



**Village of Belledune
Committee of Whole Council Meeting
February 3, 2020**

Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Council Chambers
Mayor, Joe Noel
Councillor, Paul Arseneault
Present: Councillor, Lilliane Carmichael
Councillor, Tracy Culligan
Councillor, Nick Duivenvoorden
Deputy Mayor, Sandenn Killoran
Staff Present: CAO, Landon Lee
Clerk - Treasurer, Brenda Cormier

Call to Order & Welcome

Mayor, Noel called meeting to order and welcome everyone.

Adopt Agenda

Nick Duivenvoorden moved that the Agenda be Adopted as Presented, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

Statements of Conflict of Interest

Nil

Presentations / Petitions / Delegations

Nil

Business

Council

Mayor, Noel

- Pre-Minutes - Motion Report to published for Public
Mayor, Noel advised that the Pre-Minutes, Motion Report will become part of the Newsletter and will require the Newsletter deadline to be changed. A motion will be added to the next Regular Meeting agenda.
- Jacquet River School - Lunch Program
The lunch program is now being addressed by a local business. The request is now for assistance with the Breakfast Program, so that other foods can be purchased, such as yogurt, cheese, fruit. Proposing an amount around \$450- \$500 per month.

Council members inquired about the lunch and breakfast programs and they discussed the continued support for the school on an annual basis and budget accordingly.

Councillor, Arseneault

- Independent Audit Phase 1

Councillor, Arseneault stated that in his opinion, any time the municipality takes on a large project, say \$1 Million or more, it should automatically trigger an independent audit. This audit should look at efficiencies, so that there is accountability after the project is finished to see if money was spent wisely. At some point a motion will be put forward.

- Procurement Policy Amendments

Councillor, Arseneault stated that after a huddle with Deputy Mayor, Killorn, just before the meeting, the Procurement Policy needs some amendments. This has been on his list for some time. The suggestion of formation of a Committee to work on policy and policy amendments is the way he sees this should go. Say five (5) member Committee – two (2) members of Council, one (1) staff member and two (2) members from the community. He would be interested in being one of the members. This Committee would bring in recommendations. Policies drive the way a municipality runs and runs administration.

Mayor, Noel noted there are a number of policies that need amendments to be brought up to date. Each policy should have a timeline as to when they need to be reviewed -maximum four (4) years, but three (3) would be achievable.

Deputy Mayor, Killoran said he likes the idea of a Committee with a mandate. It is important for member of the staff to get comparable and take the best fit. Like members from local businesses or community leaders, give a mandate to have so many completed in the year.

Mayor, Noel noted that the formation of a Committee will require a By-law.

- Debate Committee

Councillor, Arseneault reference the discussion on a Debate Committee for the upcoming elections. He would like to see a Council member representative on that. The Committee as a whole would determine the time, format, questions, etc. A membership of five (5) to six (6) would be his preference. If there is a debate, it is informative as possible. It would be a great opportunity for candidate to articulate how they want the Village to look like.

Councillor, Duivenvoorden noted that the concept on how it comes together, is important. If not done right it can be very wrong. Got to make sure to get it right. Need to have a No Bias moderator; this will allow some good honest debate.

Councillor, Carmichael expressed concerns that some people are not totally comfortable speaking out in public, she is one of those. Being part of a debate and expected to answer question, she goes blank. She felt the Mayor's debate in 2016 was good.

Councillor, Culligan said she can see both sides. However, it may be a deterrent to a potentially good candidate from offering, if they do not like speaking in a crowd or if they do not handle answering questions, on the spot.

Deputy Mayor, Killoran said that if a debate is going to scare them; they will be getting a lot more pressure during a four (4) year elected term. Potential candidate should really contemplate whether they should be a candidate, if a debate causes them concern.

Mayor, Noel feels it needs to be looked at. With a good moderator, questions that the candidates would have before and would have time to prepare, this could be work. Timeline, would probably be April.

- Meeting with Private Business/ Public

Councillor, Arseneault said there was a good presentation of the proposed Grant Policy made last meeting. Some things need to be worked out. The meeting with private business and public before is a must. It is as much their policy as it is a Council policy. At the last meeting, we made an agreement to have the meeting with the private businesses and the public. He gave his word that he would not vote on this policy without that happening. He is suggestion one night for meeting – say 7:00-8:00 p.m. with business and 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. with public. He is letting Council know that if a motion comes forward at the next meeting, and private businesses and public are not involved somehow, he cannot support.

Deputy Mayor, Killoran said he wrote the policy with broad strokes and presented at the last regular meeting. He has since made some changes to include solo entrepreneurs. The document was sent to legal for legal review prior. Council cannot go to public until that legal review is completed, as they cannot promise something that they cannot legally do.

Councillor, Arseneault stated he sees the second part of the discussion at this meeting, is the idea of acquiring goods and services within the community. He does not see any antidotal evidence of this. We need to make sure if we can buy here then we buy here, if can't get here then we have to go outside to get it. At some point there needs to be open discussion on this; Deputy Mayor, Killoran spoke on it previously.

Deputy Mayor, Killoran said there are many steps, such as a Reverse Trade Show with a Vendor information session. The Village provides information on what they buy, vendors can provide information on costs and deliverables. The Village could determine a cost percentage for purchasing locally as well as a point percentage for local contractors. The Procurement Policy could include these factors.

Mayor, Noel said we have to have a list of what we purchase (goods and services) to really start the whole thing. Getting that list and getting it out to local businesses, this is the key.

- Jacquet River School Lady Tigers

Councillor, Arseneault want to recognize their accomplishment and their success at making it to play in the finals.

Councillor, Duivenvoorden spoke on the proposed meeting with private businesses. He has been trying for over a year now to get the Belledune Business Association up and running. Businesses have been invited, but still struggling to get it organized. He has an element of frustration with the proposed meeting with an invitation to all businesses because we have something to give away. Business has a role to play in building the community. Business grows when community grows. Invitations will go out again to attempt to get the Belledune Business Association going; they have an opportunity here.

Council members made some suggestions regarding adding agenda item for Councillor, Duivenvoorden to follow up at that meeting with business and possibility of maybe tagging on with the Chaleur Chamber of Commerce to get some of the benefits from that organization for the Belledune Business Association.

Councillor, Carmichael

- VIA Rail Building

Councillor, Carmichael discussed the horrible condition of the building and previous discussion with CN Rail regarding this issue and the need to have a shelter of some sort for people using the rail services. She inquired if CAO, Lee had heard back from Mrs. McKay. We need to ask about improvements to that area, a shelter, condition of the flags, etc. She noted the Charlo and Petit Rocher have one and how good they look.

CAO, Lee advised Mrs. McKay is retired since 2017. VIA owns the building and he will circle back with them. In the past there was a desire to transfer to the Village, however there would be significant costs associated – i.e. insurance, snow removal, etc.

Deputy Mayor, Killoran stated that Petit Rocher built the one there. As for getting VIA to open is doomed. There is the question of unsightly and tearing down.

Mayor, Noel noted it use to be an old work station, and the oils, etc. in the soil. If the municipality took ownership, that responsibility would fall on the municipality.

- Speed Limit Route #134 (Main Street) – Sawmill

Councillor, Carmichael was wondering if the speed limits could be reduced.

Mayor, Noel advised that this is a provincial highway and they were asked this before but they would not.

Councillor, Culligan noted they did a survey before to see if it was warranted, and it was not to their requirements.

Councillor, Carmichael asked if the subject could be brought up with RCMP regarding the problems in this area, speeds and transports from sawmill not stopping.

- Floating Wharf - Culligan or Roherty

Councillor, Carmichael inquired if this could be looked into. The current slip does not seem to work for everyone. Perhaps Roherty would be a better location.

Mayor, Noel advised that there was a study on this a few years ago.

CAO, Lee

- Café Tender (RFP)

CAO, Lee said that after speaking with Councillor, Carmichael he will be resuming the Café Tender. In the previous RFP the appliances were to be at the vendors expense. Only one expression of interest was received, but the significant cost regarding appliances is an issue. He will dig up the original RFP and

make some modification around appliances – Village will provide. He will send out to Council and get out to the public soon. The construction is coming along and there is some interest. Hopefully it will be awarded in March. He did not receive a proposal of a food service, he may ask for another set of eyes, someone in the food services industry. He will get out to public by the end of the week.

- Discussion on Change Orders for Phase 2 Construction

CAO, Lee said he has been pushing information to Council as he receives. Phase 1 there was a lack of communication provided to administration or Council. This phase more communication will mitigate those problems. Originally communication was once a week, but there is a lot of stuff needed quicker than that. If there is a change that is red-flagged they will let him know and he has 48 hours to then proceed. There are some change orders that are also credits. The final numbers will not be known until the end of the project. He is working with the designer and contractor. There will be quite a few change orders on the agenda of the Regular Meeting for acceptance.

Councillor, Arseneault asked if it would be reasonable to have a regular monthly update on the sticker price to keep the public informed of that. Two (2) months ago we had an estimated price.

CAO, Lee said the contract that was signed showed the bid price, the numbers are incorporated in the spreadsheet show all the costs. He will try to come up with some stuff.

Closed Session

Nil

Adjournment

M 2020/02/03-24

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M., seconded by Sandenn Killoran. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer