

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
NEW MINAS WATER & SEWER COMMISSION**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2002  
7:00 P.M.**

**In Attendance:** Chairman Marvin Messom  
Bob Horne  
Ted Nicholson  
Rod MacInnis  
James Redmond  
  
Les Barrett  
Village Commissioner  
  
Peter Pothier  
Water/Sewer System Operator  
  
H. Heidi Foshay Kimball, Solicitor

**Absent:** Doug Seamone, P. Eng.  
Hiltz & Seamone Company Limited

**Call to Order:** Chairman Messom called the meeting to order at 7 o'clock p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Regular Monthly Meeting October 30, 2002
- Joint Meeting Area Advisory Committee/New Minas Water & Sewer Commission

**ON MOTION OF TED NICHOLSON AND JAMES REDMOND SUBJECT  
MINUTES OF MEETINGS BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED. MOTION  
CARRIED.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**NS Department of Environment and Labour re Provincial Water Strategy**

Copies of the Provincial Drinking Water Strategy were received and distributed to all members.

To date a meeting has not been scheduled to review the initiatives of the Provincial Drinking Water Strategy.

**Old Horton District High School – Water Shut Off**

Peter Pothier confirmed the old Horton District High School's water had been shut off for some time.

**NS Utility and Review Board Hearing January 14, 2003**

The Secretary-Treasurer indicated our application and letter of October 30 was received by the Board November 5.

The hearing date has been scheduled for January 14 in the Civic Centre.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Joan E. Chase Correspondence**

A letter was received from Joan E. Chase, 9568 Commercial Street, informing the Commission she was not happy with the way she was treated when the men put on the new water meter. She indicated they left it leaking and said she must have done it. She enclosed a bill for \$63.85 to replace the shut-off valves and felt an adjustment should be made on her water bill which normally is \$29.00 and was \$53.51 for the September 30 billing.

**JAMES REDMOND MOVED WE REIMBURSE JOAN CHASE \$88.00 TO COVER HER PLUMBER'S BILL AND INCREASED CONSUMPTION FOR WATER DURING THE SEPTEMBER 30 BILLING. SECONDED BY TED NICHOLSON. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Approval of Honoraria – July 1 – December 31, 2002**

**ON MOTION OF JAMES REDMOND AND TED NICHOLSON CHEQUES FOR HONORARIA BE ISSUED FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2002. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Correspondence Richard Himmelman**

A letter was received from Richard Himmelman, Highland Avenue, requesting compensation of \$429.00 as a result of a sewer back-up November 13-14, 2002.

It was agreed to receive the letter and no compensation will be paid to Mr. Himmelman.

The Solicitor indicated at this time that the Village has no legal duty to pay these bills.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Chairman Messom pointed out that the night of November 13 PK Construction's truck was on site and it is a piece of junk. The truck is not registered, or safety inspected and does not have proper lighting, and should not be on site again.

Peter Pothier commented that we can get the Town of Kentville or Municipality anyway.

**Water/Sewer System Operator's Report**

Peter Pothier reviewed his report with the Commission informing them a 4" meter will be installed at the Lockhart and Ryan Park shortly.

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Also, a 2" service installed in August, 2001 at the ACA Hatchery was never recorded but a bill has now been sent to recover the back revenue.

Presently, 112 older Trident meters need to be replaced but we are running into a billing problem. He explained that the outside reader or remote is different from the meter. Apparently, the remotes have slowed down and the actual reading from the meter which is accurate is much higher. One example is a customer on Castle Loma Drive who has a 400 unit difference in her reading from the remote and meter.

Peter Pothier said he would recommend in these cases that the meter be changed and if there is a difference we absorb the cost. He has talked to G & M Project Management & Consulting Services and they will provide the meters and remotes and installation for \$124.00.

**ROD MACINNIS MOVED WE ENGAGE G & M PROJECT MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING SERVICES TO PROVIDE 112 METERS AND REMOTES AS WELL AS INSTALLATION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AS PER MR. POTHIER'S QUOTE OF \$124.00. SECONDED BY TED NICHOLSON. MOTION CARRIED.**

Peter Pothier questioned who will absorb the differences, if any, in the bills.

**TED NICHOLSON MOVED THE READINGS BE STARTED AT THE NEW METER READING WITH THE UTILITY ABSORBING ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE REMOTES AND METERS. SECONDED BY BOB HORNE. MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Pothier noted during the rainfall of November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> a fair amount of flooding occurred in basements on Highland Avenue. The problem was caused by storm sewer water infiltrating the domestic sewer system. He suggested looking into separating the storm sewer water from the domestic sewer system.

Peter Pothier suggested Hiltz & Seamone do a check on this system whether it is smoke or dye and see where it is tied in.

James Redmond pointed out that one has to go into the houses to do a smoke test and questioned whether people would want this.

It was pointed out that all properties are supposed to have backflow preventive valves installed.

Mr. Pothier pointed out that a flooding problem on Milne Avenue is being corrected with a different type of grating over the entrance of the storm sewer pipe because the existing one on Milne Avenue was plugged because of leaves over the grate.

It was agreed that nothing be done on Highland Avenue. James Redmond pointed out we would have to increase the size of the sewer main.

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Mr. Pothier informed the Commission the Fall Conference of the MPWANS was very informative. Representatives from DOE informed those in attendance of upcoming changes to the Act. All operators will have to rewrite their certification exams every 3 years. New employees to the water systems will be classified as apprentices and will be required to write an examination.

Mr. Pothier brought up the condition of the oil tanks in close proximity to the Towers well site and was advised to contact Department of Environment in this matter. It was agreed to place this matter on the January agenda.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

**ON MOTION OF JAMES REDMOND AND TED NICHOLSON ACCOUNTS PAYABLE UP TO AND INCLUDING NOVEMBER 27, 2002 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,452.55 BE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Date of Next Regular Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday, January 22, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

**APPROVED**

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**SECRETARY-TREASURER**