

## **Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

**April 26, 2023**

### **PROJECT FILES:**

#### **Internet:**

- Victor Lake (along the Second Division side) is expected to have the necessary pole work completed before May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Still waiting for Make Ready on Cottage Lane. NSPI hasn't made crews available to Mainland since Hurricane Fiona (with the exception of Eel Lake Dr).
- Doctor's Lake is a Bell funded area. Trimming is expected to commence in a couple of months.
- Transfer Station – Mainland has submitted a Make Ready application. If Mainland isn't required to replace numerous poles, they will be going ahead with this section shortly. The Municipality is looking at two connections – scale house and office building (next to transfer station). The anticipated cost for this hookup will be approximately \$5,000.
- In terms of TV service, currently awaiting a revised timeline for the rollout of Rogers Ignite.

#### **Clare Health Centre:**

- Discussions with the Province of NS are still ongoing.
- Construction has commenced with both earth work and interior demolition well underway.
- Doctors and residents have begun meeting patients at the two temporary offices in the municipal building. These will be used for the duration of construction with doctors rotating in as required.
- Recreation has relocated to the Cultural Hub for the summer season.
- Tourism has relocated to the Rendez-Vous de la Baie. In the case of Tourism, the move will be permanent.
- Anticipated project completion – January 2024.

#### **Clare Veterans Centre (CVC)**

- **No change from March 15, 2023, CAO Report.**
- Currently working with project managers and architect firm (Rhad Architects) to incorporate the needed renovations to the existing building into the design plans for the proposed extension.
- Tender expected to be issued in late May 2023.
- Anticipated construction start date – June 2023.
- Municipal contribution - \$589,124
- GoC contribution - Green and Inclusive Community Buildings program (GICB) - \$2,356,494

### **Joseph and Marie Dugas Park**

- Project scope has been revised to focus exclusively on the Joseph and Marie Dugas Municipal Park.
- In terms of the revised funding mix, the Municipality is proposing 2/3 federal and 1/3 municipal, in light of the ongoing challenges in identifying appropriate provincial funding sources.
- In light of this change of course, total project cost is now estimated at \$1,675,036.
- The proposed federal and municipal contributions have increased to \$1,130,524 and \$544,512 respectively.
- The project application has been submitted to ACOA and is currently under review.
- All necessary permit applications have been submitted to the NS Department of Natural Resources and Renewables and are currently under review.

### **Meteghan Sewer Extension – Sunset Road:**

- Agreement with developer 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:**

- NS Public Works remains in discussions with Able Engineering regarding modifications to the design plans.
- 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.
- In an effort to expedite the process, will explore tendering the repairs/expansion of the section of existing sidewalk, with the new sidewalk to follow at a later date via change order or separate tender.
- Total GoC funding contribution - \$995,558 (60%).
- Total estimated project cost is \$1,591,009 plus HST.

### **Boundary Review**

- 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:**

- **No change from March 15, 2023, CAO Report.**
- Tender documents to be issued in early May 2023.
- Tender to be awarded in early June with construction to commence shortly thereafter.
- 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 is \$400,000 over two years, of which 75% or \$300,000 is being sought from ACOA. Project application has been submitted and is currently under review.
- 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 for lighting has been issued with a closing date of May 1, 2023.
- Project budget of \$600,000.
- Municipal contribution is confirmed for 50% up to \$300,000.

### **Hectanooga Fire Department:**

- Design plans are now finalized.
- Specifications are nearing completion and will be finalized by end of week.
- Tender to be issued during the week of May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**FINANCIAL:**

- As of March 31, 2023, the Municipality has recorded \$11,294,659 in revenues versus \$10,279,703 in expenses, for a surplus of \$1,014,956.
  
- As of March 31, 2023, the Municipality had a balance of \$1,554,478 in its operating fund, \$173,254 in its capital fund and a total reserve balance of \$3,989,193. The total reserve balance can be broken down as follows:
  - Operating reserve - \$1,800,912
  - Capital reserve - \$1,227,790
  - Landfill closure reserve - \$344,565
  - Gas tax reserve - \$615,926