

**The Corporation of the
Village of Merrickville-Wolford**

Monday, March 25, 2019

A regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 25, 2019.

Chaired by: Mayor J. Douglas Struthers
Members of Council: Deputy Mayor Michael Cameron
Councillor Bob Foster
Councillor Don Halpenny
Councillor Timothy Molloy

Staff in Attendance: Doug Robertson, CAO/Clerk
Kirsten Rahm, Treasurer
Randy Wilkinson, Chief Building Official
Brad Cole, Acting Public Works Manager and Fire Chief

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof: None.

Approval of Agenda

R-106-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Molloy
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby adopt the agenda of the regular Council meeting of March 25, 2019, as amended.

Carried

Note: The agenda was amended to include replacement of Denis Gagnon's correspondence with an amended submission.

Delegations:

R-107-19 Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the delegation of Jacques Pelletier of the Strategic Planning Committee regarding an Advisory Committee Structure, for information purposes.

Carried

Public Question Period:

T. Gilhen inquired as to whether the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee would be part of the staff report regarding advisory committees.

P. Watson wished to clarify her question as reflected in the Minutes of February 11, 2019 was incorrect and that her request was for that she listing of # of salary positions the municipality currently has with salary grid for each position, information on the pension program and group benefits program and also the municipality's contribution to these benefits for these employees.

Minutes:

R-108-19 Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby approve the Minutes of the regular Council meeting of February 25, 2019, as circulated.

Carried

R-109-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby approve the Minutes of the special Council meeting of March 4, 2019, as circulated.

Carried

R-110-19 Moved by Councillor Halpenny, Seconded by Councillor Foster
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby approve the Minutes of the special Council meeting of March 7, 2019, as circulated.

Carried

R-111-19 Moved by Councillor Molloy, Seconded by Councillor Foster
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby approve the Minutes of the special Council meeting of March 18, 2019, as circulated.

Carried

R-112-19 Moved by Councillor Molloy, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the Minutes of the Merrickville Public Library Board dated February 14, 2019, for information purposes.

Carried

Correspondence:

R-113-19 Moved by Councillor Molloy, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from Doug Grant, Village Planner, dated February 26, 2019, regarding the potential changes to the Provincial Policy Statement and *Planning Act*, for information purposes.

Carried

R-114-19 Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from Vic Fedeli, the Minister of Finance, regarding the 2019 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) dated March 14, 2019, for information purposes.

Carried

R-115-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
WHEREAS the Provincial government announced it was conducting a review of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), which provides annual funding allotments to municipal governments to help offset operating and capital costs;

AND WHEREAS Municipalities were further advised that the overall spending envelope for the program would decrease having a significant impact on future budgets and how funds are raised by Municipalities as funding will be reduced by an unspecified amount;

AND WHEREAS if allocations to municipalities are reduced, Councils will need to compensate with property tax increases or local service reductions;

AND WHEREAS the 2018 allocation to the Village of Merrickville-Wolford was \$282,400, which is equivalent to 10% of the Village's municipal property tax revenue;

AND WHEREAS a 10% increase in the municipal property tax rate would increase the municipal component of property taxes paid for an average household by \$207 per year;

AND WHEREAS the Village of Merrickville-Wolford prides itself on efficient value for money practices every day;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT although an interim payment has been received, the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford expresses grave concern with the potential reduction and/or loss of the OMPF allotment in future years;

AND FURTHER THAT Council hereby petitions the Provincial government to complete the OMPF review in an expeditious manner as future financial consideration ensures municipal sustainability;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Premier, Minister of Finance, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, our local MPP and all Ontario municipalities for their endorsement and support.

Carried

- R-116-19** Moved by Councillor Halpenny, Seconded by Councillor Molloy
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from Run Merrickville dated March 12, 2019; and

That Council does hereby waive the rental fees associated with the Merrickville Community Centre for April 17, 26 and 27th for the purpose of the Merrickville Heritage Classic Run.

Carried.

- R-117-19** Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from St. Michael Catholic High School dated March 11, 2018; and

Council does hereby offer a bursary to a deserving student from the Village of Merrickville-Wolford in the amount of \$100.00.

Carried.

- R-118-19** Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from Denis Gagnon, for information purposes, regarding his intention to apply to the Cannabis Tracking and Licensing System to seek a Micro Cultivation license to cultivate and produce cannabis on a portion of their property, dated March 18, 2019.

Carried.

- R-119-19** Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from the Grenville County Plowmen's Association, regarding the 100th Annual Plowing Match, dated March 13, 2019, for information purposes; and

That Council purchase an advertisement in the Grenville Plowmen's Association booklet in support of the event, in the amount of \$200.00.

Carried.

- R-120-19** Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from the Lions Club of Merrickville, regarding the Merrickville Tulip Festival, dated March 13, 2019, for information purposes; and

That Council grants their requests at no cost to the Village of Merrickville-Wolford.

Carried.

- R-121-19** Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from Steve Clark, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, regarding the one-time payment to support small and rural municipalities' efforts to become more efficient and reduce expenditure growth, dated March 20, 2019, for information purposes.

Carried.

- R-122-19** Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from Doug Robertson, regarding the Workplace Harassment Investigation Costs, for information purposes.

Carried.

R-123-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from Doug Robertson, regarding the municipal Cannabis Policy Statement, for information purposes.
Carried.

Building:

R-124-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Foster
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive report CBO-03-2019 regarding the request of the developer for the property known locally as Eagleview Barn, as presented to Council at their regular meeting of January 30, 2019; and

That Council allow the developer to upgrade and use certain unmaintained portions of Alice and St. John Streets at their own risk and expense subject to the approval of all planning requirements and subject to the developer entering into a road agreement with the Village.

Carried.

R-125-19 Moved by Councillor Halpenny, Seconded by Councillor Foster
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive report CBO-04-2019, being the 2018 fourth quarter results of the Building and Planning Department, for information purposes.
Carried.

R-126-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Molloy
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from the Planning Advisory Committee; and

That Council recommends that the Village's new Official Plan be completed and then adopted by Council.

Carried.

R-127-19 Moved by Councillor Molloy, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cameron
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive correspondence from the Planning Advisory Committee; and

That Council does approve Consent Application B-3-19.

Carried.

CAO:

R-128-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Foster
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive report CAO-03-2019, for information purposes.

Carried.

Finance:

R-129-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Foster
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby direct staff to create a Municipal Modernization Reserve for the Modernization Grant funding received by the Province of Ontario.

Carried.

R-130-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Foster
Be it hereby resolved that: \$59,000 from the grant received from the provincial government be allocated to the 2019 Budget.

Carried.

R-131-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Foster

Be it hereby resolved that: By-law 20-2019, being a by-law to adopt the 2019 Municipal Operating, Capital, Water and Wastewater Budgets and 2019 Salary Grid be read a first and second time, and that By-law 20-2019 be read a third and final time and passed.

Carried.

R-132-19 Moved by Deputy Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Foster

Be it hereby resolved that: By-law 21-2019, being a by-law to set the 2019 tax rate, be read a first and second time, and that By-law 21-2019 be read a third and final time and passed.

Carried.

R-133-19 Moved by Councillor Molloy, Seconded by Councillor Halpenny

Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive that Statement of 2018 Remuneration and Expenses for Council, Committee and Board Members.

Carried.

Public Question Period to Council

B. Fitzpatrick inquired as to why the infrastructure reserve was so low as money was put into it for the past two years.

J. Spencer wished for clarification regarding streetscaping and whether Merrickville-Wolford in Bloom was in charge of the streetscaping and were given a budget for barrels and hanging baskets et cetera, and whether the barrels were handed over to Merrickville-Wolford in Bloom. J. Spencer advised that the Chamber of Commerce replaced seven flower barrels that were damaged. J. Spencer inquired as to whether Merrickville-Wolford in Bloom or Village Staff was looking after what flowers are being used in 2019. J. Spencer further inquired as to when the Community Grants Program would be accepting applications and whether reporting requirements for successful applicants would still apply with the new policy. J. Spencer also inquired as to whether Council would pay for the registration fee for Merrickville-Wolford in Bloom.

M. Zaversenue inquired as to whether there was a policy in place that forces developers to connect to the water and sewer system.

Y. Grandmaitre inquired as to who would be submitting grant applications previously submitted by the Industry, Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee. Y. Grandmaitre further inquired as to which changes were made to the budget based on the feedback provided at the two public meetings.

J. Spencer inquired as to which material would be used in the infrastructure project regarding water and sewer and recommended PVC pipes be used.

C. Willemson inquired as to whether there are any standards to maintain the character of the Village regarding subdivisions in the Village. C. Willemson also inquired as to whether there were any time limits regarding the completion a proposed development.

C. Hanna inquired as to whether there was a document that corresponds with the salary grid regarding level of experience, technical qualifications or certifications that would correspond with the steps on the salary grid.

Confirming By-Law

R-134-19 Moved by Councillor Molloy, Seconded by Councillor Foster

Be it hereby resolved that: By-law 17-2019, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting of March 25, 2019, be read a first and second time, and that By-law 17-2019 be read a third and final time and passed.

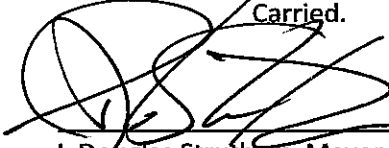
Carried.

Adjournment


R-135-19 Moved by Councillor Halpenny, Seconded by Councillor Molloy

Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does now adjourn at 9:25 p.m. until the next regular meeting of Council on Monday, April 8, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., or until the call of the Mayor subject to need.

Carried.



J. Douglas Struthers, Mayor



Doug Robertson, CAO/Clerk