

**COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 5, 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 Greg Moran, seconded by Councillor Cyr, and passed unanimously to approve the November 5, 2024 amended agenda.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: None

Delegations:

Pierre Plourde, Englobe: Mr. Plourde joined the meeting via Teams to update the council on the Water/Wastewater Project. Mr. Plourde explained that six tenders had been received for the construction of the preliminary Access Road in West Quaco. Englobe recommended that this contract be awarded to the low bidder, Kathron construction for the total bid price of \$183,942.50 including HST at 15%.

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr and passed unanimously to award Kathron Construction the tender to construct the well access road for well drilling equipment to access. This will allow the Water/Wastewater project to begin the next phase in the project. The tender in in the amount of \$ 183,942.50.

Motion Carried

Mr. Plourde explained that 3 tenders had been received for the preliminary well drilling and testing. The recommendation from Englobe was that contract should be awarded to the low bidder, Sullivan's Well Drilling Ltd, for a total bid price of \$166,080.70 including HST at 15%. In addition, it is recommended to approve the contingency allowance of \$50,000 + HST to accommodate potential adjustments in the drilling process and unforeseen circumstances.

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr and passed unanimously to award Sullivan's Well Drilling the contract for the preliminary Well Drilling and Testing. The contract is in the amount of \$166,080.70 including HST at 15%. In addition, it is recommended to approve the contingency allowance of \$50,000.00 + HST to accommodate potential adjustments in the drilling process and unforeseen circumstances.

Motion Carried

Sgt. Luc Samson, RCMP: Sgt. Samson informed the council that he has been promoted and will be posted to the Oromocto RCMP office. A new officer has not been assigned to our area yet. Sgt. Samson stated that there were 58 calls within Fundy-St. Martins. This is similar to last month. Sgt Samson asked that the members of the public be mindful that Winter driving is upon us and for the citizens follow winter safety. Sgt Samson was informed that the Christmas parade will be taking place on November 30 and asked if the RCMP could participate in the parade. Grand Bay/Westfield will be responding to non-emergency calls.

Chief Brian Hunter, Simonds Fire Dept: Chief Hunter gave the council an update. Simonds responded to 6 calls in the month of October with 5 medicals varying in nature and 1 public hazard. The Simonds Fire Dept held their annual open house during fire prevention week promoting fire safety and putting their equipment on display for the community.

Chief Carey Gray, St. Martins Fire Dept: Chief Gray gave a report for the St. Martins Fire Dept. The St. Marting Fire Dept attended 21 different incidents including a car fire, two medical calls, one volunteer fund raising, one meeting night, one vehicle accident, ten training nights, one public service and four maintenance nights. The St. Martins Fire Dept currently has 29 members

John Heron, MLA for Hampton-Fundy-St. Martins: Mr. Heron is very enthusiastic about having a very good relationship with the council of Fundy-St. Martins. He would like the council to give him a list of the priorities of our community. He feels that St. Martins is a destination. One of the mandates of the Liberal government is collaborative health Care as there are 180,000 people with no doctor.

Wayne Harrison: Undesignated Roads: Mr. Harrison updated the council on the confusion regarding Clinton Drive: DTI consider Clinton Drive to be a undesignated road and have stated that it must be brought up to DTI standards before DTI will consider maintaining it. However, Mr. Harrison mentioned that DTI has snow plowed this road in the past but his concern is if would continue being plowed. Deputy Mayor Cairns has stated that he will continue to look into this matter.

Approval of Open Meeting, October 1, 2024

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

Motion Carried

Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting, October 15, 2024

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

Motion Carried

Approval of Closed Meeting, October 23, 2024:

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

Motion Carried

Correspondence: na

Old Business:

4 Season Complex: Alarm System and Jet Ice System: Development Officer, Andrew Fry gave an update on the repairs that are needed to be completed at the 4 Seasons Complex, This included a system from Jet Ice used to flood the arena. The Fire Marshall had been to the arena in June and noted several deficiencies including the dialer/fire monitoring system was not working properly.

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr, and passed unanimously to award B & G Sprinklers a contract to supply, install and test a new fire alarm control panel and a new digital communicator (dialer/fire monitoring system). This would correct the deficiency that was included in the inspection report. The price is \$7,400.00 + HST = \$8,510.00. This does not include having an electrician install a new dedicated 120V breaker and wiring for the new digital communicator.

Motion Carried

New Business:

Commissions & Committees:

- 1) **Financial** – The draft budget is being worked on. The province has not released the 2025 tax assessment. The Finance committee and Development Officer will be meeting with the Fire Dept. The draft budget will be presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting on Nov 19.
- 2) **Communications & Active Living:** Nothing to report.
- 3) **Special Projects:** The committee reported that the sign for the Fire Dept is being worked on
- 4) **Emergency Management & Public Safety** – Councillor Cyr reported that a meeting had been held with Region 9 co-ordinator and they had a beginners tabletop exercise. The vulnerable Persons Registry has been tested and works according to the plan.
- 5) **Tourism Committee:** Nothing to report

Motion for Credit Line Approvals:

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Moran and passed unanimously to have the existing credit line increased from \$35,000.00 to \$200,000.00. This is the credit line that is with the ScotiaBank.

Motion Carried

A Motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr, and passed unanimously that Council has received approval from the Municipal Capital Borrowing Board for a loan in the amount of \$20 Million to finance a proposed water/waste water project, Council request a line of credit, through Scotiabank, in the amount of \$20 Million to finance payments related to the proposed municipal water/Waste water project.

Motion Carried

Awarding of Snow Removal Contracts:

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr to award the tender for the snow removal at the 4 Seasons Complex to Kathron Construction in the amount of \$16,083.00. This price includes the HST. This tender is for the 2024-2025 season.

Motion Carried

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr to award the tender for the snow removal at the St. Martins Community Centre to Kathron Construction in the amount of \$12,647.00. This price includes the HST. This tender is for the 2024-2025 season.

Motion Carried

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr to award the tender for the snow removal at the Simonds Fire Department to Withers Excavation in the amount of \$13,225.00. This price includes the HST. This tender is for the 2024-2025 season.

Motion Carried

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr to award the tender for the snow removal at the Bains corner Fire Hall to Withers Excavation in the amount of \$3,105.00. This price includes the HST. This tender is for the 2024-2025 season.

Motion Carried

Program and Event Coordinator Position:

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr and passed unanimously to grant Andrew Fry, Development Officer the authority to prepare and issue an employment contract as per the terms outlined by the council of Fundy-St. Martins.

Motion Carried

Motion to transfer funds between Gas Tax Account and General Operation Account:

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Moran and passed unanimously to transfer \$114,696.00 from the General Operating Account to the Gas Tax account. This is the first installment payment from the Canadian Community Building Fund.

Motion Carried

A motion was made by Councillor Shawn Brown, seconded by Councillor Cyr and passed unanimously to transfer \$35,103.75 from the Gas Tax Account to the General Operating Account. The Council of Fundy-St. Martins had made a motion previously to transfer the cost of the fencing for the soccer field from the Gas Tax Account back to the General Operating account.

Motion Carried

Nominate member of public for King Charles III Coronation medal: Council informed the public that they had been asked to submit a nomination for the King Charles III medal. Council will be submitting a recommendation.

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 Brad Brown, seconded by Councillor Shawn Brown, and passed unanimously.:

Motion Carried

Call for next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on December 3, 2024 at 7:30 pm at the Simonds Fire Hall.

Motion to Adjourn

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

James Bedford, Mayor

Jean McCumber, Clerk