



**Village of Belledune  
Committee of Whole Council Meeting  
June 6, 2022**

**Time:** 7:00 P.M.  
**Place:** Belledune Council Chambers  
**Present:** Mayor, Paul Arseneault  
Deputy Mayor, Ron Bourque  
Councillor, Cynthia Robinson  
Councillor, Kristie Carrier  
Councillor, Lillian Carmichael  
Councillor, Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell  
**Staff Present:** Interim CAO – Chris Kingston  
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer – Nicole Carrier  
Recreation & Wellness – Darrell Culligan

Mayor, Arseneault called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Mayor Arseneault read the Acknowledgement of “Treaties of Peace Friendship”.

Council read the Oath of Office.

**2. ADOPT AGENDA**

**M 2022/06/06-95**

**Councillor Carmichael moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councillor Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION -CARRIED.**

**3. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

Nil

**4. PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS:** Nil

**5. BUSINESS:**

**5.1 DEPUTY MAYOR BOURQUE**

**Update on Port of Belledune Activity**

Deputy Mayor Bourque gave an update on the Port of Belledune Activity. He was recently invited to a meeting in regards to the future of the Port. There were many other stakeholders at the meeting. A consulting firm has been asked by the Port to prepare a MDP for the Port. The stakeholders have been asked to participate and supply input into what is best for the Port. The Port is recognized as the best bulk port in Eastern Canada. Covid had very limited affect on the Port because of the type of material they handle. The guiding principles will be centered on the environment, financial, social and community. There are 2 gateways that the plan or study will work on. 1- Bio-products, Agricultural and Aqua Culture, Claim packaging and construction

material. 2 – will center on transition and renewable energy. The goal will be to make the Port a green energy hub, an eco-friendly port and the base for industrial development for Northern New Brunswick.

## **5.2 ADMINISTRATION – Interim CAO Kingston**

### **5.2.1. Emergency Measures Session**

Scott Poupart, Regional Emergency Manager for Region 3 would like to have a session with council. The session would primarily focus on the duties and responsibilities of council in an emergency situation. It would be beneficial to refresh and review the tasks for council and staff detailed in the emergency plan. CAO Kingston will work with Mr. Poupart on a date.

### **5.2.2 Vitality Health**

CAO Kingston met with Judy Butler from Vitality Health at the Jacquet River Clinic on May 31 and these were the following points discussed:

- Walk in access to the Clinic
- The clinic's capacity
- That they now have Dr. Pelletier working 2 days per week
- They are actively recruiting for another nurse practitioner to increase capacity
- They are short staffed and as such have to say No to eight to ten calls for appointments.
- That council needs to lobby the CEO France Derosier to increase the staffing levels which would increase the operational budget.
- Recruitment and retention remain a priority
- They would like to have a meeting with council to promote a dialogue and dispel any mis-information or rumors
- Preferred date for meeting would be end of July or first week of August

Councillor Carmichael mentioned that the City of Bathurst was trying to recruit 4 doctors by giving them \$10,000 signing bonus.

Councillor Guitard-McDonnell asked about a walk-in clinic. There is none at this time, they are overextended, the core group will start to suffer.

Councillor Carrier asked if the patients that Dr. Pelletier had were from Belledune and the immediate areas. She had heard that Dr. Pelletier had brought up her patients from other areas and are seeing them here. CAO Kingston said he did not know about that.

Mayor Arseneault suggested that we get in contact with Ms. Desrosier, she is very dedicated to helping us find a solution.

### **5.2.3 Replacement of Two Flashing Lights**

CAO Kingston received 2 quotes in regards to replacing the flashing lights at the intersection of Noel Rd. and Main St. and the intersection of Jacquet River Drive and Main St. He will bring forward a motion to have the lights fixed at the regular meeting.

#### **5.2.4 Municipal Asset Management Plan – Phase 2**

There will also need to be a motion brought to the next meeting in regards to getting started with Phase 2 so we do not lose the funding. CAO Kingston is recommending that the award go to the lowest bidder, Roy Consultants.

Councillor Robinson has issue to the bid from Roy Consultants. She said that there is no amount for extras and no amount for video, etc. GIS is included in one bid and not the other. CAO Kingston will check with both in regards to these issues.

#### **5.2.5 Port of Belledune Representative**

CAO Ferguson said he would like to close this file. A decision has to be made. He spoke with the lawyer from the Port of Belledune, in regards to the confidential information, he was told that the representative that the Village chose to be on the board, will never sit on that board. It is his responsibility to advise council of the decision. As it is now Belledune is missing out on board meetings and committees, etc. The Port is a big part of our community and the Village should be working with them for the betterment of the community.

Deputy Mayor Bourque said in light of the recent letter received from the Port's lawyer, we should get legal advice from our lawyer before council makes a decision.

Councillor Robinson said that a decision was made by the council and the Port of Belledune should be respectful of that and accept the person that was appointed by the Village to the Port of Belledune Board.

#### **5.2.6 Update on ATV work**

CAO Kingston said the work has started, however the rain has slowed down production a little, once it is dryer the work will go much faster. He will go visit the sites in the near future.

#### **5.2.7 Gazebo on River Road/Bird Watching Station**

CAO Kingston had received 3 bids from local contractors to build a 24 x 8 open concept on a cement block to include floor decking and a metal roof. He also asked for an estimate to move the gazebo from River Road to the Ballfield. CAO Kingston recommends that we move the existing gazebo and then that area can be cleanup up.

Councillor Carrier said that we should wait until we have our Strategic Planning Session before making decisions regarding larger items.

Councillor Bourque had a comment in regards to asking contractors to give estimates for jobs and then not awarding them. It is time consuming for the contractors to bid on jobs and then not award them. He feels that anytime a contractor is asked for a quote and for whatever reason it is

not awarded then the contractors should get paid \$300 plus tax. He will bring this for a motion at the next meeting.

Councillor Carmichael said that maybe there is funding out there somewhere building or moving the gazebo. She would like to wait until the Strategic Planning Session.

Councillor Robinson said that the gazebos had been part of a strategic tourism plan years ago, they were put in a poor location. Something is always started and nothing ever gets finished. If we do not do anything with the gazebos then that is another asset that will be lost. Bird watching brings a lot of people into our Village.

#### **5.2.8 Roherty Road Upgrade**

As per council's request CAO Kingston to get a cost to upgrade Roherty Road from the existing paved portion to the parking area. The cost is estimated at \$166,750. It is up to council on the next steps.

Councillor Carmichael said that Roherty's Point has the best access to the beach. Councillor Carrier agrees with her and feels that people have been drawn to Roherty Point beach for years. From a tourist point this is where things have to grow, we can do so much with that area.

Councillor Robison feels that the price is too high, there should be alternatives to fix the road. In Ontario there are different types of materials on roads up there.

CAO Kingston said that the road also needs to be crowned and ditched with the proper drainage.

#### **ADMIN. ASSISTANT/ASSISTANT CLERK/TREASURER, CARRIER**

Council was given an update on the Student Subsidy Program. Currently there are 3 businesses that have students, there were 2 other businesses that asked for students however none were hired as of yet. There were also businesses that picked up the application and did not fill them in.

#### **RECREATION & WELLNESS COORDINATOR, CULLIGAN**

Darrell Culligan included his report in council's packages.

- He went through the various programs that was put on this winter and summer
- Tender out for splash pad
- New horizon senior program funding
- Summer activity programs for kids
- BB#2
- Eat Fresh program
- Painting/art program
- Belledune Roadside Cleanup
- Chaleur Green Trails
- Dusty Sneakers
- Slider swing for Seniors villa in JR

- Stair chair for Circle of Friends. \$5000 funding received, asking for a motion for \$8,249.60 from the village, bring a motion to the June 27 meeting

Councillor Carrier asked about the summer activity program. She mentioned that he should be putting the program together and not the students. The program has to be more structured than it was the last few years. She also wanted to know if it was a good idea to spend money on a chair lift at Station 1 when there is so much repairs that need to be done on the building. She would also like to see the numbers as to how many people go to the Circle of Friends and where they are from.

In regard to the agreement with Maureen Pascal she said that council should see the agreement and vote on it like all the other agreements for rentals.

Councillor Guitard-McDonnell mentioned that a lot of people were not going to the Circle of Friends because of the stairs.

Deputy Mayor Bourque said that the Circle of Friends provides a place for people who need help to go to.

Councillor Carmichael said that the cost of the stairlift and renovations would not come back in rent.

Councillor Robinson said that it is a basic human right for people to have accessibility and the chair lift would help people access this program. Also, she told Mr. Culligan that she would be willing to help with the recreation program as she has years of experience.


## **CLOSED SESSION**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**M2022/06/06/96**

**Lilliane Carmichael moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:57pm, seconded by Councillor Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.**

  
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer

  
Mayor