

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KILLARNEY

Public Meeting of Council

Veteran's Memorial Hall

August 25, 2016

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: MAYOR: Virginia Rook

COUNCILLORS: Debbie Burant Eileen Lewis Jim Rook
Pierre Paquette Nancy Wirtz

ABSENT: Nil

DISCLOSURE: Nil

STAFF: Clerk-Treasurer – Candy Beauvais
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer – Gilles Legault
Administrative Assistant – Angie Burke
Clerical Assistant – Amanda Tyson

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: 30

GUEST: Laura Voltti – MPAC Representative

Mayor Rook called the public meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Rook read the rules of conduct for the meeting to those in attendance and stated that the purpose of the Public Meeting was to gather information/comments relating to the Special Services (area rating) issue. This information gathering session will provide information to be used for Council's consideration of the matter.

A presentation was made by the Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer followed by a presentation by Laura Voltti from MPAC.

A ratepayer had registered to speak, but was not present.

George Goudreau (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- When you do assessment valuation are you looking at entire Township including areas of Hartley Bay & Key River?

Laura Voltti from MPAC replied that when looking at sales comparisons, they sometimes have to go out of municipal boundaries but it depends on the property

Gerrard Tessier (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- Owns property in Landsdowne Channel.
- The services in question are not available to all ratepayers, him being one of them and he is ok with this.
- He is happy to share in the costs of operating our Municipality.
- Not in favour of this area rating.
- Requested to be shown what the actual costs of the services are (ie. Fire Protection, Street Lighting, etc).

Mayor Rook mentioned that she knew they didn't have fire coverage when they bought their property in Hartley Bay, so they purchased their own pump & hose.

Dave Hill from Tyson Lake (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- Are we anticipating any change in the revenues generated from the parks or railways?

The Clerk replied that we hope not and that through OPTA, a banding option was implemented so the Payments-in-Lieu (PIL) the Municipality received remained constant. Further, the Act states that if Crown land is unpatented land, they are exempt from taxation/(PIL).

Michael Porter (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- Questions for MPAC. What is considered a property? How is the population of Killarney determined? The sign reads 500 but there are 1,300 tax bills sent out.

Laura Voltti (MPAC) replied that one tax bill represents one roll number. The property could be commercial, industrial, residential or farmland.

Darren Mercier (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- It's the census that generates the population number.
- Seasonal ratepayers such as himself are not included in the population total, only the permanent ratepayers are.
- Taxes are a part of life, everyone has to pay whether services are used or not.

Paul Hodgkinson from Tyson Lake (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- Does a water access property have the same tax rate as someone living in town?

Mayor Rook replied yes, all residential properties in the Municipality are assessed the same tax rate.

Darren Mercier (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- Doesn't mind paying his taxes as the services are there if he needs them.
- We can't pick and choose when we get the services, but they are there when and if we need them. As a community, we have to pay our taxes.

Joan Roque (Ward 1 Permanent Resident):

- What about permanent village residents who are housebound? They cannot access the services, so will they have to pay the same tax rate if area rating is implemented?

Mayor Rook thanked Joan for her comment and said that it was a good point to be brought up.

George Goudreau (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- How many permanent residents versus seasonal residents do we have?

The Clerk replied we know there are 405 permanent residents. The sign says 500 but it must have been rounded. Prior to amalgamation the total was approximately 366.

Christine Kilchling (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- Indicated she understands this meeting was called because people feel they are shortcut from services.
- She used to live here permanently years ago but is happy to be back as a seasonal resident.

- We had an airport, we had a community centre, we had garbage pickup but we wanted to improve, which we did.
- If we didn't improve our community, who would want to join us?
- We were considered isolated but we improved our services. Years ago before the road was built, those living in Tyson Lake/George Lake found a way to belong to Killarney. The people in the outlying areas need to get off their ducks –if you want the services, get them like we had to.

Mayor Rook mentioned to all that there is a comment period which runs from September 1st -30th, 2016 and invited everyone to send in their comments/suggestions.

16-349 BY JIM ROOK – EILEEN LEWIS

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Meeting held August 25th, 2016 in Ward 1 at the Veteran's Memorial Hall to discuss Special Services (area rating) be adjourned at 7:11 P.M.

CARRIED

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIGNED

Virginia Rook, Mayor

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIGNED

Candy K. Beauvais, Clerk Treasurer