



**Village of Belledune
Regular Council Meeting
January 18, 2021**

Electronic Live streamed on Belledune Youtube

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

Call to Order & Welcome

Mayor, Noel called meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

Moment of Reflection

Mayor, Noel requested a Moment of Silence in memory of; Claude Moriarty & Eileen Bertin of Belledune and George O'Brien of Lorne.

Adopt Agenda

M 2021/01/18-1

Nick Duivenvoorden moved that the Agenda be Adopted as Amended with changes; Delete Section 7.1.3 - RCMP Memorandum of Understanding, under CAO, Lee, seconded by Tracy Culligan. MOTION CARRIED.

Statements of Conflict-of-Interest Nil

Adoption of Minutes

M 2021/01/18-2

Tracy Culligan moved that the Minutes of the Special Meeting and Committee of Whole Meeting of December 7, 2020 and the Regular Meeting of December 21, 2020 be adopted as presented, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

Business Arising from Minutes

Councillor, Duivenvoorden inquired about the status of Broadband survey.

CAO, Lee advised the survey in on the Belledune website, via a link. For those who don't have internet services a flyer will be sent out regarding the survey and their information can be recorded from their calls. Currently he is getting information together and the flyer should go out this week.

Councillor, Carmichael inquired if Council was going to be advised.

Mayor, Noel noted the survey link pops up as soon as you open the website.

Presentations / Petitions / Delegations Nil

Statements by Member of Council

Mayor, Noel

- Jacquet River Clinic Update

Mayor, Noel advised that the new doctor has arrived at the Jacquet River Clinic on January 4, 2021. She will be there three (3) days a week. She is taking patients from the 811 list. Those looking for doctor, should check to make sure they are on that list.

Currently there is this doctor who will be taking patients, the other doctor who will see patients that don't have a family doctor and there is the nurse practitioner. The Clinic is going well.

In consultations, early in the year with Dept. of Health, there will be opportunity to tell them what we want. He did send a letter to the Minister as she requested. When they start the consultation sessions, he will be making a presentation on what we would want and what we could have.

Deputy Mayor, Culligan asked if the Jacquet River Clinic is a drop-in clinic or private clinic for patients only.

Mayor, Noel advised that it is currently by appointment only. He will be requesting why it cannot be a walk-in clinic for one or two days a week. Currently the people have to be screened with the COVID-19 questions, so it is difficult now. In future once pandemic is over, it would be a perfect place for walk-in clinic.

Councillor, Carmichael said she registered her brother on the 811 service and she is wondering about a guarantee to get into the clinic. How long would it be before they would find out?

Mayor, Noel advised they should get in touch with 811 to see if they are on the list, you should only register once. He is not sure how the regulation works for the choosing of patients.

Councillor, Arseneault

- Statement to Belledune Citizens

Councillor, Arseneault noted that this is the first public meeting of the new year. He wishes everyone a happy and safe new years and positive thoughts particularly for seniors and vulnerable citizens. We are currently in the COVID-19 orange level, with some others in the red level. He recommends everyone take a breath, stay calm and help each other out.

He noted that he was contacted by Florence Duplessis's daughter requesting that Happy Birthday wishes be sent out to Florence for next week. He would like to acknowledge this.

- Acknowledgement, and Congratulations

Councillor, Arseneault wish to recognize his cousin and friend, Charles Firlotte, for his recent appointment by Premier Higgs and cabinet to the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors of N.B. Power.

He wishes to recognize this for two things:

1. It is nice have so many people from the north of the province with lot of talent and there is no reason to think that because they are from the north, they cannot be a success. A lot of people have. It is nice to have another role model from here who has done very well.
2. It is nice to have someone like that in this position – born and raised here. He will be involved in most types of decisions and it is nice that he is from here and knows the north.

Councillor, Duivenvoorden agreed this is quite an achievement for Charles. We have a lot of talent here and seems they have to move away to be recognized.

Councillor, Duivenvoorden

- Update on Firefighter Service Recognition

Councillor, Duivenvoorden advised he met with a few people to gather names. However, due to holiday and travel it was slowed down. He intends to kick start again to make sure it gets done. He met with four other people on Monday, as there was no response from the Newsletter posting. He will also be meeting with a few former Fire Chiefs, scheduled for next Monday, and will get list from there and go with that. Other names could be added to the list afterwards.

- Upcoming Municipal Elections

Councillor, Duivenvoorden wanted to note that on the upcoming election, he is hoping candidates come with a positive outlook. This Council changed their direction of spending and lots of good things are being done. He would hate to see this undone, as he has seen in the past. This Council has a lot of focus on economic development in the budget. He would like to see Belledune focus on regional economic development. Councillor, Duivenvoorden referenced an article in the January 16th, 2021 Telegraph Journal entitled "Double down on economic development" (copy on file). He noted that if we want to see growth, we have to do it from within -be positive and aggressive.

Administration Reports

CAO, Lee

- Grant Report and Recommendation

M 2021/01/18-3

Nick Duivenvoorden moved that the Social and Environmental CAO Grant Report of January 2021 be accepted as presented and the following grants approved; \$400 to the Belledune Volunteer

Fire Dept. for Kristin Lagace for house fire losses, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor, Killoran expressed some concerns because he does not see Bathurst included in the list of contributors for the Chaleur Bay Watershed Group. He asked that CAO, Lee arrange that their presentation be scheduled for a Committee of Whole Council meeting to enable Council to deliberate before making a decision at their Regular Meeting.

Councillor, Arseneault request that for the presentation the information be as wide ranging as possible.

M 2021/01/18-3B

Tracy Culligan moved that the grant request from Chaleur Bay Watershed Group be tabled until a presentation can be made to Council, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

- Residential Grant Report

Two applications have been received in.

M 2021/01/18-4

Tracy Culligan moved that in accordance with the Village of Belledune Economic Development By-law # ED-01-2019 and the Residential Grant Policy, Council accepts CAO, Lee recommendation and approve the following grant: \$717.50 issued to Jennifer Dowhan and \$697.50 issued to Amanda Sarson, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

- Roy Consultants Road Study

CAO, Lee advised we have received in the attached proposal from Roy Consultants to perform a study to capture some of the traffic concerns on Route 134. The study can only be performed after the snow is gone and there is no concern about snow plows damaging the equipment required for the study. Roy Consultants is the only firm he has discussed this study with. This study covers three separate studies, the summary for each is contained in the proposal.

CAO, Lee noted that if Council would like presentation regarding details of the proposal, he could arrange for that.

M 2021/01/18-6

Lilliane Carmichael moved that Belledune Council accepts the proposal from Roy Consultants dated January 14, 2021 for Engineering Services for Traffic Studies - Speed Limit Reduction, School Zone Cross Walk and Passing Lane Stripping/Removal and Council agrees to retain the services as per the proposal for the amount of \$9,400 (plus HST), seconded by Tracy Culligan. MOTION CARRIED.

- Arena Summer Use Proposal

A proposal was received for arena summer use for the Northern Moose AAA Hockey Club; it is attached to Council agenda package. They did the program in a previous year for one summer. There has been a lot of information communicated back and forth, learning from how the previous proposal unfolded. CAO, Lee said #1, he is working on some costs and whether the staff is available and willing to work, if Council decides to move forward. There is some back and forth with reps and they have a pretty good idea what is being looked for and they have added stuff in the proposal that was not there before.

Mayor, Noel said the if it makes good business case; then the it should be the CAO to make the decision and the recommendation to Council, that is his job. It looks like a good proposal; the intent is not to make money.

Councillor Arseneault said he likes where this is going. Process is important in everything; he likes to see reaching out and conversation taking place.

Councillor, Duivenvoorden asked if we are forgoing a presentation.

CAO, Lee said no, they could provide a presentation virtually or in person. However, timing is important for decision. If they are going to make the program successful, they need to start marketing this month. There is not motion proposed this evening for opening in the off season, there are still some details to be hashed out. We are doing on the administrative side; working numbers, hourly rent is messy so doing a lease for six weeks, employees are now paid for 40 hours a week, the group is willing to pay this, working with company to assure no issues with, compressors running in summer, etc. Yes, they are willing to do presentation, sooner than later. Today, they have letters of support from other surrounding associations willing to commit to them.

CAO, Lee would like to see the process proceed and be transparent as possible.

Councillor, Carmichael said she read the proposal and it seems to make sense. She noted they mention canteen and café, how would this work during COVID-19.

CAO, Lee said the RFP is ready again for the Café, however the COVID-19 Orange level, timing wise is difficult to manage. The Orange level in this time is very restrictive.

Mayor, Noel recommended having a motion this evening to have CAO, Lee look into and do what has to be done and give him the authority to do that. If the business case is there, the we cannot wait until February meeting to make decision.

Councillor, Killoran said he did not recuse himself from the meeting as he did not think there would be a motion tonight. If Council is going to make a motion, he will step out as his father is part of this proposal.

Councillor, Arseneault requested that if we are going to do that, he would like to see what the final prepared motion is at least a week before the meeting as he would really like to study it beforehand.

Mayor, Noel said the when CAO, Lee has everything together the motion will be prepared for the meeting 3rd week of February. If CAO, Lee agrees it is a good thing, then the group could start with advertising.

Councillor Killoran declared Conflict of Interest and vacated the meeting at 7:10 P.M.

M 2021/01/18-11

Nick Duivenvoorden moved that CAO, Lee evaluate the Northern Moose AAA Hockey Group proposal for arena summer operations (6 weeks) and if it makes a good business case, he is

authorized to approve, advise Council of his recommendation and proceed to have Agreement drafted for approval at the Regular Council meeting in February 2021, seconded by Tracy Culligan. MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Killoran returned to the meeting at 7:12 P.M.

Clerk/Treasurer, Cormier

- Financial Reports

M 2021/01/18-7

Tracy Culligan moved that the Financial Report be accepted as presented and the Accounts Payable be paid, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

By-laws and Policies

- Residential Grant Policy - Amendment

M 2021/01/18-8

Nick Duivenvoorden moved that the Residential Grant Policy be amended by adding under Section 2.0 Grant the subsection “2.3 The grant can be increased to a maximum of 5% of the property’s assessed value if a child 16 years of age or younger also occupies the household at the time of application.” And adding under Section 3.0 Procedure to subsection 3.1, after the word “property” the words “proof of age of children”, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

- Student Subsidy Program - Revised

M 2021/01/18-9

Tracy Culligan moved that the Summer Student Program Revision dated January 18, 2021 be adopted as submitted, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

Motions and Resolutions

General Correspondence

- Correspondence In

Municipal Review Statistics Report for 2020

Restigouche SPCA Monthly Reports - December 2020

Belledune Library Reports - December 2020

Atlantic Railway Maintenance Inc., Track Inspection - December 2020

CRSC, Planning Dept., Unsightly /Dangerous Progress Report 01/08/2021

- Correspondence Out:

Minister of Health, K. Dorothy Shephard - Five Year Provincial Health Plan

Super Village Trail Blazers - P. Devereaux Grant

- Other Discussion

Councillor, Arseneault wish to add discussion regarding Library. He noted that Petit Rocher has mad a hefty investment in their library. It was noted that it is one of the few libraries where the use is growing. What are they doing to make this successful?

CAO, Lee advises Council that in conversation with librarian today, she advised she will be rolling out some online stuff and we should see some programs roll out in a few weeks.

Councillor, Killoran noted the Madisco building has underwent massive upgrades, brand new building which increased foot traffic. He agrees with Councillor, Arseneault and he referenced a CBC article which he has shared on his Facebook. (a copy on file)

Deputy Mayor, Culligan noted the importance to literacy. She explained the Elementary Literacy Program, which involved volunteers helping grade 2 students with reading. If the library can tap into programs that can help with that, this would be great.

Councillor, Duivenvoorden referenced the session held with Jack Novack during the early part of their tenure, where he noted that meeting should not last for hours.

There is a lot of work that goes on between meetings; a lot of e-mails and information shared. He says this it is helpful to get all the information. The way things operate are as well as he has ever seen them. We get all the information between meetings; he likes the way things are going.

Mayor, Noel wish to get a shout out to staff who on a daily basis are keeping Council up to date, no surprised. There are a lot of e-mail to Council and staff are waiting and need to have replies. He asked Council to keep that in mind and please reply to staff e-mails.

Closed Session Nil

Adjournment

M 2021/01/18-10

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the meeting adjourn at 7:28 P.M., seconded by Tracy Culligan.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer