

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 8, 2022

GRAND FALLS

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Town Council of Grand Falls, New Brunswick was held at the municipal building in the Roland Lafrance Room beginning at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, following notices as required by law.

ATTENDANCE

His Worship the Mayor:

Marcel Deschênes

Councillors :

Annie Deschênes

Jean Maurice Gagnon

Jocelyn "Joe" Themens

David Raines

Renaud Ouellette

As well as Acting CAO/Clerk Éric Gagnon and Deputy Clerk Lise J. Ouellette.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Deschênes welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silence following the deaths of Councillor Jean Réal Michaud and Mr. Héliodore Côté.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts are reported.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Renaud Ouellette/Annie Deschênes,

2022-014 That the agenda be accepted by removing the motion concerning Aubin Entreprises (Windsor) Ltd. Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Joe Themens/David Raines,

2022-015 That the Town Council adopt the minutes of December 21, 2021 and January 11, 2022 as received. Carried

DRINKING WATER

The drinking water analyses of the Town received since the last meeting, demonstrate "potable water" results.

Jean Maurice Gagnon / Annie Deschênes,

2022-016 that drinking water tests be received and filed. Carried

MOTIONS AND COMMITTEE RECORDS

PUBLIC WORKS

The public works department asks for people's patience regarding the cleaning of the snow since the blower is broken. Cleaning takes a lot of work and time. Inspections of the water and sewer sides were conducted.

Waste Collection and Recycling Policy – 2021-01

Jean Maurice Gagnon/Annie Deschênes,

- 2022-017 That the Town Council adopt the Garbage and Recycling Policy no. 2021-01 as received. Carried**

The Deputy Clerk explains the policy that reflects current administrative procedures for garbage removal and recycling. One change to note: the Town will not replace or repair recycling bins in the future.

Street name – change

Joe Themens/David Raines,

- 2022-018 For reasons of public safety, that a portion of Veteran Street overlooking Tobique Road be changed to Veteran South for the civic addresses 421 Tobique and 24 Veteran. That the alternate name be Fraser if Veteran South is not accepted by 911 NB. Carried**

ADMINISTRATION / HUMAN RESOURCES

Three positions are in the interview process: Technologist, temporary administrative support and Leisure and Youth Programs Coordinator. These positions are existing and must be filed to replace staff who have resigned or are on leave.

Nelson Morneau – hiring

Annie Deschênes/Renaud Ouellette,

- 2022-019 That Grand Falls Town Council appoint Nelson Morneau as a part-time police officer under subsection 11 of the Police Act with probation and benefits under the collective agreement between the Town of Grand Falls and the Grand Falls Police Association. Carried**

Jennifer Volpé – hiring

Annie Deschênes/Jean Maurice Gagnon,

- 2022-020 That Grand Falls Town Council appoint Jennifer Volpé as part-time police officer under subsection 11 of the Police Act with probation period and benefits under the collective agreement between the Town of Grand Falls and the Grand Falls Police Association. Carried**

Declaration of vacancy on Council

Annie Deschênes/Jean Maurice Gagnon,

- 2022-021 In view of the death of Councillor Jean Réal Michaud, that Grand Falls Town Council declare a vacancy on council and send notice to that effect to the Chief Electoral Officer of New Brunswick. Carried**

Mayor Deschênes explains the procedure to be followed when there is a vacancy on council. Given the November election, it is believed that the position will remain vacant until then.

COMMUNICATION

These days, the focus is on fat bike, snowshoeing and skiing trails.

GRAND FALLS CENTRAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Denis Durepos was re-elected as president during the latest elections.
New signs will be installed shortly in the downtown.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Gift cards were received and given to members to distribute or purchase.
The Chamber currently has 170 members.
The CRNANO will open an office in the Chamber of Commerce building.
A new project has started "Investing in Your Chamber".

FIRE

Thank you to the brigades who helped during the major fire on Portage Road.
Councillor Raines notes that there are positions to be filled within the brigade in Grand Falls and invites people to join.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Frost Day will take place on February 20.
An igloo building competition organized by Zip Zag.ca will begin on February 11.

RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Activities have resumed at the CEPSC due to the easing of restrictions.
The Grand Tube will open in the afternoon on February 12 and 13.
Several free activities are planned for the Frost Day. The public is reminded that the library lends snowshoes free of charge for people who have a library card.

FINANCE

We are working on the 2021 year-end. The financial statements will be presented to the public in March or April.

Signatory officers

Renaud Ouellette/Jean Maurice Gagnon,

2022-022 That the Acting CAO/ Clerk, Éric Gagnon, the Treasurer Rino Laforge or the Assistant Treasurer, Dophe Laforge as well as the Mayor Marcel Deschênes, the Deputy Mayor Renaud Ouellette or the Councillor Annie Deschênes, be appointed signatory officers for the Town of Grand Falls. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Roger and Diane Bélanger – intersection High and /Cyr Streets

Joe Themens / David Raines,

2022-023 That the Council publish a notice on its website and on its FACEBOOK page under section 111 of the Community Planning Act, Chapter 19, indicating its intention to amend the Zoning By-law in order to rezone the property bearing the PID 65001711, owned by Roger and Diane Bélanger, and located at the corner of High and Cyr Streets in Grand Falls, NB.

For the purposes of the Zoning By-law, the zoning is amended as follows:

- For the land bearing the PID 65001711, change the zoning from R2B (Single and two-family residential) to R2C (Single, two-unit and multiple-unit residential).

The purpose of this amendment is to ensure that the zoning is consistent to accommodate a multi-family dwelling.

That Council meet in council chambers on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 7 p.m., to consider the objections received.

That the Council seek the written opinion of the Planning Advisory Committee on the said amendment.

That the Clerk, in the name and on behalf of Council, arrange for the publication of public notices within the prescribed time, in accordance with the provisions of section 111 of the Community Planning Act. Carried

United Way – Day 211

The CAO explains the service offered in 150 languages, 24/7. The service connects people in need with the appropriate government agency or service.

The monument in front of the municipal building will be lit in red to commemorate the day on February 11.

By-law 87 – collection and disposal of garbage

The Deputy Clerk made the first two readings by title of By-law 87. The reading in full is dispensed with following the notices under subsection 15(3) of the Local Governance Act that have been published.

Renaud Ouellette/ Annie Deschênes, that the Grand Falls Town Council adopt the first reading of By-law 87 as read. Carried

Jean Maurice Gagnon/Joe Themens, that the Grand Falls Town Council adopt the second reading of By-law 87 as read. Carried

OTHER – interventions by council, public and media

- intervention of the council

Thanks

The John Caldwell School sent a letter of thanks for the scholarship that was awarded to Amelia Cormier.

The Mayor thanks the department heads whose work has been made more difficult during the pandemic. He also thanks the new CEO, Éric Gagnon for his involvement and dedication to the municipality as an employee and also as president of the Kahoutek ski club and the Coldbrook bike club.

Mr. Gagnon thanks the many volunteers who work in the ski, snowshoe and bike trails in the heart of the town. Everything is maintained by volunteers who deserve our full recognition.

Municipal reform

The Mayor explains the meetings that have taken place to date and the work undertaken. The next meeting will take place on February 17 where the name of the new municipality will be discussed as well as the division of wards if applicable. The Drummond LSD will join the new municipality in its entirety, and we are waiting to see if the Grand Falls LSD will do the same. If so, the new municipality would have more than 10,000 inhabitants.

The plan is that the municipality be in office on January 1st, 2023.

Jean Réal Michaud

The Mayor notes the councillor's photo and the candle lit for the meeting tonight.

Council will announce who will henceforth take the committees that had been assigned to Councillor Michaud.

The Council thanks everyone who came to sign the book of condolences and for their many wishes of sympathy.

- public intervention

Guy Cyr – Knights of Columbus

Mr. Cyr mentions that the land has not been transferred up to date. The whole thing takes time since three lawyers are involved.

Martin Bérubé

Mr. Bérubé asked if sleigh tours would be included in the Frost Day. These tours are not planned due to restrictions. This will be re-considered if the restrictions change.

ADJOURNMENT

Jean Maurice Gagnon/Annie Deschênes, moved the closing of the meeting at 8 p.m. Carried

Marcel Deschênes
Mayor

Lise J. Ouellette
Deputy Clerk