

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting– November 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.

2. Fire Department Report

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. No junior firefighters are allowed in the FH. As a result of this, FF are required to wear their individual face shields as informed by the Fire Marshall. This will be ordered through the special funds from the Covid-19 restart program received through the Municipality.

Any firefighter who travels off island cannot enter the fire hall for one week. The training sessions allow 15 people at one time. There are no monthly meetings, all information is circulated through email. The Firemen’s Ball is cancelled.

Rene’s pond is now drained so it is a challenge to get to water in that area needing more travel for the trucks to get to water areas. We are looking at ways to address this issue. Level 1 tests were done. The field work at the provincial fire school will resume. Firefighters are attending over the next three weekends.

Calls: 3 Medical Calls, 1 Bale Fire, 1 Tire Fire,

3. Approval of agenda

It is moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried (6/6) – 2020-58)

4. Approval of meeting minutes – October 15, 2020 and November 5, 2020

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

Motion carried. 6/6-(2020-59)

5. Declaration of conflict of interest

None declared

6. Business arising from the minutes

a. Mill Road Storm Sewers Update

There was a concern from G. Bernard regarding a tree on their property that seemed to have tipped after the work done on the property. It was checked out and the tree is well anchored so no further work will be necessary.

b. Doctor's office

Mayor sent a letter to the Minister of Health on the status of the new Doctor in Wellington. Minister Aylward responded rapidly to the email noting that it is preferable to wait until the transfer of medical records software is in place to allow for the use of electronic records across the island. Mayor also communicated with Sonny Gallant and he did not have much more to add to the situation.

c. 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 has been submitted.

There is continued interest for further lots on Barlow Road.

d. Speeding controls

No word yet on when the temporary signs will be installed.

e. Logo Contest

CAO is working with a graphic designer and suggestions to edit a few items in the logo.

f. Unsightly premises

The owner met with the CAO and requested to leave the trailer box on the lot as he is deciding on what to do with his present residence and the residential lot. He asked to leave it there until the spring. Council accepts this request.

g. Sale of bike park

Fence: The fence was sold for \$ 1000.00 to le Festival Acadien and has been removed.

Surveying: A surveyor is doing the work. CAO is asked to communicate to maintenance on removing the old sign at the bike park.

h. Official Plan Update

No word on the approval.

i. Covid – 19 Status

As a result of the new directives from the CPHO office regarding mandatory masks, Council decided to cancel the Christmas Appreciation Dinner to be held on December 6. Gift cards will be purchased for the Bingo volunteers and maintenance staff.

It is moved and seconded that Gift cards at a value of \$25. 00 each be purchased for the Bingo volunteers.

Motion carried (6/6-2020)

As the Covid-19 brings more restrictions, it is suggested to be prepared for potential future meetings to be held virtually. The availability of Ipads will facilitate Council members to access zoom meetings as well as have all documentation for future meetings on the devices. The Safe Restart Funding program will fund these devices to allow the Municipality to have meetings virtually and have documentation readily available for Council members.

It is moved and seconded that 7 IPADS be purchased to allow Council members to access all documentation for meetings as well as participate virtually for Council meetings.

Motion carried (6/6) 2020-64

j. Snow Removal Quote

AJL submitted its quote at the same price as the previous year.

It is moved and seconded that the snow removal contract be awarded to AJL for a total of \$ 5700 for the sidewalk clearing, \$ 2600 for the Fire Hall and \$ 3000 for the Vanier Parking Lot.

Motion carried (6/6) 2020-65

7. Financials YTD

The budget amounts need to be updated to reflect the 2020-2021 numbers.

8. Committee Reports

Sewer& Municipal services:

Generator on Mont-Carmel Rd: We received two quotes for the replacement of the generator on Mt Carmel Road: AJ Repairs, \$ 47 000 and John Deere who does not install the equipment. Chandler will send in a quote however indicated that it would be close to \$ 40000. Propane generators are also available at approximately \$ 25 000 which runs a lot cheaper and provides two full days of power on one tank of propane. We will wait before making any decision on possible purchase.

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

J.-Leonce Bernard Street sewer line – When flushing the sewer system, it was noticed that there is an issue with the flow since the new duplexes were built. The pipes do not seem to be angled correctly and the sewer wastewater does not flow in the right direction. We are looking into this with the proper assistance by taking elevation shots, to find out why this is happening and what to do to mitigate this issue. It should be flushed on a monthly basis for now until the matter is resolved.

Street lights conversion to LED: Maritime Electric is changing all lighting to LED and it is difficult to identify which wattage is on which light as they are constructed in different ways.

We received a request for a new light to be added on J.- Leonce Bernard Street and an additional light should be installed on Barlow Road.

It is moved and seconded that new lights be added on J.- Leonce Bernard Street and on Barlow Road.

Motion carried. (6/6) 2020-66

Finance – In light of the 7% increase for our insurance policy, we asked Hickey and Hyndman to submit a quote for the Municipalities Insurance Policy however it came in higher than Cooke Insurance so we will continue with the existing provider.

The assessment of the new lift station on the Cooke Policy was undervalued so we requested a quote to increase the value to reflect the new equipment.

It is moved and seconded that the insured value of the lift station be increased by \$ 100 000 at a cost of approximately \$170 per year per quote from Cooke.

Motion carried (6/6) 2020-67

Invoicing of sewer dues to Le Chez-Nous and Wellington Construction for new fourplexes was discussed. CAO to meet with the director at Le Chez Nous to discuss the invoicing for 2020 on the expansion and communicate with IRAC.

It is moved and seconded that Wellington Sewer Utility charge 50% of the sewer dues for the expansion for 2020.

Motion carried. (6/6 68)

Tourism and Recreation –no new information to report.

Bingo, Club and Social Services– The bingo players are required to wear masks.

EMO, Fire and Security – Jeannette attended the CCCÉ and they were informed on the process of reporting any criminal ongoings, elderly or sexual abuse, fraud, etc. which seem to be more present during this Covid 19 pandemic. When a complaint is brought forward to Sr Norma, she fills a case management file and sends it on to the RCMP.

Technology and Communication: once the google drive is accessible, the website will be updated.

Planning Board:no new information

Welcome/Bienvenue –There were two meetings of the Committee and the project launch event was held at the Vanier Center on November 7. A new initiative *Bons Voisins* was also launched to assist people who are going through hard times or to assist new residents moving to the area. The housing problem is very much present. A forum will be held early in the new year to have groups sit together to discuss and suggest possible solutions.

Asset Management – No news on the project funding request.

Health Services – no update.

9. New Business

a) Official Plan Workplan

Mayor Bernard distributed the proposed workplan sheet to begin looking at the work ahead regarding the new Official Plan. Various areas were covered and noted on the plan.

One of the objectives of the Parks and Recreation section aims at identifying new trails to connect various parks within the Municipality. The Active Transportation Fund aims at encouraging municipalities to provide trails to encourage physical activity and to add connectivity to areas that connect to walking and biking trails.

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality submit an application for the Active Transportation Fund to do a study of the existing trails and to identify areas to add connectivity to existing trails.

Motion carried (6/5) 2020-69

b) FPEIM Meeting

Mayor Bernard attended the meeting virtually. Minister Fox presented the new Climate Challenge Fund and the Municipality should apply for funding to assist in paying for the new generator on Mont Carmel Road. Mayor believes this project fits in well with the emergency preparedness objective. CAO will prepare the application with a due date of November 30.

10. Correspondence

a. Electric Car Charging Stations

A survey was circulated by email to indicate any interest in installing charging stations for electric cars. There is interest in placing this equipment within the Municipality after getting more information on the cost and what the installation requires. Mayor Bernard will respond to this survey.

11. Other items – A complaint was brought forward on the security at the Crescent Court Housing. The issue is being felt by many residents in this building. Mayor Alcide contacted MLA Sonny Gallant and the Housing Officer Clow on the issue of safety and security for the residents. This is a police matter at the present time.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 pm