



VILLAGE OF GAGETOWN

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 19th, 2021 - 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 meeting was also available via Zoom Conference Software. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Blaney at 6:30 pm with a welcome to those in attendance. Councillor McNamee, Deputy Mayor Pleadwell and Clerk White were present.
2. Approval of Agenda:
 - Call for Motion to Approve Agenda: There was an amendment to the agenda to remove the presentations from the agenda. Also, staff reports from the Fire Department and Public Works will not be given in person. It was moved by Councillor McNamee and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell to adopt the agenda. With no questions and all in favour, the motion was carried.
3. Presentations:
 - Deleted.
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - Regular Meeting of Council – March 15th, 2021: 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.
5. Correspondence:
 - Restrictions On Powers of Outgoing Council: Section 56 of the Local Governance Act was circulated to council.
 - Permits March 2021: one permit issued in March 2021 for a \$5,000 project.
 - Base Gagetown Annual Burning: Base Gagetown notified the Village of its annual burning program that will run from April 5th to May 24th.
 - Ignite Presentation/Letter: information was circulated to council on the letter requesting support from the Village and the presentation that was made to council. The request for funding will be considered by the next council.

- Gas Tax funds: the Federal Government announced it will be doubling the Gas Tax Funds in 2022. The Village's allotment in 2022 will double from approximately \$51,000 to more than \$102,000 for that year.
- Letter From Explore NB: the Department of Tourism, Heritage & Culture will reoffering the Explore NB program again this year.
- SEED Program: the Village of Gagetown was successful in getting a SEED student position.
- Chamber of Commerce Letter: the Chambre of Commerce submitted a letter indicating their commitment to continuing with the effort to get "Welcome To" signage on the Trans Canada Highway. The letter is available for viewing at the Village Office.
- Art-In-The-Village: request for funding for \$500 for the event and \$500 for a mural. Council agreed to donate \$500 to the event but will consider the mural funding at a different time.

6. Local Government Reform:

- Four working groups have been created – Structure, Finance, Land Use Planning and Collaboration. The members of those committees have now been finalized and their work has begun. There are members from AMANB, UMNb and CANB
- There is also an advisory committee that will oversee the work of the other four committees.
- The Green Paper (Planning Document) was released to the public on April 6th.
- The process is scheduled to result in a White Paper (Government Policy) by the end of 2021.
- The Government has created a dedicated website where updates will be posted regularly. There is a link to that site on the Village of Gagetown website.

7. Support for 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention Hotline:

- Council discussed the proposal submitted from John Williamson, MP and decided that this is an issue that is best dealt with at the Provincial and Federal levels.

8. 2020 Financial Audit Report:

- Council met with Shannon Buffett on March 17th to discuss the results of the 2020 financial audit. The final report was circulated to council. It was moved by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell and seconded by Councillor Pleadwell to accept the 2020 Annual Audit Report as presented by Shannon Buffett. With all in favour and none opposed, the motion was carried. A copy of the 2020 Financial Audit Report will be posted on the Village website.

9. Municipal Election May 10th, 2021:

- The position of Mayor has been filled by acclaim by our current Deputy Mayor Pleadwell. Council extended its congratulations to Deputy Mayor Pleadwell.

- There are five persons running for the four council seats. Councillor Paul McNamee, Patricia Whipple, Alison Murphy, Richard Plaster and Doug Ryan.
- Ballots will be cast on the two advanced poll days as well as on May 10th. However, the results will not be counted or released until the entire province has had their chance to vote. Currently the next council meeting is scheduled for May 27th but is still subject to the lifting of the lockdown in Zone 4.

10. STAFF REPORTS

- Village of Gagetown Volunteer Fire Department – Chief Thomas was not present at the meeting.
- Public Works – Ryan McNally was not present at the meeting. The Public Works Report is available for viewing at the Village Office.
- Village Administration – Robert White: Report is available for review at the Village Office.
 - Normal recurring administrative duties continued over the month as usual.
 - Mill Road Project:
 - The Ministerial Order has been received. The borrowing is approved.
 - Hilcon Engineering has started the field work for the engineering.
 - A request has been made to DND to have permission to purchase crushed stone from them for this project.
 - Made an inquiry with ELG about using the excess fill from this project to build a pad at the sewage lagoon for Eco-Bags sludge cleanout.
 - There has been an extension of time available for completion under the Covid-19 Resiliency Fund. We now have an extra two years to complete the project.
 - There was a request to include a bike lane in the design. The proposal was relayed to the engineer for costing.
 - The line of credit has been set up with the Credit Union to use for interim financing.
 - We are still on schedule to be ready for tender some time in June.
 - The 202 Financial Audit Report was distributed to the necessary bodies.
 - We now have online access to all of the Village bank accounts.
 - COVID-19 update conference calls are still ongoing.
 - Working with the local EMO Committee to update the ERP for the Village.
 - The spring freshet appears to be over. There were no reports of damage from this year’s flooding. We hope to get the “flood level” raised to a number that is more reflective of what we consider a flood level. River Watch stood down today.
 - Received the rebate for the heat pump installation.

- Made the application for the rebate of the CCAP payments.
- Spring Cleanup Day is set for May 10th, 2021. The event is posted on the Village website. FERO has agreed to collect on Mill Road first to accommodate voters at the Rec Centre.
- Assumption Life has a new online portal for employees.
- Still no update on the Canada Summer Jobs application.
- In the process of preparing the Annual Report for the Village.
- The latest group of volunteers at the Fire Department passed the latest testing. Once the training is complete council should recognize the time and effort that the volunteers have put in. It will be considered by the next council.

11. Councillors' Reports

- Deputy Mayor Pleadwell
 - Tourism and Beautification:
 - Council is still in support of the “welcome To” signage for the Village and recognize that it is still a priority for the Chamber of Commerce. As incoming Mayor, Derek will continue to work with Chamber on this important issue.
 - The Gagetown Ferry – it is concerning that the operating period of the ferry operations has been reduced for this year. A letter of support from council will be sent to the Province. We should try to convince the Province that the ferries are an asset, not a liability. The Province should consider adding a tourism aspect to using the river ferries during the year. This is a regional issue, not just a Village of Gagetown issue.
 - The Gardening Club will again be doing the good work that they do each year. The Village is appreciative of the efforts they put in each year.
 - Fire Department:
 - Nothing to add to Chief Thomas' Report.
 - Finance:
 - Payables for the period from March 16th through April 16th were presented for payment as follows:

General payables:	\$ 68,751.17
Sewerage payables:	\$ 995.51

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 – the flood did not cause any serious damage this year.

- Councillor McNamee:
 - Policing: No update on policing.
 - Recreation: GDRC submitted a report highlighting items from their March 17th, 2021 Meeting. A copy of the report is available at the Village Office. The AGM will be held on April 21st, 2021.
 - Building & Properties: nothing new to report.
 - Human Resources – Nothing new to report.

- Mayor's Report:
 - Solid Waste Commission – the Annual General Meeting was held on April 6th. The current board will stay in place until the end of June to accommodate the municipal election results. The overall debt of the RSC11 has been reduced by 33% over the past year.
 - There was a special RSC11 meeting with officials from the Department of Public Safety. This meeting was to discuss the situation with respect to the service from the RCMP. The representatives agreed that there is an issue with services and that they will be following up with the RCMP. There are many other issues that are taking time from community policing.
 - The formula for determining the proportional cost for RCMP in each community was provided and discussed. More information is required to fully understand the formula.
 - Transportation & Sewerage – nothing new to report.
 - Mayor Blaney expressed his gratitude to council and staff for the help during his past nine years. Being mayor has been a tremendous experience and has been a privilege to have been given the chance to fulfill the role. Council and Staff expressed their appreciation to Mayor Blaney for his dedication and professionalism during the past nine years. A small token of appreciation was presented to Mayor Blaney by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell on behalf of Council and Staff.

12. Open Floor:


- Pat Whipple expressed her gratitude to Mayor Blaney for his years of service.

13. Closed Session:

- Moved by Deputy Mayor Pleadwell 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 8:30 pm.

14. Next Meeting: to be determined.

15. Motion To Adjourn – moved by Councillor McNamee. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.



for Mike Blaney, Mayor



Robert White, CAO