed on Broadway this week on sections where no work will be done.

Drivers are reminded the importance of curtesy during the reconstruction of Broadway Boulevard.

FINANCE

At the end of May, revenues in the general fund were at 41.2% and expenses at 37.1%. In the water fund, revenues were at 41.3% and expenses at 31.9%. Council has decided not to proceed with additional capital loans.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation – Madeleine Leclerc, retirement

Council celebrates Madeleine's 40 years of service as a journalist. Everyone wishes her a happy retirement and Council presents her with a gift and flowers.

Wharf rental

Mayor Deschênes announces that rentals will be reduced to \$150 this year in honour of Canada's 150th anniversary.

OTHERS – Council, public and media interventions

- Council intervention

Available employment

The Deputy Mayor offers to forward a weekly list of available jobs to anyone interested. She invites people to contact her for more information.

Broadway renovations

Mayor Deschênes asks that everyone be patient during this major project. The intersection of Broadway / Main contains much infrastructure and will take time to complete.

Water park

The Mayor explains that the delivery of the equipment will take six weeks added to three weeks for the installation. The park will be built this year but will open next year.

Sports complex

The property now belongs to the Town. No changes will be done for now. The Town will apply for funding to renovate the building.

Miscellaneous projects

A new playground will be built next to the John Caldwell School.

The tube park will be ready next winter.

The Town hopes to start construction of the new fire station in 2019. Meanwhile, the land is being filled and the Town is looking for funding.

Mayor Deschênes thanks Council, department heads and employees for their cooperation on all these projects.

Truck and Tractor Pull / Potato Festival

Council invites everyone to the tractor pull and festival. He asks that people make an effort to participate and encourage the volunteers who have worked hard at organising these events.

- Public intervention

Béo St-Amand

Mr. St-Amand asks why ATV users are not allowed to drive on the streets. Council explains that the Town is working hard to get permission. The Province is working on changing the law but the process is very long. The Mayor notes that the Town will support the committee members should they decide to apply pressure along with the Federation.

Guy Cyr

Mr. Cyr supports Mr. St-Amand. He also requests that the lawn be fixed in front of his property. The lawn was damaged during road construction in 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Denise Lagacé Rioux/ Jean Maurice Gagnon, that the meeting is adjourned at 8:20 p.m.
Carried

Marcel Deschênes
Mayor

Lise J. Ouellette
Deputy Clerk