

Mayor's Report for February, 2016

As the term for this Council's mandate begins to come to an end, I can only comment that our time together has had some highs and not to many lows. I have looked at our past performance and we can be very proud of all our accomplishments over our term. The next few months will be spent preparing our 2016 budget plan so that the incoming Council has a smooth transition. As we approach any decisions to re-offer, I wish to announce here first that I am officially announcing that I will seek my second term as Mayor of Belledune.

Jan. 11, 2016

The monthly Committee of Whole Council meeting was done and all agenda items were addressed.

Jan. 14, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Restigouche Crime Stoppers Unit was conducted and all was in order. There were several tips discussed and all went well.

Jan. 18, 2016

The Council was given information by 2 guests on the 9-1-1 Dispatch system that we will need to replace with the retirement of our local dispatcher in April. The biggest issue appears to be new pagers will be required; however this cost was included in our 2016 budget.

Jan. 18, 2016

The monthly Regular Council meeting was done and again all agenda items were addressed.

Jan. 21, 2016

I was present at the K.C. Irving arena for the Provincial budget recommendations discussion; however I do believe that this was just a waste of time and money because the budget would most certainly have already been prepared for the disclosure on Feb. 2nd.

Jan. 25, 2016

The municipal budget for 2016 was presented to the public at the Recreation Center and approximately 30 people took an interest in what Council has in mind for our tax dollars this year. The presentation went very well and I believe the highlight of the presentation was the confirmation that we have included funding for ATV trail development in Belledune. There will be a separate public presentation on this very issue for those who wish to attend.

Jan. 27, 2016

The Chaleur Regional Service Commission held their monthly meeting and all agenda items were addressed. There was a presentation done by the Advisory Committee on attending presentations and gathering information. A recommendation on this issue will be given at the next meeting.

Jan. 30, 2016

I attended the Mayors Forum on Tourism development for our Commission. The Mayors are in agreement that we need to develop our own strategies and also work with Destination Bathurst on tourism in the North. There will be further discussion on how to identify the other regions without using the identification of Destination Bathurst.

Feb. 2, 2016

I met with the Local Service Districts in the Chaleur Commission who use the services of the R.C.M.P. for policing. All the parties who calculate the cost of this service were present in the room. I did express our shock on an increase of over \$186,000 for Belledune. This is the largest increase in New Brunswick and the representatives explained that this is the formula used for all calculations. I have arranged for these representatives to meet in Belledune with Clerk/Treasurer Cormier and explain how this is done. Mrs. Cormier will then be in a position to explain this to Council.

Feb. 8, 2016 (6:00-6:30 pm)

Council meet with the representatives of the C.N.R. concerning the bridge on Firlotte road. Information was exchanged and issues were discussed. The mutual arrangements for a solution will be decided in the very near future.

Feb. 8, 2016 (7:00-8:15pm)

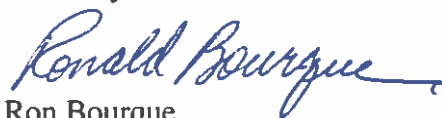
The monthly Committee of the Whole Council meeting was completed and all agenda items were addressed.

Feb. 10, 2016

The public presentation on ATV trail investment and development within Belledune was well done. Our guest presenter, Mr. Jacques Ouellette gave an informative overview of where the trails would be located. He also confirmed that Belledune is a leader in this type of development. There will also be more meetings to outline where our community needs to go from here.

In closing, I am looking forward to this opportunity for our community to develop these trails and bring more traffic to our community.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ronald Bourque". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ron Bourque
Mayor