



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Monday, March 12, 2018

6:30 p.m.

Health Centre Meeting Room

555 King Street West

Prescott, Ontario

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chaired by Mayor Brett Todd

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Suggested Motion

"THAT the agenda be adopted as presented."

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Town Hall Asbestos Management Update

5. DELEGATIONS

6. COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Chaired by Councillor Leanne Burton

7. FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES

Chaired by Councillor Teresa Jansman

8. TOURISM & HERITAGE

Chaired by Councillor Fraser Laschinger

Suggested Motion

"WHEREAS successful economic development relies on local as well as regional initiatives; and

WHEREAS tourism and active transportation can be considered important elements of any economic development strategy; and

WHEREAS Prescott's location as a border community facilitates international cooperation with our regional neighbours in the United States; and

WHEREAS the City of Ogdensburg and the State of New York Senator's office have expressed an interest in working with the Town of Prescott on an international pedestrian and bicycle ferry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Committee of the Whole recommend that Council direct the CAO to apply for grants which would enable the development of a feasibility study for the possible development of an international pedestrian and bicycle ferry service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve that \$15,000 from the Planning Reserve be committed as a 50% contribution to the cost of retaining professional consulting services for the development of the feasibility study."

9. TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Chaired by Councillor Lee McConnell

10. PLANNING

Chaired by Councillor Mike Ostrander

11. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chaired by Councillor Ray Young

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Action Item List

13. PERIOD FOR MEDIA QUESTIONS

14. CLOSED SESSION

15. RISE AND REPORT

16. ADJOURNMENT



		Date Req'd
Information Purposes		
Policy / Action Req'd	X	Mar 12, 2018
Strategic Plan		

STAFF REPORT TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Report No. 11-2018

Date: March 12, 2018

From: Pierre Mercier, CAO

Re: Prescott-Ogdensburg Bicycle Ferry

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS successful economic development relies on local as well as regional initiatives; and

WHEREAS tourism and active transportation can be considered important elements of any economic development strategy; and

WHEREAS Prescott’s location as a border community facilitates international cooperation with our regional neighbours in the United States; and

WHEREAS the City of Ogdensburg and the State of New York Senator’s office have expressed an interest in working with the Town of Prescott on an international pedestrian and bicycle ferry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Committee of the Whole recommend that Council direct the CAO to apply for grants which would enable the development of a feasibility study for the possible development of an international pedestrian and bicycle ferry service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve that \$15,000 from the Planning Reserve be committed as a 50% contribution to the cost of retaining professional consulting services for the development of the feasibility study.



		Date Req'd
Information Purposes		
Policy / Action Req'd	X	Mar 12, 2018
Strategic Plan		

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

In February 2017, the City of Brockville received a feasibility report considering the potential for a bicycle / pedestrian ferry between Brockville and Morristown, New York. The ferry initiative was launched by then Senator Bob Runciman in collaboration with New York Senator Patty Ritchie. The City of Brockville has not moved forward with the initiative and Mr. Runciman has reached out to the Town of Prescott in order to assess the possibility of exploring the possibility of taking on the project.

In January of this year a number of local Mayors from both sides of the border, as well as public officials and former Senator Runciman, and Senator Ritchie attended a meeting at Town Hall at the invitation of Mayor Todd. At the meeting there was a lot of support expressed to revisit the possibility of a cross border ferry but this time between Ogdensburg and Prescott. The meeting was followed by a reception at the golf course where numerous municipal officials, local and state politicians, and staff had an opportunity to discuss commonalities, opportunities and challenges. There was a general consensus in the room that establishing a cross border ferry had merit.

The study commissioned by the City of Brockville, as was reported in the local media, indicated that the establishment of a ferry service had merit but that the main barrier was ensuring border security. While there appears to be the will to address the issue at the federal and state levels, there is still a need to assess whether the service is feasible at the Prescott – Ogdensburg location. Accordingly, should the Committee see fit to recommend that the project move forward, a study would be required to assess the viability at this location as well as the potential economic benefits.

The project is eligible for funding with the Grenville Community Futures Development Corporation. It is estimated that the research could require up to \$30,000 dollars to complete with 50% of the funding potentially being provided by the GCFDC.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are sufficient funds in the Planning Reserve to cover the Town’s contribution to project funding.

ALTERNATIVES

The alternative would be to not proceed with the project



		Date Req'd
Information Purposes		
Policy / Action Req'd	X	Mar 12, 2018
Strategic Plan		

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pierre Mercier".

Pierre Mercier
CAO

ACTION ITEM LIST – FROM JANUARY 2017

Date	Department	Item & Action	Status
Prior to January 2017	Finance	RFPs for Building Services, Banking and Audit Services	Cleaning Tender, Building Services, Audit Services complete.
Prior to January 2017	HR	Employee Policies (banked hours, sick days, carryover, further education, etc.)	In progress
January 9, 2017	CAO	Schedule an Economic Development Session & Review of Strategic Plan	In progress
January 16, 2017	Clerk's	Report on Use of Ranked Ballots in the 2018 Municipal Election	2019
January 23, 2017	CAO/Operations	Report and resolution of support re: Municipal Fire Service as Critical Infrastructure as part of the Province's Infrastructure Strategy	In progress
January 23, 2017	Finance	Report on Property Taxation for Railway Right-of-ways	In progress
March 27, 2017	CAO/Clerk's	Regional school closures and Wellington Elementary School Update	In progress
April 3, 2017	Operations	Centennial Park Improvements	In progress

Date	Department	Item & Action	Status
September 18, 2017	CAO	Community Improvement Plan Update	In progress
September 18, 2017	CAO	Official Plan	In progress
September 18, 2017	Operations	Traffic Light Removal	All material ordered. Spring installation.
September 18, 2017	Operations	Fire Hall Construction	In progress
September 18, 2017	Operations	Street Sign Installation	In progress - ongoing
November 20, 2017	CAO	Canadian Empress docking	In progress
March 5, 2017	By-Law	Animal Control By-law Update	In progress