

MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2022

REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of Council was held March 28, 2022, at 7:00 PM with Mayor Campbell presiding. All members of Council and Clerk were present.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Councillor Thorne declared a conflict for item no. 3 under Correspondence.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Gallant and seconded by Councillor Colwell that *'The Minutes for the Council Meeting held on March 14 be approved.'* MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Nothing to report.

DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL RECREATION AND WELLNESS REPORT

Nothing to report.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Railway Trestle (Bridge)

Nothing to report.

By-Law Review

Clerk informed Council that after consulting with the transition facilitator for Entity 33; that is, Salisbury and surrounding area, it was determined that focusing on the overall new municipal by-law bundle, which will be provided by the New Brunswick Government as part of the municipal reform process, will not take place until this Fall, after which time Council will move into a caretaker mode prior to the municipal elections. In the meantime, Council is free to pass new by-laws for the present time if it so wishes. Council decided that it will proceed with a new Procedure By-Law, as well as consider other new by-laws including one concerning all-terrain vehicle access to municipal streets. Clerk explained that Council can proceed with more than one by-law at the same time if Council wishes.

MacDonald Road Property

Mayor Campbell would like to see public consultation take place at some time in the future regarding the municipality's options with regards to its property on MacDonald Road.

All-Terrain Vehicles

A survey posted online at <https://salisburynb.ca/> will gauge public opinion on ATVs using streets in the village. Eventually, the New Brunswick Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (NBDTI) will need to be involved in any discussion should any roadways include Main Street, Fredericton Road or River Road, as all three are Provincial routes 106 and 112.

Employee Manual Adjustment

Nothing to report. This item can be removed from the agenda, as Councillor Thorne explained that it will be up to the next Council to revisit it.

New Fire Truck

The Village's application to the Municipal Capital Borrowing Board (MCBB) 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, will be heard at the April 11 meeting of the MCBB. The required newspaper advertising with regards to this meeting has been placed in the Times & Transcript.

Beautification

This item can be removed from the agenda.

Lions Club Pool

While the official signing of the Lions Pool management agreement between the Village of Salisbury and the Salisbury Lions Club has yet to take place, it is imminent according to Councillor Thorne. Therefore, this item can be removed from the agenda.

Regional Fire Dispatch

Clerk explained that the motion passed by Council at the March 14th meeting has been forwarded to the Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick. This item can be removed from the agenda.

COVID-19 Policies

Following direction established by the New Brunswick Government and consultation with other municipalities, Council decided to repeal its COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.

It was moved by Councillor Colwell and seconded by Councillor O'Blenis that *'The Village of Salisbury repeal the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy as of 03/28.'* On the question, Councillor Hamer expressed support for keeping the Vaccination Policy, saying it was put in place to protect others. Mayor Campbell, who as mayor was not in a position to cast a vote, expressed his opposition to the motion, pointing out that the federal government has not repealed its policies with regards to this. Councillor Thorne supported the motion, saying she always respected the direction of the Provincial government during the pandemic and would continue to abide by such direction. **MOTION CARRIED** Councillor Hamer voted against the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following items were discussed by Council with remaining correspondence placed on file:

Letter from Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 31 Salisbury, re: donation request, banners

Mayor Campbell confirmed that there is funding available in his Grants budget for this veterans banners campaign to take place around Remembrance Day. Similar programs are in place in other communities in New Brunswick. Mayor Campbell says current world events underscore the importance of honouring our veterans.

It was moved by Councillor Gallant and seconded by Councillor Hamer that *'The Village of Salisbury grant a donation in the amount of \$4,000 in support of the Salisbury Veteran Banners program.'* MOTION CARRIED

Letter from Dave-Allan Gouthro to GNB, re: Condition of school parking lots (Village of Salisbury was copied on the letter)

Copied received a copy of Salisbury resident Dave-Allan Gouthro's letter to all New Brunswick MLAs. The letter called on the Provincial government to repair the parking lots at Salisbury Middle School/JMA Armstrong High School. On behalf of Council, Mayor Campbell mailed a letter to all MLAs in support of Dave-Allan Gouthro's letter.

Councillor Thorne left the meeting at this time due to a conflict of interest.

Letter from Union of the Municipalities of NB, re: Request for delay in RSC reform

The Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick asked UMNB members to consider sending a letter to Hon. Daniel Allain, Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform, requesting a delay in the reform process as it pertains to the regional service commissions, or RSCs. Mayor Campbell read the letter received from UMNB, which declared the transition timelines as being too tight for the RSCs to meet the deadline of November 22, with concerns about the expanded RSC mandates and financial implications, service fees in particular. UMNB is calling for the RSC transition deadline to be moved to a later date to first allow for the hiring of municipal Chief Administrative Officers and the election of new Mayors and Councils in November, thus allowing the municipalities greater input into the reformed RSC structure. This request for a delay is not to be confused with the reform process for municipal entities.

Following lengthy discussion, it was moved by Councillor Hamer and seconded by Councillor O'Brien to *'The Village of Salisbury respond to the request made by UMNB by sending a letter to Minister Allain in support of delaying RSC reform.'* MOTION CARRIED

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

RECESS

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

Councillor Thorne rejoined the meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Nothing to report.

RCMP REPORT

Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Support New Business – Mayor to arrange with the Clerk to allow the Case/New Holland dealer, new to Salisbury, to hold job interviews at the Village Office building. It is important to support local businesses in this way, as there is a labour shortage.

Minor Basketball – Kudos to all involved for another successful basketball season, which included hosting Provincials in Salisbury and Petitcodiac. These events help drive the economy.

Support for Ukraine – Stressing the importance that we stand united, the Village has been flying the flag of Ukraine, as well as floodlighting the municipal building each night in Ukraine's colours. Arrangements have been made to paint sunflowers on the windows of the Village Office. There is also a plan to hold a Ukraine evening of reflection at the Village Office in April.

NB Transportation Three-Year Plan – Noted that The Road Ahead plan by the New Brunswick Government does not mention the Route 112 Bridge in its three-year vision. Salisbury needs answers regarding the future of the bridge, which has been reduced to one lane of controlled traffic since October 2021.

ACOA Grant Programs – ACOA announcement of its "Main Street Initiative," held March 18 in Moncton, unveiled new grant opportunities.

Development Guidelines – Village needs to host a session on the topic of development; that is, what is and what is not permitted, not just for larger developers but also individuals on residential properties. Remind people how to reach out to and engage with Plan 360.

Local Governance Reform – The next transition meeting for Entity 33 will be held on Wednesday evening, at which time a name for the new entity will be discussed. The transition facilitator, it is believed, will hold a public consultation session at some point. Meantime, residents in the entire region of Entity 33 will soon receive an information mailout from the transition facilitator.

Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick – The annual UMNb Conference will be held October 7-9 in Fredericton. In the meantime, Mayor Campbell will try to bring UMNb Executive Director Dan Murphy to meet Council in Salisbury before this Summer.

Videoconferencing – Mayor Campbell indicated that he would purchase an Owl Pro videoconferencing device out of his budget, which would improve on the Village's existing videoconferencing technology and eventually enable Council to put its meetings online.

Spring Cleanup – Noting that the village-wide Spring cleanup collection is scheduled for May 2, suggested a separate cleanup sometime just before that where local groups could lead a garbage sweep of streets and ditches.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Hamer

Nothing to report.

Councillor O’Blenis

Shanea Street Playground – Has been working with the Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works on a plan to upgrade the playground on Shanea Street with new play equipment.

It was moved by Councillor O’Blenis and seconded by Councillor Hamer that *‘The Village of Salisbury purchase new playground equipment for Shanea Street as quoted by PlayPower Canada for the total cost of \$36,848.30 including installation and HST.’* On the question, Mayor Campbell asked about the timing of installation and was informed by Councillor O’Blenis that the company indicated to the Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works that it was 90 per cent confident it could have the equipment installed this Fall. MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Thorne

Nothing to report.

Councillor Colwell

Nothing to report.

Councillor Gallant

Driveway Culverts – Met with Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works to discuss and finalize culvert installation pricing for 2022. Prices were increased.

Development – Roads – Met with Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works to discuss road-building specifications in advance of talks with developers. Also reviewed the specifications used by neighbouring municipalities as well as by NBDTI, noting that they are similar.

Minor Hockey MU18AA Championship Tournament – Male Under-18 Provincials to be hosted March 31-April 3 by Petitcodiac Salisbury Minor Hockey at Petitcodiac Arena.

Council Meeting April 11 – Informed Council that he will be absent for its April 11 meeting.

CLERK’S REPORT

Summer Jobs Update – Village of Salisbury has been approved by the Student Employment Experience Development (SEED) program for two students this Summer – one Parks & Works position and one Office position. Each covers 35 hours per week up to 12 weeks. No word yet from Canada Summer Jobs.

Sewer Payments – Sewer payments have been coming in steadily since the early March mailout of statements to those still owing. A payment deadline was expressed to those in arrears by significant amounts who had yet to enter into payment agreements with the Village. Clerk to provide Council with a sewer arrears report in the weeks ahead.

2021 Audited Financial Report – Village auditors with Ernst & Young will appear before Council at its May 9 meeting to deliver the 2021 Financial Audited Report.

Albert MLA – Mike Holland, the Member of the Legislature representing the Village of Salisbury, is scheduled to attend the May 9 meeting of Council.

Legal Counsel – The Village solicitor will meet Council at its meeting on the evening of Tuesday, May 24.

COVID-19 Operational Plan – It will be left up to Village Office staff to compose a new Operational Plan to be a guide for daily municipal operations under the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, keeping in mind that even though provincially-mandated restrictions have ended, the municipality is still able to take whatever measures it sees fit to protect its staff.

March 28, 2022

CLOSED MEETING – No Closed Meeting held as there was nothing to discuss.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – **April 11, 2022.**

ADJOURN

It was moved by Councillor O’Blenis and seconded by Councillor Thorne to ‘*Adjourn the meeting.*’ MOTION CARRIED (8:43 PM)