### Mayor's Report, February 19, 2015

#### **Latchford Control Dam Project**

I had been contacted by Stephan Steiner regarding contact information for a home in Latchford that he had seen in the realtor list as being for sale and wished to enquire as to a 20 month lease with the owner. I provided that as well as another property that the owner had advised he would like to rent for the dam project. I also received a call yesterday from Stephan yesterday indicating he will be in town Monday and wished to meet with me. I will also have Jaime attend and may need an interpreter!

Jeff, Bill Touzel of Blumetric and I met with Colin Digout in Huntsville on January 23 to discuss acquisition of the FIT contract on the dam from WPG. We all agreed that Colin displayed a much more reasonable attitude in our discussions and feel that an agreement with WPG can be achieved.

To that end we scheduled and held a meeting with representatives of the other partners in the CMR in Latchford on February 09 which Bill Touzel also attended. Unfortunately, Temagami First Nation was not able to attend. At Bill's suggestion it was agreed to meet with Harpreet Gill of PWGSC at her first opportunity and this meeting has been arranged for February 24 in Ottawa. The CMR reps will be in attendance, Jeff and Bill as well as Doug Kane from WPG. This is needed to reassure Harpreet that WPG is working with us with the intention of entering into an agreement to transfer their FIT contract on the site to the CMR.

Jeff had attempted to arrange meetings with Ontario Power Authority (OPA) and Green Municipal Fund (GMF) while we were in Ottawa. He had to prepare a project backgrounder for the GMF meeting which I have had Jaime share with all of you. Unfortunately, after review the GMF determined our project is not eligible for funding from them. Also, WPG has expressed reluctance to meet with OPA prior to having a preliminary agreement in place and Bill Touzel is working on this.

Jeff has recommended a two stage approach to getting the funding needed from FedNor and NOHFC as a means of expediting the project which all partners have agreed to and he is resubmitting an initial lesser application to both.

#### Fuel Wood Situation/ ONTC Land in Latchford

I drove to North Bay on January 21 to present at the OEB open house re the Energy East and attempted to schedule a meeting with Don Farintosh of MNRF and Geoff Cowie of ONTC but was unsuccessful in both instances. I did leave copies of maps and the petition that was submitted last year re fuel wood at the MNRF offices as per Don F's instructions. When I didn't hear back from him I called and left a message to no avail. Time to go back to John Vanthof's office!

Geoff Cowie dissuaded me from meeting with him as there was nothing more he could share with me. I then requested a letter outlining the ONTC position relative to divestiture of land and removal of mining rights. Still no response so another issue for John V's office!

### **Energy East Pipeline**

I did attend the Open House in North Bay on January 21 but the format did not allow for a formal presentation. Rather, I met individually with Peter Fraser and presented him with the attached presentation.

I also met with Larry McLaren of TCP and am awaiting direction as to how we can apply to Trans Canada for different community assistance programs they have.

## **Temagami Forest Tenure Modernization Initiative**

There will be an open house at the Bunny Miller Theatre in Temagami to allow the public to review and comment on the proposed governance model for the Temagami Crown Management Unit. It begins at 9:30 a.m. on March 06 and is open to the public.

#### Miscellaneous

I attended the Earlton Airport meeting in Earlton on January 24, the Private Sector Funding Forum in Dymond on February 03, the TMA on February 05 in Earlton, the Gas Tax announcement in Cobalt on February 11 and TeMAG in Earlton on February 14.

GLL

Presentation to: The Ontario Energy Board

**North Bay, Ontario** 

January 21, 2014

**Attention:** Mr Peter Fraser

The Council for the Corporation of the Town of Latchford wish to express their support for the Energy East Pipeline project as proposed by TransCanada Pipelines. This support is based on the following points:

- Previous pipeline projects resulted in considerable economic benefit to our community
  and the surrounding area. Employment opportunities resulted for many throughout the
  area and a number even attained careers in the lucrative field of employment in the
  pipeline industry. This opportunity will now be presented to an entirely new generation
  through the Energy East project. Local businesses will enjoy the benefits that the
  employees of this project will bring during its duration.
- Much of the petroleum products that come into this area of the province come from offshore producers through the Port of Montreal for refining and to Ottawa for transportation to this area. Council has serious concerns with supporting the economies of countries, without being more specific, that have governments with questionable motives and records in regard to the treatment of their citizens and support for activities harmful to other nations. The required supply of crude petroleum is available within our great Country and it is essential that we derive full economic benefit from it.
- Our Council is fully cognizant of environmental impacts that can result from an improperly engineered conversion of an existing pipeline. Over 16 kilometres of pipeline passes through our municipality and the water crossings include the Montreal River, the major water body in our municipality. We have complete confidence in the ability of TransCanada and its engineering professionals to ensure that the transformation of an existing natural gas pipeline will not in any way compromise their record for safety in our area and Canada. To this end TransCanada have assured the municipalities that are situated adjacent to the pipeline that they will work with us to develop Emergency Response Plans allowing input and with the cooperation of those of us municipalities impacted by the presence of the pipeline. We look forward to this cooperative effort which will result in our collective abilities to respond to emergencies should they occur.
- Throughout the North with our geographically larger municipalities which feature
  populations and ratepayers that are minimal in number, it is a challenge to provide the
  needed level of services from limited tax bases. TransCanada Pipelines are Latchford's,

and many other communities', largest tax payer and without their contributions it would be extremely difficult to maintain the required level of service. Further, our Boards of Education would be seriously underfunded without the contributions that our pipeline owners contribute and this would result in even greater taxation for education purposes from the balance of the property owners. It must also be pointed out that the Province of Ontario derives considerable taxation payment from the presence of pipelines, revenues that can be directed to any area of need in the province.

In summation, it is the contention and recommendation of the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Latchford that the Ontario Energy Board takes into consideration this presentation and supports the approval of the Energy East Pipeline Project as proposed by TransCanada.

Respectfully,

George L. Lefebvre

Mayor

Town of Latchford

# Councillor Perry Livingston Committee Reports – February 19, 2015

## **Public Works**

- Met with Terry several times in the past month. There are no immediate problems that need to be dealt with currently.
- The building that holds the sand will need repairs or replacing.
- New Aqua Flo pumps arrived.
- Discussed Public Works budget ... Made a great deal of progress.
- Received two new quotes on the sander
- LED Lights ... received second "partial" quote.
- Bill Charbonneau couple of emails regarding his quote also he will be at OGRA/ROMA

# **Fire Department**

- After the February fire departments regular monthly meeting,
   Councillor Brooks, Pat Underhill, Peter Davies & myself sat down and discussed the Fire Dept. budget and some of the concerns.
- The garage door malfunctioned and has been repaired.