

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, May 9.

- **Warden Designates National Public Works Week:** Warden John Fenik (Perth Mayor) has designated May 20 to 26, 2018 as National Public Works Week to pay tribute to public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees and to recognize their substantial contributions in protecting national health, safety and quality of life. This year marks the 58th annual National Public Works Week, which is sponsored by the American Public Works Association and Canadian Public Works Association. Warden Fenik noted public works professionals “focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Ontario.” Public works professionals are part of the public sector at all levels of government, as well as the private sector, and they work to rebuild, improve and protect national transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, as well as public buildings and other structures. The week is designated as a way to gain knowledge of and gain interest in the importance of public works and programs in local communities. The theme for 2018 is “The Power of Public Works,” and a variety of public education activities are conducted by the Canadian Public Works Association. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.
- **Paramedic Services Week Proclaimed:** Warden John Fenik (Perth Mayor) proclaimed May 27 to June 2, 2018 as Paramedic Services Week in Lanark County. “Paramedics are of vital importance in Lanark County, and the goal of Paramedic Services Week is to raise community awareness and appreciation of the services provided by these men and women,” Warden Fenik said. “The skills and quality care rendered by the paramedics are an integral part of the health care system.” Warden Fenik encourages all citizens to learn more about the role of paramedics in the health system. For more information, contact Kurt Greaves, CAO, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1101.
- **Business Retention and Expansion Project Proceeding:** Council passed a motion recommending \$15,000 be allocated to Valley Heartland Community Futures Development Corporation to implement a county-wide Business Retention and Expansion project. Stacie Lloyd, Regional Economic Development Officer, made a presentation to the economic development committee last month outlining the request, which is within \$40,000 approved by council in December to implement action plans in the approved Lanark County Economic Development Strategic Plan 2018-2020. As well, additional contributors include the Eastern Ontario Development Program for up to 40 per cent of the project, and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs’ Rural Economic Development program for up to 50 per cent. Ms. Lloyd explained the business retention and expansion project was a top priority action identified in the multi-stakeholder process to develop the strategic plan. “It is a structured, action-oriented, community-based approach to economic development,” she said. The tentative timeline for the project is from May 2018 to July 2019. For more information, contact Leslie Drynan, Clerk, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502.
- **Public Works Contracts Awarded:** Council approved two public works contracts related to traffic signals and winter maintenance. The first is for traffic signal upgrades by Partham Engineering Ltd. for \$167,810 following a request for proposals issued in March. Only one proposal was received; this firm has performed traffic signal maintenance for the county for multiple years and has successfully completed upgrades in the past. The upgrades are to take place in Carleton Place

(Bridge Street at Townline Road; Joseph Street at Townline Road West; Patterson Street at McNeely Avenue; McNeely Avenue at the Walmart entrance) and on Bridge Street at Veteran Memorial Park in Almonte. The second contract is for the provision of a combination tandem plow truck and operator for winter maintenance, which was broken down into six winter plow routes. Five schedules were awarded to Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited for almost \$1.3 million, and one was issued to Nedow Const. Inc. for \$263,250. Only two tenders were received. The initial term of the contract is for three winter seasons, from 2018/2019 to 2020/2021. It provides optional extensions of two additional three-year terms. Equipment specifications, driver requirements, response times and contractor responsibilities form part of the contract to ensure resources used on the routes meet the county's requirements. These six routes have been maintained by contractors for several years. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.

- **Annual Land Division Committee Report Presented:** Chairperson Robert Strachan presented the annual report of the Land Division Committee for 2017 to the economic development committee last month. The committee is made up of three appointed members (Mr. Strachan, Dan Murphy and Wayne Guthrie), with County Planner Julie Stewart as secretary-treasurer. It meets monthly and has consent authority under the Planning Act. Mr. Strachan highlighted the number of applications over the last several years. In 2017, 120 applications were received, down slightly from previous years, with 38 pending at year end, 77 consents granted, two denied or withdrawn, and three appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board. The largest number of applications came from Tay Valley, followed by Drummond/North Elmsley and Lanark Highlands. Mr. Strachan noted the committee is pleased County Council has agreed to continue the land division process through the committee, adding the committee works with applicants to help with the process and keep their costs down while meeting required standards when approved. He also expressed gratitude to former secretary Mary Kirkham, who retired last year. "Over the years Mary was a leader to all the county municipalities in trying to standardize the severance process and to ensure all applicants were fully informed by the local municipalities prior to submitting their fees and applications. She was also instrumental in the implementation of web-based applications and information, therefore making it much easier for applicants to review rules, apply and process their applications." Mr. Strachan also thanked the local municipalities for their input and cooperation regarding land division issues throughout the years. For more information, contact Julie Stewart, County Planner, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1520.
- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, May 23, 5 p.m.;** Public Works, May 23 (following County Council); Economic Development, May 23 (following Public Works). **County Council, Wednesday, June 13, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, June 13 (following County Council); Corporate Services, June 13 (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!