

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ABRAM-VILLAGE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2021**

Present: Roger Gallant, Ann Arsenault, Roger Arsenault, Colette Gallant,
Paul Gallant, Yolande Gallant, Phil LeBlanc

Also Present: Pierre Arsenault, Administrator

1. Called to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Yolande Gallant and seconded by Phil LeBlanc that the agenda be accepted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Paul Gallant and seconded by Yolande Gallant that the Minutes of February 17, 2021 be accepted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

4. Follow-up to Minutes

a) Club 50 Rental

Roger Gallant reported that the kitchen area rental was in the process of being finalized. The tenant was doing some preparation work and the door locks will be re-keyed to restrict future access. The old kitchen dishware is to be stored for future use, as the tenant did not require it.

b) Sidewalk Extensions

Roger Gallant reported that *WSP* submitted a quote substantially less than *Bellcor Engineering*, but there needed to be clarification on a few points to ensure the quote was similar in scope.

c) 2021-2022 Financial Plan

Roger Gallant reported that Council needed to adopt a financial plan for the next fiscal year, and an updated budget was presented.

Motion: To adopt the proposed 2021-22 Financial Plan with the same tax rates as the previous year

Motion moved by Phil LeBlanc and seconded by Colette Gallant.
Motion Carried.

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5. Financial Update

Nothing extraordinary to report.

6. New Business / Other

a) Subdivision Loan Payment

Roger Gallant reported that there were sufficient funds on hand from lot sales to make a large principal payment on the subdivision loan, leaving about a \$3,000 balance which could be paid-off next year.

Motion: To make an extra \$18,500 payment on the subdivision loan.

Motion moved by Yolande Gallant and seconded by Ann Arsenault.

Motion Carried.

b) Internet Service Tower Installation

Roger Gallant reported that a resident inquired on installing a private internet tower behind his house with a height of approximately 40 feet. It was discussed and noted that the Zoning bylaws did not consider poles and radio or television antennae to be considered as changing the use of land or structures, therefore a building permit would not be required.

c) Year-End Audit

Roger Gallant reported that a quote was received from *MRSB Group* for \$6,595 plus HST for the annual audit and reports, which was significantly less than BDO's previous year's fees of \$8,859 plus HST. BDO also indicated for this year's audit they were anticipating to increase the fees again as they felt they needed to raise the price to meet their internal recovery rates.

Motion: To use MRSB for the 2020-21 Year-End Audit.

Motion moved by Colette Gallant and seconded by Roger Arsenault.

Motion Carried.

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d) Subdivision Stop Sign

Roger Gallant reported that there was a problem with determining the right-of-way at the new subdivision intersection on Wendell Gallant Rd. for motorists, therefore the Dept. of Highways was to come put a stop-sign to make it clear.

e) Club 50 Issues

Roger Gallant reported that both heat pumps broke-down this winter, with one being repaired and the other waiting for parts. They were still under warranty, but the service technician said these models were problematic and no longer in production.

Roger Gallant also reported he was approached about renting the other side of the Club 50 upstairs hall to a music group. Some private individuals in a band wanted a private place to jam approximately 3 times a week in the evenings (when the building was vacant). They previously had commercial space rented the last 2 years in Wellington, but their lease was not being renewed as the space was to be renovated / reconfigured. They were also interested in a long-term lease option.

Motion: To rent a portion of the Club 50 upstairs hall for \$200 plus HST based on 3 days of use per week for the summer.

Motion moved by Paul Gallant and seconded by Yolande Gallant.

Motion Carried.

f) Sewer Utility Issues

Roger Gallant reported that the generators were now all hooked-up and set-up, but the panel upgrade for one of the lift-stations still needed to be done.

Roger Gallant also reported that it was not the municipality's responsibility to pay for private sewer hook-ups outside the municipal boundaries.

g) Other

Roger Gallant reported that it might be possible to acquire a used snow clearing machine from an auction under \$5,000 that would be perfect for clearing the sidewalks next winter. The merits of owning the equipment as opposed to contracting-out for it were discussed, and it was decided it would be preferable to purchasing it around this price level as it would not require a loan and could be used for future years as well.

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Phil LeBlanc reported on the loose dog issue on Rte 124 no longer being a problem.

Colette Gallant reported on taking a refresher First-Aid course.

7. Correspondence

a) Don Cheverie

An E-Mail was received on February 22nd by Don Cheverie expressing his concern with IRAC's decision to overturn the Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings giving municipal approval for a local wind farm expansion.

8. Next Meeting

Next meeting is to be held Wednesday April 21st 2021 at 7:00pm.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Roger Gallant, Mayor

Dated

Pierre Arsenault, Administrator

Dated