

**NEW MINAS WATER COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
July 27, 2011  
7:00 p.m.**

The regular monthly meeting of the New Minas Water Commission was held in the Basement of the Civic Centre in New Minas on Wednesday, July 27, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

**In Attendance:**

Maynard Stevens, Chair, Water Commission  
Dave Chaulk, Member, Water Commission, Village Commission Chair  
James Redmond, Member, Water Commission  
Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works & Water  
Gerard Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works & Water  
Lynn Spencer, Recording Secretary  
Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer

**Regrets:**

Robert Horne, Vice-Chair, Water Commission  
Scott Crowell, Member, Water Commission

**Call to Order:**

Chair Maynard Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**It was moved by James Redmond, seconded by Dave Chaulk to approve the agenda as circulated. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by James Redmond, seconded by Dave Chaulk to approve the minutes of May 25 and May 31, 2011 as circulated. MOTION CARRIED**

Maynard Stevens called for nominations for Chair, James Redmond nominated Maynard Stevens. M. Stevens called for nominations a second and third time, and hearing none, Maynard Stevens was appointed Chair. M. Stevens thanked the Commission for their confidence in him and told the Commission he would do his best to do a good job.

Chair Stevens called for nominations for Vice Chair, Dave Chaulk nominated James Redmond. Chair Stevens called for nominations a second and third time, and hearing none, James Redmond was appointed Vice Chair. James Redmond will also be the alternate person for Regional Sewer Committee.

Chair Stevens presented his report of the Regional Sewer Committee (attached to original minutes). His report was a review of the issues surrounding the Village's capacity at the Regional Sewer Plant.

Hiltz and Seamone and Hal Henderson conducted a study of the regional sewer transmission and treatment plant, which included a

system plan, and a summary of flows associated with the pump stations on the transmission line from Coldbrook to the Regional Sewage Treatment for current and future growth. Also, recommendations for test procedures, locations, user charges and allocation of capital costs. Within this report was a “Table 6 System Users Current and Allocated Usage”. This table gives the current usage and the allocated usage for each partner, and these figures were determined from the agreements and other historical data.

The Regional Sewer Committee made a motion to adopt Table 6, with direction to forward it on to County Council for their approval. Table 6 was not approved by County Council, and Commissioner Stevens was advised Council is not willing to approve the table.

Another issue cited by Commissioner Stevens is the County’s refusal to provide timesheets to the paying partners. These have been requested by Commissioner Stevens for months, and when he asked again at the July meeting, the Committee was presented a list of hours for the past 13 months, but only for the dedicated operator (attached to original minutes). Commissioner Stevens advised that at that time Peter Pothier asked all staff time sheets specific to the Regional Sewer. Chair Newton responded that he should “be careful what you wish for”. The Commission has a number of concerns about this item.

The Commission is questioning if the acceptance of the Engineer’s report on the capacity is being held back because of the boundary expansion. They are concerned that this may be a deliberate refusal to recognize the Village’s capacity in the Regional Sewer, and if so, this would have a negative impact on the Village’s application for boundary expansion. This Table 6 has been accepted by the Regional Sewer Committee and Chair Stevens has asked for it to be passed on to Council for approval, but County Council will not pass it.

Superintendent Pothier advised he has been told by County Engineer that Table 6 has, in fact, not even gone to Council.

The third item that concerns Chair Stevens as the Village’s representative on the Regional Sewer Committee is the undertaking of the Committee to hold a meeting involving only the municipal partners, and deliberately excluding the industrial partners. The Commission agreed that this is inappropriate, and Chair Stevens will not be taking part in any such meeting in the future.

**It was moved by Dave Chaulk, seconded by James Redmond that a letter be written to the Municipality of the County of Kings CAO Bob Ashley, outlining our concerns with respect to council not approving Table 6 of the Engineer’s report, their reluctance to provide time sheets, the Commission’s concerns surrounding secret meetings being held by the Regional Sewer Committee which**

**exclude some partners, and request a face to face meeting with CAO Ashley and Warden Brothers. MOTION CARRIED**

Superintendent of Public Works and Water Peter Pothier's report was presented to the Water Commission. (attached to original minutes).

Peter informed the Water Commission that he wrote a letter to the Chief of Greenwich fire department (attached to original minutes) because they were withdrawing unmetered water from the New Minas system to fill pools and as recently as last week they filled a motel pool in Grand Pre. The New Minas Water unmetered water is for fire protection and other emergencies only. He requested this cease immediately. The letter was cc to Terry Silver Clerk Treasurer, Gary Smith, Manager Protective and Emergency Services, County of Kings and James Redmond New Minas Fire Chief. Dave Chaulk said that New Minas residents should not be paying for Greenwich Fire Dept to sell water to fill pools. Should this persist then the Police should be called and have them charged.

T. Silver advised her concern is one of accountability for water used. She explained that when a rate study is carried out, there is a comparison of water extracted versus water charged for consumption. She said the Board of Public Utilities questioned the abnormal discrepancy during the last rate study, and the unreported large volumes of this nature would explain that.

When talking to Gary Smith and Chief Miller Peter stated they questioned whether or not this had anything to do with James Redmond. Peter stated he was unsure as to why they would ask that, but told them both that his concerns were with the unmetered use of the Village's water.

Chair Stevens asked whether or not the problems with the chlorine injector at Woodvale reservoir, as noted in the Superintendent's report, would affect the quality of water provided to residents. Peter Pothier assured him that it would not; there is always a back up when something happens.

**It was moved by, James Redmond, seconded by Dave Chaulk to accept the Superintendent's report as circulated. MOTION CARRIED**

The Water Commission were given a report from Hitlz and Seamone on the Options for the distribution of ACA Capacity in the Regional Sewer System. The commission agreed to table this report to the next meeting and request Doug Seamone to attend the meeting to review the report.

**Adjournment:**

The Water Commission acknowledged a letter received from ACA.  
James Redmond moved for adjournment at 7:45 P.M.

**Approved**

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**Maynard Stevens, Chair**

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**Lynn Spencer, Recording Secretary**