

Great Village Elementary School Notes



Great Village Elementary students Alicia O'Brien, Alexis Morse, and Morgan Works were selected by their peers for consistently demonstrating the virtue of kindness during the month of December. (Submitted)

By Linda Harrington

A huge thank you is extended to the community for supporting the school's annual raffle draw and for attending the Christmas Concert. On the night of the concert, 92 kg of food was collected for the Colchester Community Food Bank.

Students enjoyed a presentation of The Bremen Town

Musicians by the Maritime Marionettes. On March 24th, all students will have the opportunity to participate in a workshop with Maritime Marionettes' puppeteers Darryl and Heather Taylor. Younger students will get to make their own puppets, while older students will make a marionette.

The Discovery Center

brought their planetarium to the school in January. Each class entered the dome and through this presentation were able to view the changes in the sky over a 24 hour period. Students enjoyed finding many constellations and were excited to share that they stayed up all night!

In February, the Discovery Centre will return to each classroom to share interactive displays related to each grade's science curriculum.

Students are looking forward to a swimming trip to the RECC planned for January 28th. If there is sufficient interest, students will go skating at the West Colchester United Arena, Debert in March.

Last month, Alicia O'Brien, Alexis Morse, and Morgan Works were selected by their peers for consistently demonstrating the virtue of kindness. This month's virtue is "truthfulness".

Primary Registration will take place at Great Village Elementary on Feb. 25th. Parents with a child who will be starting school in September, 2015 (5 years old by December 31, 2015) are asked to contact the school, if they have not already done so. Currently there are 10 students on the list.

The next GVES Home and School and School Advisory Council meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, February 4th.

Municipality Considering Two Wind Turbines

By Maurice Rees

Wayne Wamboldt, Colchester's Director of Solid Waste at the Kempton Facility lead the January 20th presentation and introduced representatives from Endurance Wind to explain an opportunity for the municipality to install and operate one or two "small wind" turbines under the province's COMFIT program. Under the COMFIT program a 20 year contract is established with the municipality guaranteed on the price of power produced for that period.

It the project proceeds the towers would be erected at the balefill site. Each tower would stand 42 Metres and is rated at 50KW, 60 Hz, 3 phase. The financial model used

lower net output than capacity of each turbine, but generation would be approximately 140,000 Kwh on an annual basis. Fixed cost for turn-key operation is \$1,094,497. Estimated annual revenue would be \$136,929.

To illustrate the project is profitable commencing in year 1, the presentation showed that with 100% financing at a rate of 4%, a first year profit of \$3,946 would be generated with one tower, while two towers would provide \$13,000.00 in each of the first 12 years. Following a 12 year amortization period, annual profit for each of the next eight years would be \$62,256 or \$128,911. Over 20 years, two towers would generate \$2.738-Million in life-

time revenues.

Endurance Wind would provide a turn-key facility and also be responsible for ongoing maintenance.

Many councillors spoke positively about the project, but recognize more details are required. Councillor Gibbs asked that if the project proceeds, as much local content and supplies as possible be used. He referenced that in a wind farm project near his home, concrete and concrete finishers were coming in from Cape Breton, while all of this could have been sourced locally.

Since this was a presentation session decisions could not be made. The matter will be added to the agenda for council's meeting on January 29th.

Municipal Council Notes

January 15, 2015 meeting

Royal Canadian Legion will receive \$500 to support hosting the 52nd Annual Provincial Convention on May 15-18. Approximately 400-500 delegates and observers are expected to attend. Overall budget for hosting the convention is \$10,000.

Council agreed to convert a part time Recreation Support position into a full time position. In 2011 with annual ongoing funding from the province the recreation department hired a part-time support person. Craig Burgess, Director Recreation Services, told council the responsibilities of the recreation department have increased to the point a full time position is required. Annual funding of \$25,000 from the province is ensured for another three years.

The Director of Solid Waste, Wayne Wamboldt was asked to submit a "Small Wind" application under the COMFIT program on behalf of the Municipality to secure a position in the queue should Council decide to proceed with a "Small Wind" project at a later date. Council received a "Small Wind" presentation from Wayne Wamboldt and Endurance Wind at its presentation session on Tuesday, January 20th. (See story elsewhere in this issue).

Three Scholarships awarded to those entering trades was brought before council to make changes to the policy. On motion by Tom Taggart, seconded by Doug MacInnes, the policy was changed to include recipients reside in Colchester County; and that highest marks not be the criteria, but rather assessments be done to determine who would be best suited to the trades.

A new Taxi By-law to be harmonized with the Town of Truro was referred the next council for first reading. Formation of a taxi by-law started in 2011, when Town of Truro asked council to consider adopting a complementary by-law. In May 2012 two councillors were appointed to work with staff and the Town of Truro. With the matter moving ahead, four Taxi Committee meetings with the town have taken place since April 2014.

Changes to Sewer Use Policy has resulted in prohibiting accepting any Fracking Waste water beyond what is currently at the AIS facility in Debert and was approved on December 10, 2014. Essentially it means current fracking fluids in Kennetcook will not be accepted for disposal in the municipality's sewer system.

Small Flood Damage Policy was revised to require property owners participating in small flood protection projects must pay their portion within a year, rather than amortizing it over a number of years. Other minor wording changes were made to the policy. Those participating in the future should check with their councillor or the Flood Advisory Committee.

Stantech has been selected as the Municipality's Post Construction Sound Studies Consultant for Wind Turbine Projects. If taxpayers close to a wind turbine site complain about excessive noise, Stantech, upon instructions from the municipality, will conduct the study and report to council. Any costs associated with such studies will be recouped from wind turbine developer.

On motion from Councillor Taggart, councillors will have the same insurance coverage as staff when attending out of area meetings on behalf of the municipality. Staff will source the suitable insurance provider, which may be accessed through Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, or the municipality's current insurance provider.

Randy Currie has accepted a one year term as Wastewater Collection Site Supervisor. Currie's move up to the site supervisor position created a vacancy which has been filled by Wade George, who has over 20 years experience as a power engineer and maintenance technician.

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