



Village of New Minas
New Minas Water Commission Meeting
Wednesday February 24, 2021 @ 7:00 PM
Commission Room
Louis Millet Community Centre
New Minas, Nova Scotia

Commissioners Present:

- James Redmond, Chair
- Dave Chaulk, Vice Chair
- Mary Munroe, Commissioner
- Bruce MacArthur, Citizen Member
- Scott Crowell, Citizen Member

Commissioners Absent:

- None

Staff Present:

- Gerard Hamilton, Operations Manager
- Ian Morrison, Clerk Treasurer/Chief Administrative Officer

Others Present:

- None

Call to Order:

Chair James Redmond called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, welcoming those in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda:

THAT the Agenda for the February 24, 2021 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved, as presented.

M/Mary Munroe

S/Bruce MacArthur

Motion Carried

Approval of the Minutes from Prior Meeting:

THAT the Minutes for the January 27, 2021 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved as presented.

M/Dave Chaulk

S/Scott Crowell
Motion Carried

Business Arising from Minutes:
None

Presentations:

Operating Budget

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO and the Operations Manager presented the Operating Budget for 2021-2022. The budget was reviewed in detail. Elements of the budget include the following:

- \$934,318 in Revenues
- \$934,318 in Expenses
- No changes in rates
- \$15,000 in Engineering Expenses allocated, which includes a Water Rate Study
- \$300,060 in Depreciation Expense is single largest expense
- \$213,885 in Wages & Benefits comprises the second largest expense

The last Water Rate Study was conducted in 2007. Therefore, the need for an updated study was identified. The Commission recommended an updated account name for Account #W25500. Therefore, the account will be designated as "Regulatory Expenses". The Clerk Treasurer/CAO commented that Section 11 of *An Act to Incorporate the New Minas Water Commission*, establishes the remuneration for Commissioners and, therefore, the amounts cannot be altered without a change in legislation. The Clerk Treasurer/CAO committed to researching this further.

THAT the Operating Budget for 2021-2022 be accepted, with the aforementioned notation.

M/Dave Chaulk
S/Scott Crowell
Motion Carried

Source Water Protection Committee Terms of Reference

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO presented the third draft of the Terms of Reference for the Source Water Protection Committee to the Commission for review. This draft includes the feedback that was provided by the legal counsel, as well as changes recommended at the last meeting of the Commission, specifically, the clarification that a citizen appointee could be a water utility ratepayer or a resident of New Minas who is not a water utility ratepayer.

THAT the Terms of Reference of the Source Water Protection Committee be adopted, as presented.

M/Dave Chaulk
S/Mary Munroe
Motion Carried

Committee Reports:

Water Operations Report

Mr. Hamilton presented the Water Operations Department Report.

THAT the Water Operations Department Report be accepted as presented.

M/Bruce MacArthur

S/Scott Crowell

Motion Carried

New Business:

None

Correspondence:

None

Public Discussion Period:

Mr. Chaulk commended staff for their timely and early efforts in preparing and presenting the Operating Budget.

Adjournment:

M/Dave Chaulk

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:46 pm.