

Chief Administrative Officer's Report
By CAO Stéphane Cyr
June 16, 2021

PROJECT FILES:

Internet:

- All services are now available.
- Mainland is starting to reach out to its initial customers who were installed when only the 300mbps service was available, to offer phone, TV, and upgrades to 1Gbps.
- Roughly 210 customers added so far.
- Crews are still progressing on the phases mentioned in last month's CAO Report.
- Make ready work is currently being done for Victor Lake, Thibault Rd, and Charles Lake
- Installations are now being completed in Phases 1 to 6, specifically:
 - Route 1 from Comeauville to St. Bernard
 - New Edinburgh / Bas-de-la Rivière
 - Ohio to Hassett
 - Side roads along Phase 1
 - Concession, Patrice Rd, Little Brook Station
 - Concession, St. Joseph, PF Comeau Rd
- Installations were delayed due to splicing and cables that were back ordered. That said, installations in Phase 7 (Cultural Hub to Amirault Road / Saulnierville Road, Second Division Road, Eustache Comeau Road) should start in a couple weeks.
- Installations in Phases 8-10 (Saulnierville, Saulnierville Rd., C. Saulnier Rd., Meteghan River, d'Entremont Rd., Placide Comeau Rd., Meteghan Connector, Bonnie Rd., Peter Dugas Rd, John Thibodeau Rd.) will follow shortly thereafter.
- The Warden, CAO, and staff met with Mainland on June 7, 2021, to discuss communication strategies as well as promotional and community engagement opportunities.

Clare Veterans Centre (CVC)

- **No substantial change from May 19, 2021, CAO Report**
- Funding application to the newly launched Green and Inclusive Community Buildings program (GICB) was submitted on May 4, 2021.
- Applicants with small and medium green and accessible retrofit projects to existing community buildings ranging in total eligible cost from \$100,000 to \$3 million are accepted on a continuous basis and funded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The total cost for the proposed CVC project is \$1,990,529 - \$2,330,280, depending on contingencies. Municipal contribution has been set at \$537,443.

Breakwater – Belliveau Cove

- Needed repairs to the lighthouse have commenced.
- Currently waiting on NSPI for go ahead to restore power to the lighthouse.
- Final insurance payout in the amount of \$10,283 has been agreed to, in order to complete this work and replace four benches lost during last winter's storm.
- The claim will be closed once payment is received.

Tourism Public Spaces

- EDI (ACOA) funding application in the amount of \$164,867 has been submitted.
- Funding application to the NS Beautification and Streetscaping Program in the amount of \$25,000 (maximum allowable) has been submitted.
- Municipality has already confirmed its contribution of \$50,000.
- Total project costs, when factoring in federal and provincial funding, is potentially \$239,867.
- Still waiting for confirmation of an in-person meeting with NS Department of Lands & Forests (Maurice Comeau, District Manager and Clinton Pinks, Parks Planner) for site visits and to request in-kind planning/surveying support for detailed design at both Smugglers Cove and Mavillette Beach.

Housing Action Plan:

- With the housing action plan complete, the Municipality is now focused on implementation. The following three recommendations have been flagged for implementation:
 - Villa Acadienne – Assessment of development potential including sight specific concept plans, costing estimates, pro-forma statements, etc. which may facilitate any future efforts by the Board to divest itself of this property.
 - REOI/RFP to Secure Land within the Municipality for Affordable Housing Development
 - REOI/RFP to Secure Developer for School Sites
- The Board of the Villa Acadienne has confirmed its willingness to participate in this initiative.
- A new letter of engagement has been signed with SHS Consultants, including the aboved-noted recommendations.

Asset Management:

- Application to FCM Municipal Asset Management Program has been approved.
- Building on the Municipality's participation in the Asset Management Cohort, AIM Network has been selected as the lead consultant in the preparation of the Municipality's Asset Management Plan.
- A quick off meeting with Matt Delorme, Project Manager for AIM Network, will be scheduled for next week.

Fast EV Chargers

- **No substantial change from May 19, 2021 CAO Report**
- Advised by the WREN on May 11, 2021 that their application (of which we are a part) to NRCan was not successful.
- Apparently, the application scored well but given strong interest in the program and the number of applications received, it was not selected for funding as part of this intake.
- NRCan has provided the WREN with some feedback on where they could improve their application. It is the intention of the WREN to reapply.
- There are now two streams to apply to, one of which has recently opened, with the other stream opening in two months.
- As a reminder, this project application, if successful, would yield 3 Level-3 EV Chargers (i.e., Fast EV Chargers) in the Municipality at the following locations:
 - Joseph and Marie Dugas Park
 - Clare Veterans Centre
 - Cape. St. Mary Lighthouse Park

Meteghan Sidewalks:

- **No substantial change from May 19, 2021 Council meeting.**
- Added to the agenda for discussion at the July 7, 2021 Council-in-Committee meeting.

Clare Health Centre:

- Generator and fuel tank are in place.
- Vents and louvers are installed.
- Waiting on installation of bus bar in panel. This will be done in the coming weeks, over the weekend, so as to minimize disruption to the Centre's operations.

Track and Field:

- Motion to approve project management services to be discussed under New Business – Item 12.1
- RFP for construction of the proposed facility has been posted on the NS procurement website and the Municipality’s website, with a closing date of June 25, 2021.

FINANCIAL:

- As of May 31, 2021, the Municipality has recorded \$7,983,505 in revenues versus \$1,896,490 in expenses, for a surplus of \$6,087,015.
- As of May 31, 2021, the Municipality has a balance of \$1,366,964 in its operating fund, \$147,706 in its capital fund and a total reserve balance of \$5,719,610. The total reserve balance can be broken down as follows:
 - Operating reserve - \$2,179,054
 - Capital reserve - \$2,711,457
 - Landfill closure reserve - \$334,257
 - Gas tax reserve - \$494,842