



Municipality of French River

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

held in the Council Chambers
French River Municipal Complex
Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 6pm

Members Present:

Mayor Claude Bouffard(Chair), Councillors Michel Bigras, Ronald Garbutt, Malcolm Lamothe, Gisèle Pageau, Denny Sharp

Members Excused:

Councillor Dean Wenborne

Officials Present:

John Regan, Chief Administrative Officer
Mélanie Bouffard, Clerk
Robert Martin, Parks, Recreation & Facilities Manager
Greg Darby, Director of Operations

Guests:

100 Members of public (approx.)

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 46

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as distributed and amended:

Add 6.7 EDC Report by Chair Denny Sharp

Defer Items 6.2.1, 6.5.1 and 6.6.1 to the next Budget Deliberation Meeting

Carried

2. Moment of reflection

Council paused for a moment of reflection.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

4. Resolution to resolve into Committee

Moved By Gisèle Pageau and Seconded By Denny Sharp

Resol. 2016- 47

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council now go into Council in Committee to consider delegations, reports and correspondence for consideration.

Carried

COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE

Councillor Michel Bigras chaired the Council in Committee meeting.

5. Delegations

5.1 Marianne Schwendener and Meghan Perrin on behalf of the French River Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic presented their opposition to the elimination of Community Development Programs and position.

A petition, letters of support from local community groups, residents, agencies and children was submitted to the Clerk for Council's consideration. It was officially requested that the decision be reconsidered.

5.2 Sue Crane and Annie Hebert on behalf of French River Cultural Industries Council Inc. presented their opposition to the elimination of the Tourism Programs and position.

The presentation included questions and a request that Council revisit the decision.

6. Management, Committee and Board Reports

6.1 Mayor

Mayor gave a verbal report.

6.2 Chief Administrative Officer

6.2.1 Item was deferred to the next budget deliberation meeting.

6.3 Clerk

6.3.1 Cemeteries By-law - Schedule 'C' Price List

The Clerk presented the report included in the agenda package.

Moved By Denny Sharp and Seconded By Gisèle Pageau

Resol. 2016- 48

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2016-07, being a by-law to amend Schedule 'C' of By-law 2006-01, a By-law for the maintenance, management, regulation and control of the St. David and Notre Dame de Lourdes Cemeteries be read a first, second and third time and finally passed.

Carried

6.4 Finance Department

A Special Council Meeting was scheduled on Wednesday, February 17th for Budget Deliberations.

6.4.1 Monthly Disbursements Report

The total disbursements for the months of December 2015 were reported in the amount of \$599,348.72.

6.5.1 Item was deferred to the next budget deliberation meeting.

6.6.1 Item was deferred to the next budget deliberation meeting.

6.7 Economic Development Committee Report

Councillor Denny Sharp commented that Council will need to give direction whether the committee can remain with no resources.

7. Correspondence for Council's Consideration

8. Verbal Motion to return into the Regular Meeting

Moved by: Denny Sharp

Resol. 2016- 49

THAT the Committee rise and report.

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Claude Bouffard resumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

9. Resolution adopting proceedings from Council in Committee

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Gisèle Pageau

Resol. 2016- 50

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the actions taken in Council in Committee in considering delegations, reports and correspondence be confirmed by this Council.

Carried

10. CONSENT AGENDA

The following motion was presented to adopt the items contained in the Consent Agenda:

Moved By Denny Sharp and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 51

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the Items of the Consent Agenda under Sections 10.1, 10.4 and receives the Items under Sections 10.2, 10.3.

Carried

10.1 Adoption of Minutes

Moved By Denny Sharp and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 52

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopts the following minutes as presented:

Special Meeting of Council held January 27, 2016
Regular Council Meeting held January 27, 2016

Carried

10.2 Minutes Received

10.3 Correspondence for Council's Information

10.4 By-laws

The following By-laws were read and adopted:

10.4.1 Confirmation By-law

Moved By Denny Sharp and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 53

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2016-08, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of French River at a meeting held on February 10, 2016 be read a first, second and third time and finally passed.

Carried

11. ADDENDUM (if required and by resolution)

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

The Mayor read the Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Denny Sharp prior to the meeting.

WHEREAS there has been broad, significant public response as the result of the recent announcement to terminate the position of Community Development Officer in the Municipality of French River; and

WHEREAS the public of French River has made it very clear that they need and want the support of a Community Development Officer; and

WHEREAS The Community has made clear the need for the various programs through their strong and continued attendance at the programs and that the number of participants in the programs has been constantly rising over the course of the past three years; and

WHEREAS the Council of French River is well aware that retaining and attracting families to the French River is vital to the future and sustainability of our community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of French River approve the continued support of the position of Community Development Officer and allocate the necessary funding in the Municipal Budget.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INQUIRIES

The Mayor stated that the Announcement and Inquiries section of the agenda is meant to give the opportunity to members of the public to express their views and ask questions to Council.

Since there was a large crowd in attendance and to allow the opportunity to as many people as possible to address Council, a maximum of 1 minute per person was allowed for a total period of 20 minutes.

Immediate answers may not be provided, however, questions and comments will be noted and every attempt will be made to follow up with responses. Depending on the amount and nature of questions, responses could be provided at a later Council Meeting.

To ensure meeting decorum and to make sure the speakers were heard, the Mayor asked that everyone remain respectful towards Council, staff and to the members of the public.

Councillor Malcolm Lamothe expressed his concerns with the negative comments and accusations on social media.

Councillor Michel Bigras announced the NFHT being held that weekend.

Councillor Gisèle Pageau acknowledged the large crowd and encouraged the residents to attend meetings and upcoming budget meetings.

Harold Lute, owner of Wolseley Lodge for the last 12 years and member of French River Resorts Association, commented that there used to be no support until 2012 with the creation of the Municipal Tourism Coordinator and was concerned with the cut to the position and its programs.

Sylvia Tomlinson, owner of Silv'ry' Moon Lodge, commented that the tourism industry has been taking care of their own advertising and that Council should prioritize the budget decisions.

Mike Bouffard, owner of Maples Golf Course, commented that the business owners, children and families all consider Tourism and Community Development as essential services, was previously on council and understand the difficulty in setting the budget and making sacrifices and that Council needs to look at different areas to cut, and pleaded Council to take the comments in consideration to maintain both positions.

Cody Raymond, Alban, child who participates in the programming, commented that they are just kids but that they are the future taxpayers and that the only reason they are here is for our amazing activities, if we don't have activities the taxpayers won't want to be here, please keep the activities and Mr. Patrick Losier.

Jerimiah Breau, Alban, child who participates in the programming, commented that the activities keeps the kids fit and participating in fun stuff like health, cooking classes, new experiences like the voyageur trail, to pushing their goals, being true team leaders, helps them socialize and gets people together.

Bailey Raymond, Alban, child who participates in the programming, pleaded to keep programming and Patrick Losier.

Zak Breau, Alban, child who participates in the programming, thanked Council for listening.

Mike Watson, Alban, child who participates in the programming, questioned why Council would want to get rid of the programs. The Mayor answered that nobody wants to but difficult budget decisions need to be made and will be considered at the budget meeting next week.

Emily Watson, Alban, child who participates in the programming, shared her love for Mr. Patrick and thanked Council for listening to them.

Connie Raymond, Alban, commented that Council has heard what the programming means to the kids and pleaded that their decision be reconsidered.

Kelly Watson, Alban, commented that her family moved 10 years ago from Hamilton since there were lots of things to offer such as small community feel with quality of life, pleaded Council to reconsider their decision, to make sure that we keep our community alive with programs that positively affect all children and where everybody is welcome.

Don Lumley, Alban, commented that he has been a resident for the past 10 years but has been coming to the area for the past 67 years, his extensive background in tourism and volunteering reveals to him the importance of social services in a community, pleaded Council to make careful considerations during next budget deliberation, to listen to the comments made, to think outside the box, be creative and not cut positions that are needed to promote the beauty of our area.

Erika Schwendener, new resident in Alban but used to come to area as a kid, commented that the programming is a big deal and important to the community, pleaded Council to consider that when we want something that there are always recourses to make it happen.

Harold Lute, part of the water management advisory group for Nipissing and French River and commented that French River no longer has a member representative at the meetings.

14. Closed Session

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By Ron Garbutt and Seconded By Michel Bigras

Resol. 2016- 54

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Carried

MAYOR

CLERK