

Mayor's Report for November & December, 2013

The monthly report for November was not forgotten only postponed because of the ongoing issues with our Volunteer Fire Department Administration. The decision of Council is now final and we are prepared to move forward. The package for our fire fighters has been modified and I would consider it one of the most generous remuneration packages for a volunteer group in New Brunswick. The package has met all areas of accounting, legal and Revenue Canada requirements and Council is confident that for the first time in 3 years this matter can be put to rest. The next matter to address will be morale within the Department and a very strong business plan will be implemented to address this issue.

The Christmas season is here and I wish to recognize the contributions made by our employees who have earned our respect in their day to day functions. I will begin with the Chief Administrative Office, Mr. David Hughes. The year has passed very quickly and your dedication to getting the job done is very evident in all that was accomplished this year. A good example is the file concerning legal action against the Village that has been pending for 20 years. On behalf of our community, thank you. Mrs. Brenda Cormier has once again managed the financial end of the ledger for our community very well and we wish to advise that she is very quietly approaching 20 years of service with the Village of Belledune. Our Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Nicole Carrier as usual has brought a very positive smile and enjoyment to the staff and all those who enter our building. The Village Municipal Works Supervisor, Mr. Cameron Maclellan has demonstrated his commitment to the day to day appearance of our community. Council would also like to recognize that without the performance of our employees Joe Lanteigne, Bernie McDonnell, Marc Guitard and Earl Culligan that your dedication to our community is very much appreciated. The Council also wish to recognize the seasonal workers who perform a great service for our community. The individuals at the campground, the arena, the salmon barrier and who work on committees, Council wish to express their appreciation for your contribution to our community. The Council also wish to express our very sincere appreciation to all our firefighters who

provide all the services they do within our community and our neighbours. The year 2013 will be remembered for many reasons but on behalf of the Council of the Village of Belledune, to all those mentioned, we extend to you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.

Nov. 12, 2013

The Council met with the public to bring accurate information concerning the ongoing issue with the remuneration of our Fire Department. Along with members of Council were our legal, Mr. Andre Daigle, Accounting, Mrs. Lori Mac Naughton, Deputy Fire Marshall, Dallas Boudreau and Insurance Advisory, Mr. John Redden. The public received direct information from our experts and those in attendance had the opportunity to hear all the details concerning this issue.

Nov. 14, 2013

The Council conducted its final budget meeting in preparation for 2014. The final document will be done when the Province sends the documentation concerning provincial issues.

Nov. 21, 2013

Council wish to congratulate New Brunswick Power Generating Station in Belledune on their 20 years of operation in our community. We also wish to recognize your accomplishment on being the 2nd most efficient generating station in North America.

Nov. 28, 2013

I attended a course on Media Training in Fredericton. This was very helpful and informative and will serve to assist me in dealing with the media in the future.

Dec. 5, 2013

A special public meeting was held to deal with the motions required to move our Fire Department forward. Remuneration, planning and budget motions were approved and objectives were finalized to be implemented in 2014.

Dec. 6, 2013

I attended the Greater Bathurst Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting that was attended by Premier, David Alward. I did request a meeting with him in early 2014 to discuss the Special Care Facility in our community.

Dec. 9, 2013 (6:00- 6:30pm)

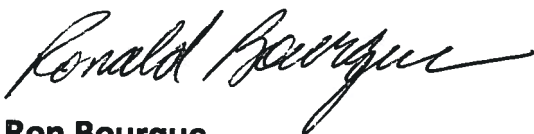
The Council met with Tara Hickey on an action plan concerning further development of a Special Care Facility at the old Belledune School. After a meeting with the Premier, more detailed action can be developed.

Dec. 9, 2013 (7:00- 9:00pm)

A public meeting was held and all agenda items were finalized.

In closing, I wish to express to all Council members my personal appreciation in addressing many sensitive issues during 2013. I know not all decisions are easy or popular, however because Council have made decisions is the reason we have been able to move forward. I will state that even I may not always agree with the decision but I will always respect the decision. I am and will continue to be as professional as I believe I have been in the past. I am confident that this approach has served our public well and has had a very positive impact on how our community is viewed by others. I wish each member of Council my personal best wishes for 2014 and Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Bourque".

**Ron Bourque
Mayor**