

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting –April 16, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Present by telephone: Alcide Bernard, Mayor, Council Members: Albert Arsenault, Shawn Bernard, Jeannette Gallant, Irene MacCaull, Moira McGuire, Kelly Richard and Imelda Arsenault, CAO

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard called the meeting to order.

2. Fire Department report

No report at this time.

Approval of agenda

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried 6/6-(2020-21)

3. Approval of meeting minutes –March 19, 2020

It was moved and seconded that the meeting minutes be approved.

Motion carried. 6/6-(2020-22)

4. Declaration of conflict of interest

None declared

5. Business arising from the minutes

a. Jaws of Life – Fire Department

The funds to pay for the Jaws of Life have been collected through various donations and a funding grant from government.

b. Insurance for junior firefighters

CAO is waiting for confirmation from the Wellington Fire Department to proceed with the proposal.

c. Official Plan

Upland anticipates having a first draft of the report during the week of April 20.

They raised the question of how to get public engagement due to the Covid-19.

Municipal Affairs is not attending to Official Plan work as it is not urgent.

Council will review the document electronically and suggest comments before it is presented to the public.

Council accepts to have the draft report online for comments from the public.

CAO will discuss if the online comments on the official plan responds to the requirements of the MGA for consultation.

d. Community Immigration Project

No updates during this time. Moira will connect with Diane and or Angie to find out if the funding contract is signed.

e. Credit Union Signage

It was decided to suggest that if the sign is placed in front of the credit union that it be lit from dawn until dusk. If they prefer to have it 24 hours a day, we suggest to place it on the building, to the right side of the entrance door. The maximum height according to provincial regulations is 26 feet.

f. Mill Road storm sewer invoice update

The municipality held \$ 10 000 of the invoice until there is a confirmation on the cost of the asphalt which was already paid to the contractor by the Province. A cheque was sent for \$ 198 208.90 and has been cashed.

g. Streetlights

The light bulbs have been changed at the corner of Mill Road and Wellington Rd. There is a noticeable difference in the light intensity. Council will proceed in adding the lights identified on the plan proposed at the February meeting.

6. Financials YTD

The financial reports were presented.

Village – to add the purchases of new equipment and to integrate the cost of the pavement.

Club – the deficit is a concern. It may be time to close. It is suggested that maybe we should close for the summer months. CAO will discuss with Charles on a future plan. It was discussed if it is possible to return the alcohol to the coop but the liquor store is not taking any returns at this time.

Sewer – no changes

Fire Department – no changes.

7. Committee Reports

Sewer& Municipal services:

Councillor Arsenault had a conversation with the operator and has not received any information or time to follow-up with the contract. Their operator's office is closed at this time and they only work on the essential needs.

Finance – no report.

Tourism and Recreation – The Park preparation for the summer season is on hold until the Covid-19 is resolved.

Bingo, Club and Social Services – no report.

EMO, Fire and Security – The EMO committee received a call regarding the fact that the community should have enacted the EMO plan. It is not considered necessary at this time. The Coordinator is checking in with the businesses to recognize needs such as hand sanitizer and protective equipment. There is a ban of fires in the area.

Technology and Communication: ongoing updates are done.

Planning Board: no report.

Welcome/Bienvenue – no report

Asset Management – No new information to report.

Health Services – no updates as to when the doctor's office will be open. The renovations are ongoing. Mayor will follow-up with Health authorities.

8. New Business

a) Bylaws – Access to information and protection of information – Bylaw 2020-02

Changes proposed: check and correct section 7 e.

It was moved and seconded that the bylaw be read a second time.

Motion carried 6/6 (2020-23)

It was moved and seconded that the bylaw be approved.

Motion carried 6/6 (2020-24)

b) Building Code

The new Building Code is now law as of March 31, 2020.

Residents who are building a new structure need to apply for two permits, Development Permit and Building Permit. The Municipality will approve the Development Permit and the Building Permit will be approved by the provincial government. The processing period will take approximately three weeks as people can appeal any decision within that period of time so it would take 21 days to get final approval.

For the development permit, applicants are required to show the drainage and landscaping plan which means that the municipality will approve this during the decision process.

During the first year of the new law, 2020-2021 requests for Development/Building Permits for single family dwellings and duplexes will continue to be approved by the Municipality.

It is brought to Council if there is a need to increase the application fee for the Development Permit in the future. From April 1 forward, the cost of the building permits will increase for

applicants which will be approved by the province. There are various steps for inspections on the various sections during a construction.

It is moved and seconded that the application fee for a Development Permit on single family dwellings or duplexes remain at a minimum fee of \$30.00.

Motion carried 6/6 (2020-2025)

Mini-home zone

Council members discussed the idea of changing lots on Sunset Drive to mini-home zones. It is suggested that the present mini-home zones within the municipality are sufficient and should be used for that purpose.

c) Summer Student Programs

In light of the Covid-19 situation, the Federal Summer Student Program will fund the wages at 100% instead of the 50%. This would depend on the flexibility of the work that can be provided.

d) Grass Cutting

CAO will discuss with the contractor if he is interested in continuing with the work.

e) Sustainable Communities Project

There is a good possibility that a project will move forward with the energy project options for businesses within the community. The provincial government asked for any interest from municipalities on projects regarding sustainable initiatives. The project for a central heating system is a recognized sustainable initiative that could be proposed for assistance. There would be no cost to the municipality and government officials would assist with the project. Gas Tax could be used for the project.

9. Other items

10. Next meeting: May 21, 2020.

11. Adjournment

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:48 pm.