



CITY OF BATHURST
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES

Monday, February 10, 2025
7:00 pm
Council Chambers - City Hall

Present

Mayor K. Chamberlain
Councillor P. Anderson
Councillor D. Branch
Councillor S. Brunet
Councillor R. Hondas
Councillor D. Knowles
Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc
Councillor S. Legacy
Councillor M. Skerry
Deputy Mayor M. Willett

Appointed Officials

T. Pettigrew, Chief Administrative Officer
M. Abernethy, City Engineer
J.-S. Chiasson, Communications Officer
C. Legacy, Director of Economic Development
R. Wilbur, Director of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
C. Roy, Executive Administrator
M. Bouffard, Director of Municipal Planning
N. R. Rabé Harou, Junior Urban Planner

Other(s)

Jacob Button, Recreation Programmer

1. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Harvest Fest Corvette Event and Fundraiser by Evelyne Valotaire

The 2024 Bathurst Harvest Fest Corvette Car Show was a great success, thanks to the city's support. The event attracted 80 Corvette owners (about 160 visitors) from across Eastern Canada and the U.S., filling local hotels to capacity.

Highlights included a Friday visit to a nursing home, a meet-and-greet at 13 Barrels, and Saturday's impressive display of 107 Corvettes—the largest gathering of its kind in Eastern Canada. The evening featured a bus service promoting responsible drinking, a marina dinner, and trivia night. The event also raised \$2,000 for local charities.

They are seeking \$4,260 in support for the 2025 event to cover venue rentals, signage and trophies, they are also requesting promotional items ensuring another successful show.

2.2 Bathurst Snow Bears by Dustin Dahn and Roxane Pelletier

The Snow Bears Cross Country Ski Club is a non-profit run by volunteers since 2006, maintaining 10+ km of trails in the Chaleur region's only ski center. They offer programs for 50 kids (ages 3-13), adult lessons, and an annual Loppet event.

Their 1996 Bombardier PM275 groomer, acquired in 2006, underwent a major overhaul in 2022 but is nearing the end of its lifespan. The club is planning a replacement, with the Prynnot-Husky as a likely choice, costing \$500,000.

A fundraising committee is in place, working with the City of Bathurst and other stakeholders to secure funding and acquire the new groomer within 3-5 years. They are in discussion with various levels of government and are exploring potential partnerships for discussions and funding opportunities for this project.

2.3 Grant Committee Recommendations

On January 15, 2025, the Grant Committee met to review the grant applications for 2025. Councillor Leblanc presented the Committee's recommendations.

After discussion, the council agreed to approve the initial grant request of \$35,000 for the Nepisiguit Sports Lodge.

Additionally, the council decided to maintain the original \$20,000 allocation for the Old Post Office. However, no additional \$20,000 will be provided at this time. If a specific project requires further funding, a new request can be submitted.

2.4 Snow Fest by Jacob Button

Jacob Button, the Recreation Programmer, presented the events for SnowFestHiver 2025, which will take place from Friday, February 14 to Monday, February 17, coinciding with Family Day. This festival, organized by the community for the community, aims to highlight local organizations that wish to participate in SnowFestHiver. The event is designed to encourage people to embrace and enjoy the community during the winter.

2.5 Rezoning Request for Daniel Drive and Vanier Boulevard by Marc Bouffard

The Planning Department received a rezoning request for six parcels located at the intersection of Daniel Drive & Vanier Boulevard. The owner is requesting that the properties be rezoned from R2 (Single and two-unit dwellings) to ID (Integrated Development) to permit the development of a residential complex comprising several row-type multi-unit dwelling. The rezoning would enable higher-density residential use in a growing area, aligning with municipal planning goals.

For the purpose of the Municipal Plan, it is recommended to change the land use designation of the property indicated by the applicant from "Commercial" to "Integrated Development".

For the purpose of the Zoning, it is recommended that the zoning of the property be changed from "Single and Two-Unit Dwelling - R2" to "Integrated Development - ID".

Council members instructed the planning department to proceed with the request.

3. POLICIES

3.1 P2025-03 Committee Policy

The City of Bathurst recognizes the importance of committees in providing advice to Council and facilitating community engagement. A committee policy would ensure a consistent and transparent framework for the creation, governance, and dissolution of committees, aligning with legislative requirements and strategic objectives.

This policy would enhance decision-making by formalizing the structure and operations of committees. Once implemented, it would support the City's strategic plan by fostering collaboration, promoting public engagement, and ensuring compliance with legislative requirements.

The recommendation is that members of Council adopt a committee policy to standardize governance practices, enhance transparency, and align committee operations with the City's strategic priorities and legislative requirements.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Carolle Roy, Assistant City Clerk