

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, April 11.

- **County Moving Ahead with Trail Improvements:** Council has approved motions that will see work undertaken on two bridges in Almonte that are now part of the Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail. At the economic development committee meeting last month, Public Works Director Terry McCann presented reported on the results of a request for proposals for design-build services for the bridges, with a contract being awarded to DW Building Restoration Services Inc. for \$352,310 plus HST and additional work estimated to be \$162,000. The RFP was issued on Jan. 29 and closed on March 6, with three proposals received and scored by an evaluation committee. The work involves installing deck panels on top of the existing two bridge decks to provide the new wearing surface and anchorage for the new railing system. A wood/steel hybrid consisting of black powder-coated steel posts with locally sourced brown pressure-treated wood rails has been recommended for the railing system. Mr. McCann explained it is lower cost, features local material, is easily handled, is versatile in the field and can be easily maintained. “Aesthetically, the wood is better suited for preserving the heritage appeal of the structure compared to modern galvanizing steel,” he said. Savings are to be applied to concrete repair work on the deteriorated areas of the soffit and face of the existing concrete girders. “Replacing these two bridges will allow the OVRT to be open throughout the year, thereby generating economic activity within communities connected by the trail,” Mr. McCann said. Council also approved a motion recommending four contract awards for the supply and place of granular “M” quarry source trail surface on the trail. This portion of the work is funded by the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program in the amount of \$548,289. The tender was issued on March 3 and closed on March 19, with five tenders received. The work includes pre-grading about 56 kilometres of existing trail surface before supplying and placing about 43,500 tonnes of material on the trail to a finished granular width of four metres. Grading, watering and compaction of the new surface will occur, and it is expected to take place between May 14 and Oct. 26. The tender was broken into four schedules: Sturgess Road to Beckwith 10th Line (Crains’ Construction Limited, \$302,100); Beckwith 10th Line to Bridge Street in Almonte (Crains’ Construction Limited, \$155,150); Carss Street to Needham Side Road (Crains’ Construction Limited, \$122,950) and Waba Road to Highway 417 (Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited, \$142,680). A granular base is required regardless of the finished trail surface treatment, e.g. asphalt, treated granular or stone dust. The 2018 budget includes \$1.5 million for work on the OVRT. After awarding the contracts for these bridges and the trail surface, and with the addition of the OMCC funding for the surface portion, there is almost \$790,000 remaining. “Completing the granular surface on the trail is an integral part of its completion, which will connect the communities within Lanark County and beyond,” Mr. McCann said. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.

- **Feature Municipality Chosen for Harvest Festival:** Council passed a motion supporting a request from Beckwith Township to be the feature municipality for the 2018 Lanark County Harvest Festival. The sixth annual festival will be held at Beckwith Park on Sunday, Sept. 9. Each year a Lanark County municipality is highlighted. The event celebrates the bounty of the county’s harvest with local producers, food seminars, cooking demonstrations, children’s activities, music, displays and more. Anyone interested in becoming a vendor can contact admin@twp.beckwith.on.ca or call 613-257-1539. More info is also available at www.harvestfestival.ca. For more information, contact Marie White, Tourism Manager, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1530.

- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, April 25, 5 p.m.;** Public Works, April 25 (following County Council); Economic Development, April 25 (following Public Works). **County Council, Wednesday, May 9, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, May 9 (following County Council); Corporate Services, May 9 (following Community Services). All meetings are in Council Chambers unless otherwise noted. For more information, contact 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502. Like "LanarkCounty1" on Facebook and follow "@LanarkCounty1" on Twitter!

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