



Municipality of French River

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

held in the Council Chambers
Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 6pm

Members Present:

Mayor Claude Bouffard (Chair), Councillors Michel Bigras, Ronald Garbutt, Malcolm Lamothe, Gisèle Pageau, Denny Sharp, Dean Wenborne

Members Excused:

Officials Present:

John Regan, Chief Administrative Officer
Mélanie Bouffard, Clerk
Tom Ng, Treasurer/Tax Collector
Robert Martin, Parks, Recreation & Facilities Manager
Michelle Clark, Public Works & Environmental Administrative Assistant
Carlie Zwiers, Executive Assistant

Guests:

5 Members of public

1. Call to order, roll call and adoption of the agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 157

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as distributed.

Carried

2. Moment of reflection

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

4. Delegations

4.1 Kim Narozenski & Vicky Harrison

Development of Hwy 64 Petro Project on Station Road

A presentation was made to advise Council that their development project on Highway 69 was proceeding; information packages were distributed to Council. The project has holding provisions and requirements but the most onerous is the upgrade of a portion of Station Road to commercial grade and two turning lanes. As the Hwy 69 four-laning is nearing completion in the immediate area, it was stated that the timing of the road construction is crucial and that the cost of the road work would be 1/3 less if the contractors perform the work while onsite.

The development as presented and provisionally approved has the potential to create over 100 employment opportunities, economic growth, awareness to area and an assessed value of 8 million dollars creating tax revenues.

The following items were requested from Council:

- consideration of options of a Municipal contribute of 50% of the road upgrade cost (estimated at 100,000k, firm quote to be sought)
- letter reconfirming sewage capacity
- cooperation in the planning of the upgrade to Station Road, resources to proposed contractors and MTO
- letter confirming that the Municipality permits Station Road to be upgraded

The requests and options will be reviewed by staff to be considered once a decision is required by Council; the expected time line is in the next 14-20 days.

5. Management, Committee and Board Reports

5.1 Mayor's Report

5.2 Chief Administrative Officer

The CAO informed that the operations review is underway and reminded Council that the projected adoption of the Budget is at a June meeting. No further adjustments were requested to the Draft 2016 Budget.

5.2.1 Adoption of the Employee Policy Manual (presented May 9)

Moved By Michel Bigras and Seconded By Gisèle Pageau

Resol. 2016- 158

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2016-19, being a by-law to adopt the Employee Policy Manual be read a first and second time.

Carried

The Third Reading will be considered at the Regular Council Meeting of June 8, 2016.

5.2.2 Appointment of Signing Authorities

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Dean Wenborne

Resol. 2016- 159

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council affirms that the following two members of Council and three employees are the signing authorities for the Municipality of French River as of May 25, 2016:

1. Mayor Claude Bouffard
2. Councillor Michel Bigras
3. Mélanie Bouffard, Clerk
4. John Regan, Chief Administrative Officer
5. Tom Ng, Treasurer

Carried

5.2.3 Update Report - Community Improvement Planning (CIP)

The CAO summarized the report.

5.3 Finance Department

5.4 Public Works & Environmental Department

5.4.1 First Quarter Report

The Acting Director of Operations presented the report

5.4.2 Appointment of members to CARE

Moved By Gisèle Pageau and Seconded By Malcolm Lamothe

Resol. 2016- 160

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoints the following members of the public to the Ad Hoc Committee Advising on Recycling Ecologically (CARE):

1. Arthur Adams
2. Carl Bisailon
3. Helen Jarvi
4. Pauline Robert

Carried

6. Consent Agenda

The following motion was presented to adopt the items contained in the Consent Agenda:

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 161

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the Items of the Consent Agenda under Sections 6.1, 6.3 and 6.5 and receives the Items under Sections 6.2 and 6.4.

Carried

6.1 Adoption of Minutes by Resolution

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 162

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopts the following minutes as presented:

Regular Council Meeting held May 9, 2016

Carried

6.2 Minutes Received by Resolution

6.3 Award of Tenders and Request for Proposals by Resolution

6.4 Correspondence for Council's Information Received by Resolution

6.5 Adoption of By-laws by Resolution

6.5.1 Confirmation By-law

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 163

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2016-20, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of French River at a meeting held on May 25, 2016 be read a first, second and third time and finally passed.

Carried

7. Correspondence for Council's Consideration

7.1 Declare an Event as of Municipal Significance

Moved By Denny Sharp and Seconded By Gisèle Pageau

Resol. 2016- 164

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council declares the Family Ball Tournament being held on August 5-7, 2016 hosted by Club Richelieu Rivière des Français as an Event of Municipal Significance.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Name: Councillor Malcolm Lamothe

Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not participate on this Item.

8. Addendums

None.

9. Notices of Motion

The Clerk read the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Malcolm Lamothe:

WHEREAS the Municipality of French River currently has a debt load of approximately \$4.08M at up to 5.14% interest;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of French River holds reserves in excess of \$4.3M;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality has carrying charges (capital and interest) that far outweigh the return on investment generated by our reserve funds;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality is planning on increasing the reserve fund by \$900k this year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to investigate the advantages and disadvantages of borrowing from our reserves to completely erase our debts and the impact of committing to a repayment into our reserve funds at a value of \$1M/year until our reserves are replenished to their current value. Staff is to report to Council by the second Regular Council Meeting.

10. Announcement and Inquiries

Councillor Gisèle Pageau had sent an email requesting that the Mayor consider rescheduling the meeting scheduled June 22nd, the expected date to adopt the 2016 Budget as she is unavailable. Council confirmed that all members expected to be present at the June 8th meeting, therefore the Budget will be considered at that time.

Councillor Denny Sharp reminded that council received an invitation for the Cadets' Annual Ceremonial Review on June 7th. The Mayor suggested that certificates be presented to the volunteers of the organization.

Bob Armstrong, Alban, commented that the Hwy 69 development would be the largest project in our area, was a tremendous opportunity for French River once at full maturity for the tax revenue and employment, suggested that Council contribute funds/whatever is affordable to show buy in and that the tax payers should know of the project's positive impact to our area as for tax revenue, services and major real estate feature.

Arthur Adams, Noëlville, commented that the Hwy 69 development really sounded positive and suggested that Council seek legal advice on contributing funds to a private development and procuring without tenders. (*work being procured by developer and not municipality)

Councillor Malcolm Lamothe suggested that Council's dress code at meetings could be more casual during the summer months (no ties).

11. Closed Session

Moved By Gisèle Pageau and Seconded By Ron Garbutt

Resol. 2016- 165

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be closed as authorized in Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*, to discuss the following:

- (d) labour relations or employee negotiations
- (e) litigation or potential litigation

Carried

Moved By Malcolm Lamothe and Seconded By Dean Wenborne

Resol. 2016- 167

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the open session reconvenes at 8:10 p.m.

Carried

12. Adjournment

Moved By Denny Sharp and Seconded By Malcolm Lamothe

Resol. 2016- 168

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Carried

MAYOR

CLERK