



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF HILLSBOROUGH VILLAGE COUNCIL
September 12, 2022

PRESENT

Robert Rochon – Mayor	Melody Land – Deputy Mayor
Jeff Jonah – Councillor	Trent Steeves – Councillor
Jeff Land – Councillor	Kim Beers – Administrator/Clerk

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Rochon called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm followed by Council prayer.

Mayor Rochon advised that on September 8th, the world was informed of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Queen Elizabeth II lived her entire adult life in dedication to others and served with grace and dignity. *Mayor Rochon* asked everyone to stand observing a moment of silence in her memory.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Steeves* and seconded by *Councillor M. Land* **THAT** the agenda be approved. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously).

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor Jonah indicated a conflict of interest later in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Steeves* and seconded by *Councillor J. Land* **THAT** the minutes of August 8, 2022 be approved. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously).

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Local Governance Reform - *Mayor Rochon* advised that the Elections New Brunswick website is now updated to include information about the upcoming local government elections on November 28th, including:

- Information for potential candidates;
- Important dates;
- Proposed entity names;
- Ward maps;

The next meeting of the elected officials advisory committee is scheduled for October 5th. *Mayor Rochon* stated it is expected that committee members will have the opportunity to see the draft 2023 budget and that municipalities will be given 30 days to comment. *Mayor Rochon* asked the Administrator to provide some information as it relates to the budget side of the transition process. The Administrator has nothing to report.

Mayor Rochon advised that on Friday September 9th, the elected officials advisory committee was informed of the Minister's intention to appoint Ms. Hanna Downey into the position of Chief Administration Officer for the Community of Fundy Albert. *Mayor Rochon* congratulated Ms. Downey and wishes her every success as she assumes this complex and crucial role.



BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – cont'd

Voodoo – **Mayor Rochon** advised at the August regular meeting, **Councillor J. Land**, mentioned that he might know of someone interested in spearheading the possible Voodoo plane restoration project. Per **Councillor J. Land** no, he has not reached out to anyone.

Shoreline Trail – **Mayor Rochon** advised that at the August meeting, it was reported that the Village of Hillsborough has been approved for funding through Infrastructure Canada's Active Transportation Fund in the amount of \$158,040. Since then, Infrastructure Canada has contacted us and asked that we conduct Indigenous consultations as there is a duty to consult when receiving federal funding. Letters were sent out on August 25th along with a request for a response by the end of September. We also received correspondence to the effect that a contribution agreement between the Village and Infrastructure Canada is being drafted. Our governance reform facilitator has been informed and indicated that the finalized agreement will be between the government of Canada and the Village of Fundy Albert. We also received confirmation from the Signature Trails Infrastructure Fund through New Brunswick Tourism, Heritage and Culture that we have been approved for \$7,500 in funding to do some resurfacing work. These funds will be added to the \$7,500 confirmed from Trans Canada Trail to purchase tailings which will be installed on the Wetland Park Trail and short portions of the Gray Brook Trail.

The funding from NB Tourism, Heritage and Culture requires the Village to have a Wetland and Watercourse Alteration permit in place and approval to work on Crown Lands. The request for the WAWA permit has been submitted.

A note requesting permission from DNRE was sent on August 31st and their response is that we must apply for a lease before an interim License of Occupation (LOO) can be issued. They indicate that once they have a lease application from us and is assessed as appropriate, they will issue the interim LOO, pending the formalization of the lease agreement. We require a motion to authorize the Village of Hillsborough to apply for a lease on the three parcels of land. The cost to apply is \$1,400 plus HST. Ongoing costs will be in the form of an annual lease payment and the obligation to pay the annual property taxes.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Steeves** and seconded by **Councillor Jonah** **THAT** the Village of Hillsborough submit a lease application to The Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development Crown Lands Branch to use portions of three parcels of land that runs through the Wetland Park located on PIDs 00627695, 00627810, and 00627802 at a cost of \$1,400.00 plus HST. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously).

Mayor Rochon advised that the Village of Hillsborough has been asked by TCT to sign a Registration Agreement for the portion of the Shoreline Trail in the Village of Hillsborough. The draft agreement has been provided to members of Council. There are a number of important elements in the agreement including installation of signage, developing a trail management objective document and providing proof of insurance to TCT.

IT WAS MOVED by **Councillor Jonah** and seconded by **Councillor Steeves** **THAT** **WHEREAS** the Village of Hillsborough received confirmation for funding from Trans Canada Trails.

AND WHEREAS the Trans Canada Trail Registration Agreement, project code 104548 includes the installation and maintenance of signage, developing a Trail Management Objective document, and providing proof of liability insurance for the Village and the Village of Hillsborough Council.



BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – cont'd

BE IT RESOLVED that the municipal council endorses the Trans Canada Trail Registration Agreement, project code 104548. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously).

Basketball Court – **Mayor Rochon** requested an update regarding the basketball court project. The Administrator advised the equipment has been ordered and will be arriving in the next couple of weeks, and Atlantic Underground Services will be installing the equipment. **Councillor M. Land** advised signage has been ordered and a lighting company will be on site to suggest different lighting options. **Councillor M. Land** advised lighting has been gifted from the Hillsborough Golf Club and is currently consulting with nearby residents to ensure the installed lighting does not impact them.

Security Cameras – **Mayor Rochon** advised that the security cameras are now installed at the Village Office. The Administrator confirmed the security cameras are installed at the Visitor Information Centre and work will start this week at the Railway Museum.

UMNB Resolutions – **Mayor Rochon** advised that at the August meeting, Council adopted two resolutions to be advanced to the UMNB annual meeting: one in relation to ambulance delays and the other about inflationary relief for seniors and low-income individuals. The resolutions required amendments and were the subject of discussion during a virtual UNMB Zone meeting, where they were approved. They will be considered by a UNMB resolutions committee and, if approved, will be presented at the AGM. **Mayor Rochon** thanked **Councillors Melody Land** and **Trent Steeves** for their participation and support during the Zone 2 Zoom call to discuss these.

Meeting with the RCMP – **Mayor Rochon** advised an email was sent to Sgt. Patterson and Inspector Maillet on August 25th requesting them to meet with the public to discuss issues of concern with respect to public safety. **Mayor Rochon** received a reply, and a public meeting may be possible on a Thursday in mid to late October. Once a confirmation is communicated, a date will be coordinated.

Meeting with Environment and Local Government – **Mayor Rochon** advised that a community meeting was held on August 26th at the William Henry Steeves Museum Egypt Room. The meeting had been announced on the Village social media page and in a newsletter that was sent to all homes in the community.

Mayor Rochon advised there were seven citizens at the meeting that was chaired by **Deputy Mayor M. Land**. The public were provided the opportunity to ask Ryan Donaghy, the Deputy Minister of Environment and Local Governance and Governance Reform questions they had about the governance reform process. **Deputy Mayor M. Land** has provided an excellent summary of the discussion during the meeting. **Deputy Mayor M. Land** indicated everyone in attendance came prepared with some pointed questions and was pleased with the outcome.

Mayor Rochon asked should a summary of the questions and answers be posted on the Village's social media page? Per all of Council yes, the questions and answers should be posted. The Administrator will post the summary on the Village social media page.

Water Exploration – **Mayor Rochon** advised as an update on the request to Englobe to conduct the geophysics assessment and if any further information is available in terms of discussions with any contractors in terms of costs to build the road to access the site. The Administrator advised that Englobe will be completing a small desktop review of the past work to refresh everyone on where the work left off prior to conducting the fieldwork. The expectation is that the hydrogeologist will be conducting the site visit/geophysics in a couple of weeks' time. Once these are complete, Englobe will provide a summary and recommendations to the Village for the



BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – cont'd

future phases. **Mayor Rochon** advised he will be in contact with the property owner to update them on where we are with water exploration.

Cost sharing of regional recreation/sports/cultural assets – **Mayor Rochon** advised that correspondence was sent to the UNMB objecting to a cost sharing agreement involving the Dieppe Aquatic Centre. **Mayor Rochon** reported that at the SERSC meeting on August 30th, RSC reform facilitator Kenneth Losier provided an update in relation to this initiative. Mr. Losier indicated that the operators of the facilities named in the UMNB document did not favor the idea and that any cost sharing arrangements may be possible for future facilities.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Atlantica Outdoor Recreation, Aaron Nelson:

Mayor Rochon welcomed Mr. Nelson to the meeting and reminded him the meeting is being streamed via Facebook live. Mr. Nelson presented an update to Council on his business Atlantica Outdoor Recreation (paint ball). Mr. Nelson advised he has been in business for 9 years and has eight employees. Mr. Nelson advised he has been busy, with visitors traveling from all over Atlantic Canada.

Mr. Nelson passed out a map showing a parcel of land adjacent to his property, that he is requesting from the Village of Hillsborough. **Mayor Rochon** asked the Administrator whether the piece of land Mr. Nelson is requesting is owned by the Village of Hillsborough, per the Administrator she will have to look it up. **Mayor Rochon** believes the piece of land in question is not owned by the Village of Hillsborough; it was given to the Canadian Railway Historical Association a number of years ago. **Mayor Rochon** reminded Mr. Nelson with Local Governance Reform he is unsure whether the Village could gift land prior to amalgamation. **Councillor M. Land** asked whether Mr. Nelson was looking for a lease agreement or ownership, per Mr. Nelson he is looking for ownership.

The Administrator will follow up with Mr. Nelson this week.

Mayor Rochon thanked Mr. Nelson for his presentation. Mr. Nelson exited the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Statement of Public Interest (SPI)

Mayor Rochon advised that on August 31st the Statement of Public Interest Working Group circulated a draft set of Land Use Planning Statements of Public Interest. SPIs are intended to eliminate land use planning conflicts and provide clarity between uses for decision making. Government is planning to adopt the SPIs in Regulations under the Community Planning Act on January 1, 2023 as part of the governance reform process.

Mayor Rochon indicated that the document was circulated for our review and a virtual consultation session is being held on September 14th at 10:00 am. **Mayor Rochon** advised that Mr. Chad Peters from Lynwood Strategies will be facilitating the discussion. They have only invited one person to attend for each municipality and will be looking for feedback, **Mayor Rochon** indicated he will be attending the meeting. **Mayor Rochon** asked Council if there are any concerns with these?

The SPIs include statements about

- Settlement patterns;
- Agriculture;
- Climate Change



- Flood hazard and hazardous areas

Mayor Rochon advised that some of our rural residents may have some concerns about the proposed statements around settlement patterns and agriculture.

Mayor Rochon will also ask for clarification as it relates to the settlement patterns because if there are too many restrictions, it will discourage population growth in rural New Brunswick.

An observation *Mayor Rochon* has is that they have consulted land use planners and practitioners, municipal associations, Regional Service Commissions and Non-Government Organizations. It appears that despite the title, Statements of Public Interest, they have not yet sought input from the public. *Mayor Rochon* will be asking if this is planned.

Councillor J. Land added that Government should be consulting with the farmers as this will impact them, with rising costs. *Mayor Rochon* advised that he spoke with a resident who is concerned about land use planning and in particular discouraging residential developments outside of the larger centers with imposing the minimum property size for a new residential development of five acres.

Municipality Week (September 19-September 25)

Mayor Rochon advised that Municipality week is the week of September 19th to 25th. Municipalities are encouraged to bring attention to the work of elected officials and municipal employees by doing simple things like using the logo on our email signatures, posting posters in the community, on our social media page, and mentioning it during public appearances. They also encourage municipal declarations during council meetings.

Mayor Rochon asked Council whether they support a declaration, all of Council confirmed they support. *Councillor M. Land* indicated she will contact the school about doing a presentation to get the Youth Council back up and running.

Mayor Rochon advised that on behalf of the Council of the Village of Hillsborough, he would like to declare the week of September 19th to September 25th Municipalities Week. *Mayor Rochon* encouraged citizens to tune into our Facebook live Council meetings and try to become more engaged and informed on what happens in our community.

MONTHLY EXPENSES PAID

The Administrator advised that no expenses were paid in August.

WATER REPORT

The Administrator advised Council that Well #1 is currently pumping and is at 17.42 meters, and Well # 3 is not pumping and is at 51.79 meters.

LETTERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

The Administrator advised Council that there were no permits issued in August 2022.

The Administrator advised that a request for financial support was received from the 21st Eric K. Steeves Charity Golf Tournament Committee, which is taking place October 1, 2022. **IT WAS MOVED** by *Councillor J. Land* and seconded by *Councillor Jonah* THAT the Village of Hillsborough sponsor the 21st Eric K. Steeves Charity Golf Tournament in the amount of \$300.00. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously).

The Administrator advised that a request for financial support was received from PAWS (formerly Greater Moncton SPCA), requesting sponsorship for the upcoming 30th annual paws walk taking place September 17th. Council is not interested at this time.



The Administrator advised for the month of August the Village of Hillsborough invoiced the Village of Riverside Albert \$4,191.46 (inc. tax) for 15 hours and ten trips for the use of the Village of Hillsborough's water and wastewater operator.

The Administrator advised she circulated the Draft Financial Statements to all of Council. The Administrator advised that the auditor is currently away and will contact the office to schedule a special meeting to go over the 2021 financial statements.

The Administrator advised that a special garbage pick-up is scheduled for Thursday, September 29, 2022.

The Administrator advised that the garbage contract is set to expire December 31st, 2022 and was advised by the transition facilitator to extend for 1 year only. The Administrator reached out to Fero and they supplied a quote of \$76,701.02 plus HST. **IT WAS MOVED** by **Councillor J. Land** and seconded by **Councillor Steeves** **THAT** the contract with FERO Waste and Recycling Inc. for household waste collection be renewed for a one-year term from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, for a rate of \$76,701.02 plus HST. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously).

The Administrator advised that one of the arena user groups requested whether Council would consider installing WIFI at the Hillsborough arena. **Councillor J. Land** advised it had been brought up in the past however, due to the cost involved at the time Council did not proceed. The Administrator will proceed with exploring prices and will discuss at the next meeting of Council.

The Administrator circulated an email received from the Hillsborough Baptist Church that they are celebrating their 200th Anniversary from Friday, September 30th to Sunday, October 2nd.

Friday, September 30th - 6:30 PM - Music Night

Saturday, October 1st - 6:00 PM - Banquet

Sunday, October 2nd - 10:30 AM - 200th Anniversary Morning Worship Service

Mayor Rochon has confirmed his attendance to bring greetings and kickoff the celebration on Friday September 30th.

The Administrator advised Council that the next Regular Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 3, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL FOR ITEMS REQUIRING DIRECTION OR DECISIONS

Councillor Steeves advised that the Fire Department asked if there was a date set for the Christmas Parade, **Mayor Rochon** advised that the parade is the first Saturday in December.

Councillor M. Land advised that she has received calls from concerned residents regarding rats in the Surrey area and sightings around the school. **Councillor M. Land** shared with Council pictures of damage caused by rats inside of a home. **Councillor M. Land** advised that the resident is asking whether the Village is open to hiring a pest management company for a more aggressive approach. **Mayor Rochon** asked whether it is the Village of Hillsborough's responsibility or the responsibility of the homeowner. **Mayor Rochon** advised that the school should be advised that there have been sightings of rats. The Administrator will consult with a pest management company for recommendations.

Councillor Jonah thanked and congratulated **Councillor M. Land** and the basketball fundraising committee for their hard work and exceeding their fundraising goal.



Councillor Jonah advised that in the past Council has had conversations around the campers who park in the parking lot on Steeves Street. **Councillor Jonah** asked a few of the campers if they were not parked here where would you be? The campers responded with “wherever the app takes me”. **Councillor Jonah** added the campers have been supporting the small businesses in the Village. **Councillor J. Land** reported the campers are not just parked here in the Village, but they are everywhere.

Councillor J. Land advised that the Friends of the Arena are in the process of getting a new sign designed for the Hillsborough Arena.

Councillor J. Land advised that the vendors at the artisan village reported there were less people spending money this season. **Councillor Steeves** added the numbers were up significantly at the Railway Museum this season.

Mayor Rochon advised he met with representatives of Horizon Health once again on August 23rd, where they toured our 61 Academy Street building. They once again reiterated their interest in occupying the property to locate phlebotomy services, and primary health care services.

Mayor Rochon indicated their real property manager will prepare a list of occupancy requirements (required renovations) and provide these to us. **Mayor Rochon** provided our transition facilitator Chad Peters a summary on August 24th of the visit and review and seeking his input and has not heard back from him.

Mayor Rochon advised that on August 25th, he and **Councillor J. Land** toured the municipality with MP Rob Moore. **Mayor Rochon** and **Councillor J. Land** paid particular attention to developments at the basketball court, trails and economic development initiatives in the community linked to the White Rock Recreational Area. They also touched on water exploration and infrastructure investment. Overall, **Mayor Rochon** advised it was a positive visit.

Mayor Rochon advised that on August 31st he and **Councillor Jonah** participated in a rural municipalities’ town hall via Zoom on August 31 where two MPs were interested in hearing about concerns that small rural municipalities have. The number one concern is with access to reliable broadband.

The Village of Hillsborough issues raised:

- Roads; Rte 114’s deplorable condition, and the need to designate it as a tourism corridor;
- Rural broadband
- Employment. While employment was not raised as one of our main concerns, it is something that is to smaller communities and will be for Fundy Albert. The ability of tourism operators to hire employees is an important one for them. **Mayor Rochon** took the opportunity to highlight the fact that tourism operators in our area find it difficult to hire a sufficient number of people. Possibly expand the temporary foreign worker program to include seasonal tourism operators.

Mayor Rochon also included the need to have affordable housing options for seniors on fixed incomes.

Mayor Rochon advised that a resident reached out to him asking about whether there were restrictions on when and where people could set off fireworks. According to the resident, they are being set off quite often and their pet is very distressed by the noise. Waterfowl are also apparently disturbed by the noise. **Mayor Rochon** indicated to the resident that there were not any restrictions but would bring the matter to Council’s attention. **Councillor Jonah** advised he



has noticed that some residents are posting on social media letting people know when fireworks will be set off.

Mayor Rochon advised that following the receipt of a number of complaints of dirt bikes being operated carelessly in the community, a message was posted on Facebook. It had been reported that dirt bikes have been racing up and down streets and doing wheelies. The message was aimed to:

- Inform residents that they need to call the police;
- Ask the parents to have their youth stop doing so;
- Inform everyone that we have asked for a public meeting with the RCMP to discuss issues of concern, including dirt bikes, speeding, vandalism, theft and police presence.

Mayor Rochon advised he was surprised and saddened to see the number of comments suggesting that youth in the community should be allowed to continue doing this. Comments were critical of Council's decision to post this information and suggesting residents who have an issue with this should move to the city.

Mayor Rochon reminded the public that as elected officials we have a responsibility to the community in a number of areas, including public safety. We also have a responsibility to uphold the laws of Canada and the Province of New Brunswick and protect the financial interests of the community. We simply cannot ignore complaints and do nothing. More importantly, we cannot be seen or perceived to encourage activity that places a liability on the community.

Mayor Rochon asked Council if they want to add anything: **Councillor Jonah** praised a young man who lives on his Street who respects the Village Streets while riding his motor bike.

Councillor M. Land advised this is about safety and keeping people alive. **Councillor Steeves** and **Councillor J. Land** stated just slow down.

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING UPDATE

Mayor Rochon advised that he attended the SERSC Finance and Budget committee meeting on August 17th where members were provided information about the proposed budgets for existing and new mandated services. The new mandated services include:

- Regional Transportation;
- Regional Social and Community Development;
- Regional Recreation Infrastructure Cost Sharing;
- Regional Economic Development;
- Regional Tourism Promotion

The new mandated services will cost property owners .6 cents per \$100 of assessed value and represents a conservative approach to the development of the mandated services by the SERSC.

Mayor Rochon advised that on August 30th a budget presentation was delivered by the SERSC CFO Stephanie Thorne. The draft budget, which includes the mandated services, will be provided to Minister Allain for review and approval.

Mayor Pollock of Petitcodiac gave an impassioned presentation about their entity's concerns with the governance reform process.

Mr. Mike Randall with the Greater Moncton Homelessness Steering Committee gave a presentation aimed at encouraging the SERSC to help with the homelessness issue in the greater Moncton area.



IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Steeves* and seconded by *Councillor J. Land* that Council have an in-camera session at 8:00 pm. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously).

IN-CAMERA MEETING

Local Governance Act 68(1)(b) – RTIPPA

Local Governance Act 68(1)(j) – Labour & employment matters

Local Governance Act 68(1)(f) – Legal

Councillor Jonah exited the meeting at 8:41 pm and returned at 8:48 pm

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor J. Land* and seconded by *Councillor M. Land* to return to regular session at 8:49 pm. **MOTION CARRIED** (unanimously)

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED by *Councillor Steeves* **THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Mayor

Administrator/Clerk