



Municipality of the District of Argyle

Item: Veteran's Banner Project

Date: March 30, 2023

VISION

We see Argyle as home to a healthy and thriving rural population. Our municipality promotes and supports economic and social opportunities for the region and engages in the active expression of our unique Acadian heritage. We are a place of choice for rural living and are widely recognized for our warm hospitality and joie de vivre. Surrounded by fresh air and cool ocean breezes, we work and play in the great outdoors. People choose to live in Argyle because of our commitment to each other, to our community, and to our neighbors. Argyle is a place we are proud to call home.

Request:

Staff is looking for approval from Council to continue with the Veteran's Banner Project for the 2023 year. The request will be like last year. Each Councillor could have up to 5 banners for their district.

Background:

Last year, we had a very successful first year with the project. We had a total of 33 banners purchased: 9 in Wedgeport, 9 in West Pubnico, 9 in East Pubnico and 6 in Tusket.

We had installed the banners on the sidewalks of Wedgeport, Tusket and West Pubnico. In East Pubnico, we had them installed on different approved power poles in East Pubnico.

Like last year, the expectation is that the West Pubnico and Wedgeport Legions will administer the project, meaning they will advertise, accept eligible applications, oversee the lottery if there are too many participants, and ensure accuracy on the banners.

The municipality's role, like last year, would be to install and remove banners, assist in promoting the program, collecting the money, purchasing the brackets for the poles and store the banners for the following year.

The applications would be responsible for the cost of the banners, as they were last year.

Things to consider:

- The Municipality still needs approval from NS Power to use the power poles. Scott Surette has reached out and is awaiting approval.

Financial obligations:

- 35 Brackets = \$90 +HST = **\$3622.50**
- 3 days to install banners (Salary for two staff, included in their current salary) = Approx. **\$1350**

- 1 day to remove banners (salary of two staff, included in their current salary) = Approx. **\$450**

Total cost to the municipality is approximately **\$5422.50**

Suggestions:

Option #1 Council continues to support the Veterans Banner Program with 5 additional banners for each district.

Option #2 Council does not wish to continue to support the Veterans Banner Program.

Recommendation:

Staff is recommending continuing with this project, as the initiative was well received by our veterans and our residents. The legions also feel that after last year, there should get a greater intake of families purchasing these banners. We may result in a surplus of applications for these banners for each district and the legion will need to do a lottery (drawing names out of a hat to determine the 5 banners for each district). The legion has a wait list of applications to purchase these banners from last year.

It should be noted that the banners that were purchased last year will also be installed again. The agreement with the applicants is that the banners are put up for a three-year period.

Suggested Motion:

That Council continues to support the Veterans Banners Program and that the cost be budgeted in the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget for an additional 5 banners per district.