



Village of Alma – Regular Council Meeting
June 14, 2021

The regular monthly Council meeting of the Alma Village Council was held on June 14, 2021, at 7:00 pm at the Alma Activity Centre. **Mayor Casey, Councillor Ereaux, Councillor MacCallum, Councillor Bowron,** and **Kim Beers** (Assistant Clerk) were present.

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

Mayor Casey, Councillor Ereaux, Councillor MacCallum, and Councillor Bowron, were called upon in alphabetical order by Clerk Kim Beers and each read aloud and signed their affirmation of office and their disclosure of interest.

Resolution to elect Deputy Mayor Susan MacCallum:

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Councillor Susan MacCallum received the most votes in the recent election will be designated as Deputy Mayor at the first meeting of Council per A BY-LAW RELATING TO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL- BY-LAW # 89 A.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Councillor Susan MacCallum is designated as Deputy Mayor for the Village of Alma.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Council hereby designates Susan MacCallum as Deputy Mayor for the Village of Alma.

MOVED BY **Councillor Bowron;** and

SECONDED BY **Councillor Ereaux**

Motions

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

It was moved by **Councillor MacCallum** and Seconded by **Councillor Bowron** to approve the Minutes from the regular council meeting on April 19, 2021. **Motion Carried.**

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded by **Councillor MacCallum** to approve the Minutes from the special council meeting on April 28, 2021. **Motion Carried.**

It was moved by **Councillor MacCallum** and Seconded by **Councillor Bowron** to accept the Financial Statements for April 2021 and May 2021 for both General Operating and Water & Sewer Accounts. **Motion Carried.**



Presentation

Keith MacCallum from Guardian Ecology presented an update on the Alma Knotweed Eradication Project.

RCMP Report

RCMP not in attendance.

Councillor MacCallum reported that an email was received from Larry Tremblay, Commanding Officer of the New Brunswick RCMP on June 4, 2021 to congratulate all new and returning mayors and councillors and thanking them for their dedication and commitment to the communities they serve. The New Brunswick Occurrence Map was shared, this interactive map allows you to click on a specific area to view information on certain occurrence types, in the Municipality of Alma there were 19 occurrences: 1 break in and enter and 18 others.

Councillor MacCallum is to find out what “other” is.

Committee Reports

Mayor Casey reported the following:

Southeast Regional Service Commission: **Mayor Casey** reported that the next SERSC meeting is June 30th, 2021.

Local Government Reform: **Mayor Casey** will be attending the Local Governance Reform Regional Engagement Session for stakeholders on June 24th.

Covid update: The Province of NB announced today (June 14) that 74.8% of the population are vaccinated. When 75% of the population receive their vaccine, phase 1 of the green phase will be announced. The second phase of the green phase is scheduled July 1st, as long as case numbers are low.

Councillor Bowron reported the following details:

Fundy National Park:

2021 Launch Date

Fundy National Park’s 2021 summer season will launch on May 21, with Point Wolfe and Lakeview Campgrounds, as well as the swimming pool, opening on June 25.

Pool and Fees

In recent years, Parks Canada has invested more than \$3 million into improving and rehabilitating Fundy National Park’s signature pool, including the full replacement of the saltwater pool in 2016-17 and rehabilitation of the pool bathhouse in 2020. In order to ensure these new and improved services are sustainable, the New Brunswick South Field Unit will be re-introducing daily and seasonal pool entrance fees beginning in June 2021.



The following rates will be implemented:

Daily Rates

Adult Single Entry	\$6.44
Senior Single Entry	\$5.52
Youth Single Entry	\$5.06
Family Single Entry	\$18.60
Extra Youth Single Entry	\$3.01

The rates were determined based on recommendation from the Parks Canada Comparative Pricing Program, using comparative pricing from other Parks Canada sites.

Additionally, they are pleased to be able to offer **further discounted seasonal rates** that are more comparative to pools in surrounding locations and to benefit local communities and more frequent users:

Seasonal Passes

Adult	\$63.21
Senior	\$56.16
Youth	\$56.16
Family	\$182.53

A valid Park Entry pass will continue to be required upon entering Fundy National Park.

Grounds Maintenance

Lawn Mowing

As part of re-vegetation efforts, adjustments will be made to some mowed areas throughout Fundy National Park to allow for trees to grow and to start regenerating naturally, to begin creating privacy rows between sites at Cannontown Campground and to replant where trees have been removed. We will monitor the implementation of these measures and visitor use as we move into the summer season and will adjust these new grounds-care strategies accordingly.

Flower Gardens

Over the past two seasons, visitors at Fundy National Park have been enjoying newly piloted pollinator gardens. These gardens that are located at the Bluff are comprised of self-sustaining native plant species and provide habitat and food sources for at-risk pollinator species such as the yellow-banded bumble bee and the monarch butterfly.

This season, the field unit has experienced supply issues in sourcing annual flowers that previously adorned the beautiful flower beds throughout Fundy National Park. For this reason



and in an effort to move towards more sustainable perennial flower beds and pollinator gardens, gradual adjustments are being made to the flower gardens plan.

Gradually, over the next few seasons, visitors will begin noticing a transition where **some** carefully selected annual flower gardens will be removed or replaced with perennial or a mix of annual and perennial blooms.

Councillor MacCallum reported the following details:

Alma Volunteer Fire Department

The fire chief reports that an air pack and bottle inspection will take place this week and while the inspectors are in the village, they will try to hook up the air compressor that is used to fill the air bottles. Other than that, things have been quiet in Alma for the fire department.

Climate Leadership Course for Elected Officials:

Councillor MacCallum continues to take part in various Zoom meetings conducted by the Climate Caucus (a small non-profit based in Calgary) as her schedule permits. This small group tackles a multitude of issues from climate equity to transportation to sustainable agriculture practices (to name a few) so while a number of the sessions don't particularly relate to issues that Alma faces, it never hurts to have a support group of like-minded elected officials that can be used as a resource. Still of particular interest are the meetings with other small and rural communities who, like us, are trying to tackle major issues with limited financial and human resources.

Alma Rink

It's highly probable that in any municipality in the province (other than Alma) the 64 votes that Amanda Rossiter received would have easily landed her a spot at this council table. We think it's important that we acknowledge and thank her for her candidacy and celebrate her willingness to contribute to her community. It's not an easy thing to do. Amanda's number one election issue was what Council could do to support the families in the village, and that clearly resonated with Amanda's supporters.

To that end, Councillor Bowron and I attended the Alma Recreation Council's annual general meeting on June 3rd. They had a great turnout and elected the following Board:

President: Becky Graham

Vice-President: Dominique Audet

Treasurer: Shawna Butland

Secretary: Paula Akerley

Board members (6): Angela Sullivan, Kelly Edgett, Amanda Rossiter, Alicia O'Hara Sanford, Emily MacGregor Mason, and Nick Bowron.

Business items that were discussed included a summer student hiring update, the knotweed eradication project, funding opportunities, and future fundraisers.

There was a feeling of enthusiastic energy in the room and Council looks forward to and is committed to further developing this relationship.



Website

This project is now fully underway. There are samples of two of the proposed pages (home page and 'plan your trip' page) here for you to take a look at.

From David Taiaroa's initial proposal to Council:

“Throughout the initial design phase, I've kept four key user groups in mind: the village administration, village citizens, village businesses, and travellers. As much as possible we want to satisfy the different needs of each group. Village administration will use the site to keep citizens informed of news and events, promote the village and region, and support local business. At the same time, we want a website which has a good amount of content but requires minimal maintenance. Village citizens want easy access to news, events, and details of council activities. Local businesses will welcome the support and exposure from being highlighted on the village site. Travellers and visitors want information about attractions and accommodation when planning their trip”.

In addition, we have asked for the following features:

- agencies we are a member of are highlighted on the new site
- there will be a Facebook feed from the Village of Alma Facebook page
- there will be a calendar and a news section on the home page
- the Plan Your Trip section will include accommodations, restaurants, and activity-related businesses. This section will be primarily for visitors and will include an image and a business link
- the Local Business section will be an alphabetical, text-based directory of all businesses in the village (similar to what was on our old website)

Businesses will receive a letter this week inviting them to submit the required information.

Other

The provincial online training for new councillors is taking place this month; 6-1/2 hours over 3 days.

Finally, if anyone is looking for a genial and thought-provoking way to spend an hour, I can highly recommend the Sunday evening Tide Church service; held at 6:30pm at the multi-purpose building.

Water Report

No update.

Old Business

Water Exploration: *Mayor Casey* announced the drilling wrapped up Friday, April 16th, 2021 and was not successful. Hydrogeologist from Englobe (Crandall) are currently exploring a drilling site. The potential site to be announced in the near future.

Noise By-law 63A: *Acting Mayor Casey* reported that Maritime Enforcement Services has the original By-law and the re-written version of the Noise By-law 63A. Maritime Enforcement Services is comparing this By-law to other municipalities.



Code of Conduct By-law: *Mayor Casey* reported the 1st and 2nd readings were done at a special meeting on April 14, 2021.

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded by **Councillor MacCallum** for the clerk to read the third and final reading of Bylaw 98, a bylaw relating to establishing a code of conduct for elected official. **Motion Carried.**

The clerk read By-Law 98, a bylaw relating to establishing a code of conduct for elected official. a third time by its title.

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded By: **Councillor MacCallum** that whereas By-law 98, a bylaw relating to establishing a code of conduct for elected official has been read in its entirety and given first and second reading previously, that it be given its third and final reading and hereby enacted by the Village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

Terms and Conditions of committee membership/Alma! Committee – Councillor MacCallum presented the terms and conditional of committee membership.

ALMA! COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

WHEREAS section (7) parts (1) to (4) of by-law #89 (the Village of Alma procedural by-law) outlines the rules whereby the Village of Alma Council may establish Council Committees to consider matters referred to them by Council; and

WHEREAS it is deemed appropriate to establish a special Committee to be known as the “Alma! Committee” to advise Council on items referred to them by Council and on items raised and discussed within the Committee; and

THEREFORE Village of Alma Council hereby establishes the following terms of reference to prescribe the duties, functions, structure and procedures of the Alma! Committee.

PURPOSE

Reporting to the Council, it is the duty of the Alma! Committee to consider and make recommendations

to Council on the following matters:

- Village beautification
- Investigation of funding opportunities
- Village festivals and events
- Other items and issues relevant to these listed purposes

APPROACH

In meeting the Committee's objectives, the Committee members' duties will be as follows:

- To attend all regular meetings of the Committee; attendance includes teleconferencing and videoconferencing as needed



- To advise Council on items referred to the Committee by Council
- To identify and bring forward issues and topics to the Committee for discussion purposes, and to help make recommendations to the Council, with the full understanding that it is the role of the Village of Alma Council to make capital and operational decisions

COMPOSITION

Committee membership is open to any resident of Alma.

The Alma! Committee shall consist of up to twelve members who shall be appointed by resolution of Council for a term of not more than 2 years. Committee members may be reappointed for additional 1, 2 or 3 year terms at Council's discretion. At least two members of the Committee will be from Village of Alma Council and/or staff. Up to four members may be from established community organizations with a variety of mandates and as broad a membership base as possible.

Council may remove any member of the Committee for any good and sufficient cause which includes serious absenteeism and/or misconduct. For greater clarity, it is expected that Committee members will follow the Village of Alma code of conduct by-law Section #10 (i) to (iv) relating to Respectful Interactions, Section #12 (i) and (ii) relating to Confidential Information, and Section #16 relating to Public Participation In Committees Of Council, Community Groups And Organizations, And Their Events.

All Committee members will have full voting rights on matters brought to and discussed at the Committee level.

MEETINGS

A quorum of Committee shall consist of fifty percent plus one of members in attendance. The Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary will be chosen by a majority vote of Committee members. Committee meetings shall take place at least quarterly. The Chair may schedule or cancel any meeting of the Committee. Occasional advisors with special knowledge and/or volunteers recruited for a special event may be invited to Committee meetings at the discretion of the Committee Chair. In all other respects, the rules of procedure for the Committee shall be governed by the Village of Alma procedural by-law insofar as it may be applicable. All decisions of the Committee shall be in the form of resolutions duly passed by a majority of its members present. The Committee shall strive to reach consensus on issues, and shall forward recommendations in the form of Alma! Committee resolutions to the Council.

REMUNERATION

The members of the Committee, including the Chair, shall serve in a volunteer capacity only, with no remuneration.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIP

The Chair will act as liaison between the Committee and the Village of Alma Council. Committee meeting agendas and approved minutes will be posted on the Village of Alma website.



BUDGET

The Alma! Committee shall have no authority to expend or commit financial resources of the Village of Alma.

TERMINATION AND AMENDMENTS

Council may, as circumstances require, amend these Terms of Reference.

Council may, by resolution, dissolve the Alma! Committee if it is determined that the Committee's mandate has been fully achieved and/or if the Committee is inactive for a period of at least one year.

Clerk Report: Kim Beers reported the following

- There was one development permit issued in April
 1. PID 05109335 – Value \$3,092.00
- There was one development permit issued in May
 1. PID 00608943 – Value \$21,404.49
- There has been one applicant for the 2021 bursary. Deadline was extended to Friday June 18th to receive bursary applications.
- May 20, the Clerk applied for a “inclusive community recreation infrastructure grant through department of tourism, heritage and culture and received word this morning that the application was successful in the amount of \$10,000. This funding will break down barriers for our most vulnerable residents. The plan is to install 2 concrete ramps located at the main entrance and the emergency exit doors at the Activity Centre. Also, to install a concrete walkway from the sidewalk to the retail and public washrooms. AR Reitzel provided a quote for \$15,642.18.
It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded by **Councillor MacCallum** to approve the quote from AR Reitzel. All in favour. **Motion Carried.**
- Worksafe NB was in to the Village office and requested a copy of the Covid-19 operational plan. The Covid-19 operational plan that was created in May 2020 was not compliant. The Clerk created a new operational plan and the village of Alma is now in compliance as well as compliant with the Occupational health and safety act.
- The village will be applying for property tax exemption for the multi-purpose building.

New Business

APPOINTMENT - BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

WHEREAS the Council has adopted various By-Laws;

WHEREAS Council may appoint By-Law Enforcement Officers for the Local Government and determine their mandate;



BE IT RESOLVED that the following person is appointed a By-Law Enforcement Officer of the Local Government in accordance with the Local Governance Act (Act), the Police Act and the Community Planning Act:

Mr. Daniel LaCourse

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the appointment includes all generalities as prescribed by Section 3.2 of By-Law #99, the Act, the Regulations of the Act and the Police Act;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the position of By-Law Enforcement Officer is employed for the preservation and maintenance of the public peace;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the By-Law Enforcement Officer of the Local Government exercise their discretion according to the files given to them by the Clerk or during patrols of the Local Government;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the above-mentioned appointment continue as long as an officer is an employee or is retained by the Local Government.

Proposed by **Councillor Ereaux**, seconded by **Councillor MacCallum**.
Motion Carried.

Parking Bylaw: 1st and 2nd reading

It was moved by **Councillor Ereaux** and Seconded by **Councillor MacCallum** for the clerk to read the first reading by title of Bylaw 99 a bylaw relating to traffic and parking in the Village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

The clerk read By-Law 99 a first time by its title.

Moved By: **Councillor MacCallum**
Seconded By: **Councillor Bowron**
Motion Carried.

It was moved by **Councillor MacCallum** and Seconded by **Councillor Bowron** for the clerk to read the second reading by title and entirety of Bylaw 99 a bylaw relating to traffic and parking in the Village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

The clerk read By-Law 99 a second time by title and entirety.

Moved By: **Councillor Bowron**
Seconded By: **Councillor Ereaux**
Motion Carried.



2020 Audited Statements for the Village of Alma:

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded by **Councillor MacCallum** to approve the audited statement for the Village of Alma prepared by Donna L. Floyd. All in favour. **Motion Carried.**

Appointment of Donna Floyd as the Village of Alma Auditor for 2021:

It was moved by **Councillor MacCallum** and Seconded by **Councillor Ereaux** to appoint Donna L. Floyd as the Village of Alma Auditor for 2021. All in favour. **Motion Carried**

Correspondence

Kim Beers advised the following correspondence was received:

- CCRC – Request a business card on their 2022 calendar for a fee of \$100.
It was moved by **Councillor MacCallum** and Seconded by **Councillor Bowron** to donate \$100.00 to the CCRC to advertise in the 2022 Calendar. All in favour. **Motion Carried.**
- Heart and Stroke Foundation of New Brunswick - June 2021 - Stroke month **Mayor Casey** read the proclamation.
- Letter from the honourable Brenda Murphy-Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick Congratulating Mayor and Council.
- Scotts Gro for good funding application was declined.
- Greenhill safety issue addressed – Letter of thanks from Paul McKinley to Alma resident Kevin DeWolfe and Andy Morrissey for clearing the vegetation that was obscuring visibility for motorists accessing Main Street from Greenhill.
- Steve Chrysostom – Illegal parking – Requesting that the no parking signs between 8580 and 8576 Main Street be installed and requesting road paint in the same area to indicate parking status. Councillor MacCallum advised that the traffic and parking bylaw is well on its way, enforcement officers will be in the Village two days a week, additional signs are being purchased, and line painting will be happening as soon as DTI is completed with line painting.
- Jane Chrysostom – Dog bylaw – Reporting of a hostile dog that has been reported to Council since July 2020. Ms. Chrysostom is requesting a dog catcher be appointed. **Councillor Ereaux** advised the NBSPCA had been contacted many times since the end of March 2021 requesting more information by the Village Clerk. On June 14th the NBSPCA acknowledged and apologized for the delay as they are currently having staffing issues. Council assured Mrs. Chrysostom that Council is actively pursuing.

Paying of Bills

Kim Beers advised that all bills have been paid.

Questions and Answers

Opportunity for community members to ask questions to members of Council.



In-camera session *Local Governance Act 68 (1) (j)* – labour and employment matters.

Councillor Bowron moved to go into in-camera at 9:03 pm and Seconded by **Councillor MacCallum**

Councillor MacCallum moved to come out of in-camera at 9:09 pm and Seconded by **Councillor Bowron**.

Councillor Bowron moved to hire Cole Wright as the Village of Alma summer student for the 2021 season Seconded by **Susan MacCallum**.

Councillor MacCallum moved to promote Kim to the Village of Alma Clerk/Treasurer effective June 4th, 2021 seconded by **Councillor Bowron**.

Adjournment

Councillor Bowron adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

Mayor Andrew Casey

Kim Beers, Clerk/Treasurer