

6:30 p.m.

January 16, 2012

TOWN OF PETAWAWA

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Present: Mayor Bob Sweet Deputy Mayor Tom Mohns
Councillor James Carmody Councillor Frank Cirella
Councillor Murray Rutz Councillor Theresa Sabourin

Regrets: Councillor Treena Lemay

Also Present: Mitch Stillman Sarah Laverdure
Karen Cronier Jeff MacLeod
Sean Chase Kyle Robinson
Cyndi Mills Cogeco Crew

The meeting opened with a moment of silent reflection.

MOVED BY: Murray Rutz
SECONDED BY: James Carmody

- (1) That the agenda for the January 16, 2012 regular meeting of Council be approved.

CARRIED

PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

MOVED BY: Frank Cirella
SECONDED BY: James Carmody

- (2) That the minutes of the January 3, 2012 meeting of Council be approved as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

PUBLIC MEETING

- a) Zoning By-law Amendment – MacLeod

The Mayor called the public meeting open at 6:33 p.m.

Karen Cronier, Planning Coordinator, advised that the Notice of Public Meeting had been provided as required under the Planning Act. Karen Cronier noted that the Town had received comments from Ontario Power Generation. The agency did not have any objections to the zoning by-law amendment.

Karen Cronier explained the proposed zoning by-law amendment. The purpose of the amendment is to rezone approximately 2145 square metres of land to reduce the minimum required exterior side yard width from 3.5 metres to 0 metres. The amendment has been requested so that a roof, which will be used to provide shelter to vehicles, can be constructed over an existing cement pad. The effect of the amendment is to rezone the subject lands from Residential One (R1) to Residential One-Exception Thirty Three (R1-E33). All other provisions of the Zoning By-law shall apply.

Mayor Sweet asked if the applicant or any members of the public wished to comment. Jeff MacLeod explained his application to Council.

Mayor Sweet then asked if any members of Council wished to comment. No members of Council wished to comment.

Karen Cronier explained the appeal period for the application.

The Mayor declared the public meeting closed at 6:37 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

a) Mayor's Year End Review

Mayor Sweet presented his 2011 year end report:

On behalf of Council, and as Mayor of the Town of Petawawa, I am pleased to have this opportunity to share with you some of the highlights of the past year for the Town of Petawawa.

Council has had a very busy first year of their term. We held a combined 43 Council and Council-in-Committee meetings, resulting in the passage of 73 by-laws ranging a variety of topics. We also had Council representation on numerous local committees, including the Festival Hall Committee, the Library Board, the Airport Commission, the Police Services Board, the Ottawa Valley Waste Management Board, the Accessibility Advisory Committee, and the Upper Ottawa Valley Medical Recruitment Committee.

Strategic planning was at the forefront of Council activities in 2011. Council adopted a 5 year Corporate Strategic Plan in August. This is an important living document that maps out Council's strategic objectives to 2015. Council also approved a new 10 year Recreation Master Plan in June. This plan has identified several goals relating to recreation and aids Council in working towards meeting the recreational needs of the community. Council has also been working with staff and the County of Renfrew on the Official Plan review. Much work has been completed in 2011 and the review is scheduled to be completed in 2012.

On May 2, 2011, Council adopted the 2011 annual budget and set water and sewer rates. Once again, these budgets reflected Council’s commitment to infrastructure renewal, asset enhancement, and public safety. Although faced with a modest tax rate increase of 2.31% over 2010 rates, the tax rate that the residents of Petawawa pay on the assessed value of their properties continues to be the one of the lowest in Renfrew County. This resulted in lower-tier taxes of \$283.06 per \$100,000 of assessment.

Water and sewer rates, which are strictly user-pay, are also some of the lowest around. These rates did see increases in 2011, which were needed in order to deal with the current and future costs of operations and infrastructure renewal. The Town is working diligently to ensure the long-term sustainability of our water and wastewater systems.

All in all, the Town’s financial practices and strategic planning have allowed the Town to maintain a reasonable tax rate over the years. The Development Charges Policy also continues to ensure that growth-related needs and demands for additional services will be charged to new residential and commercial development and reserved for those future needs.

The provision of safe drinking water, the ongoing maintenance of existing infrastructure and the wise planning and support for future growth is a tremendous challenge for every municipality. Council’s commitment to sound infrastructure planning has led to the completion of several important construction projects in 2011. The major projects undertaken in 2011 include:

Roadways

Rantz Road	\$210,000
Herman Street Phase I	\$700,000
Leeder Lane	\$800,000

Sewer

Leeder Lane	\$ 55,000
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Water

Harry Street Watermain Extension	\$ 87,000
CFB South Watermain Loop	\$ 35,000
Leeder Lane	\$143,000

Sidewalks

John Street	\$130,000
Leeder Lane	\$ 53,000

Council would like to extend our collective appreciation for the patience and understanding of those residents most significantly affected by the inconveniences of the above noted construction projects. Council would like to thank the Federal and Provincial levels of government for their funding contributions to these infrastructure projects.

Over the years, Council and staff have worked diligently to develop plans for infrastructure renewal and asset management based on our current needs as well as anticipated growth. In 2011, the Town made several steps to support planning for future growth, including:

- Purchase of a GIS system
- Purchase of metered utility billing software
- Passage of water and sewer use by-laws to regulate usage
- Purchase of a tandem plough truck (\$215,000) and a trackless machine (\$140,000), both of which were funded through growth-related development charges and reserves
- Reserve appropriations to prepare for future fleet needs
- Development of a cost sharing agreement with the County of Renfrew for the Victoria Street reconstruction project, which will be tendered in early 2012
- Preparation of an Infrastructure Study Update on all Town roads and water and sewer infrastructure
- Initiated plans for the development of water and wastewater system financial plans
- Initiated plans for a new corporate communication system for all municipal facilities

The provision of protective services through the availability of qualified, competent and well-supported fire and police services allows Council to pursue its goal of ensuring public safety for the residents of Petawawa.

Our commitment to public safety and security is reflected in our renewed relationship with the OPP where in February, Council entered into a 5 year service contract. Council is confident that the policing services provided by the Upper Ottawa Valley Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police are second to none. In addition to the operations and programs administered by the OPP, the Petawawa Police Services Board continues to generate public safety programs, including:

- The use of the Town's trailer-mounted portable "speed awareness monitor" to gather and analyze speeding concerns throughout Town
- Radio advertised public safety campaigns such as anti-impaired driving and boating safety
- Billboard advertising regarding domestic violence and driving safety

Fire Services in Petawawa continue to be provided by a dedicated and enthusiastic complement of volunteer fire fighters. The department is committed to ensuring that firefighters are properly equipped and trained to deal with any emergency. Some of the activities completed in 2011 that support this goal include:

- Took delivery of a new fire pumper truck worth \$385,000 in January
- Purchased of a new fire bush truck worth \$34,0000 to replace the 1985 model, again financed entirely through reserves
- Funds were allocated to reserves to ensure financing is available for the replacement of other emergency services vehicles in the future
- Improvements were made to the training centre as part of a continued effort to ensure personnel receive quality training opportunities

Other protective services improvements made in 2011 include:

- Passage of a Snow Removal By-law which will improve the safety of pedestrians and ensure the safe operation of snow removal and emergency services
- Entered into a 3 year agreement with the OSPCA to provide for animal shelter services and other related essential services

Ensuring responsible growth requires the support and guidance of many people. The Town is fortunate to have an excellent team of employees who are supported by contract resource groups who provide engineering and legal advice. Council supported a great variety of initiatives in terms of both residential and commercial development in 2011, including:

- Residential development including the issuance of 364 building permits in 2011 with a value of over \$33 million and total property assessment has now reached a level of \$1.24 billion
- Council passed several planning by-laws over the course of the year, including 10 Zoning By-law amendments and 1 development agreement
- Council and staff have begun work on the County's work program regarding the 5 year review of the Official Plan
- 4 subdivision agreements were passed by Council – Petawawa Town Centre, Highland Park (Phase 4, Stage 1), Laurentian Highlands (Phase 1, Stage 2), and the Victoria Street Subdivision
- Development continues to occur within 7 active subdivisions within the Town of Petawawa, namely The Forest, Briarwood, Petawawa Town Centre, Highland Park, Victoria Street, Laurentian Highlands, and Radke Estates
- A promotional DVD for the Town was delivered in 2011 and is now being used on the Town website and in other marketing material
- Council passed a Social Media Policy and the Town is now using Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to market events and distribute important information to residents
- The Town actively participated in Expo 150 to help promote all that Petawawa has to offer; a Town booth was designed and managed and an accessible playground was purchased and used by visitors at the site.
- The Town also organized 2 new community events in 2011, namely the 1st Annual Ribfest and Festival of Mud and the Fusion of Senses.
- Council also closely monitored the closing of the local CP rail line. Much of the line has been removed east of Petawawa, and Council will continue to see that the line be removed through Petawawa westward.

The Town of Petawawa has always understood that working together with other municipalities and organizations results in greater efficiencies in accomplishing mutually beneficial goals. In 2011, Council and staff worked collaboratively with a variety of partners to accomplish many goals, including:

- The partnership with our neighbours from the Township of Laurentian Valley was successful in bringing high-speed broadband internet service to approximately 85% of all residents from both communities

- The Town continued to maintain its close relationship with CFB Petawawa through regular liaison meetings and frequent staff contacts. In 2011, the Town welcomed Lt. Col. Chris Moyle as the new Base Commander. The construction of the Chinook Helicopter Squadron hangar, LAV barn, and various other construction projects will have a substantial impact on the local economy.
- The Library and the Civic Centre continue to be the central location for many community recreational, social, and cultural activities
- In 2011, improvements to the Civic Centre and other recreation facilities have enhanced leisure activities available in Town. These improvements include: arena seats, modernized office furniture, a facility booking system, flooring in the arena hall, dressing room heaters, an accessible playground, external lighting improvements at Norman Behnke Hall, new benches and sports bleacher upgrades, parking lot lighting at Centennial Park, and the replacement of a ½ ton truck for the Parks Recreation Department. Plans were also made for the construction of a splash pad on the Civic Centre grounds and the development of a concept plan for the Petawawa Point. Council acknowledges the contributions from Civic Centre Days, Cabin Fever and the Civic Centre Fundraising Committee for many of these projects.
- Council continues to support arts and culture through the municipal cost sharing agreement for Festival Hall at 75 cents per capita.
- Council is enthusiastic about the construction of the 2 new schools and negotiating joint use agreements with the Town. Building permits for the separate school board have been issued and construction is scheduled to be complete by the end of March.
- Petawawa continues to work with the partners of the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre in ensuring state-of-the-art waste diversion and recycling programs are available for our residents.
- Council will maintain its support of the extension of Highway 417 west of the Town of Arnprior. This vital transportation link for Renfrew County will improve greatly with the twinning of the highway.
- In June, Council passed a 5 year Memorandum of Understanding with the Petawawa Heritage Society with respect to the use and operation of the Heritage Village lands. This facility has proven to be a valuable historical resource for both local residents and visitors.
- Council has been following the proposed Petawawa River hydroelectric projects by Xeneca with great interest. Council has attended Public Information Centres regarding the projects and engaged a legal and engineering consultant to advise Council on any negative impacts of the proposed projects. In 2012, Council will continue to be an advocate for the community and will actively participate in the public consultation process as part of the proponent's application to the Province for project approval.
- In keeping with the requests from our community to address the local doctor shortage, Council has supported the Upper Ottawa Valley Medical Recruitment Committee and as a result, close to 5,000 Petawawa residents have been taken off the waiting list for doctors since the Town joined the Committee.

For the Town of Petawawa, 2011 proved to be another exciting year of growth and development as a municipality. Members of Council and staff have worked diligently on many projects throughout the year. We will continue with our commitment to ensuring that our spending and action plans reflect not only the needs of our citizens today but that they also provide a solid foundation for the future of Petawawa.

It has been my pleasure to work with Council, staff and all residents this past year. Your suggestions and ideas have lead to improved decision making and effective planning. Your interest in the success of our Town is appreciated. I am convinced that with the support and enthusiasm of the residents of Petawawa, our Town will see significant growth while remaining a safe and caring community which everyone is proud to call their home.

b) Councillor Sabourin – Seniors Housing Survey Results

Councillor Sabourin made a presentation to Council on the results from the recent seniors housing survey. The survey was distributed to those in attendance at the October 27, 2011 seniors housing meeting hosted by the Town.

BY-LAWS

- a) By-law 744/12 – Being a by-law to amend By-law 456/07 of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa, as amended (MacLeod)

MOVED BY: Theresa Sabourin
SECONDED BY: James Carmody

- (3) That By-law 744/12, being a by-law to amend By-law 456/07 of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa, as amended (MacLeod), be read a first and second time.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: James Carmody
SECONDED BY: Theresa Sabourin

- (4) That By-law 744/12 be read a third time and passed.

CARRIED

- b) By-law 745/12 – Being a by-law to authorize an Amending Agreement between the Town and Michael David Miller

MOVED BY: Frank Cirella
SECONDED BY: Murray Rutz

- (5) That By-law 745/12, being a by-law to authorize an Amending Agreement between the Town and Michael David Miller, be read a first and second time.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Murray Rutz
SECONDED BY: Frank Cirella

- (6) That By-law 745/12 be read a third time and passed.

CARRIED

- c) By-law 746/12 – Being a by-law to establish a highway (Winston Avenue)

MOVED BY: Tom Mohns
SECONDED BY: James Carmody

- (7) That By-law 746/12, being a by-law to establish a highway (Winston Avenue), be read a first and second time.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Tom Mohns
SECONDED BY: James Carmody

- (8) That By-law 746/12 be read a third time and passed.

CARRIED

MINUTES

- a) Council-in-Committee (January 9, 2012)

Mayor Sweet stated that Councillor Lemay had circulated to Council proposed amendments to the meeting minutes, with a written request to amend the minutes as per her submission dated January 17, 2012.

MOVED BY: Theresa Sabourin
SECONDED BY: Tom Mohns

- (9) That the minutes of the January 9, 2012 Council-in-Committee meeting be accepted by Council and that resolutions from that Committee become resolutions of Council.

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Lemay

Not in attendance.

Councillor Rutz

Councillor Rutz attended the New Years Levee hosted by MP Cheryl Gallant and MP John Yakabuski on January 8, 2012. He also advised Council that the Town Times Committee will be meeting soon to plan for the upcoming edition and that any suggestions should be forwarded to the Committee.

Councillor Cirella

Nothing to report.

Councillor Carmody

Councillor Carmody attended a mental health information session in Pembroke on December 6, 2012.

Councillor Sabourin

Councillor Sabourin attended the Lions Trivia Night at Cabin Fever on January 13, 2012.

Deputy Mayor Mohns

Nothing to report.

Mayor Sweet

Mayor Sweet attended an Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus meeting on January 11, 2012. He also discussed Deputy Mayor Mohns' upcoming attendance on January 19, 2012 at the Upper Ottawa Valley Medical Recruitment Committee meeting. He stated that Deputy Mayor Mohns should be able to give the Committee an idea of where Petawawa Council stands in terms of its interest in continuing to sit on the Committee. Council unanimously stated that they were in support of being part of the Committee.

CONFIRMATION

MOVED BY: Theresa Sabourin

SECONDED BY: James Carmody

(10) That By-law 747/12 be read a first, second, third time and passed.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: Theresa Sabourin
SECONDED BY: James Carmody

(11) That the meeting be adjourned to the call of the Mayor.

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



Mayor



Clerk