

MINUTES

LE 13 JUNE 2022

GRAND FALLS

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Town Council of Grand Falls, New Brunswick was held at the municipal building in the Roland Lafrance Room beginning at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2022, following notices as required by law.

ATTENDANCE

His Worship the Mayor:

Marcel Deschênes

Councillors :

Annie Deschênes
David Raines
Renaud Ouellette
Jocelyn "Joe" Themens
Jean Maurice Gagnon

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

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mayor Deschênes welcomes everyone. He explains that the meeting had to take place today given the absence of some members of the administration tomorrow.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts are reported.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Jean Maurice Gagnon/Annie Deschênes,

2022-064 That the agenda be accepted as presented. Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Renaud Ouellette/Joe Themens,

2022-065 That the Municipal Council adopt the minutes of May 10th, 2022 as received. Carried

DRINKING WATER

The Town's drinking water analyses, received since the last meeting, demonstrate "potable water" results.

Renaud Ouellette / Annie Deschênes,

2022-066 that drinking water tests be received and filed. Carried

MOTIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE

An advertising campaign to encourage young people to become police officers is underway. Constable Daniel Levesque took part in this campaign. Several police operations have taken place in recent weeks. Police officers received annual training on the use of force. Members participate in several school activities. The police force asks drivers of off-road vehicles, traveling on permitted roads in the town, to ensure they have their driver's license and that the vehicles are registered and insured since the fines can be severe.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Existing and new positions to be filled will be posted shortly. Two to three casual constable positions are currently posted with a June 28 deadline. Efforts continue to find a deputy chief of police. Interviews are underway for a planning officer. We thank everyone who took the time to submit their applications.

Éric Côté – probation

Annie Deschênes / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

- 2022-067 Given that Éric Côté has successfully completed his probation period as a temporary operator for Grand Falls Public Works, that Town Council confirms his hiring as a full-time temporary employee. Carried**

LIBRARY

Registration for the book club is open. Dory, the therapy dog, will visit the library on Thursdays starting July 8. Free passes are available for some provincial tourist attractions to people who have a membership card. Board games are available, and families are invited to come and play on Wednesdays.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Department repaired several water leaks during the month of May. Well No. 5 is under repair. We should receive the new pump on Wednesday and the well could be running by the weekend. The cost for paving the streets this year is \$406,000

FINANCE

Sale of land – Broadway Boulevard

Renaud Ouellette/Joe Themens,

- 2022-068 That Grand Falls Town Council authorize the sale to Dave's Mini Market Ltd. of a parcel of land as indicated on the draft plan prepared by Arpentages Gaétan Soucy Inc. and dated May 26, 2022, at a cost of \$1.50 per square foot. Carried**

Community Energy Efficiency – Study

Joe Themens/David Raines,

2022-069 Whereas the federal government supports municipalities as the level of government closest to the people so that they can accompany people who live in their communities to improve the energy efficiency of their homes;

Whereas funding is currently available to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund through the Community Efficiency Funding Initiative, the objective of which is to facilitate energy-efficient retrofits by making financing available to residents;

Whereas the completion of a feasibility study will make it possible to analyze different models of community energy efficiency funding adapted to the New Brunswick legislative context;

Whereas the AFMNB is seeking additional funding to that of the FCM in order to limit the financial contribution of the municipalities participating in the feasibility study project.

Accordingly, it is resolved that the Municipality of Grand Falls commit to participating in the Community Energy Efficiency Feasibility Study project conducted by the AFMNB to develop a program model tailored to New Brunswick municipalities.

That the Municipality of Grand Falls commits to contribute financially to the feasibility study project up to a maximum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) plus HST.

That the financial contribution of the Municipality of Grand Falls be paid to the AFMNB in accordance with the terms and conditions to be established when the contract provided for that purpose is established. Carried

FIRE

Fire station

The construction of the fire station is progressing well. The completion of construction is still scheduled for the fall.

Members

Five recruits are in training.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The tractor pull will take place at the end of the week.

We are planning music on the boulevard this summer. Those interested in participating are asked to contact Councillor Raines.

Preparations for the festival are going well. Pre-sale of tickets will end on June 29 at 6 p.m.

RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Summer sports start this week. The swimming pool opens on 29 June.

The golf course is in very good condition with six tournaments planned. Junior clinics are back.

Many visitors have registered so far at the tourist center, 3201 in 2022 compared to 2135 in 2019 and 1884 in 2018.

People are invited to see what's new at the souvenir shop.

Guided tours are available. The campsite is open while the La Rochelle centre will open on June 27th. Artisans are invited to contact the Town to sell their products.

The retaining wall at the campground has been rebuilt and work is complete.

FINANCE

Budgets show good up-to-date results for 2022 despite increases in gasoline prices. \$106,000 was spent on gasoline during the first six months of the year while the total amount in the budget is \$169,500.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Project updates

Marina: The roof has been repaired. The next step is to stain the outside and then replace the deck.

The study requested for the use of the land has begun and the population will be consulted. Solar lights will be installed at the docks.

We are awaiting the installation of the safety buoys by NB Power. In the meantime, the council asks users of the river to be careful and not to approach the falls.

Skate Park: A block wall will be built at the back of the park to protect nearby properties. The park is being used frequently.

Dollard Bélanger Building: Exterior painting continues. The Land Use Department will open its offices there later this year.

Bike Park: Sentier Boréal completed a \$50,000 project on municipal land behind the CEPSC. The park is open to all, and helmets are mandatory for users.

Broadway Boulevard: The Town is seeing to the last details. Some phase I deficiencies are expected to be repaired this year.

Transition

The mayor explained that the RCMP will continue as a police force for portions of the new municipality. We hope that the entire territory will be the responsibility of the municipal force by 2024.

Mayor Deschênes notes the great team spirit on the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Longest Day of Smiles – Proclamation

The mayor proclaims June 19, 2022, as the longest day of smiles.

OTHER

- Council interventions

Acadian Day: Activities will take place in Drummond and Grand Falls. The guest artist is Daniel Goguen. The bells of the churches will ring before the tintamarre.

Anniversary: The mayor notes that it has been a year since council was sworn in. He is very proud of the work done and congratulates the members and staff.

Marcel Deschênes Building: Mayor Deschênes expresses his appreciation for the designation of the municipal building.

- Public intervention

An individual requests an update on renovations to the sports complex. Council advises that the planning work continues. We are waiting for the report from Roy Consultants.

Linda and Lionel Violette – ask for a follow-up regarding the bike route. It is anticipated that work can begin later this year. The necessary call for tenders is currently being prepared.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The mayor thanks the technical team.

Renaud Ouellette / Annie Deschênes, that the meeting adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Carried

Marcel Deschênes
Mayor

Lise J. Ouellette
Deputy Clerk