

Pontiac council - flood recovery continues

Mo Laidlaw

The regular council meeting was held on the 13th June 2017, at the Luskville community centre. About 11 members of the public were present.

Public input

Steven Dorion asked council to approve a minor variance at 82 ch des Tourterelles, to allow a garage within 2 m of the side margin instead of 5m as in the bylaw. The garage was formerly detached and conformed to the bylaw, but now has been incorporated into the main building, for which a larger side margin is usual. He said he has “a new well and septic system and is a quiet worker”. Neighbours Jude Gervais and André Gervais spoke against allowing the minor variance last month because of the effect on their property. The variance was passed by a majority of council.

Denis Papineau asked that residents without municipal water supply should not have to pay for the drinking water plant deficit. Mayor Roger Larose had vetoed a resolution that was passed in May to charge the users a special tax (which would have duplicated an existing tax), so this was brought back to council. The Quyon ratepayers, in 2017, are already paying an additional tax to reimburse the 2016 water deficit. The new resolution (approved by all but Councillor Amyotte) was an accounting operation to repay the 2016 water deficit with the 2017 “special tax” paid by Quyon residents.

James Eggleton said he hoped for better communication between Public works and the road associations (FRAPP) to improve maintenance of tolerance roads.

Flood recovery

Mme Eugenia Sahagun Huerta was given a contract as building inspector to help issue permits because of the increased demand post-flood. The contract is for a maximum of 390 hours at \$36 per hour. Some of this cost will be covered by the Ministry of Public Security.

Flood victims will be allowed to delay their final tax payment from 1 October 2017 to 22 December 2017, provided they're not in arrears. They have to show that they are registered with the Ministry of Public Security's Programme d'aide financière for the floods.

Beaver control

Kenneth Foster is retained for one year as trapper, to kill beavers on municipal property, where water is not flowing freely and infrastructure is threatened or private land flooded. He will be paid \$60 per each beaver caught when requested by the municipality. There are many conditions in the agreement, including respecting laws and bylaws on trapping beavers.

Planning

Bylaws will be introduced to add new zoning standards for two-generation housing, as well as semi-detached housing and detached “two-family” housing in zone 13, which is the new project on ch. Père Dominicains, “down the hill”.

Houblons Pontiac asked council to support its request to the CPTAQ to build a single family home on its hop farm (agricultural land) at 293 ch Bradley, for one of the members of the company. Council approved this.

Hydro Québec also asked and received support for their request to the CPTAQ to put in a power line on four agricultural lots between ch Thérien and ch Nugent, in order to supply electricity to 374 ch Thérien.

Minor derogations.

Domaine des Chutes asked to confirm three minor derogations that were shown on the subdivision plan accepted during the agreement with the municipality. One is a lot smaller than the standard minimum of

3700 m² because of a drainage ditch, and two are for lots on the outside of a bend in the road, so the frontages (30 and 31 m) are smaller than the standard 45 m. This was adopted by a majority. A minor derogation for 20 côte McKay was allowed, to build a house within 5 m of the front line (rather than the norm of 10 m) because the requirement to build 15 m from the river reduces the usable depth of the lot.

Bus transport on the 148

Municipal support for this service run by TransCollines is renewed for a second year from 17 October 2017 to 16 October 2018. The municipality's contribution is 6% or \$13,291. The rest of the financing is from the MRC de Pontiac, 13%; the users, 26%; and a grant from the Ministry of Transport, 56%.

Bylaw on culverts at private entrances

A majority voted against changing the bylaw.

Expenses approved on 13 June and 30 May

Invoices amounting to \$141,249 and fixed and pre-approved expenses of \$336,701 for May, and incurred expenses for June of \$41,126.

Three tenders were received to act as external auditor. Piché Lacroix CPA Inc's proposal was accepted, at a cost of \$46,650 for three years, before taxes.

\$15,000 to hire students as day labourers to clean up the Ecocentre following the spring floods, and elsewhere as required.

\$10,000 for the Foire Champêtre (Country Fair) jointly organised with the National Capital Commission.

\$6,866 to L'Expert de la remorque, to buy a two-axle trailer.

\$5,000 extra for the day camp to hire a leader, two animators and animator support.

\$3,300 plus taxes per year for three years to Entreprise MK to maintain three green spaces not included in the previous contract was approved by a majority. Councillor Amyotte voted against because "two of the three areas are privately owned".

Minutes of council meetings contain the full text of bylaws and are posted on the municipal website: www.municipalitepontiac.com

Mo's reports are archived at: www.heritagepontiac.ca/Municipality