



**Village of Belledune  
Committee of Whole Council Meeting  
January 13, 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  
**Absent:**  
**Late:**  
**Staff Present:** Chief Administrative Officer, Landon Lee  
Clerk Treasurer, Angela Culligan  
**Staff Absent:**  
**Staff Late:**

**Call to Order & Welcome**

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

**Adopt Agenda**

**M 2025/01/13-1**

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

- **Item 6.1.2 to be moved to the Regular Meeting on Monday, January 20, 2025**

**Statements of Conflict of Interest**

**Presentations / Petitions / Delegations**

**Business**

**Council**

Mayor, Arseneault

- Amalgamation Presentation

<https://warktimes.com/2022/02/06/municipal-amalgamations-lead-to-higher-costs-experts-warn/>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/fund-albert-mayor-bob-rochon-resigns-1.7419741>

Mayor, Arseneault read through the articles that he has on amalgamation. Mayor, Arseneault said that he has spoken with some mayors and councillors in the province and many are not happy with the way that the amalgamation went.

Councillor, Robinson commented that some of the issues in the article do not pertain to Belledune. She believes that amalgamation is more about a strategic approach to the challenges that we face.

Councillor, Bourque said that he had recently spoke with councillors from Belle Baie and Heron Baie and they feel that amalgamation has resulted in higher property taxes and increased costs, and it has created some division and animosity among some Council members as well as static among the citizens.

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell indicated that she isn't sure why this has come to the table, she does not believe that this Council is ready to amalgamate with anyone.

Councillor, Robinson responded to Councillor Guitard-McDonnell saying that the point was that we were looking for information from the province as to whether or not we would benefit from amalgamation, and from there it became something that it was not intended to become.

Councillor, Carmichael believes that we don't know what the government will do or who they would amalgamate us with and that it would not be our decision.

- Route 134 Discussion

Moved to the Regular Meeting on January 20, 2025

- Unsightly Premises Discussion

Mayor, Arseneault said that when he was on Council from 2016-2021 he had never heard of us needing an Appeals Committee. Since August 2024, we have the Appeals Committee in place. Mayor, Arseneault would like a list of all of all the properties that we are looking at that require the attention of the Appeals Committee, and those that do not require the attention of the Appeals Committee.

CAO, Lee indicated that this Council has issued six notices to comply and all six have been appealed. With the previous Council, the Appeals Committee was with the Chaleur Regional Service Commission. When the new Council came into existence, the Appeals Committee with the CRSC was dissolved and a new committee needs to be put in place. We currently have an Appeals Committee in place and we are trying to coordinate the training for the committee members and staff. CAO, Lee believes that once the training is done and the appeals get in front of the Appeals Committee, the process should be relatively quick.

- Recycling Program in the Village

Mayor, Arseneault has received calls from the Villa in Jacquet River saying they can not get their recycling picked up and he's been told by the school that they also can not get their recycling picked up. CAO, Lee explained that the recycling program was taken over by the province. He went on to further explain that from the onset, the recycling program was supposed to be a residential only program. We only found this out when we raised the same concerns with Circular Materials that Mayor, Arseneault is

currently raising and we found out that any businesses or commercial entities would not have their recycling picked up. This includes schools, home complexes, and the Village Hall. CAO, Lee has spoken with other communities that are struggling with the same issues and Belle Baie has introduced a scaled-down version of recycling the way that they had done it before with their own staff.

- Snowplow Service/DTI Communication

Mayor, Arseneault recognizes that Belledune doesn't have the same set up as other municipalities that have contractors taking care of snow clearing, but he believes that our quality of service from DTI is substandard. Mayor, Arseneault does not believe that our communication with DTI is strong enough, he would like to create a liason committee where we would meet quarterly to discuss expectations and strengthen the line of communication. Mayor, Arseneault would like a directive issued to CAO, Lee to get a liason committee together and have quarterly meetings with representatives from DTI. Mayor, Arseneault indicated that he could also talk to the Minister to see if he can find out where the bottleneck is.

CAO, Lee explained that if we receive a complaint from a resident, we instruct them to call the 1-800 number and go to the website to create a ticket, and we do the same thing. He believes the best way to start this would be to reach out to DTI and let them know that we want to set up recurring meetings with Council.

- Townhall Date Discussion

Mayor, Arseneault wants to let the public know about the meeting on Thursday night. It is on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:30pm at the Rec Centre.

- Chaleur Regional Service Commission Update

Mayor, Arseneault wants to let people know that the Service Commission has an impact on our daily lives, it is more than just planning. He is asking the public to go to the Chaleur Regional Service Commission website and become informed about it. Starting next month, Mayor, Arseneault is going to try to come back with updates.

- Upcoming Minister's Meeting in the North

Starting on Monday, January 20th, in Bathurst, the Liberals are going to have all of the Ministers here for a meeting. This is an opportunity for Council to get out and talk to as many Ministers as possible. This is a networking opportunity and Mayor, Arseneault is encouraging Council to go and to advocate as much as they can.

- Congratulations to Pabineau First Nations on their Harvey's opening

The grand opening of the Harvey's in Bathurst was on Monday, January 13, 2025. It was attended by Councillor, Bourque, who indicated that the event was well attended.

Councillor, Bourque

Councillor, Carmichael

Councillor, Guitard-McDonnell

Councillor, Robinson

**Administration**

CAO, Landon Lee

Clerk/Treasurer, Angela Culligan

**Closed Session**

**Adjournment**

**M 2025/01/13-2**

**Lilliane Carmichael moved that the meeting adjourned at 7:58pm, seconded by Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell. MOTION CARRIED.**

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Mayor

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Clerk Treasurer