

**MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
PUBLIC WORKS, ENVIROMENTAL SERVICES & FACILITIES
MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2018
6:30 PM
SPENCERVILLE MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Present: Councillor Barrett, Chair
Mayor Sayeau,
Deputy Mayor Taylor
Councillor Morrell
Councillor Smail
Hugh Cameron, Advisory Member
Mark Packwood, Advisory Member

Staff: Debra McKinstry, CAO/Clerk
Dave Grant, Director of Operations
Brian Moore, Fire Chief
Mike Spencer, Manager of Parks, Recreation & Facilities
Annie McLean, Recreation Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Councillor Barrett called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: K. Smail seconded by: M. Packwood that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature Thereof – None

4. Business Arising from Community Development Committee

Staff confirmed that the recommendation for appointment of a drainage engineer for the County Road 2 project is scheduled for January 22 Council. It was confirmed that there had been no negative feedback received in response to the increase in wastewater rates at the Industrial Park.

5. Delegations & Presentations

a) Ms. Carol Church, MMAH – Bill 68

Ms. Church's presentation has been rescheduled to January 22.

6. Discussion Items

a) County-wide Fire Service

Mayor Sayeau requested direction from the Committee with respect to a notice of motion made at the Counties Council table to explore the possibility of a County-wide fire service.

Several concerns were raised by members of the Committee:

- Possible negative impact on morale of volunteer members
- Cost of establishing a new department at the County level
- Limited possibility of improving service level
- Cost of staff time and possible consultant fees to do any study or explore the option
- Possibility of ending up moving closer to a full-time firefighter model
- Less accountability if the service is moved to the upper tier
- Different requirements in each lower tier municipality that may not be met by a county-wide model.

It was noted that there may be some cost savings achieved through joint purchasing of goods, but that can be done under the current model by coordination among the Chiefs.

Consensus of the Committee was that there was no interest in exploring the possibility of a County-wide fire service.

7. Action/Information Items

a) 4th Quarter Report – Fire Department

Chief Moore reviewed activity in Q4 of 2017. He noted that the Port of Johnstown has been experiencing some problems with the alarm system, resulting in a few false alarm calls to that location. He also highlighted the recent recruitment of eight new firefighters.

Committee requested and received an update from the Chief with respect to the recent 401 accident that resulted in closure and also a structure fire in the north end of the Township.

It was suggested that the Fire Department undertake a public education initiative reminding residents to keep their driveways clear of snow to permit better access by emergency vehicles.

The Fire Chief was requested to provide data in a format that would allow comparisons of activity levels year-to-year.

Committee reviewed a number of other aspects of the Chief's report including recruit retention and critical incident stress management tools. The provision of smoke alarms to people in need was reviewed.

b) 4th Quarter Report – Recreation Facilities

Mike Spencer reviewed the facilities use report for Q4 2017. Committee discussed the increase in use at the Port of Johnstown meeting room during hockey tournaments as well as other economic development aspects of tournaments, including outreach to community businesses such as restaurants.

Mr. Spencer introduced Annie McLean, Recreation Coordinator to the members of the Committee.

c) 4th Quarter Report - Operations

Dave Grant reviewed the Public Works and Solid Waste Disposal portions of the report. Committee discussed the apparent success of the fall leaf and brush collection program and confirmed that signage of the Gas Tax projects is required.

Mr. Grant also reviewed the Environmental Services quarterly report, noting that there were no anomalies.

d) Spencerville Lagoon Emergency Discharge Report

Dave Grant reviewed the circumstances that led to the requirement for an emergency fall discharge at the Spencerville lagoon and provided Committee with documentation from the Ministry showing that it had no objection and that no adverse effects were noted.

e) Sayeau Drain Engineering

Dave Grant reviewed the background and recommendation to appoint Greer Galloway Group to complete the report on the changes to the Sayeau Drain. Staff confirmed that the neighbouring landowners were aware of and supported the changes.

Moved by: K. Smail seconded by M. Packwood that Committee recommends that Council appoint the Greer Galloway Group to complete a report that incorporates improvements made under Section 78 of the Drainage Act.

Carried

8. Inquiries/Notices of Motion – None

9. Mayor's Report

Mayor Sayeau reported on the following:

- Progress at CREWS installation
- Continued work on the possibility of Union Gas expansion within the Township, despite being denied grant funding
- Local Share information from AMO with regard to the concept of adding 1% to the HST dedicated to municipal infrastructure.
- Chili cookoff challenges – January 20 in Johnstown and February 3 in Spencerville

10. Question Period

Questions/comments were raised with respect to the following:

- Value of local fire departments to community pride

11. Closed Session

Moved by P. Sayeau seconded by P. Taylor that Committee proceeds into closed session at 7:50 pm to address a matter pertaining to

- a) Disposition of Land and Personal Matters (November 20 closed meeting minutes)
- b) Receiving of Solicitor's Advice (Prescott WWTP Arbitration)

Carried

Committee recessed for five minutes to clear the chamber.

Moved by P. Taylor seconded by H. Cameron that the closed meeting does now adjourn and the open meeting of Committee of the Whole does now resume at 8:16 p.m.

Carried

Committee reviewed the minutes of the closed session of November 20, 2017 and provided the CAO with direction with respect to arbitration costs.

Moved by P. Sayeau seconded by M. Packwood that the minutes of the closed session of the Committee of the Whole – Public Works, Environmental Services and Facilities dated November 20, 2017 are approved as presented.

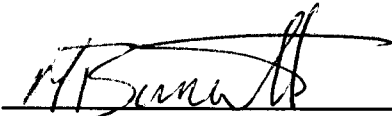
Carried

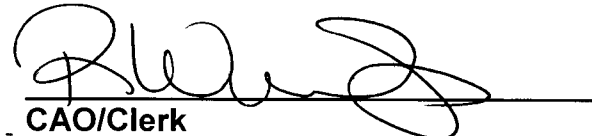
12. Adjournment

Moved by: G. Morrell seconded by: P. Taylor that Committee does now adjourn at 8:17 pm.

Carried

These minutes were approved in open Council this 22nd day of January, 2018.


Chair


for - CAO/Clerk