

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Council Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2024

Present: Mayor Irene MacCaull, Jason Maddix, Moira McGuire, Jeannette Gallant, Imelda Arsenault, and Jean-Pierre Arsenault, CAO.

Regrets: Albert Arsenault

1.Call meeting to order

Irene MacCaull welcomes all to the meeting.

2. Wellington Fire Department Report

Fire chief Leon Perry presented a report to the members of council since the last council meeting:

- 3 calls (2 motor vehicles & 1 medical first responder).
- 2 firefighters attended hazardous course.
- 5 firefighters starting training weekend of March 16th.
- Fire department received new helmets.
- Fire department received eight (8) new radios.
- Thirteen (13) firefighters completed MFR certificate course.
- Fire chief will reach out to the Smart Program to find out what can be done to reduce the threat of fires in the community.

3. Approval of agenda

- Donation to the Acadian Festival added to the agenda.

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

Motion carried.

4. Conflict of interest declaration

None declared.

5. Approval of minutes – February 15, 2024

It is moved and seconded that the February 15th minutes be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

6. Business arising from the minutes

a. Affordable housing

CAO informed council regarding the meeting held with the developers on March 13th. Members representing three (3) developers attended the meeting with outgoing CAO informing the developers that the rural community of Wellington had been awarded funding amounting to over \$478,000 over a four (4) year period. The funding will be used to help developers build road(s), install sewer and storm sewers along with street curbs. Mrs. Arsenault stressed to the developers that at least twelve (12) units of affordable housing must be built over the next three (3) years for the community to get the full amount of the funding. The other areas that the funding will be used for, include the following: lagoon capacity study, delineation study for all undeveloped land within the municipality, study on housing needs, study on possibility of extending boundaries of the municipality, and hiring an IT firm to permit users to fill out the development permit online. Developers had a few questions and both CAO and outgoing CAO answered their questions. Official announcement of the funding will be held on Monday March 25th at 11:00am at Place du Village in Wellington.

The office received a call from another interested developer who is inquiring about the possibility of developing land on Barlow Road.

A fourth (4) developer, who was not able to attend the developers' meeting on March 13th had a telephone conversation with CAO and outgoing CAO Arsenault on March 14th. We provided the same information that was given to the developers at last night's meeting.

RFP will be published tomorrow regarding the lagoon capacity study with April 15, 2024, set as the deadline for receiving quotes on the study.

b. PEI Department of Transportation work updates

The office sent an email to Steven Yeo regarding the possibility of having storm sewers installed on Sunset Drive between the Wellington Legion and Maple Street. No news was received from Mr. Yeo as of today.

c. Pollinators Park

The well has not been dug yet and it may be too late to have it done now as the ground is not that frozen. Mayor MacCaul tried her best to get the well drillers to dig the well but to no avail. A member of council brought up the possibility of moving the park to another location. Council will discuss the matter at another meeting.

d. Subdivision applications

Wellington Estates - no update

Countryview Holdings – no update

AJL subdivision – Dale Thompson of the Department of Environment has the written report from WSP. We are waiting for their decision.

Barlow Road development – a new developer is looking into developing the property.

e. IRAC report

CaO informed the meeting that the report will be ready for the May council meeting.

f. Childcare centre request

Centre Académie d'Exploration provided a cheque of \$4,200 to cover the extra \$700 per month in rental fees from September 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

Childcare centre has requested that a commercial dishwasher be installed in the kitchen area with the childcare centre paying for the purchase and installation of the dishwasher. The dishwasher will stay in place after the childcare centre moves to another location.

Moved and seconded to let the childcare centre install a commercial dishwasher in the kitchen area of the Vanier Centre.

Motion carried

7. Finance

Year to date monthly report

Outgoing CAO presented the 2024-2025 budget report that was presented at the public meeting back on March 6, 2024.

The fire department would like to have their own bins at the fire department. Right now, the fire department bring their recyclables and waste once a week to the bins at the Vanier Centre. With the daycare as a tenant at the Vanier Centre, the bins get filled quickly. CAO will talk to maintenance about an extra bin.

Moved and seconded to approve the 2024-2025 budget report.

Motion carried

8. Committee reports

1. Sewer and municipal services a) New sidewalk – Sunset Drives b) Park repairs c) Pondside Drive water.

a) CAO informed the meeting that Curran & Briggs will check the cracks in the spring at the request of AJL Ltd.

b) Will have more info for May meeting.

c) The childcare centre discussed an issue to CAO about water gathering in front of the step of the doors that once led to the Firemen's Club.

The CAO went to see why water was gathering there. The CAO sprayed some salt on the water as there was ice beneath the water. This is a security issue.

The CAO spoke to the maintenance person, and asked him if he could fix the end of the downspout so that the water would head towards Mill Road. Water is also running from the back of the Vanier Centre on a rainy day and fills up the space in front of the doors. He told the CAO that when Curran & Briggs did some work on the parking lot, they made a cut in the asphalt too close to the Vanier Centre and during the winter either water or melting snow goes into the cut and when the temperature goes down, the asphalt heaves; thus there is a slope going towards the doors and on a rainy day, water collects in front of the doors. Council will look at this issue and see what can be done.

2. New Trails Committee Report

No news.

3. Tourism and recreation

Will have more info at the May council meeting related to the boardwalk.

4. Bingo and Social Services

Bingos are going well.

5. EMO, Fire and Police

No news.

6. Technology & Communications

Send minutes of meeting to Mya Cole so she can upload them on the municipality's website. Outgoing CAO will contact Mya to see if she can help us out with uploads to the municipality's website until a replacement can be found.

7. Planning Board, Policies and Bylaws

No news.

8. Bienvenue/Welcome & immigration Évangéline

There is an activity planned at the Goeland the weekend of March 16th.

9. Health Center update

A public meeting was held on January 29th with MLA Gilles Arsenault presiding over the meeting. The Rural Community of Wellington was designated as a medical home. A 211 medical line is in place to help the public navigate the provincial government departments. It is the consensus that there are not enough health workers in the system. Would it be possible that the proposed health centre in Wellington share health workers with Tyne Valley and Summerside. No talk on whether we're getting a doctor a nurse practitioner.

9. New Business

a) Development permits

No development permits were submitted to RMW.

b) Budget consultation

The budget consultation meeting was held on March 6th at the Place du Village. Both outgoing CAO and mayor MacCaull presented the 2024-2025 budget numbers for the Rural Community of Wellington, the Wellington Fire Department, and the Wellington Sewer Utilities. A number of questions were asked by rate

payers in attendance and CAO and Mayor replying to their questions. The rate payers in attendance seemed satisfied with the proposed budget numbers.

c) Approval of tax rates for 2024-2025

The Rural Community of Wellington received the tax role for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Outgoing CAO included the new tax rates in the 2024-2025 budget figures.

It is moved and seconded that the tax rates for the 2024-2025 fiscal year be adopted.

Motion carried

d) Wellington Legion solar panels

Outgoing CAO informed council about the solar panels project at the Wellington Legion. Outgoing CAO will contact Gilles Painchaud to submit a development permit to start the 21 day process.

It was moved and seconded that Council accept Wellington legion's plan to install solar panels behind the legion.

Motion carried

e) By-elections for vacant Council position

After consulting the bylaws for municipalities of P.E.I., outgoing CAO informed council that we have to hold a by-election for vacant council position held by Mya Cole. We also must appoint a municipal officer and an alternate for the by-election.

It is moved and seconded that Imelda Arsenault be appointed as the municipal officer and CAO Jean-Pierre Arsenault be appointed as the alternate.

Motion carried

f) Short-term rental request

The owners on 30 Spring Street bought the property situated on 117 Mill Road. They would like to rent the Mill Road property for six (6) months of the year. She is asking if the rural community of Wellington accepts that she can rent the Mill Road property on a short-term basis.

It is moved and seconded that the 117 Mill Road property can be rented out on a short-term basis.

Motion carried

10. Correspondence

a) Evangeline Skating Club

It is moved and seconded that we give a \$100 donation to the Evangeline Skating Club for the annual ice show.

Motion carried

b) Acadian Festival

It is moved and seconded that we give a \$250 donation to the Acadian Festival for the 2024 sponsorship.

Motion carried

11. Other items

With the passing of the brother of former mayor Alcide Bernard, council decided to give a \$100 donation to the cancer society.

It is moved and seconded that the community of Wellington give a \$100 donation to the charity.

Motion carried

It was brought to the attention of the members of council that the shed/building situated at 77 Mill Road has been turned into an apartment. More information will be gathered for next council's meeting in April.

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12. Next meeting – April 18, 2024

13. Adjournment - Moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00pm.