

TOWN OF NACKAWIC
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2020

PRESENT: Mayor Kitchen
Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Councillor Simpson
Councillor Farnsworth
Councillor Toole
Councillor McConaghy

IN ATTENDANCE: Randy Wilson
Dallas Cakes
Fire Chief William Hopkins, Fire Dept.
Richard Barrow, Fire Dept. Member
Leo Lanteigne, Fire Dept. Member
David Nason, Fire Dept. Member

TO ORDER: Mayor Kitchen called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

20-141 Motion: Councillor Farnsworth
Second: Councillor McConaghy

“That the agenda be approved with the 3 amendments:

-add under New Business D) Dog Control Officer and E) Ron Berube
Nomination;

-add To the Floor A) Fire Department Presentation.”

Motion carried.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

There was no declaration of conflicts of interest.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16TH, 2020 REGULAR COUNCIL
MEETING:

20-142 Motion: Councillor Simpson
Second: Councillor Toole

“That the minutes of the November 16th, 2020 regular council meeting be
approved with one amendment:

-under New Business; 3rd sentence; delete “asked if the hydrant on Old

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Bridge Rd. was a dry hydrant” and insert “asked if the dry hydrant on Old Bridge Rd. was operational”.”

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 23RD, 2020 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING:

20-143 Motion: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
 Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That the minutes of the November 23rd, 2020 special council meeting be approved as presented.”

Motion carried.

With Council’s permission, Mayor Kitchen moved to item 8. A) To the Floor

TO THE FLOOR:

A) Fire Department Presentation, Chief Hopkins

Chief Hopkins stated he and Richard Barrow met this afternoon with Randy Wilson and Kathryn Clark to go over the fire department’s budget and he doesn’t see where the Town will save any significant amount of money by moving the department with the LSD. He stated the fire department water cost is \$42,000 a year and AV Group is only paying \$38,000 a year. He feels Council needs to get someone to look at the way the Town is charging out water to commercial businesses and possible raise more revenue of water, because AV cannot work without it.

Chief Hopkins stated Councillor Simpson expressed concerns when the trucks need to be replaced it will cost the Town a lot of money. It will not make any difference going forward, when the fire trucks get replaced, they will be bought, and the Town will pay the 58.71%, whether it’s municipal or LSD. He would like for Council to step back and take a serious look at it, take 2021 to form a committee and study it more and see if we can get money out of the government and AV Group. If things don’t change, then make the move after that because once it is taken over by the Province, Nackawic will not get the fire department back.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated he has great respect for the Fire Department but no one on Council knows what it means to be a fireman or about fire regulations. The fire department costs continue to go up every year and Council has had to raise taxes 12 cents in the last 5 years and the only way to raise money is to cut cost or there is a new build in the Town.

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Chief Hopkins stated the LSD is stretched thin now as it is and if there is a fire call 25 minutes away, by the time a truck gets there, you can almost guarantee you are going to save what is left on the ground. The further you spread out your resources the worst it is for people on the outline areas. All he and the department are asking, is to step back for one year.

Mr. Nason stated every time the department needs to buy equipment, there is an issue with the Town that the cost is too high and the town can't afford it. There is a lot of fire equipment the department has worked very hard to fundraise to pay a 1/3 on and people in the community has donated their money to purchase some of the equipment and Council wants to give it away to the LSD's.

Chief Hopkins stated the last 20 years he has seen a lot, of the 4 members present here tonight, there are a lot of years of service on the fire department.

Councillor Simpson stated he understands him saying the Town is giving away 2 ½ million dollars' worth of equipment but he doesn't see it that way. It won't be the same Council, but Ivan Corbett instead, with the same equipment, same chief and same members.

Mr. Nason stated the department specs out all the equipment based on the need for the Town and surrounding areas and when the trucks get replaced, the LSD's tell you what you're getting and they cut out a lot of the specs that is needed for the town and you won't ever get it again once it is gone.

Richard Barrow stated he has been carrying pagers for 48 years out of respect for this community and if this community sells them to the province you can count him out. He also asked Council to take a look at the plan their Chief has come up with.

Councillor Farnsworth stated that Ivan Corbett did assure Council that the town's equipment would remain here and she understands the fire departments concerns.

Leo Lanteigne asked how much does AV Group pay for water a year and are they on a meter.

Randy Wilson stated approximately \$38,000 and they are on a meter.

Mayor Kitchen stated he appreciates everything the fire department is doing. The plan for the LSD to take over the fire service was addressed in January or February and then COVID happen and everything was put on hold until this past month. Council is looking at it in the best interest for the town and going forward.

Chief Hopkins stated the department was hit with this regionalization 2 weeks ago and reiterated that he would like to see a committee formed and see how things are going for a year and go from there.

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Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated why a year.

Chief Hopkins asked does not the town's budget run on a yearly cycle.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated yes, could we not look at it in May. He doesn't want to see this dragged out.

Chief Hopkins stated he doesn't want to see it dragged out either. He would like to see a solution that will benefit the town and the fire department.

Councillor Farnsworth asked who in the community would be able to be on the committee with fire expertise.

Chief Hopkins stated maybe a retired engineer, Darryl Jardine would be one.

Councillor Simpson stated he was at several meetings with Ivan Corbett and he said that the fire department was a great department.

Mayor Kitchen stated AV Group does not currently have a fire department.

Chief Hopkins stated no, it does not, they have an emergency response team and half of their members are from this department. Nackawic Fire Department is their Mutual Aid.

Mayor Kitchen thanked the fire department members for coming and voicing their concerns.

Chief Hopkins thanked Council for allowing them to make their presentation.

Fire Department members left at 7:38 pm.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Councillor Farnsworth stated she had the card for Dr. Hebb's retirement and passed it around the room for everyone to sign. She also purchased 4 glasses and are having them engraved. Her retirement party is scheduled for Thursday, December 17th at noon and staff will be closing the office at that time. Council can arrive then to present her with her gift.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A) NHS Boys Hockey Team Request (New Business)
- B) NHS Yearbook Committee Request (New Business)
- C) NHS Gender Sexuality Alliance Request (New Business)

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D) Dog Control Officer (New Business)

E) Ron Berube Nomination Request (New Business)

F) Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Mike Holland – Protected Areas.

Mayor Kitchen stated it was for Council's viewing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – No report

Library –

Councillor Farnsworth stated the new part time staff has been hired, she is from Fredericton. The library was closed down temporary due to going back to the Orange Phase, they probably will be reopening again that we are back to the Yellow Phase.

Protective Services –

FIRE

Mayor Kitchen reported on the minutes of November 17th & 24th meetings and asked if they have COVID 19 protocols.

Randy Wilson stated they go by the operational plan from the Province.

Recreation –

Randy Wilson thanked wellness volunteers for all the decorating at the shopping centre and Town Hall.

Councillor Farnsworth stated the Christmas Lighting Contest is Friday, Dec. 18th and she has 3 families who are new to the community, volunteered to do the judging.

Councillor Simpson asked how the arena was operating.

Randy Wilson stated the arena is going strong and public skating was cancelled due to going back to the Orange Phase but is now back on schedule.

Public Works –

Councillor Simpson reported on the minutes of November 23rd meeting, stating after considerable discussions the committee made two motions, one, to stop plowing the sidewalk on Bird Street and second, to change speed signs on all of Otis Drive to read 50

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km/hr which were both passed and recommended for Council's approval. With regards to speed zones, there was a discussion on three different speed zones on highway 105 from the Cronkhite farm driveway to the intersection to Carleton Street. It was agreed to recommend to Council that they asked DTI to examine these speed zones when they consider potential safety changes at the intersection of Landegger Drive and Rt. 105.

Councillor McConaghy asked what would have been the reason for the different speed zones on Otis Drive.

Councillor Simpson stated at that time there was a family of children that lived down in that area and it was changed from 70 to 50 for that reason.

20-144 Motion: Councillor Toole
 Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That Council change speed signs on all of Otis Drive to read 50 km/hr.”

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked if the Town could get a digital sign to place in that area until the signs are purchased to remind people to slow down. Also, the Town to put a notice on the website and Facebook page to remind residents of the new speed on Otis Drive and to continue reminding them of the change.

Councillor Toole stated the Town could also purchase a sign that says ‘New Speed Sign’ and place it there to inform residents that the speed sign has changed.

Councillor Farnsworth stated she doesn't feel Council needs to purchase another digital sign, just move the one we have.

Councillor Simpson stated he is in agreement to either purchase a digital speed sign or a couple of permanent signs and place them on Otis Drive to inform residents that the speed zone has changed.

Mayor Kitchen directed Randy Wilson to include in the request to DTI, to examine the speed zones when they consider potential safety changes at the intersection of Landegger Drive and Rt. 105.

Motion carried.

20-145 Motion: Councillor Toole
 Second: Councillor McConaghy

“With recommendation from the public works committee, the Town will no longer provide snow removal for the sidewalk on Bird Street.”

Motion carried.

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Special Reports – No report

Chief Administrative Officer's Report

Randy Wilson reported that:

- he received the EIA certificate of determination and have notified all of our partners.
- he has spent lots of time pushing for the sale of land from NB Power.
- he has spent considerable hours into the Fire Service moving to the LSD.
- he has been in conversations with Brent Sansom on Corporation issues.
- he has presented the 2021 budget to the province.
- he reported the trickle filter has collapsed due to wind and is working on a plan to fix the issue.
- he has dealt with moving to the orange phase and back to yellow with COVID 19 protocols.

Councillor Simpson asked if the people from Tarp come to look at the Trickle Filter.

Randy Wilson stated no, they couldn't. He sent pictures to them of the dimensions of what we needed. They will work on it and call the Town tomorrow.

Councillor Farnsworth asked if he was doing a temporary fix for the Trickle Filter.

Randy Wilson stated yes, until it's fixed permanently.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked to update Council on what will be happening with the Trickle Filter in 2021.

Randy Wilson stated there are new tanks there now and a filter will be added. Not a lot of work, but it takes time.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked if Council budgeted the money.

Randy Wilson stated yes, we have and will look at it again in January.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked will the collapsed roof affect the ability of the its job.

Randy Wilson stated yes, if it is not covered.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked what would happen if the filter stopped working.

Randy Wilson stated it would continue to back up.

Councillor Toole stated it would shut down the two restaurants.

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Councillor Simpson stated it would have to be checked every day and if anything is plugged, do what we would need to do to keep it going.

Mayor Kitchen stated the major work that has to be done on the Trickle Filter would have to be done when the ground is soft.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kitchen reported that:

- he met with Ivan Corbett & fire department.
- he attended an RSC 11 Zoom meeting and the biggest topic was discussions on Solid Waste and extending its life cell.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) NHS Boys Hockey Request

20-146 Motion: Councillor Farnsworth
 Second: Councillor McConaghy

“That Council donate \$100 – Silver, small calendar ad to the NHS Boys Hockey fundraiser.”

Motion carried.

B) NHS Yearbook Request

20-147 Motion: Councillor Simpson
 Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That Council purchase a half page ad at a cost of \$100 to the NHS Year Book committee.”

Motion carried.

C) NHS GSA Request

20-148 Motion: Councillor Farnsworth
 Second: Councillor McConaghy

“That the Town of Nackawic support and paint a rainbow crosswalk on Landegger Drive and it is to be reviewed yearly.”

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Councillor Toole stated the Town would also need to fix the curb where the sidewalk ends because it would be difficult for someone in a wheelchair to get over it.

Randy Wilson stated they will fix up the curb before the sidewalk is painted.

Motion carried.

D) Dog Control Officer

20-149 Motion: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That the Town of Nackawic

Motion carried.

E) Ron Berube Nomination

20-150 Motion: Councillor Toole
Second: Councillor Simpson

“That the 2020 Ron Berube Volunteer of the Year be awarded to Julie Stone.”

Motion carried.

20-151 Motion: Councillor McConaghy
Second: Councillor Simpson

“That Council move to Closed Session.”

Motion carried.

Council moved to Closed Session at 8:28 pm and Dallas Cakes left the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION:

A) Fire Service Moving to Become an LSD Department

20-152 Motion: Councillor Farnsworth
Second: Councillor McConaghy

“That Council move back to regular session.”

Motion carried.

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Council moved back to regular session at 9:55 pm.

20-153 Motion: Councillor Simpson
 Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Ian Kitchen
Mayor

Randy Wilson
CAO