



THE VILLAGE OF BURK'S FALLS  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
January 14, 2020

The special meeting of The Burk's Falls Council was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at the Municipal Office at 5:30 pm.

Present: Reeve Cathy Still, Councillors, Lewis Hodgson, Jarvis Osborne, Lisa Morrison, Rex Smith; Staff: Nicky Kunkel, Clerk and Allan Holder, Treasurer

The special Council meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: NONE**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Sanjay Desai, Business Consultant with Grant Thornton was present, as well as Kerri Jennex and Mankaran Kharbanda also from GT were present via Skype.

Kerri Jennex presented a PowerPoint presentation that detailed the current state of the Village's finances, indicating that the Village is managing well. It was noted that the tax rate is higher than the benchmarking municipalities for most property classes. It was also noted the assessment for the Village is the lowest of the benchmarked municipalities. This plays directly into the higher rate.

In determining the financial feasibility of completing the 24 projects in the 2019-2022 Council Statement of Priorities there were three scenarios run. One was using debt, one debt plus increasing the tax levy and the third was status quo with provincial grants. The best option remains completing projects based on successful grant applications and maintaining the tax increase of 2% per year along with a moderate use of debt when necessary.

An interesting factor discovered was that should the Villages contracted services increase beyond the expected tax increase by way of province cuts to DSSABs, Health Units, EMS, or other such mandatory levied agencies the Village will not meet the expenses. Council has committed to monitoring the Provincial governments proposals and will continue to submit comment on these items to ensure the long-term vitality of the Village.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

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Cathy Still  
Mayor

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Nicky Kunkel  
Clerk