

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting– December 16, 2021

Meeting Minutes

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

Regrets: Albert Arsenault

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard called the meeting to order.

2. Fire Department Report

Desmond Arsenault, President and Jason Maddix, Treasurer, attended the meeting.

Calls: 1 Utility Fire, 1 Motor Vehicle accident.

New Tanker Truck

The purchase of the new truck has been deferred to a later date in light of the financial breakdown including the new loans required to pay for the existing loan and the new truck loan.

Mayor Bernard noted that a discussion will be needed to discuss when the new truck will be added during the budget process.

A drive-by Santa Clause parade will be held in collaboration with the Evangeline ATV Club.

There is no word on the Medical Call matter.

During a meeting with the Minister of Health with Council members on November 29, the medical matter was discussed and it seemed that the message would be relayed to the Fire Chief and sent through the Firefighters Association.

The PEI Firefighter's Association instituted a province-wide fee which was used most for training. A few fire departments backed out because of the cost.

A new member joined the FD, G Gallant from Harmony.

Forestry Truck

A new contract which expired on August 15, 2021 has not been renewed yet and it may be difficult to stop this program. A new contract will need to be negotiated so the financial cost will be brought up at this time. Leon will be informed of this by Desmond and Jason.

3. Approval of agenda

It is moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented with the following additions: Barlow Mills summer matter.

Motion carried (5/6)-(2021-56)

4. **Declaration of conflict of interest**

Shawn Bernard and Jeannette Gallant will reclude themselves from item 10 f – J Arsenault land if the need arises.

5. Approval of meeting minutes –October 21,2022 and October 28 Special Meeting

It is moved and seconded that the October 21and 28 minutes be approved as presented with the addition of the changes to the Official Plan in the October 21 meeting.

Motion carried (5/6)-(2021-54)

6. Business arising from the minutes

a. **Age Friendly Communities (AFC)**

The Municipality received a letter from the Provincial Age Friendly Committee asking Council to identify educational sessions they would like to receive in the future regarding AFC.

It is suggested to communicate the names of the additional organizations in addition to the ones suggested at the previous meeting to Marcie: Cap Enfants, Royal Cdn Legion, Wellington Esso, Le Chez Nous/Le Bel Âge, Wellington Coop, Boys and Girls Club

b. **Speeding controls**

The Municipality received data reports for a short period last month. The company providing the information is ready to provide any information the municipality needs. It is a snapshot in time but the recent data confirms the speeding problem on Sunset Drive. An average of 34% of vehicles drive 30 to 40 km over the speed limit. It is suggested to have a report over six months and then meet with the RCMP as it would provide good data to report that there is definitely a speeding problem.

c. **Covid – 19 Status** – In light of the new challenges with Covid-19, it is suggested to cancel Bingo until further notice. There were many cancellations for the month of December.

d. **Official Plan Update**– Upland edited the document to reflect the suggestions sent by Municipal Affairs. CAO will send to MA.

e. **Trails Planning** –CAO to look at the the wetland map.

Response from the Minister of Transportation to our letter does not indicate what the Department has done or is prepared to do. The letter addressed three issues: Speed sign on Sunset Drive, Widen the road on Mill Road and the Pondsides Drive matter. It is suggested to send another correspondence to clarify the asks.

f. **Subdivision updates**

Government agreed to do the land transfer for Wellington Estates and is ready for approval. No response yet on the approval of the AJL subdivision funding.

g. Solar Energy Project

The ACOA project was approved. A meeting will be held to discuss the priorities with the budget allocated.

h. Full-time CAO update

Interviews with one qualified candidate will take place on Monday.

i. Collège de l'île

No new information to report. Mayor Bernard is receiving calls and emails from various individuals and groups.

There is a proposal from the Town of Summerside to accommodate the College. A building downtown on Water Street (former Crockett's) will be build and could house classes, commercial space and housing. It is a waiting game to see what is next.

CSLF Move

He received a call from to MLA Gallant to attend a meeting with CSLF, and Abram-Village Municipality on Monday December 20.

The premier agreed to meet sometimes in January. Sonny Gallant stated that the Premier is not in agreement with the move of the CSLF office to Summerside and he would call Gilles Arsenault, Superintendent.

This item was raised at the last CSLF board meeting. MLA Gallant expressed concern from a constituent that they were disappointed in the actions of the CSLF to move out of the region.

Mayor also indicated that he had been invited by CSCÉ to a meeting to discuss the possibility of meeting with the local representatives on the CSLF. He indicated that this would possibly place him in a conflict of interest and therefore would ask another Councilor to attend in his place. The need for this meeting will be evaluated following the proposed meeting of December 20th.

Moira and Irene would be prepared to attend the meeting suggested by CSCÉ if it goes ahead.

j. Pollinator's Park

Irene attended a meeting with the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management (BBEM) to look at the land available and plan for plant choice. She was asked to choose the plants that would be planted. Council suggests to ask the BBEM to make the plan and provide us with the cost. There are many interesting options to look at such as herb gardens, trees, butterfly areas, trees for shade, a rotting log to attract insect. etc. Irene will meet with Giselle Bernard to see if there is any funding for these projects.

It is also discussed if crushed oyster or clam shells could be used for the path. It is suggested to speak to Roger Bernard to assess the ground work.

It is also suggested to look at the involvement of students from the school.

Irene shared the five proposed plans provided by the BBEM. Council prefers to start with Plan 1 and ask Tracy to suggest the best plants to use with Irene's suggestions and provide a cost to complete the project.

k. Mental Health Project

CAO will submit a project through the Community Catalyst Grant that will provide \$ 2500 to fund the project and will work with Corinne on the messaging of the 12 signs.

l. J. Arsenault Land

The owner wants to look at a different plan for the land east of Mill Road.

They will provide a sketch of the new plan that would include housing for resale.

7. Financials – Year to date report

The Year-to-date reports were presented.

- Questions on grass cutting – Higher this year because of considerable rain-sun, great for conditions for growing grass. We will look into it closer to assess for the coming year on the frequency of cuttings
- Look at the General Ledger – account for Custom Fees

8. Committee Reports

1. Sewer & Municipal services:

a) Generator: no new information – delivery expected in mid January.

c) Trail– The gravel will be added next Spring as it is too late for this year.

d) Outdoor rink equipment – the pump at the Firehall belongs to the community so no need to purchase a new one but it would be best to store the pump in the Vanier Storage for easy access.

e) Sewer on Maple Street– Mayor checked on the Department of Environment's protocol. Department must be informed and an engineer would be hired to oversee the work to be done. There would be no need for a permit if the protocol is followed.

2. Finance – no new information.

3. Tourism and Recreation – Mayor Bernard was approached by an two individuals with an option to have a mini brewery at Barlow's Mills for the tourism season. It would be very small and work with the PEILCC. Council is in agreement to pursue discussions. The water supply may be an obstacle and will be assessed at the developers' expense.

4. Bingo and Social Services – all good.

5. EMO, Fire and Police – A table top exercise with EMO reps was held November 25. A good exercise to have. The EMO reps were impressed with the knowledge and experience of the local group on emergency preparedness.

6. Technology and Communication – Terry's Trail will be shared on the website. It was a great initiative setup by Janice Gallant and her family. However, the news release did not identify it in Wellington.

7. Welcome/Bienvenue

No new updates – meetings should resume very soon.

- 8. Planning Board, Policies and Bylaws**– It will be important to develop a bylaw for shared services. CAO to look into this.
- 9. Asset Management – FCM Asset Management Project Report**
CAO is testing the tool provided by Land Info and it is a good tool to use with practice. The final reports will be submitted soon. It is suggested by Asset Management Program Report to do a Lagoon Condition Study. Albert to talk to Preston.

10. Health Services & Government Health Homes:

Crescent Court Situation

A new incident took place recently. CBC did a piece on the security needed at the senior housing buildings in the province. It is difficult to understand why the resident with the mental issues does not have a social worker. There are similar cases at other facilities. Residents have stated that they have been encouraged not to discuss the matter with others.

The Guardian requested an interview with the Mayor on the issue.

Minister Fox had indicated he would speak with Minister Trivers on the matter.

Doctor's office

A meeting was held with Minister Hudson, ADM Bradley, and another staff member Andrew MacDougall on November 29. There is no date as to when a new doctor will be available in Wellington. As for the services of the Nurse Practitioner residents are to use the Skip the Waiting room service. However, this service takes appointments from anywhere on the island so people from other regions could have appointments before the Evangeline area residents. Minister asked his official to look at changing this method of appointment so that local residents have easier access to the service.

Mayor brought up the situation with the bilingual receptionist in Wellington and they will look into this matter as for two days a week, the calls go to Summerside and the other three days the receptionist is not bilingual. They are hoping to provide some response by the end of January 2022.

There are 5 medical homes planned but the Evangeline area is not in the plan as a new building will be built in Summerside which will give access to the Evangeline area. However the Minister assured the Municipalities that Wellington would continue to provide various health services to the Evangeline region. He asked his officials to review methods used to inform the public of the services available as many services that were mentioned as being available in Wellington are not known to the general public.

9. New Business

- a. **Official Plan & Bylaws Workplan**–No new information.
- b. **Development Permits – no new permits issued since last Council meeting.**
- c. **Computer Purchase** - With the new software needed to work with Asset Management, it is necessary to upgrade the computer. CAO will bring quotes at the next meeting.
- d. **Transportation Project:** We have not received any word on the project application. Mayor discussed the transportation matter as new information was shared on the Transportation West network and their interest to expand. This company has 8 vehicles

and presently has two full time drivers. There is a possibility that they could swing into Wellington on their way to Summerside.

A study was previously done by Le Chez Nous in 2019. Mayor had a meeting with Velma Durant and Nick Arsenault to look at moving the project forward. Velma Durant has been hired and will identify needs for the Evangeline area.

10. Correspondence –

- a) Presentation of Covid Warrior Coins**—the coins awarded to Rachelle Arsenault and Réjeanne Arsenault were presented by the Lieutenant Governor during the Figure Skating Club session on December 13th. Moira and others did a good job of preparing the event and was appreciated by all.
- b) Queen’s 70th Anniversary Celebrations** – Le CSCE is prepared to organize a celebration on July 1 at the Old Mill Park which will be combined with several events in the region. The event in Wellington will be the main event followed by another evening event at Village Musical Acadien and a Sunday event in Mont-Carmel. Funds are available and the CSCE will submit the funding application.
- c) Erosion along Ellis River near bridge** – There is erosion on the bank of the Ellis River as the water flow towards the bank very near the Francis property. This issue will be brought up with the Department of Transportation.
- d)** Moira received a call regarding the handling of the situation at Barlow’s Mill last summer. The parent has concerns about the registered letter sent for the No Trespassing Order to the individual and the fact that people are not informed on how to deal with mental issues. It is suggested to talk to Sr Norma to see if she could discuss some interventions with Council.

11. Next meeting: January 20, 2022

11. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.