



**Village of New Minas**  
New Minas Water Commission Meeting  
Wednesday November 25, 2020 @ 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

**Commissioners Absent:**

- Scott Crowell, Citizen Member

**Staff Present:**

- Greg Messom, Water Systems Operator
- Ian Morrison, Clerk Treasurer/Chief Administrative Officer

**Others Present:**

- Perry Wallace
- Scott Quinn, Director, Engineering & Public Works, Land, and Parks (Municipality of Kings)
- Trish Javorek, Director, Land Use Planning & Inspection Services

**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 November 25, 2020 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved, as presented.

**M/Dave Chaulk**

**S/Mary Munroe**

**CARRIED**

**Approval of the Minutes from Prior Meeting:**

THAT the Minutes for the October 28, 2020 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved as presented.

**M/Dave Chaulk**

**S/Bruce MacArthur**

**CARRIED**

**Business Arising from Minutes:**

None

**Presentations:**

Financial Update (Year to Date)

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO presented the Income Statement for the New Minas Water Commission as of November 23. At present, the NMWC is reporting the following:

\$327,405 in Revenues (versus \$326,707 last meeting)

\$447,631 in Expenses (versus \$415,626 last meeting)

(\$120,226) Net (versus \$88,919 last meeting)

The deficit is due mainly to the transfer of Water Commission funds to the Village of New Minas at the commencement of the fiscal year. Approximately \$222,982 of the expenses are annual payments to the Village for services for the year.

The expenses for the following accounts remain a concern at this point in the fiscal year:

\$30,148 in Maintenance of Wells (budget is \$34,800)

\$5,928 in Maintenance of Services (budget is \$5,000)

\$17,893 in Water Testing Expense (budget is \$20,100)

Collection update:

\$14,969 in Metered Sales needs to be collected

\$34 in Sprinkler Service Sales needs to be collected

**Source Water Protection Plan**

Scott Quinn, Director, Engineering & Public Works, Land, and Parks (Municipality of Kings) and Trish Javorek, Director, Land Use Planning & Inspection Services (Municipality of Kings) discussed the matter of a source water protection program for the Village of New Minas. The former plan was repealed when the New Minas Sector Plan (By-law #42) and New Minas Land Use By-law (By-law #57) were repealed as part of the process to adopt the Land Use By-law (By-law #106). A well-rounded source water protection program would include ongoing committee oversight, which might consist of stakeholders including a representative of the provincial Department of the Environment, policy, best practices, and education around this issue.

Mr. Quinn and Ms. Javorek recommended that the first step would be for the Village Commission to draft and adopt terms of reference for a Source Water Protection Committee and then proceed to establishing the committee. A first objective of the Committee, once

functional, would be to evaluate and recommend changes to the Village's Source Water Protection Plan, which was adopted nearly two decades ago.

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO was directed to work with appropriate stakeholders to develop a draft Terms of Reference for a Source Water Protection Committee.

**Committee Reports:**

Greg Messom presented the Water Operations Department Report on behalf of Gerard Hamilton.

THAT the Water Operations Department Report be accepted as presented.

**M/Mary Munroe**

**S/Bruce MacArthur**

**CARRIED**

**New Business:**

Canaan Heights Permanent Generator

Perry Wallace, Treasurer of the Canaan Heights Neighbourhood Association, presented a letter to the members of the New Minas Water Commission outlining a request for assistance in securing a grant for a permanent generator for water supply. At present, the residents of the subdivision, which consists of approximately 40 dwellings, lose water supply during a power interruption. The Village previously agreed to supply a portable generator to accommodate this interruption on a shared basis. The residents would like to explore a permanent solution.

To date, the temporary generator has not been tested, since there have not been any sustained outages since it was made available for this purpose. The aforementioned generator is scheduled for a test prior to the end of the calendar year, in an effort to evaluate its performance and identify to what capacity it is able to meet the needs to the residents.

The Commission indicated a willingness to work with the residents to identify further solutions to the matter, which may include assistance securing, but not financing, grant funding for the initiative. The Commission asked staff to prepare a report on the matter for consideration. The report should include the assessment of the test of the temporary generator and costs of a permanent solution.

**Correspondence:**

None

**Public Discussion Period:**

Mr. Messom discussed a break and enter that occurred at Cornwallis Well #1 and #2 on the evening of November 22. The individual or individuals gained entry to the well building, possibly with the intent to relocate from the cold. The breakers were shut off by the perpetrators. There was no damage to the well, other than the entry, which has since been secured. In addition, drug paraphernalia has been discovered in the general vicinity of the well

building in recent weeks. The matter was reported to the RCMP. The Commission asked that enhanced fencing be explored for the well area, to act as a deterrent to further activity.

**Adjournment:**

**M/Dave Chaulk**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:07 pm.