

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KILLARNEY

Public Meeting of Council French River Visitor Centre

August 24, 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:	22
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.

Following the presentations, two ratepayers had registered to speak and proceeded to provide their comments to Council.

The first speaker, Richard Seguin (Ward 2 Resident), indicated the following:

- a) Personally he doesn't think that the presentations have anything to do with fair taxation.
- b) When comparing with other Municipalities who pay more taxes, this doesn't prove fair taxation.
- c) 90% of ratepayers in Ward 2 are seasonal; most of them are water access only.
- d) The village is 120km one way from Hartley Bay Road and 140km one way from Key river – it is 90km one way for the closest ratepayer in Ward 2 to drive to and access the facilities in the village.
- e) Facilities in the village are not accessible for Ward 2 residents.
- f) When we amalgamated in 1999, Ward 2 was only given one councillor, Ward 1 had 3 councillors.
- g) They were finally able to elect a Mayor from Ward 2, 14 years after they amalgamated.

- h) Mr. Seguin is going to make a proposal to Council at the next Council Meeting requesting that Council implement charging user fees immediately. He wants them to add a street lighting charge and garbage pickup charge to the water and sewer bills.
- i) 2 separate taxes should be implemented – a common one and one for Special Services.
- j) Council needs to follow Reg. 326 of the Municipal Act which shows you how to implement this.

The second speaker, Gerrard Tessier (Ward 1 seasonal resident), indicated the following:

- a) He owns property in Ward 1 and boats into his cottage (water access only).
- b) This needs to be a carefully thought out process and needs to progress slowly.
- c) The Municipality needs stability in how it is going to raise the tax revenues it needs.
- d) Has no fire protection or street lighting, has not used the community centre, has no curb side garbage pickup, no sidewalks, no policing services but is ok with that.
- e) Is very supportive of paying for the services, even if he does not use them.
- f) Hopes that this is not Ward 1 versus Ward 2 issue.
- g) Council needs to carefully consider the costs involved and if they decide to pursue this, it needs to be done fairly throughout the entire Municipality.

Once the two speakers concluded their comments the Mayor opened the floor to questions and comments from members of the public. The following comments were made:

Tony Plut (Ward 2 Resident):

- Very upset about receiving his tax bill and it indicating that a certain portion was allocated to the airport.
- Not looking for a tax break but wants his tax dollars allocated to the maintenance of Hartley Bay Road and NOT the airport as he does not use it.
- He has been driving down this road for 30 years and it has to be taken care of. No one is taking care of it.
- Any money going to the Recreation centre should be used for Hartley Bay Road. No one from Ward 2 uses it.

Jim Shields (Ward 2 Resident):

- Had a question for MPAC. He had a water lot property assessed at \$88,000 and then after a reassessment by MPAC, it was reduced to \$8,000, is there any way he can get that money back?

Laura Voltti from MPAC advised that due to the timing of this, he should speak to the Municipality regarding a tax rebate form.

Dan Seguin (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- He questioned MPAC as to why a lot of properties were assessed so high.

Laura Voltti replied that they would be sending out amended notices in the Fall. An error did occur and it happened to various Killarney properties. Some islands were quoted incorrectly so the values from the islands shouldn't have been included. The values should be lower. Another notice was mailed out July 25th. Once you receive your notice and if you are not satisfied, you can file a Request for Reconsideration with MPAC.

Richard Seguin (Ward 2 Resident):

- Made a comment regarding quotes for an independent study.

The Clerk indicated that no formal request for proposals had been determined as yet – there are no terms of reference to provide to prospective consultants at this time. More information is needed from the public and Council. That is why we are holding these public meetings, to get feedback so a proper terms of reference can be prepared if Council decides to go forward with a third party study. Although, a ballpark figure of \$20,000 + HST for an area rating study was received.

Gerrard Tessier (Ward 1 Seasonal Resident):

- asked if the area rating concept would apply to both Ward 1 & 2.

The Mayor indicated that it is at the very beginning stages and can't say what will happen.

The Clerk replied that we need to get public input as we are only in the beginning stages.

Richard Seguin (Ward 2 Resident):

- Asked if a vote could be taken this evening to see how many present were in favour of area rating. All they are looking for is fair taxation.

The Mayor replied no. Further, the Clerk indicated that we send out approximately 1,300 tax bills and there are only 22 members of the public here tonight.

Geoff Cosh (Ward 1 Resident):

- Indicated that he pays taxes in Sudbury as well and his taxes pay for services he does not receive either. The same rules apply for Sudbury as Killarney, whether you use the services or not, you pay for them.

Tony Plut (Ward 2 Resident):

- Thanked Council for having the meeting.

16-348 BY NANCY WIRTZ – JIM ROOK

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Meeting held August 24th, 2016 in Ward 2 at the French River Visitor Centre to discuss Special Services (area rating) be adjourned at 7:09 P.M.

CARRIED

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIGNED

Virginia Rook, Mayor

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIGNED

Candy K. Beauvais, Clerk Treasurer