

January 18, 2016

The regular monthly council meeting of the Alma Village Council was held on January 18, 2016 at 7:00pm at the Village Office. Attending were Mayor Shortt, Deputy Mayor Casey, Councillor Butland and Councillor Bowron. Also attending was Mr. Murray Long.

Mayor Shortt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

It was moved by Councillor Butland and seconded by Councillor Casey to approve agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Councillor Bowron and seconded by Councillor Casey to approve the minutes of November 16, 2015, also special meetings that were held on December 17, 2015 and January 06, 2016 as submitted by Assistant Clerk Hoar. Motion Carried.

Financial Reports

It was moved by Councillor Casey and Seconded by Councillor Butland to approve Financial Reports as presented by Assistant Clerk Hoar. Motion Carried.

Committee Reports

Mayor Shortt reported that Regional 7 meeting was cancelled in December. Mayor Shortt met in person with MP Alaina Lockhart on December 16, 2015, bringing her up to date on what is important for Alma. Mayor Shortt informed her that the village is still waiting for Vision Alma Funding. MP Alaina Lockhart showed favor and positive attitude towards Vision Alma. Mayor Shortt also brought up the issue of payment in lieu of taxes, which Mayor Shortt expressed that she wanted an explanation. Mayor Shortt did not receive a reply from MP Alaina Lockhart at which time she followed up by an email. Mayor Shortt received an email stating that they are looking into her request.

Mayor Shortt also mentioned that she will be meeting with EXP (Mr. Dave Crandall) on January 19, 2016 regarding the Lagoon.

Mayor Shortt conveyed that our By-Laws are now online. As of January 01, 2016 our minutes will also be available online once council has approved them.

- Deputy Mayor Casey reported concerns on garbage pick-ups, Council needs to determine criteria for residential and commercial garbage collection.

Mr. Aaron Nelson will need to be contacted for more details. If Mr. Aaron Nelson is picking up garbage that is not residential but commercial than the village will pay more for tipping fees. It was decided by council that this issue should be brought to the Rural Revision Plan Committee. A Letter needs to go out to Canada Post so that they can make arrangements for commercial garbage collection.

No word on Vision Alma.

- Councillor Butland reported that there has been no contact with Mr. Bob Rochon Regional Emergency Management Coordinator (EMO) to ascertain information regarding our tri-community Plan. Councillor Butland will send another email in hopes of getting a response.
- Councillor Bowron reported no one so far has shown interest in the water conservation committee.
- Water Report was read.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Concerning the land title around our reservoir we are making slow progress, the village office was contacted by a solicitor from the new owner wanting the name of our solicitor so that they could forward the records and title, at which time Clerk Butland gave them Mr. Mike Cormier's number. Clerk Butland called Mr. Mike Cormier today unfortunately he was out of his office until next week.
- B. Rural Revision Plan committee had its first meeting for the revision of the Rural Plan, good representation from the community. First meeting was exploratory only. Next meeting scheduled January 28th 2016 at 6:30pm, committee will be working on definitions.
- C. It was moved by Councillor Casey and Seconded by Councillor Bowron to rescind motion to transfer \$10,000.00 from General Operating Account # 4851-0306045 to General Operating Reserve account # 4851-0306053 which was made on December 17, 2015 at a Special Meeting. Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Gas Tax funds need to be transferred before we meet with the accountant on Feb. 04, 2016. The village is waiting for available funds to make transfer from General Operating to Gas Tax.
- b. Provincial designated highways - village office received a letter on December 04, 2015 from Acting Director Mr. James Hoyt a second letter on December 22, 2015 from Minister of Finance/Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Mr. Roger Melanson at which time Mayor Shortt replied by letter stating her concerns for small rural communities such as this one when it came to the formula to determine percentage of village's contribution, it varies from 5 to 15 %. Mayor Shortt continued by saying that the Village of Alma is not in a fiscal position to spend any additional funds on infrastructure, particularly on provincially designated highways for which our residents pay annual taxes. Mayor Shortt also thought that the time-line to supply their Department with a 5 year priority plan does not give anyone a chance to prepare a detailed document and assessment of upcoming infrastructure needs. Clerk Butland needs to send letter of our 5 year plan to Mr. Roger Melanson.
- c. It was moved by Councillor Casey and seconded by Councillor Bowron that we accept the renewal memorandum of agreement between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by the Minister of the Environment for the purpose of the Parks Canada Agency Fundy Nation Park ("Parks Canada") and The Municipality of the Village of Alma in the County of Albert, New Brunswick ("Alma"). Parks Canada will pay a flat fee for service to Alma in the amount of Twenty Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$22,500.00), on an annual basis. Motion Carried.
- d. PRAC – The Closing date for the sale of the previous United Church property is on Jan 29, 2016. The new owners are looking for a temporary use permit for their Microbrewery which was submitted to the planning review and adjustment committee (PRAC). PRAC will meet on January 27th and a decision will be made at that time on whether or not a temporary permit will be issued. Surrounding home owners have in general shown support for the microbrewery but express concern regarding water usage. The new owners have proposed to only use water between the hours of 9pm to 6 am. Mayor Shortt would like to see them change their proposal to 10:00pm to 6:00 am, however this needs further investigation. EXP has indicated to them that there is enough water supply for their Microbrewery. Councillor Casey is worried that this may cause another water boil order. Mr. Dave Crandall from EXP will be coming tomorrow January 19th to meet with Mayor Shortt, Mayor Shortt invited all the councillors to join the meeting to express their concerns.
- e. Dominique Audet requested the use of the Activity Center for Yoga and Belly Dancing at a reduced rate, Mayor Shortt suggested renting lower level of the Activity Centre for \$30.00 an evening. It was moved by Councillor Bowron and Seconded by Councillor

Butland for the cost of \$30.00 down stairs of the Activity Centre could be rented for such events. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter received from Forest Dale Home Foundation looking for a donation for cable cost. It was moved by Councillor Butland and Seconded by Councillor Bowron to give a donation in the amount of \$150.00. Motion Carried.
- Letter received for new application process for student Seed Program.
- Approval Compliance Evaluation (ACE) Form section Deficiency List shows issues that need to be addressed by the date given by the province.
- NB Liquor Store is on the cusp of finishing a pilot project.
- Ministerial approval number 15-0092 confirming the decision of the Municipal Capital Borrowing Board. Under subsection 4(3) of the Municipal Capital Borrowing Act, the Minister of Environment and Local Government approves an authorization granted by the Municipal Capital Borrowing Board on November 9, 2015 for the Municipality "Village of Alma". \$123,000 for Environmental Health Services (Utility). \$40,000.00 for Transportation Services, \$233,060.00 Interim Financing for Environmental Health Services (Utility).
- Tantramar Climate Change Week will be starting January 25th - January 30, 2016.
- Department of Environment and Local Government Letter received from Mr. Daniel Goguen about purchase of firefighting hose through Mic Mac Fire and Safety.

BILLS

All Bills are paid.

It was moved by Councillor Butland and Seconded by Councillor Casey to go to "In Camera Session". Motion Carried.

It was moved by Councillor Casey and Seconded by Councillor Butland to come out of "In Camera Session". Motion Carried.

Councillor Bowron moved that the meeting be adjourned.
