



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 24, 2019

30 Honour House Court - Council Chambers

7:00 p.m.

Members Present:

- Mayor Ann Seamans**
- Deputy Mayor John Coughlan**
- Councillor Wayne Bennett**
- Councillor Lana Hansen**
- Councillor Jeremy Thorne**
- Councillor Cecile Cassista**
- Councillor Andrew LeBlanc**
- Councillor Tammy Rampersaud**

Staff Present:

- C. Smith, CAO**
- A. Crummey, Town Clerk**
- D. Richard, Deputy Town Clerk**
- R. Higson, Director of Finance**
- M. Ouellet, Director of Engineering & Public Works**
- S. Thomson, Director of Economic Development**
- T. Finlay, Director of Human Resources**
- G. Cole, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Relations**
- D. Pleau, Fire Chief**
- Supt. T. Critchlow, Codiac RCMP**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seamans called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor A. LeBlanc

Seconded by: Councillor C. Cassista

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole Meeting on June 24, 2019 be approved.

Motion Carried

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

NIL

4. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Joanie O'Leary, Lifestyle Coordinator, Shaw Life

Request for Partial Street Closure

Moved by: Councillor C. Cassista

Seconded by: Councillor A. LeBlanc

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Riverview Town Council to authorize a partial street closure on Saturday, July 13, 2019 on the corner of Flagstone and Greenpark Drive (from Lot 13-8 to the end of Flagstone) commencing 12 p.m. until 5 p.m. Said approval is pending notification of all emergency and protective services (including Ambulance NB, Codiac RCMP, Codiac Transpo, the Riverview Fire Department and the Public Works Department).

Motion Carried

b. Recognizing National Injury Prevention Day - July 5, 2019

Taken as information.

5. PETITIONS, PRESENTATIONS & DELEGATIONS

a. Presentation by Mayor Seamans of Lady Baden-Powell Awards

Mayor Seamans remarked that The Lady Baden Powell Award is the highest award a Girl Guide can receive. It involves completing the Girl Guide program as well as extra incentives in the area of community service, volunteering and learning the life and work of Lady Baden-Powell.

Mayor Seamans was assisted by Susan Belanger, Riverview District Commissioner in distributing certificates to the following Girl Guides:

2nd Riverview Guides: Mikayla David, Asha Belanger, Grace MacDonald, Averie Walsh and Rhannion Violette

3rd Riverview Guides: Faith Russell, Faith Morais and Kaitlynn Parsons

b. Presentation by Jenny Burns, Spokesperson for Needle Awareness

Jenny Burns made a verbal presentation stating that she is part of a volunteer group called Needle Awareness. It was started last year by a few concerned citizens regarding the proper disposal of used syringes and gear that are being discarded on our streets and throughout this area.

J. Burns stated that Needle Awareness also advocates for a safe injection site in the City of Moncton and outlined their rationale. J. Burns remarked that the City currently has a Needle Distribution Program through AIDS Moncton, which is now called Ensemble Moncton. She noted that this organization is responsible for handing out clean needles and gear which include cookers, tourniquets etc. to their clients in hopes to lessen blood borne diseases. The term for this initiative can be described as "Harm Reduction".

She explained that "Harm Reduction" can only work properly with all the components working together which include Needle Distribution, Point of Contact, Drug testing, proper Disposal, and Rehabilitation.

J. Burns remarked that without all of the components working together the result has caused a harm shift with an unlimited supply of discarded needles showing up on our streets, sidewalks, and walking paths.

J. Burns indicated that the purpose of the presentation was to notify the public of our service, and hopefully open up a conversation about these drugs that are being used in our area. She noted that there are several Needle Disposal units throughout Moncton. The two main boxes are located at the Botsford Fire Hall and the St .George Fire Hall. This was put in place last year through the efforts of ex Fire Chief Eric Arsenault and of our Needle Awareness group. Individuals can drop used needles anytime at these locations.

She indicated their next step would be to have a public information session about needle disposal, needle usage and the different drugs that are in our area. Needle Awareness would like to engage the public and determine what concerns they have and help anyone looking for resources.

J. Burns remarked that as a group they are trying to stay ahead of this crisis in Riverview and the first step is talking openly with our community and its leaders and having an open dialogue about the reality of this crisis.

She instructed that if anyone finds a discarded syringe please contact their Facebook page and one of the volunteers will come and dispose of it properly. Our volunteers are a dedicated group with the proper equipment to help keep our streets and walking trails safe for you, our kids and beloved pets.

Councillor Rampersaud stated that she appreciated the work being done and agreed that awareness and education are key.

J. Burns commented that Needle Awareness is a complex issue and we will be hearing about safe injection sites. Unfortunately the situation has escalated and the reality is here. She remarked that, if possible, Needle Awareness would like to collaborate with the municipality. They want to be proactive and enable an open dialogue to take place.

J. Burns confirmed with Councillor Rampersaud that unfortunately the people using are not going to drop them off at a disposal site. She noted that Ensemble did put out their own boxes. She pointed out that in Riverview discarded needles can be taken to the Riverview Fire Department. J. Burns remarked that they just wanted citizens to know that their volunteer group is out there and are trained for pick up and disposal.

J. Burns confirmed with Councillor Bennett that Moncton does not have a safe injection site but they do have needle distribution sites. The recipient can receive an unlimited supply of needles but unfortunately they are not properly disposed of. Nor do individuals receive a point of contact where their drugs can be tested and, more importantly, asked the question of whether they are ready for rehab. All components are important for a safe injection site. She suggested that they have seen a harm shift because of the unlimited supply of needles which are not being properly disposed of.

Tammy Mollins confirmed with Councillor Thorne that they would welcome more volunteers. She noted that currently they have 15 trained volunteers. She encouraged the public to send a Facebook message if a needle is found and a volunteer will retrieve it.

Denise Ouellette indicated that the cost of the out boxes are covered. The biggest help the community could do would be to talk to their kids, make them aware. We need to get the message out to the little children. Education of our children is essential.

Councillor J. Thorne suggested approaching the School District to get the message to the school children and perhaps put together a survey to gain information from the public.

Councillor W. Bennett pointed out that perhaps education and awareness could be achieved through the production of a pamphlet which could be distributed by the group at community events. For instance, the Town of Riverview hosts summer Block Parties which would be an ideal location to reach out to families.

S. Thomson commented that the Town has installed Sharps Collector boxes in all public Town facilities and in some of the Town vehicles.

Councillor LeBlanc remarked that both he and Councillor Cassista are involved with Neighbourhood Watch. He suggested that their groups should connect.

6. EXTERNAL REPORTS

a. Building Permit Report - May, 2019

Report accepted.

b. Development Activity Report - May, 2019

Report accepted.

c. Codiak RCMP

6.c.1 Activity Snapshot for the month of May, 2019

Supt. Critchlow remarked on the eight top crime types which represent 6.6% of the total calls for service in the region. These include 12 crimes against persons; 3 break and enter (business); 2 break and enter (other); 3 break and enter (residence); 9 cases of mischief; 1 theft; 1 theft of motor vehicle; 12 theft (general) for a total of 43 incidents.

Supt. Critchlow confirmed with Deputy Mayor Coughlan he could provide an updated crime map that would include Riverview "pins". He also confirmed that there has been an upswing in break and enters but reported that some arrests have been made in connection with that type of crime.

Supt. Critchlow responded to a question in regard to a recent incident wherein the RCMP response time was reported to be thirty minutes. He indicated that it was difficult to comment without being aware of all the circumstances and the facts.

Supt. Critchlow confirmed with Councillor Bennett that speeding issues should be directed to the Traffic Section. Any non-emergency incidents should be directed to call 857-2400. If it is an emergency situation the caller should be dialling 911.

Supt. Critchlow pointed out that the RCMP are working on e-reporting. He said that progress is being made on this initiative but are not there yet. It is felt that such an initiative would have its advantages. He commented that a member sits on the Town's Traffic Committee which meets once a month; and also the Auxiliary members assists the RCMP in a variety of ways including speed checks. These are different ways in which the RCMP handle traffic concerns.

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. Administration Department

7.a.1 Administration Report for the month of May - June, 2019

Report accepted.

b. Finance Department

7.b.1 Finance Report for the month of June, 2019

R. Higson pointed out that the outstanding receivables for the water and sewer bills have been steadily declining thanks to the efforts of staff. He noted that essentially there are 12 individual properties that account for half of the total outstanding figure.

R. Higson confirmed with Councillor Cassista that the results of the health & benefit review is not public yet. He indicated that a recommendation will be brought forward at the Regular Meeting of Council to be held on July 8th as well as a recommendation on the auditing services.

c. Engineering & Works

7.c.1 Engineering & Works Report for the month of May - June, 2019

M. Ouellet noted that the monthly report refers to the construction of the sidewalk on Canusa Drive; however, the construction has been pushed back by a week to July 2nd and a completion date is estimated to be August 20th.

M. Ouellet confirmed with Councillor Rampersaud that with respect to the application of the paint for the lane markings, the Town has been adhering to a nation-wide standard which was changed, some years ago, from oil based paint to latex based. He noted that the Town continues to explore different options, such as the treatment that was applied at the Gunningsville Intersection which was more expensive but necessary for this particular location. Staff is also exploring the use of carbide blades and another produced used in PEI. M. Ouellet remarked that the application of lane markings has its challenges as well as its lack of longevity with the latex based paint.

Councillor Rampersaud appreciates the ongoing challenges but was concerned about the safety aspect when the lines begin to wear which impedes visibility or are worn away altogether.

M. Ouellet confirmed with Councillor Bennett that the Town of Riverview does not, nor has it ever, sold salt to a private enterprise.

M. Ouellet confirmed with Councillor Bennett that with respect to the Warren Avenue construction project, staff is trying to introduce grade so that the water gets into the storm system. He suggested that Councillor Bennett provide him with the addresses of the three residents who had contacted him with their concerns and staff would investigate.

M. Ouellet confirmed with Councillor Hansen that prep work should have commenced today on Hillsborough Road. He was not certain

when actual construction would begin but he would follow up and provide this information to Council.

C. Smith pointed out that there is information on the website which outlines the construction projects and their proposed respective dates.

Report accepted.

h. Corporate Services Department

7.h.1 Corporate Services Report for the month of May, 2019

The Town Clerk pointed out that DocuPet has one employee who is going door to door delivering licensing information.

Report accepted.

d. Fire Department

7.d.1 Fire Department Report for the month of May, 2019

Chief Pleau commented that Council may recall a few years ago there was discussion on a Peer Support Program and a Critical Stress Management Program which our members had expressed an interest in. These programs deal with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Since that time, he is pleased to report that some of the members have now completed the ASIST program which is given to First Aid Responders. He was also pleased to report that the Department now has a full active Peer Support Team. Chief Pleau also indicated that during the month of May three Chief Officers and fifteen career firefighters took the suicide prevention training, and in September the Department will be hosting another course.

Councillor LeBlanc indicated that he had received positive feedback about the Department and the work that is being done with respect to Mental Health by them.

Report accepted.

e. Parks, Recreation and Community Relations

7.e.1 Parks & Recreation Report for the month of June, 2019

G. Cole noted that SunFest is poised to kick off on June 26th until July 1st. He stated that the Department is looking forward to a great Festival.

G. Cole confirmed with Councillor Hansen that there is a parking plan for Canada Day which will be communicated on the web site as well as on the radio.

Councillor Bennett remarked that Council recently heard a presentation updating Council on the Mill Creek Park. He wondered whether the same arrangement could be made with the manager of the Riverview Skate Park.

G. Cole responded that if Council would like this to happen it could be arranged. Mayor Seamans suggested as an alternative that an update could be included in the monthly report provided by the Department.

Report accepted.

f. Business/Economic Development

7.f.1 Economic Development Report for the month June, 2019

S. Thomson commented on his recent visit to the Riverview East School and their video containing ideas on how to make Riverview a better place in the next hundred years. He stated that Mr. Harris' grade one class did an exceptional job!

S. Thomson confirmed with Councillor Cassista that he would discuss the idea of having a booth at the Mosaiq Festival with Director Cole. Perhaps this could be something the Town could explore for next year.

Councillor Cassista thinks that it is very important to get the Town's material out there at this type of event.

Report accepted.

g. Human Resources

7.g.1 Human Resources Report for the month of June, 2019

T. Finlay highlighted that “National Hydration Day” was held on June 23rd, and the Human Resources Department has decided to hold a month long celebration with the issuance of a staff challenge. The purpose of this challenge is to increase staff’s water intake and decrease the consumption of sugar and caffeinated drinks. The Hydration Challenge is to drink 3 bottles a water a day for a month.

Report accepted.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Grant Report for the month of June, 2019

Moved by: Deputy Mayor T. Rampersaud

Seconded by: Councillor C. Cassista

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Riverview Town Council to award a Community Investment grant to the Filipino Association of New Brunswick in the amount of \$500 in support of the 1st Annual Family Day to be held on August 5, 2019 in Caseley Park.

Councillor Cassista noted that she had conducted research on this request and that they have worked really hard to get people and businesses to participate.

Councillor Rampersaud noted that the Family Day is open to the public as well and encouraged everyone to attend and learn a little bit about a different culture.

Motion Carried

Moved by: Councillor C. Cassista

Seconded by: Councillor J. Coughlan

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Riverview Town Council to purchase two season (2019-2020) adult hockey tickets in support of the Moncton Wildcats in the amount of \$1,200.60 (including taxes).

Councillor Rampersaud noted that the Town supports the purchase of season tickets and as an added bonus the Town receives support for PRO Kids through the Wildcats Celebrity Sports Banquet. She pointed out that proceeds from that event go back to P.R.O.Kids and similar programs in Moncton and Dieppe.

Mayor Seamans advised that the Wildcats Celebrity Sports Banquet was held on Sunday, June 3rd and the Town was presented with a \$25,000 cheque for P.R.O. Kids and that \$75,000 in total was raised.

Motion Carried

b. Endorsement of Updated 10 Year Capital Plan

Moved by: Councillor C. Cassista

Seconded by: Councillor W. Bennett

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Riverview Town Council to endorse the updated 10 Year General Capital and Utility Budget Plans, and direct staff to use it to guide the development of the annual general capital and operating budgets.

And further that Riverview Town Council also commits to reviewing and updating its 10 year capital budget plan on an annual basis as assumptions and priorities may change over the years.

C. Smith provided a background to the Ten Year Capital Plan. He pointed out that when the Town's 2019 Budget process was completed, Council was aware that the ten year plan needed to be updated again as the budget was based on certain assumptions (equalization grant, tax

assessment growth and more). This spring the Directors were asked to update their department's 10 year capital plans to ensure it was accurate and reflected the capital budget priorities of the Town, and also to identify any new issues or projects to be considered.

Mayor Seamans remarked that Council would discuss each of the six items identified in the Summary Document and a consensus would be reached on each item. She stated that the Ten Year Capital Plan is a very important and useful planning tool.

The members of Council entered into discussions on each item resulting in the following:

Bridgedale Boulevard

Council entered into a discussion on the possibility of moving the construction of Bridgedale Boulevard up from 2021 to 2020. Council recognized the fact that the project would be done without Provincial/Federal funding.

S. Thomson confirmed that the Province's Infrastructure Funding Plan is for a ten year period which would mean there is nothing available for this type of project until a new program opens up in 2026.

R. Higson confirmed that by moving the project for Bridgedale Boulevard forward by one year, it would have a minimal financial impact on the Town's overall 10 year plan.

R. Higson confirmed with Mayor Seamans that the additional \$1.4 million Gas Tax funds could be used on various projects. He suggested that the Town could move around the source of funding to help the entire capital plan in order to be able to commence the Boulevard in 2020.

M. Ouellet pointed out that the intersection on Bridgedale Boulevard would be a roundabout.

Mayor Seamans commented that the Town has told the Provincial Government that this is one of its priority projects.

C. Smith reiterated that there is no funding from the Infrastructure Program at this point.

Mayor Seamans called for the vote. All in favour.

C. Smith wanted Council to recognize the fact that it can still debate these issues during the upcoming budget deliberations.

Roundabout - Pine Glen Road and Pinewood Road proposed for 2021

Council had been requested to consider moving this project forward to 2020; however, the Director and CAO did not recommend doing so as it would be a challenge to do the two projects in the same year given the fact that Bridgedale Boulevard is proposed to be moved up to 2020.

Deputy Mayor Coughlan stated that he did not want to see any local improvement streets sacrificed because we spent too much money on the Ten Year Capital Plan.

Councillor Thorne commented that more information had been requested from the RCMP with respect to the number and type of accidents taking place at this location. That information would be useful in making a decision on this item. Staff indicated that they had been collecting their own information but only with respect to significant accidents because they would not necessarily be aware of any minor fender benders.

Mayor Seamans called for a vote on retaining the construction of the roundabout in 2021 as originally proposed.

All in favour.

Installation of Sidewalk - Irving Road and Sussex - (an addition to the 10 year capital plan)

M. Ouellet confirmed with Mayor Seamans that the Town has been working on inter connecting the sidewalks around the school projects. He noted that the installation of the Canusa sidewalk is the last of such section, which has taken a few years to complete. Beyond that the Sussex sidewalk came as a request through the Traffic Committee which

recommends its installation. Other streets (or sections) that were raised were Whitepine (east of Cleveland).

Mayor Seamans called for a vote on the addition of a sidewalk on Sussex Avenue and Irving Road to the Ten Year Capital Plan.

All in favour.

Riverview Recreation Complex

C. Smith remarked that the Committee continues to work toward this initiative.

C. Smith confirmed with Councillor Cassista that the Committee has not changed any components of the building which were endorsed in the 10 Year Plan.

Mayor Seamans remarked that an update on the project could be brought forward in the fall.

Tax rate in relation to assessment growth

C. Smith noted that Dieppe has a tax model and suggested that perhaps Council would want to give consideration to the development of such a policy for Riverview.

Council agreed that this was a good strategy and gave direction to staff to prepare a policy for their consideration.

Mayor Seamans called for the vote on the development of a tax rate policy.

A consensus was reached.

Level of Debt and Borrowing

The Ten Year Plan assumes the Town will borrow funds every year.

Mayor Seamans called for a vote. All in favour.

The mover and the seconder agreed to a friendly amendment to the main motion to recommend to include the changes reached by consensus of Council.

Mayor Seamans called for the vote on the motion including the proposed changes.

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Riverview Town Council to endorse the updated 10 Year General Capital and Utility budget plans, including the friendly amendments based on consensus from Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 24, 2019 and direct staff to use it to guide the development of the annual general capital and operating budgets.

And further that Riverview Town Council also commits to reviewing and updating its 10 year capital budget plan on an annual basis as assumptions and priorities may change over the years.

Motion Carried

9. COUNCIL STATEMENTS/INQUIRIES

NIL

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Councillor A. LeBlanc

Seconded by: Councillor W. Bennett

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Motion Carried