

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, Sept. 23.

- **Smiths Falls Paramedic Station RFP Revised:** Council has approved the issuing of a new request for proposals for the provision of a design/build-to-suit lease for a paramedic base to be built in Montague or Drummond/North Elmsley Township. The original RFP was issued in April, but was cancelled at the council meeting on June 24. Kevin Wills, Senior Financial Analyst, reported at the corporate services committee meeting earlier this month that “the new RFP contains evaluation criteria designed to ensure the proposed site for the new paramedic station will allow paramedics easy and efficient access to main roads/highways in Lanark County.” The changes are related to specific location, water and waste water, stormwater management and drainage, occupancy date, evaluation criteria, future expansion and a storage and charging room. The new base will replace the current facility located at 10 Maple Ave. in Smiths Falls, which no longer meets the needs of the Lanark County Paramedic Service in terms of size and design. The new facility would also serve as the administrative hub for the paramedic service. For more information, contact Kevin Wills, Senior Financial Analyst, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1323.
- **Adjustment Made to Affordable Housing Program:** Council has authorized a change to the funding allocation for the 2015/16 Home Ownership Program. Social Housing Manager Sandy Grey updated councillors on program spending and requested adjustments to spending forecasts to ensure full uptake of the Investment in Affordable Housing 2015/16 allocation. In March, council approved the allocations for 2015-2020 for five IAH programs totalling \$657,500. Ms. Grey indicated there is a waiting list for requests in the Renovate Lanark program, which assists lower-income households with repairs and renovations, but there have not been many requests for the Home Ownership Program, which provides home ownership loans. The report indicated the Home Ownership Program tends to be most active in the spring, with lower demand from October to March, and proposed transferring funds into the Renovate Lanark Program to help accommodate the requests on the waiting list. For more information, contact Sandy Grey, Social Housing Manager, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 2401.
- **Partners Closer to CP Rail Corridor Purchase:** Council has passed a motion directing staff to request the legal firm of Borden Ladner Gervais of Ottawa to develop, on behalf of partners, an agreement of purchase and sale with CP Rail. The county has partnered with Renfrew County and the Township of Papineau-Cameron to negotiate with CP Rail regarding the abandoned corridor between Smiths Falls and Mattawa. In Lanark County the corridor passes through Montague, Beckwith, Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills. It has not been used for rail traffic since 2009 and CP has removed the rail infrastructure. The partners have had the property appraised. Staff are authorized to spend up to \$15,000 from reserves to cover legal fees for the required agreements, which will be brought back to council for approval. The public is reminded the corridor remains private property and public access is not permitted. For more information, contact Kurt Greaves, CAO, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1101.
- **Council Resists Changes to Ambulance Base in Carleton Place:** Following a presentation by Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital CEO Toni Surko at the corporate services committee meeting earlier this month, council has opted to write a letter to the hospital indicating it is not prepared to consider moving the ambulance base located there or changing the lease at this time. The presentation outlined three proposed options for a new emergency department at the site. The

county currently has a lease with the hospital for the base until 2017, with an option to renew the lease for a further 15 years (until 2032). The building was constructed in 2000 by the Ministry of Health and the county rents the space for \$1 per year. For more information, contact Kurt Greaves, CAO, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1101.

- **Awards of Excellence Deadline Approaching:** If you know someone who has made a significant and/or extraordinary contribution to Lanark County, please consider submitting a nomination for the Awards of Excellence! The award recognizes citizens, organizations, businesses or industries in one or more of the following categories: volunteerism, community service, youth; business, agriculture, industry, tourism; heritage and ecology; arts, culture, recreation, sports; philanthropy or other. Nomination forms can be obtained from the clerk's office at 99 Christie Lake Rd. or online at <http://www.lanarkcounty.ca/Page2162.aspx>. Check the link for more details and info about past recipients. The deadline for nominations is Oct. 5. For more information, contact Leslie Drynan, Deputy Clerk, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502.
  
- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, Oct. 7, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, Oct. 7 (following County Council); Corporate Services, Oct. 7 (following Community Services). **County Council, Wednesday, Oct. 21, 5 p.m.;** Economic Development, Oct. 21 (following County Council); Public Works, Oct. 21 (following Economic Development). For more information, contact 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502. Like "LanarkCounty1" on Facebook and follow "@LanarkCounty1" on Twitter!