

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY APRIL 2, 2024 1:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING**

PRESENT **Mayor Jennifer Murphy
Deputy Brent Patrick
Councillor John Epps
Councillor Tracey Sanderson
CAO Annette Gilchrist
Deputy CAO Sandra Barr**

REGRETS **Councillor Merv Buckwald**

GALLERY **None**

CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair, Brent Patrick called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED BY **John Epps**

THAT: The agenda be accepted as presented with the addition of Item 8.5 Royal Canadian Legion Request Parking Lot Request. Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY **Jennifer Murphy**

That: The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on February 19, 2024 be accepted as presented. Carried

DELEGATIONS

James McBain, CEO and Darla McBain, General Manager, Municipal Law Enforcement Services

James and Darla made a presentation to Committee on the complaint and investigation processes of MLES.

REPORTS

Water & Sewer Department

Daryl Verch, Water & Sewer Manager was present and gave his report.

- a) The Eganville Drinking Water System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements;
- b) There were six electrical actuated butterfly valves installed on the Mono Plant Filtering System;
- c) The four sand and anthracite filter compartments had filter media added to them;
- d) Performed maintenance on all the chemical feed barrels;
- e) Flushed twenty fire hydrants including the thirteen dead end hydrants;
- f) The Eganville Sewage System continues to operate in full compliance according to the Provincial Guidelines that are set out in the Certificate of Approval;
- g) Housing Enabling Fund – Committee was provided with a quote from JLR detailing what is required to apply for the HEWSF Grant for improvements to water, sewer and storm infrastructure. The Township will need to invest \$184,000 in order to be able to access this \$825 million dollar fund. Staff recommends that we use \$121,587 of the current year Gas Tax Funding and the remaining balance be funded through water and sewer reserves. Committee approves in principle and directed staff to proceed and a resolution for a sole source procurement and if we are successful in the funding application we will

tender for the project. This supports the Townships Priority of "Grant Opportunities" as it relates the objective of "Secure >\$1M in funding".
Water & Sewer Report Received.

Works & Waste Department

Jason Zohr, Works Superintendent was present and gave his report.

- a) Tender BV-2401 Rehabilitation of Zadow Road – Three bids were received. Construction can commence on July 8, 2024. Committee recommends that Tender BV24-01 for the rehabilitation of Zadow Road be awarded to McCrea Excavating Ltd. in the amount of \$916,098.91 including HST. This project supports to Townships Priority of "Smart Infrastructure" as it relates the objective of "Prioritize Road Upgrades";
- b) Ditch & Community Clean-up Days 2024 - Any Bonnechere Valley resident that assists to clean-up our ditches and community can take their bag of garbage for free to the Sand Road Waste Site on Saturday, April 20, 2024 and Saturday, April 27, 2024. This is great timing as it coincides with Earth Day, which is Monday, April 22, 2024;
- c) February 2024 Summary of Vehicle Counts - In the table below you will find stats for the month of February 2024 for all our waste sites and the tallies are based on vehicle counts from the waste site attendants;

Waste Site	# of Vehicles	# of H.H Bags	Glass/ Cans	Paper/ Card board	Metal	Organics	WEE	Appliances
Sand Road	745	925	447	476	34	20	38	13
Lake Clear	172	269	181	181	0	43	0	0
McGrath Road	147	183	139	137	0	17	0	0
Ruby Road	206	128	128	108	44	42	0	0
Hwy 41	169	218	157	157	0	15	0	0
Totals	1439	1723	1052	1059	78	137	38	13
Waste Site	# of Vehicle s	Const/ Demo	WEE	Bulky	Tires	Metal	Free Pas s	Weight KG's
Sno Drifters	36	35	0	7	5	5	4	31,340

- d) Product Care Meeting - Staff participated in a meeting with Product Care to discuss their Lighting Program;
- e) County of Renfrew Transportation Master Plan - The Transportation Master Plan is a strategic policy document that will serve as a road map for short-range, medium-range, and long-range transportation infrastructure investments, as well as multi-modal transportation planning. A virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) Meeting was held on Tuesday March 26, 2024 to present and gather feedback on the Transportation Master Plan study process. Community input was needed on travel conditions, community characteristics, transportation infrastructure, as well as next steps in the Transportation Master Plan study;
- f) Circular Materials - Jason, Annette and Dana met with Circular Materials to discuss how our services for Blue Box Transition would look for our residents. Staff will be looking into a contract for our recycling services for 2025 but in 2026 the program is set to change again but there are no further details at this time. This supports the Townships priority of "Smart Infrastructure" as it is related to the objective of "Waste management using Circular economy";
- g) Public Works Crew - The crew has been busy conducting maintenance on the equipment so that they are in good shape for next fall/winter. They have also been able to get a head start on grading, patching and cutting of trees;
- h) 2023 Western Star Plow Truck - We have been without the 2023 Western Star Plow Truck for the last month as the radiator has gone in this piece of equipment;
- i) Eclipse 2024 - The Public Works Department will work until 12 pm (noon) on Monday, April 8, 2024. However, if there is an emergency that requires our attention then we will return to work;

Works Department Report Received.

Building & Fire Department

Darryl Wagner, CBO & Fire Chief. Report submitted.

- a) The Department had seventeen calls for service in January – March 2024;
- b) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing;
- c) Level 1 Fire Ban, campfires only, went into effect March 27, 2024;
- d) Junior Fire Fighter Program going well;
- e) On April 24th five local CBOs will be speaking with Opeongo High School students regarding the requirements and the path most of the CBO's went down to become a Chief Building Official;
- f) Two building permits have been issued in January 2024.

Fire Department & Building Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

1. AMO Watchfile March 14
2. AMO Watchfile March 21
3. AMO Watchfile March 28
4. AMO Policy Update Budget and Housing Strategy
5. AMO Policy Update New Deal for Ottawa

(B) Correspondence "B"

1. Township of Clearview Endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons
2. AODA Funding Request for support
3. OVTA Sponsorship Opportunities Form
4. Loyalist Township request for support for upload of Highway Infrastructure
5. Enbridge request for support
6. Request for support to Amend Ontario Heritage Act-Subsection 27
7. Request for Support for Pipeline Subsidy
8. Request from Farmers Market
9. Resolution Briefing note Ontario Roadside Zoos
10. Resolution - Township of Terrace Bay - Energy Transition
11. Resolution - Twp of Adelaide Metcalfe - Tile Drain Loan Amount

(C) Correspondence "C"

- B.5 Committee recommends supporting the letter from Enbridge and directed staff to send a letter of support.
- B.6 Committee recommends supporting the resolution to Amend Ontario Heritage Act-Subsection 27 and directed staff to bring a resolution to the April 16 Council meeting.
- B.8 Committee agreed to cover the costs of hanging and removing the Eganville Farmers banner. The banner will be hung for the month of June.
- B.9 Committee recommends supporting the resolution for Ontario Roadside Zoos and directed staff to bring a resolution to the April 16 Council meeting.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (1)** Mayor's Report - Since the last Mayor's Report, the Mayor attended 20 meetings and several events. Some of the highlights are as follows:

County Council reviewed areas of the 2024 Provincial budget, which was released March 26, that will impact the County of Renfrew which include continued funding for the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC VTAC); a path for funding the new mesa program; a new \$1 billion Municipal Housing

Infrastructure Program; an increase to the Housing-Enabling Water and Sewer Fund, including communal systems, and a new \$200 million community, sport and recreation infrastructure fund that may help aging facilities in our communities. The County will continue to advocate for our fair share of infrastructure funding, including a commitment for Highway 17 expansion to and beyond the Town of Renfrew.

The County of Renfrew also discussed the early warm weather combined with the early snow melt and lower than usual precipitation this past winter that is resulting in dry conditions that could result in an early fire season. Local municipal fire departments have already been called to grass and brush fires, prompting some departments to implement fire bans. Bonnechere Valley is currently in a Level 1 Fire Ban.

County Council adopted a revised By-law to Establish and Require Payment of User Fees and Charges. Among the changes are increases to hourly rates for administration services since the rates had not been increased since 2016. There is also a new \$750 fee within Public Works and Engineering for speed/traffic review requests.

In the pursuit of tackling chronic homelessness within Renfrew County, an interdisciplinary collaborative team of County staff, in partnership with community service providers, is moving forward with a transitional supportive housing model. With a clear vision of prioritizing a "Housing First" approach, this model aims to establish supportive transitional housing for individuals enduring chronic homelessness, defined as lasting more than six months and compounded by health complexities such as mental health disorders and/or addictions. County staff are diligently crafting a memorandum of understanding to secure rental acquisition of approximately 20 units within the Pembroke area. The ambitious objective is to welcome the first guests into their new homes by the fall of 2024, marking a significant stride towards addressing homelessness and fostering stability and health within the community.

Work on the retrofit of the new Eganville Paramedic Base is ongoing. A Zensity webpage for the project features construction updates and provides the viewer with a description of the project along with progress images. The overall project is approximately 60% complete.

The Warden, Peter Emon, CAO, Craig Kelley and Jennifer Murphy conducted first round interviews for the position of Director of Corporate Services. Second round of interviews will be conducted in the next few weeks.

Renfrew County and District Health Unit - As previously reported, the Board of RCDHU voted against a merger with North Bay/Parry Sound Health Unit. After exhausting the possibility of merging with other Health Units in Eastern Ontario, the Board voted unanimously to investigate a partnership with the County of Renfrew. A transformational collaboration between Renfrew County and District Health Unit and the County of Renfrew, City of Pembroke and Township of South Algonquin, is a mutually beneficial step toward improving the health and wellbeing of our communities, keeping local needs and the residents of our region at the centre of our collective local decision making. The County proposed the submission of an application to fund the exploration and creation of a business plan that supports local autonomy and capacity building through the alignment of the Renfrew County and District Public Health Unit and the Municipality of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew.

There are clear strengths and navigable challenges that accompany the co-creation of a shared direction to successfully fulfill both public health and municipal mandates. The unique geographic and demographic features that define the Renfrew County and District Health Unit and County of Renfrew, including the City of Pembroke and Township of South Algonquin as well as the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation, service delivery models frame the distinct cultural and health needs of this diverse and rich community.

This innovative approach is a commitment to the service delivery of the local health unit and is based upon supporting the priorities and goals of both the Renfrew County and District Health Unit and County of Renfrew Strategic Plans. It is informed by the consolidated input from relevant documents, memorandums of understanding, agreements and position papers compiled from 2017 to the present to optimize our shared understanding of the historical context, expert analysis and the current state of local public health and municipal service priorities.

The Bonnechere Valley Easter Egg Hunt was a great event in McRae Park. Thank you to Sarah and Annette for organizing and a big thanks to our Easter Bunny who posed with the kids for photo ops.

It was my honour to drop the puck with Terry and Donna Sharpe, and Monique from the Robbie Dean Centre at the Lisa Sharpe Memorial Hockey Tournament. Proceeds from this Tournament go to the Robbie Dean Centre to aid in mental health support for youth and young adults. Also, of note, the Ottawa Valley Concrete and Murphy's Auto black team won!

On Friday, March 29th, Councillor Sanderson and Jennifer Murphy attended the Good Friday Prayer Walk facilitated by Reverend Claire Bamma. It was a multi-denominational prayer hour and was very well attended. Notations and prayers were said at St. James The Less Catholic Church, the Eganville Legion Branch 353, the Professional Building/Trinity Down Counselling, the Eganville Clothing Bank, the Training and Learning Centre, the Eganville Food Bank, the Tourist Booth/Bonnechere Union Public Library and the Township Office. Prayers were said for our Council, Township Staff and our First Responders;

- (2) Reminder of Public Planning Meeting at 5:15pm and 5:20pm;
- (3) Police Services Board Update – Committee recommends that Merv Buckwald be appointed to the Killaloe Detachment Police Service Board for a period concurrent with the present term of Council and that the Mayor shall be recognized as an ex-officio member of the Killaloe Detachment Police Services Board and as such has the same rights as other Committee Members but is not obligated to attend meetings unless Merv Buckwald cannot attend;
- (4) Bonnechere River Watershed Standing Advisory Committee Update – There is no update available at this time; and
- (5) Royal Canadian Legion Parking Lot Request – Committee directed the Roads Department to help the Legion with filling some potholes in their parking lot the next time they are in the area patching Township Roads.

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Meeting will be held on April 16, 2024.

MEDIA SESSION

CLOSED SESSION

MOVED BY **Tracey Sanderson**

THAT: Committee proceed in Closed Session in accordance with the Municipal Act 2001, section 239.2 to deal with the matters as indicated below:

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

Carried

MOVED BY **John Epps**

THAT: Committee moves out of Closed Session to rise and report that Committee met to receive information and give staff direction regarding a nomination and to approve minutes from February 20th 2024.

Carried

CONCLUSION

MOVED BY **John Epps**

THAT: the meeting adjourns at 3:26 p.m.

Carried

Brent Patrick, Chair

Annette Gilchrist, CAO