

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2022

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

Regrets: Jason Maddix

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard welcomes all to the meeting.

2. Welcome to new acclaimed councillors

Mayor welcomed new acclaimed councillor M Cole.

3. Wellington Fire Department Report

President Desmond Arsenault attended the meeting and discussed the following items:

Calls: 1 medical call, 1 structure fire, 1 Grass fire, 1 Motor vehicle accident, 1 ATV accident.

One new member joined the department. In the next few weeks, the Department will tour the Evangeline Campus and will host the Kindergarten class at the fire hall. The local department hosted the training session this past weekend which was done over two days. It is a 40-hour course.

The Department received 15 generators from government for community needs when an emergency need arises such as power outages or any disaster mitigation needs. Presently, there is no plan for the coordination, policing or security monitoring of these devices. They will discuss with EMO if they are willing to coordinate the process. The department is concerned for the safety because education is needed for the users. A \$ 20,000 grant was also announced for all fire departments across the province. No details are available if there is any criteria to use the funds.

Halloween was quiet this year. The Santa Clause tour will be held on December 18 from 5:00 – 6:00 pm.

4. Approval of Agenda

It is moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-41)

5. Conflict of interest declaration – none declared

6. Approval of Minutes – October 20, 2022

It is moved and seconded that the minutes be approved.

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-42)

7. Business arising from the minutes

- a. Collège de l'Île – The College Board of Directors is moving ahead in evaluating the site at Reads Corner. Mayor attended the annual SAFILE meeting and had concerns at the messages communicated by the President that the main issue of moving to Summerside is because the new immigrant parents who live in the area would not have the ability to travel their student to Wellington. At this time, Government has not received a proposed plan from le College. It is not clear as to what will stay in Wellington.

b. Good Neighbor Meet and Greet

The event went very well and was appreciated by attendees and many positive remarks were given. It is important to continue this event for the future. It is suggested to have a welcome committee for the new families. CAO can share the name of the new residents when they settle in the municipality.

c. Affordable Housing

Mayor presented the housing situation in our area and explained that the timing is good as there are many programs available to support affordable housing projects. The lands available that are owned by the municipality are: lot on Maple Street, corner of Sunset and Riverside Drive, lot next to Le Bel Âge. The Bel Age site is the best alternative if the board of directors is interested in exploring the possibility in the future. The lots on Mt Carmel Road are available but not yet approved for development. The subdivisions will have lots available but would need to be purchased by the municipality. The lots could also be traded for the green space option and the lot could be developed for residential projects. It is suggested to look at Habitat for Humanity to see how the program works.

Council is interested in getting more information on the feasibility of the project. Funds may be available to make a business plan and would be needed before any decision is made. The decision to pursue will be brought to the new Council.

d. Centre de la petite enfance (CPE) rental for Vanier Centre

CAO shared the information discussed with K Couture. The duration has changed since the last meeting since the request is for 24 months and not 18 months. Upon doing a rough calculation, we may need to increase the monthly rental to cover the expenses for 24 months. CAO will prepare a budget and send it to Council for their consideration. It will be necessary to find storage for the furniture and a cost may need to be added for this.

It is moved and seconded that Council identify a monthly rental amount and consider a 10% overage for all expenses calculated.

Motion carried (6-6 (2022-43))

e. PEI Department of Transportation work updates – no new information.

f. Transportation project – Council received the first part of the report which includes the results of the survey. Councillors are asked to review the presentation slides received in the meeting package. The final report should be completed by the end of the month.

g. Pollinator's Park – The culvert is installed. Irene will communicate with AJL to see if they can fill in the area near the culvert which is quite low and discuss if some work can be done since we have \$ 8000 left to spend before March 31. The ground is very wet so grading may not be possible at this time.

h. Mental Health project – The art work for the signs is being done by Sign Station.

i. EV charging stations – The total cost for the device is \$ 17 000. We are still waiting for the quote on the connection cost. A quote was requested from Buchanan Electric. CAO to request another quote from Hansen or another company.

- j. L. Arsenault request –no new information. CAO to follow-up when the response can be expected.
- k. Municipal Elections – Mayor discussed the matter regarding not having a mayor elected. The next step is to ask if anyone on the new Council or anyone from the community is interested in taking the position and call Christine MacKinnon at 902-368-5282. If no one steps forward, the Minister`s office staff will meet with the existing Council.
- l. Auditors – a quote was received from MRSB for \$ 9800 and BDO \$1150. It is confirmed that the AER and the IRAC report are included in the MRSB quote.

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality appoint MRSB as the auditors for the 2022-2023 year.

Motion carried 6\6(2022-44)

- m. Insurance Renewal – We received a quote from Hickey and Hyndman which was moving toward \$ 28 000. CAO to ask Cooke what is covered for storm surges. CAO informed Council that we are not getting any response to our emails. Mayor will send an email.
- n. Subdivision Application Updates – **AJL** – surveying is expected to take place this week. **Country Holdings** – no new information and **Wellington Estates** – waiting for Treasury Board to sign off on the land transfer. The plan is to have 20 lots. Mayor asked for the elevation details as it is very important for the sewer system. There are projects available which will roll out in December for the sewer and roads and a possible transfer of funds as long as homes are built. The homes should be in the \$ 300 000 area and it is aimed at a household income of \$ 95,000.
- o. Culvert at Double H - no work done yet.
- p. CAO Recruitment- Cynthia Gaudet has been hired and will start on November 21. She brings a certain set of skill and training on the Bookkeeping and Accounting will be provided. She will begin training on Monday.

8. Finance- Year to date monthly report –to clarify the sewer revenues.

9. Committee reports

- 1. Sewer & Municipal Services a) Sewer on Maple Street – the work is expected to be done in the coming weeks. b) Generator testing–it is working now and Eric-Preston to check with Tri Tech on the monitoring. c) New sidewalk - Sunset Drive – need to review WSP's Quote in order to hire an engineer for the job. . D) Culvert near firehall – will not be done this year.
- 2. New Trails Committee Report – D Maynard is finishing up the field work. CAO to send a meeting request to the committee.
- 3. Finances – no new information
- 4. Tourism & Recreation – all good.
- 5. Bingo and Social Services- the last bingo in the Vanier will be Dec 13 and **it** will move to the legion during the lease period of Vanier by CPE.
- 6. EMO, Fire and Police–Dave Redmond is resigning as Coordinator. It is suggested to ask Doug Bryson. Paul Cyr was asked but is not interested as he is away for the winter.
- 7. Technology & Communications – updated minutes to be posted very soon.
- 8. Bienvenue/Welcome & Immigration Évangéline -Two events took place recently during the Semaine de l'Immigration Francophone. There were no meetings lately. We did not receive any response to the letter requesting information on the budget and

allocation of funds. A request through FOIPP (the Access of information department) is made to government for the information and no response received yet.

9. Planning Board, Bylaws and Policies – Sewer Utility Bylaw

It is moved and seconded that the Second Reading of the Wellington Sewer Utility bylaw be approved.

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-45)

It is moved and seconded that the Wellington Sewer Utility bylaw be adopted.

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-46)

A new website will be used to input planning decisions within municipalities. A training session will be held on November 28. CAO will attend as well as Albert.

10. Asset Management – no new information

11. Health Services - Doctor's office & Government health homes – no new information

Mayor shared information on the Gabriel Housing Cooperative. It is overseen by the Atlantic Housing Property Management Company. Any issues should be communicated to them. As for the water issues, the land belongs to the municipality and as we know, there is a lot of wetland in that area. The generators may be of help in any future disaster.

10. Canada Torch Relay Update – The final details are being done. The mascot will be in Wellington and the Canada Torch Relay team. The Torch Bearers will begin at 4:30 and the celebration will be held November 18 at 6:30 pm.

11. New Business

- a. Development permits – no new permits.
- b. Christmas Dinner and Volunteers – It will be held December 4 at 5:30 pm at Village Musical.

12. Correspondence - A complaint was received regarding the apartment complex at 53 Mill Road. RCMP was called to this property.

- An invitation was received from PEI Housing inviting municipalities to partner with them to build affordable housing. It is suggested to discuss the empty lot at Crescent Court as this is government owned.

13. Other – Street Lights – Mayor notes that the streetlight at the corner of JLB Drive-Sunset should be replaced.

A discussion was also held on a resident asking if they could have goats. It will be necessary to explore a bylaw concerning animals within the municipality.

14. Next meeting-December 8, 2022 – 7:00 pm

15. Adjournment: 10:15 pm