

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, Sept. 26.

- **New Parking Restrictions and Bike Lanes in Almonte:** Council passed a motion to approve a request by Mississippi Mills for bicycle lanes on County Road 17 (Martin Street North) between Victoria/Princess Street and Teskey Street in Almonte. The proposed work includes the addition of line painting and signage. The public works director indicated the location requested does not pose any traffic or safety concerns related to the county road, but it does require the creation of a “no parking zone.” Costs for construction and ongoing maintenance for line painting and signage required for the bicycle lanes will be the responsibility of Mississippi Mills. The county is responsible for the “no parking” signage. Approving the creation of the bicycle lanes assists Mississippi Mills with long-term plans for the community. Council also approved a by-law to create the “no parking” zone on Martin Street North from Victoria/Princess Street to Teskey Street (Almonte District High School). The by-law will be in effect once signage is erected. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.

- **MVCA to Continue County Forest Management:** Council passed a motion authorizing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the county and Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) for management of the Lanark County Community Forest for five years. The MOU is part of the business plan established in 2006 for the forest. In 2013, MVCA and the county agreed to a five-year MOU. The proposal included the development and delivery a five-year operating plan as part of the 20-year forest management plan, as well as management of the timber harvests. Facilities coordinator Jonathan Allen reported to the public works committee in August that MVCA has provided valuable advice and guidance to the Community Forest Working Group and staff on forestry issues over the years. “Due to the efficient management and best practices provided by MVCA and through the Forest Certification Program of the Eastern Ontario Model Forest, the Lanark County Community Forest has met the standards to achieve Forest Stewardship Council certification through SmartWood, an independent auditor,” Mr. Allen said. “The community forest has maintained the certification through audits completed by the EOMF and managed by the MVCA.” The MOU covers a wide range of services and Mr. Allen said continuing with MVCA “will provide Lanark County with continuity of service through the five-year operating plan, the 20-year management plan and will give Lanark County a trusted and knowledgeable partner with a depth of resources and expertise to draw from.” For more information, contact Jonathan Allen, Facilities Coordinator, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3170.

- **OVRT Set to Open Oct. 5:** Council heard an update from CAO Kurt Greaves at the public works committee meeting last month indicating all work on the Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail between Pakenham and Arnprior had been completed. Surfacing on the remaining trail was being completed and gates were expected to be installed in time for the grand opening of the trail planned for Oct. 5 at 1 p.m. in Carleton Place. Signage and street signs have been installed across the trail, including signage on gates identifying trail rules and way-finding signs. Work on the bridges in Almonte is expected to be completed in November. The management plan for the trail will come to committee for consideration prior to finalization and approval. For more information, contact Kurt Greaves, CAO, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1101.

- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, Oct. 10, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, Oct. 10 (following County Council); Corporate Services, Oct. 10 (following Community Services). **County**

Council, Wednesday, Oct. 24, 5 p.m.; Public Works, Oct. 24 (following County Council); Economic Development, Oct. 24 (following Public Works). 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!

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