

Chief Administrator's Report
By CAO Stéphane Cyr
February 15, 2017

PROJECT FILES:

Church Point Sewer Treatment Plant (\$198,628)

- UV system has been received. Compatible with the systems currently being used in Meteghan and Belliveau Cove
- Specks for 12' x 16' building (to go over existing chlorine contact chamber) are complete and will be going to tender shortly.
- In discussion with KRC Controls (Kevin Cook) regarding design of control panels for lift stations (3) at Smugglers' Cove, the Meteghan Connector / Route 1 and the Meteghan Wharf.

Clare Veterans Centre

- Renovations to the upstairs washrooms have commenced. Work is progressing as per schedule. Electrical and plumbing are done. Expected to finish in 3-4 weeks. No unforeseen issues thus far.
- Although some groups have temporarily sought other accommodations, the facility remains open to the public.
- LED digital display has been ordered from CompuTECH Multimedia in Shelburne NS. Estimated delivery – Mid March with additional two weeks for installation. The amount quoted by CompuTECH Multimedia was \$28,182 plus HST and including installation.

Rural Internet

- The municipal working group is now smaller and comprised of the Municipalities of Digby, Yarmouth, Argyle, Barrington and Clare; all of which have contributed \$20,000 to this initial planning phase
- The RFP process to hire a project manager to help review private sector design build submissions and prepare an application for funding to the federal has been concluded. A total of 3 submissions were received. The contract was awarded to Cetas Advisory Inc.
- In keeping with our aggressive timeline requirements, a meeting was held between Cetas and municipal leadership focusing on the RFP to identify contractors who can design, build and operate the required infrastructure.
- On February 2nd, the Federal Government announced that the application deadline for the Connect to Innovate program was extended from March 13, 2017 to April 20, 2017.
- Despite, this extension, the RFP submission due date remained February 3rd.
- One proposal was received and later declined by the RFP Evaluation Team

- Evan Nemeth of the WREN and Greg O'Malley of Cetas Advisory have held some discovery conversations with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in an effort to determine next steps. A meeting is scheduled with municipal CAO's on Tuesday, February 21st to review their findings and discuss possible options:
 1. Shut down project – no further action.
 2. Shut down project – proactively support venders to submit a CTI application.
 3. Independent Western REN Application – Utility Model
 4. Provincial/Municipal CTI Proposal Partnership – Municipal Operated Utility Model (approval for Provincial support is complex and uncertain) – variation of (iii).

Sewer Extension – John Thibodeau Road (\$557,000)

- **In-camera discussion**
- The funding application to ACOA was submitted on November 28th and is currently under review. Given the timelines involved, we expect an answer shortly.
- The proposed funding formula remains 50% / 25% / 25%.

Cultural Hub Project (\$200,000)

- **In-camera discussion**
- The funding application to ACOA was submitted on November 9th and is currently under review
- Current tenants include La FRAP, L'Association des Acadiens Métis-Souriquois, Le Festival Acadien de Clare, La Société acadienne de Clare, Le Transport de Clare, Radio CIFA, Le Courier de la N-É. and EMO Clare.

Clare 250th (\$200,000)

- Application for funding assistance in the amount of \$200,000 was submitted prior to the program deadline of January 31, 2017
- Of this \$200,000, the Municipality will contribute \$25,000.

Gran Fondo:

- Municipality of Clare has been nominated for a Prestige Award from the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance. This is a national award.
- Nominated in the category of Sport Tourism Organization of the Year. Other nominees in this category are Sport Burnaby (Burnaby B.C.) and Sport Hosting Vancouver
- Recipients will be announced on Tuesday, March 21st 2017 during the 11th Prestige Awards in Ottawa.

Cape St. Mary Lighthouse (\$141,816):

- Following discussions yesterday with ACOA, we have submitted the concept paper for the Cape St. Mary Lighthouse.
- The total project cost (as submitted) is \$141,816, with \$64,816 (46%) being requested from ACOA and the Municipality contributing \$77,000 (54%)

FINANCIAL:

- The Municipality remains in good financial position.
- As of February 14, 2017, the Municipality has recorded \$8,581,854.18 (96.29%) in revenues versus \$7,603,638.61 (85.31%) in expenses, for a net income of \$978,215.57 (10.98%).
- Again, as of February 14, 2017, the Municipality has a balance of \$1,754,089.28 in its general account and a total reserve balance of \$2,932,444.99
 - Operating reserve - \$435,352.92
 - Capital reserve - \$1,935,318.14
 - Landfill closure reserve - \$315,060.89
 - Gas tax reserve - \$246,713.04

INTERNAL:

- **Upcoming meetings of note:**
 - Rural Internet – CAO Meeting – February 21, 2017
 - By-law Committee Meeting – February 23, 2017
 - UNSM Special Meeting on Accountability and Transparency – February 24, 2017