

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2021

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Bernard welcomes all to the meeting.

2. Wellington Fire Department Report

Chief Leon Perry and Treasurer, Jason Maddix attended the meeting and discussed the following items:

Calls: 2 medical calls, 1 structure fire, 1 False Alarm, 1 Motor vehicle accidents, 1 stand down call and 2 utility poles. WFD was called on few calls during Tropical Storm Fiona: one was the school and another, utility poles. Nothing else to report.

3. Approval of Agenda

It is moved and seconded that the agenda be approved with additions of Park clean-up and long-term rental for Centre de la petite enfance.

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-37)

4. Conflict of interest declaration – none declared

5. Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2022

It is moved and seconded that the minutes be approved with the correction for item 7...Auditors.

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-38)

6. Business arising from the minutes

- a. Festival acadien incident – No new information has come forward since September. N Arsenault spoke with Mayor to let him know that activities are planned for the community remediation. A meeting was to be held with community representatives, but no meeting was held yet.
- b. Collège de l'île – The new interim president is Darlene Arsenault. The file to move to Summerside is still on the agenda for the College. The new census data is concerning with Wellington having 56% of the population is anglophone which is the first time in a long time. The college would be a benefit to keep the francophone people in the region. The situation for Evangeline High School is on standby, and there is not a lot of time to prepare the building. There is no decision yet on the result if it will be renovated or rebuilt. Minister of Education has a planned visit in the area on October 27 with various community representatives.
- c. Good Neighbor Event – A meeting was held October 13 - the activity is planned for November 6 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. An invitation was sent, and residents need to respond if they are attending. Bienvenue-Évangéline asked to setup a booth. A rough estimate for the budget will be sent to N Arsenault.

- d. Affordable Housing – Alcide will work on a short summary for programs. CAO will send information to the mayor on one provincial program.
 - e. PEI Department of Transportation work updates – no new information since the last meeting. Any right of way needs a minimum of 66 feet.
 - f. Transportation project – the project is moving well. The consultants completed the survey which had 110 respondents. The next step will be to respond regarding how to identify the needs expressed through the survey. There are examples in Nova Scotia and in New Brunswick. Transportation West is ready to help but not interested in providing the service. Le Chez Nous has no immediate need at the present time. There is a possibility to contract people who have vehicles. The final report is due in mid-November and should present recommendations and how to connect with existing systems. Mayor will send the report when it is available.
 - g. Pollinator's Park – The application form was sent with a note to add a 40 feet culvert. We are hopeful that the grading work to be done this fall. It can be suitable until December. AJL could be billed in advance for this work if they are not able to do the work before the end of December, depending on the frost condition in the soil.
 - h. Mental Health project – funds approved and \$ 2000.00 received. We are working with Sign Station to plan on the signs with a new quote.
 - i. EV charging stations – The total cost for the device is \$ 17 000. We are waiting for the quote on the connection.
 - j. L. Arsenault request –no new information.
 - k. Additional swing – ordered and waiting for delivery
Municipal Elections – The nomination period closes on October 21. Nominations are coming in.
 - l. Auditors – a quote was received from MRSB for \$ 9800 and BDO \$1150. There is still outstanding clarity on what is covered. CAO to check with MRSB if the AER is included and bring this for the next meeting.
 - 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 no quote for 2022-23 has been received yet for the insurance that expires in October. Information on costs will be send to Council as soon as it is received, and a decision will need to be made by emails or special meeting.
A discussion is held on the information coming through from residents testing their water. Government suggested all residents to test their water wells if they were affected by water surges because of water surge. We will test the Vanier Centre. If more residents have issues, we may need to contact the Department of Environment.
 - n. Subdivision Application Updates – AJL – WSP has not responded for the engineering work on this project. Julie – no new information and Wellington Estates – ready to sign transfer papers for the land.
 - o. Culvert at Double H – email was sent to Department of Highways – no response yet.
 - p. CAO Recruitment- One interview was done but the candidate was not qualified. New ads have been posted.
- 7. Finance-** Year to date monthly report – Grass cutting is well over budget - It is suggested to do a quote for the grass cutting for next year.

8. Committee reports

1. Sewer & Municipal Services a) Sewer on Maple Street – the work is assigned but not done yet – hoping for November b) Energy project - ACOA – project completed and requests for the rebates have been submitted.
c) Generator testing - there was a faulty battery, and the charger was not working. CAO to check with Tri Tech if the monitoring system is on. Albert to give a key to CAO on the generator on Mt Carmel Road d) New sidewalk - Sunset Drive (Letter: consultations with Indigenous Population- Sunset Drive Sidewalk Project – CAO to check the status on the contract from the Federal Government.
2. New Trails Committee Report – no new information – CAO to follow up with D Maynard.
3. Finances – no new information
4. Tourism & Recreation –a) playground inspection - inspection is done and there are three suggestions a) since the smaller swing frame is too close to the larger one, it is suggested to move it to another area in the park. B) fill gravel under the existing swings and add new rings to avoid removal. Overall, it is in good shape.
5. Bingo and Social Services- no new information
6. EMO, Fire and Police - Jeannette attended a meeting with Sr Norma. Many matters are being dealt with: scams, fraud, solitude, fast cars, sexual abuse, drug dealers, intimidation and seniors matters.

A discussion was held on the warming centers open during Fiona. There were 146 people over the three days: 50, 60, 30 and 6. It went well overall. The people who attended were appreciative of the help. One concern was raised as it is not clear if we check in with the vulnerable residents. Some homes were having challenges about getting food and gas. It is important to have a list of these people before a storm hits.

Communication during the storm was a challenge. It is crucial to send a newsletter and social media messaging before the storm hits to advise of the reception center phone numbers and expectations at these centers. Le Conseil Communautaire scolaire Évangéline received \$ 10 000 to give out to people through Gas and Gift cards.

The water surge was a concern for residents. It is suggested to have sandbags available for a future storm.

During Fiona, there was water in the basement of Gabriel Housing Homes and seniors had to scoop water manually. The question is why these homes do not have generators since it is a government run building.

7. Technology & Communications
8. Bienvenue/Welcome & Immigration Évangéline
A meeting was held in August. Events are planned for Immigration Week in November. Mathilde Sinasse is the new Coordinator and the sub-committees have not met yet. A response has been received at end of August regarding the letter sent to la CIF in May however it did not answer any of the main questions raised that is a) allowing Bienvenue Évangéline to operate independently of CIF b) to provide detail financial information on spending since the start of the project in 2019. A second letter was sent to la CIF on October 12 for follow-up.
9. Planning Board, Bylaws and Policies – Sewer Utility

Comments: leave name as is – Check with IRAC on rates and interest rates

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

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-38)

10. Asset Management – no new information
11. Health Services - Doctor's office & Government health homes – no new information
12. Canada Torch Relay Update – The final event celebration will be held November 18. PEI Mutual and Cavendish Farms are major sponsors. Canada Games provided \$ 5000 to fund the event. The relay will go up Mill Road and down Sunset Drive for a total of 5.3 km. There are 14 participants as Torch Bearers. The Wellington Fire Department will coordinate the traffic and provide security on the streets. Food, entertainment, and speeches will be on the agenda.

9. New Business

- a. Development permits – no new permits. A question is raised as to the new construction on Mill Road. Check with the province if Jouffret has a permit from the provincial government.
- b. Snow removal quotes – AJL sent a quote in for the following amounts:
 - i. Vanier Centre -\$3,750.00
 - ii. Firehall - \$ 3,250.00
 - iii. Sidewalks - \$ 7,200.00

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality of Wellington accept the snow removal quotes provided from AJL Contractors for 2022-2023.

Motion carried – 6\6 (2022-39)

- c. Christmas Dinner and Volunteers – Council suggests to check with le Village Musical Acadien as a preference and look at other options if the center is not available. The proposed date is December 4th, 2022.
- d. Councilor honorariums – Since the existing Council will be ending their mandate on December 6, it is suggested to pay the honorariums at the next meeting.
- e. Park closure – A lot was done in preparation for Fiona. Ernest will remove the banners when putting up the Christmas lights. Shawn and Albert will put the picnic tables away.
- f. Vanier Long Term Rental –K Couture met with CAO to discuss the future for the childcare center. Le Centre Préscolaire is looking into renting long term for the entire preschool program which includes babies to 4-year-olds. This means that the Vanier Center would be exclusive to this group, thus, not renting to the public for the next 18 months. This would also require the bingo to move elsewhere. K Couture mentioned to CAO that it may be possible to use the legion for the Vanier Bingo. It is important to check on the licenses for breakopen tickets as the legion has their own.

There are many details to iron out if they decide to proceed. Council supports the need for the children. Their insurance policy will pay for the rent for 12 months and it is recommended by the Association to charge more for the first 12 months to pay for the total for 18 months. A written agreement will be drawn up with a legal review as there are many facets to consider such as liability, safety for children, playgrounds, washrooms, kitchen, etc.

It is moved and seconded that the Municipality of Wellington start negotiations with l'Association des centres de la petite enfance de l'Île-du-Prince-Edouard for the 18-month rental of the Vanier Centre spaces including the kitchen, club and community hall as well as washrooms.

Motion carried 6/6 (2022-40)

10. Correspondence - none

- 11. Other** – A discussion was held on the Waste Management service since the summer in Wellington. At times, the waste is picked up two days after the scheduled date and for others it has happened more than one week after the scheduled date. It is decided to write a letter to the service provider GFL Environmental which is now under new management.

12. Next meeting- November 17, 2022 – 7:00 pm

13. Adjournment: 10:15 pm