

NEW MINAS WATER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
January 26, 2011
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the New Minas Water Commission was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2011 in the Civic Center lower level at 7:00 p.m..

In Attendance: Chair Maynard Stevens
Vice-Chair Robert Horne
Village Commissioner James Redmond
Citizen Member Scott Crowell
Superintendent of Public Works Peter Pothier
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Absent: Village Commission Chair Dave Chaulk

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stevens called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – January 26, 2011

It was moved by J. Redmond, seconded by S. Crowell, that the Agenda for the January 26, 2011 regular meeting be accepted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 27, 2010

It was moved by J. Redmond, seconded by R. Horne that the minutes of the regular meeting held October 27, 2010 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Application to Amend after Hours Call outs to the UARB - Update

The Commissioners reviewed the letter from the NS Utility and Review Board in response to the Water Commission's request for rate changes. The letter stated that in order to change the rates, the NSUARB would be required to hold a public hearing.

It was moved by J. Redmond, seconded by R. Horne that the Water Commission wait to make the changes to the rates during the process of the next Water Rate Study. MOTION CARRIED

REGIONAL SEWER REPORT – Chair Stevens

Chair Stevens gave a verbal report from the Regional Sewer Committee. He highlighted the following items which were discussed at the Regional Sewer Committee meeting held January 20th, 2011:

- New regulations have been released from the NS Department of Environment, with notable changes to the discharge rates for BOD (previously 30; now 20), and TSS (previously 40; now 20). Also, the required number of grab samples has increased considerably. Chair Stevens stated the Committee will be requesting a meeting with NSDOE in the near future to try to understand why these amounts have changed so drastically, and it is felt, unreasonably, and to encourage that Department to reconsider these changed to the regulations. It was noted that the Regional plant was in compliance for most of 2010, for the first time in many years, but these new regulations cause a great deal of concern for the plant's compliance status.
- The drum screens were removed in December 2010, in anticipation of the arrival of the new screens; however, the arrival of the new screens has been delayed until mid-February. The removal of the screens has necessitated solids going directly into the ponds. When asked, the County Engineer felt that this delay would not create any problems with the lagoons, but a further delay would cause concern. The bid from Western Plumbing and Heating to upgrade the Headworks Building at the plant was accepted by the Committee and recommended to County Council.

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Application to Amend Wellfield Zone A – Decommissioning of Civic Center Well

The Commission reviewed information from the Clerk Treasurer and County Planner with regard to the decommissioning of the well on the Civic Center property, and the subsequent rezoning of the property from Wellfield Zone A to Wellfield Zone B.

It was moved by S. Crowell, seconded by J. Redmond, that the Clerk Treasurer be authorized to apply for an amendment to the New Minas Sector Plan, Land Use Bylaw, to rezone the Wellfield Zone A to Wellfield Zone B at the Civic Center former well location. MOTION CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent's Report was reviewed, and discussed.

P. Pothier advised that the Village is almost ready to take over the water and sewer services of the Moore's Landing Subdivision. He stated the Village's gate valve was paved over on the street, and once the developer has exposed and lifted this gate valve, the Village can take over the water and sewer services for this subdivision.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of J. Redmond, the meeting adjourned.

Maynard Stevens, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer