

Rural Municipality of Wellington

Meeting Minutes May 18, 2023

Present: Irene MacCaull, Mayor; Counsellors Jeannette Gallant, Jason Maddix, Albert Arsenault, Mya Cole, Moira McGuire

Absent: Imelda Arsenault, CAO

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor MacCaull called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2. Fire Department report

Fire Chief Leon Perry was in attendance to present the report. In May, there were 7 calls: 1 grass, 1 structure, and 5 motor vehicle collisions. Shawn Labobe and Cory Adams have returned to the department. Radios are now being programmed with 5 channels for department use. Received new forestry truck, a Ford F550 with a 500 gallon capacity, reduced from 1000. This will be a lighter, faster vehicle. Mark Ploudre has resigned from the fire department. Concern was expressed, at the fire chief's meeting, it was brought to Leon's attention that Worker's Compensation is no longer paid through the Fire Marshall's office and is the responsibility of the municipality. The Fire Smart program had a presentation in Miscouche which informed that Wellington is at high risk of spreading fire due to large amounts of forested areas and house proximity to woodland. Leon mentioned we may be able to get funding to set a day and time for brush collection. Imelda will send in the request and payment to the Government Garage to have the 40ft culvert installed alongside the fire department.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion carried.

4. Conflict of Interest Declaration

No conflict of interest was declared.

5. Approval of Minutes – April 20, 2023

The minutes were approved from the previous meeting.

Motion carried.

6. Business arising from the minutes

- a. College de l'Île:** There have been no meetings or updates.
- b. Affordable Housing:** Second requests were sent for a meeting with Tim Banks and Robbie Ashley, no response yet.

- c. **PEI Department of Transportation work updates:** There was a letter received from the Transportation Group that they were looking into having a stop in Wellington. We reached out to let them know we would like to have a sign or brochure indicating stop location and schedule. We have received no response yet.
- d. **Pollinators' Park:** We have reached out to AJL about clearing the land, that will be done at the end of May. Irene and Mya marked the start of the wetland on the property. Mya presented an updated plan for the garden with dimensions and plant placement.
- e. **Subdivision application updates:** We are waiting on environmental assessments for the AJL and Wellington Estates subdivision projects. We are also waiting to hear about gas tax payments for infrastructure projects, as there are no funds to construct a sewer line into Wellington Estates at this time. A letter was sent to Jocelyn to confirm the land transfer approval.
- f. **Culvert at Double H:** It was discussed ordering concrete barriers to restrict traffic into the Double H culvert, the options were 4ft or 8ft barriers. Two 4ft barriers were decided to be the best to fit the width of the culvert. It was brought to council's attention by Ernest that we have barriers behind the Vanier that could be moved, we will contact AJL to request moving those barriers.
- g. **Legion – Solar panel project:** We are currently waiting on the environmental assessment.
- h. **Street light on Wellington Road:** CAO sent a request to Maritime Electric to have the street assessed to see if an additional light is needed or for the lights to be reconfigured.
- i. **Grass cutting contract:** Charles Bernard was awarded and accepted the contract for grass cutting in the village.

7. Finance

- a. **Year to date monthly report:** Jason had questions regarding the fire department revenues. For the fire department it doesn't look as if the fire department dues increase was recorded. There was also discussion about the sewer deficit and increasing these fees. The heating expenses were questioned on the operating budget.

8. Committee reports

- a. **Sewer & Municipal Services – New sidewalk on Sunset Drive:** The official letter for the contract awarded for the sidewalks was sent to AJL.
- b. **New Trails Committee Report:** Tracy Brown of Bedeque Bay and Alcide will need to be contacted to walk the new trail to see if Tracy would be interested in building the trail. If that is decided, CAO will have to apply for new funding for that phase of the project to be completed.
- c. **Tourism & Recreation:** Water testing will have to be completed at Barlow Mill. The new basketball net has been installed at the tennis courts. New pamphlets have arrived for the Mill. Lucca had agreed to come back and work this summer. The federal grant for student employment has been confirmed, we have not received the provincial grant. Nellie has also been contacted, but has not yet replied about employment this summer.

Jeannette is to contact Scott Buchanan about lights in the park along the boardwalk. A drain is not permitted to be placed for draining due to environmental purposes (salt and silt that could run into the river). It is not feasible to pay the additional expense of having it run to the sewer.

- d. **Bingo & Social Services:** Bingo is going well.
- e. **EMO, Fire & Police:** Sister Norma received \$5000 in funding. We will contact EMO about a brochure for emergency preparedness to be distributed in the community.
- f. **Technology & Communications:** Photos of the new mental wellness signs have been posted on the website and Facebook.
- g. **Bienvenue/Welcome & Immigration Évangéline:** New funding is possible for projects, such as the newcomer gathering. They are changing their strategy.
- h. **Health Center Updates:** The Health Center is closed again this month. Irene met with Gilles; he had already met with the Premier and the Health Minister. The rest of the notes regarding this meeting will be in a separate document.

9. New Business

- a. **Fire Department Equipment Project:** Jason is to get the list to Imelda, and meet with her to speak about funding for this year's equipment.
- b. **New signatories for Provincial Credit Union – Evangeline Branch:** It was moved and seconded that Imelda Arsenault will be added as a signatory. Motion carried.
- c. **Development permits:** No new news.
- d. **Grade 12 Bursaries:** We discussed whether to reduce the bursary amount and give regardless of students' future plans. It was decided to remain at \$500 and give to students with proof of continuing education. It was passed that the students graduating this year will receive this with the proof of education. Motion carried.
- e. **Park preparation:** Council met May 16th to set out park equipment: picnic tables, benches, planters, uncovering the fountain. It was noted that skirting on the bridge was in poor condition, as well as boardwalk planks. Also, deterioration to one of the back corners of the gazebo, shingling needs to be replaced on the gazebo. There are three windows on the side and two on the front that the bottom sills need to be replaced; Ernest will do this. The Mill building itself should be painted. In Lorinda's park, we noted that the arbors had lifted and one panel needed to be replaced. Ernest will do the repairs as needed.

10. Correspondence

- a. **Consultative Committee Consultation:** This group was looking for individuals to participate in a focus group to speak about goals for the future. The gift for participating was a \$20 gift certificate for the Co-op. There were no volunteers.
- b. **Festival Acadien – Youth of the Year – Jeune acadien de l'année:** Council mentioned that Alcide Bernard or Gilles Painchaud could be possible nominations for Acadian of the Year. No names were brought forward for Youth of the Year.

- c. **Donation – Boys and Girls Club:** A donation will be made in the amount of \$200 to cover the fees of the sewer for the Boys and Girls Club. Moved by Albert, seconded by Jason.
Motion carried.
- 11. Other items:** No further business.
- 12. Next meeting:** June 15, 2023
- 13. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 9:28pm.