

March 4, 2009

Special Meeting

7:00 PM

The Council for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards met on the above date with Councillors Isabel O'Reilly, Kathy Marion, Stanley Pecoskie, Carl Kuehl and Debbie Peplinskie present. Mayor Janice Visneskie chaired the meeting, which she opened and called to order. Mayor Visneskie introduced and welcomed the members of the Volunteer Policy Advisory Committee, Elmer Visneskie, Tim Summers, Barb Borutskie, Gertie Blank and Don Bohart.

Pecuniary/Financial Interest: No pecuniary/financial interest was declared by any of the Council or committee members present.

Purpose of Meeting: Mayor Visneskie advised that the purpose of the meeting is to hear a presentation from Carmen Goold, relating to a Volunteer Policy for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards.

Delegations: Carmen Goold, Regional Advisor for the Ministries of Citizenship and Immigration, Culture, Health Promotion (Sport and Recreation) was present. She presented information on the Municipal Toolkit that is available to municipalities as a resource in developing a volunteerism program. She also reviewed information relating to writing a volunteer policy. She advised that although a municipal policy would address just municipal volunteers, you could assist other volunteer groups in the municipality by offering workshops and information forums. Although the municipality is not directly responsible for other volunteer groups, this would be a good way to be proactive in the community.

The committee discussed issues relating to liability. Ms. Goold advised that, with a policy, you would be better able to protect your volunteers and your municipality, however, the municipality could still be held liable if a volunteer does something wrong. She also suggested that by having a policy that clearly sets out the duties and responsibilities for your volunteers, you are making them aware of how much they are valued in the community. The committee discussed the possibility of hiring a Volunteer Coordinator, however, Ms. Goold advised that she did not feel that this would be a viable option, given the size of the municipality. She suggested that there could be a possibility to develop this as a pilot project and offer services to other municipalities for a fee, but you would have to convince sponsors such as the Trillium Foundation that this could be viable.

Ms. Goold also explained that you may not need to incorporate all of the recommendations from the toolkit into a policy, rather that it is best to explore what activities your community is involved with, and tailor your policy to suit your own needs. She also explained that it is not mandated that the municipality have a policy, but that it shows due diligence and allows you to implement the policy that is best suited to your own situation. Councillor O'Reilly pointed out that some of the volunteers that are fulfilling their 40 hour community service requirement as students are under the age of 16. The committee discussed the screening process in cases such as these and agreed that this is an issue that requires clarification.

Next Meeting: April 15, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Visneskie thanked Ms. Goold for her presentation, at which time she left the meeting.

New/Unfinished Business: Council reviewed a letter from Dave Darch from the County of Renfrew relating to a possible cost sharing arrangement for the repairs to the Coulas Bay Bridge. The letter indicated that County staff will prepare a report and forward it to their Operations Committee meeting in April, 2009.

A request was received from Barry's Bay This Week asking the township to place an ad in their newspaper for the upcoming Heritage Cup, at a cost of \$174.10 plus taxes. Council declined this request.

Adjournment:

Moved by Ernie Cybulski
Seconded by Stanley Pecoskie

That this meeting adjourn. Carried.

Mayor

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer