



## **Municipality of French River**

### **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

held in the Council Chambers  
French River Municipal Complex  
Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 7pm

#### **Members Present:**

Mayor Claude Bouffard(Chair), Councillors Michel Bigras, Ronald Garbutt, Tammy Mitchell, Gisèle Pageau, Denny Sharp, Dean Wenborne

#### **Members Excused:**

#### **Officials Present:**

Mélanie Bouffard, Acting CAO/Clerk  
Julie Bouthillette, Treasurer/Tax Collector  
Robert Martin, Parks, Recreation & Facilities Manager  
Brennan Kenny, Economic Development Manager  
Linda Keenan, Library Chief Executive Officer  
Jim Sartor, Public Works Superintendent

#### **Guests:**

6 Guests

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Moved By: Gisèle Pageau  
Seconded By: Ron Garbutt

Resol. 2015- 124

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be accepted as distributed.

Carried

#### **2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None declared.

#### **3. Budget Deliberation**

The goal of the third Budget Deliberation was to revise the Draft Final Budget.

The Treasurer had distributed the Draft Final Budget to Council through email containing the changes from the last budget deliberation meeting of April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

The following removals were agreed:

\$15,000 contingency for Police (potential revenue is a false alarm by-law is established)

\$25,000 Houle Rd hard surface

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\$2,500 Repair & Maintenance for Streetlights

\$73,642 of human resources costs were decreased to reflect more accurately the 2015 staffing which excludes a full time by-law officer, a full time lead hand in public works, a 5 months without a deputy clerk, and adds \$16,000 HR Dibrina Sure and \$10,000 for Collective Bargaining

It was proposed that each department should be mandated to cut a stated percentage to reduce their budget and to find efficiencies. Consensus was not reached as the upcoming Operational review will achieve that goal.

As requested by Council, the option to levy the OPP cost was included in the draft budget. The new OPP billing model now outlines the true cost per household which simplifies the task of levying accordingly. The amount that could be levied per household is \$200.51 which leaves an amount of \$106,625 that would remain on the overall burden of the budget.

The total cost of OPP for 2015 is \$635,971. If the cost is not levied per household, it is charged by assessment; therefore the higher assessed properties are charged more than lower assessments. The levy provides that each household is charged equally no matter the value of the property. However, the burden would be put on multi-residential properties that would pay per household (unit/apartment).

Overview of where the budget was at that point:

10.45% assessment increase

.6% increase in tax rate

11.25% increase in taxes (assessment and rate)

Pulled from reserves \$718,900

Repayable of long term debt \$249,000

Purchase of Tangible Capital Assets \$1,301,000

New long term debt \$277,100

Discussion on the notice of motion with regards to taking the budget to public meeting. The Resolution specifies that the meetings are to be held at the Municipal Office in Noëlville, the Alban Community Center in Alban and at the Monetville Public School in Monetville for the convenience of our taxpayers in those areas and scheduled for evenings or week-ends. Members of council and staff are required to be present to explain the budget and answer any questions that may arise from the public and to make note of any comments/suggestions from the public. Dates and times will be determined at a later time.

The 2015 Municipal Budget could potentially be adopted at the Regular Council Meeting of May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

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Moved By: Dean Wenborne  
Seconded By: Michel Bigras

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**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the special meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Carried

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**MAYOR**

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**CLERK**