

The Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford
Monday March 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Municipal Council Chambers
317 Brock St. W. Merrickville, Ontario K0G 1N0

Members Present

Mayor Michael Cameron
Deputy Mayor Anne Barr
Councillor Margaret Gural
Councillor Stephen Ireland (via Zoom)
Councillor Ronnie Maitland

Staff Present

(Interim) C.A.O. Darlene Plumley
Treasurer/Manager of Finance Kirsten Rahm
Clerk Julia McCaugherty-Jansman
Public Works Manager/Fire Chief Brad Cole
Chief Building Official Dan Halladay

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;

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_OEkw3yIMarGSHGeNecrQg

The minutes presented do not represent a verbatim report, to view the meeting and discussion please refer to link above.

Mayor Cameron acknowledged International Women's Day that recently passed on March 8th and the contributions of women and then called the meeting to order.

The Agenda for March 11, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council was introduced.

Moved By: Councillor Maitland R-01-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Barr

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting held on March 11, 2024, be approved.

CARRIED

No Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof was stated.

The Draft Motions for Consideration Document was introduced.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-02-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the Draft Motions for Consideration Document as presented.

CARRIED

The Minutes of the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford were introduced.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-03-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Gural

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford approve the minutes of the;

Special Meeting (Budget) February 7, 2024

Special Meeting (Budget/Strategic Planning) February 12, 2024

Regular Council Meeting February 12, 2024

Special Meeting (Budget) February 15, 2024

The minutes of the Regular Council meeting of February 12th were amended to; edit motion R-19-12-2024 to state "Heritage and Planning Committee" instead of "Historical Society"; and

Prior to motion R-24-12-02-24 reflect, "The correspondence from Mr. Fraser pertaining to Traffic Calming was not received by Council in the form of a Motion:"

CARRIED

Planning

Mayor Cameron invited Nigel Bellchamber to provide an update via ZOOM with regard to the next steps in the Strategic Planning process.

Moved By: Councillor Gural R-04-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the update provided by Nigel Bellchamber with regard to the Strategic Planning process.

AND FURTHER THAT a public meeting be scheduled on March 18, 2024, at 7:00pm to gather Public comments for consideration.

CARRIED

By-laws:

Mayor Cameron introduced By-law By-law 12-2024 Being a By-law to adopt the 2024 Operating, Capital & Water & Wastewater Budgets, and the 2024 Salary Grid, was introduced.

Moved By: Councillor Gural

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Barr

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford give First, Second, Third and Final Reading to By-law 12-2024 Being a By-law to adopt the 2024 Operating, Capital & Water & Wastewater Budgets, and the 2024 Salary Grid;

AND FURTHER THAT authorization be given to the Mayor and CAO/Clerk to sign, seal and place in the By-law Book for the Municipality By-law Number 12-2024.

CARRIED

By-law 13-2024 Being a By-law to levy and assess on the rateable property in the Village of Merrickville-Wolford a sufficient sum of money to meet all valid debts of the said Corporation within the year 2024 was introduced.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford give First, Second, Third and Final Reading to

By-law 13-2024 Being a By-law to levy and assess on the rateable property in the Village of Merrickville-Wolford a sufficient sum of money to meet all valid debts of the said Corporation within the year 2024.

AND FURTHER THAT authorization be given to the Mayor and CAO/Clerk to sign, seal and place in the By-law Book for the Municipality By-law Number 13-2024.

CARRIED

Delegations:

Mayor Cameron invited Kelly Pender, CAO for Frontenac County and Joe Gallavan, Director of Planning and Economic Development for Frontenac County to address Council concerning Communal Servicing Options.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-05-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the delegation provided by the CAO of Frontenac County Kelly Pender and Joe Gallavan, Director of Planning and Economic Development for Frontenac County to address Council concerning Communal Servicing Options.

CARRIED

Mayor Cameron invited Pat Evans representing the Parkinson's Community Network to address Council.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-06-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Gural

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the delegation provided Pat Evans representing the Parkinson's Community Network;

AND FURTHER THAT the Village of Merrickville-Wolford Proclaim April to be Parkinsons Awareness Month;

AND FURTHER THAT this be added to the Acknowledgements Policy for annual recognition.

CARRIED

Staff Reports:

The Staff Report prepared by Interim CAO Plumley concerning the Departmental Activity Update was introduced.

Moved By: Councillor Gural R-07-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the Activity Update prepared for the March 11, 2024, Council Meeting.

CARRIED

The draft amendments to By-law 15-2021 were introduced.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-08-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the draft amendment to By-law 15-2021 which would be as follows;

Change "Flag Policy" to "Acknowledgements Policy";

AND FURTHER THAT Schedule "A" indicate preapproval;

AND FURTHER THAT a Schedule "B" be added to the by-law which would address the requests received seeking preapproval Proclamation support.

AND FURTHER THAT Council and Staff continue to identify requests for incorporation into Schedules "A" and "B" with the intent to give First, Second, Third and Final reading to the Amendment of By-law 15-2021 at the April 8, 2024 Meeting of Regular Council.

CARRIED

The Strategic Plan Development document was introduced.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-09-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford engage Bellchamber and Associates for the purpose of Council/Staff Training and Education;

AND FURTHER THAT Bellchamber and Associates provide assistance in the development of a Strategic Plan and a multi-year budget strategy.

CARRIED

The Public Works Food Bank Challenge report was introduced.

Moved By: Councillor Maitland R-10-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Gural

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receives for information the report concerning the request for a County wide food drive that is being spearheaded by the Chief Fire Officers Association of Leeds and Grenville;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves a \$500 donation on behalf of the Village towards the food drive;

AND FURTHER THAT the challenge be extended to all other Councils of Leeds and Grenville to match their donation towards this worthwhile cause.

CARRIED

Action Items were introduced.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-11-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the Petition for Traffic Calming Measures to Improve Pedestrian Safety and Encourage Commerce on Merrickville's north side.

CARRIED

Information Items were introduced.

Moved By: Councillor Gural R-12-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the following items:

Water Quality – Test Results for Village of Merrickville-Wolford
Notification Letters – Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks/ environmental assessment

Scott and Patty Parker/ Water bill calculations and water concerns

AMO Policy Statement/ Get it Done Act

OCWA/ Merrickville Drinking Water System Annual Water Report

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Barr's Notice of Motion regarding a water rate study was introduced.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Barr R-13-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Councillor Maitland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford undertake a water rate study to assist in determining options for an alternate billing method that would more clearly reflect the usage by individual households, using a graduated scale to identify a lower usage base rate;

AND FURTHER THAT the study also identify how increased growth/additional hookups would impact the rates going forward;

AND FURTHER THAT the cost for the study be accommodated through the Water and Wastewater Reserve.

CARRIED

Public Question Period to Council

Ian Fraser, 106 Mill Street, inquired why the correspondence regarding the traffic calming measures for pedestrian safety on Merrickville's north side was not discussed at the February 12th Council meeting and why it was pushed to April 22nd. He asked if the letters would be provided to the Counties.

Proclamations/Statements from Members

Deputy Mayor Barr provided a short summary and images of the Merrickville Community Centre renovation grant application.

Closed Session was introduced as per Municipal Act, 2001, Section 239 (2)

Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose – Building File

Moved By: Councillor Gural R-14-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Barr

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford enter into an In-Camera Session as per Municipal Act, 2001, Section 239 (2):

f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

CARRIED

Open session was introduced.

Moved By: Councillor Maitland R-15-11-03-24.

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Barr

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford rise and report from closed session;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to contact the Heritage & Planning Advisory Committee for the purposes of calling a special meeting to review a heritage designated property building application.

CARRIED

The Confirmation of Proceedings By-law for March 11, 2024, was introduced.

Moved By: Councillor Ireland

Seconded By: Councillor Gural

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford give First, Second, Third and Final Reading to By-law 14-2024 Being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council for the Meeting of March 11, 2024;

AND FURTHER THAT authorization be given to the Mayor and CAO/Clerk to sign, seal and place in the By-law Book for the Municipality By-law Number 14-2024.

CARRIED

Adjournment was introduced at 9:26 pm.

Moved By: Councillor Maitland

R-16-11-03-24.


Seconded By: Councillor Gural

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford adjourn.

CARRIED



Mayor Cameron



Clerk Julia McCaugherty-Jansman