

**Council Meeting-Special
Town of Nutter Fort
01/02/19**

Recorder Louk called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:31 pm.

Attendance: Recorder Charlene Louk, Councilors, Karen Phillips, Brenda Riley and Donald "Duck" Webster. Treasurer Julia Foley,

Guests: Denver and Kandy Atkinson, Zach Dobbins-sewer project accountant, David Glover-project attorney.

Unfinished business: Recorder Louk welcomed everyone and stated the purpose of tonight's meeting is to have a public hearing to address comments/concerns regarding the Town's rate increase associated with the upcoming sewer project. Zach Dobbins gave an overview of the project and proposed rate increase and the three tiers for implementing it. Included in this increase, as part of the project is paving of affected streets. Total cost for the project is \$4,676,500.00.

Mrs. Louk then asked for comments from the floor. Mrs. Atkinson asked if the increase will be a higher rate for businesses than residents? Her business uses a very minimal amount of water. Mr. Dobbins responded the increase will be the same across the board, residential or business. It is based on gallons of water used. He gave examples of the increases for a **minimum** bill (2000 gallons) and an **average** bill (3400 gallons). For example, on a **minimum** bill:

First tier @ 4 ½% increase = \$1.60 monthly (to go into effect approximately Feb. 2019)

Second tier @ 4 ½% increase = \$1.60 monthly (around late summer 2019)

Third tier @ 4% increase = \$1.42 monthly. (at project completion)

Total increase of \$4.62.00

An **average** bill will increase by \$7.68 after all three tiers are implemented.

Mr. Dobbins also pointed out the 13% increase is very low, considering some projects taken on by municipalities end up with increases of 50% and higher.

All documents are available if anyone would like to see them. Mr. Webster asked for clarification that this is phase two of a three-part sewer project? Zach verified this is correct. Mr. Webster understands the projects are needed, but residents talk to him about increases making it difficult on them. He is glad the tiered increases can be kept relatively low.

Having no further business, meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:43 pm.

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor