

E-mail from Acting Mayor Ron Aiken to *The New Wark Times*, December 21, 2020. The answers are italicized in bold type.

Question 1: Chris Pierce has been employed by the town for 14 years as a heavy equipment operator and snow plow driver. Were you aware of this when considering his application and if so, why was it not mentioned publicly? (Town Council minutes show that Chris Pierce received his 10-year Service Award in December 2016 and CAO Burke has confirmed his present employment.)

Answer: In terms of the employment status of Mr. Pierce, all Council is aware of who members of our workforce are. The application Mr. Pierce submitted was for him as a private individual, and not for him as an employee. The application is not connected to his employment status and would have no bearing on any decisions being made on the application.

Question 2: Which town employees would supervise and enforce the Development Agreement?

Answer: The Town's Zoning By-law and Municipal Plan are enforced by the South East Regional Service Commission on behalf of the Town. This includes Development Agreements. In the event that enforcement was required for the proposed use, it would be directly with the business and operator. This would be a separate matter from any other employers, including the Town of Sackville. If the application receives approval, Senior Staff will evaluate the project from an engineering and land use perspective prior to the issuance of a Building and Development Permit, but the enforcement of the agreement is the responsibility of SERSC.

Question 3: What safeguards would be in place to avoid potential conflicts of interest, i.e. town employees supervising another town employee?

Answer: I think this is covered in my previous answer. This is a matter separate from Mr. Pierce's role with the Town. There is also no 'supervision' involved here in much the same way as any citizen requesting a building permit or needing a Development Agreement would hardly been seen to be 'supervised' by SERSC although they may be inspected for compliance.

Ron Aiken, Deputy/Acting Mayor
Town of Sackville
Sackville, New Brunswick