

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting– May 20, 2021

Meeting Minutes

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

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard called the meeting to order.

2. Fire Department Report

Calls: 1 Motor Vehicle accident, 1 vehicle fire, 1 structure fire, 2 medical calls, 1 Flu fire, 1 prep fire for training.

Communication Tower: The supplies were ordered but the delivery date is not known.

Funding programs: Two programs are available through government funding programs, one for equipment and one for building maintenance. Another program will soon be available through ACOA where it may require only 10% of municipal contributions which can cover equipment such as chainsaws, circular saws, battery operated ventilators, etc. However the details of the Program have not been announced yet and will only be available around June 21. The communication equipment may be part of this project but that is still to be confirmed.

Energy Efficiency – A new retrofit funding program is available which requires an energy assessment to tap into this funding. An energy audit will be done for the Fire Hall and the Vanier Center. The WFD representatives mentioned they were looking into solar panels for the Fire Hall. Mayor Bernard suggested to leave this to Council as discussions are taking place on possible solar panel energy in Wellington. He also informed that Municipality declined tapping into the Maritime Electric solar energy project as the benefits to the community were minimal.

Emergency Services (Medical Calls) – The request was sent to government and a decision will be made at this level if fire departments can continue to do medical calls after the pandemic is over. Fire Chief Ryan spoke to the Municipality of Abram-Village and they will also send a letter to this effect as did Wellington last month. There is pressure from the community for this service provided by the WFD to return. Mayor will communicate with MLA Gallant with a possible meeting with Minister and the WFD executive.

Training – The training is being done with various groups because of the Covid restrictions. The pond is working well for a water source for trucks.

3. Approval of agenda

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

Motion carried (6/6)-(2021-30)

4. Approval of meeting minutes –April 15, 2021

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

Motion carried. 6/6-(2021-31)

5. Declaration of conflict of interest

Irene MacCaull will reclude herself for item 6e.

6. Business arising from the minutes

a. Age Friendly Communities Presentation

It was disappointing that representative Don Reid was not present during the presentation. Peter Holman -who attended the meeting indicated to the Mayor during a call that the committee would need space to hold meetings and not to have a formal office space. The upcoming project is not connected to Summerside and there are funding possibilities for the community.

Jeannette, Kelly and Moira attended another meeting where they identified Age Friendly Communities actions already taking place in the area. It is also important to look at the transportation matter indicated in the Official Plan. Sr Norma will be invited to the June meeting for discussion.

b. Sewer expansion project on Barlow Road

No new information on the actual project. There is interest from B Barlow to develop the land on the east side of Barlow Road. Mayor will talk to WSP as the Department of Transportation prefers not to cut across the road to connect the sewer which was paved last year. The Municipality has enough funds in the approved budget to get the connection ready.

c. Speeding controls

Mayor provided information on the speed control program. It is hoped to have the camera available in the fall. The service is free for six months which provides two sensors. One sensor will be installed near Spring Street and one near the Vanier Centre. The report is provided on a weekly basis and provides information such as number of cars and the speed, the time of day, etc. The Municipality needs to use Maritime Electric poles to attach these cameras.

d. Logo

CAO to discuss how many hours do we owe up to now. The changes provided do not reflect the municipalities vision so far.

e. **Covid – 19 Status** – no new information.

f. **Official Plan Update**– A new planner has been hired at Municipal Affairs and the municipality received three questions 1. OP Policy IN-4, 2. OP Policy C-4 and 3. Development and Zoning Fee schedule.

Mayor Bernard will provide answer to question 1 by explaining the lack of space in order to designate an industrial zone with the municipality and on question 2 Council decided to remove "controlling business hours" from this policy.

It is moved and seconded that the fee schedule be adopted and the Amendment Rezoning Fee be deleted.

Motion carried 6/6 - 2021-32

g. **ME Solar Energy Project**–The sub-group met and examined the information received from Maritime Electric. The group suggested not to opt into this program as the benefits to the area were minimal. There are many other projects available for municipalities: a) FCM Retrofit- Community Buildings Initiative which is provided at 80% of the funding. It is a longer process where a plan needs to be developed and provide a reduction in gas emissions. These are evaluated nationally and the deadline is not for a few months. There is also a federal program for Green and Inclusive Community Buildings at 80% federal contribution. b) Another program through the provincial government requiring an Energy Audit before submitting a plan. Through this project, the plan must reduce gas emissions by 30%. The split in the funds is 75% as a loan and 25% as a grant. We will do an energy audit for the Vanier Centre, the Fire Hall and Barlow's Mill. CAO to call Efficiency PEI to book the auditor to evaluate the buildings.

h. **Sidewalk Extension on Sunset Drive** –CAO will contact the Town of Summerside for specs used for their sidewalks. A call for tender to prepare detailed construction plans for sidewalk will be prepared. CAO to ask Ernest to fill the cracks in the existing sidewalk.

i. **Trails**

The sub-committee had its first meeting on May 13 (report attached). The two main loops would be from Spring Street to Confederation Trail and from AJL subdivision to Days Corner. CAO to look at who owns the land along the river from AJL to Day's Corner.

j. **Right of Way – Pondsides Drive**

No new information.

k. **Green space on Barlow Road**

The land is quite rough and not suitable to cut with a regular lawn tractor so no work will be done on the land this year.

l. **Subdivision updates**

Wellington Estates - The issue with the essential land has not been resolved, however, a government representative, Kate MacQuarrie is open to discussing the possibility to exchange land for the essential land. She is hoping to find a suitable resolution to this matter.

AJL Ltd -

It is extremely important to provide the missing information on the subdivision application. Mayor asks to be the only person communicating with the developer to avoid any potential conflict of interest. CAO to communicate to the Mayor the information needed. A newsletter will be sent prior to the next meeting to inform residents of potential development as well as the financial statements and other important information to communicate to residents.

m) PEIFM

A zoom meeting with 65 participants was held on April 26. Presentations were made by Peter Bevan Baker, Hal Perry, Samantha Murphy, consultant on Land Use, George Cuff, president of FCM who emphasized the need for municipalities to have policies on collection of Fire Dues and Sewer Dues as well as composition of Council. Jamie Fox spoke on behalf of the Premier.

7. Financials YTD

The reports were presented. No changes requested. The sewer dues for le Chez Nous were discussed and deferred to next meeting when more information is known on the potential move in date. Mayor to check if the Insurance Company pays for services while doing the renovations.

8. Committee Reports

Sewer& Municipal services:

The new generator for the lift station on Mt Carmel Road is on its way. The cement pad was installed.

Platform – Wellington Construction is quite busy and may not be able to do this before later this summer. The frost is the problem that affects the structure moving. Albert to talk to Maddix Contracting to see if they are able to tackle a project of this kind.

Sidewalk – Gravel needs to be added to the trails. Quotes for this job are required. Michel Gallant could easily do the spreading of the gravel.

Send a sympathy card to Preston Silliker on the death of his son.

Financial – no new information. Projects need to be identified for the additional \$ 100 000 of Gas Tax Funding. Project ideas such as filling the ditch on Sunset Drive, repairing the tennis court, are mentioned.

It is moved and seconded that the Rural Municipality of Wellington submit a request for funding of \$ 100 000 through the Capital Investment Plan for the following projects: a) Sunset Drive Storm Sewer Expansion, \$ 64 550 and b) Tennis Court at \$ 33 450.00.

Motion carried 6/6 (2021-32)

Tourism and Recreation – Check on the areas regarding grass cutting. Two students will be hired at Barlow’s Mill. One student will be hired for 10 weeks and the other will be hired once we know how many weeks are approved on the Jobs for Youth project.

Technology and Communication: no new information.

Welcome/Bienvenue

Karine wants to make a presentation to Council to give an update. Since the June meeting agenda may be full, it is suggested she present at the July meeting.

Planning Board, Policies and Bylaws:

Fire Department Bylaw

Is is moved and seconded that the Fire Department Bylaw be read a second time.

Motion carried 6/6 (2021-33)

Is is moved and seconded that the Fire Department Bylaw be adopted.

Motion carried 6/6 (2021-34)

Asset Management: The Working Committee held Zoom meetings on April 21 and May 19th. Phase 1 is near completion. The sewer maps still needed updating and Mayor confirmed these areas. At our last meeting, the PoF- Probability of Failure, and CoF – Competency of Failure were discussed. It is evident that the priority is the pipe from Mill Road to Lift Station. At the next Asset Management Committee meeting, the engineers will present the facilities heat maps as well as the cost associated to replace or repair the assets.

Health Services – A nurse practitioner is now available on Wednesdays and the new doctor should be in place by July.

Crescent Court Situation

A new incident happened and the situation is not improving for the support services. Mayor sent a letter to the Minister but no response yet.

9. New Business

a. Wellington Club

The Club will remain closed until further notice. However, the Municipality will renew the PEILCC license to provide alcohol services during events and to sell breakopen tickets.

b. Official Plan Workplan – deferred to next meeting however Albert and Shawn will take a look at Spring Street for possible land development.

c. June Meeting – Annual Financial Reports and other topics

10. Correspondence

- a) Letter from a concerned resident** – CAO spoke to RDEE to discuss the concern from a resident regarding contractual staff employed by the SDBA who may be driving without a license. RDEE will inform the SDBA president.
- b) Food Truck** - Request to install a food truck in Coop parking on Sundays – Council supports this request after receiving the insurance and license papers.
- c) Meals on Wheels** – The Municipality received a request to use the Vanier Centre kitchen to cook the meals for this service. The cost will be \$ 100.00 per day on the days used per week which should be two days per week, Tuesday and Thursday.
- d) Prince County Hospital Donation**
It is moved and seconded that the Municipality provide a donation of \$ 100.00 to the equipment campaign for 2021.

Motion carried 6/6 (2021-32)

- e)** Mayor shared the request to comment on the Municipal Election Act. Councilors are invited to review and comment.

11. Next meeting: June 17, 2021

12. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:15