

**VILLAGE OF NEW MARYLAND
COUNCIL**

April 17, 2013

Present: Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee
Deputy Mayor Gisèle McCaie-Burke
Councillor Frank Dunn
Councillor Paul LeBlanc
Councillor Scott Sparks
Councillor Peter Wiggins

Also Present: Karen Duncan, Assistant Clerk
Joan Chandra, Treasurer
Harry Farrell, Fire Chief

Regrets: Cynthia Geldart, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Mayor Wilson-Shee called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
MOVED BY Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor Sparks to approve the agenda as distributed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
MOVED BY Councillor Dunn and **seconded by** Councillor Wiggins to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2013 regular session of Council as distributed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**
No disclosures of interest were declared.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**
Mayor Wilson-Shee presented certificates for outstanding achievements to the following residents: Mike Thomas, UNB Varsity Reds Men's Hockey team member; Taylor MacDougall, UNB Varsity Reds Men's Hockey team member; Gardiner MacDougall, Head Coach, UNB Varsity Reds Men's Hockey; and Sara Penney, Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze certificate recipient. She also gave a brief biography of each recipient and detailed the history of their accomplishments.

Mayor Wilson-Shee and Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke presented a gift of appreciation to Chris Burns, former Transportation Committee member, who served for two years on the committee and resigned at the end of 2012.

Mark Mahoney addressed Council and formally thanked them for their support of the 2013 Men's and Women's Provincial Curling Championships that were held at the Tri-County complex in Fredericton Junction in January 2013.

6. PROCLAMATIONS

No proclamations were made.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was read into the record by the Assistant Clerk, Karen Duncan, as per the request of Mayor Wilson-Shee:

- a notice to the residents of Bismark Street regarding the Public Information Session on April 4th for the Bismark Street Trunk Storm Sewer Upgrade Project;
- a letter from the Boys and Girls Club of Fredericton concerning this year's 'Sponsor the Children' campaign;
- an email from the Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons advising that April 26th is the deadline to receive nominations for their Provincial Recognition Awards, and that Disability Awareness Week will be held the week of May 26th to June 1st; and
- a letter from a resident concerning drainage issues on Springwater Lane.

8. MEETINGS AND/OR SPECIAL EVENTS

Mayor Wilson-Shee attended the following meetings and/or special events since the last formal Council meeting:

March 21st – volunteered at NMES;

March 25th – a meeting with representatives of Centennial Heights Development along with Cynthia Geldart, CAO and Councillor LeBlanc;

March 26th – volunteered at NMES;

March 27th – the Rotary Club Luncheon as Minister Ashfield's guest;

March 28th – a meeting with the New Maryland Karate Club, along with MLA Jack Carr;

April 2nd – the Regional Service Commission 11 Board meeting;

April 4th – a meeting with a local resident;

April 4th - the Public Information meeting with Opus International and the residents of Bismark Street. Members of Council, with the exception of Councillor LeBlanc, also attended along with several members of senior staff;

April 8th – a meeting with the O'Briens along with Councillor Dunn, as members of the New Maryland Community Support Group;

April 10th – a meeting with Minister Ashfield, Kevin Price, Ray Vogan, MLA Jack Carr, Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke, Councillor Dunn, and Councillor LeBlanc, along with senior staff members;

April 11th – the Zone meeting along with Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke, who chaired the meeting;

April 12th – a meeting with Ed Griffin;

April 12th – a meeting with a local resident, along with Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke;

April 15th – a meeting with a local resident;

April 16th – a meeting with Lewis Morgan;

April 16th – the Lions Club meeting; and

April 17th – the PNM Zoomers' pot luck.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS / UPDATES

Planning Advisory Committee

Councillor Wiggins reported that the Planning Advisory Committee has not met since the last Council meeting.

Human Resources & Administration Committee

Councillor Frank Dunn reported that the Human Resources and Administration Committee has not met since the last Council meeting. The next committee meeting will be held on May 8, 2013.

Recreation and Leisure Services Committee

Councillor Wiggins reported that the Recreation and Leisure Services Committee met on March 25th with one committee member absent.

- The focus of the meeting was to review the program event matrix. Some changes being made to the programs include: 1) the committee will continue to work with the Seniors' group to help them develop some interesting programs; 2) the committee agreed that New Maryland Day activities will be held in the same location as last year, unless the result of our soccer field funding request means that development of the field can begin in the near future; 3) the committee discussed the Christmas tree lighting event and felt that having the event in English and French is a good idea and recommended to keep the ceremony simple in the future; 4) the committee agreed that the number of community skates should be increased. A community skate was held over the Easter weekend; 5) the committee agreed that the wreath making seminar should continue and rather than charging a fee, residents could bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the food bank; 6) the Remembrance Day service will remain as is; and 7) the upcoming 'In motion' event should be organized around a mapped route to allow for a one kilometer or two kilometre 'In motion' walk;
- The New Maryland Sea Cadets will continue at NMES until August 31st under the present agreement. There has been some discussion that they may change their location but this has yet to be confirmed. If they plan to continue at NMES in September, our recreation coordinator has a new agreement that will come into effect September 1st.
- The New Maryland Minor Baseball Association executive was formed and as of April 8th, twenty-five youth have registered.
- Under New Business, the committee reviewed the NMES rental rates and recommended to proceed with a flat rate and remove the membership fee altogether. The two dollar drop-in fee will continue.
- The sign at Athletic Park will state that the park is under surveillance and if residents have privacy concerns they should contact the Village office.
- The committee reviewed a few requests that have been made to allow other groups to place banners over the highway. The committee recommended that the space should be dedicated solely to Village banners.
- The next committee meeting will be held on April 29th at 7:00 pm.

MOVED BY Councillor Wiggins and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke the adoption of this report.

Councillor Sparks suggested that the committee check the sign that the City of Fredericton has posted on the front door of city hall that states "under surveillance" with the picture of a video camera on it.

Councillor Wiggins said he was not certain of the numbers that attended the Easter weekend community skate. Councillor LeBlanc remarked that he was not pleased that the sign to advertise the event was posted on the community bulletin board at the last minute. Councillor Wiggins confirmed that recreation staff members used social media (Facebook and Twitter) to notify residents of the event immediately after the committee made the decision to hold the skate.

Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke questioned what was meant by the recommendation to keep the Christmas tree lighting event simple. Councillor Wiggins explained that over the years the event has become quite elaborate and because families tend to be busy that time of year, they would prefer to have a small celebration. Keeping the event simple may also help increase the number of participants.

MOTION CARRIED.

Transportation and Protective Services Committee

Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke reported that the Transportation and Protective Services Committee met on April 9th with three guests present and two members absent.

- The majority of the meeting was spent discussing the problems associated with the rain event the Village experienced on March 13th and how to handle heavy rain events in the future. The Fredericton area received approximately 60 mm of rain on March 13th. The combination of warm temperatures and melting snow caused the run-off to overload numerous drainage ditches, swales, and in-ground infrastructure. Village staff responded to over 25 phone calls from residents regarding ditches being full of water, water overflowing onto properties, or water entering basements. Four Public Works staff members worked approximately 12.5 hours straight trying to resolve the flooding issues. In addition, two contractors were hired to clear snow from the ditches using backhoes to help improve water flow and drainage. A total area of 1987 meters of ditches were cleared of snow. After much discussion, reviewing photos, videos, and residents' concerns, the committee came up with the following six options for future improvements for Council to consider: 1) clean snow out of ditches that have been identified in problem areas and do so ahead of rainstorm events. Digging out ditches with an excavator is a slow and expensive process and damage to ditches, headwalls, and lawns can be caused. Therefore, money will need to be allotted in next year's budget to pay for ditching as well as landscaping which could be around \$10,000; 2) install in-ground drainage systems (fill-in the ditch) as a long-term solution in identified problem areas. This will be a very expensive venture, but in-ground infrastructure will be easier to maintain and it will allow for the separation of the homes that have combined sewers (footing drain is tied into the sanitary sewer drain), and alleviate some of the load. Installation of in-ground drainage systems is being addressed in our committee's strategic plan; 3) require mandatory disconnection of footing drain pipes that connect to sanitary sewer lines or drain to the ditch; 4) investigate what size culvert should be used for the problem areas. The cost to change culverts will be approximately \$1,700 per culvert; 5) develop a by-law that allows staff, when required, to enforce the removal of headwalls that create drainage problems in ditches; 6) educate residents about not blocking culverts with snow. Part of the problem with overflowing ditches is that residents are putting snow from their driveways into their ditch near the culvert which is blocking the culverts and preventing water from flowing.
- The committee discussed another drainage issue affecting a few other properties. Drainage systems constructed by residents are sometimes inadequate to control the water runoff flowing through their properties and from the surrounding residential properties. In other words, the runoff is being generated internally. These issues need to be addressed by residents themselves. The committee was encouraged to send further suggestions to our Public Works Supervisor. Discussion of the recommended options should take place at the next Council-In-Committee meeting.
- A very small portion of the meeting was devoted to the continuation of the strategic planning session. This has been the committee's fifth planning session to date and the committee is making progress.
- The March Animal Control report was reviewed. No items of concerns were noted.
- The committee was informed of Council's decision to plant cedar trees to prevent dust from blowing onto nearby properties near the Applewood lagoon. It will be very difficult to keep residents from dumping debris in that area unless a complete barrier is installed that will prevent access, and that would be an expensive undertaking.
- Our Public Works Supervisor informed the committee that we have a new staff member. Aaron McFadyen has been hired as the new Public Works Transportation Technician. He started work on April 8th.
- Our Public Works Supervisor has received for review the 2013 sidewalk construction tender specifications from our engineering firm. The tender will probably close at the end of April or the first week of May.
- The March 2013 RCMP report was reviewed. No items of concerns were noted. The committee is suggesting that Council could request that the RCMP identify the streets where speeding tickets were issued.

- The committee agreed with the proposed dates of Monday, May 6th and Tuesday, May 7th for the Spring Clean-up with Trius. Since the committee meeting, those dates have been changed to Monday, April 29th & Tuesday, April 30th.
- The committee also agreed with the proposed dates of Monday April 29th to begin the tree mulching program with Coughlan Tree Service.
- At the March C-I-C meeting, Council had requested that staff verify if the Village created the problem of water accumulating in a resident's yard. The committee agreed with the findings of our Public Works Supervisor which indicate that the Village did not create the problem and there is nothing we can do.
- The committee also agreed with our Public Works Supervisor's recommendation not to paint a line at a long curving corner as it is an unnecessary expense and it could set a precedent. Our Public Works Supervisor feels that this is unnecessary as per the (TAC) Transportation Association of Canada manual regulations as it is a long sweeping curve with great visibility.
- Two committee members have submitted their resignation from the committee because of personal reasons.
- The next meeting will be held May 14th starting at 6:00 pm. The committee will continue with strategic planning from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, then the business portion of the meeting will begin at 8:00 pm.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor Sparks the adoption of this report.

Discussion:

Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke also noted that the street sweeping began this past Monday, April 15th.

Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke clarified that the accumulation of snow directly in front of and around culverts tends to be from residents cleaning out their driveways, and this is why Public Works staff are recommending that residents move the snow further away from the culvert.

Councillor Dunn commented on the amount of sand that has accumulated near the curbs from street sweeping. Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke said she would take note of that and pass it on to Public Works.

Mayor Wilson-Shee commented that at the last C-I-C meeting Council already addressed with the RCMP the issue of identifying the areas where the speeding tickets have been issued. Councillor Sparks explained that the committee felt if only a few tickets are being issued each month then the RCMP should be able to take the time to advise Council of the exact locations/streets where the tickets were issued. The committee felt that this would not require a lot of work on the part of the RCMP, and therefore did not feel this was an unreasonable request. Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke will discuss this request with the RCMP at the next C-I-C meeting.

Councillor LeBlanc asked if part of the problem with the flooding ditches during the rain event was because the Village (Public Works) was ill-prepared. If they knew the rain was coming because it had been forecasted, it would have been wise for them to be proactive and take measures to help prevent flooding. Councillor Sparks commented that in the past forecasted weather has not occurred and the concern of staff is spending money preparing for a weather event that doesn't happen. Public Works staff members are aware of key problem areas and they would like to have the funds made available to address these problems.

MOTION CARRIED.

Fire Department Quarterly Report

Chief Farrell presented the Fire Department report for the first quarter of 2013. A total of 18 calls for service have been received for the first quarter of this year. For the same period last year, 22 calls for service were received. Of the 18 calls received, 11 were in the Village, and the remainder were in the local service district and mutual aid. The top three types of calls were for fire alarms (9), power lines/pole fires (4), and vehicle accidents (3). A total of 203 man hours were spent responding to fire calls over the last three months.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor Sparks the adoption of the Fire Chief's report.

Discussion:

Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke questioned why some fire hydrants are not operational. Mayor Wilson-Shee explained that this is not a fire department issue, this is a Water and Wastewater committee issue, and should be discussed at the committee level or at a Council-In-Committee meeting.

Councillor LeBlanc asked why all fire department vehicles are dispatched to motor vehicle accidents. Chief Farrell explained that the fire department has standard operating procedures in place that dictate how the fire department will respond to motor vehicle accidents (as well as other types of calls) in order to ensure firefighter safety as well as provide an appropriate level of response.

Mayor Wilson-Shee reminded Council that their questions need to refer to the verbal report that was given, and added that in the future questions that do not relate to verbal reports will not be permitted.

MOTION CARRIED.

Emergency Response Plan Committee

Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke reported that the Emergency Response Plan Committee met on April 16th with seven committee members, one guest, and three staff members present.

- The committee made the decision a few months ago that every second month will be devoted solely to practicing an emergency scenario. The practice of an emergency scenario was the only item on the agenda yesterday. The 1 ½ hour fictitious exercise focused on the discussion of a heavy rain event that created a mud slide and other serious problems that occurred in a specific area of the Village. Included in the practice was a fictitious news conference.
- The next committee meeting will be held Tuesday, May 21, 2013, at 12 noon.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke and **seconded by** Councillor Sparks the adoption of this report.

Councillor LeBlanc questioned the location of the mudslide. Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke responded that she did not want to comment on the location until the session notes from the meeting are completed, so that residents in the area will not be unduly alarmed.

MOTION CARRIED.

Water and Wastewater Committee

Councillor LeBlanc reported that the Water and Wastewater Committee met on March 27th with one committee member absent. Mayor Wilson-Shee and Councillor Dunn also attended.

- The committee received an update on the Well 3A project. Testing has shown that a significant amount of chlorine will need to be added to the water to remove manganese, which would result in the formation of disinfection by-products such as THMs (trihalomethanes) and HAAs (halacetic acids). The cost to purchase a treatment system could be as much as \$600,000 and the maintenance costs would be an additional \$15,000 to \$30,000 per year. The committee has made the recommendation to investigate other areas to drill. As a result, the Village did drill a well on the other side (east) of the bog, however the results were poor with only 15 gallons per minute.
- The figures from the Final Infrastructure Project (Water Tower) report were reviewed by the committee.
- The action items from the January 23rd meeting were reviewed.
- During the discussion of the section of the Procedural By-law No. 50 pertaining to committee mandates and responsibilities, the committee expressed some concerns with the clarity of the wording relating to what constitutes a quorum and the responsibilities of the committee. Our CAO will pass the recommendation on to Council.
- The proposed revisions to the Subdivision By-law were reviewed by the committee. The committee's recommendations have been passed on to the Building Inspector/Development Officer.

MOVED BY Councillor LeBlanc and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke the adoption of this report.

Councillor LeBlanc emphasized that the Opus office in BC has experienced similar problems with water as we are experiencing with Well 3A. They are doing some investigation into solutions and will share their results with us once they have more details. In the meantime, the Village will continue to investigate other sites to drill.

Mayor Wilson-Shee commented on the dedication of the Water & Wastewater committee members. One member in particular has thoroughly reviewed the entire Subdivision By-law and made some recommendations for changes, which he brought to the Mayor's attention. She, in turn, has passed them on to the Building Inspector/Development officer.

MOTION CARRIED.

Finance Committee

Councillor Sparks reported that the Finance Committee met on April 3rd with all members present.

- The committee discussed business arising from the previous meeting, and an action item for the Public Works Supervisor to provide a list of culverts to be replaced was deferred to the next meeting.
- The draft financial operating statements for February 2013 were examined.
- The collections report was reviewed and discussion took place regarding when more up-to-date numbers will be provided.
- The committee discussed PSAB and the cost of unused sick time. Under PSAB rules, the Village will need to make accommodations for these amounts as a liability. A recommendation was made for Council to consider how they will make allowances for this in the future.

MOVED BY Councillor Sparks and **seconded by** Deputy Mayor McCaie-Burke the adoption of this report.
MOTION CARRIED.

► **MOVED BY** Councillor Sparks and **seconded by** Councillor LeBlanc the following resolution of Council:
Be It Resolved That the Council for the Village of New Maryland transfer from the Water & Sewer Capital Fund (Acct # 1020-867) to the Water & Sewer Capital Reserve Fund (Acct # 1018-839) the sum of \$990,384 being the gas tax funds received and being held for the well.
MOTION CARRIED.

10. APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT

MOVED BY Councillor Sparks and **seconded by** Councillor Wiggins to approve the Treasurer's Report as follows:

- (1) Cheques and direct payments from the General Operating account for March 1 through March 31, 2013 in the amount of 381,326.53;
 - 2) Payments from the Water and Sewer Operating account for March 1 through March 31, 2013 in the amount of \$17,038.08;
 - (3) Payments from the General Capital account for March 1 through March 31, 2013 in the amount of \$0; and
 - (4) Payments from the Water and Sewer Capital account for March 1 through March 31, 2013 in the amount of \$10,029.32.
- MOTION CARRIED.**

11. PUBLIC INPUT / INQUIRIES

No input was received or inquiries made.

12. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought forward.

13. DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular session of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 7:30 pm in Council Chamber.

14. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Councillor LeBlanc and **seconded by** Councillor Dunn to adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Duncan
Assistant Clerk

Judy Wilson-Shee
Mayor