

## **MUNICIPALITY OF LITCHFIELD**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the council held on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, by way of videoconference at 7:00pm

Present at this videoconference are:

Mayor Colleen Lariviere, by videoconference

Councillors:

Joe Belanger, by videoconference

Emile Morin by videoconference

Denis Dubeau by videoconference

Donny Graveline by videoconference

John Stitt by videoconference

Terry Racine by videoconference

Also attending the meeting, by videoconference: Director General and secretary-treasurer, Julie Bertrand

### **OPENING OF THE MEETING**

2020-07-108

CONSIDERING the decree number 177-2020 of March 13, 2020 which declared the state of sanitary emergency on all the Quebec territory for an initial period of ten days;

CONSIDERING the decree number 222-2020 of March 20, 2020 which extends this state of emergency for an additional period of ten days, that is until March 29, 2020;

CONSIDERING the decree number 2020-004 of the Minister of Health and Social Services which allows Council to sit in camera and which authorizes the members to take part, deliberate and vote at a meeting by any means of communication;

CONSIDERING that it is in the public interest and to protect the health of the population, of the members of the council and of the municipal officers that this meeting be held in camera and that the members of the council and the municipal officers be authorized to attend be present and take part, deliberate and vote at the meeting by videoconference and that an audio recording of this meeting be posted on the municipal website;

THEREFORE, it is moved by Emile Morin and unanimously resolved: That the council accepts that this meeting be held in camera and that the members of the council and the municipal officers may participate by videoconference.

Adopted

### **QUESTION PERIOD**

It is noted that there are no visitors since this council meeting is held without public presence. A notice has been posted inviting taxpayers to submit requests and questions in writing via email or post and these requests will be addressed at the meetings of council.

### **Adoption of Agenda**

2020-07-109

It is moved by Terry Racine and unanimously resolved to adopt the agenda for July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Carried

### **Adoption of Minutes**

2020-07-110

It is moved by Joe Belanger and unanimously resolved to adopt the minutes of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 regular meeting.

Carried

**URBANISM**

**MUNICIPAL INSPECTORS REPORT**

2020-07-111 It is moved by Donny Graveline and unanimously resolved to adopt the municipal inspectors report and to authorize the expenses claimed.  
Carried

**Questionnaire from the MRC regarding the preparation of the MRC's New Management Plan**

2020-07-112 Whereas the MRC has requested that the municipality answer questions in relation to urbanism rules and future changes;  
Whereas the municipal inspector and Director General have answered the questionnaire and have presented the questions and answers to the members of council.  
Therefore,  
It is moved by Emile Morin and unanimously resolved to forward the questionnaire responses, as presented, to the MRC Pontiac.  
Carried

**ROADS**

**Authentication of purchase of a culvert for Belanger road**

2020-07-113 It is moved by Denis Dubeau and unanimously resolved to authenticate the expense of \$1200 for the purchase of a culvert installed on Belanger road and \$743.00 for the Geotextile required for culvert installations.  
Carried

**\*It is noted** that Kim Lesage, engineer from the MRC Pontiac has prepared a report on the inspection and recommendations for repairs of the Crawford Road bridge. It is also noted that council requests that this report be forwarded to the MSP as follow-up to the municipality's request for financial aid in repairing the damages to the bridge caused by the 2019 Spring Flood.

**\*It is noted that road works to date include:**

Grading

Brushing

Equipment repairs

Culvert installations for the Jardin Éducatif and Charles Heaphy.

Culvert installation for Annick Pilon, installation only, cost of culvert is at the owner's expense.

Grass cutting at Halte and office

**\*It is noted** that the municipality has closed a portion of the Pilon road due to a landslide caused by the 2019 spring flood. The municipality is exploring different avenues of funding to repair the closed portion of the road. The MSP has denied financial aid by way of stating that the portion of the Pilon road which has been closed temporarily is not a necessary access route and that there are 2 alternate access routes available to

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taxpayers. It is also noted that the municipality has blocked access to the damaged portion of the Pilon road and has posted signs to that effect.

Purchase of additional 0 3/4 gravel

2020-07-114

It is moved by John Stitt and unanimously resolved to purchase an additional 2000 m.t. of 03/4 gravel. This expense is authorized from the funds "PAVL" grant from the Ministry of Transport.

Carried

Purchase of granular calcium

2020-07-115

It is moved by Terry Racine and unanimously resolved to purchase 14 x 1-ton bags of flake calcium. This expense of approximately \$9800.00 is authorized from the budgetary item "calcium" from the 2020 provisional budget.

Carried

Transfer of budgetary funds

2020-07-116

It is moved by Emile Morin and unanimously resolved to transfer the following funds from the budgetary items: travel and convention –mayor and council \$4500, Travel and conventions-director general \$2700 and travel and conventions-municipal inspector-\$1600, to the budgetary item "calcium" from the 2020 provisional budget.

Carried

EQUIPMENT

Authentication of cost of repairs to for the Case tractor

2020-07-117

It is moved by Denis Dubeau and unanimously resolved to authenticate the expense of approximately \$700 + taxes for the repairs to air conditioning and \$500 for the shaft and steel line repair on the Case tractor. This expense authorized from the budgetary item "vehicle repairs and maintenance" from the 2020 provisional budget.

Carried

Authentication of repairs to the Backhoe

2020-07-118

It is moved by Joe Belanger and unanimously resolved to authenticate the expense of approximately \$475.00 for the repairs to the stabilizer leg and a tie rod end.

This expense authorized from the budgetary item "vehicle repairs and maintenance" from the 2020 provisional budget.

Carried

FINANCE

Payment of accounts

2020-07-119

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

Carried

July 2020

Monthly Invoices

Invoices paid prior to meeting: \$19 111.32

Invoices to be paid: \$86 415.49

Total amount of invoices: \$105 526.81

**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 \$105 526.81 for the month of July 2020.

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

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

July 2020

2020-07-120

**Legal procedures for collection of tax arrears – role #9254-02-4132**

It is moved by Donald Graveline and unanimously resolved to engage the legal firm Deveau Avocats to commence collection procedures on the tax arrears for role # 9254-02-4132.

Carried

**MISCELLANEOUS**

2020-07-121

**Authentication of decision to open the Halte, park and splashpad**

Whereas due to the Covid-19 the municipality had delayed the opening of the Halte, park and splashpad;

Whereas, after authorization from the Government of Quebec, the council of Litchfield decided to open the Halte, park and splashpad on Saturday June 20, 2020;

Whereas the council has ensured that guidelines for cleaning are being met;

Whereas the washrooms, play structures and tables are cleaned twice daily;

Whereas the appropriate signs have been posted advising people to follow guidelines;

Whereas the signs posted indicate that the structures and washroom are not “sanitized” and that are used at the risk of the users;

Therefore,

It is moved by Emile Morin and unanimously resolved that council authorizes the opening of the halte, park and splash pad and that the use is at the risk of the users and that council is not responsible for “sanitization” of the facility.

Carried

2020-07-122

**Bursary to Bourse Pontiac**

It is moved by John Stitt and unanimously resolved to donate \$100 to the Bourses Pontiac. This expense authorized from the Budgetary item “goodwill donations” from the 2020 provisional budget.

Carried

2020-07-123

**Purchase of municipal flags**

It is moved by Terry Racine and resolved on the division of votes to purchase municipal 10 flags. This expense of \$600 is authorized from the budgetary item “halte-maintenance” from the 2020 provisional budget.

1 against- John Stitt

6- in favor

Carried

July 2020

2020-07-124

**Mediation process with Calumet Island regarding gravel duties**

Whereas the Municipality of Calumet Island has requested a mediation process from the Quebec Municipal Commission in order to conclude and inter-municipal agreement for the sharing of gravel duties;

Whereas the Municipality of Litchfield agreed to the mediation process;

Whereas the Municipality of Litchfield has hired the legal firm Deveau Avocats to deal with the process;

Whereas the Municipality of Litchfield has met all the requirements put forth in order to proceed with the mediation;

Whereas the Municipality of Calumet Island has not met the requirements and has not responded to numerous requests from the Quebec Municipal Commission;

Whereas the legal firm Deveau Avocats, in the interest of the Municipality of Litchfield, recommends that a request be sent to the Quebec Municipal Commission to suspend all mediation procedures and that the file be closed due to lack of cooperation on the part of Calumet Island.

Therefore,

It is moved by John Stitt and unanimously resolved to have Deveau Avocats proceed with the request that the Quebec Municipal Commission suspend the mediation process and to permanently close the file related to the mediation

request made by the municipality of Calumet Island due to the lack of cooperation by the Municipality of Calumet Island.

Carried

#### ADJOURNMENT

2020-07-125

It is moved by Joe Belanger and unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:21p.m.

Carried

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Colleen Larivière  
Mayor

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Julie Bertrand  
Director General