



Village of New Minas
New Minas Water Commission Meeting
Wednesday August 25, 2021 @ 7:00 PM
Commission Room
Louis Millett Community Complex
New Minas, Nova Scotia

Commissioners Present:

- James Redmond, Chair
- Bruce MacArthur, Citizen Member (via online technology)
- Mary Munroe, Commissioner
- Maynard Stevens, Citizen Member

Commissioners Absent:

- Dave Chaulk, Vice Chair (with regrets)

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 August 25, 2021 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved, as presented.

M/Maynard Stevens

S/Mary Munroe

Motion Carried

Approval of the Minutes from Prior Meeting:

THAT the Minutes for the July 28, 2021 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved as presented.

M/Maynard Stevens

S/Mary Munroe

Motion Carried

Business Arising from Minutes:

None.

Presentations:

Financial Update

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO presented the year to date Income Statement for the New Minas Water Commission as of August 20.

\$540,080 in Revenues (versus 426,993 last period)

\$682,339 in Expenses (versus \$639,735 last period)

(\$142,259) Net (versus (\$212,742) last period)

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 \$547,388 of the expenses are annual payments to the Village for the following services for the year:

\$6,732 in Commissioner Remuneration

\$199,460 in Salaries

\$14,425 in Benefits

\$5,000 in Snow Clearing Services

\$3,088 in Lease & Services Agreements

\$3,000 in Postage & Office Supplies

\$15,073 in Insurance

\$5,500 in LMCC Contribution

\$300,060 in Depreciation

\$547,388 Total

Reports:

Water Operations Report

Gerard Hamilton presented the Water Operations Department Report.

THAT the Water Operations Department Report be accepted as presented.

M/Maynard Stevens

S/Mary Munroe

Motion Carried

New Business:

An Act to Continue the New Minas Water Commission - Draft

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO advised that the Legislative Council Office has supplied a final draft version of *An Act to Continue the New Minas Water Commission*. The draft includes most of the changes which were proposed in the Motion passed by the Commission at the June 23 meeting, with some revisions. The Clerk Treasurer/CAO and the Legislative Council Office have exchanged drafts and have settled on a document which can be presented to the Commission for ratification. The next steps in the process will be to have the document prepared as legislation to be introduced in an upcoming sitting of the Legislative Assembly. The Clerk Treasurer/CAO recommended acceptance of the draft.

THAT the document *New Minas Water Commission Act*, currently in draft form, be endorsed as presented, and, furthermore, that the Clerk Treasurer/CAO be directed to send the document, with a copy of this Motion, to the Legislative Council Office asking that the document be introduced as legislation for review and consideration of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia.

M/Maynard Stevens

S/Mary Munroe

Motion Carried

Amendment to Schedule of Rules & Regulations

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO presented, for the consideration of the Commission, an amendment to the Commission's Schedule of Rules & Regulations, which was put in force on April 1, 2008. The amendment, which would require the approval of the Utility and Review Board, would permit the Commission to institute and enforce water conservation efforts. This may be necessary for a number of circumstances, including efforts to conserve water while the Woodvale Tank is being refurbished. The Clerk Treasurer/CAO advised that most other utilities have such a regulation in place for conservation purposes. The amendment also clarifies the language in the document to be gender neutral.

THAT an application be submitted to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for an Amendment to add Section #26 to the Schedule of Rules and Regulations of the New Minas Water Commission to include the following directive:

WATER CONSERVATION DIRECTIVE

- 1) The Commission may implement water conservation measures, if in the opinion of the Commission, such measures will permit the Commission to provide a reliable, continuous water supply to all customers serviced by the Commission.
- 2) During such times as water conservation measures referred to in subsection (1) are implemented, customers who do not comply with such measures may have their water service suspended during such period as the Commission's water conservation measures are in place.
- 3) The cost of turning on a water service suspended pursuant to subsection (2) will be the responsibility of the customer, as outlined in the approved Schedule of Rates for the utility.

Furthermore, the application shall amend Section #4 to remove "to him", Section #9 to replace "his" with "their", and Section #15 to replace "him" with "by the consumer".

M/Maynard Stevens

S/Mary Munroe

Motion Carried

Correspondence:

None.

Public Discussion Period:

None

Adjournment:

M/

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:27 pm.