



**Village of Belledune
Regular Council Meeting
June 23, 2025**

Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Belledune Council Chambers
Mayor, Paul Arseneault
Councillor, Lilliane Carmichael
Present: Councillor, Cynthia Robinson
Councillor, Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell
Councillor, Ron Bourque
Councillor, Dawn Hickey
Absent:
Late:
Staff Present: Clerk Treasurer, Angela Culligan
Staff Absent: Chief Administrative Officer, Landon Lee
Staff Late:

Call to Order & Welcome

- Acknowledgement of "Treaties of Peace and Friendship"
- Reaffirm Oath of Office
- Moment of Reflection

Adopt Agenda

M 2025/06/23-59

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

Statements of Conflict of Interest

Adoption of Minutes

M 2025/06/23-60

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 6, 2025, the Committee of Whole Council Meeting of May 12, 2025, and the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2025 be adopted as presented, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

Business Arising from Minutes

Presentations / Petitions / Delegations

Statements by Member of Council

Mayor, Arseneault

- Acknowledgement of Passing of Former Mayor of Jacquet River Francis "Bev" Firlotte
Mayor, Arseneault acknowledged the former mayor of Jacquet River as a great leader in the community and commended him for all that he, along with other great leaders in our community, have done, and he acknowledged their efforts and contributions.

- Summer Beautification Including Unsightly Premises
Mayor, Arseneault identified a couple of issues with the summer beautification. The first one is the sweeping that hasn't happened yet. In past years it was done in May. The sidewalks in the Jacquet River area are full of rocks. Mayor, Arseneault feels that this needs to be pushed a little bit.

Councillor, Carmichael mentioned that the guys from the Public Works department had been out sweeping the sidewalks manually and she wanted to thank them for trying.

Councillor, Bourque agreed with the sweeping and also brought up the height of the grass along the roads. We have a mower that can cut the shoulders of the grass and Canada Day is coming up. He stated that no one is going to notice that the grass and guardrails are cut but everyone will notice that they are not, and there is the problem. Councillor, Bourque does not understand why he is fighting every single year to have the grass cut. He feels that we need to get on it sooner than later.

Deputy Mayor, Guitard-McDonnell let Councillor, Bourque know that the grass was being cut down in lower Belledune the other day, but they were doing it manually and not using a cutter. She wanted to let Council know that they have started, and she's not sure how far they got. She understands what Councillor, Bourque is saying and that it's not very attractive, but she believes that they are working on it.

Councillor, Hickey asked if they did not have a machine that they could drive so they could get it done faster.

Mayor, Arseneault agreed with the statements and mentioned that there are variables working against Public Works and we know that they are doing their best.

Councillor, Bourque commented that does not understand why we are paying people \$24/\$26/\$30/hour to cut guardrails. He feels that we should hire one or two students and their job would be to keep the guardrails in the Village cut. This would free up our full time employees to do more attractive type jobs than cutting grass.

Deputy Mayor, Guitard-McDonnell mentioned that it was summer students that she had seen cutting in lower Belledune.

Mayor Arseneault said that the other item he had was the guardrails themselves. He acknowledged that this is a DTI issue. He finds it odd that the guardrails get done in the fall but they spend all summer as an eyesore. He would like to reach out to DTI and let them know that we will fix it and we could deduct it from the money we pay them for road maintenance.

Deputy Mayor, Guitard-McDonnell stated that the guardrails are being damaged in the winter by the snowplows, so it is DTI that is doing this and they should be here in the spring repairing them. Mayor, Arseneault said that they say they will fix them in the fall. He stated that he doesn't know what the solution is but that we need to find a better one. Deputy Mayor, Guitard-McDonnell asked if it would be possible to sit with them and ask them to change from the fall to the spring. Mayor, Arseneault agreed that would be a good idea and if we could have that meeting that there are other things that could be talked about as well.

Mayor, Arseneault would like for CAO, Lee to organize a meeting with DTI so that we can get these issues dealt with.

Mayor, Arseneault discussed the unsightly premises and places that are not up to standard. He started by thanking anyone sitting on the Appeals Committee. He stated that we need to get some of these dwellings dealt with.

Councillor, Hickey mentioned that she was approached by a resident concerning a house in Durham Centre. She understands that there is a process but wants to know why we aren't trying to push it.

Councillor, Carmichael is wondering if these dwellings are on the list to be dealt with. She also acknowledged that there are unsightly premises that do need to be looked at.

Mayor, Arseneault said that when we are getting an email telling us that something is not being attended to, that takes it step farther because it's one thing when you have a process that you're going through and there are obstacles but when there's been a directive from another agency and it's still being ignored that is not acceptable. That email needs to be dealt with ASAP.

Councillor, Hickey would like to talk to the CAO as ask where it's at with these premises so that when they are approached by residents they have an answer.

Deputy Mayor, Guitard-McDonnell wants to know if it's the fire department that goes in and assess the building to state whether it's unsightly, unsafe, or a fire hazard and then it goes on the list? She would like to understand the process. She believes that they need to be looked at by the fire department or fire marshall to make sure that it falls under those categories.

Councillor, Bourque replied no, the process is that it takes an engineer, which the Chaleur Regional Service Commission has one. They send the engineer to inspect the premise and they decide whether it is dangerous and should be addressed. The owner is given a 30-day notice at that time, if he doesn't

comply with the 30-day notice then the engineer can place a 30-day notice on the building advising that there will be things done and that he has 30 days to appeal. Steps one and two have been completed, the problem that we're having is with step three. We went a year without having anybody apply to be on the Appeals Committee. Another notice was sent out in the Messenger and we received four or five people who were interested in being on the committee. The problem we're having now is that the chair of the committee isn't available for meetings due to his work schedule. Councillor, Bourque noted that there is a motion on the agenda to have a co-chairman. He believes there are five on their agenda to be addressed. Once the Appeals Committee makes a decision on those five we will be able to move forward. Councillor Bourque also noted that there is a huge difference on how things are evaluated between dangerous and unsightly. Unsightly is a difficult road to get cleaned up. He believes that the best approach may be to approach the home owner and ask what kind of assistance we could offer to get it done. He believes that trying to prove something as unsightly could be a difficult process.

Mayor, Arseneault agrees that we've had difficulty getting the Appeals Committee off the ground, but he believes that the biggest favour Council could do with the time left in their tenure is to make sure that the Appeals Committee is starting to make decisions.

- Policing in the Village (Summer)

Mayor, Arseneault and CAO, Lee met with Sargent Dulac in the spring. Sargent Dulac mentioned that if the Village had high resolution cameras placed strategically throughout the Village, it wouldn't be an issue that the police can't be here all of the time. If the police can identify someone through a video, they don't need to catch the person at the time. Mayor, Arseneault would like to ask CAO, Lee if Council needs to put some money into infrastructure in that regard because if that could help our policing issue, then it is a worthwhile investment.

M 2025/06/23-A

Ron Bourque moved that Council approve that CAO, Lee obtain quotes on purchasing high resolution cameras, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor, Carmichael mentioned that she believes that NB Power sells some of those cameras, but doesn't know how good they are.

Councillor, Robinson let Council know that there is a camera at the rec centre that is through NB Power so they could see what the resolution is like on that one.

- Port of Belledune AGM

Mayor, Arseneault said that the AGM is there for anyone who wants to see it. He stated that the Port of Belledune is moving ahead with their Green Hub initiative. The pieces are there and if they can get all of the pieces to come together, then it should be a positive economic development for northern New Brunswick.

- Congratulations to Regional Graduates

Mayor, Arseneault wants to congratulate all graduates at every level and wished them a great summer.

Councillor, Bourque

- Discussion about attracting a doctor or nurse practitioner to our medical centre

Councillor, Bourque stated that we've had discussions about attracting a doctor or nurse practitioner to our medical centre. Meetings have been had with the Minister of Health. Councillor, Bourque has had discussions with the Mayor of Perth Andover and he mentioned that Perth Andover had a drone take pictures of Perth Andover and developed that video and their Council approved a bonus to be offered to a nurse practitioner to come to their community. They approached the graduating class of nurse practitioners and made a presentation and were able to attract one who signed a five year contract. Councillor, Bourque would like CAO, Lee to go out and see what a professional company would charge to have a video done of our community. Councillor, Bourque would like to have this done during the summer months.

M 2025/06/23-B

Ron Bourque moved that CAO, Lee obtain quotes from a professional video operator to see what they would charge to have a video done of our community that could be used in future development of attracting a doctor or a nurse practitioner to our medical centre in Belledune, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor, Robinson noted that there is professional drone footage of Belledune on Facebook.

Councillor, Carmichael likes the idea of the bonus but isn't sure if we are overstepping. Councillor, Bourque confirmed that we would not be overstepping. He said that we can not change their salary, but we are allowed to offer an incentive.

Mayor, Arseneault said that the previous Council used to have this conversation but their hands were tied. He feels that the current Council needs to be more aggressive. Last week Mayor Arseneault attended an Immigration and New Arrivals event in Beresford and there were a number of health professionals there who were new arrivals. He feels we need to attend events like that and be prepared to offer something. He said that France Desrosiers was also at that event, she is the head of Vitalite. He feels that she really takes an interest in Belledune, and he would like for Council to have a meeting with her. He said that our clinic is her responsibility and once we get a package she could direct us to places to offer it.

Councillor, Bourque said that we need a person to spearhead the whole thing and bring the information back to Council, but that person needs permission from Council to spearhead the project. Councillor, Bourque indicated that he is willing to take that on as a project, working with the CAO to bring the information to Council

Councillor, Carmichael

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell

Councillor, Hickey

Councillor, Robinson

Administration Reports

Chief Administrative Officer, Landon Lee

- Social and Environmental Grant Report

M 2025/06/23-61

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the Grant Report for June 2025 be accepted as presented and recommendations approved for the following grants; \$250 to the Restigouche United U11 Girls Soccer team, \$500 to the Dalhousie Nursing Home Foundation, \$250 to the Lorne Days Festival, \$250 to the New Brunswick ALS Society. , seconded by Ron Bourque. MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Treasurer, Angela Culligan

- Financial Reports

M 2025/06/23-62

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the Financial Report be accepted as presented and the Accounts Payable be paid, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

By-laws and Policies

Motions and Resolutions

- Cancellation of July 2025 Committee of Whole and Regular Meetings

M 2025/06/23-63

Ron Bourque moved that the Village of Belledune cancel scheduled Committee of Whole and Regular Council Meetings for the month of July 2025, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED

Against: Cynthia Robinson

	For	Against	COI
Lilliane Carmichael	x		
Cynthia Robinson		x	
Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell	x		
Ron Bourque	x		
Dawn Hickey	x		
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- Per Diem for Orientation for Newly Elected Officials

M 2025/06/23-64

Lilliane Carmichael moved that Council approves use of a per diem for Councillor, Dawn Hickey to attend Orientation for Newly Elected Officials in Berry Mills, NB on June 21, 2025, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

- Purchase of SCBA Equipment

M 2025/06/23-65

Lilliane Carmichael moved that Council approve the purchase of SCBA equipment from Safety Source Fire Inc. for the amount of \$81,870 + HST, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

- Asphalt Hotbox Purchase

M 2025/06/23-66

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the Council of the Village of Belledune approve the purchase of a KM International 4 Ton Trailer Hotbox from Saunders Equipment Ltd. for the amount of \$55,150.00 + HST. , seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

- Appeals Committee Co-Chair Appointment

M 2025/06/23-67

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the Council of the Village of Belledune appoint Shona Hickey as the Co-Chair of the APPEAL COMMITTEE FOR DANGEROUS OR UNSIGHTLY PREMISES , seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

General Correspondence

- Correspondence List & Documents

Closed Session

Adjournment

M 2025/06/23-68

Lilliane Carmichael moved that the meeting adjourn at 8:00pm, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor

Clerk Treasurer