Province of Quebec

Municipality of Chichester

Regular meeting of the Chichester Municipal Council held April 11th, 2023 at 7:00pm, held at the Municipal Office.

At which were present, in-person, Mayor Donald Gagnon and Councillors Neil Maloney, Corey Bissonnette, Chrissy Ann Payne, Dustin Denault, and Jacques Fleury.

Councillor Louis Schryer is absent.

Director General, Alicia Jones, is present.

**1.** **Opening of meeting**

Mayor Gagnon welcomes everyone and declares the meeting to be open.

**2.Adoption of agenda**

037-23/04 Moved by Chrissy Ann Payne to accept the agenda as presented and amended.

Adopted

**3. Conflict of interest (if applicable)**

None.

**4.Adoption of minutes**

038-23/04 Moved by Jacques Fleury that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 13th, 2023 be adopted.

Adopted

**5.** **Visitors**

- *Jane Toller*:

- makes a presentation to Council regarding her Energy-from-Waste project and request the support from the Municipality;

- *Charles & Penny Vaillancourt*:

- questions regarding evaluation of his commercial property;

- questions regarding contract work within the Municipality for last year, 2022 and requesting compensation from the Municipality for lack of work;

- requesting that contract work is more evenly divided between contractors.

The DG responds that the question regarding commercial property evaluation needs to be directed to the MRC Pontiac. The Mayor responds that the other questions will be discussed by Council.

- *Nathan & Sylvie Masseau*:

- questions regarding work for contractor and accessing work; DG responds to email the list of available equipment and pricing.

- *Ms. Jennifer Valentine*:

- questions regarding the outcome of her minor derogation request.

The Mayor responds that Council will need to receive and discuss the CCU recommendation.

039-23/04 Moved by Neil Maloney to proceed with the discussions, in-camera, at 7:15pm.

Adopted

040-23/04 Moved by Chrissy Ann Payne to return to the meeting in-progress, at 7:30pm.

Adopted

041-23/04 *Minor variance request – lot # 6 071 763*

Councillor Neil Maloney presents the findings and the recommendations made by the Land-Use Planning Committee (CCU), which indicate that the request made for lot # 6 071 763 are not considered minor and that the required area could be obtained from the neighboring landowner.

THEREFORE it is moved by Jacques Fleury that this Council accept the recommendation from the Land-use planning committee (CCU) and to reject the request for a minor variance on lot # 6 071 763.

Adopted unanimously

**Visitors (continued)**

* *Ms. Jennifer Valentine*:
  + Questions regarding minor variance decisions from the past;
  + Inquiring about the possibility to appeal the decision
  + Requesting information/documentation relating to a previous minor variance request

The DG asks Ms. Valentine to make a formal request directly with the office later in the week.

**6.** **Mayor’s MRC report**

The Mayor gives his report.

**7.** **Committee reports**

***Public Security***

Councillor Fleury, Chair of the Public Security committee, gives a verbal report.

042-23/04 *Annual Report for the Year 2022 – Fire Safety Cover Plan*

WHEREAS the revised fire safety cover plan came into effect on May 1st 2017;

WHEREAS year 5 of the revised fire safety cover plan ended on April 30th 2022;

WHEREAS article 35 of the Fire safety act states that an activity report for the previous year must be prepared, adopted by resolution and sent to the minister each year.

It is moved by Jacques Fleury and resolved to adopt the annual report of the revised fire safety cover plan for 2022 and to transmit this report to the minister.

Adopted

043-23/04 *Revised Fire Safety Cover Plan - Implementation*

WHEREAS the regional council, in its resolution C.M. 2016-02-07, mandated the public security and emergency preparedness coordinator of the Pontiac MRC to prepare a revised fire safety cover plan (revised plan);

WHEREAS the revised plan was prepared and presented to the fire safety committee (CSI);

WHEREAS the CSI recommended that the Regional council approve the revised plan as presented;

WHEREAS the Implementation plan was presented to the members of council.

It is moved by Jacques Fleury and resolved to adopt the implementation plan.

Adopted

044-23/04 *Off-Road Rescue Program*

Moved by Neil Maloney to request that the MRC Pontiac relocate the off-road rescue equipment to a more beneficial location; Pontiac Ouest will continue to participate in the Off-Road Program with their municipal ATV & Boat.

Adopted

045-23/04 *Chichester firehall Project*

Moved by Chrissy Ann Payne to approve the proposed addition to the Chichester Firehall, as requested by the Municipality of Chichester.

Adopted

046-23/04 *CBC Tower Property*

Moved by Corey Bissonnette to enter discussions with the MRC Pontiac regarding the future of the property on which the CBC-Radio Tower is located.

Adopted

047-23/04 *Old Extrication System*

Moved by Dustin Denault to donate the old extrication system (Jaws-of-Life) to the Pontiac North Fire Department (Thorne/OtterLake).

Adopted

***Roads & Environment***

Mayor Gagnon, Chair of the Roads & Environment committee, gives a verbal report.

048-23/04 *Sweeping*

Moved by Corey Bissonnette to accept the lowest quote received for street sweeping, as presented by Nathan Masseau, for an amount of $2,500/week, plus taxes.

Adopted

***Planning & Development***

Councillor Maloney, Chair of the Planning & Development committee, gives a verbal report.

The Municipal Inspector’s report is received and read.

***Administration & Finance***

Councillor Schryer, Chair of the Administration & Finance committee, being absent, the Director General gives a verbal report.

049-23/04 *Energy from Waste*

Whereas the MRC Pontiac wishes to achieve 100% diversion of household waste from landfill;

Whereas the MRC Pontiac has already expressed a desire, with resolution C.M. 2019-06-22, to host a potential waste processing facility serving the Outaouais and, with ministerial authorization, the City of Ottawa and Renfrew County;

Whereas the MRC Pontiac is a voluntary host and approved by-law number 184- 2012 to express interest as a recipient and provide zoning in the Pontiac;

Whereas the Pontiac is easily accessible from the east and west via Highway 148, the Quyon Ferry and the Chenaux Dam;

Whereas a potential facility will create jobs and provide a sustainable solution for 1.5 million people;

It is moved by Neil Maloney and resolved that the Municipality of Chichester supports establishing an energy-from-waste facility in the Pontiac, serving the Outaouais, the City of Ottawa and Renfrew County, and will forward any further questions regarding the project directly to the Warden.

Adopted

050-23/04 *Agreement and Short-Term Resolution for a Loan*

WHEREAS, pursuant to the following borrowing by-laws and in the amounts set out opposite each, the Municipality of the Township of Chichester wishes to borrow by bills in the total amount of $1,805,500 to be completed on April 18, 2023, as follows

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Borrowing ByLaw #** | **Amount of $** |
| 2022‑004 | $ 1,417,240 |
| 2022‑004 | $ 388,260 |

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the borrowing by-laws accordingly

WHEREAS, in accordance with the 1st paragraph of Section 2 of the Act respecting Municipal Debts and Loans (RLRQ, chapter D 7), for the purposes of this loan and for By-law # 2022-004, the Municipality of Chichester wishes to carry out the loan for a shorter term than the one originally set in these by-laws;

It was moved by Jacques Fleury, seconded by Chrissy Ann Payne and unanimously resolved,

THAT the borrowing by-law indicated in the 1st paragraph of the preamble be financed by bills, as follows:

1. the bills shall be dated April 18, 2023

2. interest shall be payable semi-annually on April 18 and October 18 of each year

3. the bills shall be signed by the Mayor and the Clerk-treasurer

4. the bills, as to principal, shall be repaid as follows:

2024. 147,400 $

2025. 153,800 $

2026. 160,700 $

2027. 167,800 $

2028. 175,300 (payable in 2028)

2028. 1,000,500 (to be renewed)

THAT with respect to the annual capital amortizations provided for the years 2029 and following, the terms provided for in the borrowing by-law # 2022-004 be shorter than that originally set, therefore, for a term of five (5) years (starting April 18, 2023), instead of the term prescribed for the said amortizations, each subsequent issue to be for the balance or part of the balance due on the loan.

Adopted

051-23/04 *Loan Financing Results*

Opening date: April 11, 2023 Number of bids: 3

Opening time: 10:00 a.m.

Average maturity: 4 years and 2 months

Place of Opening: Ministère des Finances du Québec

Date of Issue: April 18, 2023

Amount: $1,805,500

WHEREAS the Municipality of Chichester has requested, in this regard, through the electronic system "*Service d'adjudication et de publication des résultats de titres d'emprunts émis aux fins du financement municipal*", bids for the financing, dated April 18, 2023, in the amount of $1,805,500

WHEREAS following the public call for tenders for the loan financing, the Ministry of Finance received three compliant bids, all in accordance with section 1066 of the Quebec Municipal Code (RLRQ, chapter C 27.1) and the resolution adopted pursuant to this section, being the following:

1. CAISSE DESJARDINS DES RIVIÈRES DE PONTIAC

147 400 $ 4,64000 % 2024

153 800 $ 4,64000 % 2025

160 700 $ 4,64000 % 2026

167 800 $ 4,64000 % 2027

1 175 800 $ 4,64000 % 2028

Price: 100.00000 Actual Cost: 4.64000

2. ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

147 400 $ 4,74000 % 2024

153 800 $ 4,74000 % 2025

160 700 $ 4,74000 % 2026

167 800 $ 4,74000 % 2027

1 175 800 $ 4,74000 % 2028

Price: 100.00000 Actual Cost: 4.74000

3. NATIONAL BANK FINANCIAL INC.

147 400 $ 5,00000 % 2024

153 800 $ 4,60000 % 2025

160 700 $ 4,35000 % 2026

167 800 $ 4,35000 % 2027

1 175 800 $ 4,30000 % 2028

Price: 98.44000 Actual Cost: 4.75888

WHEREAS the result of the actual cost calculation indicates that the bid submitted by CAISSE DESJARDINS DES RIVIÈRES DE PONTIAC is the most advantageous;

It is proposed by Chrissy Ann Payne, seconded by Jacques Fleury and unanimously resolved:

THAT the preamble to this resolution be made an integral part of it as if it were reproduced here in full;

THAT the Municipality of the Chichester accept the offer made by CAISSE DESJARDINS DES RIVIÈRES DE PONTIAC for its loan dated April 18, 2023, in the amount of $1,805,500, made in accordance with Loan By-law Number 2022-004. These bills are issued at a price of $100.00000 for each $100.00 nominal value of bills, maturing in series of five (5) years, and this according to the summary of the combined table and confirmed by the letter of the MAMH dated March 27, 2023;

THAT the Mayor, Donald Gagnon, and the Director General/Clerk-Treasurer, Alicia Jones, be authorized as signatories;

THAT the bills, principal and interest, be payable by cheque to the registered holder or by pre-authorized bank withdrawals to the registered holder.

Adopted

***Leisure, Recreation, Tourism & Marketing***

Councillor Payne, Chair of the Leisure, Recreation, Tourism & Marketing committee, gives a report.

**8. Questions from the public**

*- Ms. Jennifer Valentine:*

- can a temporary permit be approved? Would Council reconsider the last variance request?

The Mayor responds.

**9.** **Presentation of accounts**

052-23/04 Moved by Neil Maloney that the bills be paid according to the list distributed.

Adopted

**10.** **Reading of correspondence**

None.

**11.** **Varia**

053-23/04 *Mandate Firm to represent the Lawsuit filed by bilingual municipalities*

WHEREAS since 1998, the Municipality of Chichester is a municipality that is recognized as having bilingual status according to the Charter of the French Language;

WHEREAS the *Act respecting French, the official and common language of Quebec (“Law 96”)* an act to amend the Charter of the French language, has serious negative implications on the linguistic rights of the residents of the Municipality and on the efficient administration and delivery of Municipality services;

WHEREAS there are several provisions of Law 96 that will come into effect in June 2023, dealing specifically with municipalities of bilingual status;

WHEREAS not only does Law 96 compromise the bilingual status, which is intrinsically part of our cultural identity, the contested provisions also extend beyond language rights and undermine the constitutionally protected and inalienable rights that belong to all Quebec citizens.

WHEREAS the Municipality has agreed to join as co-plaintiff in a legal action contesting the provisions of Law 96 and is approving of giving the mandate to the firm of Grey Casgrain s.e.n.c. ;

WHEREAS the Municipality agrees to share the legal fees and costs with the other co-plaintiffs, on a pro rata basis, established on the basis of population, said fees to be coordinated by the Municipality of Cote Saint Luc and paid at the end of each quarter;

THEREFORE, it was moved by Councillor Neil Maloney AND RESOLVED:

THAT Me Julius Grey of the firm Grey Casgrain s.e.n.c. be mandated to represent the Municipality of Chichester in its Application before the Superior Court to contest certain provisions of Law 96 which affect the rights and obligations of bilingual municipalities;

THAT the Mayor and the Director General be hereby authorized to sign the letter of intent with the Municipality of Cote Saint-Luc and the mandate with the Law Firm of Grey Casgrain s.e.n.c. to allow them to represent the Municipality in the above-mentioned proceedings;

THAT the Municipality of Chichester commits to sharing the legal fees and costs with the Municipality of Cote Saint-Luc and other co-plaintiffs, on a pro rata basis, based on the relative size of its population;

THAT an expenditure not exceeding $1.00 per resident of the municipality be reserved by each of the co-plaintiff municipalities for all necessary expenses to this end to cover the application and pleadings of said proceedings before the Superior Court;

THAT the Municipality of Cote Saint Luc be designated to receive the payments for the firm Grey Casgrain for all legal fees, from all municipalities involved in this action.

Adopted

054-23/04 *Building waterfront project*

Moved by Neil Maloney to approve the lowest quote for the building project at the village waterfront project, as provided by Steel Bulit Corp. for an amount of $75,860, plus taxes and installation.

Adopted

055-23/04 *Charles Vaillancourt request*

Moved by Dustin Denault to respond to Mr. Vaillancourt request, that no compensation will be provided for any lost work and that Municipality has no policy regarding even distribution of municipal contract work amongst its local contractors; contractors are hired by staff and based on the quality, availability, ability, capacity, safety, performance of the equipment and/or the operator.

Adopted

**12. In camera session**

Not required.

**13.** **Date of next meeting**

056-23/04 Moved by Neil Maloney that the next regular Council meeting will be held on Monday, May 8th, 2023.

Adopted

**14.** **Closing of meeting**

057-23/04 Moved by Dustin Denault that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Adopted

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I, Donald Gagnon, Mayor, certify that the signing of these minutes is equivalent to the signature by me of all the resolutions it contains, according to section 142 (2) of the Municipal Code.

*La version française est la version officielle - The French version is the official version*