

Pontiac Council - last meeting of this council

Mo Laidlaw

The monthly meeting of Pontiac municipal council was held on 5 October 2021 at 7:30 pm, on Zoom (a week early because of the municipal elections on 7 November). Over ten members of the public joined council and director general Pierre Said online.

Public input

Diane Lacasse thanked councillors. "Their job is not always easy."

Public works

A grant is requested from the Local road assistance program (PAVL) for repairs to Murray and Clarendon roads, the amount to be calculated using detailed cost estimates.

Extra costs of \$24,000 plus tax, to GNP for completing the ch de la Montagne project were approved. This will be paid by the road works borrowing bylaw and the MTQ grant.

A 300 m section of Steele Line has deteriorated recently. QDI is awarded the mandate to prepare plans and specifications and supervise resurfacing for \$14,500 plus tax. Public Works have excavated clay at this location and added gravel. Pavage Gadbois won the bid for paving, for \$75,600 plus tax.

A grant is requested from the Ministry of Transport (MTQ) to develop a road safety plan.

Planning

The part of Mohr road south of River road will be sold to Charles Dickson, the owner of 7351 ch River for \$1 plus fees and taxes. This road is effectively the driveway for his house and he has maintained it for years assuming it to be his driveway. It is not an access to the "airport".

A lot at 2101 ch Beaudoin (one acre, next to Hammond), acquired by the municipality at the sale last year for non-payment of taxes, is transferred to the private domain and will be put up for sale.

There were two requests to the CPTAQ for properties on farmland:

The farm at 2412 Lac des Loups (south of 6th concession) requests permission to operate a sandpit on 5.7 ha for 10 years. There are already 5 sandpits within one km. Council supports this request.

The owner of 6867 ch River wishes to subdivide her 2 acre property, just east of Mulligan/Stanley. However the frontage is only 47 m so cannot be divided - the minimum frontage allowed is 45 m, and the new lot size of 3035 m² is smaller than the norm of 3700 m² (0.9 acres), neither complying with the subdivision bylaw, so Council did not support this request. This was the second request for this property refused by council.

The 2nd draft bylaw modifying the zoning bylaw, was adopted, clarifying that mini-storage units will be allowed in the Luskville commercial zone.

Administration

The accounting firm Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton will provide support in budget preparation and finalizing the 2021 accounts for \$21,000 plus tax, during the extended absence of the Finance Director who is caring for a family member.

Pontiac is being sued by an owner whose property was sold for non-payment of taxes, to cancel the sale. The municipal lawyers, RPGL Avocats must remain neutral, so council mandates PFD Avocats to represent the municipality.

The cost of wheelie bins for garbage, supplied to residents, will be increased by a 5% fee, to cover repairs to lids and wheels, and administration.

Expenses approved

\$46,463 plus tax to Tall Advanced Separation Systems for membranes for the Quyon water treatment plant. This will be funded by the 2019-2023 TECQ program (gas tax).

\$43,777 to Agora for purchase and installation of rink boards at the Luskville park, the lowest of 3 bids. The old boards are damaged and unsafe, and new boards will make maintenance easier.

\$19,366 to Traffic Logix for six radar speed indicators, the lowest quote received. A grant from the road safety program of the MTQ is requested.

\$12,647 to Christian Lauzon for maintaining the Davis Park ice rink this winter as he has done for many years, along with volunteers. The Quyon and Luskville rinks will continue to be maintained by Public works.

The municipality will contribute \$6,283 to the Municipal Housing Office (OMH) in Quyon, 10% of its deficit.

Les Blés d'Or is given \$1365 to support its efforts in the community, including organizing several markets during the pandemic when usual fundraising is a problem.

At the end of the meeting Councillor Leslie-Anne Barber thanked the “people who elected me.” Councillor Scott McDonald, ward 4, and Mayor Joanne Labadie are the only members of this council running in the November 7 municipal elections. Labadie thanked Councillor Tom Howard for his 43 years in the fire department including 17 as fire chief, in addition to his years as councillor. She also mentioned that working on council is a team effort.

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

The municipal website is www.municipalitepontiac.com