



VILLAGE OF GAGETOWN Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 24th, 2020 - Regular Meeting of Council

1. The regular meeting of Council was held at the Village Office. The in-person meeting was open to council, staff and presenters. The public was free to join the meeting using Zoom Conference Software. Details of how to join the meeting were posted on the calendar event on the Village Website. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Blaney at 6:30 pm with a welcome to those who are listening in via the conference call. Councillor McNamee, Deputy Mayor Pleadwell and Clerk White were present.
2. Approval of Agenda:
 - Call for Motion to Approve Agenda: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell and seconded by Councillor McNamee to adopt the agenda. With no questions and all in favour, the motion was carried.
3. Presentations:
 - Bernie Hoganson presented his report for the Planning Review and Adjustment Committee meetings held on June 30th and July 28th, 2020. Copies of the reports are available for review at the Village Office.
 - Andy Farmakoulas made a presentation to address several concerns about policies and operations of the Village. Mr. Farmakoulas presented a letter to Council wherein he outlined his concerns. A copy of the letter is available for review at the Village Office. Council directed Clerk White to prepare a written response to the letter presented to Council by Mr. Farmakoulas.
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - Regular Meeting of Council – June 15th, 2020: It was moved by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell and seconded by Councillor McNamee to approve the minutes as presented. With no questions and all in favour, the motion was carried.
 - Special Meeting of Council – June 25th, 2020: It was moved by Councillor McNamee and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell to approve the minutes as presented. With no questions and all in favour, the motion was carried.

5. Correspondence:

- Permits June 2020: no permits issued in June 2020
- Permits July 2020: two permits issued in July 2020
 - A question was asked by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell about why there was no value listed. Clerk White to investigate and respond to Council.
- We received an acceptance letter for our revised CIP from the Gas Tax Funds
- The Village received an invitation to the Change Of Command ceremony for CDSB Gagetown on July 2nd, 2020
- Newsletter from Property Assessment Services regarding the changes to the property assessment process. Copies are available online at the Village website.
- Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program has been announced. We will be monitoring the program to see if there are any opportunities for the Village.
- Commemorations & Celebrations Program – the Village will be looking to see if there are some funding opportunities for us.
- Canada's Volunteer Awards 2020 is now open for nominations until September 30th, 2020. Information is available online and at the Village Office.
- COVID-19 Exemplary Service Program has been created. Nominations will be accepted until the end of 2020. Information is available online and at the Village Office.
- Canada Healthy Communities Initiative program announced. We will be monitoring the program to see if there are any opportunities for the Village.
- Notice from MCBB re financing requirements. The Village has no need for financing at this point.

6. Eagles Nest After School Program Contract – council is in favour of signing the agreement. Clerk White will arrange to have the Agreement signed and forwarded to GDRC. There is usually accompanied by a Reciprocal Agreement however, due to COVID-19 conditions, the Reciprocal Agreement is not yet ready.

7. Climate Change Adaptation Plan Update – interviews have been arranged with selected individuals from the community. Once this process is complete Stantec will be moving to the next phase of the project, a Workshop Session.

8. Sewage Lagoon Cleanout Project Update – the survey of the sludge quantity has been completed. They have estimated 59 BDMT of sludge present. Tender was advertised on August 14th and closes on August 31st. The completion date is set as October of 2021 to allow maximum flexibility to the contractor's schedule, and maximum savings for the Village. Contractors have requested the ability to work 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. Council agrees that this would be permissible if requested by the successful contractor.

9. Municipal Designated Highway Program – council reviewed and approved the draft of the program as submitted. Clerk White will forward the document to NBDTI.

10. STAFF REPORTS

- Village of Gagetown Volunteer Fire Department – John Thomas: Chief Thomas gave a report to council outlining the recent activities of the Fire Department.
 - In June there was one fire call. In July there were 2 fire calls and 3 medical calls. There have been 10 fire calls and 7 medical calls to the end of July 2020
 - Training has resumed for the Fire Department after the COVID-19 Operational Plan was developed and implemented.
 - Fire Department is preparing for the anticipated second wave of infections.
 - One new recruit has been brought into the fire department. One member has left the department.
 - 2019 Annual Report was not provided as a result of the COVID-19 conditions. Should the Department prepare that report now or combine it into the 2020 report. Council requested a report for 2019 be prepared and submitted.
 - The Department received a donation of Air Packs that, new, would be valued over \$50,000. This donation was as a result of the good relationships that have been cultivated between Gagetown Fire Department staff and other departments.
 - Our Department participated with Oromocto Fire Department Live Fire Training day. There has been another invitation to participate coming up in the future.
 - Chief Thomas thanked Deputy Chief Ryan McNally for stepping up and looking after things while Chief Thomas has been away on leave.
- Public Works – Ryan McNally: Report is available for viewing at the Village Office detailing activities over the past month.
 - Mowing is ongoing
 - Cleaning up garbage on Village Streets.
 - Hired two summer students – staggered start and finish dates
 - Worked on the sewer manhole repairs on several streets in the Village. Had to hire vacuum truck to remove blockage from sewer lines.
 - Fixed the ditch mower – replace teeth
 - Pick up posts in Brown's Flat for Green fence.
 - Completed the beautification project at the Village Green. Build fence, roadway and cleared and mowed lower area under trees. It was approximately a three-week project.
 - Fixed washouts at boat landing and parking lot at Rotary Park.
 - Ongoing supervision of summer students.
- Village Administration – Robert White: Report is available for review at the Village Office.

- Normal recurring administrative duties continued over the month as usual.
- Attended a video conference on poor quality dispatches on medical calls.
- EMO COVID-19 local committee is still at Level 1
- COVID-19 Operational Plan was completed, and the office was reopened.
- Conference call with Regional Development Commission re available funds. Meeting with RDC and Deputy Mayor Pleadwell to discuss opportunities.
- Set up a quote for a radio campaign for 2020. There wasn't enough interest to make it work this year. However, the Chamber of Commerce is looking into some targeted ads for this fall.
- Fire alarm system is installed. Final commissioning and setup will happen on August 31st.
- Harts Lake Property was listed for sale on Kijiji. No offers to date.
- Book of Village Properties was prepared and forwarded to Councillor McNamee. All the information is available to council on the SharePoint site.
- Quote for speed zone warning sign. Approximately \$7,000 for the supply & install. This is for information purposes only. The quote is for a fixed in place type of sign. Other types are also available. There are some concerns in other municipalities with vandalism.
- Sewer manhole repairs were organized and conducted.
- Request from a resident to subsidize residents to install a new sewer backflow preventor. Council was not in favour of starting a municipal program. However, we should do an education program for our residents.
- Assisting Ryan with the work at the Village Green
- Took vacation from August 4th-7th
- Completed the first draft of the NBDTI 5-Year Plan
- Some discussion around what restrictions (if any) the Village may wish to place on Halloween. There was general consensus that at this time the Village is not considering any restrictions.

11. Councillors' Reports

- Deputy Mayor Pleadwell
 - Tourism and Beautification: Deputy Mayor Pleadwell thanked staff for the work done at the Village Green. It has been very well received. We have put together a committee to look at a design for what the property might look like in the future. Hoping to receive a first draft of the plan in the coming weeks. We are hoping that there may be some more funding available through the RDC. Many of the local business are reporting an increase in business over the previous year. The return of the ferry and the COVID-19 travel restrictions may be contributing to the increase.

- Fire Department – nothing to add to the Chief’s report. Thanks to the Fire Department’s executive committee for stepping in to keep things running during Chief Thomas’ absence.
- Finance:
 - Payables for the period from June 23rd to August 21st were presented for payment as follows:

General payables:	\$ 83,019.92
Sewerage payables:	\$ 22,536.98

Deputy Mayor Pleadwell mentioned that he was pleased to see the good use of existing staff and resources to accomplish our goals.

Motion to approve General payables and Sewerage payables as made by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell and seconded by Councillor McNamee. With no questions and all in favour, the motion was carried.

- EMO – Less issues to discuss as pandemic seems to be coming under control. Provincial EMO updates are posted on our website as available. Jason Cooling has moved on to another position with the NB Government. Daniel Dekleva has taken over his role. EMO released a planning document for preparation in anticipation of the second wave of COVID-19.

- Councillor McNamee;

- Policing: no report from RCMP. We still haven’t been given a new point of contact in the absence of Sgt. Andrew Griffiths.
- Recreation: No report from GDRC this month. The summer programs are up and running and residents are reporting good satisfaction with the quality of the programs this year. Compliments to the staff at GDRC for putting together such a good program.
- Building & Properties: Councillor McNamee mentioned that he was pleased with the results of the work completed by staff at the Village Green.
- Human Resources – the second youth employee will be finished on September 4th, 2020.

- Mayor’s Report:

- Finance Committee passed the budget for the upcoming year. There will be an increase in tipping fees of approximately \$4.00/tonne. The FRSWC is awaiting the results of an EIA that may allow them to build the cells higher than currently permitted. The higher allowance will mean the increase can be smaller than otherwise thought.

- The RSC11 has reached out to all MLA's within the RSC11 boundary to discuss the policing issue. Previous contact with the Minister responsible for the RCMP contact has gone unanswered. The RSC11 is requesting a detailed review of the contract with the RCMP. The Mayor reported that his email regarding our issue here in the Village also went unanswered.
- Roads & sewage – nothing to add to previous reports.
- Mayor Blaney noted his thanks to all involved for the good work and progress which has been accomplished throughout the Village so far this year, especially in light of the pandemic conditions.

12. Open Floor:

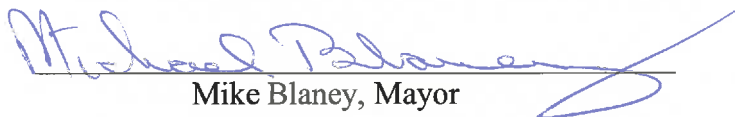
- Bethany Dykstra – Gagetown-Petticodiac Liberal Association. Spoke about the challenges facing our municipality. Bethany introduced John Urquhart – Liberal Candidate for Gagetown-Petticodiac. John indicated he would be willing to talk with the council to determine the priorities.
- Pat Whipple asked for details on the property for sale on Harts Lake. Has any thought been given to offering the property to a developer? Mayor Blaney indicated that we have not reached out to developer but would not be opposed to it.

13. Closed Session:

- Moved by Councillor McNamee to move into closed session at 8:05 pm.
- Matters discussed in closed session were under the Local Governance Act Section 68 (1).
- Open Session: Moved by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell to move into open session at 9:05 pm.

14. Next Meeting: September 21st, 2020.

15. Motion To Adjourn – moved by Councillor McNamee. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.


Mike Blaney, Mayor


Robert White, CAO