

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting– March 29, 2021

Meeting Minutes

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

Regrets: Irene MacCaull

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard called the meeting to order.

2. Fire Department Report – no report

3. Approval of agenda

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

Motion carried (5/5) – (2021-10)

4. Approval of meeting minutes – February 18, 2021

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

Motion carried. 5/5-(2021-11)

5. Declaration of conflict of interest

Imelda Arsenault will be absent for Item 9a.

a. Business arising from the minutes

b. Sewer expansion project on Barlow Road

The tender closes on April 7. The estimate from WSP appears to be lower than previously assessed. The project should be ready to begin during the summer.

c. Speeding controls

Mayor Bernard received more information on the program. It is a very new program that tracks the speed of cars with no pictures taken. It reports on the time of day, the number of cars. It is a first for PEI and discussions will be needed with Maritime Electric to use the poles and there would be a monthly service fee of \$ 25.00 to \$50.00 per sensor.

d. Logo Contest

No new information. The contractor is working on changes.

e. Sale of bike park

The signing will happen tomorrow.

f. Official Plan Update – no new information.

- g. **Covid – 19 Status** – Purchases can still be made with the funding. It is suggested to purchase a new phone and a portable speaker to facilitate zoom meetings.
- h. **Active Transportation Fund Application and Challenge Adaptation Fund**
The office received confirmation that the project is approved for a total of \$ 20,000.00. Mayor asks interested Council members to meet to suggest the work plan for this project. Upland suggested some options in the new Official Plan and one objective of this project is to work with residents to get permission from them to use their property for new trails. CAO will find a proper wetland map.
- i. **Solar Energy** –FPEIM shared the fact that a meeting of interested municipalities will go forward with a presentation by Maritime Electric Co. Kirk Barlow and Gilles Labonté have accepted to sit on an Energy Committee and will attend the presentation.
- j. **Right of way** – Mayor sent a letter to the Minister of Transportation but no response yet. Information was discussed with MLA Gallant and he informed the Mayor that part of Mill Road will be paved. Mayor will send a letter to request the digital signs for speed control and the need to widen the-pavementon Mill Road.

6. **Financials YTD**

The Year- to- Date report was provided.

Government announced that the Gas Tax will be doubled for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Capital Budget 2021-2022

It is moved and seconded that the 2021-2022 Capital Budget be approved as presented.

Motion carried. 5/5 (2021-12)

2021-2022 Operational Budget

Discussion was held on the capital expenses planned for the coming fiscal year. We received a quote for the lampposts which was much higher than expected so this option will be deleted from the list of capital expenses. There is a need to identify what to add to the new green space on Barlow Road as well as the interest to build a permanent outside winter rink. The existing sidewalk will need some repair.

It is moved and seconded that the 2021-2022 Operational Budget be approved with the changes made to the new purchases.

Motion carried. 5/5 (2021-13)

7. **Committee Reports**

Sewer & Municipal services:

CAO checked with IRAC regarding increasing rates in the future and whether the Municipality is still required to apply to IRAC for any increases. IRAC does not regulate the towns in PEI but other municipalities still need to apply to IRAC for all increases. Mayor will discuss with John Dewey on this. Sewer system is good.

Financial – reported during YTD and Budget discussions.

Tourism and Recreation – Moira and Kelly volunteered to assist on the development of new trails. A meeting will be held to begin the work.

Technology and Communication: Remove the budget documents on the website.

Welcome/Bienvenue:

The monthly meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled. There is interest in continuing the welcome baskets for new residents. The Municipality will add the Bingo certificates. There was discussion on creating a Rack Card to add to the basket to promote the Municipality. Kelly will work with Imelda to develop some ideas.

Planning Board, Policies, Bylaws:

It is moved and seconded that the Emergency Management Operations Bylaw be approved as presented.

Motion carried. 5/5 (2021-14)

It is moved and seconded that the changes to the Procurement Policy be approved as presented.

Motion carried. 5/5 (2021-15)

It is moved and seconded that the Fire Department Bylaw be read a first time.

Motion carried. 5/5 (2021-16)

It is moved and seconded that the first reading of the Fire Department Bylaw be approved.

Motion carried. 5/5 (2021-17)

CAO will confirm with J Ryan on the ages of the firefighters regarding the coverage.

Asset Management: Phase 1 of the work is completed. Harland Associates provided a link with all the photos that were taken on the assets within the Municipality. A report will be available. Phase 2 will begin and provide information as to the condition of the assets and with recommendations on moving forward.

Health Services – no new information

Crescent Court Situation

No new incidents recently. A letter was sent to Mayor Bernard followed by a call from the Minister to discuss the process. Mayor attended with the Minister Brad Trivers, MLA Sonny Gallant and Paul D. Gallant to discuss the general concerns regarding unruly tenant at Crescent Court housing. There is little communication between the concerned residents and the province and it was identified that the process could be improved. Minister indicated he would forward information on the process used to deal with residents' issues.

Doctor's Office –The recent Speech from the Throne stated that **four** new community health homes will be developed. Mayor wrote to Minister Ernie Hudson to raise the need to

increase services at the Wellington Health Centre. There are no plans yet. It is important for the Conseil du Centre scolaire communautaire Évangéline be involved to ensure the bilingual services are an important part of the home.

8. New Business

a. Subdivisions

CAO Imelda Arsenault left the meeting due to possible conflict of interest per Municipality's bylaw.

Mayor gave an update on discussions with two private entrepreneurs looking at development of subdivisions within the municipal boundaries. A meeting of the Planning Board will be organized to hear the details of the two proposed subdivision. Since the ICIP (Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program) will only, at best, contribute 25% to the installation of sewers if projects are submitted by private companies. It would be beneficial to all parties to have the Municipality make the request on their behalf and then the Municipality could enter into an agreement with the parties in order to pay the 26.67% share of the Municipality that is required with this program.

Recognizing that the deadline for applications to the ICIP is April 30th it is not certain that both projects will be at a stage to present applications. If both developers decide to request funding than the Municipality will be required to establish priorities between the project as it is a requirement of the application.

Tentative dates for the Planning Board meeting are set at April 8 or April 6 depending on availability of the two developers who will be required to present their projects to the Board.

b. **Other Items:** According to the 5- year capital budget approved earlier in the meeting the Municipality hopes to obtain funding from the ICIP to support the extension of sidewalks on Sunset Dr up to the Wellington Legion.

It is moved by Albert Arsenault and seconded by Kelly Richard that application be made to ICIP for funding of the sidewalk project.

Motion carried (5/5- 2021-18)

c) **Official Plan and Bylaws Workplan**

Deferred to next meeting

d) **Next meeting:** it was noted that on the Agenda it said April 16 for next Council meeting and that this falls on a Friday. The meeting date is April 15th, the 3rd Thursday of the month.

9. **Correspondence**

FPEIM Annual Meeting – April 26, 2021

10. Next meeting: May 20, 2021

11. Adjournment Agenda having been completed, the meeting was adjourned.