

**Chief Administrative Officer's Report**  
**By CAO Stéphane Cyr**  
**November 18, 2020**

**PROJECT FILES:**

**Rural Internet:**

- Detailed update provided at the November 4, 2020 Council-in-Committee meeting (See minutes).
- Project advancing as expected.

**Tourism Public Spaces Development and Improvement**

- The consultants are currently working on draft conceptual plans for all sites included in this project. These plans will be submitted to the Tourism Manager and CAO on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Once received, staff will review and provide feedback.
- The consultants will be returning to Clare in January to present these plans. Format and dates are TBD.

**Clare Veterans Centre (CVC)**

- We received an estimate for the new façade. Will be meeting later this week with Rhad Architects to review.
- Some of the work contained in the estimate was already accounted for in the original budget for the larger project. The key is now to ensure we are not counting items twice (ex: electrical upgrade).
- In the meantime, certain sections of the roof are leaking, including around the A/C unit. Currently waiting on a quote to repair the issue.

**Welcoming Communities / Communautés accueillantes :**

- Participated in National Immigration Week (November 1-7)
- Received rather good media attention from the Yarmouth Vanguard, Radio-Canada and OUI 98 FM
- Also managed to gain more exposure within the community.

**Breakwater – Belliveau Cove**

- All necessary permits have been secured – DFO, Transport Canada and NS Department of Lands and Forestry.
- Contractor will begin hauling and stockpiling armour stone onsite later this week.
- Construction to commence shortly thereafter.
- As required by the NS Department of Lands and Forestry, the Contractor will provide 5 days notice prior to the start of construction.

### **Housing Action Plan:**

- RFP closing at 3:00 pm on November 20, 2020.
- Staff will review submissions and make a recommendation to Council at the December 2, Council-in-Committee meeting.

### **Asset Management :**

- Asset Management Cohort Program is advancing with 4 of 6 sessions completed thus far.
- The Municipality's Asset Management Policy has been approved by Council.
- Application for funding assistance to help offset the cost of drafting the Asset Management Plan (80% up to a maximum of \$50,000) has been submitted.
- This is a highly sought after national program. FCM is processing an average of 30 applications per month.
- Currently processing applications 150 to 200. The Municipality's position is 491.
- No further action is required at this time. FCM will advise once they begin processing the Municipality's application.

### **Fast EV Chargers**

- Meeting with Bruce McCulloch, MCC Energy Strategies Inc., regarding the possible installation of Fast EV Chargers in Clare.
- Nova Scotia Power is leading an application under Natural Resources Canada's Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program. Maximum application amount is \$2M. Multiple recipients. Funding of 50% up to a maximum of \$100k per recipient.
- Proposing 2 (possibly 3) locations in Clare for Level 3 Chargers
- Level 3 charger is a 50 KW charger which can provide sufficient charge in 30 minutes to allow a vehicle to drive 200 km. Can be connected directly to the grid or operated via a combination of solar and batteries.
- Goal of this project is to promote the use of electric vehicles will also reducing demand on the grid, thus the availability of solar and batteries.
- A single Level 3 charger tied to the grid is \$40k plus installation. Awaiting pricing for solar/battery option.
- Submission deadline is December 10, 2020. Alternate deadline is May 2021.

### **Meteghan Sidewalks:**

- Able Engineering was on site in Meteghan last week to gather all the information required for Phase 1 of their engagement – the topographical survey.
- Efforts will commence shortly to identify possible funding sources for the necessary repairs / extension to the Meteghan sidewalks, in anticipation of a Spring 2021 start date.

### **Track and Field Project**

- Application was submitted to NS Department of Municipal Affairs on September 30, 2020 for consideration under the Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure stream of the Investing in Canada Plan.
- The project is comprised of an 8-lane running track with rubberized surface, at the center of which will be a regulation size soccer field complete with artificial turf.
- Total project cost of \$3,488,705.
- Municipal contribution of \$400,000.
- Discussions to date have been positive. Currently waiting on confirmation of federal contribution.

### **FINANCIAL:**

- As of October 31, 2020, the Municipality has recorded \$8,598,447 in revenues versus \$5,857,738 in expenses, for a surplus of \$2,740,709.
- As of October 31, 2020, the Municipality has a balance of \$2,567,857 in its operating fund, \$174,925 in its capital fund and a total reserve balance of \$6,277,946. The total reserve balance can be broken down as follows:
  - Operating reserve - \$2,161,998
  - Capital reserve - \$2,795,541
  - Landfill closure reserve - \$331,640
  - Gas tax reserve - \$988,767