

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 21, 2024

GRAND FALLS

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Grand Falls Regional Municipality in New Brunswick was held at the Marcel Deschênes Building in the Roland Lafrance Room beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21st, 2024, following notices as required by law.

ATTENDANCE

His Honor the mayor:

Bertrand Beaulieu

Councillors:

Annie Deschênes

Claudette Goguen Kavanaugh

France Roussel

David Raines

Josée Rioux Walker

Mario Pelletier

Sébastien R. Michaud

as well as CAO/Clerk Eric Gagnon and Deputy Clerk Michelle Daigle.

ABSENCES

Danny Soucy

Marcel Levesque

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The mayor welcomes everyone present in the room as well as on social media.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts are reported.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Sébastien Michaud / France Roussel,

The mayor notes that there is a missing motion on the agenda.

2024-007 That the agenda be accepted as presented. Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Annie Deschênes / Josée Rioux Walker,

**2024-008 That the municipal council adopts the minutes of January 17th, 2023.
Carried**

The mayor elaborates on the matter of 100 Veteran Street, detailing three actions the council will take: firstly, to clean the building and dispose of unnecessary items; secondly, to make the cinema equipment available for any organization or entrepreneur wishing to use it in the community; and thirdly, to organize a meeting with Roy Consultants to seek clarification on their report.

DRINKING WATER

The CAO reports that since the last meeting, 22 drinking water analyses have been conducted in 19 different zones across the Grand Falls Regional Municipality, and all results indicate quality drinking water.

David Raines / Sébastien Michaud,

2024-009 That the drinking water analyses be received and filed. Carried

PILLARS OF INTERVENTIONS - MOTIONS AND REPORTS

Pillar - Community Services

Councillor Raines expresses deep gratitude to the employees for their outstanding dedication during snow removal operations. Additionally, he extends sincere thanks to the first responders who also make considerable efforts. As the March break approaches, Councillor Raines reminds everyone to remain vigilant, especially concerning the safety of children who may be in the streets. He emphasizes the crucial importance of reporting any incidents or suspicious situations by immediately calling the authorities. He announces the holding of a second "Battle of the Badges" on April 13 at CEPSC at 7:00 PM. It will be a charity hockey match where everyone is invited to participate by paying what they can.

Pillar - Community Development

Councillor Deschênes shares with the community three successful events organized for Family Day, including an evening snowshoeing under the stars in collaboration with Feu Vert/Green Light, the Grand Falls Regional Municipality, and Club KAHOUTEK. The deputy mayor highlights an exceptional event organized by the Canadian Mental Health Association of New Brunswick at the Richelieu Auditorium, warmly congratulating the team and participants, including the Cultural Society and The Link Program.

Family Day attracted over 500 participants on Monday, with more than 200 people enjoying free access to the Grand Tube. Councillor Deschênes expresses gratitude to the Richelieu Club and volunteers for their essential contribution, including covering the costs of helmet rentals and providing refreshments. Special thanks are extended to BackAlley Bike Shop for the free rental of Fat Bikes.

She announces that Grand Falls Minor Hockey will host the U13 provincial tournament from March 22 to 24, wishing all participating teams' great success.

Pillar – Economic Development

The deputy mayor informs that she recently hosted a journalist from Canadian Geographic and two freelancers specializing in travel. These professionals were on a winter media tour in New Brunswick last weekend. They plan to showcase winter activities as well as other tourist attractions in the region in their upcoming publications.

The municipality is looking for families and individuals passionate about skiing, snowshoeing, or tubing to participate in the production of the next tourism video on February 25. To get involved, visit our Facebook page or contact the Department of Development and Tourism. From February 29 to March 3, the municipality will be present at the Montreal RV Show to encourage visitors to choose our beautiful destination for their next vacation.

Furthermore, in January, 20 construction permits were issued, totaling \$713,000. This reflects the growth and economic development of our community.

RIMKUS

Sébastien Michaud / Mario Pelletier,

- 2024-010 That the Grand Falls Regional Municipality mandates the firm RIMKUS for its engineering consulting services to assist the municipality in replacing the roofs located at 131 Pleasant Street and 131 Industrial Road in Grand Falls according to the terms and conditions stipulated in the agreement. Carried

Library Board

France Roussel / Sébastien Michaud,

- 2024-011 Considering the need to fill the positions of commissioners for the Grand Falls Regional Library,

It is resolved that Nathalie Bernard be appointed commissioner of the Grand Falls Regional Library for a period of 3 years. Carried

Holder Tractor

David Raines / Sébastien Michaud,

- 2024-012 That the municipal council proceeds with the acquisition of a Holder equipment piece from JKL Equipments Inc., at a cost of \$75,000 plus taxes. Carried

Consolidated Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for the GFT Administrative Agreement - Grand Falls 2014-2018

Claudette Goguen Kavanaugh / Josée Rioux Walker,

- 2024-013 It is proposed that the document titled Consolidated Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for Grand Falls 2014-2018 be adopted. Carried

Consolidated Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) - Grand Falls 2023

Claudette Goguen Kavanaugh / David Raines,

- 2024-014 It is proposed that the document titled Consolidated Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) - Grand Falls 2023 be adopted. Carried

Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF)

David Raines / Claudette Goguen Kavanaugh,

- 2024-015 It is proposed that the council allocates the funding received under the Municipal CCBF Project - Allocation under Unincorporated Areas, in the amount of \$ 245,822 towards the Portage Road upgrade project. Carried

Request for financing

Josée Rioux Walker / France Roussel,

- 2024-016 That the Clerk and/or Treasurer and/or Mayor be authorized to issue and sell to the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation a Municipality of Grand Falls debenture in the principal amount of \$379,000 on such terms and conditions as are recommended by the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation, and be it resolved that the Municipality of Grand Falls agree to

issue postdated cheques payable to the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation as and when they are requested in payment of principal and interest charges on the above debenture. Carried

Asphalt at plant, Tender # 01-24-2024 (1)

David Raines / Sébastien Michaud,

2024-017 Considering the bids received from Northern Construction Inc. and Ray's Paving, both proposing the same rate of \$140 per metric ton, plus taxes,

After a coin-toss, it was determined that Northern Construction Inc. was the successful bidder.

It is proposed that council accept the bid from Northern Construction Inc. Carried

Street Asphalt Patching, Tender # 01-24-2024 (2)

Sébastien Michaud / Josée Rioux Walker,

2024-018 That the municipal council accept the lowest bid for street repairs received from Ray's Paving Inc. in the amount of \$450,000 plus tax. Carried

**Other price received:
Northern Construction Inc. \$502 500**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items to address.

NEW BUSINESS

Death of Mr. Gérald Carroll, former mayor of the Town of Grand Falls

The deputy mayor pays tribute to Mr. Gérald Carroll, former mayor of the Town of Grand Falls from 1980 to 1986 and from 2001 to 2004, observing a moment of silence. Condolences are extended to the family of Mr. Carroll.

Suicide Prevention Month

During Suicide Prevention Month, the municipality highlights available resources, including the 24/7 hotline at 1-800-667-5005. The local The Link Program, now extended province-wide, is also emphasized. In support of this cause, the municipal building and falls will be illuminated in yellow over the weekend.

Community Grandioses

We are proud to recognize two Community Grandioses tonight. In the Volunteer category, we award Mrs. Madeleine Leclerc, and in the Ambassador category, we award Mr. Éric Ouellette. Nominations for this distinction can be submitted on the municipality's website, and each month, two individuals will be honored. The first gala will take place in April. Congratulations to these two recipients.

Municipal Complaint Management System

The CAO announces the launch of the new municipal complaint management system on March 4, accessible in the Quick Access tab of the website. A municipal employee will contact complainants within 48 hours of submission for follow-up.

Good Luck

We wish good luck to two groups this month: the John Caldwell boys' basketball team participating in the provincial tournament at Harbour Station in Saint John and the gymnasts from Club Krystal participating in the "East Selection" competition at the Edmundston Sports Pavilion.

OTHERS

- Public Intervention

There has been no public intervention.

- Media Intervention

There has been no media intervention.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The mayor informs that the meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, is moved to Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 7:00 PM and will be held in the Roland Lafrance room.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Raines proposes to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Carried

Bertrand Beaulieu,
Mayor

Eric Gagnon,
Clerk