

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

Monday, July 10, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

**Chaired by:** Mayor Michael Cameron  
**Members of Council:** Deputy Mayor Anne Barr  
Councillor Margaret Gural  
Councillor Stephen Ireland  
Councillor Ronnie Maitland

**Staff in Attendance:** Doug Robertson, CAO/Clerk  
Julia McCaugherty-Jansman, Deputy Clerk  
Kirsten Rahm, Treasurer/ Manager, Finance

**Guests:** Forbes Symon, Senior Planner, Jp2g Consultants  
Jamie Pollock, Auditor, MNP  
Jacob Hanlon, Food Cycle Science  
Jacqueline Johnston, Forbes Bros Group

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** This meeting was held in person and was open to the public in the Council Chambers. It was recorded and livestreamed electronically on the "Village of Merrickville-Wolford" YouTube Channel accessible by clicking [here](#).

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

**Approval of Agenda**

**R-219-23** Moved by Deputy Mayor Barr, Seconded by Councillor Ireland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby approve the agenda of the regular Council meeting of July 10, 2023, as amended.

*(Note: The agenda was amended to include a motion regarding a donation to the Merrickville Legion brought forward by Mayor Cameron to be placed prior to the Notice of Motion section. The agenda was also amended to include a Notice of Motion from Deputy Mayor Barr pertaining to the declaration of June as Pride Month beginning in 2024 to be brought to the August 14 regular meeting.)*

Carried as amended.

**Minutes**

**R-220-23** Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**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 June 12, 2023, as amended.

*(Note: The minutes were amended to change the wording on Councillor Gural's Notice of Motion from 'Carried' to 'Received').*

Carried as amended.

**R-221-23** Moved by Deputy Mayor Barr, Seconded by Councillor Gural

**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 June 20, 2023.

Carried.

**Planning**

**R-222-23** Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the report submitted by Forbes Symon, Senior Planner for Jp2g Consultants, dated June 14, 2023 regarding the Review of Changes to the Planning Act as a result of Bill 97, for information purposes.

Carried.

R-223-23

Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive draft comments from Rideau Valley Conservation Authority regarding the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, for information purposes.

Carried.

**Finance**

R-224-23

Moved by Councillor Ireland, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Barr

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive and approve the draft Financial Statements as prepared by MNP LLP, for the year ending December 31, 2022.

Carried.

R-225-23

Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive Report FIN-07-2023 for information purposes; and

**That** Council adopt the report reflecting the 2023 budget as adjusted to reflect the PSAB expenses as required under Ontario Regulation 284/09.

Carried.

**Delegations**

R-226-23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barr, Seconded by Councillor Gural

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the delegation of Jacob Hanlon, Food Cycle Science, regarding the Municipal Food Waste Diversion Program, for information purposes.

Carried.

**Correspondence**

R-227-23

Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

**WHEREAS** at the regular meeting on June 12, 2023, the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford received a delegation presentation from Arie Hoogenboom, Mayor of Rideau Lakes, regarding the funding opportunities and process for Maple View Landings Long-Term Care Home;

**AND WHEREAS** Council does hereby receive correspondence from Lesley Todd, Long-Term Care Fundraising Coordinator, dated June 13, 2023, regarding the funding options that are available to support the fundraising efforts;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council does hereby approve and direct staff to provide a donation to the funding of Maple View Landings Long-Term Care Home on behalf of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford in the amount of \$9300 for the purposes of \$3100 per year starting in 2024.

Carried.

**CBO**

R-228-23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barr, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive Report CBO-01-2023; and

**That** Council does hereby approve the application process for Heritage Property Tax Relief for the property at 206 Colborne Street East, Merrickville, Ontario, in the amount of \$524.00 for this fiscal year for this property.

Carried.

CAO

R-229-23

Moved by Councillor Ireland, Seconded by Councillor Gural

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the report from Andrew MacDonald, Mechanical Engineer for Jp2g consultants Inc., dated July 4, 2023 regarding the Merrickville STP Capacity Calculation, for information purposes.

Carried.

R-230-23

Moved by Councillor Maitland, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Barr

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the report from Andrew MacDonald, Mechanical Engineer for Jp2g consultants Inc., dated June 27, 2023 regarding a summary of the Merrickville STP overflow event on April 5, 2023, for information purposes.

Carried.

R-231-23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barr, Seconded by Councillor Gural

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the report from Neil Caldwell, Consulting Engineer for Jp2g consultants Inc., dated July 5, 2023 regarding a review of a funding opportunity for the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, for information purposes.

Carried.

R-232-23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barr, Seconded by Councillor Gural

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the provided documents pertaining to the Blockhouse Museum Board as drafted by the Village's lawyer, for information purposes; and

**That** Council does hereby direct staff to bring back an appropriate by-law to pursue the formation of a Blockhouse Museum Board.

Carried.

R-233-23

Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Barr

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive report CAO-04-2023, being a report to update Council on the grant applications that have been sought out and applied for by Village staff from 2018 until June 2023, for information purposes.

Carried.

Councillor Maitland excused himself from the meeting at 8:56 p.m. due to a pecuniary interest for the Xplore Inc. Telecommunications Tower Application item.

R-234-23

Moved by Councillor Ireland, Seconded by Councillor Gural

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive the correspondence dated June 8, 2023 from Xplore Inc. regarding a proposed telecommunication tower application number ON 8472 for information purposes; and

**That** Council does hereby direct the CAO/Clerk to require the applicant to issue public communications as required in legislation and to hold a public meeting should any interested parties register for the public meeting; and

**That** Council does hereby direct the CAO/Clerk to cause a report to be brought back to Council at a future meeting for Council consideration.

Carried.

Councillor Maitland returned to the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

R-235-23

Moved by Mayor Cameron, Seconded by Councillor Ireland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

**WHEREAS** it is important for a Council to support its community;

**AND WHEREAS** the Merrickville Legion is one of those that is deserving of that support;

**AND WHEREAS** the Canada Day budget included \$600.00 to feed the RCMP Pipe Band and the funds were not used;

**AND WHEREAS** the Merrickville Legion welcomed and fed the RCMP Pipe Band at no cost to the Municipality;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby direct the funds to feed the RCMP Pipe Band in the Canada Day budget, and that amount be donated to the Merrickville Legion's fundraiser in support of Veteran's House in the amount of \$600.00.

Carried.

#### Notices of Motion

R-236-23

Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

**WHEREAS** the goal of increasing housing supply and reducing barriers in planning processes as set out in the recent legislative, regulatory, and policy changes, including new provisions from Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act is welcomed; and

**WHEREAS** the proposed Provincial Planning Statement (sections 2.6 and 4.3) would dramatically remove municipal power and render aspects of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford Official Plan and other official plans throughout Ontario inoperative, terminate some local planning autonomy, and directly interfere with municipalities' ability to meet local variation and unique community needs; and

**WHEREAS** the proposed PPS changes that would allow proliferation of lots with protection restricted to specialty crop areas only diminishes the purpose, use and integrity of rural and agricultural lands, thereby removing protection and restricting future uses of those lands; and

**WHEREAS** the proposed PPS changes encourage sprawl and rural roadway strip development, rather than more fiscally and environmentally sustainable practices like intensification in established settlement areas; and

**WHEREAS** the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority has played a crucial role in providing planning input and reviewing services and environmentally sustainable practices like intensification in established settlement areas; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford urges the province to:

- Pause proposed changes to the PPS, particularly regarding natural heritage (section 4.1) and agricultural lands (section 2.6 and 4.3)
- Reinvest trust in the local planning authority of all 444 municipalities, recognizing that each one has unique landscapes, housing needs and visions for local planning matters
- Follow the recommendations provided by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

**AND THAT** our fellow municipalities be urged to voice their concerns regarding the proposed undermining of local planning authority;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to all 444 municipalities, The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and MPP for Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes, The Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, The Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

*(Note: The motion was amended with proposed amendments from Councillor Gural to include the following statement: "WHEREAS the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority has played a crucial role in providing planning input and reviewing services and environmentally sustainable practices like intensification in established settlement areas", and to include the following statement in the first 'Therefore' clause: "Follow the recommendations provided by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority").*

Carried as amended.

Mayor Cameron stated that he would bring a Notice of Motion to the August 14<sup>th</sup> regular meeting pertaining to the formation of a Public Works Committee.

**R-237-23**

Moved by Councillor Ireland, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

**WHEREAS** the municipality will benefit from sharing financial information with Council throughout the year, facilitating a streamlined budget approval process and ensuring opportunities for infrastructure grants are not missed. Inclusion of designated Council and community members in a collaborative budget development process will balance operational needs against benefit to taxpayers. This will result in earlier approval of annual operating and capital budgets, ensuring projects and initiatives can move forward without delay;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby create a Finance Committee having the following guiding principles:

1. Ensure draft operations and capital budgets are ready for presentation to Council by the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of January each year.
2. Review quarterly financial results and year-end forecasts during the months of April, July and October each year to understand challenges and opportunities.
3. Review and pursue grant opportunities for infrastructure improvements.
4. Provide guidance to staff in meeting the vision of Council for financial diligence.

**AND THAT** the Finance Committee be comprised of the following members:

1. The Manager of Finance plus optionally one additional staff member from the Finance Department.
2. Two Councillors to be named each term who will fill the roles of Committee Chair and Note-Taker. For the 2022-2026 term, Deputy Mayor Barr and Councillor Ireland are named with roles yet to be decided.
3. One or two residents having demonstrated financial acumen.

**AND FURTHER** that Council directs staff to:

1. Advertise for residents to fill the two committee positions and have candidates for appointment ready for the regular September Council meeting.
2. Be prepared for the first Finance Committee meeting in October with the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter actuals, year-end forecasts, and long list of potential 2023 capital items for each department.

Deferred.

*(Note: Moved by Councillor Maitland, seconded by Deputy Mayor Barr to defer the Notice of Motion until the August 14<sup>th</sup> regular meeting for Councillor Ireland to bring back alternative wording).*

A Notice of Motion was provided by Deputy Mayor Barr pertaining to declaring June as Pride Month beginning in 2024 to be placed on the August 14<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda.

#### **Deferred Items**

None.

#### **Public Question Period to Council**

Donna Daw, 406 Brock Street East, expressed disappointment that immediate direction was not given to staff regarding the Municipal Food Waste Diversion Program as presented in the delegation. She

acknowledged Deputy Mayor Barr's Pride Month Notice of Motion and noted that there was a committee motion brought forward in 2021 for this and expressed disappointment that this still needs to be a recommendation. She questioned when the Committees will begin meeting.

**Confirming By-Law**

**R-238-23** Moved by Deputy Mayor Barr, Seconded by Councillor Ireland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

By-law 38-2023, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the regular Council meeting of July 10, 2023, be read a first and second time, and that By-law 38-2023 be read a third and final time and passed.

Carried.

**Adjournment**

**R-239-23** Moved by Councillor Gural, Seconded by Councillor Maitland

**Be it hereby resolved that:**

This regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does now adjourn at 9:45 p.m. until the next meeting of Council on Monday, August 14, 2023 or until the call of the Mayor subject to need.

Carried.



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Michael Cameron, Mayor

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Doug Robertson, CAO/Clerk