

***** Due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic, our Regular Meeting of Council was held “Electronically” under authority of the Local Governance Act Section #69 and our Procedural By-law #132-19.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Mayor Stackhouse called for a moment of silence in honour of the people who lost their lives in the deadly shooting in Nova Scotia.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Stackhouse called for verbal “roll call”

Mayor Steven Stackhouse
Deputy Mayor Patsy Shay
Councillor Doug Bobbitt
Councillor Harley Hunt
Councillor Paul Taylor

Clerk/Treasurer, Robby Obermeier
Works Supervisor, Craig Dixon

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/Bobbitt) Motion to approve the agenda for the April 21, 2020, 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 February 18, 2020.

M/S/C (Taylor/Shay) Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were no items of business from previous meetings before Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Reports - Operations:

The minutes of the Operations meeting of March 5, 2020 were submitted. And from the report the following motions are required.

M/S/C (Shay/Taylor)

Motion to approve the February bills for payment:

General \$ 140,462.16
Water & Sewer \$ 8,591.14

M/S/C (Shay/Taylor)

Motion to approve the March bills for payment:

General \$ 74,776.27
Water & Sewer \$ 8,105.46

M/S/C (Bobbitt/Hunt)

Motion to approve the payment of \$14,703.90 to Absolute Traffic & Sign Ltd. for 2 crosswalk flashing lights.

“on the question”

Bobbitt commented that he has been receiving a lot of positive feedback from the residents and is very pleased with this purchase!
Stackhouse commented that the flashing lights were a real valuable asset to the Village.

The following motion was required to approve a transfer of \$13,334.45 from the General Capital Reserve Fund to the General Capital Fund for the purchase of 2 crosswalk flashing lights. The difference in the invoiced price and the transfer amount is the HST rebate the Village receives.

M/S/C (Bobbitt/Hunt)

Motion to transfer \$13,334.45 from the General Capital Reserve Fund to the General Capital Fund for the purchase of 2 crosswalk flashing lights.

M/S/C (Taylor/Hunt)

Motion to extend the agreement with John Dysart Ltd. for the snow plowing services for a two-year period from November 1, 2020 to April 30, 2022.

Reports – Nutrien Civic Centre Report:

Councillor Bobbitt submitted minutes from the Nutrien Civic Centre meeting of January 29th, 2020.

Operations - Accept Committee Reports:

Mayor Stackhouse called for a motion to accept the committee reports.

M/S/C (Shay/Bobbitt)

Motion to accept the Operations & Nutrien Civic Centre Committee Reports.

“on the question”

Hunt stated that the Centre is doing a great job! Bobbitt (Chair for Nutrien Civic Centre) commented with the shutdown of the Centre, Zac Black did an amazing job on getting the message out positively regarding the shutdown due to the COVID-19.

CORRESPONDENCE:

DOTI – Response on 2020 Five Year Designated Highway Program:

The Village received a letter from Minister Oliver regarding the 2020 Five Year Designated Highway Program and unfortunately the province is unable to commit any funds to our municipality for this fiscal year.

Graduating Students – Banners:

Correspondence was received regarding the possibility of hanging banners throughout the Village and Town honoring the graduating high school students. SRHS is still finalizing the details and once completed more information will follow.

BY-LAWS:

There were no bylaws before Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

Audited Financial Statements:

The auditing firm of Buckley Professional Corporation presented to Council, prior to the meeting, the audited financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2019.

M/S/C (Hunt/Taylor)

Motion to accept the Village of Sussex Corner Financial Statements for the Year Ended December 31, 2019, as prepared and presented by Buckley Professional Corporation.

“on the question”

Hunt stated that the Village is in good financial position.

Bobbitt also commented “our assets and reserves exceed any outstanding balances that we may have by a huge margin”. Very positive!

Town of Sussex – Outstanding Invoice:

The Village received an additional invoice for engineering services for the Flood Risk Mitigation Master Plan Expansion.

M/S/C (Bobbitt/Shay)

Motion to approve the additional invoice in the amount of \$5,780.51 for engineering services for the Flood Risk Mitigation Master Plan Expansion.

The following motion was required to approve a transfer of \$5,242.00 from the General Operating Reserve Fund to the General Operating Fund

M/S/C (Bobbitt/Shay)

Motion to transfer \$5,242.00 from the General Operating Reserve Fund to the General Operating Fund to cover the additional invoice for the Flood Risk Mitigation Master Plan.

Resignation – Works Department

Village Council has received the resignation of Alex MacLeod, effective March 6, 2020.

M/S/C (Hunt/Taylor)

Motion to accept the resignation of Alex MacLeod, effective March 6, 2020.

“We wish him the best in all his future endeavors”.

Pearson’s Corner Market

A request was received from Pearson’s Corner Market to house mobile food trucks at the market location.

M/S/C (Shay/Bobbitt)

Motion to grant permission to Pearson’s Corner Market for the placement of food trucks under the following conditions:

Time Period: May 9th to October 31st

Week Day - Routine: Thursday

Week Day – Special: Christmas Open House

**Week-end – Special: Saturday (maximum 5)
Hours of Operation: 11:00 am to 9:00 pm
Number of Trucks: 5 Trucks (maximum)**

“on the question”

*Bobbitt stated concerns over the COVID-19 guidelines.
Stackhouse commented that the landowner is working closely with the Public Health Inspector and would be responsible to follow all the COVID-19 guidelines outlined for Food Trucks.*

Mayor’s Comments:

COVID-19:

We closed both the Village Office and Works garage to the public March 16th, 2020, and they will remain closed until further notice. This decision was made based on the information and recommendations from New Brunswick’s Chief Medical Officer of Health to try to limit the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to offer only essential service until the State of Emergency is lifted. Staff carrying out these services will follow all provincial safety protocols to protect both themselves and the public from Covid-19.

Parks, playgrounds, and walking trails will continue to be closed until further notice.

Council authorized the utility billing to be redistributed to the July and October billing. Those wishing to pay the April invoice of can do so by cheque or e-transfer only.

No change to the weekly garbage collection. Please continue to place solid waste at curbside as usual. Spring cleanup is scheduled for May 14, and if any changes to this schedule will be placed on our website and FB.

Mayor Stackhouse acknowledged Premier Blaine Higgs and Dr. Jennifer Russell, Chief Medical Officer of Health, for doing what is necessary to keep New Brunswickers safe and for all their hard work.

And in closing Mayor and Council extend our condolences to the families of the tragedy in Nova Scotia. There are no words that can ease their suffering.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

M/S/C (Taylor/Hunt) Motion to adjourn the Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:32 p.m.

Clerk / Treasurer

Mayor