

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY APRIL 11, 2023 1:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING**

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

REGRETS **None**

GALLERY **2**

CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE MEETING

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

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED BY **Merv Buckwald**

THAT: the agenda be accepted as presented with the addition of Item #8.3 Standing Action Committee Meeting and a discussion about "Ditch Day" under reports with Jason Zohr. Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY **Tracey Sanderson**

That: The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on March 21, 2023 be accepted as presented. Carried

DELEGATIONS **None**

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) The installation of the three silent backflow valves have been completed on the high lift pumps and treated water discharge pipe;
- c) The Ministry of the Environment Inspector was at the Water Plant to finish up and complete the 2022 report;
- d) The raw water inlet piping was changed out with stainless steel;
- e) The Eganville Sewage System continues to operate in full compliance according to the Provincial Guidelines that are set out in the Certificate of Approval;
- f) A new gearbox and motor was installed on the #1 sludge drive and the two sewage plants are working in time for the spring flows.

Water & Sewer Report Received.

Works & Waste Department

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

- a) Staff have been busy with winter maintenance, opening ditches and culverts;
- b) Staff have been busy with an influx of Bell locates, more than two per week;
- c) Roads Department has been busy with the transition of the Hazardous Waste Recycling Programs. Bonnechere Valley transitions this year for hazardous and special waste but the Blue Box Recycling transition does not take place till 2025;
- d) Working with the Surveyors on Wieland Shore Topographical and Boundary Survey;

- e) Review of Road Allowance requests and severance applications are ongoing;
- f) Recruitment for a replacement for the Administrative Assistant who is retiring in October has also commenced; and
- g) Ditch Day – Saturday April 22 and Saturday April 29 will be Ditch Days and residents can take waste collected from the ditch to the waste sites on those days, for no charge. The event will be posted on the Township’s social media accounts and on the electronic sign.

Works Department Report Received.

Fire Department

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

- a) The department had eight calls for service in 2023;
- b) Effective April 1 until October 31 we are in the Provincial Fire Season and there is no day time burning. Burning is permitted two hours prior to sunset and must be extinguished two hours after sunrise;
- c) The recruiting process is ongoing;
- d) All apparatus and equipment remain service ready. Yearly equipment servicing and certification are underway;
- e) There are training records for the volunteers and staff are working on completing legacy applications that need to be submitted by fall.

Fire Department Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

1. Annual Work Schedule - Algonquin Park Forest
2. Ottawa Valley Forest - Inspection Notice
3. AMO - Human Rights and Equity
4. AMO Policy Update - 2023 Provincial Budget
5. AMO Policy Update - Housing and Homelessness
6. AMO Policy Update Less Red Tape Stronger Economy Act
7. AMO Watchfile - April 6
8. FCM - Housing Accelerator Fund
9. AMO Policy Update - Canada 2023 Budget
10. County Council Update March 2023
11. End Violence Against Women - Presentation March 29 2023
12. Environment and Climate Change Canada - Traffic Market Coating
13. Letter from Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

(B) Correspondence "B"

1. City of Cambridge Resolution - Barriers for Women in Politics
2. Municipality of Calvin - English Public School Boards
3. Town of Plympton Wyoming - Accurate Voters List
4. Township of Lucan Biddulph - Future Accuracy of the Permanent Register of Electors
5. Western Ontario Wardens Caucus - Cannabis Act Review
6. Township of Howick - CN Railway Contribution Requirements
7. Municipality of North Perth - School Bus Stop Arm Cameras
8. MNRF- Floating Accommodations
9. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - EA process review
10. Fondation Émergence - International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia
11. Township of Lake of Bays - Municipal Oath of Office

12. Township of Horton - Food Insecurity
 13. Echo Centre - Parking Lot Request
 14. County of Renfrew - Violence Against Women
 15. 2023 GLPOA - Sponsorship Request
 16. Town of Plympton-Wyoming - Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act
 17. Town of Plympton-Wyoming - Municipalities Retaining Surplus Proceeds from Tax Sales
 18. Request for Car Show
 19. Support Letter for reducing municipal insurance costs
- B.10 Committee recommends support of International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia through the Township's electronic sign;
- B.13 Echo Centre Parking Lot Request - Committee recommends support of this request;
- B.14 County of Renfrew Violence Against Women – Committee supports Violence Against Women and the resolution will come forward to the April 11 meeting of Council;
- B.15 2023 GLPOA Sponsorship Request – Committee recommends support of the Sponsorship;
- B.18 Request for Car Show – Committee supports the car show;
- B.19 Support Letter for reducing municipal insurance costs – Committee supports this initiative and the resolution will come to the April 25 meeting of Council.

(C) Correspondence "C"

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (1)** Mayor's Report – The Mayor attended 21 meetings and several events in the month of March. Some of the highlights are as follows:

On March 17th, Jennifer Murphy attended a ROMA Board meeting. At that meeting they received reports on Drainage issues, Expansion of Presumptive Coverage for cancer for Firefighters and the new Excess Soil Regulation. They also received the results of the January ROMA Conference which were very positive from a financial perspective and delegate experience.

On March 24th, MPP Yakabuski made the announcement at Renfrew County Place, that RCVTAC will have permanent funding. This fiscal year, the Province has committed 3.2 million for this incredible initiative that was born here in Renfrew County. This model could potentially be rolled out across the Province. Congratulations to former Warden Robinson and to our Paramedic Service who advocated for this form of health care during the pandemic and beyond.

The Mayor thanked CAO Annette Gilchrist, the Senior Leadership Team, and Council for a very successful 2023 budget which was completed on March 27. This was a very challenging year, but the Mayor believes that excellent decisions were made for our ratepayers.

On March 29th, the mayor attended County Council. Of note, we had three very interesting delegations.

JoAnne Brooks, Coordinator for End Violence Against Women - Renfrew County (EVA) and Lisa Oegema, Anti-Human Trafficking Program Manager, Victim Services of Renfrew County, appeared before council to highlight the work of the two groups to eliminate violence against women in Renfrew County and to ask council to act and endorse recommendation #1 from the jury at the coroner's inquest into the murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam. EVA also asked Renfrew County to take action on Recommendations 8, 10, 19, 21, 23, 49 and 52 which will be discussed at a future meeting of the Community Services Committee.

Chris VanDooren, Senior Program Manager, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) provided an overview of Asset Management. A free interactive workshop on current constraints, potential opportunities, and upcoming challenges in sustainable service delivery in relation to asset management is planned for April 27 in Bonnechere Valley Township and is open to all interested municipal leaders and staff.

Jason St. Pierre, Chief Executive Officer and Koren Lam, Technical Analyst, Eastern Ontario Regional Network provided an update on the Cell Gap Project. The goals are to achieve 99% coverage in the eastern Ontario region where people live, work and travel on major roadways so that they can make and receive cell phone calls; achieve 95% coverage with standard definition service level which can support email, web browsing and social media services and 85% coverage with high-definition service level which can support video conferencing, movie streaming and other more data intensive applications. Confidential updates were also provided to Council on the ongoing cell and fiber builds across the County.

The County Council update was provided to Committee. The Mayor acknowledged that Sarah Schuster attended County and was introduced to the Council and Staff.

The Mayor was honoured to help drop the puck at the Lisa Sharpe Memorial 4 on 4 Hockey Tournament that was held at the Eganville Arena. On March 28, she presented a cheque for \$5,850.00 to the Phoenix Centre to assist in their efforts to provide more mental health services for youth in our community.

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network has now onboarded new elected and public members. Pierre Leroux was elected as Chair and the Mayor was elected as Vice-Chair. They had their AGM on April 6 to review past projects and new priorities. As always, the cell gap project is of the utmost importance however there have been delays in new builds due to many factors. Through the direction of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus we are examining the expansion of the scope of work by EORN to include solutions to the housing crisis and ways that we can utilize our model for this initiative across Eastern Ontario.

The Mayor thanked Recreation and Roads staff for handling damage after the April 5/6th ice storm, and our Fire Department who had a lot of calls over the Easter Weekend.

Also thanks to Kevin for being on hand to have the Fourth Chute guard rail cut back by County so that our Roads' and Rec departments can now build the path down to Fourth Chute falls.

And thank you to Dana and Dave Barkley, Annette and Sarah for putting on a fantastic Easter Egg Hunt last Saturday. And a thank you to our Easter Bunny and Donald and Daffy Duck!! This event was very well attended and everyone had a blast.

On behalf of Council and Staff, the Mayor sent condolences to the family of Ron Nelson, he will be missed;

- (2) EGC Update – Annette Gilchrist updated Committee on the business of the Corporation. The 2022 Financial Statements will be brought forward and the 2023 budget to an upcoming meeting of the Shareholders; and
- (3) Standing Action Committee Meeting – Merv Buckwald attended the SAC meeting on behalf of the Township. There are still eighteen inches of ice on Golden Lake and the water had risen two inches at that time. The new Round Lake Water Management Plan is now in effect. Things are looking good in the water shed.

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 25, 2023

MEDIA SESSION

CLOSED SESSION

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;

(d) labour relations or employee negotiations;

(j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value;

(k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board;

Carried

THAT: Committee moves out of Closed Session to rise and report that Committee met to receive information and give staff direction regarding the Boat Launch at Opeongo Mountain Resort, Auditor Services, Staffing Changes, Senior of the Year and to approve minutes from March 21, 2023.

Carried

CONCLUSION

MOVED BY **Merv Buckwald**

THAT: the meeting adjourn at 2:54 p.m.

Carried

Brent Patrick, Chair

Annette Gilchrist, CAO