

Pontiac Council - changes for ch de la Montagne work

Mo Laidlaw

There was a special meeting by teleconference on 27th May at 6 pm at which several questions were received and answered. Two questions involve a legal case and council cannot comment.

Questions from the public

There were 2 questions from owners of lots on ch des Laurentides, a new road off Rivière. The developer, M. Grenier, and the municipality have not agreed on what work is required before the road is taken over by the municipality. Mistrale Meilleur asked "Why is no construction allowed?" (In February an interim control bylaw was tabled prohibiting new construction on private roads or next to a right-of-way until the urbanism plan has been revised.) Alisson Bertrand and Cody Bérubé also asked when they can get a building permit as their house and builder are booked.

Andrea Goffart suggested that questions should be allowed for clarification on items discussed, at the end of the meeting, as in non-covid days. Mayor Labadie said this is difficult to set up technically with a videoconference, and the municipality has no in-house tech support team. She suggested that Ms Goffart call her councillor, the mayor or staff for clarification.

Diane Lacasse mentioned that the sign banning heavy vehicles from ch Westbrook is missing. Items like this should be notified to Public works by phone or email. She also asked when Steele Line will be repaired. This is in planning stage.

Cost reduction for ch de la Montagne repair

Modifying the initial design will save about \$1.4 million according to Cima+. The plans will need to be changed, and Cima+ has offered to do this for \$32,000 plus tax. This was approved and will be paid for with a grant from the gas tax.

Sewer repairs on Saint-Andrew and Saint-John in Quyon

The lowest of two bids for quality control of material was from Group ABS, for \$43,501 which will also be paid with a gas tax grant.

The draft bylaw on backyard chickens was described in the June 17 Pontiac Journal. The final item at the 27th May meeting was about minor exemptions to planning bylaws. The urbanism department welcomes requests for exemptions at this time to avoid delays due to the covid emergency measures, so that work can be carried out before winter.

The regular meeting of Pontiac municipal council was on Tuesday, 9 June 2020 at 7 pm, by teleconference. Director general Pierre Said took part. There were no questions from the public.

Mayor Joanne Labadie presented the highlights of the financial report. This will be sent by mail to all residents in the next few days.

The \$971,400 loan for the lagoon for Quyon sewage treatment was refinanced for 5 years, with Banque Nationale offering the best deal.

The draft bylaw on pay for members of council was adopted.

Four firefighters were promoted to lieutenant, on probation for one year, on the recommendation of the acting fire director.

A property evaluator from the MRC evaluation department will be hired on contract for 4 days per week, at \$40/hr as a building inspector. He knows the municipality from last year's floods. This will help the short-staffed urbanism department.

The Pontiac snowmobile club (PSDA) asked and received municipal support in their request for funding from Québec to replace a culvert on ch Lac la Pêche and to clear vegetation (trees) in a 30 foot width to allow vehicles to pass. A professional tree clearing company will be used and must work with Public works.

A student will be hired under the Canada summer job program (that pays 87% of the salary), to keep parks clean and well maintained for 8 weeks at \$15/hr, to help both Public Works and Recreation departments.

Redundant municipal property from the fire department and public works will be posted on classified ad sites, instead of asking for offers, which didn't seem to work very well.

Approved:

Incurred expenses of \$9,650 for June.

\$15,711 for an alarm system and door access for the disabled at the Quyon community centre.

\$10,300 to municipal insurance for community organizations

\$7,800 contribution to Shawville rink for use by Pontiac residents, December to March.

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

The municipal website is www.municipalitepontiac.com