



**Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band
Band Council Meeting
Minutes**

September 8, 2005
Galgoasiet Natural Resources
9:00 a.m.

Present: Chief John Martin, Councillors; Clement Bernard, Charlie Caplin, Donald Caplin, Danny Condo, Dorothy Gedeon, Anthony Jerome and Jeremy Jerome

Absent: Armand Martin, (Inspection for the bus)

Minute Taker: Virginia Martin

1. Adoption of the Agenda:

The agenda was adopted with the following item's to be added to the agenda;

- Housing up-date Charlie Caplin
- Policing
- Hunting request
- Land's Private Purchase
- Fisheries

Proposed by: Councillor Danny Condo
Seconded by: Councillor Charlie Caplin
Motion Carried.
09-08-05/727/BC

* Agenda remained open until councilor Armand Martin joins the meeting.

2. Reading and Approval of the minutes:

A follow up will be done by Councilor Clement Bernard, since no minutes from the previous meeting were not included with the packages.

3. Business arising from previous minutes:

The previous Band Council meeting held on August 12, 2005 was to assign portfolio's to the newly elected council, Chief Martin reminded council members that during this term the council members will be responsible to give a brief up-date in their respective departments, if the report is extensive, they are to prepare a written report and always

keep notes of any discussions they may have with the director's of their portfolio's, and also to remember that the role of the portfolio councilor is to seek information and not to act as the director. The last issue arising from previous minutes was to finalize the request submitted for the band subsidy of \$ 24 000.00 and a ministerial guarantee of \$ 10 000.00 approved in principal by previous council and final decision held off due to the elections. Therefore a motion was made to accept the ministerial guarantee and the Band subsidy to Mr. Bernard Jerome Sr. and Band Council Resolution # 697 was approved and signed.

4. Chief's up-date:

- Chief Martin met with Clement Bernard as well as with a consultant from Genivar for the preparation for the highway.
- With forestry, agreement not yet signed with Pierre Corbeil and no agreement reached for the royalties, CRE apparently collecting royalties and is re-invested back to their municipalities. Presently we have an agreement in principal with Temrex for 10000 cubic meters, MRN has applied the 20% cut leaving 7 460 cubic meters. This needs to be resolved and Jean Francois Lemerle to set a meeting with Temrex, meeting will be held on Monday morning at 8 a.m.
- Made a visit to Health Services
- Went thru mail

Chief Martin expressed his gratitude to Clement Bernard for staying on top of things, while he has been at the hospital due to his wife's hospitalization.

5. Up-date from Interim D.O.:

Mr. Bernard met with a consultant from Genivar, however, it had nothing to do with road construction, he was simply here to offer his services, Chief Martin informed council that the Minister of Transport identified 1.2 millions for capital works, as Mr. Bernard informed council that the consultant told him that he heard about the project and came to offer his services.

Also contacted S.A.A. concerning the tobacco tax, they were reluctant to give any information.

Met with the Nipugtugewag crew, problems with the credit margin, the bank refused their credit margin, he contacted the bank and approved the initial \$ 9 000.00, the forestry crew requested to increase the credit margin an additional \$ 9 000.00, Mr. Bernard informed the crew that they would have to bring their request to council.

Mr. Bernard informed council that we have \$ 240 000.00 in funds available with S.A.A. for the police station and the agriculture project. We need \$ 160 000.00 for the agricultural project and we have 80 000.00 for the new building. We receive 30 000.00 a year for policing and have accumulated 60 000.00. We can borrow \$ 300 000.00 for

mortgage, Chief Martin informed Mr. Bernard that we will have to negotiate a multi year agreement for \$ 40 000.00 increase to pay the a 15 year mortgage.

He approved some emergency funds, however, requested council that a policy will have to be established for the use of emergency funds. Chief Martin requested that council members volunteer to work on the policy and set a date Thursday @ 3:00 p.m., a meeting will be held to work on a policy, the following council members volunteered to sit down and work on a policy; Clement Bernard, Donald Caplin and Anthony Jerome.

Audit- due to reason's beyond his control such as sickness, death and staff turnover and rotation as well as the auditing firms on medical problems with the staff assigned to the bands audit the deadline was not met, DIAND stop funding on all non-essential services such as Band Support, RAN, Ec.Dev and Health Services, however, the draft audit is now complete and once the audit is signed the department will release the funds for the month of September.

6. Health Services - Victorial Labillois

Extension

A presentation was made by Mrs. Labillois regarding an extension for Health Services. Mrs. Labillois was contacted by Health Canada for find out if they were interested in an expansion, she presented plans that were prepared by Health Canada, she will be contacting the Director of Public works for the land layout. If there is going to be an expansion it will probably happen in the spring once we receive the final specs and identify the funding, this should be a high priority file with public works, Chief Martin requested Mrs. Labillois to contact Carolyn Larocque for the Land issues and a follow up will be done by Dorothy Gedeon on the lot.

Draft Annual report

Victoria went through quickly a draft report that was prepared for the community on the activities and services provided by the Gesgapegiag Health & Community Services, this document will be distributed to each house hold and to funding sources.

A motion was made to accept the draft 2004/2005 Annual report.

Proposed by: Councillor Anthony Jerome
Seconded by: Councillor Clement Bernard

Motion Carried.
09-08-05/728/HEALTH

FASD Awareness Day

A flyer was distributed to the council members for FASD prevention awareness day that will be held on September 9, 2005, which will be hosted by Health Services, what this will do is where awareness within the community, On September 9, 2005 at 9:09 a.m. church bells will ring for the unborn children.

Mrs. Labillois is requesting that chief and council proclaim September 9, 2005 as “Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day” in Gesgapegiag, to promote awareness to the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol.

Proposed by: Councillor Anthony Jerome
Seconded by: Councillor Clement Bernard

Motion Carried.
09-08-05/729/HEALTH

7. Pow Wow Committee

A letter of Thank you was submitted to Chief and Council on behalf of the Pow Wow committee for the efforts and contribution held at the traditional mawiom.

8. Memorial Softball tournament

A letter was submitted by Christina Burned on behalf of the Softball committee to request for permission to sell alcohol for this tournament for the purpose of fund raising. With the funds raised the committee would like to purchase a head stone for the late Margaret Jerome and the remainder of the funds will be donated to assist cancer patients who have to travel to Montreal or Quebec for the their treatment.

Some concerns were raised by council regarding the fund raising by the fire department. A letter will be sent to the Fire Chief requesting for a record of expenses from previous fund raisers, and revenue from alcohol sales. Follow up will be done by portfolio councilor Donald Caplin.

A motion was made giving the softball committee the permission to sell alcohol at the up coming softball tournament.

Proposed by: Councillor Charlie Caplin
Seconded by: Councillor Donald Caplin

1 abstention Clement Bernard

Motion Carried.
09-08-05/730/BC

9. Industrial Park

A letter was received from Jacques Giroux, Regional Director, DIAND informing council that they received the letter submitted to Andre Cote regarding the implementation of an industrial park. Economic Development officer will be raising the issue with her mentors for a development plan. Chief Martin informed council that this will be a thermo wood heating plant which will create significant employment as well as a transformation of different jobs as the population continues to grow. This will be coming back to council after a proper plan is developed and then we can go after funding sources, this project will remain a priority under economic development.

10. Anti-bullying committee

A letter was submitted to council by the anti-bullying committee for information only.

11. Housing – Repair - Housing Request – Ministerial Guarantee - Ownership

Repair- a letter was submitted by Nakoa, Keith and David Larocque requesting for a new window, Jeremy Jerome will deal with this issue personally.

Request- a letter was submitted requesting for a bachelor apartment by Patrick Mallette, this request will be passed on the Adhoc Committee. Anthony Jerome expressed some concerns over the selection of the candidate, that priority on bachelor apartments should be done as it was presented to council in the beginning, priority given to those who have been moving from home to home for years and in their 40's and 50's. Chief Martin informed council that the adhoc committee will be making the selection only when the building is done by the end of October.

11:10 am - Councilor Armand Martin Joins the meeting with the following item's to the added to the agenda:

- Elder's
- Membership
- Bus Driver's

Mr. Martin apologies for the delay and expressed his congratulations to newly elected council since he could not attend the first council meeting.

Ownership - a letter was submitted by Nancy Bradstreet requesting for ownership documents for her units, the unit is paid off and a letter of ownership will be forwarded to her by councilor Clement Bernard., she is also requesting for employment cause she doesn't have enough stamps to qualify for UI.

Ministerial Guarantee - A BCR was submitted to council by David Condo for a ministerial guarantee, proper documentation is required before it can be presented to council.

A letter was submitted to council from Heather Condo requesting for a ministerial guarantee, again proper documentation will be required to present to council.

Report on RRAP / Repair 2005

A report was submitted to council from councilor Charlie Caplin with the following projects already complete:

Fran Bernard – Siding / water damage in basement (complete)
Clara Jerome – New Cabinets / basement window (complete)
Elizabeth Jerome – Redo bathroom / 2 windows upstairs / new windows basement (incomplete) Plumbing delays
Bernadette Gedeon – front door / new porches / small repairs in basement (complete)
Laura Condo – 2 windows (complete)
Danny Condo – drywall bathroom / plumbing labor only (complete)
Ida Martin – New door / repair rotten floor (complete)
Jackie Martin – siding front only / repair roof (complete)
Ann Caplin - 2 window / small repairs (complete) however, the door needs to be removed and repair floor from water damage.
Isaac Winnikainen – new basement floor / 2 basement windows/ 2 bedroom windows upstairs (complete)
Steve Mallette – Extension on the house (complete)
Lily Condo – Extension on the house (still working on)
Delphine Paul – repair soffit / fascia (complete)
Myra Jerome – basement window and dryer outlet (complete)
Madeleine Condo – roof and weather strip for door (complete)
Linda Bernard – 1 weather strip front door (complete)
Vivian Martin - roof (complete)
Viola Bernard – soffit and fascia (complete)
Johanne Martin – repair basement ceiling due to plumbing problems (complete)
Patty Larocque – repair ceiling in basement due to plumbing problems (complete)
Marilyn Condo – repair kitchen floor (still working on)
Wallace Condo – replace broken glass upstairs / downstairs (complete)
Stella Martin – repair basement floor / small repairs (complete)
Terry Condo – build a wall in the basement to secure floor (complete)
Robert Jerome – repair back door / weather strip (complete)

Councilor Charlie Caplin informed concerning the new cabinets at Clara Jerome's was an agreement that was made between him and director of public works, she has been for quite some time requesting for cabinets, they reached an agreement that they would pay \$1 500.00 cash up front and the band will pay the rest. Now we have another request's for cabinets but they want the deductions made directly from the salary, Charlie will go see the housing officer to discuss this matter further.

Chief Martin would like to know if the project is on target , do we expect any delays and where do we stand financially, Mr. Bernard informed him that now that the audit is complete we will know exactly where we are, we will have to sit down and look at the financial situation of this project since the budget at the time only allowed \$ 75 000.00

Some concern's were brought to the table concerning the plumbing contractor, Mr. Caplin informed council that he was sent to cap some pipes and was concerned over the amount invoices. The contractor does work that is not approved by the band and many of the delays in the construction have been about plumbing. He charges \$ 50.00 per hour and no one has his seen is paper's of certification. The men have to been sent home due to these delays. Which could have result in additional costs of 15-16 hundred dollars a day.

He was sent to do work at Danny Condo and charged the band for 40 hours when in reality he probably put in 12 hours, this invoice to date has not been paid. Chief & Council agreed that he will be given the same treatment as the other suppliers we have;

1. He has to bring in his documentation of Certification
2. He will have to submit estimates (non approved work will no longer be paid by the band.) the contractor will have to absorb the expenses
3. He will require a purchase order for any work done before any payments are issued.
4. He will require written recommendations by either public works or housing before any non-approved work.

Chief Martin informed council that we must stand together on this issue and that if over charging continues with the Band he is compromising any future contracts with the Band. Mr. Bernard will deal with this issue.

12. Jacques Martin Paint Ball

A sketch was submitted by Jacques Martin requesting that band land behind his house, be set aside for a paint ball club.

A motion was made to lend the Jacques Martin for the property as described in his request for the purpose of the paint ball club.

(See annex description)

Proposed by: Councillor Armand Martin

Seconded by: Councillor Donald Caplin

Motion Carried.

09-08-05/731/BC

13. Lot 39

A letter was submitted by Mrs. Betty Martin regarding lot 39, Mr. Clement Bernard and Dorothy Gedeon will do a follow. Maps dated back then and now will have to be looked at and the transaction that was made back then including the affidavit that was signed.

Doris Tenass Jerome will also be met and asked to provide an affidavit as she is the sole living person from that administration and would have been present at the discussion between Chief Leonard Jerome and Betty Martin.

14. Policing

A proposal was submitted by Maurice Tassé was received for the evaluation of policing services for the amount of \$ 17 500.00 the agreement was approved in principal until funding can be secured to cover the cost. This evaluation will identify what training will be required and any recommendations for improvement in services.

Proposed by: Councillor Donald Caplin
Seconded by: Councillor Anthony Jerome

Motion Carried.
09-08-05/732/Policing

Councilor Donald Caplin informed council that he met with Lyman Larocque regarding a training proposal to GCDC to allow an individual to attend training, the individual being Marven Condo Jr. since they will be a position opening up soon. Concerns raised regarding position's opening up and council not being aware or the director of operations. Chief Martin informed council that we have a Band Policy in place for new hiring's and it should be followed any temporary position may be given but no more than 17 weeks. Should any positions open, they should be posted by the Band. The council agreed that no new position will be posted for policing until evaluations are complete. Mr. Caplin also met with Hank Condo regarding his position in policing, he would like to know why he wasn't selected as a replacement. The Chief of Police will be asked to provide the Director of Operations with a written confirmation as to why certain individuals are not hired. A letter will be submitted to Hank Condo by Mr. Clement Bernard.

Hunting Season

Chief Martin addressed the hunting issue, last year during hunting season, one auxiliary was left alone, while the other policemen went hunting. It would be important that during this hunting season the schedule their time off properly. The band council wants to have 2 police officers available in the community throughout hunting season. No auxiliary should be left alone in the community.

Estimate for new police station

Before the elections a rough estimate was submitted on the cost of the construction of the new police station. A proper estimate was submitted by LFG to council in the amount of \$ 443 750.00.

15. Draft Audit 2004/2005

A presentation of the final draft audit 2004- 2005 was presented by Daniel Berthelot and Julie Lucien.

Overall the surplus for the Band is \$ 358 653.00, however, during the presentation, the auditor's indicated that O& M created a deficit of \$ 85 465.00 for water and sewage, DIA refused 38 000.00 in expenses last fiscal year. The same situation for Health Services, home care services shows a deficit of 95 000 again for refused expenses in the previous year. The books also show an excess of 32 645.00 for the mussel study that needs to be used, a follow up will be requested to be done by Lina Condo who will contact Mr. John Carbonelli.

GCDC has a deficit of \$ 103 010.00 and housing a deficit of \$ 123 293.00, Chief Martin raised concerns about the huge deficit in GCDC and wants to know the cause of this deficit. Mr. Bernard informed him that we are taking step's correct the problem, to date they have someone in place for the accounting and again some of the deficit has to do with refused expenses. It was further stated that a policy needs to be put in place addressing the situation of managers creating deficits.

Mr. Berthelot suggested to council that we go back to having session's as in the previous year, where there was a finance committee in place to review recommendations and to meet on regular basis. He also informed council that the recommendation's are ready and can be reviewed in two weeks, the finance committee will consist of Clem Bernard, Anthony Jerome, Christina Burnsed and Chief John Martin.

A motion was therefore made to accept the Draft Audit 2004.

Proposed by: Councillor Donald Caplin
Seconded by: Councillor Anthony Jerome
1 abstention Councilor Armand Martin
Motion Carried.
09-08-05/733/BC

16. EDO Recommendation

(Clement Bernard was excused from this issue due to conflict of interest)

A letter of recommendation was submitted to Chief and Council from Tim Dedam and Gilles Soucy to recommend that Christiane Bernard be hired on a permanent basis as Economic Development Officer. Ms. Bernard who was hired to fill this position with a six (6) months probationary period and a condition that she pursues her studies under post secondary. It was also recommended that the condition be lifted, since she is currently taking on line training by AAEDN that brings all EDO's in the Atlantic region certification and to a specific capacity which helps assist in her daily functions.

After much discussion, council did not make a decision and it will be brought to the committee in place.

17. Cascapedia Society

A letter submitted by George Arsenault, Ass. Deputy Minister requesting for a meeting with Chief and Council for September 13, 2005, Chief Martin suggested that we delay the meeting to a future date.

18. Hunting

Chief Martin informed council that he was approached by Sue Gedeon to request on behalf of Howard Gardner, if he would be able to go hunting on the 9th of September, since the memo going out to the community members indicated that hunting would begin on the 10th. According to the policy hunting is only to start on the first full moon, which is only on the 17th of September. The memo sent out did not respect the regulations. After much discussions, the council will respect the regulations and the hunting season will only begin on the 17th of September, 2005 for everyone. Other concern addressed are the workers who are suppose to register the moose, they are suppose to be there to register and not to take people hunting, this should be resolved this hunting season. They should hunt on their own time. Areas should be designated where hunters can go and register their moose on the reserve.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Meeting will resume to continue the agenda on Thursday, September 15, 2005