

**COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 2024 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Jim Bedford called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm with Deputy Mayor Cairns, Councillor George Cyr, Shawn Brown, Brad Brown, and Gregory Moran present. Also present was Development Officer Andrew Fry.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr, and passed unanimously to approve the October 1, 2024 amended agenda.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: None

Delegations:

Jay Isaac: Spraying of Clear Cuts in our Area: Mr. Isaac made a presentation to Council regarding the glyphosate spraying that is occurring in the clear-cut areas of our municipality. Mr. Isaac has expressed concerns regarding the safety of these chemicals on wildlife, streams and humans. One of his concerns is that the New Brunswick Mystery Neurological disease may be caused by herbicide exposure. Mr. Isaac ended his presentation with a request that an immediate moratorium on clearcutting and spraying in Fundy-St Martins. If this is not possible, that the concerned citizens of Fundy-St. Martins devise practical actions to protest herbicide use by corporations in our community. Mr. Isaac's presentation was received and filed. Councillor Shawn Brown stated that according to the Local Governance Act, a municipality can't restrict what happens on Crown Land.

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Moran and passed unanimously to discuss this issue at the Community of the Whole meeting on Oct 15 and to discuss sending a potential letter to the province.

Motion Carried

Phil Ouellette, FRSC Budget Update: Mr. Ouellette gave a presentation to the Council regarding the 2025 Budget for the FRSC. Mr. Ouellette gave an update on the mandates that the commission is responsible for. The operating budget for 2025 is proposed to be \$23,133,779 which is \$3,656,172.00 higher than last year. The member fees for Fundy-St. Martins will be \$400,175 which is \$32,613 higher than last year.

Sgt. Luc Samson, RCMP: Sgt. Samson was unable to attend the meeting, but he did email his report to the Clerk. He reported that call volume and occurrences were like August. There were 56 occurrences in September. Most occurrences were for traffic enforcement including speeding, school zone and other targeted offences. The bigger investigation in this community is for the break and enter that occurred at the Rustic Rooster.

Chief Brian Hunter, Simonds Fire Dept: Chief Hunter was unable to attend the meeting and his report was read into the minutes. Simonds responded to 5 calls in the month of September with 5 medicals varying in nature. Chief Hunter attended the Fire Rescue Canada Conference in Montreal from September 22 to 25.

Chief Carey Gray, St. Martins Fire Dept: Chief Gray was unable to attend the meeting and his report was not received before the meeting. The St. Marting Fire Dept report will be presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting on Oct 15.

Correspondence: Jeanne Trabulsi, concerns about short term rentals: Ms. Trabulsi's email was read into the minutes. She is very concerned that short term rentals are not being regulated. She feels that short-term rentals without a live-in owner on the lot are a bad idea. She would like to see regulations changed for short term rentals.

Approval of Open Meeting, September 3, 2024

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the meetings.

Motion Carried

Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting, September 17, 2024

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cry, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting.

Motion Carried

Old Business:

Update to Harbour Park: Development Officer Andrew Fry updated the council on the Lighthouse Park Project. Phase 1 has been completed and the Municipality is waiting for approval for Phase 2.

The Mailbox Project Update: Development Officer, Andrew Fry reported that the job to relocate the mailboxes at the Harbour Park has been completed. Moving the mailboxes back on the lot gives the residences

Update on Water/Wastewater Project: A meeting was held the previous week with Englobe to receive an update on the project. The EIA has been submitted. A tender has been released for roads to be built to access the well sites.

New Business:

Commissions & Committees:

- 1) **Financial** – The financial Committee is working on the 2025 Budget. The Province hasn't released the 2025 tax base.
- 2) **Communications & Active Living** – Amy Allan Marketing is looking after the Fundy-St. Martins Facebook page and the website. The Christmas Parade will be held on November 30 at 6:30 pm. Winterfest will be held on Jan 25 and Jan 26. Pickleball will be ending as the ice will be going into the 4 Seasons.
- 3) **Special Projects**: The committee reported that the Municipal Signs have been installed.
- 4) **Emergency Management & Public Safety** – Councillor Cyr reported that there are two spots available for the ICS 200 course. The EMO group would like to have a Facebook page. It was recommended that the EMO committee speak to Amy Allen Marketing as they are responsible for our Website and Facebook page.
- 5) **Tourism Committee**: Mayor Bedford reported that the Tourism Committee had a very productive meeting. There was a discussion about the Tour buses in the community and the congestion that they are causing. Mayor Bedford mentioned that the next Tourism meeting would include members from Envision Saint John to discuss the tour buses in St. Martins

Enforcement Officer Contract Statement of Work Schedule:

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cairns, seconded by Councillor Shawn Brown and passed unanimously that the Enforcement Officer would only visit sites that have been approved by the Council in regards to the Unsightly By-Law.

Motion Carried

Program and Event Coordinator Position: Development Officer Andrew Fry updated the Council on the new position that will be available for Fundy-St. Martins. Interested applicants have until October 10 to submit their resumes and interviews will follow shortly after. This role of the Coordinator is to plan, promote, implement and evaluate community-based recreation/cultural programs and events within the Village of Fundy-St. Martins.

Resignation of Councillor Spearing and declaring seat vacant. Councillor Jeanette Spearing has submitted her resignation as councillor at large in Simonds ward.

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Brad Brown and passed unanimously to declare the seat previously held by Councillor Spearing vacant and request that the province include this seat in the By-Election.

Motion Carried

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Approval of the Bills

The bills listed with these minutes were presented for payment and were formally approved at this time and are attached to the original Minutes.

A motion was made by Councillor Cyr, seconded by Councillor Brad Brown, and passed unanimously.:

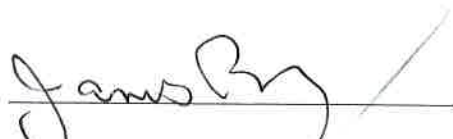
Motion Carried


Call for next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on November 5, 2024 at 7:30 pm at the St. Martins Community Centre.

Motion to Adjourn

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.


James Bedford, Mayor


Jean McCumber, Clerk