

## **MUNICIPALITY OF LITCHFIELD**

Minutes of the regular council meeting held on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the municipal office located at 1362 Rte. 148 Campbell's Bay, QC.

Present: Mayor Colleen Larivière, councillors Terry Racine, Donald Graveline, Emile Morin and John Stitt.

Councillor Denis Dubeau motivated his absence

Also, present: Director General, Julie Bertrand

Visitors: Rick Frost attended regarding Pilon road

Quorum is met and Mayor Colleen Larivière presides the meeting.

### **Adoption of Agenda**

2020-10-150

It is moved by Terry Racine and unanimously resolved to adopt the agenda, with additions, for October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Carried

### **Adoption of Minutes**

2020-10-151

It is moved by Donald Graveline and unanimously resolved to adopt the minutes of September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regular meeting.

Carried

## **URBANSIM**

### **Municipal Inspector Report and Expense claim**

2020-10-152

It is moved by Donald Graveline and unanimously resolved to adopt the municipal inspectors report and to authorize the expenses claimed.

Carried

## **ROADS AND EQUIPMENT**

\*A report of road works to date is made.

\*It is noted that members of the Road committee and Gerald Graveline, upon requests from property owners at 28 Lac Leslie, 50 Crawford road and 0 Lac Leslie, visited the sites to evaluate the requests for culverts and manholes. The repairs will be carried out by the road department.

\*It is noted that Mr. Rick Frost attended to voice his concerns regarding the closure of a portion of Pilon road and the security of his access should damage occur to the road providing access to his property. Mayor Lariviere and council members assured Mr. Frost that the municipality has been refused financial aide for the repair and that the cost estimates for the engineering, plans and repairs could amount to \$500,000. The municipality does not have the funds for this repair and council does not wish to burden the taxpayer with this debt. Should the municipality received funds at a later time, the council would then repair and open the portion of the Pilon road damaged by the 2019 spring thaw.

**FINANCE**

**Payment of accounts**

2020-10-153

It is moved by Emile Morin and unanimously resolved to authorize payment of invoices to be paid and to accept the payment of invoices paid prior to this meeting.

Carried

**Monthly Invoices**

Invoices paid:

Invoices to be paid: \$68 207.20

**Certificate of availability**

I, Julie Bertrand, Director General of the Municipality of Litchfield, certify that there are sufficient credits available to pay the approved amount of bill totalling \$68 207.20 for the month of October 2020.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Julie Bertrand, Director General

**Tender for the 2020 supply of 3000 m.t.winter sand**

2020-10-154

Whereas the municipality put out a call for tender for the supply of the 2020 winter sand;

Whereas the municipality has received the following tenders;

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) Campbell's Bay Ciment | \$4.01 /m.t. tax included |
| 2) Brian Stanton Co. Ltd | \$2.96 /m.t. tax included |
| 3) Morin Sand and Gravel | \$4.31 /m.t. tax included |

Therefore,

It is moved by Terry Racine and unanimously resolved to accept the tender submitted by Brian Stanton Co. for the price of \$2.96/m.t. tax included.

Carried

**Winter salt supply -2020**

2020-10-155

Whereas the municipality put out a call for prices quotes for the supply of 115 m.t. of winter salt;

Whereas the municipality received the following price quotes;

- |                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Compass Minerals | \$106/ m.t. taxes included |
| 2) Sel Warwick      | \$113/m.t. taxes included  |

Therefore,

It is moved by Emile Morin and unanimously resolved to accept the price quote from Compass minerals at \$106/m.t.

Carried

**\*It is noted that there will be a Special meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 430 p.m. for financing results of by-law borrowing by-law 2018-237 for the Laforet project.**

2020-10-156

Adoption of the 2019 financial statements

Whereas the municipality has engaged the firm Dignard Éthier, CPA to prepare and audit the financial statements for the year 2019;  
Whereas the statements have been deposited and each member of council has received copies;  
Therefore,  
It is moved by Donald Graveline and unanimously resolved to adopt the 2019 financial statements as prepared and presented.  
Carried

\*It is noted that Mayor Lariviere has presented the 2020 Mayor's report.

SECURITY

Fire fighter training

2020-10-157

WHEREAS the *Regulation respecting the conditions governing the exercise of functions within a municipal fire safety service* provides training requirements for firefighters of the fire safety services to ensure a minimum professional qualification;  
WHEREAS this regulation is part of a desire to ensure municipalities forming fire crews with the skills and abilities necessary to respond effectively to emergencies;  
WHEREAS in December 2014 the Quebec government established the financial assistance program for the training of volunteer and part-time firefighters;  
WHEREAS the programs main objective is to provide municipal organizations financial assistance to enable them to have a sufficient number of trained firefighters to act effectively and safely in an emergency;  
WHEREAS this program also aims to promote the acquisition of basic skills required by volunteer firefighters and part-time practicing in municipal fire safety services;  
WHEREAS the municipality of Litchfield wishes to benefit from the financial support offered by the program;  
WHEREAS the municipality of Litchfield foresees the training of 3 firefighters for the Firefighter I program and 6 firefighters for the pumper training program during the next year to respond effectively and safely to emergency situations on its territory;  
WHEREAS the municipality must send this resolution to the Ministry of public security through the Pontiac MRC in accordance with article 6 of the program;  
Therefore,  
It is proposed by Terry Racine and unanimously resolved to apply for the financial assistance under the financial assistance program for volunteer or part-time firefighter training at the Ministry of public security and forward this request to the Pontiac MRC.  
Carried

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Engineering plans for the closure of Pilon road

2020-10-158

Whereas the municipality of Litchfield has been denied funding by the Ministry of Public Security for the repair of a portion of the Pilon road which was damaged by the spring thaw of 2019;  
Whereas the MSP states that the repair is not necessary to provide access to residents:  
Whereas the MSP states that there are 2 other access roads for residents;  
Whereas the municipality has solicited support from Hydro Quebec regarding the access to their infrastructure and received a response stating that hydro Quebec did require the road to be repaired;  
Whereas the municipality must take action to properly close the portion of the Pilon road in order to protect the safety of citizens;  
Therefore,  
It is moved by Donald Graveline and unanimously resolved to engage the services of Kim Lesage, engineer to prepare closure plans for the Pilon road. It is also resolved that, if the municipality receives funding in the future to repair the road, the road will be repaired and opened.  
Carried

**HALTE**

**New Horizon Grant**

2020-10- 159

It is moved by Donald Graveline and unanimously resolved to authorize Director General, Julie Bertrand, to apply for the 2020 New Horizon Grant in the amount of \$25,000. If received, this amount will be used to construct a permanent shelter at he Halte.  
Carried

**\*It is noted that the Halte will be officially closed at the end of October.**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Violation of municipal zoning powers and citizens' ability to comment on the regulation of their living environment**

2020-10-160

CONSIDERING the municipal community's opposition to the Quebec government's intentions in Bill 49, introduced in the fall of 2019, to change the regulatory authority of municipalities in zoning with respect to tourist accommodation facilities operating in principal residences (Type Airbnb rental);  
CONSIDERING that this legislative amendment will have the effect of removing the power of municipalities to prohibit Airbnb rentals for principal residences in their territory, an essential power, particularly to manage the nuisance problems arising from this type of rental in our communities;  
CONSIDERING that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Andrée Laforest, has included these contentious provisions in Bill 67, the Act *establishing a new development regime in the flood zones of lakes and streams, temporarily granting municipalities powers to meet certain needs and amending various provisions*, tabled in the National Assembly on September 30, 2020;

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Continued...

CONSIDERING that the power to enact zoning by-laws that determine and regulate uses is a fundamental power entrusted to municipalities, linked

to their responsibility to manage the development of their territory covered in the *Planning and Planning Act*;

CONSIDERING the importance for municipalities to be able to prohibit tourist accommodation facilities operating in main residences (type Airbnb rental) in areas where such use may be incompatible with the environment;

CONSIDERING that it is unacceptable for the Quebec government to consider removing zoning power from municipalities when the National Assembly has repeatedly recognized their responsibility to maintain a quality, safe and healthy living environment;

CONSIDERING that this intention of the government runs counter to the recognition of local governments by the National Assembly in 2016;

CONSIDERING that this government intention also removes citizens' ability to comment on the regulation of their living environment, as provided for in the proceedings during a zoning amendment process in a municipality;

CONSIDERING the absence of clear grounds by the Quebec government to remove this zoning power from municipalities with a bill;

Therefore

It is moved by Emile Morin and unanimously resolved,

That the Municipal Council indicate to the Quebec government and members of the National Assembly its opposition to section 81 of Bill 67, *the Act establishing a new development regime in the floodplain areas of lakes and streams, temporarily granting municipalities powers to meet certain needs and amending various provisions*, since it removes essential power from municipalities;

That the Municipal Council tell the government that this section of Bill 67 is an affront to local governments;

That the Municipal Council ask the Quebec government to remove section 81 of Bill 67 and leave it in Bill 49 to make room for discussion in order to find a reasonable solution that allows municipalities to retain their zoning power and assume their responsibility to maintain a quality, safe and healthy living environment, and to retain the right of citizens to comment on the regulation of their living environment;

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Quebec, François Legault,<sup>me</sup> Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Andrée Laforest, Minister of Tourism Caroline Proulx,<sup>me</sup> Chief of the Official Opposition,<sup>me</sup> Dominique Anglade, Leader of the Second Opposition,<sup>Ms.</sup> Manon Massé, Leader of the Third Opposition, Mr. Pascal Bérubé, the Member of Parliament for our constituency and members of the Parliamentary Committee on the National Assembly;

That a copy of this resolution should also be sent to the Quebec Federation of Municipalities (FQM)) and to the media in our region.

Carried

\*It is noted that municipality received thanks from Petit Motors Joel Romain for its continued support of his and local business.

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2020-10-161

**ADJOURNMENT**

It is moved by Donald Graveline and unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Carried

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Colleen Larivière  
Mayor

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Julie Bertrand  
Director General