Province of Quebec

Municipality of Chichester

Regular meeting of the Chichester Municipal Council held June 7th, 2021 at 7:00pm, held at the Municipal Office, 75 rue Notre-Dame, Chapeau, Québec.

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

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**

075-21/06 Moved by Louis Schryer to accept the agenda as presented and amended.

Adopted

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

None.

**4.Adoption of minutes**

076-21/06 Moved by Chrissy Ann Payne that the minutes of the regular meeting of May 10th, 2021 be adopted.

Adopted

**5.** **Visitors**

Meeting is closed to the public.

The Director General declares having received no prior questions.

**6.** **Mayor’s MRC report**

The Mayor gives a verbal report.

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

***Public Security***

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

The Fire Department Committee meeting summary is presented.

077-21/06 *Use of the flashing green light by municipal firefighters*

WHEREAS the By-law on the flashing green light resulting from the Highway Safety Code (chapter C-24.2, s. 621, 1st par., Par. 5.2 °) has been enacted by the government, on April 1, 2021;

WHEREAS this By-law sets the conditions under which a firefighter can obtain from the SAAQ the authorization to use on a personal road vehicle other than an emergency vehicle, a flashing green light when responding to an emergency call from a fire safety service;

WHEREAS the Fire Chief of the Pontiac Ouest Safety Services recommends the use of a flashing green light;

THEREFORE, it is moved by Jacques Fleury and resolved that the Municipality of Chichester authorize firefighters to obtain the necessary certifications from the Société d'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) for the use of green flashing lights, as of now;

In addition, the Municipality authorizes the Director General to sign for and on behalf of the Municipality of Chichester, all the documents necessary for the implementation of this resolution.

It is also resolved to allow the Fire chief to issue and sign the certificates of recommendation, to authorize the use of the flashing green light by the firefighters and to supervise its application as detailed by the law and its regulations.

Adopted

078-21/06 *Rescue vehicle to sell*

Moved by Neil Maloney to authorize the Municipality of L’Isle-aux-Allumettes to act on behalf of the Fire Service and proceed with the sale of the old rescue vehicle by way of public bids, with a minimum reserve bid of $3,000, as discussed.

Adopted

079-21/06 *River Markers*

Moved by Louis Schryer that this Municipality request to the Canadian Coast Guard that an additional river marker buoy be installed on the Ottawa River near the Chichester point, based on their initial recommendations, as discussed.

Adopted

080-21/06 *Recycling on road*

Moved by Jacques Fleury that this Municipality send a letter to the individual providing private waste collection services to make the necessary repairs to his vehicle to avoid ongoing accumulation of waste and recycling onto municipal roads, and to authorize the Director General to send said letter.

Adopted

081-21/06 *Fencing Firehall*

Moved by Corey Bissonnette to accept the proposed price of $4,800, plus taxes, for new PVC fencing at the Firehall property, as submitted by Clotures S & A Fencing.

Adopted

***Roads & Environment***

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

***Planning & Development***

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

The Municipal Inspector’s report is received.

082-21/06 *Property for clean-up*

Moved by Neil Maloney that the following property bearing lot # 6073232, having been sent a final notice for clean-up, be sent to the municipal lawyer for further legal action, as discussed.

Adopted

083-21/06 *Bilingual status of Municipality*

WHEREAS Bill 96, the Act on French the Official and common language in Quebec, was presented at the May 13th, 2021 session of the National Assembly of Quebec;

WHEREAS according to the data from the 2016 Census, 59.4% of the Pontiac population has indicated English as their first official spoken language;

WHEREAS several municipalities of the MRC Pontiac benefit from ‘bilingual status’ because they meet the threshold established (population of at least 50% + 1 of citizens indicated English as their first language);

WHEREAS this Municipality is very rural and its small business have limited resources to operate in both languages;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Chichester has a close proximity and relationship with the Province of Ontario, where most of its residents are employed and do business there in English;

It is therefore moved by Corey Bissonnette and unanimously resolved

* + - * That the Municipality of Chichester declare the importance for its Municipality to maintain ‘bilingual’ status that was recognized for it under the section 29.1 of the *Charte de la langue française*;
      * That the ratepayers of the Municipality consider this status and recognition to be essential and to reflect the presence and the contribution by the Francophone and Anglophone communities to development of its terroritory;
      * That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Justice of Quebec, to the Minister responsible for the Outaouais region, to the Federation Québécoise des municipalités (FQM), to the MNA for Quebec, Mr. André Fortin, to the Member of Parliament for Pontiac, Mr. Will Amos, and to the local municipalities located on the MRC Pontiac territory.

Adopted

084-21/06 *Summer students*

Moved by Louis Schryer that the interviews and the hiring for the summer students positions be completed by the Director General and Councillor Chrissy-Ann Payne.

Adopted

085-21/06 *Mail-in voting – non-residents*

Moved by Louis Schryer that this municipality approve the method of mail-in voting to be offered to its non-residents, as permitted by the DGEQ.

Adopted

086-21/06 *Mail-in Voting (70 years and over)*

WHEREAS the municipal general election will be held on November 7, 2021 in the setting of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer has enacted the By-law amending certain provisions in municipal matters in order to facilitate the conduct of the municipal general election of November 7, 2021 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which came into force on May 15, 2021 and amends, in particular, certain provisions of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities and the By-law respecting voting by mail;

WHEREAS under article 659.4 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, as amended by article 40 of the By-law of the Chief Electoral Officer, the Municipality may adopt a resolution to allow any a person registered as an elector on his or her electoral list and who is 70 years of age or over on the day fixed for the poll to exercise their right to vote by mail, if such a person so requests;

WHEREAS the legal and regulatory framework for administering this voting method is now in force;

WHEREAS under article 659.4 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, as amended by article 40 of the By-law of the Chief Electoral Officer, a resolution must be taken no later than July 1, 2021 and an authenticated copy of it must be sent, as soon as possible after its adoption, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and to the Chief Electoral Officer.

Moved by Louis Schryer that this municipality approve the method of mail-in voting to be offered to its residents aged 70 years and over, as permitted by the DGEQ.

Adopted

087-21/06 *Notice of motion – ByLaw for Staff Remuneration Municipal Elections*

A notice of motion is hereby given by Councillor Neil Maloney and a draft ByLaw is presented relating to the Remuneration of staff during Municipal Elections.

***Administration & Finance***

Councillor Schryer, Chair of the Administration & Finance committee, gives a verbal report.

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

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

**8. Questions from the public**

None.

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

088-21/06 Moved by Louis Schryer that the bills be paid according to the list distributed.

Adopted

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

- *A letter requesting financial support is received from the Holy Spirit Cemetery committee.*

089-21/06 Moved by Neil Maloney to decline the request for financial support made by the Holy Spirit Cemetery since the Municipality does not subsidize religious organizations.

Adopted

**11.** **Varia**

090-21/06 *Report to the Ministry of Transport - compensation 2020*

WHEREAS the Ministry of Transport has made a payment of $183,756 for the maintenance of the local road network for the calendar year 2020;

WHEREAS the compensations distributed to the Municipality are aimed at the routine and preventive maintenance of local roads 1 and 2 as well as the elements of the bridges, located on these roads, for which the Municipality is responsible;

It is moved by Jacques Fleury and unanimously resolved and adopted that the Municipality of Chichester certify the veracity of the costs incurred and that the use of the compensations was on local roads 1 and 2, in accordance with the objectives of the Maintenance Assistance Program of the local road network of the Ministry of Transport.

Adopted

**12. In camera session**

Not required.

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

091-21/06 Moved by Neil Maloney that the next regular Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 12th, 2021.

Adopted

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

092-21/06 Moved by Jacques Fleury that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20pm.

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*