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**MINUTES
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016
6:30 PM
SPENCERVILLE MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Present: Councillor Smail, Chair
Councillor Morrell
Tory Deschamps
Bev Keleman
Tim Nason
Mayor Sayeau, Ex Officio

Regrets: Heather Lawless
Scott O'Brien
Carolyn Ward

Staff: Shelbi Deacon, Community Development Coordinator
Rebecca Williams, Deputy Clerk
Sheena Earl, Committee Secretary

1. Call to Order

Councillor Smail called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: T. Nason seconded by: T. Deschamps that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest – None

4. Business Arising from Previous Community Development Committee Minutes (if any)

A reference to the effectiveness of bilingual bus tours used to promote relocation for work was made.

Members discussed concerns raised at the previous meeting regarding Community Development Committee and Recreation Advisory Committee mandates specifically with respect to the Galop Canal area review and public meeting.

It was noted that the local distillery and brewery is scheduled to open in May and that the sale of Industrial Park land to Giant Tiger is expected to officially close March 23rd.

5. Delegations & Presentations

a) Small Business Enterprise Centre – Jeanette Johnston & Wendy Onstein

Ms. Onstein, Executive Director, provided an overview of the programs and services offered by the Leeds Grenville Small Business Enterprise Centre including participation statistics. She noted that the Centre is hosting a workshop regarding social media tactics for small business on April 15th at MERC Hall.

Members discussed recruitment and outreach practices with Ms. Johnston and Ms. Onstein. In response to a request for a list of local businesses, staff responded that information in this regard will be forwarded to the Centre.

b) Rideau St. Lawrence Utilities – Jack Walsh

Mr. Walsh, CEO and President of Rideau St. Lawrence Utilities (RSL) reviewed a recent application for rate increases and the mandated development of a Distribution Systems Plan. He added that it is his desire to meet with Committee annually and to ensure open lines of communication.

Mr. Walsh explained the renewal of aging systems through capital replacement and repair forms the basis of the Distribution Systems Plan to promote safety and reliability and decrease negative environmental impacts and reviewed the proposed five year capital program. Mr. Walsh reviewed the establishment of Rideau St. Lawrence from the legacy electricity systems which existed prior to 2000.

In response to a request regarding whether the municipality could generate power from the flow at the Mill in Spencerville, it was noted that the limited power which may be generated would have to be distributed through the grid.

Electricity requirements of a proposed development project at the Meadowland Subdivision were reviewed. Mr. Walsh said he was unaware of the proposed development and that more work would be required to determine how best to meet the electricity needs of this development.

A request was made for public education relating to smart meters. Mr. Walsh said he would provide explanatory materials to the Township and directed members to the interactive applications at www.rslu.ca.

Proposed rate increases were discussed briefly.

6. Discussion Items

a) Galop Canal Report

The Galop Canal Report, as prepared following the Public Meeting in that regard, was reviewed along with mandates of the Community Development Committee and Recreation Advisory Committee.

It was suggested that members identify items from the report which fall under the mandate of Community Development for further discussion. Members reiterated a common goal of identifying and further developing a broad economic development vision for this area and spoke to the potential problems associated with making decisions in a piecemeal fashion.

In reviewing the report, an immediate concern was raised regarding cormorants and the environmental damage to the waterfront caused by these birds.

✓ **Moved** by: T. Deschamps seconded by: G. Morrell that Committee recommends that Council explore options for removal of cormorants including a review of environmental impacts of such removal.

Carried

Concerns regarding a lack of response to residents who attended the Galop Canal public meeting were raised. It was the consensus of Committee that staff be directed to review the Galop Canal Report and identify matters which appear to compliment the Committee's mandate for further discussion and response to the public's suggestions.

b) 2015 CIP Overview

Members reviewed a summary of uptake in Community Improvement Projects implemented in the Villages of Cardinal and Spencerville. Public education and recruitment methods were discussed with staff.

c) Welcome Brochure

Members reviewed the second version of the Township's welcome brochure. Multiple suggestions were made and will be included in a final draft to be completed by staff.

d) Bus Tour Route

A proposed bus tour for Giant Tiger employees considering relocation was discussed including a potential route. Members noted the need for the tour to be engaging while displaying what the municipality has to offer to new residents. A suggestion to include neighbouring municipalities and their amenities on the tour

was discussed.

It was the consensus of members that staff develop the route and speaking notes with Mayor Sayeau.

7. Action/Information Items

a) Economic Development Budget

The 2016 Economic Development budget was included for information purposes and was briefly reviewed by the Committee.

b) Letter to Optimist Club

A letter identifying the Township's support of the Optimist Club's request to beautify the Clock Tower corner as recommended by Community Development Committee was briefly reviewed.

8. Inquiries/Notices of Motion

Inquiries were raised with respect to the following:

- Impact of James Street reconstruction to oak tree at Benson Public School yard;
- Prysmian equipment expansion project;
- Update re: Union Gas expansion project;

9. Question Period

A question was raised regarding the offerings of a local Spencerville business.


10. Closed Session – None

11. Adjournment

Moved by: T. Nason seconded by: G. Morrell that Committee does now adjourn at 9:01 pm.

Carried

These minutes were approved in open Council this 28th day of March, 2016.



Chair



Committee Secretary