

Pontiac council - roadside radar & road repairs

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Over 40 residents attended the regular Pontiac council meeting on the 10th July 2018, at the community centre in Lusville. Many of these were members of the Pontiac Snowmobile Drivers Association (PSDA), upset by the possible closure by the NCC of the Curley Lake road in exchange for a new multipurpose trail along the Eardley-Masham road. Alain Goulet, the PSDA president, made a lengthy presentation in the public input period at the start of the meeting.

Chantal Dahan brought up another side of the issue, "It's not just about economics and tourism, what about wild life?" There are many "species at risk" in the west part of Gatineau Park. Wetlands are affected and the trail has encouraged illegal activities in non-winter months.

Councillor Nancy Draper-Maxsom asked for the resolution "Recreational-tourism link between the municipalities of Pontiac and La Pêche," to be taken off the agenda to allow further study by council, and this was agreed. (For more on this issue see page xx). [Allyson Beauregard, editor, Pontiac Journal, wrote an article on the snowmobile trail issue.

<http://www.pontiacjournal.com/news/snowmobile-trail-debate-brings-police-council-meeting>]

In answer to a question from Stéphane Alary we heard that the geotechnical report for repairing Alary road was received on the 6th July. Mayor Joanne Labadie said she would be meeting André Fortin, Minister of Transport and Pontiac MNA, "tomorrow" (11th July). Plans by an outside engineer are expected in the week of 16th July and these plans need to be approved by the Ministry of Public security and the Ministry of Transport. When the plans are approved the municipality can go out for tender (2 weeks). The next step is the council awarding a contract, and then work can begin. The repairs are estimated at \$300,000.

Rues principales/ Main street projects

Pontiac will take part in a project to develop seven village centres within the MRC des Collines with funding from FARR (Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions, Regional support fund), between now and April 2019. The village centres targeted are Quyon, Chelsea, Notre-Dame-de-la-Salette, Poltimore, Ste-Cecile-de-Masham, Saint-Pierre-de-Wakefield and Wakefield.

Public safety

Two radio repeaters are required to modernize the MRC police and Pontiac fire service radio system, which will cost a maximum of \$30,000. In addition the maintenance contract will cost \$125 per month for 10 years.

Notice was given of a bylaw to charge non-residents (through their insurance company) for fire department and first responder costs following road accidents (the jaws of life) or vehicle fires.

The municipal lawyer will be asked to take action against the owner of 15 ch des Grues (Plage-François-Tremblay), where building work was carried out that did not comply with the permit issued, and is inside the shoreline protection zone.

Expenses approved

Invoices amounting to \$57,713 and fixed and pre-approved expenses of \$556,440 for June 2018, and incurred expenses for July of \$32,193.

Funds from the surplus will be used to repair small lengths of the following roads, which have required repeated interventions, for a maximum of \$104,000: Westbrook, Swamp, Crégheur, River near Stanley, Hammond near 148, and Steele Line near Westbrook.

A used diesel-powered hot-mix asphalt trailer will be purchased for a maximum of \$25,000.

Two roadside radars that tell drivers their speed and count the number of vehicles will be purchased for \$15,000, to be used on local roads and the highway.

\$10,000 to organize events at the Pontiac Country Fair. (Foire champêtre de la Municipalité de Pontiac).

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