

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting -December 17, 2020

Meeting Minutes

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

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard called the meeting to order and noted the Covid-19 protocols since the last meeting.

2. Fire Department Report

James Ryan, Fire Chief and Desmond Arsenault, President, attended the meeting. As a result of the new Covid-19 directives, the Department needs to tighten up the protocols similar to the beginning of the pandemic. Firefighters require to wear masks, suit up for medical calls, and no public is allowed in the fire hall. The Fire Marshall has changed the process for the mutual aid calls. As a result of this, if Tyne Valley or Miscouche requests a call for assistance, it will be assessed as to what help they need. Previously, when a call was dispatched, all trucks and firefighters were sent to the site. With this change, only the necessary help will be dispatched. It will be a challenge to get used to these new rules and the FD hopes it will be short lived.

The Firemen's Ball was cancelled. The FD was looking to do something for the community so a parade will be held on December 23 around the community and try to hit as many roads as possible which should take approximately 3 hours.

A recognition night will be planned for 2021. Mayor asked if there was any plan to provide assistance to needy families this year. The FD did not have any events so it is a challenge with the Covid 19 to collect funds so they will ask members if anything could be done. A copy of the year end totals was provided to Council.

Calls: 1 Medical Call, 1 Utility pole, 1 smoke sight issue, 1 Structure Fire, 1 Flu Fire,

3. Approval of agenda

It is moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented with two items added: FCM Dues and Solar Energy Project.

Motion carried (6/6) – 2020-69)

4. Approval of meeting minutes –November 17, 2020

It was moved and seconded that the meeting minutes be approved with the addition of the resolution to charge 50% of the sewer charges for the expansion of Le Chez Nous for 2020.

5. Declaration of conflict of interest

Irene MacCaull will reclude herself from item 6 (e).

6. Business arising from the minutes

a. Sewer expansion project on Barlow Road

Two new mini homes are now installed on Barlow Road. The request for Gas Tax Funding CIP Application to cover the costs for the sewer expansion on Barlow Road Sewer Expansion was approved.

We received a request from a possible new landowner regarding the installation of a new mini home on the last lot in the subdivision on Barlow Road and asked when the sewer would be connected. Mayor indicated it to be in summer 2021.

There is continued interest for further lots on Barlow Road.

b. Speeding controls

A temporary sign was installed on Sunset Drive.

c. Logo Contest

CAO presented the options submitted by the graphic artist. Council members felt the logos are too busy and does not represent well Barlow's pond. The number 1 logo is best and suggest that it be reworked with more focus on the pond. Use trees instead of the monument and work with the gazebo. CAO will communicate with her.

d. Sale of bike park

The land was surveyd and Mayor will meet with lawyer and the purchaser. CAO is asked to check if it is possible to get an upgraded map of the properties to make sure it is clear when selling land.

e. Official Plan Update

Before sending the final payment, it is important to confirm if the final copies and maps will be printed by the contractor.

f. Covid – 19 Status

With the announcement of the recent relaxation protocols, Bingo will resume.

g. Active Transportation Fund Application and Challenge Adaptation Fund

No word on the ATF however, an email was sent to the Municipality regarding the Challenge Adaptation Fund. No projects will be approved before the new year as there were numerous quality projects.

7. Financials YTD

It was noted to use some of the reserve funds to install two new lampposts. CAO will check on the cost.

It was suggested that a Club report be presented at the next meeting.

Sewer invoices: Two disconnection letters were sent and both residents called soon after to make payment arrangements. One resident paid \$ 100.00 and we will need to continue to get more payments on this account.

8. Committee Reports

Sewer& Municipal services:

Flushing was done on J- Leonce Bernard Street and the flow seemed to work better. It was clean and noticed very little dirt. It will be flushed on a monthly basis to make sure it works properly. J.C. Drilling were asked to take elevation shots to see if there are any issues but they are extremely busy and suggested to ask other contractors.

Generator on Mont-Carmel Rd:

We received two quotes for the replacement of the generator on Mt Carmel Road: AJ Repairs, \$ 47 000 and Chandler at \$37 500. We also received a quote for a propane generator which is much cheaper, \$ 26 500 however, there are issues with cold weather on these systems. Before a decision can be done, Council will wait for more information on the service contract from Chandler: the warranty on both quotes, and the possible delivery dates. Albert will look into this and have the information for the January meeting.

Leak in roof issue at Vanier Centre Update: no update on this matter

Vandalism to property: Three Christmas decorations on the lampposts were vandalized. Two of them were repaired and one will need to be resent to the fabricator. One sheet of siding and a down spout were destroyed as well but not sure if it was done at the same time. It is important to report any damage done in the future to RCMP. The insurance deductible is too high at \$ 2500 to claim any reported damage.

Finance –no new information.

Tourism and Recreation – Irene walked the trails and noticed fallen trees, flooded areas near the culverts and downed pipes. She asked if there is any possibility of cleaning up the fallen trees and improve the area. It is suggested to advertise if anyone is interested to cut down trees and keep the wood as an exchange for payment. CAO will advertise.

Bingo, Club and Social Services– Bingo continues to go well. Council members are asking if the rink on the pond will be done this year. Albert will talk to Raymond if he is interested in pursuing the clearing of snow on the ice.

EMO, Fire and Security – Jeannette reported the highlights that are taking place: The Montreal Polytechnique massacre anniversary, Purple Ribbon campaign, and PEI Women who died through Physical Abuse. There are many supporting organizations that can help residents within the community and across the province.

Technology and Communication: no new information.

Planning Board: According to the Proceedings of Council Bylaws, it is necessary to identify the meeting dates for 2021-2022. The existing day, Thursday of each month will continue

for the meetings of Council. The dates need to be posted on the website and on the boardroom door.

It is moved and seconded that the monthly Council meetings be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month for the 2021 calendar year.

Motion carried 6/6 (2020-70)

Welcome/Bienvenue: Moira was informed of the meetings that were held recently. A newsletter was sent to partners. CAO will forward the newsletter to Council members. A meeting will be held in January to discuss the potential support from employers what their needs are to work with immigration. Housing is still a major issue.

Asset Management: The work has begun on the FCM Asset Management Project. Marcus King, engineer with Harland Associates examined the outdoor assets, walked around and took photos of all areas. He will do a second visit to look at the buildings of the Municipality. A meeting will be planned with the Asset Management Committee members to examine the work done in Phase 2. Phase 1 is mostly to take inventory of the assets. In the interim, a brief report will be presented to Council.

Health Services – no new information.

9. New Business

a) Official Plan Bylaws Workplan

More work will be discussed at the January meeting.

b) Land Use Section

Mayor Bernard circulated a map of the Municipality and presented the various areas within the Municipality where there is vacant land as to focus on these areas first if they are good for development.

Maple Street – possibility for three lots that have access to sewer hook up
South side of Riverside Drive

Two lots on left side of Mont-Carmel Road next to mini home lot – not on property tax roll
This needs to be addressed with the Dept of Transportation – CAO will follow-up with property records.

Need to consider where to add trails

List of vacant properties and identify those not large enough for house lots

Identify possible development areas - expense to divide these areas

10. Correspondence

Mayor Bernard received a follow-up letter from Canada Post. It stated in the response that the positions in the Canada Post building are posted as bilingual however the route carriers are not. It also suggested to work with the Official Language Commissioner's Office to pursue improvements.

11. Other items

a. Donation for needy families

As done in past years, the Municipality donates funds to help needy families in the area. It is normally done through a matching of funds with the Fire Department however, the FD was not able to collect funds because of the Covid19 situation. It is suggested to use the amount of the cost of the appreciation dinner that was cancelled this year.

It is moved and seconded the Council contributes \$ 700.00 as a donation for 2020 to needy families.

Motion carried 6/6 (2020-71)

b. FCM Dues

FCM sent their yearly invitation to join the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The Municipality has not joined in the past however it has benefitted from various programs this year so it is suggested to join for the future.

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality join the Federation of Canadian Municipalities at a yearly cost of \$ 243.67.

Motion carried 6/6 (2020-72)

c. Solar Energy Project

Mayor Bernard participated in a virtual meeting with Maritime Electric to receive more information on a potential solar energy project. The project consists of installing solar farm which will benefit through the savings of energy by receiving credits throughout the year. If these credits are not used by year-end, these are lost. The goal is to meet the provincial goal of going with greener energy. At this time, it is to indicate our interest. Following this, more information will be communicated and the decision to participate or not can be taken when more information is known.

A question was brought forward if we can partner with other municipalities. The answer is that Maritime Electric is looking for as many municipalities as possible to participate in this project. Council acknowledged their interest in getting more information.

d. Canada Student Work Program

The project applications deadline is Jan 27. There is interest in presenting a project for summer 2021. It is suggested to ask Ernest, responsible for maintenance, if interested in continuing the grass cutting for next summer.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.