



Monthly Council Meeting-Minutes
Thursday, September 7th, 2023
7:00 pm
CDC Boardroom

Present:

Mayor: Matthew Bowness

Councillors:

Karen Ashley-Neill

Nichola Arsenault

Robert Green

Derrick Blacquiere

Barry Stewart

Absent:

Councillor:

Mitchell Arsenault

Barry Stewart

CAO: Kevin McKenna

Guests: Rev. Steven Townsend

- 1. Call to Order and Attendance** – Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. Mayor Matthew Bowness welcomed all Councillors and Guests in attendance.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Derrick Blacquiere, seconded by Karen Ashley Neill that Agenda be approved as presented. **Motion Carried.**
- 3. Presentation By Rev. Steven Townsend:** Steven presented Council with the idea of having the Bedeque Baptist Church on Linkletter Avenue in Central Bedeque as a potential Warming Center in the event of a major community power outages during tropical hurricane storms or major winter snowstorms. Steven indicated that the Baptist Church has all the facilities required for a warming center should a sufficient generator be obtained and provided from the Rural Municipality of Bedeque and Area. Steven is to seek approval from the Baptist Church Committee if they wish to provide this service at their next Council meeting on November 4th, 2023. Kevin is to start process in obtaining potential generator sources and quotes for several options and advise Steven before their meeting a couple of weeks in advance.

4. **Determine Conflict of Interest:** No Conflict of Interest by any member present.
5. **Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings:** Minutes from the July 6th, 2023, meeting was reviewed by Mayor Bowness. Moved by Rob Green, seconded by Nicola Arsenault that the Minutes of the July 6th, 2023, meeting be approved as presented.
Motion Carried.

6. **Business Arising from Previous Meetings:**

- A) **Sommers Generators:** As a follow up to Councils requirement to designate a Warming Center in our own community under the Emergency Management Plan shared with the Municipality of Kinkora various options were discussed. CAO Kevin is to approach Sommers Generators representative Harrison Trenholm to conduct a site visit and provide recommendations based on the following three (3) options. 1) Quote for Baptist Church location as Warming Center 2) Quote for Fire Pump location only and 3) Combined Quote for Fire Pump and Bedeque Recreational Center (Rink) as Alternate Warming Center.
- B) **New Website Platform: Options / Potential Funding:** Mayor Matthew Bowness approached a local Web-Page Developer being Sea Breeze Consultants and obtained a quote for \$ 2,300.00 to develop and build our new Web Page including an annual Hosting Fee of \$ 360.00. Matthew also indicated that there was Provincial funding available, upwards to \$ 1,200.00, to go towards the cost of Municipal Web-Page development. Kevin is to investigate this funding initiative and seek funding if available.
- C) **Emergency Management Plan:** Kevin and Matthew reported that we have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) whereby we will be forming an EMP Committee to establish such initiatives as an Alternate Emergency Operations Centre (Warming Center) in the event of a large-scale emergency and determine alternate centers within our own community should Kinkora Place be unavailable to be used. We have also been approached by the Rural Municipality of Kinkora to implement a shared Emergency Management Plan. This EMP document will be established in September and be distributed to our Council for review before being approved by our Council. MOU and EMP will be distributed to all Council members once received.
- D) **Speeding Issues:** CAO Kevin reported that he has been in contact with RCMP Traffic Enforcement Team Lead Corporal Lisa Jones who indicated that they have been regularly patrolling Village of Bedeque and Central Bedeque communities in marked and unmarked patrol vehicles. They have assured us that once the Central Bedeque Bridge has been completed more patrols will occur in both communities.

E) Bedeque Bridge Update: CAO Kevin reported that he had been in contact with Stephen Yeo at the Department of Highways and Transportation. Mr. Yeo confirmed that Noye and Noye are presently reconstructing carrying beams and bridge supports. These repairs should provide adequate bridge infrastructure for the next 15-20 years before funds are available for a newer structure. We suggested that when a new replacement bridge is constructed that it be designed the same width as the Searletown Bridge on Route 10 that would accommodate heavy farm equipment and additional side space for the safety of pedestrian walkers and cyclists. The Bedeque Bridge should be completed by Mid-October.

F) Resolutions/Rules/Guidelines: Mayor Bowness requested further follow-up on files pertaining to all our existing Resolutions/Rules and Guidelines. Kevin is to investigate further with Municipal Affairs and obtain copies of all our By-Laws that would cover these resolutions, rules and guidelines as required under the Municipal Government Act (MGA)

7. New Business:

A) Bedeque Park – Playground Equipment/Outdoor Multi-Use Sports Facility: Mayor Bowness reiterated that we continue to investigate the feasibility of constructing playground equipment and outdoor sports facilities like the Kinkora Community Center playground area. Further discussion is required as to where we could potentially acquire adjacent land along Bedeque Park to establish such an attractive facility for the Municipality.

B) Naming of Park Complex: CAO Kevin McKenna suggested that Council continue to think about what we should name the whole Park Complex or recognize people that have contributed to making this facility happen. Council discussed the naming of the Walking Track separate from McKenna Field that was named for the Ballfield itself. Others suggested that should land be donated to house a playground and Multi-Use Sports Pad that it be named after that doner of land. Further discussion required at our next Council meeting.

C) Emergency Management Organization (EMO) Training Calendar: Councillor Barry Stewart, who has been named our EMO Main Contact, will discuss the Training Calendar at our next Council Meeting in further detail.

D) Emergency Management Reserve Fund: CAO Kevin reported that Rural Municipality of Kinkora has established an emergency management reserve fund of \$ 2.00 per person to allow for purchase of goods and supplies their Warming Center if required. They had asked if our Municipality has done the same. Council suggested that we set aside funds of \$2.00 per household per year based on 300 residents in both communities. This would be set aside from funds in our Contingency Savings Account. Kevin to follow-up.

E) CCBF-Community Improvements Program: CAO Kevin reported that the 2nd Submission due date for any new projects under CCBF is due before deadline of October 20th, 2023. If council has no new projects to submit under the Community Improvements Program (CIP) they can allocate funds towards existing projects namely Official Plan or the McKenna Field Phase 2 Project. After the final CCFB allotment for 2023/24 Fiscal is distributed in December 2023 there will be a total of approximately \$ 10,000.00 available in additional funds to go towards our projects. All indications from Municipal Affairs is that more CCBF Funds will be allocated for the upcoming Five (5) Fiscal years commencing 2024/25 Fiscal Year. Based on the added inflationary costs projected to complete the Lighting for the Bedeque Park Walking Trail Council felt that we should apply those CCBF Funds available in the Official Plan and apply them towards the McKenna Field Phase 2 Project. Moved by Barry Stewart, seconded by Nichola Arsenault that we apply \$ 10,000.00 from CCBF to Phase 2 of McKenna Field Project. **Motion Carried.**

F) Sommers Generators: Harrison Trenholm Visit Plus Recommendations Based on Needs: This was covered under Business Arising from Previous Meeting item; Kevin to arrange Site Visit with Sommers and obtain recommendations based on the following three (3) options. 1) Quote for Baptist Church location as Warming Center 2) Quote for Fire Pump location only and 3) Combined Quote for Fire Pump and Bedeque Recreational Center (Rink) as Alternate Warming Center.

G) New Website Platform: Options Plus Government Funding:
This was also discussed under Business Arising from Previous Meeting. Kevin is to investigate this funding initiative and seek funding if available.

8. Financials:

CAO Kevin McKenna presented the Cumulative Income Statement spreadsheets to Council earlier in the week prior to the meeting for their review.

Balances in Bank Accounts as of August 31st, 2023

Main Account: \$ 72,429.47

Gas Tax Account \$ 5,850.25

Contingency Savings \$ 20,088.09

Ball-Field Account \$ 53,541.75

9. Correspondence:

A) Charitable Donation to Bedeque Area Minor Ball Association: Rink Ballfield:

A letter and Invoice were received from the Bedeque Area Minor Ball Association for Annual Sponsorship. Moved by Rob Green, seconded by Derrick Blacquiere that a donation of \$500.00 be paid to cover the 2023 Annual Sponsorship.

Motion Carried.

10. Open Floor: No Further Topics Discussed

11. Schedule Next Meeting Date: November 2nd, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

12. Adjournment: Moved by Karen Ashley-Neill that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 PM

Prepared By: CAO, Kevin P. McKenna

Approved By: Mayor: Matthew Bowness