

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, April 27.

- **Adjustments to Investment in Affordable Housing Program Approved:** Council has accepted recommendations by the social housing manager to revise the program and delivery fiscal plan for the 2016/17 Investment in Affordable Housing Program 2014 Extension (IAH-E), as well as adjusting eligibility criteria for two programs. In a report presented to the community services committee of the whole earlier this month, council learned applications for both Renovate Lanark and Home Ownership have decreased to the point where there may not be sufficient demand to invest more than \$400,000 in the programs in 2016, but an alternative is a capital program to build new rental housing stock. As well, eligibility criteria for the Renovate Lanark program was a maximum household income of \$50,000 and maximum house price (adjusted quarterly) of \$278,566. The county has the flexibility to adjust the maximum household income to the provincial maximum, which is \$86,200. An increase in either maximum would allow more residents to qualify. The Rental Housing component of the program includes new construction, which can be additions and extensions, acquisition and rehabilitation of existing residential buildings to increase the affordable rental housing stock, or conversion of non-residential buildings to purpose-built rental buildings. The need for additional rental stock is identified in the county's Ten-Year Housing Plan. This can be done through the IAH-E program, but the funding allocation must be committed for each year of the program. The program is 100-per cent funded by the provincial and federal governments. The revised plan allocates \$50,000 to the Home Ownership component, \$150,045 to Renovate Lanark and \$200,000 to Rental Housing. A request for proposals will be issued to solicit interest in developing affordable rental housing, and eligibility criteria for the Home Ownership and Renovate Lanark components have been adjusted to a maximum household income of \$86,200 and a maximum house value of \$275,000. For more information, contact Sandy Grey, Social Housing Manager, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 2401.
- **Funds Approved for Memorial:** Council has approved a motion allocating up to \$10,000 to a memorial stone at Elmwood Cemetery in Perth as part of legacy project for the county's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The names of 300 to 400 indigent persons will be engraved on the stone. This follows presentations by Eric Halpin, president of the Perth Cemetery Company, which operates Elmwood Cemetery, requesting recognition for the unmarked burials that resulted from natural deaths occurring at the former Lanark County House of Industry. Mr. Halpin has recorded 300 names in the course of his research. "Recognizing the indigent people buried at Elmwood Cemetery is the right thing to do," said Warden Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley Deputy Reeve). For more information, contact Leslie Drynan, Deputy Clerk, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502.
- **Kudos to Lanark County Truck Rodeo Winner:** Congratulations go out to Peter Wansbrough of the Town of Smiths Falls, who was the winner of the 2016 Lanark County Truck Rodeo. Second place went to Lanark County's Paul Thompson. Thirty-two drivers participated in this annual event, which was held at the new public works facility on Tuesday. It gives local public works staff (DZ-qualified equipment operators) an opportunity to demonstrate their skills. It consists of an operator's pre-test (circle check) and a practical tandem truck driving course. Officials included Lanark County Public Works staff, local municipal staff, suppliers and other members of the Lanark County Road Supervisors Association. The first- and second-place finishers advance to the provincial event, where each year the top three drivers are awarded trophies, plaques and cash prizes. The Minister of Transportation presents the winner with the Rodeo Trophy at the Ontario Good Roads

Association/Rural Ontario Municipalities Association Convention in Toronto. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.

- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, May 11, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, May 11 (following County Council); Corporate Services, May 11 (following Community Services). **County Council, Wednesday, May 25, 5 p.m.;** Economic Development, May 25 (following County Council); Public Works, May 25 (following Economic Development). For more information, contact 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502. Like "LanarkCounty1" on Facebook and follow "@LanarkCounty1" on Twitter!

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