

# Pontiac council - flood victims abandon homes

Mo Laidlaw

A special council meeting was held at 9 pm on the 19 September 2017, at the Luskville community centre. There were several urgent matters that needed to be passed, as the regular council meeting on the 12th failed to reach quorum, only two councillors and the mayor being present. This council cannot meet after 6 October because of the election on 5 November. Three councillors and the mayor were present, as well as two members of the public (including me), the Director General, and Acting Assistant Director General. The first regular meeting of the newly elected council will be 21 November at 7:30 pm.

## **First flood victims abandon their homes**

The owners of four homes in the 0-20 year flood zone and that will cost more than 50% of the assessed value to rebuild, have accepted the Québec Ministry of Public Security compensation (maximum \$250,000) to leave their homes. They agree to transfer their properties to the municipality for \$1. The municipality pays the notary fees. The owners have to inform their mortgage company, get permits before work is carried out, demolish or move the building, remove the foundation, and clean the property (including septic systems). Properties will be inspected before compensation is paid. All four homes are on ch Bord de l'Eau, with only one on the waterfront, number 97. The other three are on low land on the other side of the road, numbers 76, 102 and 160. Nearly 150 main residences and 95 secondary residences (cottages) are in zones that were evacuated during the spring flood. Cottages are not eligible for compensation.

Two more homes were accepted to be transferred to the municipality, at a special meeting on 26 September: 39 ch Bergeron (west of ch Bord de l'Eau), and 175 ch Dion, close to Quyon (near Mohr island).

## **Borrowing bylaw**

Resolutions were passed to refinance the borrowing bylaw for the paving of Omkar and Marquis roads, with Financière Banque Nationale. The interest rate increases each year for 5 years, starting at 2% and increasing to 3%, with payments from \$6,000 in 2018 to \$6,600 in 2022.

## **Acquiring properties for unpaid taxes**

The Director General is authorized to bid on properties at the sale on 7 December, up to the amount owed to the municipality.

During the pre-election period the Director General is authorized to make decisions on unexpected work on the Quyon Community Centre, and on the awarding of snow removal contracts.

## **Repair work**

The contract to rehabilitate the washrooms at the Luskville Community Centre will be put out to tender again as the submissions received were too expensive.

The contract for repairs to the roof of the old part of the Town Hall was awarded to CAMA Canada Inc. for \$62,589. \$25,000 will come from the allocated surplus and the remainder from the non-allocated surplus.

## **Gas tax grants**

The following projects will be proposed to Municipal Affairs (MAMOT) for grants from the gas tax (TECQ): Necessary work at the water treatment plant; adding valves to the water mains and constructing a "fire reserve" sufficient for the urban part of Quyon; replacing the sewers along St John and St Andrew that slope the wrong way; putting a check valve with pump and generator in the storm water system in Quyon; providing a drinking water system for the town hall, library and community centre in Luskville, fed from an artesian well, and with a treatment unit; replacing the septic system at

the same municipal complex; and road repairs to Pères Dominicains (from route 148 to Sapinière) and de la Montagne (between numbers 1887 and 1900).

### **Other business**

Twelve new volunteer firefighters were hired.

Council supports the Ottawa Riverkeeper's position on the proposed nuclear waste dump at Chalk River, that it does not meet international standards, is too close to the Ottawa River, and there are safer alternatives.

### **Expenses approved recently**

Invoices amounting to \$128,085 and fixed and pre-approved expenses of \$515,944 for August, and incurred expenses for September of \$31,295.

LCC & Associés Canada Inc, \$1,498,185 for demolition and reconstruction of the community centre in Quyon.

Nugent Construction Inc, \$1,218,577 for rehabilitation and paving of de la Montagne road, phase 2.

Four year contracts for snow removal in sector A: Nugent, \$61,770; and sector G: John Schuiteboer Cartage, \$543,832. No offer was received for sector E and sidewalks.

Construction DJL to install 76 mm of Flextech asphalt on two sections of about 100 m for \$35,994, on Steele Line and Pères Dominicains road, as a test of a new type of asphalt.

Notary Lisa Gallinaro's offer to produce deeds related to the transfer of property for \$745 per unit for up to 20 deeds.

Minutes of council meetings contain the full text of bylaws and are posted on the municipal website: [www.municipalitepontiac.com](http://www.municipalitepontiac.com)

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