

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting– March 17, 2022

Meeting Minutes

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

Regrets: Kelly Richard and Moira McGuire

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard called the meeting to order.

2. Fire Department Report

Leon Perry, Fire Chief and Desmond Arsenault, President attended the meeting.

Calls: 2 Medical Calls, 1 False Alarm

The WFD Annual General Meeting was held. The Training Committee presented a structured training plan for the year and are eager to get the plan going. The training is in-house with 6 members taking the Level 1 program.

There is a lot of conversations going on regarding the Medical Call issue. In the past, both the EMS and Evato the scene within 30 minutes. There are many examples that have happened lately where the ambulance is too far from the call area and it takes time to respond to emergencies. The Fire Chiefs of the departments who would like to do the medical calls have informed the politicians and they are ready to restart these calls. In other communities in the past, the FD would be called to do many lift assists for residents needing assistance. Legally, the firefighters are not permitted to transport patients to hospital.

Many students who attend the EMS program at Holland College are from outside PEI. These members say that the pay in PEI is too low and they are looking elsewhere to get jobs.

3. Approval of agenda

It is moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented with the following additions: FPEIM meeting, Post Office Position and Evangeline Figure Skating Club request.

Motion carried (4/6) - (2022-08)

4. Declaration of conflict of interest

None declared

5. Approval of meeting minutes – February 17 and March 3, 202

It is moved and seconded that the February 17 minutes and the March 3 Public Consultation Minutes be approved as presented.

Motion carried (4/6) - (2022-09)

6. **Business arising from the minutes**

a. **Speed Controls** – no new information to report.

b. **Covid-19 Status**

The organized gatherings are now at 75% capacity, masks must be worn when circulating and buffet service can be resumed however bringing food from outside is not permitted.

c. **Requests to Minister Aylward**

Pondside Drive

Surveyors were on site to look at the road. It is believed that this was also being considered as a result of the new subdivision for Wellington Estates. The Credit Union and the Municipality wants to keep this road a one-way street. A design will be prepared and sent back to the municipality. The Department is doing their part for this matter.

Other Matters: No information on the speed signs, erosion on Ellis River, or the storm sewers on Maple Street.

d. **Subdivision Applications Update**

The three proposed subdivisions are all in progress. AJL infrastructure project is approved and will be announced soon. WSP is doing work for AJL on the plan and will be submitted soon. There is a possibility for 45 lots, however, the request for the sewer installation was done for 23 per funding agreement

Wellington Estates is waiting for the formal signatures for the transfer of land. The developer spoke to A. Arseneault to see if there was any interest in selling the property. Discussions are taking place as to moving forward. This property will be commercial.

J Arseneault development – work is being done on the preliminary subdivision plan.

Mayor Bernard discussed the possibility of having a public meeting to inform residents of these three projects. The proposed date is April 7 at 7:00 pm.

e. **Full-time CAO update**

Work is progressing on the CAO contract. It was sent to her for her review. The legal agreement for the three parties is being prepared by Key, Murray Law. Municipal Affairs will cover the cost for this work.

f. **Collège de l'Île**

Mayor Bernard reports that the efforts done on this file has brought results. The college will not be moving in the near future as a proposal has been presented by the government on reorganizing the college program in collaboration with Collège Boréal in Ontario and New Brunswick Community College. More information to follow.

g. **Pollinator's Park**

The Community Revitalization Program will accept combined projects by the Municipality up to \$ 100 000. Letters of support are required, the SDBA sent one, the school was approached for one and CAO will speak to Stephane Blanchard from RDÉE for a letter as well because of the youth projects he is involved in, Coopérative Service Jeunesse.

h. ATV Club Request

No new information. A meeting was expected to discuss further. The accident that happened in Tignish may change the course of the plans requested.

i. Mental Health Project

CAO met with C Arsenault and messages were proposed. A quote was requested from Sign Station on the signage.

j. Census 2021

The information released to the provincial government for Wellington has affected the Equalization Grant Funding. Since there were more new builds, the assessments have increased thus affecting the formula. The decrease is \$ 13,639 per year. The loss is a total of \$ 68,195 over the next five years. It is unclear if the Chez Nous residents were added in the census because there was no one there since the fire. FPEIM was aware of the decrease. Mayor was informed by Municipal Affairs that there is another grant program the municipality could tap into for more funding. The concern from the Mayor is related to the firm commitment for this funding over five years. Mayor will write to Minister Fox on this matter. There is also a concern on the actual population numbers in Wellington which could impact the formula.

7. Financials

Operational Budget

Financial support of \$1000 for a "Meet your Neighbours" event.

The decrease in the Equalization Grant impacts the budget thus presenting a deficit for the 2022-2023 budget.

It is moved and seconded that the 2022-2023 Operational Budget be approved

Motion carried (4/6)-(2022-10)

Capital Budget

The sidewalk design quote is much higher than anticipated coming in at a cost of \$ 590 000.00. It was decided to exclude the lights from the project and submit a funding application to the Federal Active Transportation Fund Program.

It is moved and seconded that the 2022-2023 Capital Budget be approved

Motion carried (4/6)-(2022-11)

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality submit a funding request of approx. \$ 400 000 to the Active Transportation Program for 2022-2023 for the Sunset Drive Sidewalk Expansion.

Motion carried (4/6)-(2022-12)

2022-2023 Tax Rates

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality approve the tax rates @ .49 for non-commercial and 0.82 for commercial properties for 2022-2023.

Motion carried (4/6)-(2022-13)

8. Committee Reports

1. Sewer& Municipal services:

- a) **Sewer on Maple Street** – no new information. CAO to ask AJL for a quote.

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality submit a funding request to the MSC – Municipal Strategic Component Program for the cost of the Maple Street repair.

Motion carried (4/6)-(2022-14)

- b) **Generator** – it is setup and CAO will communicate with AJ Repair to check if it was tested and is getting the weekly testing done.

- c) **Sunset Drive Sidewalk** – addressed in Capital Budget discussion.

- d) **ACOA Energy Project** - waiting for more quotes on heat pumps for Vanier Center and decision to be made later.

2. New trail – The plan is to proceed with the extension of the trail along the pond up to the double H. as there are too many soil challenges along the Ellis River going towards Western Road. A meeting Thursday, Feb 24 to look at the revised plan was held.

3. **Finances** – no new information.

4. **Tourism and Recreation** –Mayor spoke to D Gaudet regarding surveyors on his land. He brought up the issue that youth are gathering near Barlow Mills parking climbing light poles, and kicking on boardwalk lights. A discussion took place on placing security cameras, motion sensor lights, or a wireless security system. It was agreed to start with a new sensor light to be installed on the building.

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

6. **EMO, Fire and Police** – The municipality needs to adopt a motion to appoint the Fire Chief.

It is moved and seconded that Leon Perry be appointed as Fire Chief for a two-year term 2022-2023 & 2023-24.

Motion carried (4/6)-(2022-15)

7. **Technology and Communication** –to update website and get it ready for the new CAO as she will be updating the site on a regular basis.

8. **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 BienvenueÉvangéline 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.

9. Planning Board, Policies and Bylaws –

- **Shared Services Bylaw** – The Shared Services Bylaw was read a second time.

- **It is moved and seconded that the Shared Services Bylaw 2022-01 be read a second time.**
 - Motion Carried (4/6)

- **It is moved and seconded that the Shared Services Bylaw 2022-01 be adopted.**
 - Motion Carried (4/6)

- Sewer Utility – need to get more information on word corporation as this may cause issues for the municipality.
- Municipal Elections – Deferred to the next meeting.
- Dog Act - A consultation was held on the matter but generally the new Act will not apply to municipalities. We will review our own bylaw.

10. Asset Management – FCM Asset Management Project – no new information.

11. Health Services& Government Health Homes:

Doctor’s office

No new information. No meeting is scheduled yet. More services from nurse practitioners are available on Wednesdays but appointments to be made on the skip the waiting room site. There is no receptionist at the office currently on Thursdays and Fridays. A communication was expected on the status for the health services.

9. New Business

a. Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaws Second Reading and Approval

Whereas a review was required to meet the requirements of section 15.1 of the Planning Act and EC 640 / 97 – Planning Act Minimum Requirements for Municipal Official Plans;

“And whereas Council has complied with Section 19.1 & 19.3 of EC 640 / 97 – Planning Act Minimum Requirements for Municipal Official Plans which requires full public participation in the case of a major review;

“And whereas in accordance with the Planning Act, Council has considered the following general criteria, as applicable: Conformity with the Official Plan, Significant boundary alterations, Water and sewer and other infrastructure plans, Changes in technical content, and other matters as considered relevant such as climate change and resiliency;

“And whereas Council has identified major amendments to the Official Plan;

“And whereas Section 20.1 of EC 640 / 97 – Planning Act Minimum Requirements for Municipal Official Plans states that major amendments will be treated as new official plans;

Be it resolved that the Rural Municipality of Wellington Official Plan Sections and Zoning and Development Bylaws: **Official Plan:** Sections Article 4.9, Policies : AG-4, CS3,CS4, Article 6.3, 6.8, 4.12

Zoning and Development Bylaw: Sections 1.4.2, 1.4.6, 1.6.2, 1.7.1, 1.7.3, and 4.9.2. have been changed and to be read a first time.

It is moved and seconded that the Wellington Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaws changes be read a first time.

Motion Carried (4/6)

It is moved and seconded that the Wellington Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaws changes be read a second time.

Motion Carried (4/6)

It is moved and seconded that the Wellington Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaws changes be adopted.

Motion Carried (4/6)

- b. Development Permits** – Two new permits on Barlow Road, one at 76 Mill Road.
- c. MSC and Active Transportation Project Application Funding Requests**– addressed in the capital budget discussion

10. Correspondence –FPEIM Annual General Meeting – April 25, 20 in North Shore

- The delivery position at the post office is considered bilingual and they will address the situation in the next 18 months.
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- Evangeline Figure Skating Club –
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- **It is moved and seconded that the Municipality donate \$ 100.00 to the Evangeline Figure Skating Club for the Ice Show.**

- Motion carried (4/6) -(2022-10)

11. Next meeting: April 21, 2022

11. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.