

Renaud Ouellette / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

2016-117 that the correspondence report is accepted as read. Carried

DRINKING WATER

The potable water analyses for November 2016 were received showing « potable water » results.

Jean Maurice Gagnon / Michel Ouellette,

2016-118 that potable water tests be accepted and filed. Carried

MOTIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

A water boil order was issued because of a major break in the region of the shopping center on Madawaska Road.

Thanks to Edmundston for the loan of the equipment that enabled us to detect the leak. Miscellaneous valve and infrastructure repairs were done as well as repairs to the lagoon aerator and a hydrant on Harley Hill.

The sanitary sewer flushing is finished.

A catch basin was repaired on E. H. Daigle Boulevard as well as repairs to the ditch and surface water gutters at the entrance to the golf club, among others.

Electrical and mechanical repairs to wells 1 and 2

Renaud Ouellette / Michel Ouellette,

2016-119 That the tender received from Denis Godbout Electric in the amount of \$23,800 plus tax for well no. 1 and \$37,900 plus tax for well no. 2 is accepted. Carried

Other prices received: Transic Construction	\$52,422.18	Well 1
	\$66,318	Well 2

PLANNING

A total of 19 permits were given in November for a total yearly value of 7.5 million at the end of November.

333 High Street

**Note: Councillor Renaud Ouellette declares conflict of interest and leaves the room.

Mayor Deschênes explains that Council refuses the zoning amendment request because of the objections received from neighbours and the recommendations of the Planning Advisory Committee.

Denise Lagacé-Rioux / Jean Réal Michaud,

2016-120 that the Grand Falls Town Council refuse the amendments requested to the Municipal Plan and Zoning By-Law from residential to institutional for the property at 333 High Street. Carried

253 Front Street

Renaud Ouellette / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

2016-121 considering that the existing situation at 253 Front Street in Grand Falls, Victoria County, NB, PID 65011025, concerning the construction of a non-conforming accessory building situated on the above-mentioned property, contravenes By-law 38 the Town of Grand Falls Building By-Law and its modifications;

Be it resolved that all legal procedures be instituted in accordance with this motion against Camile Joseph Godbout, PID 65011025;

Be it resolved that the Town of Grand Falls designate, authorize and name Éric Gagnon and / or Jacques Desjardins to act for and in the name of Council to carry out by-laws in the existing situation at 253 Front Street in Grand Falls pursuant to the municipal authority described below:

Be it also resolved that said designation includes the following:
-92(1), 94(1), 95 (1) and 98 of the Community Planning Act in order to enter upon the property, request court orders from the Court of Queen's Bench and begin proceedings in Provincial Court;

Be it also resolved that the services of the lawyer André Daigle, of the Droit Juris Law firm be retained in order to institute the necessary legal procedures to ensure conformity with the contravened by-law;

Be it also resolved that said authorizations, designations and nominations continue until they have been limited or revoked by Council. Carried

FIRE

An interesting workshop was held concerning the CN railway and the dangerous goods that are transported in our region. The off-road rescue was also discussed during this workshop. Plans will be prepared in the near future for a new fire station.

FARMERS' MARKET

The season ended with the Christmas market on December 3rd.

JEUX DE L'ACADIE

Monthly organisational meetings continue. Plans are going well.

RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Employees are busy with hockey and miscellaneous tournaments. People are encouraged to visit the CEPSC Website for more information on activities.

More tourists visited Grand Falls in 2016 partly because of our reputation as a welcoming town. The employees at the tourist centers are congratulated.

POLICE

The chief reminds everyone to not drink and drive specially during this holiday season. The Christmas parade went well.

Suspects have been arrested in connection with a rash of thefts.

Chief

Jean Réal Michaud / Denise Lagacé Rioux,

- 2016-122 That Suzanne Themens is promoted to the rank of Police Chief for the Grand Falls Police Force as of January 1st, 2017. Carried

Deputy chief

Jean Réal Michaud / Denise Lagacé Rioux,

- 2016-123 That Luc Martin is promoted to the rank of Deputy Police Chief for the Grand Falls Police Force as of January 1st, 2017. Carried

Casual police officer

Jean Réal Michaud / Denise Lagacé Rioux,

- 2016-124 that Rémi-Pierre Bossé is hired as a casual police officer with the Grand Falls Police Force with salary, benefits and probation period per the collective agreement. Carried

Jean Réal Michaud / Renaud Ouellette,

- 2016-125 that Francis Bernier is hired as a casual police officer with the Grand Falls Police Force with salary, benefits and probation period per the collective agreement. Carried

Félix DelaSablonnaire – probation period

Jean Réal Michaud / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

- 2016-126 Given that the probation period for Félix DelaSablonnaire has been successfully completed, that Mr. DelaSablonnaire's position as casual constable is confirmed. Carried

Alexandre Marquis

Jean Réal Michaud / Michel Ouellette,

- 2016-127 Given that the probation period for Alexandre Marquis has been successfully completed, that Mr. Marquis' position as casual constable is confirmed. Carried

LIBRARY

Mark McCumber is the new library director.

CENTRAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORP.

Thanks to Jean-Paul Proulx and his team, as well as the firefighters, for organising the Christmas parade.

FINANCES

Small surpluses are expected in both municipal funds for 2016. The official results will be revealed in the spring after the audit is completed. All in all, an amount of \$1,675,000 was invested in our streets in 2016.

The 2017 budgets are explained. No tax hikes are expected in the general and water funds. The Deputy Mayor thanks the department heads for their cooperation. The Mayor thanks the Deputy Mayor and the entire municipal team for their work on budgets and their cooperation in respecting said budgets.

Photocopier - lease

Denise Lagacé-Rioux / Jean Réal Michaud,

- 2016-128 That the tender received from Xerox Canada Ltd. for the 5-year lease of three photocopiers for the amount of \$405.72 per month plus tax for each is accepted. Carried

No other tender was received.

Capital budget

Denise Lagacé Rioux / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

- 2016-129 That the Town of Grand Falls requests to the Capital Borrowing Board the authorisation to borrow the maximum amount of \$975,000 for a maximum of 10 years, distributed as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Transportation	\$575,000	10 years
Recreation & culture	\$160,000	10 years
Interim financing	\$240,000	2 years

Carried

2017 Budget – general fund

Denise Lagacé-Rioux / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

- 2016-130 that the amount of \$10,604,083 is the total operating budget of the municipality, that the amount of \$7,827,622 is the mandate of the municipality for next year, and that the tax rates are \$1.4700 and \$1.4450. Council hereby orders and prescribes that the mandate be levied by the Minister of Environment and Local Government on taxable real property assessments pursuant to the *Assessment Act* and being inside Grand Falls limits. Carried

Reserve

Denise Lagacé Rioux / Michel Ouellette,

- 2016131 that the amount of \$235,048 be transferred from the General Operating Fund to the Non-vesting Future Employee Benefits Fund – general. Carried

2017 budget – water fund

Denise Lagacé Rioux / Renaud Ouellette,

- 2016-133 that under paragraph 189 (4) of the *Municipalities Act*, the total operating budget of the Water and Sewer Department for next year will include revenues of \$1,820,704 and expenses of \$1,820,704. Carried

Reserve

Denise Lagacé Rioux / Jean Maurice Gagnon,

- 2016-134 that the amount of \$ 45,000 be transferred from the Water and Sewer Operating Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund for the reservoir. Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Grand Falls Central Business Development Corp. – 2017 budget

The Deputy Clerk reads the third reading of By-law 74 to adopt the 2017 GFCBDC Inc. budget.

Denise Lagacé Rioux / Rino Long,

2016-134 That the Municipal Council adopts the third reading of By-Law 74, A municipal by-law to approve the operating budget of the Grand Falls Central Business Development Corp. Inc. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Additional garbage collections – 2017

Citizens are informed that the special garbage collections in 2017 will be on January 10 and 11, May 30 and 31 and October 24 and 25.

Monthly meetings – January 2017

There will be no monthly meeting in January. The next meeting will be on February 14th.

Christmas trees pick-up

Town employees will pick-up Christmas trees the week of January 9 to 13.

COUNCIL INTERVENTION

Holiday wishes

Every Councillor as well as the Mayor wish Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year's to all.

120th anniversary

Mayor Deschênes invites everyone to remain after the meeting to celebrate the Town's 120th anniversary.

PUBLIC INTERVENTION

Christine Levesque – Chamber of Commerce

Miss Levesque thanks Council for accepting to participate in the Chamber's regional development project.

Joe Themens

Mr. Themens is of the opinion that the Buhlé Dlamini conference was fantastic. He encourages other such conferences that are beneficial to the population.

He congratulates Council for the excellent work accomplished in seven months. He hopes that it will continue and wishes everyone Happy Holidays.

Chuck Chiasson

The MLA wishes Happy Holidays to all. He mentions that there are nice projects to come.

Maria Beaulieu

Mrs. Beaulieu questions if some of the people who signed the original petition for the rezoning at 333 High Street then signed again on the petition against. Mayor Deschênes informs her that yes, there are some individuals that changed their minds.

Mrs. Beaulieu questions also if the Councillors working for Rendez-vous Chrysler have a conflict of interest concerning the rezoning at 333 High Street. She is answered that no, they do not.

Mayor Deschênes encourages the La Source Center's director to continue her search for the ideal place. Other properties would surely be more appropriate.

Mindy Levesque

Mrs. Levesque is disappointed that her many messages sent to the Mayor were not answered and asks why. The Mayor apologizes and assures her that he must not have seen them as he usually answer his e-mails.

Héliodore Côté

Mr. Côté is happy that the Town is celebrating the 120th anniversary of the Town's incorporation. He believes that the 20-year history since the centennial should be written down. The possibility of doing more for the 125th anniversary is discussed.

Mr. Côté then wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Danny Zolondek

Mr. Zolondek is saddened that the Town does not support people with mental health issues (High Street rezoning).

He encourages the Town to be sustainable and presents a sustainable agriculture and aquaculture project.

Mr. Zolondek also wishes Happy Holidays to everyone.

INTERVENTION OF THE MEDIA

Reporters question on the following subjects:

Why have certain amounts been added to the 2017 budget where no amounts were budgeted in 2016? Council explains that these amounts are put aside for special projects in 2017 such as land acquisition for a tube lift.

Concerning the contract negotiations with the Police Force, no progress has been made to date. The Association, having a unilingual Anglophone representative, refuses to negotiate in French. The Town is still waiting for the Minister's decision as the matter was referred to him following a conciliation meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor thanks members of the public, press and the department heads for being here.

Michel Ouellette /Renaud Ouellette, that the meeting is adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Carried