

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

October 28, 2014

A regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford was held on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Chaired by: Mayor, J. Douglas Struthers

Members of Council: Deputy Mayor David Nash
Councillor Don Halpenny
Councillor David Snowdon
Councillor Timothy Molloy
Councillor Victor Suthren
Councillor Anne Barr
Councillor David Snowdon

Staff in Attendance: Jill Armstrong, CAO/Clerk

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

Public in Attendance: +/- 10

Press in Attendance: 1.

Additions to the Agenda:

Mayor Struthers deferred the Memo on Sign By-Law amendments to the Nov 10 Council meeting.

Delegation: Alyscha Taylor, Breathe Dance Company – absent.

Open Question Period:

Pat Watson, 423 Brock Street East.

She asked to receive the financial picture of the new Sewer Treatment Plant; what is the final cost; where there penalties imposed for lack of meeting the terms of the contract; have the bills been paid; have we received the monies from the Federal and Provincial Governments; and the debenture schedule. The Clerk anticipated having a report to Council at the first meeting in November.

Rod Fournier, 112 Aaron Merrick Drive.

He requested a written report on the election. He asked if there was an investigation to see who voted and who was not illegible to vote, and what would be the implication of that. The Clerk indicated that, as the Chief Electoral Officer, there will be a report for the November 10 Council meeting.

Chris Balicki, 118 Bruce Street.

She asked if Councillor Snowdon would pursue further having Council meeting available through video streaming. Councillor Snowdon indicated that audio recordings of Council meetings are available. Early in this Council's term, Council investigated video recording of its meeting and determined that it was too expensive. He hoped that staff would be able to submit a new report to Council on this matter.

She asked if Council would give more leeway to those people who do not pay their utility bill on time because they forgot, they can not pay their water bill, or their payment went into their property tax account instead of the utility account. She also asked if the Village legal counsel has said that disconnecting someone's water is legal. Mayor Struthers indicated that the municipality has a very comprehensive by-law where the process in the by-law has a number of steps to help residents pay their bills. If there is a legal component, he suggested that she put it in writing to Council. Councillor Molloy commented that: utility billing is every two months; an unpaid bill does not result in water being shut off immediately; when residents have had difficulties in paying bills in the past, as long as those residents meet with staff, arrangements have been made in some circumstances for payment scheme.

Resolutions:

R-143-14 Moved by V. Suthren, Seconded by D. Snowdon
Be it hereby resolved that: the agenda of the regular council meeting of October 28, 2014 be adopted as amended. Carried.

R-144-14 Moved by T. Molloy, Seconded by D. Nash
Be it hereby resolved that: The minutes of the regular council meeting of October 20, 2014, be adopted as circulated. Carried.

R-145-14 Moved by V. Suthren, Seconded by A. Barr
Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby declare there will be one Council meeting in the month of December, that being December 8, 2014 **notwithstanding** any emergency or like situation which may cause an additional meeting to be called by the chair. Carried.

Open Question Period:

Eric Monkman, 109 Charlotte Street.

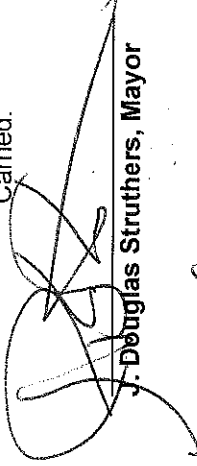
Has Council written to Parks Canada about a lack of notification for the closing of the swing bridge? Has the Village notified residents that the bridge may be in disarray for 6 months? Mayor Struthers responded that the Village had not written to Parks Canada because, at the last Council meeting, staff was directed to provide further information; Parks Canada is responsible for notifying the public as to a complete or partial closure of the bridge, and possible disruption of regular traffic flow. Councillor Molloy indicated that it would not be prudent for Council to notify residents on this matter without first receiving the dates.

R-146-14

Moved by T. Molloy, Seconded by D. Nash

Be it hereby resolved that: This regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does now adjourn at 7:40 pm until the regular meeting of council on Monday, November 10, 2014 at 7:00 pm, or until the call of the Mayor subject to need.

Carried.



Douglas Struthers, Mayor


Jill Armstrong, CAO/Clerk