

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ABRAM-VILLAGE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
June 17, 2020**

**Present:** Roger Gallant, Ann Arsenault, Roger Arsenault, Colette Gallant,  
Yolande Gallant, Phil LeBlanc

**Also Present:** Pierre Arsenault, Administrator

**Absent:** Paul Gallant

**1. Called to Order**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Phil LeBlanc and seconded by Colette Gallant that the agenda be accepted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Yolande Gallant and seconded by Ann Arsenault that the Minutes of May 20, 2020 be accepted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

**4. Follow-up to Minutes**

**a) Bell Tower At Festival**

Roger Gallant reported that *Bell Mobility Inc.* sent an Information Package on their proposed 22-meter cell tower as part of their consultation process, inviting any comments from the municipality. There were no new comments.

**b) Covid-19 Pandemic**

Roger Gallant reported that the provincial lockdowns were continuing to ease, with Phase 4 coming into effect on June 26<sup>th</sup> allowing for larger public gatherings and some extra personalized services. Ann Arsenault recommended asking the *Evangeline Recreation Commission* to put-up a positive message for dealing with the Pandemic on their outside bulletin board.

**c) New Official Plan**

Roger Gallant reported that *Brighter Communities* finalized their draft of the new Official Plan & Zoning Bylaws, which was posted on the community website. A newsletter flyer was also sent to all residents to advise them of this and to solicit any comments or concerns during this public consultation period. There was a discussion on several key topics, namely relating to zoning changes, measurement standards, and new buffer zone

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requirements between agricultural lands and residences. It was pointed-out there should be trees or shrubs planted between agricultural fields and residences, although it was not currently a common practice behind the Wendell Gallant Rd subdivision. There was a discussion whether residents would be in favour of doing this, and whether tree seedlings could be obtained at no cost for this endeavor. Ann Arsenault also asked about having the documents translated into French once finalized.

**d) Sidewalk Extension**

Roger Gallant reported that *Curran & Briggs Ltd.* came to take a look at the sidewalk extension and they estimated the cost as \$290,000 plus HST. The engineering proposal had allowed for \$300,000 plus HST for the construction, but it also included extra costs for planning, designing, surveying, and overall project management to bring the total anticipated cost near \$400,000 including the taxes.

**e) Sewer Utility Upgrade**

Roger Gallant reported that the new pump arrived in Charlottetown to be picked-up. He also reported that Preston Silliker, the sewer utility operator, requested a short meeting with some Councilors to go over proposed lift station upgrades such as possibly getting back-up generators.

**f) Club 50 Organization Folding**

Roger Gallant reported that it appeared the Club 50 organization was folding, although he did not receive confirmation from the President yet. Ann Arsenault suggested offering them help for their last get-together.

**g) Park's Rock Climbing Wall**

Roger Gallant reported that he would look into seeing if it should be installed this summer. With the on-going pandemic and social distancing issues, there could be liability reasons to warrant deferring its installation until next year. It was also suggested that social distancing and warning signs could be put-up at the park to mitigate this.

**5. Financial Update**

Nothing extraordinary to report on income and expenses to date. Phil LeBlanc asked about a change in the Gas Tax payment, and it was reported that the government would be sending a single payment of \$100,000 this year as opposed to two \$50,000 payments as per previous years.

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**6. New Business / Other**

**a) Subdivision Lot Sales**

Roger Gallant reported that there were 3 Purchase & Sale Agreements received for the sale of 3 lots: Lots 16-4, 16-6, and 16-7. Two of them are to close on June 19<sup>th</sup>, and the other on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Lot 16-4 is being purchased to put a duplex on, while the other lots are for single family residences. Each purchaser would need to apply for a driveway entrance permit from the province, which cost \$100, although they would not need a culvert permit which now costs \$1,500. The new purchasers will also have to request electrical power hook-up from Maritime Electric directly.

**b) Jobs For Youth**

Roger Gallant reported that the municipality was accepted for 8 weeks again this year. There were two applicants – last year's student and a 15 year old resident. There was a discussion on which of the two applicants should be hired, comparing advantages with disadvantages of either students. Both candidates were found suitable, making it a difficult decision. Roger will follow-up with the applicants for further determination.

**c) School Bursaries**

Roger Gallant reported that there were five graduating high-school students from the municipality this year, and they were all going for post-secondary education in the fall. A cheque for \$1,000 will therefore be given to the school bursary fund to support them.

**d) Other**

Roger Gallant reported that a resident raised concerns over speeding in the Bellevue Subdivision. It was noted a letter could be sent to the RCMP requesting they increase patrols in the area as a deterrent.

Roger Gallant reported that the local *Alcoholics Anonymous* group asked if they could temporarily use the Club 50 building hall for about an hour on Thursday evenings, as they needed increase space to hold their weekly meetings due to the COVID-19 restrictions. There were no objections.

Roger Gallant reported that the Club 50 building roof was looked at and the old asphalt shingles on the back-half should probably be replaced with steel. The municipality will be receiving extra funds from the sale of lots, so it could be done this year without needing to borrow funds for it. There is to be at least two quotes submitted to decide on approving the work.

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Ann Arsenault asked about removing the faded painted figures, which were mounted on the *Evangeline School*. Phil LeBlanc mentioned the school looked at taking them down last year, but it would not be easy so they did not proceed. They should nevertheless be taken-down now, and Council could decide later whether to replace with new figures or wait until a new school would be built.

Colette Gallant asked if there was a recent building permit request from someone installing a swimming pool and deck. Roger Gallant replied that he was asked by a resident if a deck was required when installing a swimming pool, and he answered not if the pool was removed in the fall. There was a further discussion on deck and swimming pool requirements.

**7. Correspondence**

None.

**8. Next Meeting**

Next meeting is to be held Wednesday July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00pm.

**9. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

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Roger Gallant, Mayor

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Dated

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Pierre Arsenault, Administrator

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Dated