

Water & Sewer Department

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

- a) 2023 Water and Sewer Budget – Committee approved the Water & Sewer 2023 Budget and recommends a 4% increase to the rates for 2023. Committee will request funding from the EGC for water and sewer capital projects.

Water & Sewer Report Received.

Building & By-Law

Darryl Wagner, CBO/By-Law Enforcement Officer was present and gave his report.

- a) Building permit numbers for the year are up compared to last year;
- b) Darryl recently completed a Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing online course, he will be writing the exam in the new year;
- c) At the start of the new year, we will be launching Cloud Permitting. It will be a soft start to allow time for the public and staff to become familiar with the program. Over time it will be the only way to submit a permit;
- d) There were a total of seventeen by-law complaints in 2022. The majority were resolved. There is one lingering issue which requires more severe action. Additionally, Darryl has received requests for by law to intervene with regards to neighbor disputes. He will listen to the complainant, but as it is a legal matter, he advises them the Township does not get involved;
- e) Four dogs have been adopted to their forever homes. There is now only one dog still in our care. These four dogs had been in the pound for quite some time;
- f) Darryl Wagner and Tammy Beauchamp have visited the SPCA Pembroke facilities. As per the agreement, Bonnechere Valley dogs will be taken there shortly after they come into our possession. A report regarding the review of operations of the Animal Shelter will come forward at the February 21st meeting and the SPCA will be in attendance at that meeting to review their processes;
- g) Staff have begun to monitor the streets with regards to overnight parking. Eight tickets have been issued to date. As word spreads around town, staff anticipate compliance;
- h) Committee requested additional information on mini homes to be brought forward.

Building Report Received.

Recreation & Culture

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

- a) Christmas parade had a great turn out, over 50 floats were registered;
- b) Staff Christmas Party was very well attended;
- c) Private ice rentals are filling up over Christmas break;
- d) Parents / Tots and Seniors skate was well attended;
- e) Public skating has also been well attended with over 50 people per session;
- f) The Echo Center is continuing their in-kind skate program for seniors, parents and tots. The skate program takes place on Mondays at 1pm. Staff are looking into getting sponsors for the dates in January. Staff will be reviewing the program on a month by month to make sure that it gets used;
- g) Minor Hockey Held its first Eagles Day, which included every minor hockey team hosting a home game. Games started at 10am and went to 6pm. The Jr. B Valley Wolves help with the outdoor games. Minor Hockey participated in the Jr. B game;
- h) The Eganville Figure Skating Club is hosting a Christmas show on December 21. Liz Manley, 1988 Olympic Silver Medalist is the Emcee and David Shteyngart is starring in the show. David is a member of the NextGen Team Canada 2022-2023 International Figure Skating;
- i) The Renfrew County District School Board hosted a high school hockey tournament on December 14, 2022;
- j) The arena is closed December 24, 25, 26, 31 and January 1;
- k) Meeting with the Net Zero Project team on December 21, for both the curling rink and arena facilities;
- l) Renfrew County Catholic District School Board is putting up a wall advertisement sign for 2023;
- m) We have the Eagle's Nest Hall rented out for three other Christmas parties;

- n) Waiting on the weather to get cold enough to start up the outdoor rink;
- o) Plywood has been put up on one of the bathroom door due to it being kicked in;
- p) Beaver tails, Dec 9, 10 & 11. \$115.00 donated to the Eganville Food Bank;
- o) Great turn out for the tree lighting at the tourist booth;
- p) New water meters were installed in all recreation buildings;
- q) Gerber's Nursery completed the work of adding additional trails and cleared some trees; and
- r) Curling Rink – the wheelchair ramp is now complete.

Recreation, Community Development and Planning Report Received.

Administration

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

- a) The November financial reports are in your packages for your information. It is showing a \$164,413 deficit on the general fund and a surplus of \$98,775.88 on the water and sewer financials. December expenses and the recent water main breaks will spend up most of the surplus. We also have not transferred the large amount of reserves budgeted for capital. We are waiting for the final cost to come in so that we only take out of reserves what we need to.
- b) In 2021 Council approved the transfer of lands to the County of Renfrew for the improvement of County Road 512. We now have the land transfer agreement which will come to Council this evening to be passed by By-Law;
- c) While we wait for the official per-kilometre allowance for 2023 to be published the current, 2022 allowance for business-related driving approved by CRA is 61 cents per kilometre for the first 5000 km driven and 55 cents per kilometre after that. Currently we only pay 55 cents per kilometre. Staff are recommending that the Township adopt the CRA rate going forward. Committee approved the rates being in line with the CRA rates;
- d) Emergency Management - The Township completed its annual Emergency Exercise on December 5th. CEMC Erica Rice will now be able to file our Compliance report which is due by the end of the year;
- e) Health & Safety - The Health and Safety Policy requires Council approval on an annual basis. There were no changes in 2022. Committee recommends approval;
- f) Flood Mapping - Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) launched the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP) to flow federal funding, up to 50% reimbursement for eligible activities, to provinces and territories for eligible flood mapping projects through March 2024. The province of Ontario has existing light detection and ranging (LIDAR) data for a portion of Renfrew County that can be utilized to create flood hazard identification and mapping. County staff has organized multiple meetings with the local municipalities that are within the LIDAR data area and a number of these municipalities support the County submitting a group application. The application has been approved. The cost sharing with the federal and provincial governments is a 50/50 split. The County applied for \$155,000. The cost being \$75,000 and County's cost being \$80,000 plus \$5000 in-kind. The County has requested a letter of support for this project with Bonnechere Valley's portion being \$4,660 spread over two years. Staff recommend supporting the project funded partially through Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP). Committee recommends supporting the project;
- g) Fire - Committee was provided with a draft agreement for a fire practice burn of an old house on the Fourth Chute Road. Committee approved in principle, once the property owners sign the agreement, staff will bring the agreement back to Council for final approval and the department will plan a practice house fire sometime this winter. The agreement was drafted on the advice of our solicitors and insurance with comments requested from the Ministry;
- h) The Planners from the County of Renfrew were in our office on Tuesday, December 6th to conduct Planning Pre-consultation Meetings with our residents. They met with 5 residents to discuss their planning issues;
- i) The January/February 2023 edition of the BV newsletter is being compiled. We will have this ready for distribution by December 23, 2022;

- j) Bonnechere Valley's Tourism Strategy - Conducted the final Tourism Strategy information sessions at the end of November. The Consultant, Richard Innes from Brain Trust is in the process of compiling his report and was completed by December 16, 2022;
- k) Twenty-four marriage licenses issued since January 2022.
Administration Report Received.

Finance

Sandra Barr, Deputy CAO was present and reviewed the 2022 financial report.
Finance Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

- (i) AMO Communications
- (ii) AMO Watchfile

(B) Correspondence "B"

- (i) Aspire Youth Summit Request
- (ii) County of Renfrew Flood Hazard Funding Request for Support
- (iii) Speeding Complaint on Mill Street
- (iv) City of Stratford Resolution regarding Via Rail
- (v) Lanark Highlands OMAFRA Compensation Program
- (vi) Request to purchase portion of Untravelled Road

(C) Correspondence "C"

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (1)** Library Board Update – Brent Patrick updated the committee on the business of the library. Everything at the library is great. BUPL Rocks was held on Saturday November 12, 2022, and they raised \$5158. They also are selling Christmas Trees again this year as a fundraiser. Library staff were successful in obtaining the Post Pandemic Technology Revitalization Grant for \$27,000, this will allow them to increase the number Public Access Computers back up to eight, four staff computers, I-pads, mobile hotspots, and an interactive table.

- (2)** Mayor's Report –

Since the election the Mayor attended 29 meetings and several events.

The Bonnechere Youth Action Committee Scavenger Hunt took place on Saturday, September 24th in Centennial Park. For our first initiative, it was a great success. All ten teams had an amazing time and are looking forward to it being an annual event. This committee, under Councillor Sanderson's leadership, will regroup in January to put out a call for volunteers and plan some winter events. As these unfold, Councillor Sanderson can report on progress.

The Truth and Reconciliation Garden will be moved to Centennial Park in the Spring. Three issues of the current location were the odor from the sewage plant, lack of visibility and the lack of signage. The volunteers led by Sherri Miller chose a location and were in touch with Kevin to ensure that any maintenance could be achieved around the garden. The Eganville and Area Community Development Group are looking at further signage next year and I have asked that the Garden have better signage in the Village.

The Mayor thanked our CAO, Annette Gilchrist, for organizing the all the training and information sessions from the Senior Leadership Team and outside sources to ensure that Council was ready to hit the ground running in the new year.

The Renfrew and District Board of Health met several times over the last seven weeks. We thanked our outgoing interim Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Robert Cushman, for his tireless work over the past six years. At this time, active recruitment of a new Medical Officer of Health is underway. Former interim CEO,

Heather Daly, was made permanent CEO which will give the operation continuity and stability. I have not included stats on Covid or RSV in our area, due to the fact that these numbers change substantially every week. We are still running about two to three weeks behind the rest of the Province.

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network has some challenges with new builds and co-locations due to delays in equipment. Uplifts have no delays. Duty to Consult with our First Nation Partners is going very well. Early 2023 will be very business for EORN and Rogers.

The Eastern Ontario Leadership Council was updated by our three working groups which include Workforce Development and Deployment, Integrated, Intelligent Transportation System, and Technology, Integration, and Innovation.

The Ontario Winter Games is coming along very well. Committee has been hard at work in all areas including sponsorships and volunteer recruitment. The dates again are February 2-5 and 9-12, 2023. OWG merchandise is available for purchase at renfrewcounty2023.ca

The Eganville and Area Community Development Group is looking forward to planning projects and new opportunities for 2023 in January. New Mural locations are in discussion.

At the County Inaugural meeting, Peter Emon was acclaimed as Warden. From previous experience with Peter's leadership, we are in good hands. Through striking committee, Jennifer Murphy was again made Chair of Finance and Administration and remains part of the Health Committee. Jennifer is now the Chair of the Inter-Government Ad Hoc Committee which will liaise between the County and the City of Pembroke as well as the Provincial and Federal Governments. I also continue to sit on the Eastern Ontario Regional Network Board and the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council. This January, Jennifer will be running for Zone 6 for the Rural Ontario Municipal Association Board, Jennifer's nomination was certified by County Council last week.

There was a special meeting of County Council on December 12, 2022 for a few housekeeping ideas and a lot of Council Orientation.

On November 20th, the Eganville Skating Club hosted 1988 Olympic Silver Medalist, Elizabeth Manley, who thrilled about 30 children on and off the ice. It was my honour to welcome Elizabeth and present her with some treats from Dana and Dave Barkley's farm, a couple of local made items and a pair of earrings from one of our jewelry makers, Kayla Desjardins.

The Tree and Bridge Lighting on December 2nd was very well attended. Thanks to Michelle Robichaud and Jon Park Wheeler for leading the carols, Dave and Dana Barkley and Annette Gilchrist for warming the crowd up with hot chocolate and, of course, Kevin and Emma for lighting up Eganville. Also, thanks to Jason and his crew for preparing the bridge.

On December 2nd there was also an event to thank the Ontario Trillium Foundation for their contribution for Pop Up Art at Fifth Chute. Warden Peter Emon, Laura Lapinskie from MPP Yakabuski's Office and I brought greetings and thanks from each level of Government. We are so lucky to be one of three destinations which brings art to small communities.

The Santa Claus Parade hosted by the Eganville Rotary Club was a huge success on December 11th. With approximately 50 floats and many horse back riders and walkers, the crowds that lined the streets were thrilled. Thank you to Rotary for making this such a special afternoon. And a special thank you to Rotary President, Maria Robinson, for organizing a horse drawn carriage ride driven by Mansel Jamieson for Mayor Murphy and Mayor Brose.

On December 12th, Premier Doug Ford along with MPP Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, and MPP Todd Smith, Minister of Energy, attended the County to celebrate the 175th anniversary of Herb Shaw and Sons. Along with Warden Peter Emon, Mayor James Brose and Mayor Michael Donohue, the Mayor was honoured to be invited to greet the Premier and Ministers at Shaw Woods Education Centre. Thank you to Executive Director of Shaw Woods, Steve Boland, for hosting this event. It was a pleasure to see my friends Graydon and Todd and to see Herb and Dana Shaw. Congratulations to the Shaw family for this incredible legacy.

The Rural Ontario Municipal Conference will take place from January 21 to January 24, 2023. The Township has requested three delegations with Ministers. At this time, we were granted a delegation with the Solicitor General, Michael Kerzner, regarding funding for Firefighter Certification and a delegation with the Minister of Transportation, Caroline Mulroney, regarding the future of electronic and autonomous vehicles in Rural Ontario. We have not yet been granted a delegation with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Steve Clark, regarding new revenue sources for municipal government including municipal bonds and the 1 per cent Local Share on the HST. Annette and Jennifer were invited to sit on a panel for Asset Management Planning. This panel is made up of three municipalities of varying sizes and should be a very interesting event. They have already had a pre-planning meeting to ensure efficiency in answering questions. The elections for the ROMA Board take place on January 23rd, so it should be a very busy Conference. Mayor Murphy wished everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday January 10, 2023

MEDIA SESSION

CONCLUSION

MOVED BY **Jennifer Murphy**

THAT: the meeting adjourn at 3:18 p.m.

Carried

Merv Buckwald, Chair

Annette Gilchrist, CAO