



Village of Alma – Regular Council Meeting **October 18, 2021**

The regular monthly Council meeting of the Alma Village Council was held on October 18, 2021, at 7:00 pm via Zoom. *Mayor Casey, Councillor Bowron, Councillor Ereaux, Councillor MacCallum (arrived late)* and *Kim Beers* (Clerk) were present.

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

Motions

It was moved by *Councillor Ereaux* and Seconded by *Councillor Bowron* to add Gas Tax under old business to the agenda. **Motion Carried.**

It was moved by *Councillor Bowron* and Seconded by *Councillor Ereaux* to approve the Minutes from the regular Council meeting September 20, 2021 and the minutes from the special council meeting on September 29, 2021. **Motion Carried.**

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

RCMP Report

No update.

Committee Reports

Mayor Casey reported the following:

Southeast Regional Service Commission: There was no meeting scheduled for this month. There is a meeting for next month.

Local Government Reform:

Mayor Casey met with the Mayor of Hillsborough and Riverside Albert; the three Mayors agreed to reach out to Deputy Minister Ryan to have a discussion around Local Government reform. The meeting is scheduled October 19, 2021.

Councillor Bowron reported the following details:

Fundy National Park: **2021 Season Recap**

Summer 2021 Recap

Overall visitation from May to the end of August was up 40% from the same period last season, with over 200,000 visitors. Although we are still in a global pandemic, this past year many



people were still able to get outdoors and enjoy the health and wellbeing benefits that come from being outside in nature.

Year-round operations and services

Fundy National Park are expanding its operations and services to remain open year-round.

From now until Victoria Day in May, the Eastern Visitor Reception Centre and the Headquarters Campground remain open year-round.

Reservation services are now open for Headquarters Campground's roofed accommodations, campsites, as well as for the park's rustic cabins, until the end of March, 2022.

Please note:

- The Eastern Visitor Reception Centre, camping at Headquarters, roofed accommodations and rustic cabins will be closed from December 24 to 26. Visitors will still be able to enjoy the park (trails, sliding, etc.) during this brief Christmas break.
- The Chignecto Pavilion remains open year-round; it includes full-service washrooms with showers and a kitchen shelter.
- Visitors are reminded that entry permits are required, year-round, for all activities and services in the park.

Ground maintenance in Headquarters Area

The existing MacLaren Pond Medicine Trail is undergoing significant enhancements to improve its accessibility and sustainability. Improvements to be completed this year include:

- Widening and rehabilitating the trail tread with several new rest areas and a 200-metre-long elevated boardwalk with two viewing platforms;
- Adding two new accessible parking spaces;
- Rerouting the trail and restoring the riparian zone at the northern end of the pond;
- Planting trees and plants to coincide with existing interpretation panels along the Medicine Trail that are specific to Indigenous culture and heritage (Fifty Black Ash and Cedar trees have been planted in the marsh area of the bowl); and
- Adding a trail connector pathway to the Cannontown/Chalet roadway.

Other landscaping will include adding trees to adjust existing treelines at the bluff and bowl areas, and incorporating native flower and shrub species into hillside grassy areas.

Ongoing paving project in the Headquarters Area

The roadwork on Chalet and Service roads is progressing and scheduled for completion by the end of October.



New Brunswick South Field Unit Indigenous Relations Section

Over the past year, the Indigenous Relations team has been working with other sections in the field unit to deliver programs such as presentations to schools on species at risk and the salmon life cycle, lead camping activities with Elsipogtog youth, collaborated on work for restoration and the MacLaren Pond Medicine Trail.

Indigenous Peoples are integral partners in conserving, restoring, and presenting natural and cultural heritage. The New Brunswick South Field Unit continues to work with Indigenous partners in the goal of fostering a better understanding of Indigenous Peoples' history, perspectives, cultures and traditions.

Restoration work in the Chignecto Recreation Area now completed

The natural integrity of our special places is important at Parks Canada administered places and certain alterations on ecological environments need our help to be restored and brought back to their natural state.

After three years of hard work, the restoration of the Chignecto Recreation Area was completed this year. Park wide, the Ecological Restoration Team has restored approximately 37 270m² of human-impacted area since the team was established in 2018.

The multi-functional team focuses on naturalizing impacted areas, such as former sections of road corridor and building footprints in the Chignecto Recreation Area (formerly known as Chignecto South Campground). Techniques were used to enhance and stimulate natural forest regeneration by restoring and naturally regulating water flow, improving soil density and structure, and transplanting native trees, harvested from within the park.

Record-breaking numbers of Atlantic salmon returning to Fundy National Park's rivers

Fundy National Park is seeing record-numbers of Atlantic salmon returning to its rivers – the highest numbers since 1989, when they began their decline to near extinction.

Since July, over 100 salmon have returned to Fundy National Park rivers from the Atlantic Ocean. These adults will spawn this fall creating the next generation of salmon and contribute to the overall health of the rivers.

These results coming from the Upper Salmon and Point Wolfe rivers in Fundy National Park are attributed to the research and innovation stemming from the Fundy Salmon Recovery project, a collaboration among Atlantic researchers. For more information on the project, visit Fundy National Park's website.

Councillor MacCallum reported the following details:

Alma Volunteer Fire Department

No update.



Climate Leadership Course for Elected Officials/Climate Caucus/Climate Change Adaptation Plan

The preliminary committee meeting for the climate change adaptation plan took place last month. Laura Leger, the project lead from our engineering firm Englobe, took us through the overall schedule and timeline. We also looked at some preliminary maps of the village which identified sea level rise risk areas as well as municipal infrastructure. Our committee members who are engineers themselves identified several gaps in the municipal infrastructure records and suggested some other risks and exposures that hadn't been identified. The next step is a stakeholders group meeting which will include the village's business community.

Alma! Committee

Fleet Launch festivities were quashed due to the covid-19 circuit breaker in our health zone. The committee will have a Zoom meeting soon to discuss Christmas events, village beautification-including trees-and plans and a budget for 2022.

Website update

David from Panchroma has provided us with a link to the new website development page. The content still needs to be checked and he has a few questions for us, but the project is moving forward.

Kudos

To Mayor Andrew Casey for his long term service award (12 years plus) from the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick.

To Clerk/Treasurer Kim Beers for her service to the village and council since January of this year. We wish her well and hope she will come back to visit.

Water Report

No update.

Old Business

Water Exploration: *Mayor Casey* announced all permits are in place and the village is waiting for landowner approval to drill and once that is completed the drilling will commence.

Noise By-law 63A

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded by **Councillor Ereaux** for the clerk to read the third and final reading by title of By-law# 63A - a by-law relating to the prevention of excessive noise in the village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

The clerk read By-Law 63A a third time by title, a by-law relating to the prevention of excessive noise in the village of Alma.



It was moved by **Councillor Ereaux** and Seconded By: **Councillor Bowron** that whereas By-law 63A, a by-law relating to the prevention of excessive noise in the village of Alma has been read in its entirety and given first and second reading previously, that it has been given its third and final reading and hereby enacted by the Village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

By-law #102 relating to the repeal of by-laws:

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded by **Councillor Ereaux** for the clerk to read the third and final reading by title of By-law# 102 - a by-law relating to the repeal of by-laws. **Motion Carried.**

The clerk read By-Law 102 a third time by its title, a by-law relating to the repeal of by-laws.

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded By: **Councillor Ereaux** that whereas By-law # 102 - a by-law relating to the repeal of by-laws has been read in its entirety and given first and second reading previously, that it has been given its third and final reading and hereby enacted by the Village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

By-law # 100 a by-law relating to traffic and parking in the village of Alma:

It was moved by **Councillor Ereaux** and Seconded by **Councillor MacCallum** for the clerk to read the third and final reading by title of By-law# 100 - a by-law relating to traffic and parking in the village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

The clerk read By-Law 100 a third time title, a by-law relating to traffic and parking in the village of Alma.

It was moved by **Councillor Bowron** and Seconded By: **Councillor Ereaux** that whereas By-law # 100 a by-law relating to traffic and parking in the village of Alma has been read in its entirety and given first and second reading previously, that it has been given its third and final reading and hereby enacted by the Village of Alma. **Motion Carried.**

Snow removal:

Mayor Casey thanked Councillor Ereaux who negotiated a contract with Doug Butland.

Gas tax top up:

There is a one time 2020-2021 top up from the Canada Community-Building Fund for \$14,879.00. This allocation is to be invested in municipal infrastructure or capacity building projects. This one time top up will go towards upgrading the SCADA system.



Village of Alma
REVISED FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN
FOR THE GTF ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT
2019- 2023
RESOLUTION

Moved by **Councillor Bowron** and seconded by **Councillor MacCallum** “that the document entitled *Revised Village of Alma Five-Year Capital Investment Plan for the GTF Administrative Agreement 2019-2023* be adopted”. **Motion Carried**

Clerk Report:

Kim Beers reported the following

1. There was one building permit issued in September
PID 00610568 - Value \$7,616
2. Remembrance Day Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday November 10, commencing at 10:30 am at the Activity Centre. Peter Jubb from the Royal Canadian Legion asked whether or not there will be luncheon after the service. **Councillor MacCallum** advised no, not this year.
3. Kim read an update from Maritime By-law Enforcement Services dated October 14, 2021.

New Business

SERSC 2022 Budget:

The Village of Alma has participated in EMO, Dangerous and Unsightly, and WA Transpo (Urban/Rural Rides) services in the past. For the 2022 budget, SERSC are recommending that the Dangerous and Unsightly services be left unfunded while they await instruction from the province surrounding this service.

Therefore, for the 2022 Budget, the Village of Alma is participating in 2 non-mandated services: EMO and WA Transpo (Urban/Rural Rides).

Village of Alma
SERSC 2022 Contributions

Solid Waste	\$2,160.27
Local Planning Services	\$10,317.79
Cooperative and Regional Planning Services	\$221.22
Dangerous and Unsightly Premises	-
Emergency Measures Services	\$234.69
Urban/Rural Rides	\$68.40



Councillor MacCallum moved to approve the SERSC 2022 budget seconded by **Councillor Bowron**. Motion Carried.

Correspondence

Kim Beers advised the following correspondence was received:

- Letter received from Susan Spence requesting snow removal on Victory Lane. Council discussed and advised that Victory Lane is a private lane/road. Therefore, the village of Alma is not responsible for snow removal.
- Letter received from Linda Lindsay (CCRC Board Member). Chipoudy Communities Revitalization Committee and other organizations are applying for a grant to rebuild the Crooked Creek Trail Bridge, also known as Lumsden bridge. This bridge is a vital link to the recreational trail system and will allow access to the Alma area trails, increasing recreational winter and summer trail use by snowmobiles and ATVs. The group are requesting a letter of support from the village in order to emphasize the importance of these sports and this endeavor to our community. Council requested additional information: Who is the funding agency, who are the other partners, and what is the project cost.

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 Section 68(1) of the local governance act-legal, police, HR, confidential information and/or financial agreements of contracts or land transactions.

Councillor MacCallum moved to go into in camera at 8:18 pm seconded by **Councillor Ereaux**.
Councillor MaCallum moved to come out of in camera at 8:28 pm seconded by **Councillor Ereaux**.



Adjournment

Councillor MacCallum adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm

Mayor Andrew Casey

Clerk/Treasurer