



Glooscap Campground to Remain Closed

By Maurice Rees

Parrsboro business owners and seasonal campers will not be pleased, Cumberland Council decided on May 20th the Glooscap Campground will remain closed this season unless Covid-19 restrictions relating to campgrounds are significantly reduced.

In a report to council, Steve Ferguson, Director,

Policy and Research stated senior staff were not comfortable operating the municipally owned campground under current covid-19 restrictions, even though it would be a hardship and disappointment for business owners and seasonal campers. With over 30 seasonal campers, out of 70+ available lots, the county would suffer a loss of

Cumberland Holds Rates at \$1.19 and \$2.78

By Maurice Rees

Cumberland Council held the residential and commercial tax rates to the same as last year, \$1.19 and \$2.78 respectively, but was able to balance the 2020 / 2021 operating budget with revenue and expenditures of \$29,806,070.

A uniform flat rate of \$41,00 per assessment account has been set for rural street light systems and council will transfer \$140,904 from operating reserves to cover October's municipal election costs. After two public hearings on May 20th

Council sent rezoning a property at 467 Macdonald Road, Upper Nappan and Livestock Control Bylaw to council on June 3rd for second reading of the revised by-laws.

A third and fourth scheduled public hearing for Local Improvement and Public Sewer by-laws were postponed, at the request of taxpayers, until restrictions due to Covid-19 are relaxed and a public hearing can be held in council chambers. Council was advise residents who wish to participate in the hearings, need to pre-register and are encouraged to con-

tact the administrative office, or consult the website for instructions.

The various amounts comprising operating budget expenditures of \$29,806,070 are listed as follows: Education, \$4,837,558; Environmental Development, \$1,239,588; Environmental Health, \$4,278,623;

General Government, \$6,341,419; Protective, \$8,194,471; Public Health, \$1,154,861; Recreation & Culture, \$1,456,532;

Transmission of Taxes, \$207,728 and Transportation, \$2,095,291.

Council is working on details of a program initiated by the provincial government, to allow taxpayers to delay payment of property taxes, as a result of Covid-19. Taxpayers must register in order to defer payment and have an amount added to their account and meet certain requirements. Details on the policy and regulations will be included in a memo included when tax bills are mailed.

Cumberland Holds Tax Rates at 2019/20 Levels

Continued from page 1
Residential Rates:

For the 2020/2021 fiscal year, residential taxes will be: General Property Tax Rate of \$1.19 per \$100 of assessment. Springhill service area pays an additional \$0.86 per \$100 of assessment.

The all-inclusive residential rate for the Springhill service area is \$2.05 per \$100 of assessment.

Parrsboro service area pay an additional \$0.48 per \$100 of assessment.

The all-inclusive residential rate for the Parrsboro service area is \$1.67 per \$100 of assessment.

For the 2020/2021 fiscal year, commercial taxes will be:

Commercial Rates:
Commercial General Property

Tax Rate is \$2.78 per \$100 of assessment. Springhill service area pay an additional \$2.18 per \$100 of assessment.

The all-inclusive residential rate for the Springhill service area is \$4.96 per \$100 of assessment.

Parrsboro service area pay an additional \$1.19 per \$100 of assessment.

The all-inclusive residential rate for the Parrsboro service area is \$3.97 per \$100 of assessment.

Council previously approved a capital budget of \$4.4 million for fiscal 2020/2021 on April 1, 2020. Staff will now work on preparing tax bills to be sent out.

The due date for the 2020/21 tax levy will be July 3, 2020.

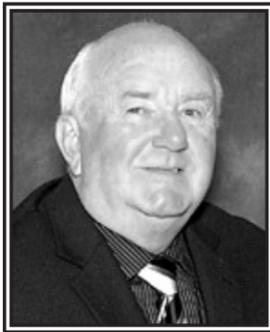
Parental Accommodations Policy Approved

By Don Fletcher

We began council on May 6th at 5 pm with an in-camera session covering three items. Public council began at 6 pm approving the parental accommodations policy for elected officials. The remuneration policy for members of council was approved by motion.

Property tax loan policy due to covid 19 was discussed and will be on next council for approval. Budget discussion followed with a meeting scheduled for next Wednesday at 6 pm via zoom. Financial support for Cumberland county victims of the recent tragedy was approved similar to Colchester County.

The recent fire at the Shimicas fire dept was dis-



Donald Fletcher

cussed and the insurance will cover full replacement value. Next items for discussion was updates from department heads. Staff are doing great work in keeping things running during this crisis.

A motion to approve the Springhill storm sewer RFP was approved. A motion to

approximately \$28,000 if the campground was open only for seasonal. Ferguson told council, there was concerns about being able to successfully deliver the expected services and there would be additional risk to staff and to the municipality.

When Warden Allison Gillis polled councillors for their vote on open or

closed, only Councillor's Chase, Jackson and Rafuse voted to keep the campground open. As a result the campground will remain closed, but the matter can be brought back to council when the province makes significant changes to regulations pertaining to campgrounds.

rowing resolution for Sunset Adult Residential Centre. The Border Town Biker Bash has been cancelled for 2020. It will be held weekend of July 9-11 2021.

Question: Are you concerned about the future? Call your councillor

Don Fletcher is Cumberland Municipal Councillor for District 10

waive interest general for March, April, and May was approved as well as interest on water bills for same period. The opening of the Glooscap Campground for seasonal campers was discussed and it appears the municipality would have significant losses. At next council May 20 th a decision will be made whether to open or not for the season.

An issue about roaming dogs in the Fox Ranch Road area was discussed and the animal control officer will be contacted to investigate. Information items included awarding of a replacement van, Springhill service center renovations, the UARB approval of the number of polling stations and number of councillors, guarantee bor-

Council Holds Tax Rates at 2019-20 Level

By Don Fletcher

An in-camera session covering two items preceded Cumberland Council's May 20th meeting. Public council, using zoom and live on the municipality's Facebook page began with several public hearings. The first was dealt with the rezoning of the land use bylaw for a property in Upper Nappan. The second public hearing concerned the Livestock Control By-law. Like the preceding hearing both will be on the agenda at the June 3rd meeting to consider adoption of by-law revisions.

The public hearing on the sewer bylaw and local improvement bylaw was postponed until a public hearing can be held in council chambers when the Covid-19 restrictions are eased. Citizens need to remember that a public hearing is very different from a public meeting.

For a public hearing you must pre-register to speak and submit written requests. It's not a free for all! The 2020/2021 budget was approved. Revenues are estimated at \$29+ million based on last year's numbers. Tax rate stayed the same and streetlight will be the same cost for all. A press release on the budget was approved and has since been issued.

We also approved the covid19 property tax financ-

ing policy. For precise details visit the municipality's website. The Glooscap Campground was next on the agenda. Council voted to leave it closed until Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, relating to campgrounds.

A motion was approved to help with graduations in Springhill where the graduates photo's will be displayed on poles throughout the community. Similar displays are taking place in other communities throughout the county.

Staff will look into how our bylaw enforcement staff can be made special constables to help with the growing garbage problem in some areas. During budget deliberations the three transfer stations were on the block for closure, however they will remain open with a user pay function in the future. Staff will work to make this happen as this was the way it was supposed to work way back when it started.

The "new normal" Zoom meetings are working quite well and by the meetings being streamed on Facebook more citizens are learning what is happening within the municipality. Next council meeting is June 3rd at 6 pm. Please tune in to follow council's actions in this time of constant changes..

Question: Are you ready for

the second wave of the pandemic? Call your councillor and remember municipal elections in October.

Don Fletcher is Cumberland Municipal Councillor for District 10



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