



**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, February 14, 2022, at Magaguadavic Place, was called to order by Mayor Detorakis at 7:02 pm. All Councillors in attendance. Staff attendance: Jason Gaudet CAO/Clerk, Chris MacKinnon (Administrative Assistant). Additional attendance: Chief Sean Morton (SGFD); Alexander Gopen (Planner, SNBSC); Andrew Sutton (CHCO-TV).

**2) OPENING PRAYER:**

The opening prayer was offered by Chris MacKinnon.

**3) AGENDA:**

*Moved by Deputy Mayor Rayner to approve the Agenda, seconded by Councillor Allison.  
**Motion carried.***

**4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**a. Regular Meeting of Council - January 10, 2022**

Discussion of corrections and additions regarding the radar speed sign and voting record.

*Moved by Councillor Coulton to approve the Minutes of January 10, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council, with the discussed edits, seconded by Councillor Rubin. **Motion carried.***

**b. Closed Door Meeting of Council - January 21, 2022**

Discussion of correction of staff members in attendance.

*Moved by Deputy Mayor Rayner to approve the Minutes of January 21, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council, with the discussed correction, seconded by Councillor Allison. **Motion carried.***

**c. Closed Door Meeting of Council - February 3, 2022**

*Moved by Councillor Allison to approve the Minutes of February 3, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council, with the discussed correction, seconded by Councillor Armstrong. **Motion carried.***

**5) CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS:**

- None

**6) PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

- None

**7) GENERAL REPORTS:****a. General Government:**

- The CAO presented the report for the month of January, 2022 (attached).
- Discussion resulted in the following:
  - CAO does not have an exact number of times RCMP has been in Town for speeders, but notified twice.
  - Works Department is now at regular staffing for snow removal. There are concerns about hiring outside contractors for snow plowing such knowledge of the location of lampposts, fire hydrants, etc. They have been hired to remove snow from certain areas in Town.
  - Data collected from speed radar. It is sent to the RCMP and not store by RSC.
  - CAO has requested speed information from the RSC. There is an issue as far as disclosure of community names, but is waiting for a report from the RSC.
  - Mayor Detorakis was happy to see some support in the SNBSC board meeting regarding assistance for Blacks Harbour.

**b. EMO Status Update on COVID-19:**

- CAO presented the report for the month of January, 2022 (attached).
- **Deputy Mayor Rayner** asked for clarification between the current Level 2 status and upcoming Level 1 status.

**c. Update on Local Government Reform:**

- CAO offered an update on the reform process:
  - At this time there are 2 committees. One is a leaders committee consisting of elected officials in the municipality, LSD chair and another LSD representative.
  - Neil Jacobsen is the facilitator
  - Several evening conference calls have taken place for items such as determining Council composition such using a ward, at large or hybrid model.. Maximum number of seats is 10-11, using larger municipalities as a guide.
  - Discussion about finalizing municipal boundaries.
- **Mayor Detorakis** added his surprise at (a) the decision of the government to keep the debt of each municipality within the municipality; and, (b) how small percentage St. George represents in the new entity.
- **Mayor Detorakis** and **Councillor Rubin** shared their thoughts on the number of representatives for the current Town of St. George on the Council for the new municipality, 1 to 2 persons.

**d. Fire Report – St. George Fire Department**

- Fire Chief Morton presented the report for the month of January, 2022 (attached).
- Discussion regarding Chief Morton's computer issues.

- **Mayor Detorakis** encouraged Chief Morton and CAO to chat regarding St. George's take on fire protection in the new world.
- Discussion regarding investigations in the case of larger fire events.
- **Councillor Armstrong** asked about Motor Vehicle Accidents, which Chief Morton answered: He did not have the information for how many were speed related, and 1 was within Town limits.

e. **Building and Planning Report – Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission (SNBSC):**

- Alexander Gopen (Planner, SNBSC) presented the report for the month of January, 2022 (attached).
- Discussion regarding how and when an inspector and the planning office get involved with enforcement.

**Councillor Detorakis** left the room at 8:03 pm and returned at 8:06 pm, during the reading of the Water & Sewerage Report.

f. **Water & Sewerage:**

- CAO read the report as written by Leonard Lee, Works Foreman, for the month of January, 2022 (attached).
- Discussion regarding the lift station pump and the styrofoam plant filter issue.

*Moved by **Councillor Rubin** to purchase a new pump for SLS #9, seconded by **Councillor Allison**. Motion carried.*

g. **Transportation:**

- CAO read the report as written by Leonard Lee, Works Foreman, for the month of January, 2022 (attached).
- Discussion resulted in the following:
  - So far the Town is on budget for snow and sand.
  - Expecting a decision from Department of Transportation regarding work to be done this year on Mt. Pleasant Road and sidewalks in the next few weeks.

**8) BILLS PAID AND PAYABLE:**

*Moved by **Councillor Allison** to approve in principal the bills paid and payable in principal to November 30, 2021 in the amount of **\$ 137,672.03**, seconded by **Councillor Detorakis**.*

- Questions:
  - **Councillor Coulton** asked regarding annual fee for #46408. CAO advised was for Fire Department. Chief Morton confirmed it is for the dispatching app on phones.

- **Councillor Coulton** asked about EpiPens from the pharmacy, if they are something we keep. CAO answered they were for the Magaguadavic Center. They expire and are not refillable.
- **Motion carried.**

## 9) NEW BUSINESS:

### a. Resolution of Council on third and final reading, in its entirety, of By-Law #87, Development Incentives By-Law

- CAO advised the bylaw was submitted to the Town solicitor and received limited updates in regards to verbiage.
- Discussion resulted in the following:
  - Change in description of the Grant Formula added to include one year commencement. This was done to better protect the Town as previously it was open-ended, and to better prepare annual budgets. The actual formula and charts remain unchanged.
  - St. Stephen passed a similar bylaw and worked with the RSC.
  - Regarding Schedule "C", Audit Procedures #2, units must remain for minimum of 10 years changed from 15 years, whereas the incentive is only active for 10 years, the Town can only influence/control within those 10 years and not beyond.
  - The bylaw does not apply to micro-housing as specific property values property are required.
  - Agreements will be honoured by the new entity.
  - The incentive is not designed to exceed any tax revenue received from the property. We may not make money on the development for the first few years but brings a benefit to the community.
  - A number of developers have their files on hold as they are waiting for this

*Moved by **Deputy Mayor Rayner** to accept the third and final reading, in its entirety, of By-Law #87, Development Incentives By-Law, seconded by **Councillor Coulton**. Motion carried.*

### b. Resolution of Council on third and final reading, by title only, of By-Law #25B-2201, an Amendment of Zoning By-Law 25-B

*Moved by **Councillor Allison** to accept the third and final reading, by title only, of By-Law #25B-2201, an Amendment of Zoning By-Law 25-B, seconded by **Councillor Armstrong**. Motion carried.*

### c. Municipal Plan

- Alexander Gopen (Planner, SNBSC) discussed the background study for the new municipal plan.
  - Background studies are legislated to include various areas of study. Gave an overview of how the study is performed.

- Have worked with staff but have not worked with staff, public, industries and institutions in town. Will also have a survey for the public.
- Hard to do a plan like this with all of the big changes coming. Regionally in regards to infrastructure, a lot of it is in St. George for the new entity.
- Provided highlights from the Background study report.
- Discussion resulted in the following:
  - The RSC is looking for immediate feedback from Council if there are missed ideas to help RSC draft policies for the municipal plan, as it is the Town's plan.
  - RSC hopes to start drafting the plan in March
  - Council will be provided with a copy of the background study results and the current municipal plan.
  - New models of planning are not terribly different.

**d. Policy # 58A-2022 Vehicle Idling Policy**

- CAO introduced the policy as brought forth by **Councillor Detorakis** and the staff helped reform the draft into its current form.
- Discussion resulted in the following:
  - Policy was a recommendation from an ECW study. A second recommendation from ECW was extending walking trails which the Town has been working on.
  - Only applies to Town employee's personal vehicle when used for Town purposes and displaying a Town identifier (i.e. logo magnets).
  - Discussion regarding policing of the policy.
  - Discussion regarding policy application to the new entity.

*Moved by **Councillor Detorakis** to accept Policy # 58A-2022, Vehicle Idling Policy, seconded by **Councillor Armstrong**.*

- Vote on the motion:

<i>IN FAVOUR:</i>	<i>OPPOSED:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <i>Councillor Detorakis</i></li><li>● <i>Councillor Armstrong</i></li><li>● <i>Deputy Mayor Rayner</i></li><li>● <i>Mayor Detorakis</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <i>Councillor Rubin</i></li><li>● <i>Councillor Coulton</i></li><li>● <i>Councillor Allison</i></li></ul>
- **Motion carried.**

**e. Habitat for Humanity property**

- CAO explained the Town has an agreement with Habitat for a couple of properties. The last agreement gave them a certain amount of time to complete the project. Because of the pandemic the date was not reached. Looking to extend agreement to October 2023, HH feels they will be able to address within that time period.

*Moved by **Councillor Allison** to extend the Habitat for Humanity agreement from October 2021, to October, 2023, seconded by **Councillor Detorakis**. **Motion carried.***

**f. Summer Festival & Events**

- CAO advised we are approaching the point where staff starts looking ahead for summer events. We hope that COVID releases us to have more open events.
- Discussion about the Council's role in planning and gathering volunteers.
- **Mayor Detorakis** asked **Councillor Coulton** to prepare a plan/proposal by the middle of March to help Council make a final decision.

**10) OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. None.

**11) CORRESPONDENCE:****a. Letter from David Armstrong**

- Discussion of concerns with who is represented by the letter and the need for improvement in more places around Town.
- Discussion of benefit for Town to receive something without cost.
- Discussion regarding authorization of the installation of a sign on a road with Provincial interest and requirements.
- **Mayor Detorakis** asked CAO to follow up for further information and see if there is a way to satisfy the donors, Town and Province

**b. Letter from PRAC**

- Discussed during public hearing.

**12) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Sean Morton: Heard numbers, such as the town is only 6% or 2% of the population of the new entity, but cannot be right. Discussion regarding where different numbers applied to population and population growth.

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

- a. **Councillor Allison**: Had a missing person in Town that turned out to be a bad situation for the family. CCGSAR did an excellent job, along with RCMP and SGFD. It was great to see everyone out to help. Regarding a comment from **Mayor Detorakis** about her need for help, she does not. He should apologize to the residents of the Town regarding his comment in an email about lanterns from last Festival.
- b. **Councillor Rubin**: Works team has done a great job regarding the winter, despite a recent Facebook discussion. That was a big storm and it takes time to get them cleared. The workforce is doing well. Summer activities, a tentative agenda is where to start. As well to determine if we are going to pay volunteers or they are going to be volunteers. Need to start planning now. New entity, things are moving briskly and it isn't going to be what everybody wants. Commented on the cost of speed signs as discussed in the January meeting.
- c. **Councillor Coulton**: Has questions to be answered at later meetings. The shingles of the roof at Gypsy Rest need to be looked at. Has anything been decided about the RFP for flowers this summer? To look at the fees for public use of the Community Center. For festival, if you're going to be a volunteer you have to be a volunteer, and the whole Council has to decide otherwise. Will come back with a schedule for Council to review.

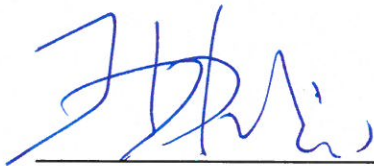
- d. **Mayor Detorakis:** There are plans from a non-profit which may be part of the discussion regarding Gypsy Rest, possibly next month. May also soon be able to announce the coming of a new doctor, a local, comes at recommendation of mayor of St. Stephen.
- e. **Deputy Mayor Rayner:** Advised content and result of a Closed Door meeting to address a complaint against **Mayor Detorakis**. Expressed thanks to Town crew of clearing the streets. She is willing to help with the Festival.
- f. **Councillor Detorakis:** We dismantled the recreation committee which was the pool we were going to gather volunteers from. As the last year of the Council, the money for SummerFest could do something meaningful for the community. Asks Council to Consider the money be donated to the St. George Elementary School for their playground.
- g. **Councillor Armstrong:** Commended Town staff for the challenges through COVID and special comment to the “lone soldier” keeping things going. Complaints do come in but sometimes there are extenuating circumstances such as extra-large storms and lack of staff.

**14) NEXT MEETING:**

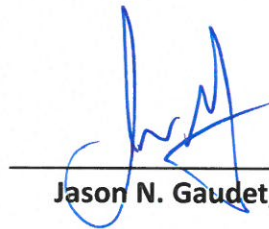
- a. Date of Next Regular Meeting: Monday, February 14, 2022, at 7:00 pm at Magaguadavic Place (or via Zoom Video Conference).

**15) ADJOURNMENT:**

*Motion to adjourn by **Councillor Rubin**. Meeting adjourned at 9:46 pm.*



John Detorakis, Mayor



Jason N. Gaudet, Clerk/CAO