**TOWN OF PORT REXTON**

**Minutes**

**Regular Meeting**

**Thursday, July 9, 2020**

**4:30 P.M.**

**Meeting held at Recreation Room to provide ample room for social distancing restrictions.**

**Present at the meeting were**:

**Deputy Mayor Jeff Piercey Councillor Luke Fisher Councillor Shirley Clark Councillor Sonja Mills**

**Councillor Roland Taylor Councillor John Vivian Town Clerk/Manager Lois Long**

**Mayor Dean Bailey was unavoidably absent due to work commitments**

**Deputy Mayor Jeff Piercey convened the meeting at 4:30 pm**

**MOTION #26 - 2020– Fisher/Mills; resolved the minutes of the meeting held on June 4, 2020 shall be adopted as presented**. **All in favor, Motion carried.**

**MOTION #27 - 2020– Taylor/Clark; resolved the Agenda of this meeting shall be adopted as presented**. **All in favor, Motion carried.**

**Business Arising and Reports**

**Fire Department up-date:** TheFire Department have resumed their training and meetings according to the regulations adjusting their operations accordingly during this level of Covid-19 pandemic. The Compressor has arrived, is installed and in use. The SCBA’s and other equipment ordered should be here soon.

**Community Development and Planning:** Council’s lawyer Mr. John O’Dea has enquired as to how far Council is planning to, or, can afford to proceed with some of the issues he has been dealing with. Council discussed the issues and on-going legal fees and have decided that the Town has gone far enough with documentation proving ownership of the Union Store property and the onus is now on the other parties prove otherwise. As to the well and easement on this property, any correspondence regarding that issue will have to be directed to the Department of Municipal Affairs.

With regard to the well access issues on Long Lane, the legal agreement as prepared by the towns lawyer and personally handed to the property owner by the Town Clerk has been responded to by a letter indicating that this agreement will not be signed as presented. The property owner has, however, agreed to meet with the Town Clerk to further discuss this issue. Council agreed to have the Clerk continue with this meeting and discussion. Once again, Council is unwilling to spend any more for legal fees on this issue. Some discussion was held on the possibility of the Town de-commissioning these town wells altogether. The fact remains that if this has happened with one well and property owner chances are that this will happen again, probably more than once, in the future.

There has not been any response to date from Crown Lands regarding clearance of the land sales properties. These sales are now postponed indefinitely until the Covid-19 pandemic situation is resolved.

**Waste Management:** All is working well at the waste site. Alfred continues to supervise the dumping and collects the user fees for dumping. Alfred has recently been able to take to the recycling depot his collection of recycling material gathered up since the pandemic restrictions were put in place. The proceeds so far since March is a total of $714.65, all going to the Recreation Commission to be used towards the construction of the new community outdoor rink.

**Quarries:** The continued complaints about the state of in town quarries, dust, and high traffic volume on local roads was once again discussed at length. According to Mines and Energy Quarry Regulations, operators require to have regular five year approvals to operate a quarry, and in some cases yearly reviews are required, with fees and/or royalties to be paid to the province. More information will hopefully be available at the next meeting.

**Correspondence**

The Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment have distributed a Call for Applications for communities currently under a Boil Water Advisory to apply for funding to resolve the BWA. The Clerk will look further into this and consult with the departmental engineers to get more info on the matter.

The letter from the wells property owner was dealt with in business arising, however a motion was made regarding the matter,

**MOTION #28 - 2020– Clark/Taylor; resolved the Clerk will meet with the property owner of the artesian well location on Long Lane to further discuss a wells agreement**. **All in favor, Motion carried.**

**Finances**

Invoices were presented for confirmation and for payment from: Rodway’s for printer cartridges, $191.80, McGinnes Cooper for legal services ($2112.77).

Also regular expenses, waste site, utilities, furnace oil, salaries and monthly remittances and pre-authorized insurance payments for May and June.

**MOTION #29- 2020 – Fisher/Clark; resolved all invoices be paid, approval of payment of the regular monthly bills, and confirm the other related invoices that have been paid to date. All in favour, Motion carried.**

The Clerk presented a brief financial report showing the finances in good order to date. Taxes have been received at a steady pace in both Property and Business payments.

**General Business**

The Job Creation Partnership project began this week and will continue until September 25th. It will be set up for 2 or 3 people to work together. Each participant has signed an agreement to do the social distancing as much as possible. Sanitizer, spray or wipes will be available at all times. There are a number of tasks assigned for the duration of the project i.e. foundations for the new community signs will be built and put in place, 3 new benches and 3 new picnic tables will be built, painted and placed around the community. Painting will be done at the Community Park/Ball Field, the beaches will be cleaned up, trails and pathways will be trimmed and cleared, the old bridge at the second storey back entrance to the firemen's meeting room will be removed and a new one constructed. A number of new signs will be put in place around the community as well as other road/guardrails improvements, as time and materials permit.

Other new signage will be purchased, some directional, some caution slow down signs and signage for keeping dogs on a leash and cleaning up after them. These will be placed strategically around town. The clerk has also ordered some signs for the playground regarding regulations for use during this level two of Covid-19.

There is some local road work to be done in a number of places, as necessary. The grading has been done and will continue to be touched up as necessary. The calcium will be spread within the next few days. The clerk has enquired about Cold Patch and will be getting some ordered shortly. The J.C.P crew will then fill the holes on World Pond Road. The guardrails will also be fixed as mush as possible with the labour and materials available.

No further business so the meeting adjourned at 5:50pm on a motion **(30)** by Councillor Taylor and 2nd by Councillor Fisher. Next meeting will be scheduled as needed and will be at a place determined as per safety recommendations announced by that time.

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Mayor Dean Bailey Clerk/Manager Lois Long