

MINUTES

MARCH 14, 2017

GRAND FALLS

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Grand Falls Municipal Council was held in the council room at the Grand Falls Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, following the notices required by law.

PRESENCE

His Honour the Mayor:

Marcel Deschênes

Councillors:

Michel Ouellette

Rino Long

Renaud Ouellette

Jean Réal Michaud

Jean Maurice Gagnon

as well as the CAO-Clerk Peter Michaud and the Deputy Clerk, Lise J. Ouellette.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest is reported.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**Michel "Rocky" Ouellette / Rino Long,**

**2017-019 That the agenda is accepted as received. Carried**

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

**Jean Maurice Gagnon /Renaud Ouellette,**

**2017-020 that the minutes from the February 14, 2017 meeting, which copies were distributed to council members, are adopted as received. Carried**

CLOSED SESSIONS

The Deputy Clerk reads the items discussed during closed meetings held on February 6, 14, and 21 2017.

CORRESPONDENCE

Invitations	2
Thanks	4
Complaints	0
Request for financial assistance	0
Request for assistance – other than financial	1
Offer of services, land or other	0
Misc. information (GNB, federal, community...)	0
Answer to a municipal request	0

2017 02 24: Diététistes en action du Nord-Ouest – request to proclaim the month of March 2017 as Nutrition Month as well as Wednesday, March 15 2017 as Dietitian’s Day. Mayor Deschênes proclaims both as requested.

**Jean Maurice Gagnon / Michel "Rocky" Ouellette,**

**2017-021 that the correspondence report is accepted as read. Carried**

#### DRINKING WATER

The potable water analyses for February 2017 were received showing « potable water » results.

**Renaud Ouellette / Michel Ouellette,**

**2017-022 that potable water tests be accepted and filed. Carried**

#### MOTIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### PUBLIC WORKS

A meeting was held between the consultants and contractors concerning the request for tender for the Broadway renovation project. The closing date for tenders is March 21<sup>st</sup>.

The new SCADA system is online and will be a major asset for the department.

Following the ice storm in the Acadian Peninsula, Councillor R. Ouellette explains that well no. 1 is equipped with a propane motor in case of a power outage and a generator is ready for the St-Georges water reservoir. The CAO mentions that our emergency plan is ready on paper. A request for a table exercise has been made to the Department of Public Safety in order to prepare employees.

##### ENVIRONMENT

Councillor R. Ouellette is part of a regional committee studying climate change vulnerabilities in the Northwest.

Invitations will be sent out in the near future for the 2<sup>nd</sup> spring cleaning event.

Tender calls for a retention pond on E. H. Daigle Boulevard as well as a UV treatment system for the lagoon will be ready soon.

##### PLANNING

The PAC recommended going ahead with three rezoning requests. The committee also recommended that the Town improve the intersection of Morrissey Street and Portage Road.

Three permits were given in February for a value of \$92,000.

##### FIRE

Alarms received in February, including two mutual aid calls, are mentioned. Residents are asked to encourage the Fire Department’s 50/50 lottery. The Department continues planning for a new fire station.

##### FARMERS’ MARKET

The Committee is preparing for next season.

##### JEUX DE L’ACADIE

Planning is ongoing for track and field and mountain bike tracks.

RECREATION, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Marco Ouellette, RTC's Director, is asked to present the monthly report.

Finals for figure skating will be at the end of March and miscellaneous hockey championships are planned during the month.

The tourism section is preparing for next season and employees will attend the *Salon du VR* in Quebec.

Many special events will be taking place at the CEPSC in the coming months such as the RCMP Regimental ball, the Commercial Expo and Relay for life.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Contract negotiations for local 886 will resume at the end of May.

POLICE

The Chief and Deputy Chief had a successful meeting with the Drummond Town Council. There will be officers patrolling on foot along Broadway next summer.

Drivers are asked to pay attention to the new stop sign at the intersection of Main Street and E. H. Daigle Boulevard.

The Department warns that telephone and computer fraud is currently ongoing.

Storage for seized vehicles

**Jean Réal Michaud / Rino Long,**

**2017-023 That the agreement with D. R. Autoworks Inc. concerning storage for seized vehicles, renewable for 5 years, is adopted. Carried**

It is noted that cars will not be stored at the lagoon in the future.

Casual police officer – hiring

**Jean Réal Michaud / Rino Long,**

**2017-024 That Éric Cassista be hired as a casual officer for the Grand Falls Police Force with salary, benefits and probation period per the collective agreement. Carried**

**Jean Réal Michaud / Rino Long,**

**2017-025 That Denis Bourgoïn be hired as a casual officer for the Grand Falls Police Force with salary, benefits and probation period per the collective agreement. Carried**

FINANCES

Mayor Deschênes informs everyone that the 2016 audit will be presented to Council at the April meeting.

Debenture

**Rino Long / Jean Réal Michaud,**

**2017-026 It is resolved that the Clerk, Treasurer or Mayor be authorized to issue and sell to the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation a Municipality of Grand Falls debenture in the principal amount of \$98,000 on such terms and conditions as are recommended by the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation, and be it resolved that the Municipality of Grand Falls agrees to**

**issue post-dated cheques payable to the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation as and when they are requested in payment of principal and interest charges on the above debenture. Carried**

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Procedures By-law – modifications

The Deputy Clerk reads the third reading by title. The full reading is dispensed with given that notices were published pursuant to section 12 (1) of the Municipalities Act.

**Renaud Ouellette / Jean Maurice Gagnon,**

**2017-027 That the Grand Falls Town Council adopts the third reading of By-law no. 2 entitled Procedural By-law of the Grand Falls Town Council. Carried**

#### COUNCIL INTERVENTION

Women's Day

Mayor Deschênes mentions that the Town's female employees went out for lunch to celebrate Women's Day. He notes the positions held by women working for the Town of Grand Falls and thanks them for their contribution.

Collective agreement – Police force

Mayor Deschênes discusses ongoing negotiations with the police department. He notes that discussions during the December 2016 meeting were printed in the newspaper in February 2017. This caused problems with the negotiations. He requests that Brunswick News be asked to print monthly meeting reports in a timely manner.

2017 projects

Summer 2017 will be busy in Grand Falls. Many projects are underway. More details will be available in April.

#### PUBLIC INTERVENTION

Martin Bérubé

Mr. Bérubé requests another "Do not enter" sign at the exit of the TCH on Ouellette Street. Council informs him that this is a provincially designated highway and is therefore the responsibility of the Province. However, the Town will inform the Province of his request.

Mr. Bérubé asks for more street lights at the intersection of Main and Ouellette Streets.

He questions that the Ron Turcotte Monument was not covered during the winter. The Mayor informs him that the monument will be cleaned in the spring. Council had decided to not cover it up.

#### INTERVENTION OF THE MEDIA

The media questions the following subjects:

The location of the new fire station – Council has not decided yet.

The reason for the debenture approved tonight – To cover engineering costs for the Broadway renovation project.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor thanks members of the public, media and the department heads for being here. He notes the ongoing storm and asks for the public's patience. Employees are working in teams and will be on the job 24 hours a day.

Michel Ouellette / Rino Long, that the meeting is adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Carried

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Marcel Deschênes  
Mayor

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Lise J. Ouellette  
Deputy Clerk