

MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2022

GRAND FALLS

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Town Council in Grand Falls, New Brunswick, was held at the municipal building in the Roland Lafrance Room beginning at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, following notices as required by law.

ATTENDANCE

His Worship the Mayor:

Marcel Deschênes

Councilors:

Annie Deschênes
David Raines
Jocelyn "Joe" Themens

and Acting CAO/Clerk, Éric Gagnon and Deputy Clerk, Lise J. Ouellette.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Deschênes welcomes everyone.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts are reported.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Annie Deschênes /Joe Themens,

2022-046 That the agenda be accepted by removing the motion regarding the agreement for the storage of vehicles. Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Annie Deschênes /David Raines,

2022-047 That the Municipal Council adopt the minutes from meetings held on March 8, March 22 and April 8, 2022 as received. Carried

DRINKING WATER

The drinking water analyses of the Town, received since the last meeting, demonstrate the results "drinking water".

Joe Themens/David Raines,

2022-048 That drinking water tests be received and filed. Carried

MOTIONS AND COMMITTEE RECORDS

PUBLIC WORKS

Line painting

Annie Deschênes/Joe Themens,

- 2022-49 That Town Council accept the bid received from Mr. Line Painter in the amount of \$23,708.68 plus tax for the painting of traffic lines. Carried

Asphalt at plant

Joe Themens/David Raines,

- 2022-050 That Town Council accept the bid received from Ray's Paving Inc. in the amount of \$135 plus tax per metric ton for asphalt at plant. Carried

Other tender received: Northern Construction Inc. \$140

Street repair

David Raines /Joe Themens,

- 2022-051 That Town Council accept the bid received from Ray's Paving Inc. in the amount of \$280 plus tax per metric ton for street repairs. Carried

Other tender received: Northern Construction Inc. \$310

HUMAN RESOURCES

Interviews for summer jobs are ongoing.

Applications for the Deputy Chief of police position will be accepted until April 29.

COMMUNICATION

We are currently experiencing technical difficulties with the website and are trying to solve the problem as soon as possible.

ADMINISTRATION

Tentative plan on Front Street – Knights of Columbus and Murielle Côté

The CAO explains the procedure followed to date for the approval of the plan and specifies that it has been approved by the parties involved.

Annie Deschênes/David Raines,

- 2022-052 That Town Council accept the tentative plan prepared by W. E. Hodges Surveys Ltd, dated April 7, 2022, file 4198-1, and showing lots 2022-1 and 2022-2 and parcels 2022-A and 2022-B. Carried

LIBRARY

A babysitting class will be held on April 30 at a cost of \$50.

ENVIRONMENT

Spring street cleaning will take place again this year. Community and sports groups are invited to participate on May 7.

We all have a role to play in keeping our environment clean. Discussions will take place with business owners to add garbage cans at the end of drive-thru lanes.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Egg hunt – Thanks to everyone who participated in the egg hunt and crafts. More than 100 children participated. Council thanks the Acanthus Gallery and the Grand Falls Central Business Development Corporation for their participation.

The tractor pull returns this year and will take place on June 18.
The festival's bistro returns to Broadway Boulevard this year.
More information on these activities is available on the website.

FIRE

Work on the new fire station is progressing well. People are asked not to go to the construction site.

RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Registration for summer sports is open.
Golf course preparations have begun. A \$50 discount is available on memberships until May 1st.
Councilor Themens mentioned that the Town hires 60 to 65 additional employees in the summer.

The Malabean Centre will open on 16 May.
The LaRoche Centre will open on June 17.
The campground will open on June 13.

Acknowledgements – Thank you letters to staff are received from Lisa Lajoie and from Stéphanie Cormier on behalf of the Malobiannah Figure Skating Club.

FINANCE

The accountants will present the result of their audit for the year 2021 at the next public meeting.
We are waiting for the asphalt plants to open to repair the streets.

NEW BUSINESS

By-law 57, amendment 2022-01 – remuneration

Joe Themens/David Raines,

2022-053 That the Grand Falls Town Council adopt the third reading of amendment 2022-01 to By-law 57, By-law of the Municipality of Grand Falls Respecting the Remuneration of the Mayor and Councilors, as read. Carried

By-law 1900, Amendment 2022-15

CAO Éric Gagnon explains the proposed zoning change at the intersection of High and Cyr streets to build a multi-dwelling building. He notes that no objections were received and that the Planning Advisory Committee gave a favorable opinion to the project.

The Deputy Clerk gave second and third readings and the reading in full of the amendment.

Annie Deschênes/Joe Themens, That Town Council adopt the second reading of amendment 2022-15 to By-law 1900 as read. Carried

Joe Themens /David Raines,

2022-054 That Town Council adopt third reading of amendment 2022-15, A By-law amending the Town of Grand Falls Zoning By-law, as read. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Apraxia

The Mayor proclaims the Day of Apraxia which will take place on May 14.

Volunteers and health professionals – recognition

The Council expresses its gratitude to volunteers and health professionals for their work during the pandemic and in particular, during vaccination campaigns.

OTHER – interventions by Council, public and media

- intervention of the Council

Transition

The Mayor gives an account of the meetings concerning the transition. Meetings are going well with several timelines to meet. The next step is the preparation of budgets. As for the streets, the province will continue to maintain the roads for which they are currently responsible.

- public intervention

Ghislain Langlais

Mr. Langlais asked for an update on the marina project. He was informed that an offer had been received from Stantec to conduct the study and that an offer from a second firm should be received shortly.

He asks if there is a sewer problem at the marina. He is informed that the Town is making sure that everything is in order.

He asked if a firm had been hired to do a study on the sports complex on Evangeline Street and was informed that Roy Consultant had been hired and that the study was ongoing.

According to Mr. Langlais, information on activities and other information is difficult to obtain on the Internet. He asked that Council find another solution to inform the population.

Robert Godbout

Mr. Godbout asked to clarify the amendment to By-law 57. Council clarifies that it is not an increase in remuneration but rather the division of the salary of a deceased Councilor among the remaining members who must take on more responsibility.

He asked how the Town complied with the ministerial order of February 15, 2017 (SS9.1) in the preparations for the new police station at the Dollard Bélanger building. The Mayor responds that the construction follows the guidelines required by the chief of police. The prisoners will be transferred to Saint-Léonard as they are now. The cost for renovations is estimated to range from \$150,000 to \$200,000. The building cost \$115,000.

Marina – Mr. Godbout asks that the Council present the proposal of the Ad-Hoc committee on the marina to the public. Council prefers to wait for the feasibility study and make the public presentation at that time. The project is not ready at the moment.

Rodrigue Cyr

Mr. Cyr thanks Councillor Deschênes for her words regarding cleanliness in the Town. He questions whether fines are given by police to people who litter, especially along Wade Street. Council does not have that information.

Knights of Columbus parking – The document to terminate the first lease has been signed and will be registered. The new plan can then be registered as well. No obstacles are foreseen, and normal procedures are followed.

Martin Bérubé

Mr. Bérubé thanked the mayor for his contribution to Éverard H. Daigle's funeral. He questions whether the Town has communicated everything he has done for Grand Falls. The Mayor informs him that it was mentioned at the last public meeting and that the family did as well.

Mr. Bérubé thanks the operators of the blower and the good work done since it was repaired. He is also of the opinion that littering is deplorable.

Michel Blais

Mr. Blais asks if a restaurant will open at the marina next summer. The Council replies that the building must be repaired first and that estimates are expected. Council is still wondering whether or not the Town should operate a restaurant.

The Mayor explains that it is not certain that work will begin on the ground in 2022. Mr. Blais believes that we should start with the restaurant.

Anne Savage

Ms. Savage asked for a map of the new municipality. She is advised that there is one on the provincial site.

Lissa Laforge

On Facebook, council receives a request for waste to be picked up more often. Some owners have difficulty the week when only recycling is picked-up. Council will seek a solution for these cases. Significant costs are associated with additional pickups.

ADJOURNMENT

Jean Maurice Gagnon/Annie Deschênes, moved that the meeting adjourn at 8 p.m. Carried

Marcel Deschênes
Mayor

Lise J. Ouellette
Deputy Clerk.