

- d) Staff purchased a used Fisher Airflow Sand Spreader for \$3000 to replace the one on the back of the 1-ton Chevy. The old one will become surplus;
- e) The clutch went out on the new 2024 Plow Truck. It was a manufacturer issue and was repaired under warranty.

Works Department Report Received.

Building & Fire Department

Darryl Wagner, CBO & Fire Chief, was present and gave his report.

- a) The Department had ninety-five calls for service in 2023;
- b) Firehouse Training will be in Bonnechere Valley to provide staff with lithium-ion fire training. With the increasing amount of electric and hybrids traveling our roads, it is only a matter of time before we will be responding to a call;
- c) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing;
- d) In 2023, sixty-six building permits were issued and twenty-two septic permits were issued.

Fire Department & Building Report Received.

Recreation & Culture

Kevin McGrath, Manager of Recreation and Culture, was present and gave his report.

- a) GAME ON is a series of free programming for youth provided by Cheryl Kauffeldt-Supersad, who is the GAME ON! Mobile Youth Activity Program Coordinator from the Community Resource Centre in Killaloe. Cheryl will be providing all the staff, the materials and the equipment for free, once a month programming from January to May at the Eagles Nest. This programming would be similar to the day camp they provided last summer. Committee agreed to waive the fee for the 5 dates;
- b) Minor hockey tournaments kicked off January 14th and continue every Sunday into February. This means public skating is suspended during this period. There is also a high school hockey tournament on January 15th;
- c) Public Skating during the holidays brought in 45-70 plus people;
- d) The hall is being used for the hockey tournaments. Staff continue to have the Eagles Nest open on Friday evenings for the EHL;
- e) All of the Christmas decorations have been taken down in the Eagle's Nest;
- f) Staff are hosting the County Recreation Meeting on Wednesday, January 31st;
- g) Staff have been cleaning off the outdoor rink and will be flooding as soon as the weather permits (no snow and a string of weather cold enough to make ice);
- h) The Bonnechere Cup Banner went up January 3rd with the help of the Works Department and Allan Bruce of Bruce Pole Line;
- i) The Sno-Drifters Club is looking to provide the Township with an "in-kind" partnership regarding their use of our power at the arena. They will be sending a letter explaining their proposal;
- j) Staff have started working on the 2024 budget.

Recreation Report Received.

Finance

Sandra Barr, Deputy CAO, was present and gave her report.

- a) Finance staff are working on 2023-year end. The auditors will be on-site at the end of February to finalize the 2023-year end, which assists in preparing for 2024 budget deliberations in March;
- b) Tax Adjustment - Under Section 357 of the Municipal Act 2001, an application for an adjustment of taxes has been made for the following properties and an assessment report (attached hereto) has been received by MPAC. We require Council approval for these adjustments. Committee recommends that the application for an adjustment of taxes for 497 Howard Road be approved due to a demolition. And further that an adjustment of taxes in the amount of \$24.11 for 2022; and \$24.72 for 2023 be made to the property;
- c) The 2024 Water & Sewer rates have been calculated and the by-law for your approval has been prepared for passing tonight;
- d) Also included for tonight's Regular Meeting of Council are the 2024 Interim Borrowing By-law as well as the 2024 Interim Tax Billing By-Law;

- e) 2023 Council Remuneration - Under Section 284 of the Municipal Act, each year, on or before March 31 provide to the council of the municipality an itemized statement on remuneration and expenses paid in the previous year to members of Council.

Financial Report Received.

Administration

Annette Gilchrist, CAO, was present and gave her report.

- a) As a designated public sector organization with one or more employees, Bonnechere Valley Township is legally required to file a 2023 Accessibility Compliance Report by December 31, 2023. As an institution that is subject to the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)*, we are required to submit annual statistics to the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario. This report was completed and as there were no requests for information or privacy concerns it resulted in nothing to report for 2023;
- b) Following the December 6th Strategic Planning Workshop. Four Mission Statements were provided to staff and council and a 5th selection for none of the above. The below Statement received 50% of the votes from staff and council and is our current statement:

To make our community an affordable, efficient place where people choose to live, work, visit and participate in a culture that fosters communication, rural lifestyle, personal growth, and healthy commerce.

Following our first Senior Leadership Team meeting in 2024 we will review the objectives and a full report will come forward at the second meeting in February;

- c) On April 8th 2024 there will be a total eclipse with any exposure causing eye damage immediately. We are in the path at 100% for the duration which takes place in the afternoon. Annette Gilchrist is recommending that we close the offices and facilities that day for the health and safety of our staff. Staff that have the ability can still work from home answering emails or attending meetings on zoom. Should infrastructure maintenance be required, staff could work outside however outside work should be avoided in the afternoon. The morning and evening should be fine. Committee recommends that the office be closed for the day;
- d) The RCCDSB, RCDSB and the Joint Transportation Consortium have all gotten together and moved the planned PA day from April 26 to April 8 and the teachers are told to be working from home that day and the school busses will not be running at all or for any rentals that day. Staff had a bus booked for our road and facility tour that day, however now that school is back on April 26th we are unable to rent a bus. Staff can rent one on June 28th should Council wish to postpone our tour. Committee recommends that the road and facility tour be moved to June 28th, 2024;
- e) March madness preparations are underway. Staff are waiting for to hear from some community groups to add their events to the March Madness calendar;
- f) Easter Egg Hunt - Easter is early this year. Staff are planning on having our Easter Egg Hunt on March 16th at McRae Park. It will be incorporated into our March Madness Festivities;
- g) Canada Day – Staff have booked Capital Pyrotechnics and Spencer Sharf for Canada Day. Staff has received a quote from Ry-J's Climbing Adventures and will proceed with booking;
- h) The January/February newsletter was distributed the last week of December for Bonnechere Valley residents;
- i) A revised draft of the Community Welcome Guide was provided to Committee. Please let staff know if there are any more changes;
- j) Staff are applying for a grant to cover costs of new signage around town. Staff are also pursuing discussions for donations to support this project and for some of the materials to be donated in kind;
- k) EACDG is in a transition period with a couple executive members stepping down from their roles. The next meeting will be on January 10th to discuss the future of the group.

Administrative Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

1. AMO Policy Update Dec 15
2. AMO Training Opportunities
3. AMO Watchfile Dec 21
4. AMO Watchfile Jan 4
5. AMO Watchfile Jan 11

(B) Correspondence "B"

1. Letter to MPP Piccini Re Rising Municipal Insurance Costs
2. Letter to C. Freeland Minister of Finance of Canada - Support BIA Letter
3. Conmee Resolution on Criminal Records and the Elected
4. Letter-Aurora Resolution Community Safety and Inciteful Speech
5. Letter-Aurora Resolution- Homelessness Crisis
6. Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request - Tay Township
7. Sunshine Coach Request
8. Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of E

(C) Correspondence "C"

- B7. Committee recommends support of the Sunshine Coach Request

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday February 6, 2024

MEDIA SESSION

CONCLUSION

MOVED BY **Merv Buckwald**

THAT: the meeting adjourns at 2:36 p.m.

Carried

Brent Patrick, Chair

Annette Gilchrist, CAO