

## **MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2021**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

A regular meeting of Council was held February 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM with Mayor Keating presiding. Councillor Bartlett joined the meeting via video technology (Cisco WebEx). All other members of Council and Clerk were present.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Councillor Campbell and seconded by Councillor Kitchen that *'The Agenda be approved.'* MOTION CARRIED

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

No conflict declared.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

It was moved by Councillor Campbell and seconded by Councillor Kitchen that *'The Minutes for the Council Meeting held on February 8<sup>th</sup> be approved.'* MOTION CARRIED

### **PUBLIC HEARING - Rezoning request - 3132 Main St.**

Lori Bickford, Planner with Southeast Regional Service Commission, joined the meeting virtually via WebEx to facilitate a public hearing for the rezoning request for PID 00816280. The former Masonic Temple building at 3132 Main Street is now owned by Dwayne and Gisele Mann, who intend to operate a retail antique and collectables establishment. It was explained that the applicants are requesting that the zoning for the property be changed from Community Use to Village Centre, which permits such use and is the zoning used in the downtown area intended for commercial use.

Being an advertised public hearing, this was the opportunity for members of the public to express written support or opposition to the application.

The primary concern voiced by the lone party to register their opposition in writing, the neighbouring Salisbury Baptist Church (SBC), was parking and the impact of such on SBC's secondary driveway, understanding that said driveway would be used to access the parking spaces in the applicants' plan -- six angled parking spots on the east side of the building, and one disabled parking space to be located on the south side.

Councillor Bartlett also asked about the driveway and its ownership, and it was confirmed that it is owned by the Church.

Being a dirt lane, there was concern expressed by Church representatives in attendance virtually, Nathan O'Blenis and Stephanie Thorne, that excessive use would likely result in quicker deterioration of the driveway. There was also a concern that the lane may be blocked by parked vehicles not in the designated parking spaces.

This leads to concerns voiced by the Church about possible overflow parking; that is, asking if the planned number of parking spaces would be enough; and the number of vendors inside the building. Reassurance was given that although the plan describes a mall of various vendors' items on the two floors, only the owners and their direct employees would be present accepting payment at a single point, thus limiting the parking spaces used by owners and/or staff.

SBC expressed that it in no way opposes the project, only that it wishes to enter into an agreement pertaining to use and ongoing maintenance of the driveway in question, which also serves as a fire lane for the Church. The applicants were receptive to this offer to enter into an agreement to make it work for both parties.

With the conclusion of the public hearing, the next step in the process is to receive and take into consideration the views of the Southeast Planning Review and Adjustment Committee (PRAC), which meets on the evening of February 24th.

Council is expected to make its decision on the next steps in this process when it meets March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**

It was moved by Councillor Kitchen and seconded by Councillor Campbell to *'Pay the bills for the month of February.'* MOTION CARRIED.

**MANAGER OF WORKS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

No report this meeting.

**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & LEISURE REPORT**

Councillor Campbell provided a brief update from the department.

Salisbury Winterfest is ongoing. Offered thanks to volunteers and to Assistant Director of department for their hard work on the events. Noted that attendance was strong for the weekend Swedish Lantern walk at the wetland trail. Many positive comments.

Outdoor rink has proven to be very popular again, and is often full.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Erosion

Nothing new to report.

Railway Trestle (Bridge)

Nothing new to report.

Rezoning request - 3132 Main St. (Community Use to Village Centre)

Public hearing held. Now waiting for recommendation from Southeast PRAC, which meets Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Council to decide on the application at its March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

FCM Asset Management Funding, Phase 2

Still waiting to hear if funding becomes available for the Village. Meantime, this item can be removed from the agenda.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**The following items were discussed by accommodated and remaining correspondence placed on file:**

NB Environment and Local Government / Local Government and Local Governance Reform, Hon. Daniel Allain – Re: Elimination of property assessment gap, and resulting additional property tax revenue to be distributed to local governments in July 2021

The Province of New Brunswick's decision to eliminate the property assessment gap, resulting in additional assessment for local government tax bases, will result in additional payments to local governments this July. The portion for Salisbury will be \$13,764.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Clerk read from memo provided by Fire Chief David Bannister of Salisbury Fire Rescue:

The report noted that four members of the fire department completed the Province of New Brunswick Level 1 Firefighter Course in 2020, with another four slated to finish their Level 2 training this year. This resulted in an increase in training hours last year, despite the fact training was later put on hold for five months because of COVID-19 pandemic gathering restrictions.

As far as activity is concerned, there was a notable increase in grass and brush fires in the Spring of 2020 resulting in some property damage. Also notable was a decrease in motor vehicle accident responses last year, undoubtedly due to a marked decrease in traffic due to COVID-19. Calls in 2020 numbered 32 within the Village limits and 114 in the surrounding Local Service District, or 28 per cent and 72 per cent, respectively. As for Mutual Aid, Salisbury Fire Rescue responded to Mutual Aid calls 12 times last year and received Mutual Aid on seven occasions. There were no structure fires or fatal fires within the Village limits in 2020. There was one firefighter injury that resulted in lost work time.

As for firefighter hours logged in 2020 by department members, 1,701 man-hours were spent on emergency calls and 1,917 man-hours in training for a total of 3,618 man-hours.

Regarding communications gear, new NB TMR (Trunked Mobile Radio) radios have been installed in the fire department trucks, as well as the acquisition of a number of portable radios. Members also now have updated voice pagers and dispatch software for their cell phones.

Also in 2020, an updated five-year plan for the fire department was presented to Council.

Currently, there are 21 volunteer members of Salisbury Fire Rescue out of 24 available roster spots. One member recently resigned to join the RCMP.

**RCMP REPORT**

No report this meeting.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 10<sup>th</sup>, took part in resume deliberations with regards to the hiring process for the recreation director position.

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 17<sup>th</sup>, the Hiring Committee held the first round of job interviews.

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 19<sup>th</sup>, the Committee met again to discuss and determine a short-list for the second round of interviews.

**COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Councillor Campbell**

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 10<sup>th</sup>, took part in resume deliberations with regards to the hiring process for the recreation director position.

Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick – On February 13<sup>th</sup>, took part in UMNBS discussion regarding Inclusive Community Practices.

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 17<sup>th</sup>, the Hiring Committee held the first round of job interviews for the recreation position.

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 19<sup>th</sup>, the Committee met again to discuss and determine a short-list for the second round of interviews.

**Councillor Kitchen**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Councillor Bartlett**

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 10<sup>th</sup>, took part in resume deliberations with regards to the hiring process for the recreation director position.

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 17<sup>th</sup>, the Hiring Committee held the first round of job interviews.

Director of Recreation and Wellness – On February 19<sup>th</sup>, the Committee met again to discuss and determine a short-list for the second round of interviews.

Library Sign – Pointed out that the new sign for Salisbury Public Library has been installed and is receiving positive reviews. Offered a huge thanks to Manager of Works for design and implementation.

Ambulance Service – Noted that online a member of the community was praising the efforts of Ambulance New Brunswick in saving the life of their child, now recovering at the IWK hospital.

**CLERK’S REPORT**

Co-op Student – Informed Council that a JMA Armstrong High School student who is a former Summer employee of the Village has begun a February-to-June co-op education term at the Village Office. She will be at the office for two hours in the afternoon of each school day.

It was moved by Councillor Kitchen and seconded by Councillor Campbell to ‘*Enter into a closed session.*’ Councillor Bartlett, since he had joined the meeting from his home via video-conference, was required to prove that he was alone and that no one else could listen in on any discussion during the closed session. Councillor Bartlett proceeded to pan his computer camera around his room proving that he was alone. MOTION CARRIED

**CLOSED MEETING – Financial.**

It was moved by Councillor Campbell and seconded by Councillor Kitchen to ‘*Return to the regular meeting.*’ MOTION CARRIED

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 8, 2021**

**ADJOURN**

It was moved by Councillor Kitchen and seconded by Councillor Campbell to ‘*Adjourn the meeting.*’ MOTION CARRIED (7:52 PM)