

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Stackhouse called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Steven Stackhouse
Councillor Doug Bobbitt
Councillor Harley Hunt

Deputy Mayor Patsy Shay
Councillor Paul Taylor

Works Supervisor, Craig Dixon
Clerk/Treasurer, Robby Obermeier

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

There were no Conflicts of Interest declared at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Stackhouse called for a motion to approve the agenda.

M/S/C (Hunt/Taylor)

Motion to approve the agenda for the November 19, 2019, Regular Council Meeting.

DELEGATIONS: n/a

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Stackhouse called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 15, 2019 and the Special Council Meeting held on Thursday, November 7, 2019.

M/S/C (Taylor/Hunt)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 and the Special Meeting of Council held on Thursday, November 7, 2019.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

1) **Meadow Crescent Lots:** Deputy Mayor Shay..... We have received correspondence from Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI) and they have declined our offer to purchase the lots due to the fact they were purchased as “flood properties” and they are not authorized to re-sell because of the potential risk of later development. The Works Department will continue maintaining the lots.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Reports - Operations:

M/S/C (Shay/Bobbitt)

Motion to approve the October 2019, bills for payment:

General	\$ 387,521.50
Water & Sewer	\$ 102,345.45

“on the question”

Councillor Hunt, “what does the General fund include? Streets, NB Power, Bell Aliant, vehicle’s, fuel, property taxes ...anything that doesn’t fall under Water & Sewer. Robby will print a copy of the breakdown for Hunt.

Operations – RSC8 Solid Waste Agreement:

The Village has received the final version of the RSC8 Solid Waste agreement and a motion of Council is required to approve the agreement and authorize the execution of the said agreement.

M/S/C (Bobbitt/Taylor)

Motion to approve the RSC8 Solid Waste Agreement and authorize the execution of the said agreement.

Operations – Amalgamation:

M/S (Hunt/Taylor)

Motion to pursue a plebiscite held in conjunction with the May 2020 Election as: “Are you in favor of amalgamation?” Yes or No

After Councillor Hunt made the motion he went on to say...we could amalgamate with the Town of Sussex, Waterford, Picadilly or Penobsquis, the area is “open to pursue amalgamation”

“on the question”

Bobbitt:

I know we have been through this as a Village but I’m going to focus on the UMNB Conference that I attended; Minister Jeff Carr provided information on the Finn Report that was completed 10 years ago, which focused on structuring NB into different municipalities & regions and my own personal views as a councillor are:

We need to look at regionalizing rather than amalgamation or annexation. I feel as a region we need strength in numbers but at the same time amalgamation, from a village perspective we are in good financial standing, in that our asset outweigh the deficits and we have in the last few years had budgets that has not gone over budget and for those reasons, I’m not going to support this motion.

Shay:

I know we asked the citizens to speak by a plebiscite 3years ago and because of that reason I’m not in favor of this motion either. I feel if we re-do another plebiscite with the Town of Sussex it’s like telling all those citizens that we are discounting their vote and I won’t do that. Now if the Province approaches us and suggest “regional” then I would be in support.

Taylor:

I feel at this time it would be a benefit to the Village because we would have more income which would allow us to do more things and we already share a lot of services with the Town of Sussex so why not become “one”.

Hunt:

As you know I’m in favor of amalgamation for many reasons:

If we amalgamate with the Town of Sussex our Ambulance services would be better, guaranteed 20 minutes where now its 45 minutes. As for the Fire Department if we amalgamated with the Town of Sussex we would probably have our own fire truck sitting in the garage. There really is so many reasons why this would be a good step yes, you say our finances are good, but we haven’t spent anything, we have streets like Harding Avenue that are having trouble with sewer that we haven’t done anything about. The only thing we have done this year is the storm sewer project on Michael Street & Buchanan Drive, and I wasn’t happy with how that was done, the drainage should of came out to Main Street, instead the water is being drained onto private properties. Also, our taxes will be less if we amalgamate with the Town because the sewer agreement would be removed plus we are paying more for the water and sewer then the Town of Sussex does.

Stackhouse:

Councillor Hunt for clarification could you please read your motion again.

Ok, so you’re not specifying any community... Am I not correct in saying that when talking about amalgamation you need to have conversation with the location that you are amalgamating with and in this case Harley you’re not specifying any location, you’re not saying Sussex, Picadilly or Penobsquis so I’m thinking that part isn’t going to come into play.

Mayor Stackhouse read the motion again....

Councillor Shay voted “nay”

Councillor Bobbitt voted “nay”

Mayor: I think the problem is Harley you are not be specify enough with the motion. The motion talks about a plebiscite held in conjunction with the May Election to see if the residents of the Village are in favor of amalgamation and you’re not specifying any particular area and I feel it leave an area of vagueness that says amalgamation with “who”?

Because of the equal division the Mayor cast his vote as “nay” – Motion defeated

Operations – Code of Conduct:

Councillor Bobbitt stated with this being a new by-law he wanted to clarify a few issues under the complaint process.

Under section #16 **Informal Complaint Process:**

So, if I had an issue with a member of Council, I would contact that particular member and explain the things that I felt wasn’t correct. And you could do this either verbally, or even by email.

Under section #17 **Formal Complaint**

ALL complaints must be delivered in written format, dated and signed by the identifiable individual. So, if I was making a complaint, I would have to issue that complaint to the entire Council and Council is defined under definition (#2.3) as “the

Council of the Village of Sussex Corner, which includes the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and all the Councillors and at that point the entire Council would decide, and if the complaint was against someone on Council that member would be entitled to know what that complaint is. I just wanted to clarify that and going forward that is how this by-law will work.

Operations - Accept Committee Reports:

Mayor Stackhouse called for a motion to accept the committee report:

M/S/C (Shay/Taylor)

Motion to accept the Operations Committee Report.

CORRESPONDENCE: n/a

BY-LAWS: n/a

NEW BUSINESS:

Dillon Consulting Ltd – Outstanding Invoices / Transferring Funds:

The following invoices has been received for the Waycon Heights Storm Sewer project and the following motions are required to pay and to transfer funds from the Gas Tax account to the operating account.

M/S/C (Taylor/Hunt)

Motion to authorize payment for the outstanding invoice from Dillon Consulting Ltd. in the amount of \$30,498.06.

M/S/C (Hunt/Shay)

Motion to authorize the transfer of \$27,657.62 from the Gas Tax Account to the General Capital Fund for the Waycon Heights Storm Sewer Project #19-9997.

“on the question” *Bobbitt confirmed with Obermeier that the difference in those amounts were due to the HST Rebate that the Village would receive.*

M/S/C (Shay/Bobbitt)

Motion to authorize payment directed by Dillon Consulting Ltd. for the outstanding invoice from 683962 NB Ltd (Carson Development) in the amount of \$136,109.55.

M/S/C (Bobbitt/Hunt)

Motion to authorize the transfer of \$123,432.98 from the Gas Tax Account to the General Capital Fund for the Waycon Heights Storm Sewer Project #19-9997.

Snow Removal Agreement:

A new street has been opened which will impact the snow removal operations and our current agreement with the contractor.

M/S/C (Taylor/Hunt)

Motion to amend the snow removal agreement with John Dysart Ltd. to reflect the addition of Booth Street.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

Tuesday, December 17, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

M/S/C (Shay/Taylor)

Motion to adjourn the Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Clerk / Treasurer

Mayor