

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY  
MINUTES  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY DECEMBER 17, 2024 1:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM  
CONFERENCING**

**PRESENT**            **Mayor Jennifer Murphy  
Councillor John Epps  
Councillor Tracey Sanderson  
Councillor Merv Buckwald  
CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist  
Treasurer/Deputy CAO Sandra Barr**

**REGRETS**            **Deputy Mayor Brent Patrick**

**GALLERY**            **None**

**CALL TO ORDER    COMMITTEE MEETING**

Chair, Jennifer Murphy called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

**MOVED BY**            **Tracey Sanderson**

**THAT:** the agenda be accepted as amended with the addition of Item #2 Water Treatment Plant GAC Tank Recoating and Item #3 Painting of Municipal Door.

Carried

**PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY**            **John Epps**

**That:** The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on December 3, 2024 be accepted as presented.

Carried

**DELEGATIONS**

**REPORTS**

**Recreation & Culture**

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

- a) The Township Christmas Party was held on December 14<sup>th</sup>;
- b) Private ice rentals are filling up for over the Christmas break;
- c) The Parent, Tot and Senior Skate has been well attended the last couple of skates have had approximately 20 participants;
- d) There is a Girls High School Hockey Tournament scheduled on December 15<sup>th</sup> with six games;
- e) Figure Skating is hosting their Ice Show on December 20<sup>th</sup>;
- f) Public skating has been well attended with 50 or more people;
- g) The arena is closed December 24, 25, 26, 31 and January 1<sup>st</sup>;
- h) Adam Bernard has started a Hockey program every Friday morning before school at 7:30am. This program started on December 6<sup>th</sup> and will carry into the New Year;
- i) EDPS rents out the ice twice a week for kids' skating;
- j) Friday night Men's hockey (EHL) is continuing through the Christmas break;
- k) Staff are waiting for a new mixer valve for the water heater. Harington Mechanical LTD has done a workaround for the interim;
- l) Eagles Nest - There is a Craft Show on December 15<sup>th</sup> and there are four other bookings for the Eagles Nest;

- m) Centennial Park – Staff are waiting for the weather to get cold enough to start the outdoor rink;
- n) The Legion banners have been taken down and winter banners have been put up;
- o) The Tree Lighting was on Friday December the 6<sup>th</sup>, hot chocolate was served and there was live music.

*Recreation Report Received.*

### **Finance**

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

- a) The December 10, 2024 Provisional Budget Report is in your package, along with the Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2024;
- b) Calculated and billed out property tax Write Off's in the amount of \$1,789.99;
- c) Calculated and billed out the final supplemental billing in 2024. Total supplemental billing was \$13,788.67;
- d) Transferred \$56,829.32 in water and sewer arrears over to the property tax accounts under Section 398(2) of the Municipal Act, R.S.O.2001, as amended;
- e) On November 27, 2024 we received \$63,092.05 for the CCBF, which included a 2024 surplus payment amount of \$1,815.26;
- f) On December 2, 2024 we received \$96,159.00 our sixth and final installment of Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) payment for 2024;
- g) On Thursday December 12, 2024 I attended a Renfrew County Clerk's and Treasurer's meeting in McNab Braeside;
- h) Processed the final volunteer Fire Fighter payroll for 2024 in the amount of \$31,479.

*Financial Report Received.*

### **Administration**

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

- a) Since December 3<sup>rd</sup> Annette attended an Elections group meeting, Renfrew County Clerks and Treasurers, Inspiring Women's Forum Focus Group, FCM Community Building, Electrification and Energy Management Meetings;
- b) Meetings continue with Whitewater Region and North Algona Wilberforce regarding our agreement for the EV Chargers, Vehicles and On Demand Program;
- c) Annette will be joining a panel discussion on Navigating the Future of Municipal Waste Management at the ROMA conference;
- d) Work continues with Algonquin College and AMCTO on a summer jobs initiative which is being presented to the Algonquin Board in January;
- e) The Report to the Privacy Commissioner for 2024 is due in the new year. We only received one Freedom of Information Request in February and the record was sent to the requestor with only personal information such as the name phone number and date of birth redacted. The requestor appealed to the Privacy Commissioner, and we are working on resolving the appeal;
- f) Election 2026 Alternative Voting Recommendation – Committee recommends that the Township of Bonnechere Valley approve Vote by Mail as an alternative voting method for the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election; and that staff be directed to bring a by-law forward to Council to establish this alternative voting method;
- g) Tree Lighting 2024 - The Tree Lighting went well. We had a smaller crowd than last year, but still served hot chocolate and sang Christmas carols;
- h) Christmas Parade 2024 - Unfortunately, we were notified Friday afternoon the Christmas Parade would need to be postponed/canceled due to the weather that was predicted. The parade has been rescheduled for Friday evening, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm;
- i) Career/Job Fair 2025 - Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm at the Eagle's Nest is booked. Staff have invited local employers who have expressed interest in participating. Sarah Richer will start advertising in the New Year;

- j) March Madness 2025 – Sarah Richer is meeting with Camp Smitty in January to plan March Break Day Camp;
  - k) Easter Egg Hunt 2025 – Sarah Richer is proposing that the Easter Egg hunt be held on April 5<sup>th</sup>;
  - l) BV Newsletter - The January/February 2025 newsletter information call went out. If the postal strike is not over in time to mail the newsletters before Christmas, they will be available in print at the office as well as on our website;
  - m) Eganville & Area Community Development Group met in December. They are planning the beer and wine festival for June and are looking into the possibility of a fundraising rubber duck race down the river on Canada Day.
- Administrative Report Received.*

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **(A) Correspondence "A"**

- 1. AMO Watchfile Nov 28
- 2. AMO Watchfile Dec 5
- 3. AMO Watchfile Dec 12
- 4. AMO Policy Pre-Budget Submission
- 5. EOWC Newsletter
- 6. CountyCouncilSummaryNovember2024
- 7. Thank you from Enbridge
- 8. Letter from Solicitor General re OPP Costs
- 9. AMO Policy Update

### **(B) Correspondence "B"**

- 1. MMAH letter re Review of Municipal Accountability Act
- 2. Resolutions in Support of Ontario Deposit Return Program
- 3. Deep River Resolution re Blue Box Ineligibles
- 4. County of Renfrew LTR to Minister Sarkaria re Hwy 17
- 5. Proposed Amendments to Modernize the EMCPA

### **(C) Correspondence "C"**

- B.1 Committee directed staff to submit comments regarding by election and term by the deadline date.
- B.4 Committee supports the County of Renfrew letter to Minister Sarkaria regarding Highway 17;

## **NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- (1)** 2025 to 2026 Council Proposals – Committee discussed their proposals and priorities for 2025 and 2026;
- (2)** Water Treatment Plant GAC Tank Recoating – Committee approves the sole source purchase of Tank Recoating Services from Mulders Inspection Services Co. Ltd. to an upset limit of \$162,100 plus HST;
- (3)** Painting of Municipal Door – Committee agreed to have the door at the municipal office painted by local artists with a scene and will discuss where the funds will come from at budget deliberations.

## **ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday January 14, 2024 at 1:30 pm.

**MEDIA SESSION**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**MOVED BY**            **Merv Buckwald**

**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 employees

(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria, or instruction to be applied to negotiations

Carried

**MOVED BY**            **John Epps**

**THAT:** Council moves out of Closed Session at 4:19 p.m. to rise and report that Council met to receive information and give staff direction regarding the recent structure fire, the municipal parking lot at the Library and approved minutes from October 15 2024.

Carried

**CONCLUSION**

**MOVED BY**            **Tracey Sanderson**

**THAT:** the meeting adjourns at 4:19 p.m.

Carried

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Jennifer Murphy, Chair

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Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk