

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Ways and Means Committee held on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. In attendance were Mayor Myron Dyck, Deputy Mayor John Funk, Councillors John Falk, Kevin Stott and Chris Wiebe, G. Jim Buys (CAO), Ryan Dyck (Operations Manager) and Audrey Neufeld (recording secretary).

1. Staff Sgt. Ron Poirier joined the committee meeting at 8:00 a.m. and reviewed fourth quarter stats. Items reviewed included staffing challenges and increase in property crime. It was noted that the RCMP have increased their presence in Town.

REQUEST for written response from Council regarding the following:

- reducing the level of bilingual status for RCMP staff
- realignment of boundary for the St. Pierre detachment
- reducing the number of reporting meetings from 4 to 2 (Note that reports would still be available quarterly and if concerns were noted, meetings could be arranged)

(Staff Sgt. Ron Poirier left the meeting 9:05 a.m.)

Council will be reviewing the Town's video system during Planning Session.

2. Operations Manager Ryan Dyck provided an overview on the subject of well analysis at the Niverville Business Park. Current issue with Town well is the "Swan River" sand particles which challenge the reverse osmosis filtering system. (Note this is *not* a health concern.) Jeff Bell, a geo-physical engineer with Friesen Drillers will speak on this matter to council once the well analysis at the NBP is completed.
3. Referred Business
 - a. Residential Wind Turbines - Following up a request to install a wind turbine at a private residence within the Town. Council determined that since the current zoning by-law 663-08 does not speak to this topic, that an amendment is necessary. Amendment to the zoning by-law will stipulate that an application for a residential wind turbine be allowed as a conditional use – by-law amendment process to take 4-6 months to complete.
 - b. The Town did not receive negative feedback to the fireworks held at the Heritage Centre on December 6, 2014. Report from the Heritage Centre was not available for the meeting. Concurrence that fireworks regulations to remain as specified in the Fireworks By-law 651-07.

- c. RM of Hanover has approved the waste transfer site on a 5 year conditional use – hours of operation authorized for Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Transfer site info to be advertised in Talk of the Town. Suggestion for the use of a magnetic strip for 6th Avenue to reduce the number of flat tires.

(Dawn Penner joined the meeting.)

Review of current Niverville waste, recycling and composting system. Current compost site (behind curling rink) needs to be turned more frequently.

Consideration is given to move compost site to new location in the future – but to remain at current location for 2015.

Reviewed City of Dauphin waste collection system. Consideration given to the advantages/disadvantages of Town owned verses operator owned waste collection bins. Additional research is required on the merits of the program, impact on recycling and the coordination of contracts.

4. Concurrence that Operations Manager, working with the recreation director as to scheduling/sale of ice time, to use best judgement in the organizing of public skating during the holiday season.

Ice rental opportunities are to be advertised. Suggestion to have public skating regularly scheduled for in-service days.

5. New Business

- a. Road Infrastructure - Operations Manager Ryan Dyck is looking at options on short term verses long term solutions for road rehabilitation. Consideration include:
 - i. Short term/long term budgeting
 - ii. Should the Town hire a road inspector specializing in road analysis to ensure work is being completed in timely manner which in turn would serve as an in-house learning lesson?
 - iii. How can contracts be enforced? While penalty clause currently covers the cost of additional engineering, there seems to be little incentive to have firm's complete work on time.
 - iv. Should Council review its policy and hire an engineer above that provided jointly with developer to critique projects and ensure municipal standards are being complied to.
 - v. As part of the budgeting process, to bring forward a Town map showing the areas that are being considered for patching/micro seal/re-building. Ryan to plan to attend Planning Session to discuss infrastructure requirements.

- vi. Recommendation from Operations Manager to purchase a packer as this equipment prolongs the use of dust control and reduces washboards.
 - b. Policy required determining the maintenance standard for gravel roads including whether it should be “weighted” to reflect the number of people using the gravel road.
 - c. Speed Mitigation Measures – consensus that staff develop a policy implementing both “bumps and humps” for speed reduction. Policy to include benchmark(s) including petitions that are requirements before a speed bump gets installed.
 - d. Equipment – Staff are requesting that Council advise their philosophy with respect to repair or replacement of equipment. While specific equipment may differ, generally speaking a 20 year replacement plan is followed. Current equipment requiring significant repair or replacement include the following:
 - 1996 Ford Pickup – suggestion is to Tender for sale
 - Road sander – parts for current equipment are obsolete and unit is coming to end of useful life.
 - Olympia – unit should be replaced due to maintenance requirements. Ryan encouraged testing several used units and bringing back recommendation.
 - Sidewalk Sander – request for authorization to purchase an additional larger unit which will be included in 2015 capital budget plan.
6. Sewage Lagoon – Expansion
- Current lagoon site has 16 acres available. Consideration for using aeration cells in any expansion plans. A master plan designed by an engineering firm is required. In addition Council needs to define a policy on who will be bearing the cost of the expansion... new development or the entire community?