

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF LATCHFORD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
THURSDAY April 18th 2013
At 7:00 p.m.
HELD AT THE LATCHFORD COMMUNITY RECREATION
CENTRE**

1. Call to order and mayoral comments.

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor George Lefebvre, Councilors, Maxine Cannon, Theo Cull, Jo-Anne Cartner, Theo Cull Scott Green

Regrets: Councilor Willcock

Staff: Jaime Allen, Clerk and Lise Remillard, CFO.

Public: Six Public

Press: Darlene Wroe, Temiskaming Speaker, Jim Patrick CJTT.

1. Mayor Lefebvre called meeting to order.

2. Adoption of the agenda as circulated

Resolution No.: 13/1161

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Scott Green.

Be it resolved that the April 18th 2013. Agenda be adopted as circulated and amended.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councilor Green related to purchaser and Councilor Cull spouse of Remax Agent. Bylaw 13/1334 Offer to purchase.

4. Adoption of the Minutes

Resolution No.: 13/1162

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of March 20th 2013 and Regular Council meeting held March 21st be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS:

6. COUNCIL COMMITTEE/MAYOR/CLERK REPORTS:

Councillor Willcock: see attached

Councillor Anderson: see attached

Councillor Cartner: see attached.

Councillor Green: see attached

Mayor Lefebvre: Mayors monthly report (see attached)

7. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Action Items

1. Bikers Reunion

Resolution No.: 13/1163

Moved By: Scott Green

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the: Corporation of the Town Of Latchford approves 2013 sponsorship Package for the New Liskeard Bikers Reunion in the amount \$150.00+HST

CARRIED

2. Local Authority Services Ltd.

Resolution No.: 13/1164

Moved By: Larry Anderson

Seconded By: Scott Green

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town of Latchford approves signing an agreement with Local services limited (LAS) for the Hydro one street light account 46080-35001 only as per attached.

CARRIED

3. Give it up for Hunger Week

Resolution No.: 13/1165

Moved By: JoAnne Cartner

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town of Latchford declares May 6th To May 11th 2013 Give it up for Hunger week.

CARRIED

4.

Ontario Tourism Partnership

Resolution No.: 13/1166

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the Corporation of The Town of Latchford approves membership to Northeastern Ontario Tourism Municipal partnership agreement at a cost of \$325.00 plus HST

DEFEATED

5. Payroll and General Bills

Resolution No.: 13/1167

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

That the following Payroll in the amount of \$18,397.31 and General Bills in the amount of \$101,514.30 for the period March 28 2013 to April 16 2013, be passed and paid on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

CARRIED

8. Withholding payments to MPAC

Resolution No. 13/1168

Moved By: Maxine Cannon.

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner.

Whereas assessment services are provided in Ontario by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) with no other option for this service being available to municipalities,

And Whereas the cost for this service is non-negotiable but rather imposed on the municipalities,

And Whereas various municipalities, primarily in Northern Ontario, are being forced into near bankruptcy due to the inability of MPAC to defend their assessment numbers,

And Whereas the government of Ontario is resistant to staying these excessive awards to the appellant industries thereby driving the affected municipalities into a state of near and possible bankruptcy,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Latchford will withhold payment of all future invoices from MPAC for their services until they demonstrate the ability to properly perform their services, and for which municipalities have no alternative for delivery of this service.

And Further that this resolution be circulated to all members of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requesting a show of solidarity with this initiative as a means of conveying both to MPAC and the Government of Ontario the seriousness of what the incompetence of MPAC have forced a number of municipalities into.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 13/1169

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Theo Cull

Be it resolved that the following Information Items be noted and filed:

B. Information Items

1. OPP costs.
2. Temagami Forest Management Plan.
3. TransCanada News release regarding oil pipeline.
4. TMA minutes March 28th 2013.
5. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing 2013 annual repayment limit.
6. OPP regarding contract pricing.
7. Timiskaming Health Unit Report and December 5th 2012 minutes
8. Minister responsible for senior's senior of the year.
9. Municipal Forest fire Management agreement.
10. MNR annual work schedule 2013-2014
11. Ministry of Northern Development and Mines news release regarding road work.
12. Community Living annual walkathon.
13. DTTSAB 2013 Annual Budget
14. Temiskaming Building Assoc. Annual Meeting and Financial Statement.

CARRIED

09. ONGOING BUSINESS:

Councillor Cull gave an update on Fire Dept. Bylaw will have for next meeting.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

1) Council discussed by law to change Council composition to be presented at next Council meeting.

2) Mac Hamilton presented Council with a ratepayer observation and recommendations (see attached)

3) Concerns about Highway 11

Resolution No. 13/1170

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Whereas the reconstruction of Highway 11 through the Town of Latchford in 2012 resulted in depressions in the pavement around a number of manholes in the Highway, **And Whereas** these depressions are causing traffic over them to create excessive noise and during the winter months and large transports to shed ice and snow resulting hazardous conditions within the Town of Latchford on said Highway, **And Whereas** this results in considerable discomfort and concern for those residing close to the said Highway in addition to loss of sleep, **Therefore be it resolved** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford respectfully request that the Ministry of Transportation initiate remedial action to correct these problems at the earliest opportunity.

And further that they meet with Council to discuss other concerns.

CARRIED

11. BY-LAWS

Resolution No 13/1171

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that By-law No. 13/1334 **BEING A BY-LAW** to authorize the sale of lands to Sandra G Green and Edward T Green (Lot 242 and 256 Murphy Mill Road) PCL 7515 SEC SST, Lot 242, PL M57NB Coleman SRO, S/T LT 42548 Latchford Dis. and PCL 16289 sec SST: Lot 256 PL M57NB Coleman SRO S/T LT 42548. For the price of \$20,000.0 (twenty thousand dollars) plus HST.

Be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

CARRIED

****Councillor Cull and Councillor Green left meeting during discussion and vote on bylaw 13/334****

****Councillor Cull and Councillor Green returned to meeting after vote****

Resolution No 13/1172

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Maxine Cannon

Be it resolved that By-Law No. 13/1336 being a bylaw to declare McLeod Ave Part 1(5th Avenue Plan M-57 N.B.)Pin 6131-0378 (as per attached survey) as surplus. **Be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed by Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.**

CARRIED

Resolution No 13/1173

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that By-Law No. 13/1335 being a by-law to confirm certain proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford for Council meeting held April 18th 2013 **Be taken as read a first, second, and third time and finally passed by Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.**

CARRIED

12. **ADJOURN**

Resolution No. 13/1174

Moved By: Maxine Cannon


Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that Council now adjourn at 8:05p.m. Until the next regular meeting or call from the Mayor.

CARRIED

**Dated at Latchford this 18th day
Of April, 2013**



Mayor

Clerk

Council Meeting April 18, 2013
Report from Councilor Jo-Anne Cartner

Community Association

At our April 9th meeting, it was agreed that the Community Association would present a cheque to the Cobalt, Coleman, Latchford and Area Food Bank in the amount of \$1,000 on behalf of the Town of Latchford.

We reviewed the operation and usage of the rink this past winter and discussed the possibility of changing the schedule if we should decide to assist the town with the expenses associated with the operation of the rink again next winter. We had an attendance of 160 during the nineteen days the rink was open and it was enjoyed by all.

The Community Association decided we would not be able to run the dance which is held each year during the Jack Hunt tournament in August because of the difficulty we had last year with so few members working. The Latchford Volunteer Fire Department has stepped up to the plate and has agreed to run the event this year. If they should need our assistance with this event, we are more than happy to lend a hand.

We also discussed the possibility of holding a Corn Roast once again this year during the September long weekend. Last year's event was well attended and everyone enjoyed themselves. Plans and preparations for this event will be covered at our next meeting in August.

Library

The Library is waiting for further information on their Annual Report submission and the forthcoming operating grant.

The present cell phone used for the Library is not working so a new one will be purchased and activated during the next week. The cataloguing and sorting of donated books is proving to be a slow process as the format used was for a different software program and we are trying to transfer it over to Word. We are also in the process of familiarizing more of the Board Members on the Library Computer. Suggestions and plans for inclusion on the Provincial Web Site have been postponed until the library volunteers are more familiar with the computer.

At last month's meeting, Maxine informed the Board of council's request to cut down on costs wherever possible. Perry has now reprogrammed the thermostat in the Library. The thermostat is set at 60 degrees and adjusts to 69 degrees half an hour before the library opens until closing, then back to 60 degrees.

The next meeting of the Library Board is scheduled for May 21st at 7 p.m.

Seniors

The Latchford Senior Citizen's Action Group will be hosting the United Senior Citizens of Ontario Zone 41 General Meeting on May 9th, 2013 here at the Recreation Centre. Zone 41 covers an area from Matheson to Temagami and from McGarry/Virginiatown to Matachewan and includes 15 Clubs in all. These meetings are held as a means whereby seniors in our zone can discuss issues concerning them. These meetings also give information on any changes implemented by the government which are of benefit to improving the quality of life for older adults. These meetings are also a great way to meet and socialize with others in our area.

PUBLIC WORKS APRIL 18, 2013.

-Public works committee will be meeting on Mondays at 4:00 pm, before the week of the council meeting. This has been changed to co-ordinate with the Fire Department Meetings on the same day.

- Have had to replace some parts on our grader again. Terry is doing the labour himself but parts are going to be around \$2500.00. This will have to come out of our maintenance budget.

-Terry is getting a quote for filling cracks in our pavement in order to compare with other options.

-Some sweeping has been done for spring cleanup (even though it's not really spring!). Our sweeper started up with no problems and has paid for itself and more when you consider it is about \$1000.00 to sweep our streets each time.

- Need to know if council wishes to have our spring cleanup run again in May and if "yes", Public Works will set dates to have items picked up for disposal.

APR 18 / 2013

Mayor's Report, March 21, 2013

Dam Project:

The peer review on the WPG proposed plans has been completed by Hatch Engineering. While they have been paid in full for the review, they have attached a disclaimer that prevents its release to third parties which was the very reason for it being conducted. The consultant and I are now requesting the release of this condition so that it can be shared with other parties, in particular PWGSC. Until we get that release, we will have to refrain from sharing it even with Council as we do not know what the implications might be of it getting beyond members of Council. Jaime has a copy at the Town office if you wish to review it there.

PWGSC held their "key stakeholders" meeting on April 15 at the Town Office. While they invited the MTO, MNR, OPG, Barton Consulting, Coleman and Latchford, neither the MTO nor OPG attended the latter due to a family illness. Dessau and Hydro Sys representatives presented some design considerations for the new dam both upstream and downstream of the present location. Jaime has copied the package that was provided at the meeting for distribution to Council. I encourage all of you to review it as I have some very serious reservations about the proposed design options and in particular the proposed location for the VLH turbines. I also am concerned that next stakeholders meeting is proposed to be held after the design has been selected and the fact that MNR was under represented and MTO absent.

An item of interest was provided by a map showing the areas in Latchford that PWGSC has flood rights on based on expropriated land in 1908 and the very building we are sitting in can be flooded without penalty.

Water Management Plan for the Montreal River

I attended the Matabitchuan Standing Advisory Committee meeting on March 27th at which time I brought to the attention of Rob Baker, Temagami Area Supervisor for the MNR, the concern we have about not having a WMP for the Montreal and requested an early meeting to get an understanding of what is holding up the process. I am still waiting for a response from him and have sent one reminder at present. Marcel Pelchat of OPG continues to provide updates relative to spring freshet data for the Montreal River system which could prove extremely important in the near future.

Botha Creek Bridge

I discussed this briefly with Rob Baker at WMP meeting in Temagami and have requested this be discussed at the same meeting as the Montreal River WMP.

Doctor's Contract

Lise and I share some serious concerns with certain aspects of the new contract's budget which does not reflect the contributions made by the Town of Latchford to the operation of the clinic. The Ministry of Health has requested we obtain a legal opinion on the contract and Lise is making arrangements with our solicitor to obtain same. I have had a brief meeting with Dr Roedde to share our concerns.

May Meeting

Our May meeting is scheduled for May 16 and I will be unavoidably absent due to a family trip to the U.S. If Council were to consider moving that meeting to the 23, I would be able to attend. This would result in a gap of 5 weeks between this meeting and next and reduce the gap from May to June to 4 weeks from 5.

GLL

Town of Latchford Finance Report

04/18/13

By Scott Green

Good evening everyone, to start my report off with good news, The Town of Latchford has a surplus just over \$2,500 in ~~2013~~²⁰¹². We had our Finance Meeting on Monday April 8th with George and Dave by Phone Call, there was lots that we went over, we went through line by line to see what cost we can make to balance our 2013 budget, we came up with some Ideas for council to act and decide on,.

- 10% reduction in our Council Pay again, if we have to cut everything, we should be first
- Each committee to reduce their respected budget by 15% is our target, some can do more, some can't. Dave and/or I will meet with each committee as needed
- we discussed switching accounting system, ours is an expensive yearly cost, there are other options to use, for example Dave uses Quick Books and has had good luck with it and no annual fee, however we will ask Ross and see what he recommends our municipality to use
- going through the budget line by line we found some questionable lines and I have ask Lise to Clarify the lines asked, She has been working on this.
- One line was for our intern, where there was a 10k difference between revenues and expenditures.
- Another Idea is GPS for Municipal insured vehicles, May help lower insurance, the company I work for has just done so and it has lowered their rates,. Depending on the cost/ savings of the GPS will be the factor, I am working on quotes to find out and will report back to council if council wishes.
- We also discussed receiving 90% of the cost of Hydro bills from the FKC from our Doctor

This concludes my report
Scott Green

**Submission from Councillor Dave Willcock
(In lieu of regular report)
April 18 2013**

First of all, my apologies for being absent from this meeting.

At the last meeting it became apparent that the idea of declaring the present Town office building surplus, and attempting to sell it was not necessarily agreeable to the majority of council, or that it at least required more discussion and facts, in order to be considered and/or approved. Since that time, it has also become apparent that many people within the community do not care for the idea either.

While it's easy to sit on the outside and voice disapproval, we on Council know that our options to balance the budget require tough decisions, and this one could work if it were agreeable. We really are running out of options, and in a few months we may be in the same spot we were last year, trying to borrow money to keep our bills paid. It may be even tougher to do this year.

With that said, I would like to present another idea that may be more agreeable, that is, that we carry on with the plan to move office operations to the community centre, but keep ownership of the office building, and lease it out. If it brought us at least \$1200.00 per month, it would add \$14,400.00 to our annual revenues, plus water/sewer rounded to \$1000/year, as well as becoming a taxable entity which would likely bring another \$2000.00. The estimated total is \$17,400.00 annually.

I would be surprised if we did not at least lease it out for operations during the dam replacement project.

Perhaps our Town office building would eventually become something very positive for our community. An outdoors store? A nice dining room? An auto sales lot? A micro brewery? (my personal favourite LOL)

- The present Town office building, costs us plenty, especially in power during the winter months.
- During the winter, it consumes time of our public works staff, as it is a fairly large area to keep clear of snow.
- It costs us for cleaning and regular maintenance.
- It is not centrally located in our town, and not a particularly pleasant walk for our residents, along the highway, especially in winter.
- Our office staff, have expressed that they would prefer to be at the newer facility. This is of course, the same staff that has not had a pay raise for some time. I really think we should consider their desires.
- The entire lower floor of the Town office, is essentially wasted space, other than for storage purposes, due to the lack of emergency exit. The stairs make this space unusable for many people.

My favourite scenario, for relocating into the Southeast wing of the community centre would be:

- Convert the change rooms into two offices for Lise and Jaime.
- Move the benches to an area inside the arena portion, for skate lacing etc., beside the ice surface.
- Install a large window in each office, on the East wall.
- Install a service counter, on the West partition wall, facing the hallway, for Lise to serve customers.
- Add telephone jacks as required.
- Convert one room on the West side of the hallway to house the copy machine etc.
- Use the small office joined to the fitness centre for a private meeting room when needed.

Advantages and Benefits:

- There are two good doorways, the double on the East side, and the single on the South side.
- The washrooms are convenient to both visitors and staff.
- The building already has wireless internet.
- The building already has phone service
- It is suitably wired for immediate occupancy as an office, and would need only the possible addition of extra outlets.

- The East wing has a separate heating and air conditioning unit from the main hall area.
- The kitchen already exists for staff use.
- The public works garage would be closer to our office staff.
- The campground could be monitored, and fees collected by our own staff.
- It may be possible to be rid of the rink shack, another saving to our town, in maintenance, cleaning, power, and general headaches.
- The heating and air conditioning of the main area would be monitored by our staff on a daily basis. No possibility of it being left set improperly by someone unknown.
- The fitness centre would be monitored on a daily basis.
- People using the fitness centre during normal business hours, would have the safety benefit of having someone in the building should an injury, accident, or serious health issue arise. (I often wonder were we would stand if someone suffered a heart attack or stroke using the facility with no supervision).
- The shower facilities could be open to campground users during normal weekday business hours.
- The security and use of the community centre would be dramatically improved. No more coming and going of unknown persons. We presently have no idea how many keys are floating around, nor do we seem to have regular access ourselves to the kitchen area, even for a drink of water at these meetings.
- The Southwest corner of the building could potentially be leased to house the Post Office, making even better use of this building.
- We are paying to heat and air condition this building anyway, even though it sits empty most of the time.
- It is located more centrally to much of the town. A comfortable walk on quiet streets for many of our residents.
- One stop, for business with the town, and mail service, seems particularly attractive.
- The community centre is our newest building, and our staff **WANT** to be there.
- The community centre would not be used as a highway rest stop, as the present office is, making it easier to keep clean, and more pleasant overall.
- Our staff would have fewer interruptions that have nothing to do with town business.
- The ice surface could be open for use during regular days without employing extra help. Fees could be collected, and usage monitored. (if noise is not an issue)
- The concrete surface could be offered for use during regular days (ball hockey, roller blading) without employing extra help. Fees could be collected, and usage monitored. (if noise is not an issue).

Even if it cost \$5000.00, to install two large windows, a service counter, and some phone jacks, it would be paid for in about a year of savings in power alone at the Town office building. At \$10,000.00, it still looks like it makes sense. The power increase would only be a few lights, computers, and maybe a bit more heat/air conditioning than we already use in the East wing of the community centre. I will remind you that the geothermal system actually works better for air conditioning in summer than it does for heat in the winter.

Our staff would have a better location and nicer facility, and we would be seeing a return on the investment in the East addition and HVAC system, which I believe was around \$600,000. With the present situation, we do not have **ANY** hope of achieving a return on this investment. Our own public works staff could move the office equipment, and I'm confident that Jaime and Lise would assist with packing and organizing the move. Service to our residents would see only a minor inconvenience for a few days.

Please consider and discuss this plan, and then please make the "tough decision" to save the towns money, and provide a better facility for our staff and residents alike.

I encourage all of council, to take this document, and do a "walk through" of the East wing, while considering each of the points individually, and adding your constructive input as you see fit.

Dave Willcock

Filename: move to community centre.doc

APR 18 2013

April 18,2013

To Mayor and Council:

RATEPAYER OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Since the 2012 Financial Information Report (FIR) for Latchford is not issued as yet , the following data is based on the results printed within the 2011 (FIR) for Latchford.

However , the seriousness of the 2011 data will probably be relatively similar on the 2012 FIR.

Find attached :

Page 1....a) Municipal Tax Levy Arrears status (2011).

b) Water \ Sewer Operating Deficit and User Fees Status .

Page 2....Recommendation.....Water \ Sewer Plant Official review.

Page 3....Recommendation.....Municipal Strategic Plan Update

Page 4....Recommendation.....Landfill Closure Expense Update Review

ANNEXATION AFFECTS: It must be noted here that the annexation of Gillies (South) Township had the following beneficial compensable affect on the Town of Latchford such as :

Assessment increase from \$10,800,000 (2005) to \$47,700,000 (2011),

Associated Residential Municipal Tax Revenue Increase

Pipeline Revenue (2011).....\$326,408

Hydro Plant Revenue (2011).....\$101,680

These tremendous increases in tax revenue came to Latchford with minimal expense and future maintenance cost commitments to the Latchford Community ,. With effective and efficient financial planning , cost control and the desire by the Council , these new funds should certainly provide sufficient funds to support an amortization plan that will provide a sustainable recreation program for the" youth - to-senior" residents of the Community at large.

Personally , I volunteer to assist in keeping the Recreation Center as a viable , proud building in the Community. Just ask....

This report has been submitted to Council with the best interests of the community at heart, and a response would be appreciated.

Mac Hamilton

1) MUNICIPAL TAX ARREARS STATUS AS OF Year-End 2011Ref.2011 FIR Sched.72.

Past 2010 Tax Arrears plus 2011 tax levy plus current penalties and interest...	\$1,154,512
2011 Collected Tax Levy plus Tax Adjustments.....	<u>1,084,638</u>
2011 Municipal Tax arrears.....	<u>\$ (69,874)</u>

QUESTIONS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

The 2011 Municipal tax arrears are 6.1 % of the total required collectable 2011 tax levy .

What Plan is in place to collect these deficient tax arrears ?

What is the time frame objective to reach the Provincial average tax arrear collection ratio ?

2) WATER \ SEWER OPERATING DEFICIT As Of Year-end 2011...Ref. 2011 FIR SCHED 75

2011 Water Services Operating Cost.....	\$ 222,730
2011 Water User Fee Revenue.....	<u>109,933</u>
2011 Water Service Operating Deficit.....	(112,797)
2011 Sewer Services Operating Costs.....	\$ 93,644
2011 Sewer User Fee Revenue.....	<u>60,586</u>
2011 Sewer Service Operating Deficit.....	(33,058)

2011 WATER AND SEWER PLANT OPERATING DEFICIT..... \$ (145,855)

QUESTIONS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

The 2011 Water and Sewer user fee collected revenue..\$170,519.. is only 53.9 % of the operating cost.

What Plan is in place to collect the remaining 46.1% (\$145,855) of the deficient collectable user fee amounts for 2011 (and beyond)?

What is the Councils' time frame objective to achieve the Provincial legislation of 100% user fee sustainability of the Water \ Sewer facility ?

3) RECOMMENDATION FOR A WATER \ SEWER PLANT OFFICIAL REVIEW

Whereas the existing , inefficient and financially expensive Latchford Water and Sewer Facility was recommended, designed , and built by a Provincial Ministry to serve an estimated population of 3000 at a time when the existing Latchford community was about 400 population , and whereas , the current electrical and other continual maintenance upgrade costs to operate a sustainable user pay Water and Sewer facility in the Town of Latchford in accordance with Provincial statutes now absorbs approximately 23 percent of the Community budget in 2011, and whereas, such costs and user fees are now beyond the financial means of this Community of about 250 current users, the following recommendation is made to the Mayor and Council to implement a corrective action Plan in 2013 in cooperation with the Provincial Government as follows :

- a) To establish a Provincially financed group of professional municipal environmental facility planners to evaluate the operational systems , expense and effectiveness of such a large facility for about 250 users,**
- b) To assess the financial ability and hardships on a Community of about 250 users to sustain the total operational expense of the current facility through user fees in accordance with Provincial Water\Sewer facility sustainability legislation into the future,**
- c) To prepare an expense costing report at Provincial expense for the future facility upgrades and re-design needs that will eventually be required and implemented ,document the ability of the Community to user-pay for such upgrades with a decreasing population over the upcoming years.**
- d) To reconsider , recommend and arrange for the Provincial installation of a Water Tower Reserve Tank, as in place in other Communities, and that was cancelled by the Province from the original design concepts, that will significantly reduce the continual incremental cost of operating a fully-electrical pressure pumping system ,**
- e) To co-ordinate with the design of a proposed Hydro Power Plant in the Community to provide electrical power to operate the Water\Sewer facility on a shared arrangement, or as an alternate , to coordinate with a reliable solar energy company to install solar energy panels on the water\sewer facility on a similar shared arrangement..**
- f) To develop a cost-sharing arrangement with the Province for a fair , efficient and economical System to permit the Community to pay user-fees related to the expense of provisioning such water and sewer service on a proportional basis to the user population of the Community .**
- g) To invite Provincial and Federal elected officials to a Public presentation outlining the actions that this Council must take to lower the extreme water\sewer user fees in this Community. These actions are deemed necessary to bring the Community budgets within rerason for the benefit of providing other necessary services to the youth and seniors of the Town**
- h) To ensure that the Water \ Sewer Plant review and recommendations be completed prior to December 31,2013 for budgeting and implementation in 2014.**

**A) RECOMMENDATION FOR AN
UPDATE TO THE CURRENT MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC PLAN**

The current Latchford Strategic Plan basically covered the Years 2008 to 2010 with some forecasts for key items into the following years.

With the current STRATEGIC PLAN as a guide, I recommend that it is now time to refresh and renew the content of the original STRATEGIC PLAN to address the future items of progress of Latchford for 2013 to the year 2020. The concept of a current STRATEGIC PLAN is the cornerstone to plan , maintain , develop , and ensure the existence and continuity of a sustainable standard of living and opportunity for an enjoyable , affordable life style in our favourite Community.

The updated STRATEGIC PLAN will only be a successful project if all Latchford elected officials , staff employees , members of the Community at large , and experienced senior Government advisors in the strategic planning field are committed to a final product that will be of benefit to the Municipal administration and financial planning well into the future.

There is funding assistance provided by Provincial Ministries to enable the preparation of this Strategic Plan update.....What helps Latchford by this Plan update also helps the Province to view our Community as being progressive and **READY FOR A BETTER FUTURE THAN THE PAST.**

5) RECOMMENDATION FOR A LANDFILL CLOSURE EXPENSE REVIEW

The 2011 Landfill closure and post-liability allowance shown in the Annual Auditor consolidated financial position statements have been increasing automatically since a closure study was performed in 2004.

The current cumulated entry for Landfill Closure and Post-Closure Liability highlighted in a recent Municipal Auditor consolidated statement of financial position is **\$252,000**.

Since the 2004 official Landfill study, various property upgrades, maintenance care, regularly applied landfill coverage, and stockpiling of no-charge clay-type coverage topsoil has been performed which should significantly lessen the eventual final closure expenses to occur in 2016.

It is anticipated that the eventual Landfill closure expense will be significantly less than the cumulative \$252,000 currently indicated in the Auditor report.

This recommendation is that a new Landfill Closure study be performed in 2013 to obtain a more accurate closure expense figure which will require a much lower Municipal Landfill liability budget in 2014. Such savings can then be applied to the required new system for the disposition of the Municipal garbage beyond 2016.