

## Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting– February 17, 2022

### Meeting Minutes

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

#### 1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard called the meeting to order.

#### 2. **Fire Department Report**

Leon Perry, Fire Chief and Jason Maddix, Treasurer, attended the meeting.

Calls: 3 Medical Calls, 2 Utility Fires

Two new members joined the department and one junior member which brings the total number of firefighters to 27.

Two members attended the ice training in Charlottetown. The regular training exercise at the fire hall restarted since the hiatus caused by covid but is now adjusting its training sessions to respect the present Covid-19 guidance.

At the annual meeting, Rick Arsenault was renamed Captain which was taken by Jason Maddix for the past year. Leon Perry was appointed Fire Chief for another term.

A question was raised if there were any new developments on the medical call matter and they received no updates on this. It is concerning as it is known that the response time for some calls take 45 minutes. The department also absorbs various expenses used on medical calls such as epipens which has an expiry date. It is suggested to send these expenses to government or make them aware of the situation for the extra expenses. Some firefighters are concerned that the members will not get recertified as they don't use the skills if they are not responding to calls. It is suggested to keep a log for the complaints received on this issue.

There was a discussion on the proposed budget:

- Fire foam – not used this year – this is an item they may need or not depending on the range of calls so it needs to be included.
- Training – the amount is high every year but is not used according to the amount budgeted. The WFD will have more training this year since the committee met and recommended the training needs for the firefighters. It was impacted by Covid and there are many needs having new firefighters.
- Fundraising – is there a plan for the fundraising?

- New tanker – on the dock for 2023. There are delays because of supply chain issues so the cost may increase on the next quote.
- The dollar amount to be placed on the mortgage will be decided at the next WFD meeting.
- Heat pumps – there are dollars to install the heat pump upstairs for the lounge area but not for the heating in the main area. Jason noted that he is not sure if the quote was correct as the smaller rooms may not have been included. CAO to talk to Desmond to know more information.
- Fire Chief asked if Council would agree to add a culvert to fix the ditch on one side of the firehall. Mayor will contact Sonny if he can check on used culverts.
- Mayor invited the members to the public consultation meeting which is held on March 3.

### 3. Approval of agenda

It is moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented with the following additions:

Motion carried (6/6)-(2022-05)

### 4. Declaration of conflict of interest

Alcide Bernard will reclude himself from item 8f.

### 5. Approval of meeting minutes –January 20, 2022

It is moved and seconded that the January 20 minutes be approved as presented.

Motion carried (6/6)-(2022-06)

### 6. Business arising from the minutes

#### a. Official Plan

The revised version of the Plan and the Zoning and Development Bylaw were sent to Municipal Affairs. However, the information was not accurate. D. Jenkins from municipal affairs responded and indicated that a public consultation is required to approve the latest changes to sections: OP - Bylaw: Sections 1.4.2 -1.4.6, 1.6.2, 1.7.1-1.7.3 and 4.9.2.as well as recent changes to the OP. The changes were reviewed, and these changes will be brought for consultation at the March 3 meeting. It was also discussed if the effective date would be considered from the approved date since it has been on the dock for two years. CAO will discuss with Municipal Affairs.

#### b. New CAO update

The candidate accepted the offer with a start date of July 11, 2022. However, it is possible she will do her on the job training in June. The interview committee is looking at the wage benefits options from FPEIM which seem to be reasonable.

#### c. Shared Services Bylaw

CAO presented a draft of the bylaw for First Reading. Changes as indicated on the revised version are to be changed.

**It is moved and seconded that Bylaw 2022-01 be read a first time and to include the recommended changes. (Bylaw with changes attached)**

**Motion Carried 6/6 (2022-07)**

**d. College – Letter and SDBA**

SDBA sent a letter to the Premier to express their disappointment with the move to Summerside. They met with the college but felt no support and felt it did not address their concerns. The letter refers to a strategic direction for Wellington but there was no mention of the plan.

The meeting scheduled between the municipalities, the College CSLF and the Premier and staff was rescheduled.

**e. Pollinator’s Park**

Irene gave an update on the items required to complete the Pollinator’s Park plan. The total cost projected is \$ 48 000. CAO will apply through the Scott Beautification project and the PEI Beautification Contest and check with Giselle on the funding possibilities with the provincial Community Revitalization Program. There may be other programs where we could apply such as the 1 Billion trees. CAO to look into possibilities.

**f. Insurance Renewal**

It is important to have Hickey and Hyndman present a quote as soon as possible before the next insurance renewal period before September 2022. CAO contacted them last August and will contact to confirm the need for a revised quote.

**7. Financials – Year to date report and 2022-2023 Budget**

**YTD** - The Year-to-date reports were presented.

**Operating Budget** – Mayor presented a draft budget for 2022-2023. The Village numbers will need some minor adjustments when the Equalization Grant and Property Taxes is known. We did not receive the confirmed numbers from government. The bingo revenues will be reduced to \$ 8000.00, adjust CAO salary and reduce electricity.

**Capital Budget:** The funds identified in the projects need to be added and this causes a limited amount of funds available for major projects. Maple Street Sewer item is a priority for work to be done in the spring.

To apply for funds through the Active Transportation Fund for the sidewalk, CAO to check with Infrastructure if we can transfer \$ 8157 from the energy project to cover the municipal contribution for the heat pumps. It is not known if the Gax Tax will continue beyond 2024.

Subdivisions – AJL – funding application was sent to Ottawa for approval

- Wellington Estates – approvals to transfer lands not signed yet and discussions are needed to get extra land from A Arsenault property for the road. We do not expect any construction on this site before 2023-2024.
- Construction in relation to housing projects with le Bel Âge will not happen before 2023.

## 8. Committee Reports

### 1. Sewer & Municipal services:

a) **Generator:** AJ Repairs confirmed it is on PEI and will be installed ASAP.

b) **New trail – Trail Committee** Meeting Thursday, Feb 24 to look at the revised plan

c) **Sewer on Maple Street**—work needs to be done on the line on Maple Street. An engineer will need to estimate the work to be done and the cost associated.

d) **Street Lights** – 2 new street lights were installed on Barlow Road.

e) **Speed control** - Speed control: the reports received are repetitive highlighting the same information as previous reports. Waiting for a report that would provide more details on weekly or monthly basis.

f) **Energy project:**The ACOA project is moving forward – lights for the Vanier will be done before the end of March, the installation of heat pumps in the Vanier Centre and the Fire Hall will be done in the new fiscal year.

2. **Finance** – no new information.

3. **Tourism and Recreation** –.

4. **Bingo and Social Services** – all good.

5. **EMO, Fire and Police** – No new information

6. **Technology and Communication**– to update website

7. **Welcome/Bienvenue**

No new meetings since the last Council meeting. La CIF is hiring consultants to do two pieces of work: a) the transition for the Bienvenue Évangéline project which moved to le Conseil scolaire-communautaire and b) a study for the Mont-Carmel Parish Hall as a possibility to assist with a welcome center for immigrants.

8. **Planning Board, Policies and Bylaws** –

- Sewer Utility – need to look into the existing bylaw with the new recommendations.
- Municipal Elections – The elections will be held in November 2022. A review of the bylaw is required. A discussion was held if online voting is wanted. Council prefers to leave things as they are presently. A budget of \$ 500.00 may be required.

9. **Asset Management – FCM Asset Management Project**

The project is completed. More discussion needed with Land info before any decision is made on what services they provide in the future.

10. **Health Services & Government Health Homes:**

**Crescent Court Situation**

No new information.

**Doctor's office**

No new information and awaiting meeting with Minister of Health as promised during the meeting in November.

## 9. New Business

- a. **Sidewalk Engineering**—The design plan for the new sidewalk is being done. WSP called Mayor to discuss an design issue where the brook flows across the road between 68 Sunset and 80 Sunset Drive. They presented two options to fix this placing a retaining wall or putting in a longer culvert. Council prefers the option with the culvert as the other option would require an extra cost for design and build. The Design cost would be \$ 2500.00
- b. **Evangeline ATV Club Request** – The ATV club has access issues within the municipality since the access to Barlow Road is no longer possible. Representatives from the Club met with Mayor and explained the challenge for ATV’s to access businesses in the area. They explained that they are working towards having permission for ATV’s to use the main roads for their circulations. It is presently being done in certain communities in New Brunswick. An information meeting will be held for further discussion with the PEI Federation of ATV Clubs. Plans are to also have Tignish and Kensington participate in these initial discussions. Irene will attend the meeting. There are groups working with government as there is a desire to grow the sport.
- c. **Census Canada** – the 2021 Census results were released on February 9th. t may seem as the Wellington population is not accurate. Discussion is held to see if there are any way to count the people to check if the numbers are correct. It could be easy to do on certain streets but could be challenging for the certain areas. There are 17 new dwellings in Wellington. Census report showed Wellington population remaining the same as reported in 2016 Census.
- d. **Budget Consultation Meeting**  
The budget consultation meeting will be held on March 3. Mayor presented the details of the need for consultation on the changes to the Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaw. Council agrees to add this consultation on the March 3 public meeting agenda.
- e. **Partnership third partner**  
Mayor Bernard left the meeting because of a potential conflict of interest. CAO presented the information regarding the two organizations interested in partnering with the two municipalities for the new full-time CAO.

**It is moved and seconded that Council accepts ACADIE IPE as the third partner organization to share the new full-time CAO position with the Rural Municipalities of Abram-Village and Wellington.**

**Motion carried 6/6 –(2022-08)**

10. **Correspondence** –none

11. **Next meeting:** March 17, 2022

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:45pm.