

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

April 11, 2016

A regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford was held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 30, 2016.

Chaired by: Mayor David Nash

Members of Council: Deputy Mayor Anne Barr
Councillor Stephen A. Ireland
Councillor Kim Weedmark
Councillor Victor Suthren
Councillor Chuck MacInnis
Councillor David Snowdon

Staff in Attendance: Arie Hoogenboom Clerk
Shawn Mason, Treasurer

Members of the public were in attendance.

Press in Attendance: Hilary Thompson, North Grenville Times.

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

Mayor Nash noted the RVCA's celebration of 50 years and commended the organization.

Additions to the Agenda: None

Resolutions:

R-073-16 Moved by V. Suthren, Seconded by K. Weedmark

Be it hereby resolved that: The agenda of the regular council meeting of April 11, 2016 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

Approval of the minutes:

R-074-16 Moved by A. Barr, Seconded by C. MacInnis

Be it hereby resolved that: The minutes of the regular council meeting of March 30, 2016 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

Delegations: Kathy Gilligan, The Hub.

Kathy Gilligan reviewed a presentation requesting municipal support for the indoor pool, known as The Hub. She noted that a similar request has been made to Smiths Falls, Rideau Lakes, Montague, Drummond/North Emsley and Elizabethtown-Kitley. The request is for \$12,000 and is based on proportional usage from Merrickville-Wolford. She reviewed the numerous accomplishments of the not-for-profit group in lowering costs and in past fundraising. The services provided, their financial situation and the future goals were discussed. Their user fees increased 5% this year and their overall membership is approximately 640. To date, Montague has pledged \$12,000, Rideau Lakes \$6,000 and the small Township users are at zero. Smiths Falls has pledged up to \$44,000 in matching funds to other municipal partners. There was a strong indication that The Hub will close without ongoing municipal support. The delegation responded to a number of questions from Council and indicated that they felt it would be possible to stay open provided the Village contributed their share. Mayor Nash advised that Council appreciated the informative delegation and would consider the request.

Open Question Period: None.

Boards and Committees:

Council discussed the request from the Police Services Board to purchase a portable speed display device and declined to include one in the draft budget. The PSB will be asked to look into renting one from Kemptville and/or Smiths Falls.

It was noted that more detail was needed in future Recreation Committee minutes.

Property, Finance and Administration:

The budget memo was reviewed by the Treasurer. It was noted that the County has reduced their tax rate by 1% and the School Board is down by 3.6%. The draft local budget is within 0.2% of last year's. Various questions were raised and answered and staff was directed to find another \$5,600 so that there would be no municipal tax rate increase. Council asked that the final budget by-law be prepared for April 25 first and second readings with final passage at the first meeting in May. This will allow for any public feedback. Subject to changes in individual property assessments, the next impact for ratepayers will be a reduced tax bill.

The Interim CAO noted that the RVCA did not actually require roll numbers and did in fact already have them. The By-Law is to be passed as drafted.

R-075-16 Moved by C. MacInnis, Seconded by V. Suthren

Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby receive and accept the resignation of Shawn Mason, Treasurer, and wish him well in his future endeavours.

Carried.

Several questions on the cheque list were asked and responded to by the Treasurer.

R-076-16

Moved by S. Ireland, Seconded by D. Snowdon

Be it hereby resolved that: The list of accounts of April 7, 2016 for the month of March 2016 be approved as circulated, in the amount of \$799,674.42.

Carried.

Mayor Nash and members of Council expressed appreciation to the Interim CAO/Clerk and the Treasurer for a job well done with the two recent public information sessions and the turnout of over 30 at each session. The CAO passed on commendation to all staff who supported the effort.

Councillor Suthren advised that an initial meeting of the 2017 Celebrations for the 150th would be held April 20th. The scope of activities planned may need to be scaled to the available volunteers.

Councillor MacInnis inquired as to the letters for the unopened road allowances and the CAO indicated they were in progress

Terms of Reference for Committees are still being worked on and will come back to Council. The CP whistle is with the Counties and can come off the Action List.

Protection to Persons/Prop.

Memo from Andy Boffee, By-Law Enforcement Officer, re: Merrickville Celebrates Women, was noted.

R-077-16

Moved by A. Barr, Seconded by V. Suthren

Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby:

- sanction the event Merrickville Celebrates Women on Saturday, June 11, 2016;
- approve the issuance of road closure certificates on that day from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and,
- request the organizers to satisfy themselves that the event will comply with all relevant Village By-Laws, the Building Code and the Fire Code.
Carried.

Public Works: None.

Environment: None.

General:

Council discussed the Merrickville Heritage Classic request for multiple road closures on April 30th. Councillor MacInnis noted the involvement of Run Marshalls, Fire Volunteers and paid duty OPP. Roads would only be closed for short durations. Staff are to meet with the organizers and work out concerns. Council expressed support for the event.

By-Laws:

R-078-16

Moved by K. Weedmark, Seconded by A. Barr

Be it hereby resolved that: By-Law 07-16, being a By-Law to authorize the execution of an agreement with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority for the participation of the Municipality in promoting the RVCA's programs to improve the health of the Subwatershed, be read a first and second time and that By-Law 07-16 be read a third and final time and passed.
Carried.

Open Question Period: None.

In-Camera.

R-079-16

Moved by V. Suthren, Seconded by K. Weedmark

Be it hereby resolved that: this Council moves to "In Camera" at 8:49 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to: personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; and a proposed or pending acquisition of land for municipal or local board purposes.
Carried.

R-080-16

Moved by V. Suthren, Seconded by K. Weedmark

Be it hereby resolved that: the "In Camera" session rise and report, with staff being given direction, and the regular council session resume at 10:00 p.m.

Carried.

R-081-16

Moved by A. Barr, Seconded by C. MacInnis

Be it hereby resolved that: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does hereby establish an Ad hoc Committee to hire a treasurer, composed of the following members: Mayor David Nash, Deputy Mayor Anne Barr, Councillor Stephen Ireland, and Arie Hoogenboom, Interim CAO/Clerk.

Carried.

R-082-16

Moved by C. MacInnis, Seconded by S. Ireland

Be it hereby resolved that: This regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does now adjourn at 10:05pm until the regular meeting of council on Monday, April 25, 2016 at 7:00 pm, or until the call of the Mayor subject to need.

Carried.



David Nash, Mayor



Arie Hoogenboom, Clerk