



**Village of Belledune
Committee of Whole Council Meeting
February 6, 2023**

Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Belledune Council Chambers
Mayor, Paul Arseneault
Councillor, Lilliane Carmichael
Present: Councillor, Cynthia Robinson
Councillor, Kristie Carrier
Councillor, Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell
Councillor, Ron Bourque
Staff Present: Clerk - Treasurer, Brenda Cormier
Administrative Assistant, Nicole Carrier

Call to Order & Welcome

- Mayor, Arseneault called the meeting to order and welcomed public.
- Acknowledgement of "Treaties of Peace and Friendship"
Mayor, Arseneault read the Acknowledgement of "Treaties of Peace and Friendship".
- Reaffirm Oath of Office
Council reaffirmed the Oath of Office

Adopt Agenda

M 2023/02/06-26

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the Agenda be Adopted as Presented OR as Amended with changes, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

Statements of Conflict of Interest

Councillor, Carrier declared a Conflict-of-Interest regarding the McDougall Auctioneers offer on Office Equipment.

Presentations / Petitions / Delegations - Nil

Business

Council

Councillor, Carmichael

Councillor, Carrier vacated meeting at 7:03 P.M.

- Offer from McDougall Auctioneers to Purchase Office Furnishings, etc.

Councillor, Carmichael spoke about the offer to the Village of Belledune for the purchase of the office equipment as per the list and photos provided for the amount of \$6,500. She wondered if a counter offer should be made. She thinks it is a good idea to purchase as it would be easier for a future business that may want to rent that space. The price of the rent could be adjusted for the inclusion of the equipment.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell agrees it would be a bonus for anyone interested in renting. This can be carried over to the Regular Meeting for motion with maybe a counter offer of \$5,500

Councillor, Robinson noted the price of \$6,500 is fair as there is a lot of equipment.

Councillor, Carrier returned to meeting at 7:04 P.M.

- Discussion on budget/strategic plan/CAO

Councillor, Carmichael talked about the Budget Session she participated in last Wednesday on Governance Finance. She discussed working on Budget earlier but this needs to wait until the CAO is hired. There needs to be a Strategic Plan, a 5 Year Plan to determine what Council wants to get done. She noted that the budget discussion needs to be done earlier and should start in April or May.

Councillor, Carrier

- Grooming Snowmobile Trails into Village

Councillor, Carrier discussed the issue of snowmobiles not currently coming into the Village or having access to the businesses or the citizens not having easy access to the trails. We should reach out to see what can be done, see if someone can reach out to get access to the land.

There was discussion on the ATV and Snowmobile trails. Both trails are different.

There needs to be some clarification regarding how the snowmobilers get access to the community and businesses. Insurance coverage is one of the factors that does not allow the groomer, etc. to do work on non-designated trails. More clarification is needed to see where we can go from here.

- Tree Planting

Councillor, Carrier discussed the water issue on Curry Dr. and as the Village owns some property on Main St. that maybe planting trees on that property would be a deterrent for the water flow going to Curry Dr. She was thinking this could be a community project with seniors and kids getting involved. Maybe there is some federal or provincial funding available for a green project.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell felt this was a great idea, a memorial that could entice a lot of people to get involved.

- Collect data from Interfor and Port regarding Employment to identify Housing needs - Discussion

- Adding the property on Jacquet River Drive on the provincial map for developers

Councillor, Carrier referenced the meeting with Peter Corbin regarding housing initiatives. Mr. Corbin sent a request to the Village to collect data from businesses such as Interfor and the Port to see what housing needs may be. He also, requested to add the available land on Jacquet River Dr. on their map so potential developers are aware there is available land for housing development in Belledune.

By consensus Council agreed that there are no issue with both of these and there is no need for a motion as the Village is not committing to anything beyond collection of data and adding property to a site map.

- Newsletter - Business Advertising Protocol

Councillor, Carrier would like to see a business listing go in the Newsletter, but not be used for advertising. The information could as well be added to the Village website. Maybe if a new business comes, there could be a congratulator message. This way everyone is treated fair and equal.

Councillor, Carmichael thinks the use of the Website for business would be a good idea, and only have to add when something new comes. This would be for the newcomers to the Village as well as existing citizens to know what businesses are available in the Village.

Deputy Mayor, Bourque said he has no problem with Councillor, Carrier's idea but noted the Newsletter was never meant for advertising and he wonders how this was allowed to begin with.

Administrative Assistant, Carrier clarified that when the Newsletter was developed it was intended to put information for the municipality and non-profit organizations. When the librarian asked in the past about advertising requests, the CAO would decide what to do or not to do. When she asked the Council the other day, she got one response and the Newsletter had to get out so she left the ad in as the Newsletter was submitted to her. She has asked for a policy for the Newsletter, but there is none. It would be good to have a policy so that everyone knows what goes into the Newsletter would be good for those who work on the Newsletter. She noted that it was not for her to make the decision on advertising as the CAO made those decisions in the past.

Deputy Mayor, Bourque stated he has not problem with the explanation. It is not a staff decision on what goes or does not go in the Newsletter. Council need to make a decision on this. Where does Council stand, do they agree 100% to have a policy developed and make it clear what is and is not allowed.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell reference the Welcome Booklet that was developed and did have a business listing. She said perhaps it could be redone, have local businesses submit for update and put the Welcome Booklet out for everyone.

Councillor, Carmichael said a listing would be sufficient and it would not be more than a page and printed monthly in the Newsletter.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell

- Update on the Events Committee

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell advised the committee will be putting on a Family Skate-Day at the Arena on Feb. 20, 2023 for Family Day from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

For Belledune Days the festival will be returning as a major event and the committee is really looking for volunteers to join and come to meetings.

On March 17, 2023 the committee will be hosting a St. Patty's Day /Dance.

Councillor, Carrier noted she is not clear on the arrangement with the Events Committee. If someone wants to do an event, do they go to the committee and what does the Events Committee do. How does it work for the money? She is not sure what the process is.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell noted this has not happened yet, but the committee could probably work with groups.

Clerk/Treasurer, Cormier noted that committees of Council do not have decision making powers but their role is to make recommendation to Council for decision and this applies to the Community Events Committee. The By-law is clear on the mandate for the Community Events Committee. The committee was established to do Village events not others events. In the past the issue of working this was that Council only make decision at their Regular meeting and this would sometimes no coincide with the committees needs. A best option would be the committee would plan events for a year or even 6 months, bring that as a recommendation to Council for approval by motion and then they could proceed, instead of event by event which often don't line up with Council meetings.

Council members discussed the Events Committee setup, how ideas get to the table, the scheduling of dates for events of Belledune Days currently inflexible, etc. People accustomed to same events being held on the same night each year. It was also noted the Committee does a good job and spent a lot of time planning these events.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell noted the date for NB Day is wrong in the calendar; it is not August 1st is it August 7th.

- Follow up on the Youth Organization and up coming meeting

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell advise that there will be a meeting tomorrow night at the Recreation Centre and parents and youth are encouraged to attend. They are looking for ideas for youth to be engaged and in a safe environment. This will be the first meeting and we will see how it goes.

- Discuss a request from Belledune Volunteer Fire Department

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell said she was approached by Deputy Chief regarding becoming a trainer for First/Aid just for the Fire Dept. training and for yearly updating certificates The course cost \$700. She noted this may be a conflict with the local person who provides the service now. She advised she would bring to Council.

Administrative Assistant, Nicole Carrier advised that she did get in touch with a training instructor from Red Cross and the process of having someone trained to be a trainer is not as simple as it appears. To do this there needs to be a training partner and there are only a few in the province and none available at this time. There is also the equipment requirement and cost (at least 12 manikins around \$6,000). She

can provide the information to Council she received as well as the contact information if Council wish to reach out and verify this.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell also stated the Deputy Chief advise that there is only one licensed First Responder on the Fire Dept. He recommended to have a few more trained.

Clerk/Treasurer, Cormier advised that the Fire Dept. has a Fire Chief and the Deputy Chiefs should be following the chain of command and go to the Fire Chief with these requests. As well the Fire Dept. has a training budget and the Fire Chief can determine what courses, training should be provided within that budget.

Administration

Clerk/Treasurer, Cormier

- Directive - ATV Trail By-law
 - Which Streets to include in the By-law

Clerk/Treasurer Cormier requested clarification on what streets to include in the By-law for ATV Trails. Mr. Tim Collin submitted a plan with 3 options is Council agreeable to any of those. As Mr. Collin is here, perhaps he could clarify recommendation.

Mr. Collin suggested the Jacquet River Drive and section of Main St. for public safety.

Council members asked various question regarding other roads and properties being used currently as well as the question of parking and ramps and getting access to Village businesses.

Mr. Collin said that proper legal authorization is needed from land owners otherwise the property owner is not covered by the ATV Federation insurance. If there is a legal authorization in place the ATV Federation insurance would cover on the private property access as well.

Mr. Surette who was also in attendance at the meeting discussed the lengthy application process he had to go through to get permission for the snowmobilers to get to his business property and cottages; it took 8 months. He would also like to see the same for the ATVers to access his business and cottages. He is also offering to help other businesses who may want to submit an application as well.

Councillor, Carrier said this is the common goal, get the snowmobilers and ATVers the ability to access the community and its businesses.

Deputy Mayor, Bourque said that Mr. Collin submitted a very positive business plan for street development. He would like to see this work hand in hand with Jacques Ouellette for the drafting of ATV By-law.

Recreation & Wellness – Reports (written)

- Scotts Canada Gro for Good Grant Program -Directive

Recreation /Wellness Co-ordinator, Culligan submitted in his report that this program is not available to municipality but a non-profit group can partner with the municipality. He would like directive on this.

Councillor, Carrier recommended Mr. Culligan check with the Belledune Housing to see if they are interested.

- Salmon Barrier Directional Signage, NB Power Poles - Directive
Recreation /Wellness Co-ordinator, Culligan submitted in his report that NB Power will allow some signage, not everything permitted, but it is only for a certain period time. He would like directive on this.

Councillor, Carrier said that she would like to see a Salmon painted on the NB Power poles to guide people to the Salmon Barrier. This seems to be the only option.

Closed Session

- Nil

Adjournment

M 2023/02/06-27

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M., seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer