

MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN

2021CT05 - REPORT TO COUNCIL

REPORT DATE: January 27, 2021

ORIGINATOR: Cindy Pigeau; Clerk-Treasurer

SUBJECT: Consolidation of Councillor ideas/goals for the Strategic Plan

BACKGROUND

The following is the consolidation of the thoughts and ideas of 3 Members of Council.

Examples of Strategic Plans that are liked:

Township of Assiginack

Township of Alberton

Charts from the Township of Chisholm for accountability purposes

It is recommended that Council review these example Strategic Plans.

Ideas to consider when developing goals and action plans:

- Use good planning and fiscal responsibility to ensure taxes remain affordable for our residents, Keeping in line with our budget to stay fiscally responsible to our residents

- Focus on agriculture
 - Ensuring zoning by-laws allows for farm structures and activities
 - Place a focus on agriculture when there are “not in my back yard complaints”
 - Evaluate all polices and by-laws - try to prevent negative effects on local agriculture

- Focus on addressing rising costs of mandated Levy's
 - Mandated levy's occupy a significant portion of our budget and have seen steady increase, often well above inflation, over the last decade
 - Focus on managing cost of Nursing homes
 - Focus on establishing a fair levy for DNSSAB

- Maintenance of our assets
 - good planning
 - asset management
 - Place importance on preventative maintenance to prevent future expense

- Looking at our Asset Management Plan and prepare accordingly for maximum value of our assets and life cycle and to prepare for the future needs. Good road infrastructure is very important. Good roads encourage new residents, attract tourism and the possibility of new businesses

- Coordination with Staff to consider their recommendations is key to making this a successful plan
- Creating a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats list (SWOT)
- What does Calvin have to offer? What are we lacking?
- Look at why people choose to live in the North? How do we promote and nurture what Calvin has
- Working with the Broadband Connectivity Committee to bring better broadband so our residents can have the essentials to stay competitive in the working field and students have better opportunities for education
- Working with Mattawa & Area Community Safety & Wellness Advisory Committee: Looking at the needs for our seniors and children. Create a sense of community with programs for both age groups in activities, recreation and health. How do we create more connectivity within our municipality and encourage involvement (volunteers). How can we facilitate volunteerism?
- Continue developing the provincially mandated Community Safety and Well-being Plan in partnership with the Township of Papineau-Cameron, the Municipality of Mattawan and the Town of Mattawa and by doing so, work with our community partners to create a model to identify and address emerging issues and trends that impact the safety and well-being in our communities. The Plan should enhance our ability to respond to issues in a coordinated manner and build on all successful efforts that contribute to a strong sense of community safety and well-being in the Municipality of Calvin.
- Support our local community groups offering recreation, leisure, group inclusion and participation
- Within this plan we need to keep in mind Casselholme, Mattawa Nursing Home, Landfill closure and any future big purchases like a fire truck or a public works vehicle
- Continue to be actively engaged with regards to Cassellholme and the Algonquin Nursing Home in order to proactively manage municipal financial obligations
- Continue to work with and towards producer responsibilities for blue box recycling
- Roads are extremely important for any municipality both for transportation and economic development. Continue to support our roads department initiatives in maintaining exemplary road conditions within the municipality (culverts, hard surfaces, gravel and gravel patching, ditching, brushing and grading)
- Continue to promote our Newsletter, Webpage, Facebook and Twitter accounts to engage and educate our residents and others looking at our area

- Review and then follow the majority of participant’s recommendations and wishes that were expressed in our Strategic Planning Questionnaire. Otherwise we are not listening to our community nor following their wishes

Potential Goals for the Strategic Plan:

- Promote Internet connectivity in the community
 - Through advocacy
- Working with the Broadband Connectivity Committee to bring better broadband so our residents can have the essentials to stay competitive in the working field and students have better opportunities for education
- Top priorities should be basic services for all residents
 - Roads
 - Fire
 - Landfill
- Our fire department and fire department volunteers are the heart of our protection services in the municipality. Continue to support this group and continue to put money aside to purchase necessary equipment and vehicles in order for these exemplary services to continue and to be safe while proving their services to the municipality
- Keep public spaces open and slowly improve these areas
 - Smith lake boat lunch
 - Swimming Hole
- Continue to maintain and improve, where possible, the cemetery, playground, rink, ballfields and entrance way to our Municipal Office
 - Equipment (shovels, rakes, lawn mower, snow blower)
 - Volunteers
 - Materials (trees, flowers, rink boards, playground items)
 - Staffing (appropriate staffing including students to maintain properties)
- Work towards energy and resource reduction by thinking “Green” and replacing older technology with modern, efficient equipment (lighting, equipment and processes)
- Continue to develop policies and investigate options to extend our landfill’s life – divert more to recycling and promote that through public mailings, onsite education and having appropriate staffing to enforce policies and to provide public education to residents at the landfill site
- Develop a fund for upgrades and replacements of municipal buildings (hall, roads and fire)
- Continue to work with neighbouring communities to share and acquire required services. We currently have a “Sharing of Services” between East Ferris, Papineau-Cameron and Mattawan for Engineering, CBO and Fire Services

- Explore the possibility of participating in a Municipal Group Buying Program for benefits, insurance, purchases and other services used every day

Additional Information:

- The survey was distributed in February of 2020 with the interim tax bills. Reminders were sent out in the March and April Flyer. Our Facebook and Twitter Accounts were created in late March 2020, the April flyer was put on the Facebook and Twitter Accounts. On the Citizens Alert app, the February and March Flyer were posted which included the survey. The flyer was posted on the website every month, there was a banner for the survey on the website and there were copies of the survey at the landfill.
- 50 surveys were received back from the public
- We all have the same goal of providing for our ratepayers (customer). It is with that goal in mind that we need to build on a workplace culture that focuses on team work and cooperation that pays attention to details and invest now to save later.

Reference Materials previously provided to Council:

1. Introductions to Strategic Planning – Resource Manual from the Province of Ontario
2. Mission and Vision Statements
3. Consolidated Survey Results
4. 2019 Residential Tax Rate Comparison - Neighbouring Municipalities
5. Strategic Asset Management Policy
6. Census Profile from 2016 Census
7. Mattawa Community Development Inc., 2019 – Age-Friendly Community Needs Assessment and Plan
8. 2018 Financial Highlights (you can find the 2019 financial highlights on the website as well)
9. Example Strategic Plans from the Township of Chisholm, the Municipality of St. Charles, the Municipality of East Ferris, the Municipality of South Bruce, the Township of Assiginack and the Township of Alberton

If any Member of Council is missing any of this information and would like a copy, please contact the Clerk-Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted;
Cindy Pigeau
Clerk Treasurer