Perth-Andover Village Council Meeting Minutes

ONLINE MEEETING
Monday, May 2nd, 2022

Present: Mayor Bell, – Deputy Mayor McPhail, Councillors - Sheila Cummings, Cindy McLaughlin, Sheldon Shaw, Jason Green and Dan Dionne, CAO

1. Mayor Bell called the meeting to order, and no conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Councillor Cummings ***MOVED*** the approval of the April 11th meeting minutes. ***SECONDED*** by Deputy Mayor McPhail. ***MOTION CARRIED.***

3. The CAO presented an update on Local Government Reform which included an update on the municipal flyer, survey and newsletter information asking for public feedback on the name and type of municipality for Entity 77.

4. Council discussed Regional Service Commission reform and the roles and responsibilities they will take on. Council would also like clarification on economic development, tourism promotion and cost sharing of new regional services. After discussing the three options for economic development services that were presented to them, Council decided the most beneficial option would be a partnership with other municipalities to provide these services on a regional basis. Mayor Bell thanked CAO Dan Dionne and Councillor Sheila Cummings for all their efforts on behalf of the Village during this process.

5. Council discussed the workplace safety policy with regards to vaccination requirements for PAFD members and summer students. A survey of the fire department members indicated 19 of 21 preferred to keep the vaccine mandate in place for all members and new members. It was ***MOVED*** by Councillor Green that PAFD follow the provincial directives for first responders that allow them to be unvaccinated if they follow provincial protocols for masking and testing. ***SECONDED*** by Councillor McLaughlin. ***MOTION DEFEATED***. Vaccine requirements will remain in place for PAFD and for all staff, future hired staff, and summer students.

6. The CAO provided a map of current and proposed locations for cameras in the Village. This was discussed with the RCMP as part of Council's Strategic Plan for Safety. The CAO suggested that Council consider developing a policy around cameras and who can access the footage. Council approved the five proposed locations and staff will provide pricing options for their next meeting.

7. The Gemtec Groundwater Study (GUDI) was presented for both wells. Council discussed the recommendations made by Gemtec and the CAO will follow up with Gemtec regarding GUDI classifications.

8. Correspondence was received from the provincial commissioner on systemic racism. The letter requested input from the community on diversity and inclusion in New Brunswick. Due to the short timeline for replies, this letter will go out as part of the weekly Village e-newsletter for public response. Mayor Bell will also reach out to the Commissioner to see if there are resources or materials available that could be used to raise discussions in the community around this issue.

9. Correspondence was received from the Food Bank asking that Council waive the Water & Sewer tax for their location on Aroostook Road. After discussion, Council decided they were not able to accommodate this request.

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10. The CAO presented Municipal Department reports, Strategic Plan updates, the Fire Department report and March financial reports to Council.

11. Mayor Bell provided an update from UNMB, and Councillors gave reports on their meetings representing the Village Council.

12. It was ***MOVED*** by Councillor Cummings that Council send a formal request to begin negotiations for the possible acquisition of NB Power customers within the new municipal service area. ***SECONDED*** by Deputy Mayor McPhail. ***MOTION CARRIED.***

13. The CAO advised Council that Minister Johnson will in the Village to discuss Tourism and will be meeting with staff, and any Councillors who wish to attend, at the Civic Centre on Monday, May 16th at 2:30 PM.

14. Meeting adjourned.