



**THE TOWN OF ST. GEORGE  
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The regular monthly meeting of the St. George Town Council held on Monday, December 14, 2020, via Zoom Video Conferencing, was called to order by Acting Mayor Avery at 7:00 pm. All Councillors in attendance. Staff attendance: Jason Gaudet CAO/Clerk, and Chris MacKinnon Administrative Assistant. Public attendance: Deputy Chief Sean Morton (SGFD), Xander Gopen (SNBSC) and one (1) resident in the public gallery.

- 2) Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** moved to approve change of venue (room) due to compliance with the current directives of the Province of New Brunswick regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, seconded by Councillor Allison. Motion carried.

**3) OPENING PRAYER:**

The opening prayer was offered by Chris MacKinnon.

**4) AGENDA:**

Councillor Allison moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Councillor Cooke. Motion carried.

**5) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. Councillor Allison moved to approve the Minutes of November 9, 2020, Regular Meeting of Council, seconded by Councillor Cooke. Motion carried.
- b. Councillor Allison moved to approve the Minutes of December 3, 2020, Closed Door Meeting of Council, seconded by Councillor Cooke. Motion carried.

**6) CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS:**

None

**7) FIRE REPORT:**

Acting Fire Chief Morton read the report for the month of November (attached).

- Councillor Cooke commented that firefighters have seen more than they needed to see. Are we doing enough to support firefighters for PTSD? Acting Chief Morton replied there is a lot of support available among the firefighters, and paramedics as well. People can come and reach out. There is a chaplain who works with all of the fire departments. In some cases people require professional help.
- Councillor Cooke asked if there is anything the Town can do to provide support? Acting Chief Morton stated some employers offer EAP for full time employees, but Department does not have it for volunteer firefighters. Recommends that as a good place to start.

**8) BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT REPORT:**

Xander Gopen, Planner at Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission, read the report as written by Alex Henderson, Planning Director, Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission, for the month of November (attached).

**9) PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

None

**10) GENERAL REPORTS:****a. General Government/Personnel:**

- **Acting Mayor Avery** presented the report for the month of November.
  - **Splash Pad:** The Town has submitted the purchase this year of the \$90,000 worth of installation and equipment for the Splash Pad.
  - **2021 Projects:** Starting to look ahead to some projects for 2021 such as paving work with the Gas Tax Fund and continue tourism work at the Eagles Nest.
  - **Canal Beach:** Application for Gas Tax Funds for Canal Beach has been submitted. We have taken on Silk Stevens as the project engineer for the work
  - **Water Level:** Water level on the Magaguadavic River is still high, and at 59 feet on Lake Utopia. The high water has brought Well #4 back to life.

**b. EMO Status Update on COVID-19 and the Town of St. George:**

- The CAO offered the EMO report for the month of October.
  - The town's status remains unchanged. Since March 17, the Town EMO remains at Level One: Active Monitoring. We anticipate this will be the case until the Province removed the State of Emergency. Our region remains at Level Yellow.
  - Through the week of Nov, 1-6, the town has been closely working with the Province, and some other municipalities in Charlotte County, on messaging related to the outbreak in Washington County, Maine, where over 50 cases have been confirmed. In October, a number of new cases were reported to outbreak connected to the Woodland Pulp and Paper Mill in Baileyville. And a second outbreak has been reportedly connect to the Second Baptist Church in Calais. Residents should continue to follow social distancing and wearing face masks in public.
  - On October 22, Zone 1 (Moncton) moved back to Yellow Phase and on November 5, Zone 5 (Campbellton) moved back to Yellow Phase.
  - As of today (November 9), the number of confirmed cases in New Brunswick is 355 and 328 have recovered. There have been six deaths, and the number of active cases is 21. Two patients are hospitalized; none are in an intensive care unit. 107,192 tests have been conducted.

**c. Community Services/Partners:**

- **Acting Mayor Avery** presented the report for the month of November.
  - COVID-19 has had an impact on every community. Each community has had its struggles and successes. St. George has done well considering what other communities have faced.
  - St. George's Deck the Town was a huge success. Congratulaions to the St. George Sparks and Brownies, our local organization winner. Thank you to everyone in the community who took part in making the Town glow.



- This week marks the 10 year anniversary of the 2010 flood.
- d. **Water & Sewerage:**
  - **Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** read the report as written by Leonard Lee, Works Foreman, for the month of November (attached).
- e. **Transportation:**
  - **Councillor Cooke** read the report as written by Leonard Lee, Works Foreman, for the month of November (attached).
  - **Councillor Cooke** asked how large rocks got on the bridge girder over the walkway. CAO replied people are throwing them up on the I-beam as a game.
- f. **Tourism:**
  - **Councillor Allison** advised there is no activity to report for the month of November.
- g. **Economic Development:**
  - **Councillor Murray** read the report as written for the month of November (attached).

**11) BILLS PAID AND PAYABLE:**

Moved by **Acting Deputy Mayor Harris**, to approve in principal the bills paid and payable for the month of November, 2020, in the amount of **\$ 289,229.48**, seconded by **Councillor Cooke**.  
Motion carried.

**12) NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Awarding of Tender # 2020-03 Production Well #6 & Upgrades Well #2  
CAO advised this is the tender for the new production well (Well #6) on Riverview Avenue and upgrades to Well #2. The tender was opened on December 2.  
The following contractors submitted tenders with the corresponding bid (excluding HST):
  - Fairville Construction Ltd. - \$489,115
  - Fundy Contractors Limited - \$619,040
  - Philson Ltd. - \$620,040Issue that we have is the engineer estimate was \$398,785 excluding HST. Looking at basically a \$100,000 difference. Asking to table until a future meeting of Council, January or possibly later. CAO is contacting the IBA with the federal government to see if there is additional funding for this project.  
The estimate was originally done in 2018. Once the tender was called we were into the pandemic where supplies are more difficult to obtain and personnel is limited.  
**Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** moved to table awarding Tender # 2020-03 Production Well #6 & Upgrades Well #2, seconded by **Councillor Cooke**.  
**Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** asked if this is something that has to get done. CAO replied the Town is already heavily invested. **Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** commented the Town has been into a couple of other wells that didn't produce anything. CAO advised we would like to have the increased capacity of water. Wells 5 and 4 at times do not have the water levels.  
Motion carried.
- b. Awarding of Tender # 2020-09 Municipal Insurance.

CAO advised the municipal insurance tender was up for the year 2021. Six brokers invited, only one submitted a tender. Day Insurance Group submitted in the amount of \$89,106. This does increase our rate by 6.6% compared to 2020. Most of the municipalities across the provinces have seen higher increases this year.

**Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** moved to award Tender # 2020-09 Municipal Insurance to Day Insurance for the amount of \$89,106, seconded by **Councillor Allison**. Motion carried.

- c. **Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** moved to re-appoint Building Inspection and Development Office to Southwest Regional Service Commission, seconded by **Councillor Allison**.

CAO advised this is something we are trying to annually though we do not have to. They are doing a fine job, just want to put something into the books that there is a reappointment as it does involved a lot of bylaws and provincial laws..

Motion carried.

- d. **Councillor Cooke** moved to re-appointment Jason Gaudet as By-Law Enforcement Officer for the Town, seconded by **Acting Deputy Mayor Harris**.

CAO advised this was the same as 12c, something to get into regularly at the end of the year. These things tend to come up in legal cases that we have.

Motion carried.

- e. **Councillor Cooke** moved to transfer \$ 5,400.00 from the Utility Operating Fund to the Utility Capital Reserve Fund to comply with replacement reserve requirements for the Sewage Lagoon in accordance with CAN/NB Infrastructure Program, Project #63.38.02.501, seconded by **Councillor Allison**.

CAO advised part of the infrastructure funding received requires the transfer of funds. It is something budgeted for each year but requires the request of Council.

Motion carried.

- f. Resolution of Council first reading, by title only, of By-Law #25B-2001, an Amendment of Zoning By-Law 25-B.

Xander Gopen (Planner, SNBSC) provided background leading to the Amendment. A Clinch Street resident applied for a permit to build a staircase to a second floor apartment, and upon review, it was realized the property is in the Downtown Zone and the bylaw restricts residences in this Zone. After comparing with the Municipal Plan, this amendment was suggested. Further debate and adjustment to the Municipal Plan will be necessary when it comes for review in the near future.

**Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** and Mr. Gopen discussed the wording of the Amendment and its ramifications for residences on Main Street. The conclusion was that this Amendment will allow for part of the larger situation to be corrected, and updating the Municipal Plan later will complete the process.

**Councillor Cooke** moved for the first reading, by title only, of By-Law #25B-2001, an Amendment of Zoning By-Law 25-B, seconded by **Councillor Allison**.

CAO read the bylaw by title only.

Motion carried.

- g. **Councillor Cooke** moved for Council second reading, in its entirety, of By-Law #25B-2001, an Amendment of Zoning By-Law 25-B, seconded by **Councillor Murray**.

CAO read the amendment.



**Councillor Cooke** asked if the residents on Clinch Street would be able to complete their renovations? CAO advise not yet. The Amendment needs to go third reading.  
Motion carried.

- h. **Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** moved to request the written views of the PRAC on the proposed By-Law #25B-2001, an Amendment of Zoning By-Law 25-B, seconded by **Councillor Cooke**.  
Motion carried.
- i. **Acting Deputy Mayor Harris** moved to set the date for a public hearing of objections on the proposed By-Law #25B-2001, an Amendment of Zoning By-Law 25-B, as Monday, January 11, 2021, at 6:30 pm, at Magaguadavic Place, seconded by **Councillor Murray**. Motion carried.

**13) OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. None

**14) CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a. None

**15) STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:**

- a. None.

**16) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

- a. None.


**17) NEXT MEETING:**

- a. Date of Next Regular Meeting: Monday, January 11, 2021 at 7:00 pm at Magaguadavic Place (or via Zoom Video Conference).

**18) ADJOURNMENT:**

- a. Motion to adjourn by **Councillor Cooke**. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

  
Faith Avery, Acting Mayor

  
Jason N. Gaudet, Clerk/CAO