

Municipality of Grand Lake

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, March 6, 2023

TIME: 6:30 PM

LOCATION: Minto Council Chambers

The regular meeting of the Municipality of Grand Lake was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 6, 2023, with Mayor Nicklin presiding.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Greg Smith
Gary Glenn
Crystal Boudreau
Michael Richardson
Shaun Ward
Gloria Hogg

Councillor Klassen sent her regrets as she was unable to attend.

CAO: Michelle Dickinson
SDO: Alyson Boudreau

Attendees: Kelly Bishop, Grand Lake Mirror; Steve Gauthier; Elaine Gauthier; Glenna Best; Keith Hoyt; Roger LaBeurque, Eric LaBeurque; Norman Thibodeau; Donna Thibodeau; Melanie and Rob Mainville; Richard Madore, Trevor Bostick; and Percy Huntington

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nicklin called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Boudreau and seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith to approve the March 6, 2023, regular council meeting agenda.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Ward to approve the February 6, 2023, regular council meeting minutes and the February 27, 2023, special council meeting minutes. **Motion Carried.**

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There was no conflict of interest declared.

CORRESPONDENCE READ

The Clerk read correspondence from Elementary Literacy ELF Program. They are looking for sponsorship in the amount of \$150.00. Councillor Ward asked if any of those funds were coming back to the Grand Lake Area. Upon further discussion it was decided that there should be further investigation.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Ward and seconded by Councillor Boudreau to table this information until more information is obtained. **Motion carried.**

The Clerk read correspondence from the New Brunswick Police Association looking for sponsorship in their 36th Annual Crime Prevention Guide in the form of an advertisement.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Ward and seconded by Councillor Boudreau to table the decision until the next meeting. **Motion carried.**

The Clerk read correspondence from the New Brunswick Senior Citizens Federation. They are looking to have the speed limit reduced in the Thompson Cross Road as it is a danger to special needs children in the area. Council will bring the issue to Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

The Clerk advised that Capital Region Service Commission issued one building permit with an estimated value of \$2,000,000.00. The fee paid was \$10,025.00.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Nicklin –

- He started the month off meeting on separating budgets to determine what was the spend ratio in each budget. We discussed items like the 5-year strategic plan.
- On February 6th he attended the regular council meeting in Chipman. Then on February 7th the CAO and Mayor met with Ignite Fredericton.
- Met with DTI in Fredericton February 9th with Jason Limongelli, Chris Macdonald, Jim Irving, Kris Austin, DTI Minister Carr and Deputy Minister of Transportation to discuss the Bridge closure in Chipman.
- Attended meetings in Fredericton with council on February 11th and 12th in regards to how a council should operate.
- February 13 started off with meetings with Chipman Communities in Bloom. They are a very exciting group. Mayor Nicklin suggested they call it Grand Lake Communities in Bloom, this is a national program. They have some asks from the council that will be reviewed by Councillor Hogg and Councillor Richardson.
- On February 14th the Mayor and CAO met with someone from Fredericton to discuss tourism in the Grand Lake area.
- On February 15th the Mayor and Council attended CFAS. We had a great meeting with kids from all ages. They are being given \$500.00 to see how they can grow our community, learn how to spend responsible and how to try to please the greater majority of the people. He looks forward to seeing the kid's response.
- February 16th the Mayor and Council did the exact same meeting at MMHS. This meeting was also a huge success.
- Mayor Nicklin was on vacation the week of Feb 20 to Feb 24.
- We had a semi-monthly council meeting on February 27th, 2023. This concludes my February report.

Deputy Mayor Smith –

- Attended:
 - all regular and special meetings of council for the month of February;
 - meetings in Fredericton on Feb the 11th and 12th with the UMNB;
 - meetings with Chipman housing;
 - a sliding party on Family Day and had a great day;
 - Fire Department meeting on Feb 23;
 - meeting with the CAO and the dog catcher on March 1;
 - public meeting in Chipman on the bridge closure;
 - Municipality of Grand Lake fire department meeting;
 - a meeting in Chipman High School with some of the other councillors and the students;
 - met with the Minto high students and they had some great ideas on things that they would like to have in the new Municipality of Grand Lake.

Councillor Mazerolle

- Attended all regular council meetings, Minlak monthly meeting, Chipman Housing meeting, and EMO meeting.
- Municipality of Grand Lake Family Ice Fishing Day on February 18th at the Keyhole was a huge success with over 100 participants. Kudos to the Municipal Works Department and to Caryn Storey for all their hard work. Huge thanks to JDI and Robert Fawcett for donating the grand prize worth \$2500 and was won by Gary Mazerolle.
- EMO lead, Danny Hargrove is working on a revamped operating plan to involve the entire Municipality of Grand Lake, flood watch will be commencing in March and the committee is ready to take action if needed, concern raised over bridge closure.
- Minlak has hired two new staff members and is currently seeking a casual staff member. Please consider taking your old electronics, cardboard, batteries, etc. to their facility.
- Canada Day festivities are being planned in both Minto and Chipman. A revamped Coal Mining Festival is taking place on the Canada Day weekend with a fantastic array of events being planned.
- Unable to attend the Resource Centre meeting due to special council meeting conflict, will keep in contact with them.
- Participated in the UMNB orientation conference in Fredericton. Was very informative.
- Logo contest is going nicely, I am still getting many amazing entries. Keep them coming.
- Attended the MMHS meet the council event and had a engaging interaction with some amazing students.

Councillor Hogg

- On February 7th met with some lovely ladies from Communities in Bloom to help incorporate ideas to beautify the Municipality.
- Valentine's day was spent in a meeting with Capital Region Tourism Strategic Plan to help put the tourism fun and love into our municipality.

Councillor Ward

Arena in Minto

- Sewage lift pump burned out in Dressing Room #7, had to pull the old pump, research, and source a new pump to ensure compatibility with our current system. The pump was sourced through B. Foulkes Plumbing. Work, install, and testing completed by Richard Copeland & Adam Spencer.
- Door lift motor sprocket shaft broke on the door from the Zamboni room to the ice surface. Entire lift motor assembly had to be replaced.
- Talked to Alyson Boudreau about seeing what rebates we can get from NB Power to upgrade the Minto Area. Someone from NB Power was at the arena on Friday, March 3 to assess the arena.
- Looking into getting the back wall fixed.
- If anyone wants to advertise on the board at either arena, please contact the Municipal office.

Chipman Fish and Game:

- They have started having regular monthly meetings again
- They will be putting on 63's Card Night on March 8 & 22, April 12 & 26, and May 10 & 24. There will be no lunch or drinks provided, so if you want something to drink, please bring it with you.
- Attended all meetings involving council - virtual and in person.

Councillor Richardson

- He would like to welcome to our new Clerk Andrea Mazerolle to our team. He worked closely with her the past couple of weeks and she is going to be a huge asset to our municipality and council.

Advisory Committee

- Need to engage community leaders from all areas of our Municipality to help shape new ideas, direction and network to move important projects forward. He has been actively soliciting members for the past couple of months to form such a committee. As a result, he is excited to announce the "Grand Lake Advisory Committee."

Peter Dufour (chair)
Ardith Shirley
Laura Mae Slocum
Steve Gauthier
Roger Brown
Jack Mills
Michelle Moore

- The first meeting was held at the Chipman council chambers on February 22nd. Councillor Hogg, CAO Michelle Dickinson, Senior Development Officer Alyson Boudreau and our new clerk Andrea Mazerolle were also in attendance.
- This committee will work close with council on an advisory role to present council with ideas and also consult on any ideas we are considering. We hit the ground running with 10 items on the "to do" list. He is excited about the level of engagement and experience these members bring to our municipality.

Street Light Portfolio

- He is glad to announce that the phase one plan for streetlights for the Syphers Cove, Sunnyside Beach/Princess Park areas have been completed a month and a half ahead of schedule.
- He has been getting many messages from the area residents and residents in general who have drove down specifically to view these lights. He wants to remind residents that the streetlights we installed are the ones with the long arms over the roadway.
- There are existing lights on personal properties that are paid by the residents. Most if not all of these lights may be removed as the homeowners may no longer require them. We will adjust the plan accordingly. Thank you to all involved in making this phase one happen.
- He has been getting comments “what about our area?” There are many areas that have been brought into the new Municipality that are in need of streetlights. He will be working on a 5-year plan to present to council. Council will then decide on the amount of money that will be budgeted yearly for this plan.

Campgrounds Portfolio

- Councillor Richardson and Councillor Hogg met with Alyson Boudreau regarding a strategy for tourism/campgrounds. They have provided campground owners with information to register under the tourism NB site.
- Councillor Richardson and Councillor Hogg are looking at funding for a brochure for local campgrounds. A big thank you to Alyson and Councillor Hogg for all their effort.

Councillor Boudreau

- Attended all regular and special meetings of the month.
- Meet with the following committees:
 - Beautification & Tourism: we met with the ladies from communities in bloom
 - Special events: Councillor Boudreau and Councillor Mazerolle looked into a movie screen and what was needed for an outdoor movie.
- Talked about the Canada Day dance bar and had a meeting with Danny Maranda about doing the bar. Grand lake figure skating was offered and declined due to not having enough parents to help. Councillor Boudreau suggested the council take the bar and use the proceeds for recreation funds in the Municipality.
- Arena – talked with Gary and Shaun about advertisements on the arena boards.
- Talked to Alyson & Michelle about information on the pump track/walking track project- Glen Group is proceeding with making a rendering of the project so phase 1 can start. Alyson was helpful and has given whatever info she had in the file so that it could be reviewed.
- Scheduled a meeting with Mountain Bike Minto for this Tuesday.
- Met with the Mayor
- In addition, did the Tuesday night bingo.

Councillor Glenn -

- On March 2nd, Councillor Glenn met with the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Wastewater and Sewer Techs, Adam and Elwood regarding the sewage by-laws for the Municipality. A lot of ground was covered in this meeting. A follow up meeting is scheduled for March 8 and are hoping to have all changes completed by the end of that meeting; and therefore ready to submit to council for discussion and hopefully, approval.
- Met with Councillor Richardson and had a discussion concerning street lighting. We hope to visit a couple of sites, specifically Briggs Corner and Gaspereau Forks, which each have a 4-way intersection with little, or no, lighting.

RATIFIED MOTION

Advised the public of the electronic motion on February 7, 2023 that was moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Mazerolle for the Chief Administrative Officer to apply for a visa card for the Municipality of Grand Lake in the amount of \$40,000.00. **Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

March Declared Lexi Daaken Month

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Boudreau and seconded by Councillor Ward that March be declared Lexi Daaken Month in memory of Lexi and draw attention to the growing struggle with mental illness. **Motion carried.**

Sewer Cheque Disbursement

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Glenn to approve the cheque disbursement list for the Sewer Operating Account in the amount of \$25,618.75. **Motion carried.**

General Cheque Disbursement

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith to approve the cheque disbursement list for the General Operating Account in the amount of \$143,209.66. **Motion carried.**

Sign By-Law

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Hogg to enact a sign by-law to present to council. **Motion carried.**

Streetlight Plan – Phase #2

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Boudreau to proceed with phase two plan for five streetlights – three on Booth Road, one at the intersection of Route 690 and the Evans Road and one at Route 690 and the Pondstream Road for a total cost of \$1405.81 annually. **Motion carried.**

Streetlights at 4-Way Intersections in Briggs Corner and Gaspereau Forks

Councillor Glenn is meeting with Councillor Richardson on Thursday to look at the cost of streetlights at two 4-way intersections, one in Briggs Corner and the other in Gaspereau Forks. Due to the knoll coming into the Briggs Corner intersection, council will also request that DTI look into installing a flashing light at that intersection as well. Will get a cost associated with the cost of installing streetlights.

Treatment Plant

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Glen and seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith to decline the offer based on the recommendations provided in the Sanitary Sewer Flow Monitoring Study by WSP Consulting. **Motion carried.**

Parking Lot for Ice Caves

Devil's oven ice caves are a huge tourist attraction but there aren't many places to park. Councillor Hogg will approach some of the landowners in the area to see if a deal can be worked out to provide parking in that area.

Age Friendly

The Province of New Brunswick never had an age friendly policy, but they are working on it now. Age friendly can be from 10-years old or 100 years old. Criteria for meeting age friendly is outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, communications and information for everyone. Brenda Lee will forward the information to Deputy Mayor Smith regarding age friendly once she has it completed. When the information is gathered, the next step is to pass a resolution, establish an advisory committee, conduct an age friendly assessment, and develop an action plan once a policy is in place. Deputy Mayor Smith will then bring it to council once completed.

Tiny Houses

Deputy Mayor Smith met with the developers and took them around and showed them different properties within the Municipality, they are anxious to start building. They are waiting on a contract to be drawn up the way the Municipality wants it. A restricted convenance was suggested by legal counsel to be covered in the contracts. The property needs to be divided first.

Maintenance Building

Deputy Mayor Smith advised that Chipman does not have the proper maintenance building to do any repairs in. They have a brand-new building in Chipman which could be converted into a maintenance building/storage building and is big enough for both but needs to be upgraded. The building is approximately 70 x 40. Electrical would need to be upgraded.

Councillor Richardson suggested getting an energy audit done on all the municipal buildings. Alyson Boudreau, Senior Development Officer, will complete the paperwork and get things moving. Deputy Mayor Smith will meet with Alyson Boudreau once he has the criteria of what needs to be done. NB Power will provide us with a list of what we should be doing.

Glenn Group – Fee Proposal

Councillor Boudreau would like to move forward with the pump track. She would like to proceed through the Glenn Group and is proposing to go ahead and start with a cost of \$5000 plus HST to go further with the pump track / walking track / recreation and have a 3D artist rendering done of the area.

A cost estimate was not done for this project by the previous council. It was estimated that the cost of this project would be around \$500,000. This matter was tabled until an application can be made for CIF funding and if it gets approved the matter will be brought forward later.

CAO will reach out to Town of Riverview CAO and see if they've had any public works concerns on their pump track.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Boudreau and seconded by Councillor Ward to table the Glenn Group – Fee Proposal. **Motion carried.**

ACOA Project #218318

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Richardson and seconded by Councillor Hogg to move ACOA project #218318 from the Village of Chipman to the Municipality of Grand Lake. **Motion carried.**

OPEN TO THE FLOOR

Richard Madore spoke on the fact there is no police presence in either Village. He also spoke on the danger at the end of Evans Road and the need for a turning arrow when going towards the power plant. From Booth Lane down to Evans Road the road is sunk down and it needs to be fixed. There is a meeting scheduled with Minister Austin and Minister Carr and the condition of that road will be discussed.

Steve Gauthier discussed the condition of the bed on the Wallbridge. That is DTI that looks after that so will be added to the discussion with DTI.

Glenna Best wanted to thank the village for recognizing her thoughts about the corner of the Post Road. She also wanted to thank the village for pushing the banks back during the last snowstorm. Coming down Newcastle Bridge the snowbank is too high at McElwain's and is dangerous. Deputy Mayor Smith will discuss the matter with staff and make sure that the snow banks are pushed back and not piled too high.

Glenna Best wanted the Municipality to recognize her granddaughter, Alyssa Best, as being chosen as a referee for the Winter Games in PEI. Well done, Alyssa!

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Ward and seconded by Deputy Major Smith that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Motion carried.



Mayor, Kevin Nicklin



Acting Clerk, Andrea Mazerolle