



Municipality of French River

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

held in the Council Chambers
French River Municipal Complex
Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Mayor Claude Bouffard(Chair), Councillors Michel Bigras, Larry Bouffard, Mike Bouffard, Ronald Garbutt, Denny Sharp

Members Excused:

Councillor Shawnda Martin-Cross

Officials Present:

Sébastien Goyer, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Mélanie Bouffard, Deputy Clerk, Recording Secretary
Robert Martin, Parks, Recreation & Facilities Manager
Brennan Kenny, Economic Development Manager
Trista Verbiwski, Tourism Coordinator

Guests:

3 Guests

1. Call to order, roll call and adoption of the agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 p.m.

Moved By: Michel Bigras

Resol. 2014- 173

Seconded By: Ron Garbutt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be accepted as distributed.

Carried

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Denny Sharp declared a pecuniary interest at Item 3; she is a member of the French River Multi-Use Trail Association and left her seat to join the group.

3. Presentation by the French River Multi-Use Trail Association

Mr. Paul Sharp made a presentation of the activities, accomplishments, challenges and issues of the French River Multi-Use Trail Association.

The group wanted to confirm that they have never and will not restrict access to the trail to local users and that there are no interest or intention for a boat launch on Lac Clair. However, they would appreciate local users to purchase passes to show support and partnership.

Meetings have been held with the Forestry Management division of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and a logging company; provisions were established between all parties to ensure logging rights in that area. The MNR has also showed interest in participating in an interactive trail for logging roads and their rehabilitation.

Councillor Larry Bouffard arrived at 10:45 am.

The Mayor commented that numerous concerns were brought up by local residents relating to the trail and suggested that a meeting be held to answer questions and concerns.

The group is applying to the Federal Grant Program for an amount of \$28,000; they must match the funds 50/50 minimum.

The French River Multi-Use Trail Association requested a letter of support, administrative support (Economic Development Manager time) and a loan of \$20,000 to be repaid in 10 years. The purpose of the short notice request for a special meeting was because the grant application is due within a week.

Council discussed the impact on the budget if a loan was provided to the group and the option of the Municipality helping them by guaranteeing their loan (co-sign) at the Caisse Populaire.

Council took a break from 11am to 11:13am.

Moved By: Michel Bigras
Seconded By: Mike Bouffard

Resol. 2014- 174

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of French River hereby guarantees a loan to the French River Multi-Use Trail Association for a maximum of \$20,000 for the purpose of the application to the National Trail Coalition 2014/2016 Trail Grant, with terms to be negotiated.

Carried

Moved By: Larry Bouffard
Seconded By: Mike Bouffard

Resol. 2014- 175

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of French River hereby directs staff to complete the application to the Federal trails funding program in partnership with the French River Multi-Use Trail Association; and

THAT staff be directed to prepare a letter of support for the project.

Carried

4. CLOSED SESSION

Moved By: Mike Bouffard
Seconded By: Larry Bouffard

Resol. 2014- 176

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the next portion of the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider directions that should be given to senior staff pursuant to section 239 (2) (c) “a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board” with respect to a proposed land acquisition.

Carried

Moved By: Michel Bigras
Seconded By: Larry Bouffard

Resol. 2014- 178

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the open session reconvenes at 11:50 am.

Carried

Moved By: Michel Bigras
Seconded By: Larry Bouffard

Resol. 2014- 179

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the special meeting be adjourned at 11:51 am.

Carried

MAYOR

CLERK