



**Village of Belledune  
Committee of Whole Council Meeting  
Council Chambers  
December 11, 2017**

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

Mayor Noel called meeting to order and welcomed public.

**Call to Order & Welcome**

**Adopt Agenda**

2017/12/11-221

Tracy Culligan moved that the Agenda be Adopted as Amended with changes; delete under Deputy Mayor, Arseneault the Personnel item in Closed Session, delete Councillor, Duivenvoorden's item and move to Regular meeting and add to Councillor, Killoran item - High Speed Internet Update, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

**Statements of Conflict of Interest**

Nil

**Business**

**Council**

**Deputy Mayor, Arseneault**

### Belledune Days 2018

Patsy Talbot (Chair) and Karen Roy (Co-Chair)

Deputy Mayor, Arseneault will bring forward to the Regular Meeting a motion regarding change to the approach for festivals to add to funding access not presently having; work through an NPO. His recommendation will include having Patsy Talbot and Karen Roy be the leadership group for the two (2) events under an NPO with all the responsibility that comes with that.

Mayor, Noel stepped down from the Chair at 7:06 p.m. to speak on the issue and Deputy Mayor, Arseneault assumed the Chair.

Mayor, Noel wish to express some concerns regarding the way the festival works and some changes he deems that need to happen, based upon some of the things that happened during this year's festival. Issues of concern revolved around, committee structure, decision making process, funding allocations and approvals, accountability following the events from the various event groups, to name a few. He clarified that he is not making accusations towards anyone but there needs to be more accountability, transparency and equality moving forward.

A copy of Mayor's statement is on file.

Mayor, Noel reassumed the Chair at 7:09 p.m.

Council deliberation included comments on the Mayor's statement, the difference between an NPO and Council Standing Committee with Council members having some opposing opinions. Consensus it to have this looked into further and in a timely manner as the meeting will be commencing early in the New Year.

### Purchasing Policy Amendment

Deputy Mayor, Arseneault noted that a policy amended was proposed in September and tabled. It needs some discussion to determine if the current policy is legal and binding.

Directive to CAO, Lee is to check the legalities of the policy and proposed amendment.

### Andrew Boudreau - Acknowledgement & Congratulations

Deputy Mayor, Arseneault congratulated Andrew in coming in at the top 20 in his category, nation wide, in skating competition. He will be travelling to National Competition and the Village should be reaching out to him to see what he needs instead of him asking. When the request comes in, the Village should be supporting as much as they possibly can.

### Economic Development strategy Vs Administrative Strategy

Deputy Mayor, Arseneault said he put this on the agenda in relation to comment by Councillor, Duivenvoorden a few weeks ago. The administrative services of the municipality are in good shape but the economy of the community and job creation needs to be developed. This will require a strategy, but strategy is not enough we need some man hours dedicated to this. CAO, Lee will need to have some of his time freed up to go and seek some of these things out.

#### Ambulance Response Time Complaints - CAO Lee, Update

Deputy Mayor, Arseneault said he was approached by Fire Dept. members regarding the long response times for ambulance calls.

CAO, Lee and Mayor, Noel responded advising that they have been working on this issue and reference was made to the Telegraph Journal report noting that language is an issue which is causing the ambulances to be parked, requirement for bilingual staff. They will continue to work on, but recommend that citizens complain to MLA's and Ambulance NB, when issues arise regarding delayed ambulance response times.

#### Snowplow Performance Complaints

Deputy Mayor, Arseneault noted complaints regarding the service.

Mayor, Noel and CAO, Lee advised they met with DTI and various issues of concern. CAO, Lee has been addressing the complaints received and is on the phone daily with DTI to seek solutions.

#### **Councillor, Duivenvoorden**

Advisory of an official reaction to Council's decision to not amend Rural Plan By-law to make us more food producing friendly.

#### **Councillor, Killoran**

##### High Speed Internet Update

Councillor, Killoran said he spoke with the regional Manager for northern communities and how the system works in Belledune and what the future plans are for fibreop in Belledune. Basically, it will not be anytime soon, but he intends to continue the discussion.

##### Budgeting Strategies

- Revenue Increases
- Cost Reduction Strategies

Councillor, Killoran advised that he is the Chair of the Finance Committee this year and the committee is progressing very well; with the objectives of increasing revenues and decreasing costs.

##### Performance Evaluation Criteria

Councillor, Killoran advised that moving forward there will be employee performance evaluations and CAO, Lee will be working on that format with the idea of efficiencies to save the municipality money.

##### Economic Development / Committee / Officer

Councillor, Killoran reflected on Deputy Mayor, Arseneault's previous comments. Economic Development is more than just about finding the next factory and employer; the issue of people here not employed. The problem is not a job problem but an employee problem and how to influence people who work here to live here. A committee of a small working group and future an Economic Development person.

Council deliberation included issues such as culture, current industrial employers future, education & training, decreasing work force, employment trends, etc. and the need for a longer term strategy for long after this Council is gone.

#### Legal Entity Vs. Standing Committee

Councillor, Killoran noted that we are blessed to have some great volunteer over the past 50 years. However, these groups or committees that have existed, without a legal framework, have to be change to meet legal requirements. We have been fortunate that nothing has happened but things cannot be done as they were done in the past. Anything thing proposed different than this he will not personally support.

#### CAO, Lee

- Belledune Power & Fitness Club Inc. - Lease Agreement

CAO, Lee added this to the agenda as a point of discussion. The logical step is to have a lease agreement for the Belledune Power & Fitness Club Inc. (a copy of which Council has in there meeting materials). He will follow up this week and address at next week's meeting.

#### Mayor, Noel

Mayor, Noel called for recess and 8:12 P.M. and meeting reconvened and Council moved into Closed Session.

#### Closed Session

- Personnel

#### Adjournment

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**Sandenn Killoran moved that the meeting adjourned at 9:08 P.M., seconded by Tracy Culligan.  
MOTION CARRIED.**

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Mayor

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Clerk/Treasurer