

TOWN OF NACKAWIC
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor Kitchen
Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Councillor Simpson
Councillor Farnsworth
Councillor Meade

ABSENT: Councillor Toole

IN ATTENDANCE: Kathryn Clark, Acting CAO
Dallas Cakes
Jim Dumville, River Valley Sun
John Deviet

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

Mayor Kitchen stated he would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded and unsurrendered territory of Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

22-127 Motion: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
Second: Councillor Simpson

“That the agenda be approved as presented.”

Motion carried.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

There was no declaration of conflicts of interest.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 3, 2022, REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

22-128 Motion: Councillor Simpson
Second: Councillor Meade

“That the minutes of the October 3, 2022, regular council meeting be approved as presented.”

Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Councillor Simpson asked if the ammonia detector was fixed.

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Kathryn Clark stated no, Black and MacDonald will be back to fix it before ice season starts.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A) Local Government General Election Schedule

Mayor Kitchen stated it was for Council's viewing and reminded anyone who was reoffering, the deadline to have your nomination papers submitted was October 28th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance –

Kathryn Clark reported on the Income Statements for General Operating and Utility up to September 30th.

Councillor Simpson asked if there were anymore grants coming in and if so, would it be in addition to the 1.79 million that was budgeted and if so, how much were they.

Kathryn Clark stated yes, approximately \$140,000.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked if the new siding to pump house 1 was completed and if the cost was put into last year's budget.

Kathryn Clark stated it was to be repainted, but it did not get done this summer.

Library –

Councillor Farnsworth stated they have a meeting the first Tuesday in November. She stated that the new manager, Marsha Nason, has lots of ideas for the library board.

Protective Services –

FIRE

Mayor Kitchen reported on the minutes of September 25 & October 11, 2022 meeting.

Recreation –

Under CAO's report.

Public Works –

Councillor Simpson updated Council on the Dillion Consulting report stating the final

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completion date for the trickle filter has been moved to August 31st, 2023, instead of the original deadline of June 30th, 2023 because it's too late in the year to start with the new election on November 28th and there has been shortage delays in shipping.

Kathryn Clark stated they have until 2025 to have it finished.

Councillor Simpson stated the temporary cover over the roof will have to be put in place again this winter.

Kathryn Clark stated yes, she has had discussions with the Public Works director regarding this.

Special Reports – No report

Acting Chief Administrative Officer's Report

Kathryn Clark stated that:

-weekly meetings of the Regional CAO group have continued via zoom with our transition leader, Greg Lutes. Working on the proposed 2023 budgets. A meeting with the Advisory Committee has been scheduled for October 19th to review draft budget.

-the lease agreement with AV Group for the camp and ski trails has been completed and signed.

-she spoke with Robin Canavan, RSC 11, regarding rezoning of two town properties and it will have to wait until next council as they cannot advertise or hold a public hearing prior to the election.

-the Trickle Filter Project tender closing has been extended again and Dillon Consulting submitted a progress report for Council.

-on October 5th she met with the Recreation staff and Phoenix Petroleum regarding the final items that need to be completed to close up for the winter. Phoenix will be removing the hose reel and dispenser from the gas area to store over the winter to avoid any damage from ice. They tested the fuel tank and there was no evidence of any water in the tank.

-on October 11 & 12 all the docks, gas docks and gangway were removed and placed on shore for the winter. Buoys and rope were tied to the chains to drop them to the bottom of the river. All water lines were drained, and bathrooms were prepared for winter.

-all rental equipment has been put away for winter storage. One paddle is missing for a kayak and will have to be replaced next year.

-the remaining 3 light standards arrived on October 14th.

-on October 7th she met with Denise Paisley, York West Minor Hockey regarding the upcoming ice season schedule and outside user fees.

-on October 11th Black and MacDonald started up the ice plant and the staff began the process of ice making with tentative opening date of October 24th.

-on October 11th she met with Luke Cain, Cain Insurance regarding the upcoming amalgamation and insurance needs for the new entity.

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-the new MADD signage has been ordered for impaired boating and signs will be installed next year prior to marina opening.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane asked if she found anyone to rent the arena canteen.

Kathryn Clark stated they had people interested but they decided it wasn't for them. She placed an AD on the recreation and wellness Facebook page today.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kitchen reported that:

-he attended the UMNB conference along with Councillor Simpson and Councillor Meade on the weekend of Oct. 7-9. He stated he attended meetings regarding amalgamation and municipal reform and that RSC 11 voted down the proposed Economic Development and Tourism and the Deputy Minister approved it. He stated Mayor Slipp was awarded the Louise Breau Award and the former mayor of Saint Andrews was given the Raymond Murphy award.

-he will be attending the advisory meeting on October 19th at 6:30 pm.

Councillor Simpson stated the development of housing meetings, they stated smaller communities need to have incentives to pull developers in because there is more of a risk than bigger communities.

Mayor Kitchen stated once we receive our study back from our proposed sub-division, that will be next Council's project to go forth with. It should be affordable housing, because a lot of retired people who are downsizing, seems to go with the mini-home model where it is not too big.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Resolution for Heavy Industrial Taxation

22-129 Motion: Councillor Simpson
 Second: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane

"That Council set a local property tax rate on heavy industrial properties at a limited range of 1.7 times the residential rate for the 2023 budgeting process."

On the Question:

Councillor Farnsworth asked if the mill was the only heavy industrial property in Town.

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Mayor Kitchen stated yes.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated typically in this type of process, we would weigh any tax rate considerations as the last steps in a budget. We don't want to raise any taxes if there was a surplus. With the municipal reform and the new budget and taxes, we do not know where we are at.

Kathryn Clark stated she has been using, for budgeting purposes, the 1.7 times, it does give us the higher tax base. The Local Government is allowing municipalities to do this. After speaking with our transition leader, he had suggested, if we do want to do the 1.7, to make a motion.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated it will give the Town approximately \$20,000 more in revenue.

Kathryn Clark stated yes.

Councillor Simpson stated he had read about the tax breaks the New Brunswick mills are getting on electricity, and stated the \$20,000 with the 1.7, is very little compared to what we lost 8 years ago. He asked if Council will be doing the budgeting process this year.

Kathryn Clark stated no, the government is doing that this year.

Motion carried.

Mr. Deviet left the meeting at 7:40 pm.

B) Ski Club

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane gave a brief history of the ski club, where they have been operating for 40 years, on land owned by AV Group. There is 15 kms of trails and a cabin, which was recently renovated. He stated there have been fundraisers to raise funds to keep the trails groomed by our volunteers. They don't charge people to ski there, they more or less operate with donations. He stated there is \$6000 in the account and they spend approximately \$2000 a year for upkeep of the trails, and the club is willing to donate all the funds to the Town. He would like for Council to consider this ski trail a recreational asset and create a line item in the budget like a recreation event.

Mayor Kitchen stated Council did sign a 10 year lease agreement. But it will be the new Council to decide what direction we go; we can also bring it up at the advisory meeting. Hopefully, they will see the value of the ski trail.

Councillor Farnsworth asked how many kilometres the trail was.

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Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated approximately 4 km out and back.

Councillor Simpson stated this would be a small ask, and asked if the direction from the province, regarding decisions by the town was only for major items, adding this to a line item on our budget is not a big issue.

Mayor Kitchen stated it is not a big ask, but it does need to be looked at because there are a lot of questions around it.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane stated he would call it a recreational asset like the nature trail, and someone needs to step up and protect it. He thanked Mayor Kitchen and Kathryn Clark for getting the 10 year lease signed.

C) Transfer from Reserves - \$100,000

22-130 Motion: Councillor Meade
Second: Councillor Simpson

“That \$100,000 be transferred from General Capital Reserve Fund to the General Operating Fund.”

Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane commented, from the marina revenue that will continue coming in over time, it will be more than enough to cover any cost over runs.

22-131 Motion: Councillor Meade
Second: Councillor Simpson

“That Council move to closed session.”

Motion carried.

Council moved to closed session at 8:05 pm, Dallas Cakes and Jim Dumville left the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION:

A) Town Appreciation

22-132 Motion: Councillor Meade
Second: Councillor Farnsworth

“That Council move back to regular session.”

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Motion carried.

Council moved back to regular session at 8:50 pm.

22-133 Motion: Deputy Mayor MacFarlane
 Second: Councillor Meade

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Ian Kitchen
Mayor

Kathryn Clark
Acting CAO