



VILLAGE OF GAGETOWN

Minutes

Tel: (506) 488.3567
Fax: (506) 488.3543
gagetrnl@nbnet.nb.ca
www.villageofgagetown.ca

Date: November 25th, 2019 – Special Meeting of Council

1. Called to order by Mayor Blaney at 6:32 pm with a welcome to guests, Deputy Mayor White, Councillor McNamee, Councillor Pleadwell and Clerk Johnson were present. Councillor Massoeurs sends his regrets.
2. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Call for Motion to Approve Agenda: Moved by Deputy Mayor White and seconded by Councillor Massoeurs to approve agenda with following changes:
 - i. Switch items 3. and 4. in order to hear submission from VGVFD first;
With no questions and all in favour, motion carried.
3. 2020 Budget
 - a. Submission from VGVFD:
 - i. Fire Chief John Thomas: over the past 4 weeks the VGVFD has gone over budget by about \$15,00 due to unexpected repairs to the trucks and the cost of parts, (the trucks were mass produced using parts that were borderline obsolete then). We have remained within budget up until this point;
 - ii. Regionalization: Vision 2025 talks a lot about fire department regionalization, the province will be surveying the departments across NB for an overview on equipment, standard operating procedures and department guidelines. The VGVFD is in good shape and will have no issues with this in the in the new year due to all the hard work by the department to bring these items up to date. Regionalization will happen, the VGVFD needs to position ourselves so it's recognized we – our location and equipment – is key to our area.

Mayor Blaney: The Village recognizes this, thanks to previous conversations we have had regarding regionalization, and I have been drafting a letter to the Premier, the Minister of Public Safety, the Fire Marshall and Minister of Local Government outlining our concerns and offering to work with the province in finding a more cost effective and efficient means to provide fire service to both our community and surrounding communities.

Fire Chief Thomas: We need to be willing participants in regionalization, so things turn out in our favour, the structure is laid for it, and upgrading 616 will help to solidify this position. It will make the unit compatible/comparable to the 2018 engine, our Training Officer Eugene Mahoney spoke previously to council outlining what upgrades are required to achieve this and has new cost estimates for your review.

Training Officer Eugene Mahoney: As mentioned, the original estimate presented to council is no longer accurate, the new estimate puts the upgrades to Engine 616 at \$69,512.50 plus HST. The attached outline details completely what improvements the engine needs to bring it up to the technology of today. Aside from the technical specifications, these upgrades will benefit the VGVFD in a number of ways:

 1. Volunteers: Volunteers are hard to come by and its important to keep them engaged. Currently each different truck requires different training, drawing out the process by which a new FF becomes able to assist when there is a call. Putting the technology so Engine 616 is in line with the newer truck will streamline training, expediting new FF's education and allowing them to support operations sooner;

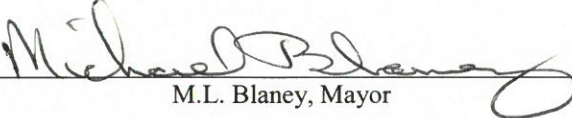
2. Technological advances: the newer technology is more reliable, easier to use and thus less intensive to teach. The new generation of FF's are more computer savvy and are used to equipment that operates automatically with the assistance of electronics; and
3. Regionalization: If left as is, the Village will need a new truck in 4 years, these upgrades will bring the truck up to code and extend the life of the truck by 10 years. In terms of positioning the Village for the upcoming regionalization, the upgrades will increase our value in the eyes of the province.

The total cost for the upgrades is expensive, but this is a matter of spending a little now to save a lot later.

Mayor Blaney: The budget doesn't have a lot of wiggle room, can this be done in 2021? What increase in cost would we see in 2021?

TO Mahoney: I can reach out and get that figure for you, I'll forward it as soon as I get it.

- b. Council Honorariums: As part of the 2017 Federal Budget it was announced that effective January 1, 2019 elected officials will no longer be entitled to receive the one-third tax free exemption on any allowance or other remuneration. To offset the financial loss experienced due to this change, it is moved by Councillor McNamee to increase the base honorarium of the Mayor and Councillors by 5% effective with the next election cycle in May 2020. Seconded by Councillor Massoeurs. With no questions and all in favour, motion carried
4. 2020 Environmental Trust Fund (ETF) Applications: Applications to the 2020 ETF are due November 30th, 2019. The Village has two proposals to submit, details are as follows:
 - a. Village of Gagetown Sewage Treatment Plant – Sludge Removal: This project aims to resolve the problem of sludge accumulation in the sewage treatment plant by dredging the lagoon and ensuring proper and safe disposal of the sludge. The total amount requested will be in the range of \$100,000 to complete the sludge removal; and
 - b. Village of Gagetown Climate Change Adaptation Plan: the second project will assist the Village in developing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan. This plan will help the Village build resilience to the impacts of climate change by identifying vulnerabilities, planning and preparing for the implementation of mitigation plans to deal with those vulnerabilities. The amount requested will be \$40,000 for professional engineering and project management.Moved by Councillor Massoeurs to submit the two Environmental Trust Fund Applications, the first for Sludge removal in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 and the second in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 to assist in the completion of Climate Adaptation Plan for the Village of Gagetown. Seconded by Councillor McNamee. With no questions and all in favour, motion carried.
5. Motion to adjournment – It was moved by Councillor Massoeurs and seconded by Councillor McNamee to adjourn at 8:22 pm.


M.L. Blaney, Mayor


H.J. Johnson, Clerk/Administrator