

MINUTES OF AUGUST 22, 2022

REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of Council was held August 22, 2022, at 7:00 PM with Mayor Campbell presiding. CAO was absent. Councillor O'Blenis joined the meeting via video conferencing technology (Webex). All other members of Council and Clerk were present.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Thorne and seconded by Councillor Gallant 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 Gallant and seconded by Councillor Hamer that *'The Minutes for the Regular Meeting of Council held on July 25, 2022, and the Special Meeting of Council held on August 9, 2022, be approved.'* MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

No report this meeting.

DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL RECREATION AND WELLNESS REPORT

No report this meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT UPDATE – JULY 2022

A financial statement update to the end of July was provided for Council's information and review. Mayor Campbell also requested a financial forecast be provided. Councillor Gallant added that it was positive to see the gap narrowing in sewer billing and amount collected.

NEW BUSINESS

Land Purchase – Government Road

It was moved by Councillor Gallant and seconded by Councillor Thorne that *'The Village of Salisbury enter and sign a purchase and sale agreement with the owner of PID 00937888 and PAN 02228303 in the Village of Salisbury, County of Westmorland.'* MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Railway Trestle (Bridge)

Nothing to report.

MacDonald Road Property

Council received a report from the CAO for information purposes. The report detailed the findings of a structural engineering inspection of the building located at 33 MacDonald Road. Councillor Thorne described the report's findings as eye-opening.

Councillor Gallant noted that they now have enough information to make a sound decision concerning the property's future.

Regarding future plans for 33 MacDonald in light of the information received in the structural engineering inspection report, staff was asked to provide a recommendation to Council at a future meeting.

Ballfield Electrical Shed

Work has been completed and the ballfield lights are once again operational. It was noted that an insurance claim covered the electrical costs of the shed replacement project, which was necessary following a break-in and equipment theft discovered on March 30. The bulk of the remainder of the costs was covered by a grant of up to \$10,000 from the Government of New Brunswick's Regional Development Corporation. This item to be removed from the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

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

The Salisbury Development & Building Permit report for July was received from Plan 360. Three permits were issued for projects carrying a total estimated value of \$15,473.

Beverly Best – Letter addressing (a) inappropriate trail use, and (b) request for street light

Letter from resident Beverly Best described how she witnessed two seemingly racing vehicles crossing from the CN yard at the north end of Horsman Street across to the former Albert Line trail on the opposite side of Fredericton Road. Mayor Campbell suggested the Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works explore ways to mitigate access around the trail gate to ensure only all-terrain vehicles have access to the trail. It was clarified that while the Village of Salisbury owns the trail, the owner of the railyard property is still CN.

As for the request for a street light installation for a dark section of Bleakney Road, it will be investigated by the Manager of Infrastructure and Public Works. It must be clarified if just a light is required or if a new pole is also needed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

No report this meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

New Business – On August 2, visited Trish & Henk's Quality Produce. Good to see a new business in Salisbury and becoming actively involved in the community, noting they were in the Community Days Parade.

Business Re-Opening – On August 6, attended the grand opening barbecue at Gallant Tools.

Local Governance Reform – On August 4 and 9, along with Councillor O'Blenis attended Transition Committee meetings regarding Council remuneration.

Southeast Regional Service Commission – On August 17, attended SERSC Finance Committee meeting.

Nurse Practitioner – On the topic of health-care, noted that efforts have been made to increase the number of days of service for Salisbury's nurse practitioner, now up to four days a week.

Community Days – Could not be prouder of Council, Staff, and Volunteers for the work on Community Days, saying residents were impressed and the vibe was tremendous.

Legion Veterans Banners – Royal Canadian Legion Branch 31 Salisbury will be installing veterans’ banners along Main Street. The Village of Salisbury Department of Infrastructure and Public Works will be involved with the installation of brackets on the poles to be used.

New Brunswick Electoral Boundaries – Regarding NB electoral boundary realignment, the provincial committee leading this process will hold a meeting in Moncton on September 1. It was noted that following municipal reform, Salisbury will have three MLAs. Councillor Hamer pointed out that provincial boundary review is taking place at the same time as a federal review.

COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

Councillor Colwell

Community Days – Received great feedback on Community Days. The fireworks were beautiful.

Youth Sports – A wonderful Summer was the first in three years that was normal. It was noted how many accomplished athletes are now emerging from Salisbury, including Canada Games and track and field athletes competing at the Legion Nationals, and high-level hockey players.

RCMP REPORT

Corporal Robertson and Constable Brown of Southeast District RCMP Caledonia Region Detachment joined Council for a brief presentation on occurrences in the village in July and August. There were 92 calls for service in Salisbury, and 17 tickets written, mostly in the highway area; including five motor vehicle collisions; and two break and enters, one being a theft from a municipal property. The Salisbury region is the primary location for calls in the detachment’s coverage area.

Lawn Tractor Gang – Councillor Thorne complained about three young men seen in recent weekends riding lawn tractors along River Road, seen openly smoking marijuana while doing so. It was noted that the lawn tractors had their decks removed and appeared to be “souped up.”

Neighbourhood Watch – With the Fall coming, Councillor Hamer suggested it would be ideal to hold a public Neighbourhood Watch organizing meeting soon, adding that he and the RCMP should meet beforehand. Sgt. Patterson is aware of this, explained Corporal Robertson. It was noted that Moncton is fast-tracking a similar Neighbourhood Watch program.

Suspicious Activity at Ballfield – Councillor Colwell raised the matter that recently a strange man, not believed to be local, was reportedly trying to lure children near the batting cage. RCMP noted that transients are branching out further now.

Highland Park – Councillor Hamer said he has received reports of people tenting at Highland Park, but they are always gone by the time it is checked on.

All-Terrain Vehicles – Councillor Hamer noted that there were two incidents in recent months involving collisions with children on ATVs and vehicles.

Copper Theft – Mayor Campbell asked if copper theft was still a problem. Corporal Robertson responded that incidents have decreased some, as have thefts of catalytic converters. Talks with local scrapyards may have helped.

Frequent RCMP Presence – Mayor Campbell knows how often RCMP visit Salisbury and it is appreciated. Noted how busy it is with almost 7,000 cars coming down Fredericton Road daily.

Gas Thefts – Gas drive-offs have been the most frequent crime in recent months with 10-20 cases per week in the detachment coverage area. Stressed was the importance for people to report crimes, and not just discuss it on social media. There are online methods of reporting.

Community Days – Three members of the detachment attended the Boys and Girls Club of Salisbury Kids & Family Day event held during Community Days. Mayor Campbell said it is important for children to meet the RCMP in person and learn about their role in the community.

Councillor Gallant

Community Days – Community Days was wonderful with a lot of positive feedback.

Street Asphalt Patching – Feedback was positive concerning street patching that has taken place.

Councillor Hamer

Route 112 Bridge – Regarding roadside bush-trimming on Route 112/River Road at the bridge over the Petitcodiac River, noted the confusion over whether its jurisdiction is Provincial or municipal. Observed that trimming was done along the side of River Road, but not at the bridge approaches, likely due to the guiderail. It was suggested the municipality take the lead on these efforts regardless of jurisdiction.

Emergency Dispatch – Commented on the resolution that is to go before the Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick regarding finding a fiscally responsible option for emergency dispatch services. Also briefly spoke with Provincial Health Minister Bruce Fitch about this.

Community Days – Saturday's Fireworks were a highlight of Community Days, and it was great to hear the applause. There was also positive feedback about the first beer garden event.

Community Days Timing – Asked if it was possible to hold Community Days on a different weekend than the Sussex Flea Market, saying he has heard this from a number of residents.

Councillor O'Blenis

Local Governance Reform – Attended meetings on August 4 and 9 with the Transition Committee regarding Council remuneration.

Community Days – Has heard only positive comments about Community Days.

Councillor Thorne

Recreation and Wellness – Met with Village of Salisbury CAO and Director of Recreation and Wellness regarding agreements they have in place ahead of municipal reform.

Community Days – Speaking also as a member of the Community Days Committee, called this year's event spectacular, adding that she co-directed the Parade for the first time. Noted that the Village's Department of Recreation and Wellness secured a first-place prize for its ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge float. Salisbury finished first in the New Brunswick portion of June's ParticipACTION competition and will receive a prize of \$15,000 to support Recreation and Wellness initiatives. Further to parade discussion, Councillor Hamer raised the point that he was told there was a close call when a child ran out onto the street to get a treat from a side-by-side all-terrain vehicle, adding the public must be reminded not to allow situations like this to happen. Clerk explained that this message, for safety reasons not to hand out treats directly from floats, is conveyed every year in all advertising for the event, including in the Community Days schedule that is mailed to households.

CAO'S REPORT

Human Resources – A report was submitted requesting the authority to retain an HR firm regarding new staff roles and responsibilities following municipal reform. It was suggested that this unbudgeted funding could come from the General Government account.

It was moved by Councillor Thorne and seconded by Councillor Hamer to '*Authorize Administration to retain Smart HR Solutions for a Human Resource Audit, Job Description Review, and Market Salary Review at a cost of \$8,190 (before tax).*' On the Question, it was asked that staff continue to look into the possibility of securing a grant from the New Brunswick government for these costs. MOTION CARRIED

CLERK'S REPORT

Community Days – On behalf of the Salisbury Community Days Committee, thanked Council for its support during Community Days. Also thanked members of Salisbury Fire Rescue for all of their help with the fireworks, including making a financial contribution and ensuring safety during and after the event.

Food Bank Donation – The Community Days Beer Garden raised \$656.50 for Salisbury Helping Hands Food Bank. It was agreed to by the Committee that the donation would be topped up to \$700.

Southeast Regional Service Commission – Attended the SERSC financial meeting on August 17.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 12, 2022.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Councillor Thorne and seconded by Councillor Gallant to '*Adjourn the meeting.*' MOTION CARRIED (7:55 PM)