

MINUTES OF MARCH 14, 2022

REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of Council was held March 14, 2022, at 7:00 PM with Mayor Campbell presiding. Councillor Hamer joined the meeting virtually via Webex video-conferencing technology. All other members of Council and Clerk were present.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Gallant and seconded by Councillor O'Blenis that '*The Agenda be approved.*' MOTION CARRIED

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

No conflict declared at this time.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Colwell and seconded by Councillor Thorne that '*The Minutes for the Council Meeting held on February 28th be approved.*' MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Nothing to report.

DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL RECREATION AND WELLNESS REPORT

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Beautification

It was moved by Councillor Colwell and seconded by Councillor Thorne that '*All labour-related activities and the 2022 budgeted amount for the Salisbury Beautification Committee be transferred to the Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works. For all new initiatives and ideas brought forward by the Beautification Committee, these will follow current Council approval structures as outlined in the memorandum.*' MOTION CARRIED

Lions Club Pool

It was moved by Councillor Thorne and seconded by Councillor O'Blenis that '*The Mayor and Council of the Village of Salisbury enter a Memorandum of Understanding with the Salisbury Lions Club to operate and maintain the Salisbury Lions Club Pool located at 63 Peter Street, Salisbury, NB, as outlined in the attached agreement, pending final review by Intact Insurance.*'

On the Question, Councillor Gallant asked if daily pool operation and maintenance needs to be contracted out. Councillor Thorne explained that it does not need to be contracted out, although the Village of Petitcodiac does operate its pool in this manner. The intention in this case is that the Department of Infrastructure and Public Works will assume these daily duties.

Councillor Gallant also asked what would happen should the cost of operating and maintaining the pool exceed the \$20,000 budget outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Councillor Thorne explained that the Village has the discretion to exceed that budget by a reasonable amount but would have to reconsider its position going forward should any budget overage become substantial.

Councillor Hamer commented that he agrees with this concept with regards to the Salisbury Lions Club Pool, including that this particular Memorandum of Understanding is for one year.

MOTION CARRIED

Regional Fire Dispatch

It was moved by Councillor Hamer and seconded by Councillor Colwell that *'The Village of Salisbury submit the following resolution to the Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick:*

Consolidation of Provincial 911 Call-taking, Ambulance, Fire Dispatch, and Provincial Mobile Control Centre functions into a centralized operation with interprovincial integration and backup capabilities.

WHEREAS there is a mix of many emergency dispatch centres in New Brunswick including:

- six separate Public Safety Answering Points (911-PSAPS) operating with independent Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems, and dispatching some fire departments;*
- one Province-wide Ambulance Dispatch Centre operated by Medavie Blue Cross under contract to Ambulance New Brunswick;*
- one Provincial Dispatch Centre (PMCC) that dispatches many provincial agencies including DTI, EMO, Fire Marshal's Office, Department of Natural Resources and other provincial agencies;*

WHEREAS this fragmented collection of dispatch and 911 agencies is ineffective in either a routine or large-scale emergency requiring interoperability that can promptly dispatch multiple agencies within New Brunswick;

WHEREAS during routine or large-scale emergencies that require rapid seamless interoperability it is critical to ensure that the appropriate agencies share information in a single dispatch service that has all appropriate information at hand and can act as a redundancy with neighbouring provinces should any catastrophic event cause any provincial dispatch centres to be inoperative;

WHEREAS the cost of the six 911-PSAPS/Regional Fire Dispatch Centres is not a competitive or efficient model compared to our neighbours in Prince Edward Island, who answer all 911 calls in PEI and dispatch 95 per cent of all fire departments in PEI with ONE centralized dispatch centre operated by Medavie Blue Cross. This firm operates ambulance services in ALL three Maritime Provinces and each of their provincial dispatch centres are redundant with each other for backup;

WHEREAS all of the above mentioned agencies have access to the Maritime Provincial Digital Radio System, otherwise known as TMR Radio System;

WHEREAS the Medavie Blue Cross (Medacom Atlantic) PEI model provides dispatch services to PEI fire departments for \$2,500 per year per fire department...substantially cheaper than the New Brunswick ½ cent on the tax base model (\$27,000 for Salisbury alone);

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB urge the Province of New Brunswick to coordinate all 911 call-taking, and all Fire, Ambulance, PMCC Agencies under a consolidated call-take and dispatch centre, with interprovincial redundancies between our Maritime neighbouring ambulance dispatch centres that will afford New Brunswickers a cost efficient model under NB Ambulance Dispatch operated by Medavie Blue Cross.'

On the Question, Councillor Hamer summarized the intent of the motion adding that, in his opinion, the current system is fundamentally flawed. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Railway Trestle (Bridge)

Nothing to report.

By-Law Review

It was previously suggested that due to local governance reform and the pending supply of new municipal by-laws by the Province, the so-called “By-laws in a Box” when the new entities begin governing, Council must decide if it still wishes to proceed with any by-law review. However, Councillor Gallant suggested Council still proceed with a new version of the Village’s procedure by-law, since it would at least remain in effect for the current year. Meantime, Council still has the option of creating customized by-laws for its community with the understanding that the next Council, to be elected in November 2022, would have the option of adopting them for the new governance entity. Council asked the Clerk to reach out to the transition facilitator for his thoughts on the Village’s draft for a new procedural by-law, as well as for clarification on its by-law creation options between now and the end of this year.

MacDonald Road Property

Councillor O’Blenis pointed out that the insurance and utility costs (NB Power) associated with the Village’s MacDonald Road property to date this year, from January 1 to March 14, have totalled \$5,043.

All-Terrain Vehicles

Feedback will be sought to gauge public opinion on ATVs using streets, such as what is allowed in some other communities in New Brunswick. The most likely method of outreach will be an online survey.

Employee Manual Adjustment

Nothing to report.

New Fire Truck

The loan application process has begun with the Municipal Capital Borrowing Board of the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government’s Community Financing Branch for the purchase of a new fire tanker truck for Salisbury Fire Rescue. The matter will be heard at the April 11th meeting of the Municipal Capital Borrowing Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

Southeast Regional Service Commission/Plan 360 – Building Permit Report, Feb. 2022

A building permit was issued by Plan 360 in February for the installation of an elevator and wheelchair lift, a project carrying an approximate value of \$655,775.

Department of Canadian Heritage – Confirmation of financial support in 2022

The Village of Salisbury has been approved for \$840 in funding from Heritage Canada for Canada Day celebrations in 2022.

Thank You – Joyce MacDonald

Received from Joyce MacDonald, the Village's appointed representative on the CBDC (Community Business Development Corporation) Westmorland Albert Board of Directors, was a Thank You card for her honourarium. In June of 2021, she completed her three-year term as Salisbury's Board member, and renewed her commitment for another three-year term.

Lacrosse NB – Request for sponsorship

Received was a request for sponsorship from Lacrosse NB. Lacrosse New Brunswick's 17U Male Provincial Box Lacrosse Team is raising funds towards its training to participate in the 2022 Canada Summer Games in Niagara, Ontario. Mayor Campbell recommended the Village make a donation, noting that there is a local athlete on the team.

It was moved by Councillor Thorne and seconded by Councillor Colwell that *'The Village of Salisbury donate \$500 to the Lacrosse New Brunswick 17U Male Provincial Box Lacrosse Team to aid in its preparations for the 2022 Canada Summer Games.'* MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor Colwell and seconded by Councillor Thorne to *'Have a recess.'* MOTION CARRIED

RECESS

It was moved by Councillor Colwell and seconded by Councillor Gallant to *'Return to the regular meeting.'* MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor Colwell and seconded by Councillor Gallant to *'Enter into a Closed Meeting.'* MOTION CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING – Financial, Legal.

It was moved by Councillor Gallant and seconded by Councillor O'Blenis to *'Return to the Regular Meeting.'* MOTION CARRIED

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Nothing to report.

RCMP REPORT

Councillor Hamer noted that he has yet to receive a response to a January 2, 2022 letter he wrote to Sgt. Tamara Patterson of the Riverview Detachment of Southeast District RCMP, and will reach out again. Councillor Hamer also stated that he is hopeful conditions will soon allow for the process to begin for the formation of a new Neighbourhood Watch.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Gallant

Swedish Lantern Walk – Praised the combined efforts of the Department of Infrastructure and Public Works and Department of Recreation and Wellness on the Winterfest Swedish Lantern Walk. The event was fantastic with a great turnout.

Councillor Hamer

Swedish Lantern Walk – Echoed Councillor Gallant's comments regarding the Winterfest event at the Wetland Trail, noting that the bonfire went over well and should be held again next year.

Councillor O'Blenis

Shanea Street Playground – Met with Clerk and Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works to discuss options for the playground on Shanea Street. They continue to seek quotes. There may be an update by the next meeting of Council.

Local Governance Reform – Along with Mayor Campbell, met with the elected officials committee for municipal reform. Council composition was confirmed. Upcoming decisions are a name and type of municipality.

Councillor Thorne

Swedish Lantern Walk – Congratulations to the departments of Recreation and Wellness and Infrastructure and Public Works on the success of the Swedish Lantern Walk.

Survey – Urged the public in both Salisbury and Petitcodiac to take part in the online survey posted by the Department of Recreation and Wellness. They are looking forward to an active Summer.

Councillor Colwell

Salisbury Beautification Committee – Formally thanked the Beautification Committee for its hard work and continuing dedication to Salisbury, and to staff and Council for recognizing the need to take on additional responsibilities to allow the Beautification Committee to focus on community engagement activities.

CLERK'S REPORT

Council Photos – A date will be coordinated for Council photos.

Budget Updates – Councillors have received copies of their departmental budget reports and the bills to be paid. The auditor has not finished her work yet, so there may be some adjustments.

New Website – The Village of Salisbury has a brand new website at <https://salisburynb.ca/>. Thanks to Brad MacDonald of Brad Web Design for going above and beyond on short notice, helping the Village to get the new site up and running. The Village looks forward to continuing to work with him in the future.

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COVID-19 – Clerk explained that the Village’s daily approach to the coronavirus pandemic has not changed a great deal. Physical distancing requirements and the wearing of masks by staff are still in effect in the municipal departments. However, in recognition of the Province lifting its restrictions on March 14, members of the public are no longer mandated to wear facemasks when in municipal buildings, although the practice remains encouraged. Clerk then asked Council for its thoughts on its current policy that Council, staff and members of Salisbury Fire Rescue be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Following lengthy debate, it was decided to proceed with the current status with regards to this vaccination policy and wait two weeks to see what approach the Province eventually takes on this front. Councillor Colwell requested that it be on the record that she was not in favour of continuing with this vaccination policy.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 28, 2022.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Councillor Thorne and seconded by Councillor O’Blenis to ‘*Adjourn the meeting.*’ MOTION CARRIED (9:30 PM)