



Village of New Minas
New Minas Water Commission Meeting
Wednesday June 24, 2020 @ 10:00 AM
Held Via Teleconference
New Minas, Nova Scotia

Commissioners Present:

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

Staff Present:

- Patrick Diotte, Archivist & Administrative Assistant
- 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 10:02 am, welcoming those in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda:

THAT the Agenda for the June 24, 2020 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved, with the addition of Meeting Time and Street Paving under New Business.

M/Mary Munroe

S/Bruce MacArthur

CARRIED

Approval of the Minutes from Prior Meeting:

THAT the Minutes for the May 27, 2020 regular New Minas Water Commission meeting be approved as presented.

M/Dave Chaulk

S/Mary Munroe

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 June 21. At present, the NMWC is reporting the following:

\$148,362 in Revenues

\$281,625 in Expenses

(\$133,263) Net

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

\$189,640 in Salaries

\$5,000 in Benefits

\$13,342 in Insurance

\$10,000 in LMCC Contribution

\$5,000 in Snow Removal

\$229,982 Total

To date, revenues are performing to expectations and expenses appear to be in line with estimates.

Committee Reports:

Gerard Hamilton presented the Water Operations Department Report. Mr. Hamilton commented, in response to an enquiry about the investment in new meters and readers, that the new devices have a much longer life expectancy of 20-25 years and the time to read the meters has been reduced from two weeks to 2-3 days.

A question was raised about health concerns with regard to the radio frequency transmissions with the readers and whether shields should be considered for the purposes of protection. Mr. Hamilton will investigate further, although no concerns have been raised about this matter.

Mr. Hamilton also advised that the durability of some of the pump motors, in particular those at Cornwallis #1 Well and Towers Well, is a concern. He will be consulting with the Village appointed engineer on this matter. To date, pump issues have not affected supply.

THAT the Water Operations Department Report be accepted as presented.

M/Mary Munroe

S/Scott Crowell

CARRIED

New Business:**Meeting Time**

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO enquired whether there would be interest in moving the time of the meetings of the New Minas Water Commission to the daytime, as opposed to Wednesday evenings. The Commission felt that the evening time was preferable as it would not be a deterrent to individuals who may be interested in serving on the Commission but who may work in the daytime.

The Commission agreed to change the time of its teleconference meetings to 10:30 am, to accommodate a request from Ms. Munroe

Street Paving

Mr. Hamilton raised the issue of costs for the Village Commission and Water Commission related to street paving undertaken by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR), through its contracted partners. The Village Commission and Water Commission will incur unplanned for costs related to boxes, gate valves, and sewer covers which need repair or replacement to comply with the road repair work. The position of TIR is that the firm contracted to repair the road will conduct this work and it will be billed back to the Village or the Water Commission, depending on whether it is related to the sewer system or water system. Unfortunately, these costs are not known because the road work is often announced after the budget cycle has been completed. Therefore, this may be an item for expense or capital investment at a point later in the fiscal year.

Correspondence:

None

Public Discussion Period:

None.

Adjournment:

M/Dave Chaulk

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:21 am.