

**COMMUNITY OF WELLINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 18, 2017**

Present: Alcide Bernard, Raymond Arsenault, Pierre Bernard, Jamie Cormier, Marcia Enman, Michel Gagnon, Irene MacCaul

Also Present: Pierre Arsenault, Administrator

1. Called to Order

The Deputy Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

2. Fire Dept Report

Fire Chief James Ryan came to report on recent activity at the Fire Department. He reported that there were 9 calls in August: 7 medical and 2 motor vehicle accidents, while calls for September to date are 9 medical, 2 motor vehicle accidents, and 1 vehicle fire. Regular training practices are held every two weeks in the Fire Hall and they recently hosted a pump operator course which saw four of their firefighters get certified in it. Last weekend they also participated in a controlled burn training event in Linkletter hosted by the Summerside Fire Department, with the Miscouche Fire Department also taking part in this joint training session. The Summerside Fire Department is now recognizing that it should work with neighbouring volunteer fire departments and to partner with them for some training, which is a positive shift in attitude from the past.

The Fire Department is in the process of renewing the Junior Firefighter Program, which was successful last year with 8 of the 10 students staying to complete the program. There is again much interest this year, but not everyone interested will be able to be accepted so the Fire Department is in the process of reviewing who they should accept. The chassis of the new Rescue Truck is expected to be in by the end of October or early November, so the first payment will need to be made at that time. All the proceeds from the previous Chase The Ace fundraisers will be applied, and any shortfall is to be covered by the loan from the *Evangeline-Central Credit Union*. The annual Christmas Party will also be held on November 25th in the *Centre Expo* this year, with an anticipated crowd of around 150 individuals to attend.

There was one notable concern from August, when the Bell cell phone towers stopped providing coverage to a large segment of the Community / Island and the 911 system was temporarily down as a result. The Fire Department took special measures to monitor local areas until full service was restored about 2 days later, but it was recognized a back-up system should be in place to deal with this in the future as their land-line was also inoperable during this time which affected their pager system too. They are therefore looking at having a 2nd phone land-line hooked-up at the Fire Hall through another service provider.

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3. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be accepted with the following addition: add **8 h) Isle de Madeleine Trip. Motion Carried.**

4. Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of July 17, 2017 be accepted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

5. Follow-up to Minutes

a) Storm Sewers

Chairman Bernard reported that there was still no reply from Stephen Yeo regarding when the Province would come to take a look and advise on issues like the storm sewers on Mill Road. Chairman Bernard also reported the Province had come to dig the storm ditches on Ellis Drive and replace some culverts, but that now water was collecting in the ditches there. He is to review this with Stephen Yeo when he gets in touch with him.

b) Sewer Extension on Barlow Road

Chairman Bernard reported that Jeannie Gallant from *WSP Canada* responded that the plans to extend sewers on Barlow Road could easily be located on the west side of the road near the lots to be developed, although that would require another manhole from their preliminary plans. The anticipated cost per meter was revised to be approximately \$500 per meter for this section as it should not be too complicated, although the Province must also sign-off on the plans before *WSP Canada* can tender them. It is therefore possible the preliminary plans would need to be changed to accommodate Provincial demands, so the costs could likewise be increased. There was a discussion whether to continue with completing the plans and doing the work by next Spring, at least to provide coverage to the first lot, but there is concern to do so as there has been no interest to date in someone wanting to purchase the developer's lot and start construction. With a better idea on the costs to complete this section, all the Gas Tax projects should be reviewed again for 2017 - 2019 to confirm on the spending priorities and when to proceed with the work.

c) Regional Incorporation

Chairman Bernard reported that no meeting was held and no date was selected yet, as he was waiting for confirmation from the Chair of the *Community of Abram-Village* on a suitable time. A committee meeting is expected to be held before next Council meeting. It was also noted that amalgamation issues were raised in the media recently and things did not appear to be going well for the communities proposing this, as there was negative push-back by some residents and communities in this regard.

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d) EMO

Chairman Bernard reported that the Province published a schedule of dates of training courses offered free of charge and the list was distributed for anyone interested. It was also pointed-out that the Community should not post an out-of-date or incomplete EMO plan on its website, so the current plan should be removed until such time as it is revised. The next committee meeting date also needs to be determined for a suitable time with the *Community of Abram-Village* representatives.

e) Administrator Position

Chairman Bernard reported that he was approached by the *Conseil Scolaire-Communautaire Evangeline* (CSCE) regarding if they could partner together to have one of their employees fill the position, as they were in the process of re-organizing their group and might have less hours for them in the future. There was a discussion on the qualifications and dedication of any applicant, with some of the previous applications reviewed again. There was concern that no applicant appeared to have all the necessary qualifications. A list of the anticipated duties and qualifications should be sent to the board of the CSCE to give them an indication of the requirements of the position, and a meeting could be held with them afterwards to discuss any potential applicant from their organization. Deputy Chair Enman and Councillor Gagnon would be willing to meet with them regarding this.

f) Bike Park

Chairman Bernard reported that *Wellington Construction Ltd.* had some interest in looking to purchase land in the Bike Park for further residential construction, but were concerned regarding wetlands and not being given permission to build or having extra fees to pay. It was noted there was wetland in the area surrounding the bike park, and Councillor Cormier reported he believed there was also underground tile fields for diverting water to a small brook in the back of the property from years past. The Provincial *Dept. of Environment* will be contacted regarding assessing for wetlands and the suitability of developing the land there. It was also noted that the land would need to be rezoned to Residential in the event it would be suitable for development and sold on that basis.

g) Criminal Activity

Chairman Bernard reported that he was not successful in reaching the RCMP to discuss the issue, but that it was reported in the media and by some residents that the RCMP had raided the property of concern. There was no further information as to the results of the raid, but it was noted that the local community crime prevention organization called *Groupe Consultatif Communautaire* was having a meeting and there was supposed to be someone from the RCMP in charge of community policing present who might be able to shed some light on the matter.

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h) Waste Carts

Chairman Bernard reported that an E-Mail was received by a resident asking what action was taken regarding the Waste Cart Bylaw adopted last Summer, as several residents continued to leave their waste carts by the road. The Community had notified all residents in a newsletter to not leave their waste carts by the side of the road except for collection days, so registered letters highlighting the new bylaw will need to be sent to individual residents who do not comply.

i) Website

Councillor Gagnon reported that he updated the *Community of Wellington* website to include most of the new historical summary, although it had to be split-up into different sections due to the size. He asked a few more questions regarding content and for translations to include on the French website version. The Community should ask someone local to translate the documents into French, or it should perhaps hire for translation services so the same information gets posted.

6. Finance Report

An update for the period to September 14th in comparison with the budget was presented on the overhead monitor and reviewed. There were some questions and discussion on several items. It was also pointed-out a tender should be advertised for cleaning the sidewalk from the Credit Union to the Chez Nous this winter, so a draft is to be prepared for next meeting.

7. Committee Reports

a) Sewer

** General*

Councillor Bernard reported that a partially collapsed lateral line was replaced by the resident at 5 Pleasant Drive, who contracted with *Ron's Plumbing & Heating Inc.* to do the work. The Sewer Utility paid a portion to cover the costs of the section from the sewer line to the property line as per the *Island Regulatory & Appeals Commission's* (IRAC) guidelines and the resident paid for the remaining section to their residence. There was an electrical problem with a flashing light at the Lift Station on Mont Carmel Road, although that should now be fixed. The annual sewer lines flushing should also be done in the next couple of weeks, with sections done on Maple St., Spring St., J. Leonce Bernard St., Pleasant Dr., and the main section on Mill Road to the Main Lift Station.

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** Sewer Dues*

Chairman Bernard reported that the abandoned property at 76 Mill Road, which was in arrears on its sewer dues for several years, was sold by the Province in a Tax Sale and that there would not be any funds to apply to the balance owing. Heather Walker from IRAC reported that in cases like this the debt was to be reversed, although if it was a private sale the balance owing would transfer to the new owner. The Province only advertised the Tax Sale in their *Gazette* and in the Charlottetown *Guardian*, so a letter should be sent to the Minister that the municipality should have been notified as well. A copy of the outstanding sewer bill is also be sent to the Province's Tax Department requesting payment, although according to IRAC they would not have to. Letters were also sent to residents advising that interest charges would accumulate on any unpaid sewer balance as of September 30th.

b) Wellington Club

** Daily Sales*

The daily sales to September 14th was distributed and reviewed.

** General*

Chairman Bernard reported that a company in Charlottetown, *Toursec Entertainment and Life Safety*, offered to provide doormen service whenever the Club needed to have them at a reasonable rate of \$19 per hour. The bar manager will therefore call them when needed, primarily when entertainment events are held. There was also a discussion on discontinuing entertainment on every second Friday night, as the sales were not enough to justify the extra expense. Sales from Karaoke events every other second Friday night were still good enough to continue. It was also pointed out that more advertising could be done to let people know of special events.

c) Recreation

** General*

Chairman Bernard reported that a date would need to be selected for the Fall clean-up. It was discussed and noted a wedding was booked for October 28th in the *Barlow's Mill Park*, therefore the picnic tables should not be gathered and put inside the Gazebo until afterwards. The date of Sunday, October 29th was suggested, with a reminder to be held next meeting. It was reported that a permit could be applied for and received to remove some bull-rushes around the pond to give more room for fishing, and it will be followed-up with the *Dept. of Environment* if all the bull-rushes could be removed. It was also reported that the basketball hoop in the Tennis Court was used several times this summer.

d) Bingo

Deputy Chair Enman reported no issues.

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8. New Business

a) Healthy Eating Presentation

Morgan Palmer, Healthy Eating Program Officer from the *Provincial Health Office Department*, came to make a presentation on healthy eating. She reported that they encouraged community leaders and groups to promote healthy food selections.

b) Tourism 2018 Provincial Guide

Chairman Bernard reported an invoice was received for advertising *The Old Mills Park* in the 2018 Provincial Guide.

c) Lot For Sale PID #261248

Chairman Bernard reported that a non-resident owner of a parcel of land in Wellington contacted the Community to advise he was willing to sell it for \$3,500 in case the municipality was interested in purchasing it. It is Parcel ID #261248, a small lot in between two residences on Mt. Carmel Road. There was no interest to purchase it.

d) Congres Mondial Acadien 2019 Contact Person

Chairman Bernard reported that the Congres Mondial sent an E-Mail looking for a contact person. Chairman Bernard said he would serve that position.

e) Vanier Rentals / Club Policy Revision

Chairman Bernard introduced a new draft version for the Vanier Rental and Club Policies. There was a discussion with several recommendations, and a revised draft will be presented next meeting for adoption.

f) Building Permits

Chairman Bernard reported that an application was received and approved to construct a new attached garage on the property at 8 Ellis River Drive. Another development permit was forthcoming for the construction of a storage structure at 28 Riverside Drive. The purchasers of the Tax Sale property at 72 Mill Road also indicated they were looking to demolish the existing structure and construct a new residence in the future, so an application should be submitted if they proceed with that.

g) Carbon Tax Issue

Deferred to next meeting.

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h) Isle de Madeleine Trip

Deputy Chair Enman reported she was to take part in a networking trip to the Magdalene Islands to see how they work together with community groups and municipalities there.

9. Correspondence

a) PCH Foundation Vital Signs Campaign

A letter was received from the *PCH Foundation* looking for a donation. This is to be looked at in the future.

b) FPEIM Semi-Annual Meeting

An E-Mail was received advising of the next *FPEIM* Semi-Annual Meeting to be held in Montague on Saturday, November 4th.

c) FPEIM 2018 Annual Meeting Call For Host

An E-Mail was received from *FPEIM* looking for a host organizer for the Annual Meeting to be held on April 30, 2018.

10. Next Meeting

Next meeting is to be held Monday October 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 pm.

Alcide Bernard, Chairperson

Dated

Pierre Arsenault, Administrator

Dated