



**TOWN OF SAINT ANDREWS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

**April 22, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
W.C. O'Neill Arena Complex Council Chambers**

A. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

A Regular Meeting of the Town of Saint Andrews Council was held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., with the following members present:

Deputy Mayor Kate Akagi, Councillors Mark Bennett, Marc Blanchard, Kurt Gumushel, Lee Heenan, Jamie Hirtle, Steve Neil, and Darrell Weare.

Chris Spear, CAO/Treasurer, Paul Nopper, Clerk - Senior Administrator, and Alexander Gopen, Senior Planner, Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission.

Absent: Mayor Brad Henderson and Councillor Annette Harland

B. LAND RECOGNITION OF THE PESKOTOMUHKATI NATION

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 130 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Neil

Seconded by Councillor Blanchard

That the Agenda for the 250422 Regular Council Meeting be approved as presented.

7 – 0

Carried

D. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 1. Councillor Neil - Lease Agreements Between the Town of Saint Andrews and Physiotherapist and Athletic Therapist at the Wellness Centre, FA250433**

E. PRESENTATIONS

F. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

G. COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Request to Light Up Town Hall for Fibromyalgia Association of Canada's Illumination Campaign**

Council Consensus to light up Town Hall in purple on May 12, 2025.

H. STAFF REPORT/FINANCIAL REPORT

I. INTRODUCTION, CONSIDERATION AND PASSING OF BY-LAWS AND MOTIONS

1. Planning & Community Development Committee - Councillor Harland and Heenan

1. Discussion on Amendment Z22-11 to the Zoning By-Law Z22-01, PCD250102

Planner Gopen provided a clarification with the report on Z22-11 on fencing as it relates to fences in the Town Plat and Environs.

Council consensus to revert back to the original language of the Amendment to covering properties within the Historic Business District bringing it in line with the Secondary Municipal Plan and the Municipal Plan. Council concerns of financial burdens placed on residents and issues with upkeep.

Clerk Nopper noted will bring the Amendment forward to the next meeting with it reverted back to its original for its second and proposed third readings.

2. Public Works & Public Safety Committee- Councillors Bennett and Neil

1. Appointment of Mike Shannon as the Animal Control Officer, PWPS250418

CAO Spear noted what caused this motion to come forward was that the Province of New Brunswick through the SPCA finalized their contract after the result of Local Governance Reform and asked all the municipalities to incorporate any new areas into their contract to cover animal control.

Motion: 131 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Neil

Seconded by Councillor Bennett

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews appoints Mike Shannon as the Animal Control Officer for the Town of Saint Andrews as of April 22, 2025, at a rate of \$1,000 plus HST.

Amended

Motion: 132 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Weare

Seconded by Councillor Heenan

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews amends the motion to appoint Mike Shannon as the Animal Control Officer for the Town of Saint Andrews as of April 22, 2025, at a rate of \$1,000 per month plus HST.

7 – 0

Carried

Motion: 133 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Weare

Seconded by Councillor Bennett

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews approves the amended motion to appoint Mike Shannon as the Animal Control Officer for the Town of Saint Andrews as of April 22, 2025 at a rate of \$1,000 per month plus HST.

7 – 0

Carried

3. Economic Development, Business, & Culture Committee - Councillors Hirtle and Weare

1. Request for Support 2025 Business Summit May 27 – 28, 2025 in Saint Andrews, EBC250403

Motion: 134 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Hirtle

Seconded by Councillor Blanchard

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews approves a sponsorship of \$2,500 from the Tourism Accommodation Levy Fund towards the 2025 Southwest New Brunswick Business Summit May 27 – 28, 2025, at the Algonquin Resort.

9 – 0

Carried

4. Recreation & Environment Committee - Councillor Gumushel and Blanchard

1. Appointment of Member to the Trail Advisory Committee, RE250415

Motion: 135 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Gumushel

Seconded by Councillor Heenan

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews accepts the resignation of Mrs. Ann MacKay from the Trail Advisory Committee as the representative of the Saint Andrews Outdoor Recreation and Trails Inc.

7 – 0

Carried

Motion: 136 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Gumushel

Seconded by Councillor Bennett

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews reappoints Dr. David Johnson to the Trail Advisory Committee as the representative of the Saint Andrews Outdoor Recreation and Trails Inc.

7 – 0

Carried

2. Request for Use of the W.C. O'Neill Lobby Space for a Saint Andrews Sports Wall of Fame, RE250416

Motion: 137 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Gumushel

Seconded by Councillor Hirtle

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews enters into an agreement with the Board of the Saint Andrews Sports Wall of Fame (once formed) with terms and conditions set by the Chief Administrative Officer including:

- 1. Use of designated space in the W.C. O'Neill Arena Complex Lobby for the Sports Wall of Fame.*
- 2. Annual free rental of the Dining Room and kitchen for the Sports Wall of Fame Dinner.*

3. *Support from the Town to install gallery lighting for the Sports Wall of Fame.*

7 – 0

Carried

3. **Request to Support Initiative: Elbows Up for Climate, RE250417**

Motion: 138 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Blanchard

Seconded by Councillor Gumushel

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews signs on and supports the open letter on the initiative Elbows Up for Climate.

7 – 0

Carried

5. Finance & Administration Committee - Deputy Mayor Akagi

1. **Discussion on By-Law No. 25-04, Composition of Council, FA250432**

Clerk Nopper noted the process would be as outlined from what we received from the Provincial Government. Council will decide on an idea of a composition that they would like to proceed with then that has to be forwarded to the Province for review. The Province will send it back with their thoughts on the composition. If they are satisfied with it, then it could go through the by-law readings as per normal unless the Province comes back and suggests something different. We have to start somewhere and this is the process they would like us to use.

Council had some concerns that they might be putting the cart before the horse. By sending this draft to the Province, we imply that this is what we want and then it comes back to us to actually enact it. When does Council have a chance to have a discussion on it? After we have basically told the Province what we want? Needs to be discussed prior to going to the Province. Would be awkward sending it to the province beforehand. There are optics of sending a By-Law off without a formal motion of Council on what we would like to proceed with. Council did have some discussion on it during a work session, but more discussion is needed. Council believes it is important we pare down the Council as it seems a bit over represented. Paring down will help to streamline a Council of 7 versus 10 seems reasonable. Makes sense in terms with where we are with population of Council members. We are on the low side compared to others and proposed changes brings us in line with other municipalities. With financial restraints it is an important decision and to be a resident representative for 550 people, is not out of the realm of possibility. There is a balance between the cost versus the benefit. This is still going to come back for First, Second, and Third reading. It will still be open for debate and discussion again at that time.

CAO Spear noted we have had some discussion on this in the past. We know there might have been a little bit of disagreement on this. I am assuming if we send this to the Province, the thought is that Council already agrees with this. I never had a chance to ask the Province what if Council changes their mind in between what that

means. It probably just means you have to restart the process. It is best to treat this like getting ready for First Reading. It is a new process otherwise Council would have more control. If Council wants more consultation, further discussion at the Council Table or community feedback, we can. We just need to know the direction of Council.

Clerk Nopper also noted that Council has the right to table if want to have further deeper discussions, but advise to have some discussions here tonight and then if there is direction from that, we can adjust the motion.

Councillor Weare abstained.

Motion: 139 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Heenan

Seconded by Councillor Neil

That the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews approves the draft By-Law No. 25-04, A By-Law Regulating the Composition of the Council of the Town of Saint Andrews to be sent to the Province of New Brunswick for review and consideration.

7 – 0

Carried

2. Lease Agreements Between the Town of Saint Andrews and Physiotherapist and Athletic Therapist at the Wellness Centre, FA250433

Councillor Neil left the Council Chambers at 7:01 p.m.

CAO Spear noted due to an oversight at the office the background information was not included in the packages. The motions can be tabled to the next Council meeting if Council needs more time to review.

Councillor Neil returned to the Council Chambers at 7:02 p.m.

Motion: 140 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Gumushel

That the Town of Saint Andrews Tables the motion to enter into a lease agreement with Giselle Neil, Physiotherapist, for rental space at the Wellness Centre from February 1, 2025, – January 31, 2030.

6 – 0

Carried

Motion: 141 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Gumushel

That the Town of Saint Andrews Tables the motion to enter into a lease agreement with Ane Halse, Athletic Therapist, for rental space at the Wellness Centre from February 1, 2025, – January 31, 2030.

6 – 0

Carried

J. NEW BUSINESS

K. QUESTION PERIOD

Susan Simms 157 Princess Royal Street - Question regarding Mike Shannon, the Animal Control Officer. Councillor Neil mentioned that he patrols. Does he actually patrol?

CAO Spear - He typically responds to incidences as per our contract as the cost of patrolling is high. That is the level of service across the province unless you hire someone on staff to do that.

Mrs. Simms - How many calls did he answer last year?

CAO Spear - Top of my head it is hard to answer. 4.

Mrs. Simms - So he was paid \$12,000 and he responded to 4 calls.

CAO Spear - Not last year. Just so you know that is the new rate and an expanded area.

Mrs. Simms - What was the old rate?

CAO Spear - \$5000 for the year.

Mrs. Simms - \$5,000 when he had just Saint Andrews and now it is \$1,000 you mean for the year?

CAO Spear - \$5,000 for the year.

Mrs. Simms - So now it is \$12,000, so it more than doubled.

CAO Spear - Yes. But just for clarity we are required to have that in place per the Province.

Deputy Mayor Akagi - Doing it with the SPCA or other group is much more expensive.

L. COUNCILLORS' AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Councillor Weare - Are we going to go to closed session for the leases tonight?

CAO Spear - Yes, tonight and again next week.

Councillor Weare - The bears are out of hibernation and arrived at the dumpster on Monday night on Chamcook No. 3. Through quick action by Tuddenham's the dumpster was taken out and then brought back for the summer schedule. However, on Sunday night the bear/bears arrived back and the first house on the left hand side going in had a strong wooden box made of 1" lumber for garbage that was completely demolished and the garbage dragged into the woods. That was the same resident who had an issue with the Tuesday schedule. She leaves for work before the dumpster arrives and does not get back before the dumpster is taken away. That is why she got a nice sturdy wooden box. I was there early Monday morning and it was just splinters. Just a comment it is a problem and will continue to be an issue for anybody choosing to use a wooden box. Not sure what a metal box would do to help, but may have a problem again this year and a mess to clean up again. I will try to get a group to do that.

Councillor Bennett - Thank you for the reminder to those who live rural to watch out for our garbage and animals. Would like to comment, that we have a resident on Dock Road who has been struggling with bear problems in this area. Quite often the garbage is everywhere around the neighbourhood and his garbage bins. The resident has tried everything to keep the bears at bay. Last summer at the beginning of the summer he put in a metal garbage can that looks like one of those plastic deck boxes to prevent the bear from gaining access to his garbage. So far it seems to be working for the resident. The bears have not gotten into it. Perhaps

for your resident that is struggling they might want to see that metal box and possibly get one. Looks like it is going well for the resident on Dock Road.

M. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

N. CLOSED SESSION

Motion: 142 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Bennett

Seconded by Councillor Neil

At 7:10 p.m. Council moves into Closed Session per the Local Governance Act, Section 68(1)(c) information that could cause financial loss or gain to a person or the local government or could jeopardize negotiations leading to an agreement or contract and Section 68(1)(d) the proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land.

7 – 0

Carried

Motion: 143 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Heenan

Seconded by Councillor Blanchard

At 8:04 p.m. that Council returns to Open Session.

7 – 0

Carried

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 144 - 04/25

Moved by Councillor Heenan

Seconded by Councillor Neil

At 8:04 p.m. that the meeting be adjourned.

7 – 0

Carried



Brad Henderson, Mayor



Paul Nopper, Clerk - Senior
Administrator

