

Chief Administrative Officer's Report

June 21, 2023

PROJECT FILES:

Clare Health Centre:

- Discussions with the Province of NS are still ongoing.
- Geotextile work (including compaction tests) are complete. Results are all good.
- Foundation walls and lower section have been poured. Remainder to be poured 1st week of July.
- Steel has been ordered and is expected to arrive late July.
- Steels channels to tie into new building are going in shortly.
- All time sensitive material orders have been placed, including cladding and elevator.
- Doctors and residents are still meeting patients at the two temporary offices in the municipal building. Temporary solution is working well. No complaints thus far.
- Anticipated project completion – January 2024. Project remains on schedule.

Clare Veterans Centre (CVC)

- “Coming Soon” rendering billboard to be mounted under LED sign this week.
- Initial cleanup inside building to begin next week.
- 95% construction drawings expected June 23.
- Tender docs to be complete shortly after review of 95% drawing.
- Tender to close end of July with award in early August
- Expected construction start date early September.
- Estimated construction time of 7-8 months.
- Municipal contribution - \$589,124
- GoC contribution - Green and Inclusive Community Buildings program (GICB) - \$2,356,494

Joseph and Marie Dugas Park

- **No change from May 17, 2023, CAO Report.**
- All necessary permit applications have now been received from the NS Department of Natural Resources and Renewables.
- Project application under review by ACOA.
- BSP Application submitted to NS Dept. of Municipal Affairs and Housing.
- Total project cost is estimated at \$1,675,036 with proposed federal and municipal contributions of \$1,130,524 and \$544,512 respectively.

Meteghan Sewer Extension – Sunset Road:

- **No change from April 26, 2023, CAO Report.**
- Agreement regarding housing project deliverables has been signed.
- Contribution agreement with GoC's Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) – Green: Environmental Quality stream has been signed.
- Project formally announced on April 25, 2023, via press release.
- Total project cost is \$1,558,000.
- Total ICIP contribution of \$1,142,533 (73.33%)
- Total municipal contribution \$415,467

Meteghan Sidewalks:

- **No change from May 17, 2023, CAO Report.**
- NS Public Works (NSDPW) remains in discussions with Able Engineering regarding modifications to the design plans.
- According to Able, revised drawings should be complete by May 19, 2023.
- Discussions are centered on the 1 km section of new sidewalk, with a particular focus on infrastructure (i.e., culverts, catch basins, etc.) and flood mitigation.
- One specific recommendation Able has made to NSDPW is that the cross-culvert closest to the Connector Road be significantly upsized and the outfall upgraded.
- Total GoC funding contribution - \$995,558 (60%).
- Total estimated project cost is \$1,591,009 plus HST.

Boundary Review

- **To be discussed under New Business – Item 12.1**
- The Public Hearing regarding the number of Councillors in Clare and the boundaries of the municipal polling districts will be held on May 18, 2023, at 10:00 am, in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Office (1185 Highway 1, Little Brook).
- To present at this meeting, residents must register beforehand with the NSUARB.
- A copy of the Municipality's application is available for inspection during regular business hours at the municipal office, 1185 Highway 1, Little Brook, Nova Scotia, and at the offices of the Board, Summit Place, 3rd Floor, 1601 Lower Water Street, Halifax Nova Scotia or on the Board's website at <https://nsuarb.novascotia.ca/>, by clicking on "Matters & Evidence", "Go to Files & Documents" and insert in "Go Directly to Matter" Matter ID M10870.

Wentworth Park:

- Tender closed on June 19, 2023.
- **To be discussed further under New Business – Item 12.11**
- Anticipated project duration – 2 months.
- Project elements include a composite washroom building, improvements to the boat launch area (drainage), a floating dock with kayak launch, a smaller floating dock with access from the parking lot, an accessible walkway, picnic tables, hammocks, a playway, etc.

Clare & Argyle Acadian Tourism Development Project

- The Clare & Argyle Acadian Tourism Development Project will refresh the current interpretative panels in Clare and Argyle, add additional panels to new locations, and provide funding to help increase capacity for festivals and help support events.
- Municipal contribution \$30,005, divided over 2 years.
- The total project cost has been reduced to \$300,000 over two years, of which 66.6% or \$200,000 is being sought from ACOA.
- Project application has been submitted and is currently under review. ACOA may change the scope of the festivals and events component to focus investment on those events taking place around the CMA 2004 and from approx. June to Sept.
- Municipality of Argyle has confirmed its contribution of \$30,000.
- Other anticipated project partners include the Province of NS (\$35,000), the Town of Yarmouth (\$2,500), and the Municipality of Yarmouth (\$2,500).

Track and Field:

- RFP closed on May 8, 2023.
- A total of 3 bids were received.
- Following a review of the bids and subsequent recommendation from Tate Engineering, US-A awarded tender to Able Electric (based in part on having completed a similar facility at St. FX)
- Project budget of \$600,000.
- Municipal contribution is confirmed for 50% up to \$300,000.
- Work to commence later Summer / early Fall and expected to require 3 months to complete.

Hectanooga Fire Department:

- Tender closed on June 20, 2023.
- **To be discussed further under New Business – Item 12.9**
- Anticipated project duration – 3 months.

Gran Fondo:

- As of June 20, there are 490 total registrations.
- Tracking approximately 100 registrations ahead of 2019 pace, when we saw over 1,000 registrations.
- 162 out of province, or 33%. NB 97, ON 23, QC 10, USA 11, PEI 9, AB 8, UK 3, BC 1
- First time participants = 273/490 or 56%
- Approval expected shortly from the Province of NS on Major Event Funding Application. Amount requested - \$23,000.

Community Clean-Up Program:

- This year, 20 groups cleaned up 4,877 kg (10,752 lbs.) of garbage from approximately 70km of road and 4 beaches.
- \$9,750 of the \$10,000 budget has been disbursed. The remaining \$250 will go towards supplies for next year's clean-up.

Beach Access Project – Grandy Beach Access Road:

- Process has commenced.
- Abutting property owners (2) have been advised in writing, followed by an in-person meeting. Both are supportive.
- Legal boundaries of the road (as they currently exist) will be marked shortly by surveyor.

FINANCIAL:

- As of May 31, 2023, the Municipality has recorded \$9,374,381 in revenues versus \$2,553,397 in expenses, for a surplus of \$6,820,984.
- As of May 31, 2023, the Municipality had a balance of \$2,065,739 in its operating fund, \$254,628 in its capital fund and a total reserve balance of \$3,474,434. The total reserve balance can be broken down as follows:
 - Operating reserve - \$1,811,462
 - Capital reserve - \$834,254
 - Landfill closure reserve - \$346,584
 - Gas tax reserve - \$482,134