

of the COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION of the COUNTY OF RENFREW

- Ordinary Session -

County Council Pembroke, Ontario October 25, 2023

GENERAL SESSION

The General Session of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew met at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

The Warden, Peter Emon, presided.

Warden Emon cited the Land Acknowledgement, identifying that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Algonquin People.

The meeting opened with a moment of silent reflection and the singing of the National Anthem.

The roll was called and all members were found to be present except Glenn Doncaster. Councillor Bennett, Murphy and Bennett attended virtually. No pecuniary interest was disclosed.

Moved by Councillor Mayville Seconded by Councillor Brose THAT the minutes of September 27, 2023 be adopted. CARRIED.

Warden Emon addressed Council as follows:

As we gather this morning, I would like to acknowledge on behalf of Council and our community that we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Algonquin People. We would like to thank the Algonquin people and express our respect and support for their rich history, and we are extremely grateful for their many and continued displays of friendship. We also thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years.

Members of County Council:

During the month of April, I attended 11 meetings on County business.

On September 28th I attended a meeting with the Ontario Homebuilders Association of Canada to discuss the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus's regional housing plan, 7 in 7.

On October 3rd, I attend a City of Pembroke council meeting, along with EORN representative Jim Pine and CAO Craig Kelley, to discuss the same housing strategy.

Recently, the installation of new barriers on the Algonquin Trail's MTO Overpass was completed. On October 6, we celebrated the partnership with the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC), who contributed \$50,000 to the project.

I participated in a research project on October 9th with Queen's University regarding the governance model of EORN. Their goal was to understand how the governance model has enabled EORN to grow and whether this model might be used in other economic sectors beyond broadband.

On October 12th, Councillor Giardini, on my behalf, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at l'ecole elementaire catholique des Deux Rivieres and was able to dust off her French to deliver a welcome message to the new Child Care Centre.

On October 13th, I joined a meeting with the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus with Western Ontario MP & MPPS to discuss mutual priorities and collaboration opportunities between levels of government and attended the ROMA meeting as well.

On October 16th and 17th the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus met on Parliament Hill with Members of Parliament representing many of the Counties across the region. Our roundtable discussion concentrated on the regional strategies for Long-Term Care, Paramedic Services, and providing affordable and attainable housing for our workers and our most vulnerable. Separately, we held meetings with MP Scott Aitchison and NDP Housing Jenny Kwan, NDP Housing Critic to discuss the regional housing plan. These two days were very rewarding, offering an excellent opportunity to showcase eastern Ontario to our Federal representatives.

October 18th and October 20th, I attended the Bonnechere Manor and Miramichi Lodge Volunteer Appreciation Events, with Councillor Donohue and CAO/Clerk, Craig Kelley. The attendance at both events was a testimony to the value of the volunteers who have provided dedication and time to ensure there is a warm, caring environment, which created a sense of community for the residents. Thank you.

As part of Nuclear Science Week, the Chalk River Laboratories celebrated the new Science Collaboration Centre (SCC) and hosted a fascinating documentary on nuclear energy on October 19th.

On behalf of Council, I wish to express our sincere condolences to the former Chief of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, Wendy Jocko, on the passing of her son, James Scott McMullin, who passed away on October 14th.

On November 11th we will commemorate the men and women who have served Canada's military during Remembrance Day events throughout the county. I encourage everyone to take part in a local event.

I will remind those assembled here of the following - the County of Renfrew, Experience our history, Share our future.

This concludes my address for this session of County Council. Peter Emon, Warden

Delegations were heard as follows:

a) 10:10 a.m. – Jamie Bramburger, Manager Community and Student Affairs, Sarah Hall, Dean, Algonquin College

RE: Algonquin College Update

The Manager of Community and Student Affairs and the Dean of Algonquin College overviewed a PowerPoint presentation at 10:10 a.m. that included their enrollment growth, international students, strategy partnerships, Memorandum of Collaborations with Garrison Petawawa and Natural Resources Canada, and the courses they offer which caters to current trends and growth projections.

Council questioned if Algonquin College offers any programs that are Municipal specific. It was noted that the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, Treasures Ontario (AMCTO) and Association of Municipalities (AMO) provide specific training for Municipal employees. The Warden noted that he would address the employment shortage in the municipal sector during an AMO meeting, including the stay and learn grant.

Council thanked the Manager of Community and Student Affairs and Dean of Algonquin College for their informative presentation.

Councillor Doncaster arrived at 10:45 a.m.

b) 10:52 a.m. Colonel Jason C Guiney and Chief Warrent Officer Jimmy Cote, Canadian Armed Forces

RE: Garrison Petawawa Update

Colonel Guiney expressed his appreciation for being here and suggested that we all remind ourselves of how lucky we are to be on Canadian soil. He explained the relationship with the community and Garrison and welcomed Council to visit and explore the base. Colonel Guiney provided Council with an overview of the base, their services and their outreach programs. Council questioned the medical trade through the military and they were informed there are physicians available to serve uniformed soldiers; however, they do not tend to family members. Colonel Guiney expressed that the military faces the same issues that all communities are facing, which include increasing wait lists for physicians, home shortages and childcare issues.

Council discussed recruitment and retention, which is a concern that the military is addressing through increased wages, social services, and attracting all Canadians from all sectors that represent the society they defend.

Warden Emon thanked Colonel Guiney and Chief Warrant Officer Cote for their update on Garrison Petawawa presentation along with the community outreach they provided during the 2023 Winter Games.

c) 11:19 a.m. – Mayor Ron Gervais, and Councillor Troy Purcell, City of Pembroke RE: Homelessness/Warming Centre

Mayor Gervais and Councillor Purcell spoke of the vulnerable population in the Pembroke area and the need for a homelessness warming centre. Councillor Purcell proceeded to request a partnership with the County of Renfrew and funding assistance from the County to contribute to establish a warming centre at the Zion Lutheran Church in Pembroke. He added that the Township of Laurentian Valley has committed \$20,000 towards the centre. Councillor Purcell requested the County consider a contribution of \$200,000 in support to assist in the establishment and day to day operations of the warming centre for 2023. He explained that the amount requested was determined from the operations required to operate The Grind last winter. He provided historical financial information The Grind required to operate and the amount of people utilizing the space last winter. It was noted that there are currently 44 homeless persons in the area, and the number is growing. It is anticipated the warming centre would be open from November until April.

Councillor Giardini left the meeting at 11:20 a.m. and returned at 11:29 a.m.

The Director of Community Services explained that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing mandates that the County undertakes a Point-In-Time Count which captures homelessness data in the County of Renfrew (taking place the week of Friday October 27, 2023 to Friday, November 3, 2023). The count is an effort involving a partnership with other agencies in the County to determine the issues with the precariously homed or homeless. She further added that funding for homelessness efforts has been provided from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to the County of Renfrew as Service Manager through the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP). It includes funding for the emergency assistance program which is utilized to assist in providing emergency hotel/motel stays, rent and utility arrears assistance, rental top ups and housing homeless prevention program and the emergency minor home repair program. The Director of Community Services further added were additional funds were being allocated towards capital projects taking place in Pembroke. She explained that currently the HPP program is overspent and oversubscribed by outside agencies and previously announced initiatives.

The Deputy Chief provided an update on the homelessness and addiction crisis from the paramedic service perspective.

Council discussed the warming centre and clarified how the funding would be utilized, which they were informed that approximately \$150,000 would be for security, and the remaining funds would purchase suitable furniture, food as well as operating costs. Pembroke and Area

Community Taskforce (PACT) will also contribute funding and fundraising efforts for the warming centre and donations will be sought. A projected budget was requested.

Council suggested that a warming centre ad hoc committee is formed with members from The Grind, the Township of Laurentian Valley, the City of Pembroke, the County of Renfrew, and the Pembroke and Area Community Task Force (PACT) and a terms of reference established, and the Point-In-Time data shared. They further suggested that the City of Pembroke considers providing a financial contribution to the centre in order to share the costs of the centre, as well as to lobby the Federal and Provincial Government alongside with the County of Renfrew for future funding and housing solutions. Council also suggested that the United Way is contacted for assistance. Staff will form a small working group to provide the information needed to develop an ad hoc committee and discuss Terms of Reference. Time 12:17 p.m.

The CAO/Clerk noted that correspondence received was forwarded to Council.

Councillor Mayfield noted that he had provided delicacies for Council and staff from Eva's Kitchen in Round Lake and promoted the new business within his community. Council recessed at 12:18 p.m. Council reconvened at 1:07 p.m. with the same persons present.

Moved by Councillor Giardini Seconded by Councillor Jahn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act for the purpose of pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, for the purpose of the security of the property of the municipality (Renfrew County Housing Corporation Update). CARRIED. Time: 1:07 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Serviss Seconded by Councillor Watt THAT this resume as an open session of County Council. CARRIED. Time: 1:40 p.m. Councillor Michael Donohue, Chair of the Health Committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

October 25, 2023

To the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your **Health Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

1. Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness

Committee reviewed the draft Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix I, for a proposed mobile Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness Health Hub for Renfrew County. The Terms of Reference included an analysis of the current state of mental health, addictions, and homelessness in Renfrew County with further statistical information sought on opioid-related deaths and emergency department visits related to mental health and addictions. Next steps will be to collaborate with community partners to complete a needs analysis to design a program and test the methodology for community engagement.

2. Emergency Management Program Committee

Every municipality must form a committee responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of its Emergency Management (EM) Program. The formation of a Municipal Emergency Management Program Committee (EMPC) is a key organizational step toward making the EM process more effective at the local level.

Responsibilities of the Emergency Management Program Committee

The EMPC's main responsibility is to oversee the development, implementation, and maintenance of the Municipal Emergency Management Program, including the Municipal Emergency Response Plan (ERP), public education program, training, and exercises. The EMPC is also accountable for the annual review of the municipality's EM program.

Although the EMPC does not play a formal role during emergencies, some of the EMPC members may also be members of the municipal emergency control group (MECG). Therefore, these members play a more official role in the municipality during an emergency, while other members of the EMPC may be called upon for support if needed.

The EMPC completed a tabletop exercise to review the County of Renfrew Emergency Plan on October 11, 2023, as a requirement to maintain emergency management compliance.

3. Annual Volunteer Recognition

In recognition of the tremendous value volunteers bring to the quality of life in our long-term care homes, an afternoon of celebration was hosted at Bonnechere Manor on October 18 and Miramichi Lodge on October 20, 2023. Warden Peter Emon, Health Committee Chair Michael Donohue and Chief Administrative Officer Craig Kelley, attended and provided greetings and appreciation on behalf of the County of Renfrew.

4. Acting Administrator - Miramichi Lodge

Bonnechere Manor Administrator Dean Quade commenced parental leave for the period October 3 to December 27, 2023. In order to satisfy the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021 requirement for each Home to have a designate Administrator, the Director of Long-Term Care assumed the Administrator role at Bonnechere Manor and Director of Care, Nancy Lemire assumed the role of Acting Administrator for Miramichi Lodge for this period.

Resolutions

5. Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference

RESOLUTION NO. H-CC-23-10-118

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve a delegation request at the 2024 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Annual Conference with the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, to discuss a mental health addictions and homelessness Paramedic Strategy; AND FURTHER THAT the Chair of the Standing Committee, along with the Warden, be designated to attend the delegation.

Background

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference is scheduled for Sunday, January 21 until Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at the Sheraton Centre Hotel, 123 Queen Street West, Toronto. The 2024 Conference, themed, Closer to Home, will provide rural municipal leaders the opportunity to address policy issues, funding concerns, and to meet directly with Provincial Ministers on local issues. Over 1,500 municipal colleagues, provincial and federal elected officials and senior staff are anticipated to be in attendance at this event. As in the past, it is expected that the Conference will have all of the critical rural municipal issues front and centre, with excellent opportunities to be engaged, learn, network and bring innovative solutions back to our community.

6. Hydronic Distribution System Upgrade – Miramichi Lodge Capital Project

RESOLUTION NO. H-CC-23-10-120

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council award the hydronic distribution system, phase 4 project as per the County of Renfrew GA-01 Procurement of Goods and Services Policy, Section 20.7 for the quoted price of \$143,029.47 excluding HST to Honeywell Limited for the replacement of hydronic controllers with BACnet controllers which was approved through the Miramichi Lodge 2023 Capital Budget.

Background

The sum of \$160,000 was approved through the Miramichi Lodge 2023 Capital Budget for the hydronic distribution system phase four project. The existing Honeywell building automation system is designed to be used with Honeywell brand actuators. Pairing the upgrade actuators with the building automation system that it is designed for ensuring tempered air is paramount. Honeywell Limited was the original installer and maintains the comprehensive contract for this equipment and provided a total project cost of \$143,029.47 excluding HST for the replacement and upgrade of 179 XL10 hydronic controllers to BACnet controllers of type CPO-RS5 in all three wings (A, B and C) and on all floors, as well as one RIO LON controller in the mechanical room on the second floor to be replaced with a CPO-RL5 controller, which will increase comfort and provide energy savings.

Procurement of Goods and Services Policy GA-01, article 22.1 (c) supports that "where only one source of supply would be acceptable and/or cost effective due to compatibility, or safety and liability concerns", the requirement for competitive bid solicitation for goods, services and construction may be waived under the joint authority of the appropriate Director and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Corporate Policy GA-01, article 20.7 "awards emanating from a Request for Proposal that exceed \$150,000 require the approval of County Council." Staff is seeking Committee's recommendation to County Council to award this project to Honeywell Limited.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Michael Donohue, Chair

And Committee Members: P. Emon, D. Grills, V. Jahn, J. Murphy, N. Nicholson, R. Weir, M. Willmer

The Report was adopted as presented.

Councillor Glenn Doncaster, Chair of the Operations Committee brought in and read the resolutions in the following report:

October 25, 2023

To the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your **Operations Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. Monthly Project Status Report

Attached as Appendix I is the Monthly Project Status Report for the information of Council.

2. Capital Program Variance Report

Attached as Appendix II is the Capital Program Variance Report for the information of Council.

3. Winter Readiness

The Public Works and Engineering Department is required to be 50% operational by November 1, 2023 and 100% operational by November 15, 2023. Night patrol shifts are scheduled to commence on November 15, 2023, and will continue until April 1, 2024.

RESOLUTIONS

4. Automated Speed Enforcement Systems

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-112

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council send a letter under the Warden's signature to the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, in support of the resolutions from Cramahe Township and the City of Cambridge in regards to amending s.205.1 of the Highway Traffic Act to allow Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) systems permanently or temporarily on any roadway under the jurisdiction of the municipality.

Background

Attached as Appendix III is a resolution from the Cramahe Township in support of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge correspondence to former Minister of

Transportation, the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, requesting a change to the Highway Traffic Act as it pertains to the use of Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) systems. The municipalities would like the opportunity to locate ASE's on any road under their jurisdiction and not be limited to only community and school safety zones.

5. Highway 417 Extension Traffic Data

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-113

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council send a letter under the Warden's signature to the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, requesting updated traffic counts for specific sections of Highway 17, including the current Highway 417, Arnprior to Renfrew Twinning, Storyland Road to Greenwood Road, Meath Hill to Deep River, and west of Deep River.

Background

A meeting of the Highway 17 Extension Advisory Committee was held on September 20, 2023, to review the Highway 17 expansion and next steps. The Committee was advised that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation had informed staff that the annual daily traffic (AADT) counts on Highway 17 are up to date as of 2019 and are available to the public on the MTO technical publications page. The Advisory Committee is requesting the Warden, on behalf of County Council, to request from the Minister of Transportation updated data for the following locations: the current Highway 417, Arnprior to Renfrew Twinning, Storyland Road to Greenwood Road, Meath Hill to Deep River and west of Deep River.

6. Reallocation of 2023 Budget Funds

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-114

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council reassign the sum of \$60,000 originally designated in the 2023 budget for architectural design and review of the Southwest Patrol and White Water Road Patrol buildings towards the purchase of new pods/workstations for the Public Works and Engineering Department office located at the County Administration Building in Pembroke at a cost of \$17,802.47.

Background

The County of Renfrew's patrol garages typically have one washroom facility each with the exception of Cobden Patrol. In the 2023 budget, an allocation of \$60,000 was set aside to explore the possibility of expanding the washroom facilities at two patrol garages. However, upon initial review, it has become evident that the scope of this project would be financially impractical, as it would necessitate an increase in the

building's footprint. It is important to note that the existing washrooms have been designated as unisex with locking doors.

The 2023 Budget approved a restructuring of the Public Works and Engineering Department to include the addition of a Civil Designer, an Engineering Technician, an Operations Coordinator, and the conversion of a part-time Administrative Assistant II to a full-time position. These changes have been fully implemented as of the third quarter of 2023. With these additions to the Department, there is now a need for appropriate workspaces to accommodate the additional personnel. The cost of creating two new pods is \$17,802.47 including taxes, freight, and installation, as per the estimate attached as Appendix IV. Therefore, staff are proposing to reallocate the \$60,000 initially earmarked for the architectural design review of the patrol facilities to fund these new workstations.

7. Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-115

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve delegation requests at the 2024 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Annual Conference with the Minister of Infrastructure to discuss implementation of a consistent Provincial mandated Pavement Condition Index (PCI) process and with the Minister of Transportation to discuss additional funding opportunities with regards to an interim solution for Highway 17/417 widening and traffic calming beyond Renfrew; AND FURTHER THAT the Chair of the Standing Committee, along with the Warden, be designated to attend the delegations.

Background

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference is scheduled for Sunday, January 21 - Tuesday, January 23, 2024, to be held at the Sheraton Centre Hotel - 123 Queen Street West, Toronto.

Staff are looking to lobby the Ministry of Infrastructure (Minster Kinga Surma) to discuss the implementation of a consistent provincially mandated Pavement Condition Index (PCI) process.

Staff further would like an opportunity to present and discuss with the Ministry of Transportation (Minister Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria) for additional funding opportunities with regards to a proposal and interim solution for Highway 17/417 widening and traffic calming beyond Renfrew.

8. County Road 2 (White Lake Road) Speed Study

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-117

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the recommendation that the posted speed limit remain unchanged at this time for County Road 2 (White Lake Road) between Robertson Line and Green Meadow Road.

Background

Attached as Appendix V is a resolution from the Township of McNab/Braeside requesting a speed limit reduction for the section of White Lake Road (County Road 2) between Highland Road (County Road 23) and Green Meadow Road.

Public Works staff completed an operational speed study at four locations, which are identified on the map attached as Appendix VI. The transportation industry widely uses the 85th percentile operating speeds as an indication of the public's comfortable travelling speed as it represents 85% of traffic travelling at or under the specified speed. The resulting 85th percentile speeds from the study are as follows:

- Site 1 (Near 2630 White Lake Road): 85km/h
- Site 2 (Near Robertson Line): 96km/h
- Site 3 (Near 1511 White Lake Road): 87km/h
- Site 4 (Near Green Meadow Road): 82km/h (posted speed limit of 60km/h)

The operational speeds are within an expected range for this type of roadway, although there is a noted outlier in the area just north of Robertson Line. The higher operating speeds at this location are likely due in part to this being a straight stretch of road without any visual obstructions and a painted passing opportunity. The study location was near the bottom of a hill which also explains in part the higher operating speeds from the southern direction.

The data for the Site 4 location near Green Meadow Road was taken from an existing flashing radar speed sign that has been in place for a few years. This sign flashes vehicles operating speeds as they approach in an attempt to remind drivers to slow down to the posted speed limit of 60km/h. The data downloaded represents a two year timeframe and although the posted speed limit is 60km/h, the 85th percentile speed is 82km/h. This is indicative that drivers will travel at the speed for which the road has been designed and at which they feel most comfortable.

A ball bank review of the curves between Green Meadow Road and Robertson Line confirms that all meet the requirements for an 80km/h posted speed limit and that none of them require reduction warning tabs. The curves that required speed reduction warning tabs between Robertson Line and Highland Road were identified as part of an earlier review.

County Road 2 (White Lake Road) provides an important connection between the Village of White Lake and the surrounding area to the Town of Arnprior and Highway 417. Its purpose is both for land access and commuter traffic travelling to work as well as for essential services within urban areas and it should be protected as an efficient,

free flowing roadway. It is therefore the view of staff that the posted speed limits on White Lake Road (County Road 2) should remain as they are. Where specific areas of concern with regards to obeying the speed limits are present, the OPP should be contacted to request enforcement. Where there are locations that are believed to be unsafe due to roadway obstructions, geometry etc., those areas should be identified and forwarded to the Public Works and Engineering Department for further review.

9. Lynch Road Culvert County Structure Assumption Request

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-118

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the assumption of Lynch Road Culvert, on Lynch Road, 0.1km west of Dragonfly Way, in the Township of Admaston/Bromley be approved; AND FURTHER THAT the costs for design and construction of Lynch Road Culvert be shared equally between the County of Renfrew and the Township of Admaston/Bromley; AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to complete the design for the replacement of Lynch Road Culvert and plan for replacement in 2024.

Background

In early June, County staff were made aware of a culvert on Lynch Road that may meet the criteria to be a County Structure and that should be replaced in the near future. The culvert is 0.1km west of Dragonfly Way, in the Township of Admaston/Bromley. The culvert is not a County Structure; however, it does have a span of 3m. Attached as Appendix VII is a resolution from the Township of Admaston/Bromley requesting that the County of Renfrew review the Lynch Road Culvert as it has met the requirements of County Policy PW-02, Bridges, and predeceasing applicable Bridge Policies from the time it was installed.

County of Renfrew Policy PW-02 states that the following criteria must be met for a bridge to qualify as a County Structure:

- Be located within the municipal boundaries of the County of Renfrew;
- Be located within a public right-of-way; and
- Have a cumulative span of 3.0 metres or greater.

The existing culvert meets all of the above criteria. Additionally, County staff have completed an initial hydraulic review of the culvert and found that at minimum a 3m span should be maintained. Policy PW-02 Subsection 2.2, Requests for Assumption as County Structure, stipulates that where a crossing that is not considered a County Structure requires replacement and it is confirmed through hydraulic design that the replacement crossing will meet criteria to be a County Structure, and is subsequently approved for assumption as a County Structure, the cost for the design and construction of the replacement structure shall be shared equally between the County of Renfrew and the local Municipality.

Given that this crossing is nearing the end of its service life, replacement is required during the 2024 construction season. The County is capable of undertaking a design such as this with internal staff. As such, in order to save costs, County staff could undertake the design for this crossing replacement and share in the costs with the Township of Admaston/Bromley.

BY-LAWS

10. County Road 512 (Queen Street) Community Safety Zone – Village of Killaloe

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-116

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council adopt a By-law to authorize the designation of a Community Safety Zone (CSZ) along Queen Street (County Road 512) between 87 Queen Street and Boland Street, Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards.

Background

Attached as Appendix VIII is a resolution from the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards requesting the designation of a Community Safety Zone (CSZ) for a section of County Road 512 (Queen Street and Brudenell Road), County Road 67 (Simpson Pit Road) and County Road 58 (Round Lake Road).

Section 214 of the Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990 contains provisions whereby a municipality may pass a By-law designating a part of a highway as a CSZ if in the Council's opinion, public safety is of a special concern on that part of the highway. The effect of the CSZ designation is to increase the penalties imposed for highway infractions. The usual increase is to double the fines. The area designated must be appropriately signed in accordance with the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM).

The OTM provides the following information regarding Community Safety Zones: "These are sections of roadway where public safety is of special concern. Community Safety Zones may include roadways near schools, day care centres, playgrounds, parks, hospitals, senior citizen residences and may also be used for collision-prone areas within a community."

Upon reviewing the areas contained within the Township resolution, County of Renfrew Public Works and Engineering staff is in support of implementing a CSZ along County Road 512 (Queen Street) between 87 Queen Street and Boland Street as this area contains two elementary schools. The other areas identified within the resolution do not meet the purpose of a CSZ in accordance with the OTM.

In order to have a CSZ implemented, special signage must be installed and a Municipal By-law must be passed designating the zone.

Attached as Appendix IX is a map identifying the aforementioned changes for this section of County Road 512.

11. PWO-2023-26 – Three Tandem Truck and Plow Units

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-122

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the bid submitted by Gincor, Mattawa, Ontario for the acquisition of three tandem truck and plow units, in the amount of \$1,254,975, plus applicable taxes; AND FURTHER THAT County Council adopt a By-law to Authorize Execution of the Contract; AND FURTHER THAT County Council reassign the sum of capital funds in the amount of \$175,593 from the offset roller and the road shouldering machine to the purchase of the three tandem plow truck and plow units.

Background

Submissions were requested from three suppliers through the Canoe Procurement Group of Canada for vehicle and equipment acquisition. One supplier submitted a bid as follows:

Gincor, Mattawa, Ontario
 Amount excludes applicable taxes

\$418,325 per truck

Financial Implications

An allocation of \$1,112,000 was set aside in the 2023 Department Budget for the supply and delivery of three tandem truck and plow units. The bid received from Gincor for three trucks totalled \$1,254,975, plus applicable taxes, leaving an outstanding amount of \$142,975, plus applicable taxes.

The County of Renfrew has set aside \$175,593 within the Department's 2023 Capital Equipment over Threshold Budget for the purchase of an offset roller and a road shouldering machine. Upon careful review, it is the recommendation of staff that the acquisition of three tandem truck and plow units is more of a necessity than the previously mentioned equipment. Therefore, staff are proposing to reallocate the \$175,593 initially earmarked for the offset roller and the road shouldering machine to fund the three new tandem truck and plow units.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Glenn Doncaster, Chair

And Committee Members: D. Bennett, P. Emon, D. Lynch, M. MacKenzie, K. Watt, M. Willmer

Councillor Donohue requested that Item #9 Lynch Road Culvert County Structure Assumption Request be severed from the report for separate consideration.

The Report was adopted as amended.

Councillor Donohue requested clarification on Item #3 Winter Readiness and questioned who determined the requirements which he was informed that it was through statutory winter maintenance standards.

Councillor Donohue put forth the following resolution and requested a recorded vote.

Moved By: Councillor Donohue Seconded By: Councillor Lynch

THAT County Council approve the assumption of Lynch Road Culvert, on Lynch Road, 0.1km west of Dragonfly Way, in the Township of Admaston/Bromley be approved; AND FURTHER THAT the costs for design and construction of Lynch Road Culvert be borne entirely by the County of Renfrew; AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to complete the design for the replacement of Lynch Road Culvert and plan for replacement in 2024.

THAT the Council for the County of Renfrew assume all costs for the design and construction of the Lynch Road Culvert in the Township of Admaston Bromley. DEFEATED.

County Council Weighted Vote						
County Council Meeting:	October 25, 2023					
Resolution:	OP-CC-23-10-118 Lynch Road Culvert County					
	Structure Assumption Request					
			For	Against	For	Against
MUNICIPALITY	COUNCILLOR	# Votes	Х	х	Wtd	Wtd
Township of Horton	Bennett, D.	8	X		8	0
Township of North Algona Wilberforce	Brose, J.	10	X		10	0
Town of Deep River	Doncaster, G.	8		X	0	8
Township of Admaston/Bromley	Donohue, M.	9	X		9	0
Town of Renfrew	Emon, P.	15		X	0	15
Town of Laurentian Hills	Giardini, A.	7		X	0	7
Township of Head, Clara & Maria	Grills, D.	2	x		2	0
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan	Jahn, V.	7		X	0	7
Town of Arnprior	Lynch, D.	18	X		18	0
Township of McNab/Braeside	MacKenzie, M.	16	X		16	0
Township of Killaloe, Hagarty & Richards	Mayville, D.	8		X	0	8
Township of Bonnechere Valley	Murphy, J.	12		X	0	12
Township of Whitewater Region	Nicholson, N.	18	X		18	0
Town of Petawawa	Serviss, G.	33		X	0	33
Township of Laurentian Valley	Watt, K.	19		X	0	19
Township of Greater Madawaska	Weir, R	16	X		16	0
Township of Madawaska Valley	Willmer, M.	15		X	0	15
TOTAL		221	8	9	97	124
			Motion Failed			

RESOLUTION NO. OP-CC-23-10-118

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the assumption of Lynch Road Culvert, on Lynch Road, 0.1km west of Dragonfly Way, in the Township of Admaston/Bromley be approved; AND FURTHER THAT the costs for design and construction of Lynch Road Culvert be shared equally between the County of Renfrew and the Township of Admaston/Bromley; AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to complete the design for the replacement of Lynch Road Culvert and plan for replacement in 2024. CARRIED.

Councillor Donohue left the Meeting at 2:13 p.m.

Councillor Anne Giardini, Chair of the Community Services Committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

October 25, 2023

To the Council of the Corporation Of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your Community Services Committee, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. The National Housing Accord: A Multi-Sector Approach to Ending Canada's Rental Housing Crisis

The National Housing Accord is a campaign to end homelessness that is led by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, PLACE Centre Smart Prosperity Institute, and REALPAC. The National Housing Accord's recent paper, "A Multi-Sector Approach to Ending Canada's Rental Housing Crisis", suggests an industrial strategy approach to accelerate housing development through ten recommendations.

2. Built For Zero Canada – Acknowledgment

Attached as Appendix I is a letter from Built For Zero Canada that recognizes the County of Renfrew for reducing chronic homelessness. As of September 2022, the average (baseline) record for chronic homelessness was 17 households. Since then, there has been a reduction of at least 10% since March 2023.

The <u>Active Chronic Homelessness & Baseline Reductions chart</u> provides a summary of the Built for Zero data. The data reflects households that are registered on the County of Renfrew's By-Name List, which is an enumeration tool that reflects active and reported chronic homelessness. People who are registered with the County of Renfrew's Built for Zero initiative are prioritized for wrap-around supports and financial benefits through the Homelessness Prevention Program. Chronic is defined as more than 6-months of homelessness or a repeat period of homelessness within a 12-month period.

RESOLUTIONS

3. Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference

RESOLUTION NO. CS-CC-23-10-41

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve delegation requests at the 2024 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Annual Conference with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Associate Minister of Housing to discuss additional funding opportunities to increase housing in our community; AND FURTHER THAT the Chair of the Standing Committee, along with the Warden, be designated to attend the delegation.

Background

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference is scheduled for Sunday, January 21 to Tuesday, January 23, 2024, to be held at the Sheraton Centre Hotel, 123 Queen Street West, Toronto. We are seeking an opportunity to present and discuss with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Associate Minister of Housing Rob Flack) proposed solutions to housing, including the modular seniors village project and the proposed Habitat for Humanity partnership. We further would like an opportunity to present and discuss with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Minister Rob Calandra) on the topic of continued and sustainable funding for housing projects in areas outside of the designated urban areas, and to assist community housing Service Manager's plan for growth and revitalization by providing funding commitments for a five-year period in order to plan and execute projects.

4. Social Services Fiscal Pressure Reserve

RESOLUTION NO. CS-CC-23-10-43

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve that any changes to Ontario Works Administration components of the upcoming Ontario Works budget that exceed the budgeted amounts be funded from the Social Services Fiscal Pressure Reserve.

Background

In October 2022, The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) provided notification to the County of Renfrew Ontario Works program that the 2023 and 2024 Ontario Works Program Delivery Funding (PDF) allocations would be reduced in 2023 by \$0.1M (pro-rated from October to December 2023) and in 2024 by \$0.5M. These amounts will be transferred to the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD) as a result of the Employment Services Transformation taking place on October 1, 2023.

The reduction in funding of \$0.1M in 2023 was budgeted for as part of the 2023 budget planning cycle. Reductions in many budgeted items created savings to meet the \$0.1M shortfall for 2023. However, as we approach the 2024 budget planning exercise, and the \$0.5M shortfall from MCCSS, more changes will need to be made in 2023 that will result in cost savings for 2024 and onwards. These changes may exceed the budgeted amounts in the Ontario Works Administration lines. Access to the Social Services Fiscal Pressure Reserve will enable the changes to be made ahead of 2024.

In 2008, funds from the Province of Ontario were issued to the County of Renfrew Ontario Works program in the amount of \$ 396,082 and again in 2010 for \$ 223,957. A Social Services Fiscal Pressure Reserve was created with these funds, with the requirement that these funds be utilized to offset any fiscal pressures that Ontario Works may face. In the years since 2008, until current, the Ontario Works administration budget has not exceeded the budgeted amounts. This is likely to change

in 2023 and 2024 due to the reduction in the MCCSS funding transfer to Ontario Works, as these funds are being diverted to MLITSD. Accessing the Social Services Fiscal Pressure Reserve will allow for changes in order to not exceed the budgetary amounts.

BY-LAWS

5. National Housing Strategy 2023-24 Allocations

RESOLUTION NO. CS-CC-23-10-42

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the confirmed 2023-24 and planned 2024-25 confirmed funding allocations for the Provincially-Delivered National Housing Strategy Initiatives; AND FURTHER THAT a By-law be adopted authorizing the Warden and CAO/Clerk to execute the amended Transfer Payment Agreement for the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) and the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) programs between the County of Renfrew and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Background

Attached as Appendix II is correspondence dated August 17, 2023, from the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (at that time) regarding funding available to the County of Renfrew through the renewed Action Plan under the National Housing Strategy, confirmed for 2023-24 and planned for 2024-25.

The 2023-2024 COCHI and OPHI plans will provide important repairs to maintain the viability of community housing stock for the Renfrew County Housing Corporation and five Non-Profit local housing corporations. In addition, a portion of this funding will be used for community housing building condition assessments that are expected to start by the end of this year. The 2024-2025 OPHI and COCHI plans will expand on the prior year community housing viability strategy by allocating 42% of the combined \$1.46 million budget towards the creation of new affordable rent units. Attached as Appendix III is the Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement for COCHI-OPHI.

Under the COHB program there is a new benefit formula that will result in increased payments for existing and new participants on this program as consideration is being given to the actual shelter costs paid by participants. Attached as Appendix IV is the COHB Program Sign-Back Letter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Anne Giardini, Chair

And Committee Members: P. Emon, D. Grills, D. Mayville, N. Nicholson, G. Serviss

The Report was adopted as presented.

Councillor James Brose, Chair of the Development & Property Committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

October 25, 2023

To the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your **Development and Property Committee**, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. Warden's Community Service Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2023 Warden's Community Service Awards until November 3, 2023. There are three categories to recognize community contributions, including individual, not-for-profit organization, and for-profit business.

The awards will be presented at the November 29, 2023, session of County Council. More information, including application forms, are available at https://bit.ly/3ZJu1Yd.

2. Fall Promotional Campaigns

The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA) has the following campaigns actively running to promote fall touring in the region:

- <u>Harvest Season</u> highlighting culinary-themed events.
- Fall Farm & Flavours Tour highlighting fall events and activities.

Municipalities and members are encouraged to <u>submit event listings</u> to the calendar of events for inclusion in future campaigns and/or connect with the OVTA team to discuss promotional opportunities.

3. Enterprise Renfrew County Rebrand

Enterprise Renfrew County (ERC) is celebrating 25 years of assisting entrepreneurs with business start-up and development. In honour of this landmark year, and long overdue on a brand refresh, staff are pleased to present Enterprise Renfrew County's new logo and website.

The new bilingual logo is optimistic, confident and welcoming to small businesses. The blue and green colour palette, symbolic of the abundant forests and rivers in Renfrew County, represents professionalism, dignity, loyalty, trustworthiness, vitality and growth. The seedling represents business ideas and conceptual stages, the bar graph represents business development and growth and, the tree represents the fruition of

business ideas into strong, stable, flourishing entities. The wave represents how the business coaching available from Enterprise Renfrew County waters the seeds of business ideas throughout the life cycle of the entrepreneurial journey. This brand design has been incorporated into a refreshed website, offering greater ease of navigation and clarity on programs, services and business resources.

4. **2024** Harvest Tenders

The harvest tenders for 2024 operations on the Renfrew County Forest are currently being advertised. Five tracts have an area available for harvest totalling 153 hectares. Bids close on November 9, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

5. Black Ash Protection Measures

Two postings were recently made to the Environmental Registry of Ontario by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding Black Ash as an endangered species as follows:

- i) <u>ERO # 019-7378</u>: Protecting Black Ash and its habitat under the Endangered Species Act, 2007.
- ii) ERO # 019-6990: Developing the government response statement for Black Ash under the Endangered Species Act, 2007.

The County of Renfrew has submitted comments on several previous stages of consultation on this topic. Previous letter submissions are included in Appendix I.

The temporary suspension of protections for Black Ash under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), 2007, is set to end on January 25, 2024. There will be a new conditional exemption for Black Ash that will come out at that time, unless the temporary pause is extended until January 2025.

The Protecting Black Ash posting includes important information for the County, lower-tiers and residents of Renfrew County. Although the posting recognizes that Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is the primary threat to Black Ash in Ontario, and that Black Ash is currently abundant in the Province, there are still some protection measures that will impact development, forest management on private land and regular maintenance activities in parts of the County of Renfrew.

How Black Ash will be protected

It is proposed that the application of "species protection" prohibitions in subsection 9(1) [Prohibited to kill, harm, harass, or take a living member of a species that is listed on the Species at Risk in Ontario List as an extirpated, endangered or threatened species. Also, possess, transport, collect, buy, sell, lease, trade or offer to buy, sell, lease or trade, a living or dead, or any part of a listed species] of the ESA only apply to healthy Black Ash,

which appear to have survived exposure to EAB, located <u>in areas of the province that</u> have already experienced significant EAB-caused mortality.

Municipalities within the County of Renfrew that are included in these mapped lands are the Town of Arnprior and the Townships of Admaston/Bromley, Greater Madawaska, Horton, and McNab/Braeside.

As of now, other lower-tiers would not have any measures in place to protect Black Ash.

"Healthy Black Ash" protected under subsection 9(1) of the ESA: A healthy Black Ash tree is one that appears to have survived exposure to EAB, remains in a healthy condition ("lingering ash"), and has a trunk diameter at breast height of at least 8cm. These trees are thought to have the greatest potential to support the recovery of the species.

Determinations of tree health would be:

- Made by a qualified professional, which may include an arborist, professional
 forester, forest technician, dendrologist, horticulturist, botanist, entomologist, or
 any other qualified professional who has expertise in relation to Black Ash, and who
 has the expertise, education, training and experience necessary to assess the health
 of Black Ash trees.
- Supported by written documentation submitted to the Ministry.

"Protected" would mean the tree and a radial distance of 30m around each "healthy" Black Ash tree could not be disturbed.

The above is similar to what is in place for Butternut, another endangered tree species in our area. However, Butternut is relatively uncommon and Black Ash is common and widespread. It is not yet defined if every Black Ash greater than 8cm would need to be assessed for removal, nor what the documentation process would look like.

If a "healthy Black Ash" needs to be removed, the ESA provides the authority to authorize and exempt activities that would otherwise be prohibited under the Act, subject to conditions and requirements (i.e., permits, agreements, and conditional exemptions). This application process would be through the Species at Risk Branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Ontario is also proposing that the prohibitions related to possession, transportation, buying, selling, or offering to buy or sell in clauses 9(1)(b) and 9(1)(c) of the ESA do not apply to Black Ash.

Exception to allow for forest operations

The proposal recognizes that forest management may in fact mitigate the threat of EAB and forest operations are not considered a threat to the species. It is proposed that

subsections 9(1) and 10(1) of the ESA do not apply to forest operations that are being undertaken IF:

- A written plan is prepared by a Registered Professional Forester and includes pertinent information about how Black Ash will be considered/renewed/maintained and other relevant documentation.
- Reasonable steps are taken to minimize adverse effects on Black Ash.

The above would apply on private land within the mapped area/municipalities identified above.

Forest operations undertaken on Crown land and in a forest management unit in accordance with the Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994, are already exempt from the ESA.

Conclusion

This is good news for the forest sector; however, it will require education, add workload, cost and additional burden in the municipalities listed above to assess any Black Ash greater than 8cm that requires removal. It could also mean that harvest operations on private land will require the services of a Registered Professional Forester. This is already the norm in some counties with tree cutting by-laws.

The flexibility and options given in this proposal are much more than for other Species at Risk. Aside from Black Ash being delisted as endangered (which is unlikely to happen at this stage), the proposed options are the best-case scenario.

Our Committee directed forestry staff to submit supportive comments for Environmental Registry of Ontario # 019-7378 Protecting Black Ash and its habitat under the Endangered Species Act, 2007, which closes on November 2, 2023, as it pertains to sustainable forest management, and to seek clarification on the frequency of change of the mapped area, if there will be a threshold for assessment of "healthy" Black Ash trees, for more information on the assessment process.

6. Town of Deep River Official Plan Amendment Number 4 (OPA 4)

The County of Renfrew provided approval for the Town of Deep River's adopted OPA 4, which was an amendment to modify the text of the Deep River Official Plan to implement changes that have been made to the Planning Act, resulting from the introduction of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, Bill 108-More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019, Bill 109-More Homes for Everyone Act, 2022, and Bill 23-More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022, as well as general housekeeping changes. The changes to the plan include:

Section	Proposed change
Section 1.4	Inclusion of a new land acknowledgement statement
Section 3.8	Inclusion of a new requirement to notify the Algonquins of Ontario of any artefacts encountered during development
Section 3.13	Inclusion of a new policy creating a setback from aggregate works
Section 3.18	Inclusion of new policies related to Additional Residential Units (Policies regarding Secondary Residential Units have been removed)
Section 5.2	Inclusion of a new policy regarding Communal Services
Section 6.3.1	Ability to delegate authority for minor zoning by-law changes
Section 6.3.2	Ability to delegate authority for removal of holding provisions
Section 6.3.3	Ability to delegate authority for temporary use
Section 6.4	Updated limitations of site plan control
Section 6.10	Requirement for pre-consultation
various	Updating the requirement for site plan control to 10 residential units or greater
various	Updated wording to clarify wording and correct grammatical errors
various	Updated names of ministries and acts, dates

7. Town of Deep River Official Plan Amendment Number 5 (OPA 5)

The County of Renfrew provided approval for the Town of Deep River's adopted OPA 5, which was an amendment to modify the text and map schedule of the Deep River Official Plan to add the "Deep River West End Secondary Plan." The Deep River West End Secondary Plan will provide additional policies that any future development within the West End Secondary Plan area will have to comply with, in addition to the policies of the Official Plan. The goal of the plan is to provide a policy framework that guides development and provides opportunities for new investment within the Town while remaining conscious and sensitive to the existing community, natural environment, and existing recreation amenities.

8. Granite Village – Subdivision Approval

On September 26, 2023, draft approval was issued for two subdivisions on the east and west side of Norton Road in the Township of Greater Madawaska. These two subdivisions will create 52 lots and will include blocks for stormwater management and parkland. The developer will have three years to satisfy the conditions of approval.

9. Digital Raster Acquisition Project Eastern Ontario (DRAPE) 2024

County of Renfrew staff attended a kick-off meeting to participate and acquire updated DRAPE (Digital Raster Acquisition Project Eastern Ontario) air photography. This project,

led by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is a collaborative funding partnership to acquire air photography for Eastern Ontario. The County of Renfrew has historically participated in this project and has acquired air photos since 2008. The air photography acquired by the County is available to be viewed internally by both the County and local municipalities using the Enterprise ESRI GIS software. The imagery for 2014 and 2020 is also made available to be used/viewed by the general public on the County GIS website. The imagery has been used to support programs and services at both the County and local level including emergency response, planning, economic development, forestry, and public works.

A detailed estimate for this project will not be available until December/January; however, it is estimated that the cost will be approximately \$5.50 a square kilometre for a total cost of approximately \$35,000. Staff will include an amount in the 2024 draft budget for consideration as accurately as we can anticipate.

10. Floodplain Hazard Mapping Project

In August, the County of Renfrew awarded the Request for Proposal for Floodplain Hazard Mapping to Ahydtech Geomorphic, Guelph, Ontario. Staff continue to work with them towards the completion of phase one of the project. This first phase includes the following:

- i) Report 1: Hazard Identification Report
- ii) Report 2: Priority Setting Report
- iii) Report 3: Data Inventory and Gaps Assessment Report
- iv) Report 4: Priority Setting and Future Scope Report
- v) LiDAR Contour Creation

The awarded amount for the project is \$37,138. The County of Renfrew was successful in obtaining a grant for 50% of the cost, leaving an outstanding amount of \$18,569. The County proposed to cover 50% of that amount leaving \$9,284 to be received from local municipal/County contributions. Staff are proposing a contribution that is tied to the amount of shoreline along major rivers that would benefit from the floodplain mapping. The breakdown of the proposed cost for each municipality is as follows:

Municipality	Percentage of Shoreline	Phase One Cost (\$37,138 - \$27,854) = \$9,284
Admaston/Bromley	5.14%	\$477.00
Algonquins of		
Pikwakanagan	0.88%	\$81.89
Arnprior	2.01%	\$186.76
Bonnechere Valley	7.77%	\$721.10
Horton	8.54%	\$793.17

		Phase One Cost
	Percentage of	(\$37,138 - \$27,854)
Municipality	Shoreline	= \$9,284
Killaloe, Hagarty and		
Richards	7.63%	\$708.73
Laurentian Valley	3.42%	\$317.35
McNab/Braeside	8.48%	\$787.68
North Algona Wilberforce	9.76%	\$905.70
Pembroke	1.76%	\$163.39
Petawawa	9.58%	\$889.60
Renfrew	1.43%	\$132.95
Whitewater Region	33.60%	\$3,118.68
Totals	100.00%	\$9,284.00

At this time, the majority of local municipalities have indicated support and have agreed to the proposed cost sharing. The following have either not responded or declined to participate: the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan. The total remaining amount to be funded due to the non-participation of these municipalities is \$790.62.

Staff will continue to work with the local municipalities for the additional costs.

RESOLUTIONS

11. Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference

RESOLUTION NO. DP-CC-23-10-115

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the delegation requests at the 2024 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Annual Conference with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to discuss additional funding opportunities with regards to proposed solutions to housing, including the modular seniors village project and proposed Habitat for Humanity partnership and with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport to advocate for a more accurate funding model and provide support as necessary for Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization partners, which include the counties of Renfrew, Haliburton, Lanark, Frontenac, Hastings, and Lennox and Addington; AND FURTHER THAT the Chair of the Standing Committee, along with the Warden, be designated to attend the delegations.

Background

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference is scheduled for Sunday, January 21 - Tuesday, January 23, 2024, to be held at the Sheraton Centre Hotel - 123 Queen Street West, Toronto.

Staff are looking to lobby the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Associate Minister of Housing Rob Flack) to discuss and propose solutions to housing, including the proposed modular seniors village project in Renfrew and proposed Habitat for Humanity partnership.

Staff further would like an opportunity to present and advocate with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (Minister Neil Lumsden) for a more accurate funding model for Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization partners, which include the counties of Renfrew, Haliburton, Lanark, Frontenac, Hastings, and Lennox and Addington and provide support as necessary.

12. PWC-2023-61 – Algonquin Trail – Granular 'A'

RESOLUTION NO. DP-CC-23-10-123

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve Contract PWC-2023-61 as submitted by McCrea Excavation Ltd., Pembroke, Ontario for the supply, delivery, and placement of Granular 'A' on the Algonquin Trail from County Road 55 (Paquette Road) to approximately 12.33km north, in the Towns of Petawawa and Laurentian Hills, in the amount of \$499,301.35 plus applicable taxes; AND FURTHER THAT a By-law be adopted to Authorize Execution of the Contract.

Background

Construction of the Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa is continuing. All forestry tilling is nearly completed on approximately 15.3km section of trail. Unfortunately, due to issues with safe access from Highway 17, and restricted loading on bridges, base granular has not been applied from Young Creek to the northern Highway 17 crossing. As such, the bridges located in this section have been planned for rehabilitation early in 2024, so that this 3.5km section of trail can be completed.

A Request for Tender was issued for supply, delivery, and placement of Granular 'A' on the Algonquin Trail from County Road 55 (Paquette Road) to approximately 12.33km north, in the Towns of Petawawa and Laurentian Hills, as shown on the map attached as Appendix I. Tenders were received until 2:00 p.m., October 19, 2023, and the results are as follows:

1.	McCrea Excavation Ltd., Pembroke, Ontario	\$499,301.35
2.	G.P. Splinter Forest Products Ltd. Pembroke, Ontario	549,950.35
3.	H and H Construction Inc., Petawawa, Ontario	581,703.33
4.	Fidelity Engineering & Construction Inc., Colborne, Ontario	1,357,734.00
	All amounts exclude applicable taxes.	

Financial Implications

The 2023 Algonquin Trail Development budget includes funds in the amount of

\$4,177,792. Though there are relatively substantial funds allocated for Algonquin Trail development, there is also still 104km of trail remaining to be developed, which includes large structures requiring rehabilitation or replacement. Staff confirm that there are sufficient funds allocated to complete this 15.5km section of Algonquin Trail through Garrison Petawawa and will present an estimate cost for development of Algonquin Trail northward at a future meeting.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

James Brose, Chair

And Committee Members: D. Bennett, P. Emon, D. Lynch, M. MacKenzie, G. Serviss, K. Watt, R. Weir

The Report was adopted as presented.

Councillor Giardini sought clarification on Item #11 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference and whether it was similar to a previous resolution from the Community Services Committee and if delegations are granted would both chairs attend. The CAO/Clerk clarified the request noting the difference between each and the expectation of the delegation request.

Councillor Nicholson sought clarification on Item #12 Algonquin Trail – Granular 'A' and the reason why this was being used as a base. The Director of Development and Property explained that because this was the main base of the trail, the Trans Canada Energy pipeline will need for the base before stone dust.

Councillor Doncaster questioned why the Trails Policy was not being followed on this portion of the trail and whether or not Garrison Petawawa should be responsible for providing an alternate route. The CAO/Clerk explained the history of the trail and that the railway line in this area did not revert to the County's ownership, and to keep a continuous trail the pipeline is being provided which is the alternate route. He added that Garrison Petawawa is not a municipality that can be asked for funding and they do not have any additional monies to contribute to complete this portion. The CAO/Clerk added that there was also a safety concern using the former railway line with the proximity to range control and active military exercises.

Councillor Doncaster questioned if the Economic Development Strategy would include input from the lower tiers, which the Director of Development and Property informed it would.

Councillor Jennifer Murphy, Chair of the Finance & Administration committee brought in and read the resolutions of the following report:

October 25, 2023

To the Council of the Corporation
Of the County of Renfrew

Members of County Council:

We, your Finance and Administration Committee, wish to report and recommend as follows:

INFORMATION

1. Municipal Shared Services Meeting

On Thursday, October 5, 2023, senior staff from many of the lower tier municipalities met to discuss shared service opportunities. Attached as Appendix I was a slide deck presented by the County of Renfrew CAO/Clerk to initiate the roundtable discussion. The County of Renfrew is experiencing ongoing challenges with respect to recruitment and retention, resource capacity, the pace of information and it is not alone; the same challenges are being felt in the local municipalities. In an effort to determine shared synergies, this meeting was facilitated at the County of Renfrew offices as an adjunct to a municipal treasurers meeting being held on the same day. This meeting aimed to discuss the progress, challenges, and future prospects of shared services within our municipalities, and provided a valuable platform for collaboration and information sharing. While challenges exist, there is a strong commitment to overcoming them and continuing to reap the benefits of shared services for our municipality. The group has committed to meeting regularly to discuss opportunities, and we look forward to your guidance and support in implementing the recommendations that will be forthcoming.

2. Watson & Associates – Development Charges

Mr. Byron Tan, Manager Municipal Finance, Watson & Associates, Economists Ltd. provided an overview of the Development Charges Study for the County of Renfrew at the August meetings of the Finance and Administration Committee and County Council.

At the August 30, 2023 session of County Council, staff were requested to distribute a copy of this study to each municipality, along with an invitation for them to submit any questions they may have by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 8, 2023. Many municipalities indicated that they had yet to meet with their Council to discuss Development Charges, and given the importance of this issue, County staff deferred this Development Charges Question/Answer Summary until the October Finance and Administration Committee meeting to allow adequate time for all municipalities to provide their input.

Accordingly, attached as Appendix II is a document summarizing question, comments and points for consideration, as well as the resulting responses from Watson & Associates. This document is presented as an information item at our October Committee and County Council meetings, with staff seeking Council direction at a future meeting.

3. **2024 Budget**

Following the approval of the 2024 Budget Schedule at the September session of County Council, Corporate Services staff have now initiated the 2024 Budget process and are establishing meeting dates with each department throughout the months of October and November to develop their 2024 budgets. Provisions will also be made for the outcome of the Special Meeting of County Council on November 9, 2023 to discuss the Asset Management Plan and resulting pressures to the Long-Term Financial Plan. Each Committee will review the detailed budget in January prior to the Consolidated Budget Workshop.

4. Fall Tax Policy Work Group/RCCTA Finance Sub-Committee Meeting

The Finance Division held a Tax Policy Working Group/RCCTA Finance Sub-Committee meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. and all the local municipal treasurers were invited to attend. Common issues discussed included 2024 budget challenges, asset management plans – policy changes, asset retirement obligations, optional small on-farm business subclass and a brief discussion on development charges.

5. Municipal Benefits Committee

The Municipal Benefits Committee (MBC) met with our benefits consultants, Cowan Insurance, on September 27, 2023 to review disability cases and is set to meet in late October to review the 2024 Manulife renewal documents. The renewal period for these services is January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024. By-laws will be brought forward at our November meeting for renewal of the Manulife and Cowan agreements. Anne-Marie Nevins, Principal Consultant - Employee Benefits, Cowan Benefits Group attended our October Committee meeting to present information on the Municipal Benefits Committee (MBC), which is attached as Appendix III.

6. **2023 Service Awards Recipients and Retirees**

As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the County of Renfrew has not been hosting our annual employee service awards recognition dinner but staff were still recognized for their valuable service to the County of Renfrew. In 2022, a survey of staff was completed by over 200 individuals to determine if this event should continue and/or what our service awards should look like in the future. In October 2022, our Committee noted the importance and value of continuing with an event to recognize staff and retirees for all their hard work and dedication to the County of Renfrew and advised that they would like to see this continue.

As a result, the County of Renfrew will be introducing a different format for this year's County of Renfrew Service Awards and Staff Appreciation, which is taking place on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Pembroke Festival Hall. Please join staff for an evening to celebrate County of Renfrew employee's career milestones, retirees and an incredible bunch of employees and enjoy some music and laughs. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and Hors D'oeuvres and refreshments will be served. We hope everyone enjoys this new venue and format. Attached as Appendix IV is the detailed poster of this event.

This year we will be recognizing 61 service award recipients who have attained 10 to 40 years of service, as well as 16 retirees. Attached as Appendix V is the 2023 list of Service Awards Recipients and Retirees.

RESOLUTIONS

7. Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-23-10-87

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve a delegation request at the 2024 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Annual Conference with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and/or the Minister of Finance to discuss additional funding opportunities with regards to continuous improvements and modernization (i.e. the Municipal Modernization Fund), building on the success of previous funding streams; AND FURTHER THAT the Chair of the Standing Committee, along with the Warden, be designated to attend the delegation.

Background

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference is scheduled for Sunday, January 21 - Tuesday, January 23, 2024 to be held at the Sheraton Centre Hotel - 123 Queen Street West, Toronto.

The 2024 Conference, themed, Closer to Home, will provide rural municipal leaders the opportunity to address policy issues, funding concerns, and to meet directly with Provincial Ministers on local issues. Over 1,500 municipal colleagues, provincial and federal elected officials and senior staff are anticipated to be in attendance at this much anticipated event. As in the past, it is expected that the Conference will have all of the critical rural municipal issues front and centre, with excellent opportunities to be engaged, learn, network and bring innovative solutions back to our community.

The County of Renfrew was successful and made excellent use of the first rounds of the Municipal Modernization Fund. Throughout all three streams, staff were able to complete a Service Delivery Review of the organization, a Planning Services Review, an IT and Digital Modernization strategy, amongst other efforts. Staff would like to continue with many of these projects and bring them to the next phases of development, but require funding, matching or otherwise, to assist us.

It is anticipated that the request(s) for delegations with Provincial Ministers will occur in mid-November. Throughout this past week, Standing Committees have discussed what issues and opportunities have arisen that require intervention or further conversation with our ministerial counterparts. The following is a list of proposed delegations:

- Solicitor General (Minister Michael Kerzner) Providing an update and possible funding opportunities to align communication systems amongst emergency services (Fire, Paramedic Services, Police);
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Associate Minister of Housing Rob Flack)
 Discussion and proposed solutions to housing, including the modular seniors'
 village project and proposed Habitat for Humanity partnership;
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Minister Rob Calandra) Discussion regarding continued and sustainable funding for housing projects in areas outside of the designated urban areas, and to assist community housing Service Managers plan for growth and revitalization;
- Ministry of Health (Minister Sylvia Jones) To showcase our mobile wellness hub proposal, and the need for specific pilot project funding;
- Ministry of Infrastructure (Minster Kinga Surma) / Ministry of Transportation (Minister Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria) – A discussion and proposal for an interim solution with regards to Highway 17 widening and traffic calming beyond Renfrew; and
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (Minister Neil Lumsden) To advocate for a more accurate funding model and provide support as necessary for Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization partners, which include the counties of Renfrew, Haliburton, Lanark, Frontenac, Hastings, and Lennox and Addington.

BY-LAWS

8. **By-law to Appoint a Treasurer**

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-23-10-88

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve Daniel Burke be appointed as the Acting Treasurer for the County of Renfrew effective November 20, 2023; AND FURTHER THAT the necessary bylaw be adopted.

Background

With the departure of Jeffrey Foss, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer, it is prudent to appoint Daniel Burke, Finance Manager, as Acting Treasurer effective November 20, 2023.

9. Tangible Capital Asset (TCA) Policy Changes

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-23-10-90

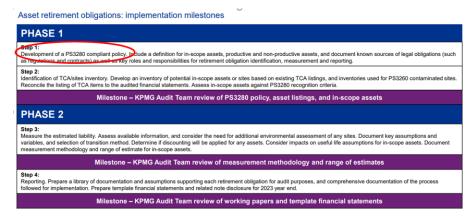
Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the amended Corporate Policy for Tangible Capital Assets FIN-07 Asset Retirement Obligations; AND FURTHER THAT a By-law to amend By-law 4-08, being a By-law to establish Corporate Policies and Procedures for Tangible Capital Assets for the County of Renfrew be adopted.

Background

Effective for the year ending December 31, 2023, under Public Sector Accounting Standard 3280, municipalities must account for Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO's). The work to meet this new accounting standard is well under way by staff and they foresee no difficulties in complying with this required obligation. As part of the work plan, staff are bringing a new asset retirement obligation policy forward for approval. Staff would like to thank Peterborough County for providing their asset retirement obligation policy as a template. Attached as Appendix VI is the new Corporate Policy for Tangible Capital Assets FIN-07 Asset Retirement Obligations.



10. Employment By-law #1

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-23-10-91

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the following changes to Employment By-law #1 effective October 1, 2023:

- 1. Change to the Student Wage from \$14.60 to \$15.60 (for students under 18; and
- 2. Change from \$15.50 to \$16.55 (for students 18 and over) as outlined in Schedule "A"; AND FURTHER THAT the revised Employment By-law # 1 be adopted.

Background

The Government of Ontario announced that starting October 1, 2023, the general minimum wage would increase as Ontario continues to work for its workers. Attached as Appendix VII is the News Release. This 6.8 percent pay raise for low-income workers builds on the government's steady and predictable increases every year to help families offset the rising cost of living. A summary of the proposed changes to Employment Bylaw #1 are as follows:

a) Student Wages

On October 1, 2023, the Ontario minimum wage increased, therefore the County of Renfrew student wages are established as follows:

- Students over the age of 18 are paid at the Province of Ontario general minimum wage, equalling \$16.55 per hour.
- Students under the age of 18 are paid at the Province of Ontario student minimum wage, equalling \$15.60 per hour.

11. Corporate Policies and Procedures – Human Resources Policy Changes

RESOLUTION NO. FA-CC-23-10-92

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Committee

THAT County Council approve the following amended Corporate Policies:

- a) A-08 Criminal Record Check Policy for All Prospective County of Renfrew Volunteers and RCHC Contractors;
- b) A-12 Photograph Identification for Employees;
- c) A-13 Termination and Resignation;
- d) A-14 Retirement and Early Retirement;
- e) A-15 Code of Ethical Conduct;
- f) A-18 Personal Use of Social Networking;
- g) B-02 Promotion;
- h) B-03 Establishment of New Positions;
- i) B-07 Payroll;
- j) B-08 Uniform and Safety Footwear Allowance;
- k) E-01 Hours of Work and Overtime; and
- 1) E-04 Vacation effective January 1, 2024;

AND FURTHER THAT a By-law to amend By-law 63-03, being a By-law to establish Human Resources Corporate Policies and Procedures for the County of Renfrew be adopted.

Background

Attached as Appendix VIII are the following policies:

a) A-08 Criminal Record Check Policy for All Prospective County of Renfrew Volunteers and RCHC Contractors

Formatted to the new accessible template and updated this policy to align with the changes made to Policy A-07 Criminal Record Check for Prospective Employees.

b) A-12 Photograph Identification for Employees

Formatted to the new accessible template and updated this policy to bring in line with actual County of Renfrew practices.

c) A-13 Termination and Resignation

Formatted to the new accessible template and updated this policy's definitions, and content to match actual County of Renfrew practices.

d) A-14 Retirement and Early Retirement

Formatted to the new accessible template and updated this policy's retirement gift section to reflect removal of awards dinner and match actual County of Renfrew practices.

e) A-15 Code of Ethical Conduct

Formatted to the new accessible template and updated this policy to add definition of conflict of interest, remove preamble, and update enforcement section.

f) A-18 Personal Use of Social Networking

Formatted to new accessible template and added definitions for clarity to this policy.

g) **B-02 Promotion**

Formatted to new accessible template and clarified the process for promotion for this policy.

h) **B-03 Establishment of New Positions**

Formatted to new accessible template and updated the language within this policy to reflect the actual practice and to reflect title changes of positions referenced in the policy.

i) B-07 Payroll

Formatted to new accessible template and updated this policy to reflect the actual County of Renfrew practice.

j) B-08 Uniform and Safety Footwear Allowance

Formatted to new accessible template and removed the collective agreement reference as policy coverage is limited to non-union employees only.

k) E-01 Hours of Work and Overtime

Formatted to new accessible template and updated this policy to include the addition of two weeks of paid time for Directors in lieu of over-time, consistent with the practices of other eastern Ontario municipalities.

l) E-04 Vacation

Formatted to new accessible template and updated this policy to clarify that this is for non-union staff only and to adjust the 11 to 14 years of service to include one additional vacation day per year of service during this time period.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Jennifer Murphy, Chair

And Committee Members: J. Brose, G. Doncaster, M. Donohue, P. Emon, A. Giardini, V. Jahn, D. Mayville

The Report was adopted as presented.

Councillor Nicholson sought clarification on the Municipal Shared Services Meeting. The CAO/Clerk provided an overview of the meeting held. Council further discussed the advantages of sharing services and the support and collaboration required by municipalities to implement the changes.

Councillor Nicholson sought clarification on the Special Council Meeting scheduled for November 9, 2023. The CAO/Clerk explained that the meeting is scheduled to review the Asset Management Plan and Long Term Financial Plan. Development charges will be discussed at an upcoming meeting. The Director of Corporate Services overviewed the intent of the Special Council Meeting and what to expect at that meeting.

Moved by Councillor Jahn Seconded by Councillor Willmer

THAT the following By-laws be enacted and passed:

- a) By-law 127-23 A By-law to Authorize the Designation of a Community Safety Zone.
- b) By-law 128-23 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract Pwc-2023-61 for the Supply, Delivery, and Placement of Granular 'A' Algonquin Trail
- c) By-law 129-23 —A By-Law for the Execution of Contract Pwo-2023-26 Supply and Delivery of Three Tandem Truck and Plow Units.
- d) By-law 130-23 A By-Law to Authorize the Warden and Clerk to Execute the Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement for the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) With His Majesty The King in Right Of Ontario as Represented by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- e) By-law 131-23 A By-Law to Appoint an Acting Treasurer.
- f) By-law 132-23 A By-Law to Amend By-Law Number 4-08 Corporate Policies and Procedures for Tangible Capital Assets for the County of Renfrew.
- g) By-law 133-23 Employment By-Law #1 for County Office and Staff.
- h) By-law 134-23 A By-Law to Amend By-Law 63-03 Human Resources Corporate Policies and Procedures for the County of Renfrew.

CARRIED.

- 13. Written Reports from Representatives Appointed to External Boards
 - a) Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) No Report
 - b) Chalk River Laboratories Environmental Stewardship Council. Councillor Lynch overviewed the report. Council discussed the surface waste and where it will be deposed of in the future and it was noted that the site has not been selected and the licence and approval stage is lengthy.

Councillor MacKenzie left the Meeting at 2:58 p.m.

- c) Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) Councillor Murphy overviewed her report.
- d) Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) No Report
- e) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA). Councillor Murphy overviewed her report.

Notice of Motion - None

Members' Written Motions

Councillor Serviss requested to postpone the Motion to Rescind that he brought forward during the September 27, 2023, Council Meeting.

New Business

Councillor Doncaster thanked Councillor Watt for presiding over the Special Operations Committee Meeting held prior to the Council Meeting during his absence.

Moved by Councillor Brose Seconded by Councillor Grills

THAT By-law 135-23, being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the County of Renfrew at the meeting held on October 25, 2023 be now numbered, deemed read three times and passed. CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Serviss Seconded by Councillor Bennett THAT County Council adjourn. Time 3:03 p.m. CARRIED.