

## **February 10, 2020**

The regular monthly Council meeting of the Alma Village Council was held on February 10, 2020, at 7:00 pm at the Alma village office. Mayor Shortt, Deputy Mayor Casey, Councillor Bowron, Councillor MacCallum, and Brenda Hoar (Clerk/Treasurer) were present.

RCMP – No Report

Mayor Shortt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 7:00 pm.

### **Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor MacCallum and **Seconded by Councillor Bowron** to approve the amended agenda. **Motion Carried.****

**It was moved by Councillor Bowron and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to approve November 18, 2019, and Special meeting December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, minutes.**

**Motion Carried.**

**It was moved by Councillor MacCallum and **Seconded by Councillor Casey** to accept financial statements for November, December 2019 and January 2020, for General Operating and Water Sewer.**

**Motion Carried.**

### **Committee Reports**

**Mayor Shortt** – reported she attended SERSC meeting on Jan 28, 2020, and on Jan 8, 2020, Mayor Shortt attended a Zone 2 meeting in Shediac. This meeting gives Mayors an opportunity to talk about concerns that they might be facing, such as the upcoming election, climate change and wind farms are a few examples of topic discussions.

Mayor Shortt also reported that Mr. Morrissey passed his level one water certificate.

Mayor Shortt also reminded council that Local Government wanted the village of Alma to have a code of conduct by-law in place before the election. Councillors will have a discussion on this and report back at the next council meeting.

Mayor Shortt announced the celebration of Albert County 175. Alma Celebrations program and events will follow this theme. Tentative dates for the Alma Celebration Days are June 29, 30 and July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Councillor Casey** – Reported that the Vision Alma Committee met on Feb 10, 2020, and did a walk through to look at deficiency. Main deficiency is ventilation, the project manager has come up with a solution and the contractor is now working on resolving the ventilation issue, once ventilation issues are

completed the engineer will sign off on deficiencies and the building can be officially opened to the public.

**Councillor Bowron** –reported on Updates from Fundy National Park

Infrastructure Projects:

- Electric car charging stations are being installed in Fundy National Park, at the entrance by the Molly Kool centre, at Wolfe Lake and the golf pro shop. They are expected to be ready for use by spring.
- Construction has started on the renovations to the pool bathhouse. The construction site will remain secured and closed to the public throughout the construction, however, the public will still be able to access the Coastal Trail from the lower Point Wolfe Road parking area.

Staffing

- The external posting for summer students has closed. The staffing process for summer and seasonal workers focuses on students, maintenance workers, resource conservation management officers and interpreters.
- An external posting for a term EG 02 Resource Management Technician II (Ecological Restoration Technician) closed January 5. The position is expected to start early April 2020

Visitor Experience

- The 2019-20 Winter Visitor Season at Fundy National Park is well underway.
- Fundy National Park continues to offer a select number of trails for snowshoeing, cross-country skiing on groomed trails and fat biking.
  - Specifically, the Chignecto Recreation Area offers visitors with approximately 25 km of multi-use trails to accommodate cyclists and hikers, while snowshoeing enthusiasts have access to beautiful snow-covered trails in the Caribou Plain, East Branch and Upper Salmon River areas.
  - Visitors are advised to check with the Headquarters Visitor Centre and the Fundy National Park website for the most up-to-date winter trail conditions.
- Upcoming events include:
  - Dog Day of Winter, February 15. Includes a Canicross Fun Run and demos on harness dog sports.
  - Family Day Sliding Party, February 17. Includes sliding and guided snowshoe hiking.

Check the Fundy National Park for the latest on events and trail conditions.

Or stay connected:

**Councillor MacCallum** – Councillor MacCallum reported the following;  
Alma Fire Department:

Two sets of new bunker gear will be arriving on March 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>. Measurements are being taken to order more bunker gear because most of what the firefighters currently have on hand is out of date. Other than that, things have been quiet since the last report in November.

Councillor MacCallum attended the firemens' Christmas dinner in Riverside Albert as did Councillor Bowron and her family. A good time was had by all and the Girl Guides cooked a delicious turkey dinner and had an opportunity to raise some more funds for their trip to Europe in June.

Councillor MacCallum attended a preliminary Albert County 175<sup>th</sup> event committee meeting in early December and has offered to be the liaison for Alma. She also attended the kick-off event which was a New Year's Levy on January 4<sup>th</sup> at Broadleaf Ranch. There is a robust schedule of events being offered throughout the year which was published in the February edition of *Connecting Albert County*. This Saturday (February 15) there is a heritage talk at 2 pm at the Riverside Albert Recreation Centre where five speakers will each give a 10-minute talk with photos about historic sites in the Riverside Albert area. On Monday (February 17) you can ride an antique sled or toboggan taken from the museum's collection at the Salt & Fir Centre Family Day events in the park. There is no charge for either event.

Councillor MacCallum attended the Friends of Fundy (FOF) Board meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Highlights were the election of their new executive committee, positive updates on the golf course for 2019 and 2020, the discussion around programming and washroom facilities at the Molly Kool Centre, and the possibility of conducting a writers' festival in the park in the spring. She was not able to attend the January meeting; opting instead to attend the Shepody Mountain meeting at the Riverside Albert Recreation Centre where a standing room only crowd heard the announcement by Minister Holland that Irving had relinquished their right to cut on the 700-hectare parcel of Crown land in question so that it could be designated a protected natural area; part of the provincial government's plan to increase protected areas in New Brunswick from 4.6% to 10% before the end of 2020.

While on vacation, Councillor MacCallum attended the Impact conference on sustainable tourism in British Columbia and would like to see a village-wide, general discussion on what residents and businesses hope for as Alma is expected to experience an increase in tourism in coming years. She learned a lot about how the concept of regenerative tourism is starting to replace sustainable tourism as the ideal goal; how the invisible burden of tourism places a great deal of stress on a community (i.e. infrastructure, water); and the importance of striking the right balance between residents' and visitors' needs. The conference proceedings will be posted in the spring so after the election in May is probably the best time to start having some discussions.

## **Water Report**

Water report was read by Clerk Brenda Hoar

### **Old Business**

Water exploration – Site has been selected, a meeting has been set up with Crandall Engineer and landowner. The village requires permission from the landowner to start a test drilling.

By-Law # 63A Noise by-law, still being worked on.

Vision Alma Project – See Councillor Casey committee report.

Crosswalk – Side Walks – Assessment will be done in the spring and Clerk is to send email to Mr Bruce Randall, asking for a date when the assessment would be compiled. Council felt it would-be best-done July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend or Mother Day weekend.

### **Clerk Report**

The clerk reported that she completed and sent applications for SEED Student and as well as for Federal Student.

A meeting was set up with Donna Floyd on Feb 20, 2020.

### **New Business**

#### **Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor Casey and **Seconded by Councillor Bowron** to make the purchase of a Bobcat 5600 series with Bucket on December 31, 2019, with funds from General Operating Capital reserve account in the amount of \$60,000.00, General Operating account in the amount of \$17,780.00 and \$11,000.00 from General Operating Reserve account for a total of \$88, 780.00.**

**Motion Carried.**

#### **Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor Bowron and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to order a new street light for pole #648.**

**Motion Carried**

**Q & A Period** - Opportunity for community members to ask questions and receive answers. Thirty minutes were allotted.

### **Correspondence**

Sherry Alcorn – request for a donation for the Hillsborough Drop In Center.

Albert County Museum – Request for donation for Albert County 175!

Forest Day – Request for donation

Farmer Brown Greenhouse – Request for donation for Sistema N.B.

Tweedie & Associates – Energy Audit and Carbon Footprint Audit

**Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor MacCallum and **Seconded by Councillor Bowron** to give a donation of \$250.00 to the Hillsborough Drop In Center.**

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor MacCallum and **Seconded by Councillor Bowron** to sponsor AC 175 Champion in the amount of \$250.00.**

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor Bowron and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to give a gift donation in the amount of \$50.00 to the Sistema silent auction.**

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor Casey and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to give a donation of \$150.00 to Forest Dale Home Foundation for television services.**

**Motion Carried.**

**Paying of Bills**

**Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor Casey and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to purchase SB200 Snowblower in the amount of \$8510.00 from the General Operating Account.**

**Motion Carried.**

**It was moved by Councillor MacCallum and **Seconded by Councillor Casey** to go into "In Camera".**

**Motion Carried.**

Local Governance Act  
68 1 (b)(c)

**It was moved by Councillor MacCallum and **Seconded by Councillor Bowron** to come out of "In Camera"**

**Motion Carried.**

Councillor Bowron adjourned the meeting.

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