

Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee Meeting

Council Chambers
PEMBROKE, Ontario
May 17, 2016
6:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee was held this evening with Councillor McCann presiding and all members in attendance with the exception of Mayor LeMay. Staff members present were Terry Lapierre, Chief Administrative Officer; Ron Conroy, Manager of Recreation, Culture and Tourism; LeeAnn McIntyre, Treasurer; and Heidi Martin, Recording Secretary.

Guests in attendance were Gary Churchill, Chair Renfrew County 55+ Senior Games; Petawawa Mayor Bob Sweet, Chair CP Rail Corridor Advisory Committee, County of Renfrew and Paul Moreau, Director of Development and Property, County of Renfrew.

ITEM #1: Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Lafreniere
Seconded by Councillor Reavie
THAT the Agenda of the Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee meeting of May 17, 2016 be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

ITEM #2: Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Lafreniere
Seconded by Councillor Plummer
THAT the Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee Minutes of April 19, 2016 be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

ITEM #3: Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest

ITEM #4: Delegations**a. Renfrew County 55+ Eastern Regional Games**

Mr. Gary Churchill reviewed the Games goals and history and indicated that Pembroke will be hosting the Regional 55+ Eastern Games in August of 2017 with approximately 500 participants attending. He indicated that their planning committee is looking for venues and will approach the City in the future for permission to use some of its facilities.

b. County of Renfrew acquisition of CP Rail Corridor

Petawawa Mayor Bob Sweet and Paul Moreau provided an update to Committee on the County's acquisition of the CP Rail corridor. They explained that the corridor is 296 kilometres in length, runs from Smith Falls to Mattawa and next steps will include:

- Keeping no trespassing signs in place
- Creating a work plan in consultation with all parties along the line
- Create a Management Committee
- Create a Management Plan
- Development will be incremental as funding opportunities permit

A discussion was held with the following points were raised:

- The Committee was congratulated for the work done
- Costs to the City have not been discussed
- Environmental concerns may exist if berms are removed

ITEM #5: Municipal Property Tax Regulatory Changes

Ms. McIntyre presented her report and provided a PowerPoint presentation to assist in understanding the new Regulations in place to provide flexibility and allow municipal councils an opportunity to make tax policy decisions that best suit local conditions or priorities. Ms. McIntyre provided three scenarios which illustrated the tax impact on each property class. She also reviewed the Business Tax Capping Program. A discussion was held and the following points were raised:

- As one property tax class is changed, it impacts other property tax classes
- Business Tax Capping Program had very minimal impact

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Plummer
Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere
THAT the Recreation, Culture & Tourism Committee recommends that Council move away from the Business Tax Capping Program and that Council approve an Adjusted Tax Ratio.

CARRIED

Ms. McIntyre indicated that a resolution would come before Council this evening and related tax by-laws will be prepared for a Council meeting in June.

ITEM #6:

a. Off-Leash Dog Park Pilot Project

Mr. Conroy reviewed his report. The following concerns were raised with the current the Dog Park:

- Current location is in a residential area, is there an alternate location better suited to a dog park?
- The current location does not require rezoning as it is zoned “Open Space”
- If the park remains in the current location, should public consultation occur as the use of the space is changing from a ball park to a dog park?

DIRECTION: Staff was directed to extend the use of the temporary Dog Park for 2016, to conduct research on alternative locations for the Dog Park, and report back to the next Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee meeting.

b. Bogies Bar Projects

Mr. Conroy presented the report. A discussion was held.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Reavie
Seconded by Councillor Plummer
THAT the Recreation, Culture & Tourism Committee approves the purchase of the park amenities from the proceeds of Bogies Bar

CARRIED

ITEM #7: Canada 150 Grant Request

Mr. Conroy reviewed the report and there were no questions.

DIRECTION: Staff was directed to proceed with the Canada 150 Grant Request.

ITEM #8: Riverside Park Campground Length of Stay

Mr. Conroy presented the report. A discussion was held and the following points were raised:

- Riverside Park is not appropriate for long-stay camping
- If Committee agrees to increasing the length of stay, rates should not be reduced

- Individuals who want to ask for an exception to this rule are welcome to come before Committee to make a special request.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Reavie
Seconded by Councillor Plummer
THAT the Recreation, Culture & Tourism Committee maintain the current length of stay of 14 days at Riverside Park Campground.

CARRIED

ITEM #9: Motion to Adjourn

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Reavie
Seconded by Councillor Plummer
THAT the May 17, 2016 meeting of the Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

CARRIED