

February 15, 2016

The regular monthly council meeting of the Alma Village Council was held on February 15, 2016 at 7:00pm at the Village Office. Attending were Mayor Shortt, Deputy Mayor Casey, and Councillor Bowron, Mrs. Louise Butland (Clerk/Treasurer), Mrs. Brenda Hoar (Assistant Clerk). RCMP Cpl. Chantal Ouellette as well as Mr. Lee Warnock  
Councillor Butland absent.

Mayor Shortt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

### **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

It was moved by Councillor Bowron 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 the meeting which was held on January 18<sup>th</sup> as submitted by Assistant Clerk Hoar. Motion Carried.

### **Financial Reports**

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

### **Committee Reports**

Mayor Shortt reported that she attended the Southeast Regional Service Commission Meeting, at which time they identified six goals which the R.S.C. 7 wants to accomplish.

Goal 1. Effective Governance to ensure organizational integrity and capacity for mandated services. Committee members are; Mayor Y. Lapierre & LSD Chair \President – DSL Chuck Steeves.

Goal 2. Regional Collaboration and Service Delivery with mechanisms for collaboration across services and mandates. Committee members are; Mayor J. Gogan and Mayor R. Berry.

Goal 3. Economic Development and Tourism strategy for economic development while taking in account assets and industries. Committee members are Mayor J-A. Cormier, Mayor Jacques LeBlanc and Mayor S.A. Casey.

Goal 4. Sports, Leisure and Culture Infrastructures plus rural transportation, Opportunities for collaboration, consolidation and sharing. Committee members are Mayor T. Keating, Mayor D. LeBlanc and Mayor S.D. Pollock and Mayor Kirstin Shortt.

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Goal 5. Initiate a regional development plan, framework and implementation approach within legislative realities. Committee members are; LSD Chair R. Boudreau and Mayor K. Shortt.

Goal 6. Communication and Branding to increase visibility of SERSC Services, benefits, and achievements. Committee members are; Mayor J. Bear, Mayor D. Dodier and Mayor A. Seamans.

Mayor Shortt met with Mrs. Geri Syroteuk NB South Field Unit Superintendent, Mr. Doug Watson, Miss Nadine Gauvin, and Mr. Dan Mazerolle at Fundy National Park, in order to ascertain status of infrastructure surrounding break water upgrade.

Mayor Shortt informed them that there is a strong interest group in Alma that would like to develop a break water walk way as a tourist attraction. Parks Canada only has a temporary permit from Environment Canada, once this expires the break water walk way is to be taken out and put back to its natural state. She wanted to explore options with FNP regarding possible development of that approach to make it into a tourist attraction, to watch the tides. /at this point they have no authority to alter the original agreement.

The Mayor also received an update of all the funding received by the Park, the last addition of \$8.million is for development of trails, the previous 28. Million is for upgrade of existing infrastructure. It was suggested that a presentation be made to village council with more details.

Mayor Shortt arranged a meeting with MP Alaina Lockhart on Feb. 13, 2016 to discuss the possibility of turning the breakwater approach into a tourist attraction. Mrs. Lockhart will obtain further information concerning the viability of such a project. She will get back to us with this information.

Mayor Shortt also discussed with MP Alaina Lockhart the issue of payment in lieu of taxes. The MP is going to make some inquires and will get back to us at a later date.

Mayor Shortt attended a committee meeting for Horizon Health Network's Community Health Needs Assessment Team. This committee has worked hard over the last two years completing their project called Albert County Area Community Health Needs Assessment. Now sub-committees will be formed to address the 10 issues that are of concern in our area. While at this meeting Mrs. Phyllis Hudson Administrator of the Wellness Center was concerned about the lack of use of the Alma Clinic and she will try to get some statistics together to be reviewed and discussed with the Village of Alma.

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RCMP – Cpl. Ouellette reported that since Sept 2015 there were only 9 reported cases. A couple of 911 calls, noise complaint, and abandoned vehicles etc., other than that it has been quiet.

- Deputy Mayor Casey reported, Vision Alma ACOA funding has to go through First Nation Consultation and that final decision will be made for Vision Alma funding once their response is on file.
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- A new committee has been formed in Hillsborough to address the issue of renovating or building a new rink, eventually they will be requesting a letter of support.
- Councillor Bowron nothing to report.
- Water Report was read.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Land at Reservoir, Clerk Butland was in touch with Mr. Mike Cormier from Murphy Collette Murphy Law Office. He informed Clerk Butland that he will be looking after the transfer of land title and that this will be an expense to the Village.
- B. Rural Plan Revision committee are meeting every three weeks. The next meeting will be Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:30. Mrs. Tracey Wade will be joining the committee in March and will be giving a presentation on the Rural Plan.
- C. It was moved by Councillor Bowron and seconded by Councillor Casey that a rental fee of \$30.00 will be charged for use of meeting space for the fishermen and yoga classes.  
Motion Carried

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Insurance – The firemen changed their insurance company for accidental coverage, they were with Frank Cowan Insurance and are now with Andrew MacDonald Insurance.
- b. The fire fighters require an additional storage space and Mr. David Rossiter was to give a presentation of the project, unfortunately Mr. Rossiter did not attend the meeting so this presentation will be tabled for next month.
- c. It was moved by Councillor Bowron and Seconded by Councillor Casey to purchase a portable generator and three phase converter not exceeding \$2000.00. Motion Carried.

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## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Received a letter from Mr. Roger Melanson Minister of Finance/Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure on February 3, 2016, that he understood that the Village of Alma is not in a financial position to partner with DTI therefore our projects when submitted will be considered under the \$8 million traditional fund. Mayor Shortt will write a letter back to Mr. Roger Melanson asking that the 2km piece of road on highway 114 under the 8 million traditional fund be completed this year.
- Received a letter from Connecting Albert County stating advertising fees for their newsletter. Council felt the fee for advertising in their newsletter is too high and Council felt that a letter of support could be sent instead.
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- Received an email from Donna Godfrey affirming a meeting on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 in the Library at Caledonia. Raquell Leclerc will give a presentation on Youth and Drugs. Council is invited to attend.
- Received a letter from Mr. Jeff Grandy in relation to water hook-up. (micro-brewery)
- Received a letter from Tracey McDonald stating that there is no building permit report for the month of January 2016.
- Received a letter from Robert S. Gallagher, M.Sc. Eng., P. Eng. Project Manager pertaining to Municipal Groundwater Supply Source.( EXP water exploration)
- Received a letter from Hon. Brian Kenny Minister Department of Environment and Local Government. They want help to make decisions required in their second budget which allows them to invest in New Brunswicker's priorities of jobs, education and healthcare. Councillor Casey will contact them and report back.
- Received an email from Mr. Bob Rochon stating he is working on the Albert County Tri-Community EMO Plan which should be completed shortly.
- We received payment of \$693.12 for the last quarter from Southeast Regional Service Commission.

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- Received letter from Ms. Alexandra Ferris, CPA, CA Director of Community Finances with enclosed copies of approval for our 2016 Operating Fund Budgets as well as Water & Sewer Budget for 2016.

**BILLS**

All Bills are paid.

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

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

It was moved by Councillor Casey and seconded by Councillor Bowron that upon strong recommendation and guidance from our engineers we are raising our water usage rates for lobster shops. Council agrees that commencing April 1, 2016 all lobster shops will be invoiced for four units of water consumption and Alma Lobster shop five due to the adjacent take out. Motion Carried.

Clerk Butland gave first and second reading of By-Law #88 Schedule B (Commercial Business).

Councillor Casey moved that the meeting be adjourned.

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