

Community group speaks up for wetlands

On behalf of the mallard ducks, tadpoles, cattails and other wildlife that call Armstrong's wetlands home, the newest volunteer-run organization, Armstrong Wetlands Association, is on a mission to preserve what it feels is unappreciated landscape.

wetlands, outreach- ing to different orga- nizations in our area, [as well as] research- ing and organizing some of the informa- tion," she explained.

Fellow director Margaret Sydney, who was also pres- ent at council, said that although she understood pos-

During the regu- lar council meeting, council approved the scope of the work to create the master plan and instructed staff to engage inte-

grated watersheds to complete the WMP at the cost of up to \$30,000.

WMP is a compo- nent of the city's 2018-2020 strategic

plan. The strategic plan states that the city intends to com- plete the master plan with a public consul- tation process within the next year.

Wetlands are important to the whole ecosystem.

"There is not a lot of value put on the wetlands," said direc- tor of the Armstrong Wetlands Association Jill de la Salle. "We want to conserve the remaining wetlands in Armstrong."

De la Salle intro- duced the group and its mission to Arm- strong council mem- bers at the committee of the whole meeting Monday with the ob- jective to gather sup- port from council.

"We are working on mapping, under- standing the historic

sible challenges for economic growth in Armstrong, the wet- lands shouldn't suf- fer.

"[The wetlands] are integral to this com- munity," said Sydney. "They were here be- fore the community was and they are im- portant to the whole ecosystem."

Council didn't raise many questions for the pair of directors. Instead, they offered a seat in future dis- cussions as the city creates its Wetland Master Plan (WMP).