



Village of New Minas
Water Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 27, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Louis Millett Community Complex (LMCC)

Commissioners Present:

Maynard Stevens, Chair
Citizen Member Robert Horne, Vice-Chair
Village Commissioner James Redmond
Citizen Member Scott Crowell
Village Commissioner Dave Chaulk

Staff Present:

Krista McDonald, Deputy Clerk
Gerard Hamilton, Municipal Operations Manager
Erica Dominey, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Ken Pineo
Mary Munroe

Call to Order:

Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., welcoming those in attendance.

Agenda:

Election was moved up as first thing to accomplish. Regional sewer update was added.

Redmond-Crowell

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

Chaulk-Redmond

THAT the minutes of the August 23rd, 2017 meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:

Maynard Stevens was nominated for Chair by Mr. Redmond.

Mr. Stevens accepted position of Chair.

Robert Horne was nominated for Vice-Chair by Mr. Crowell.

Mr. Horne accepted position of Vice-Chair.

Water Department Report:

Gerard Hamilton reviewed the Departmental Monthly Report, attached as Appendix "A".

Concerns were brought up about Public Works staff not wearing the appropriate safety equipment while operating the weed snipper. There are concerns about injury. Mr. Hamilton will address safety concerns with staff.

Chaulk-Redmond

THAT the staff report presented by Gerard Hamilton be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

New Business:

Sewer Bylaw Discussion – Part 5, 1 (f)

While responding to an inquiry, Commissioner Chaulk found a portion of the sewer bylaw that seemed unfair. “Maintenance of the entire line from the owner’s private sewer drain to the point of connection at the main shall be the owner’s responsibility”. Gerard Hamilton looked into why the owner’s would be responsible for entire line and stated that because the Village has no control over what residents are putting into the pipes, why should the Village take responsibility. The village can only educate the public on what to do and what not to do. Mr. Hamilton researched the bylaw and found it was standard across Canada and the U.S.

Regional Sewer Update:

The regional sewer committee met on Sept. 11th 2017, with the main talking point being the proposed draft of the terms of reference. The committee added in the suggestions that were brought back to them at their last meeting, however they were unable to pass the draft this time. The next meeting will be October 17th 2017. Chair Stevens looked for clarification if the appointment of membership needed to be a Water Commissioner or Village Commissioner. It was determined that because it said Councillor or Commissioner it would be a Village Commissioner. Chair Stevens updated that the Sewer committee has yet to make a decision on if the chair would hold a 2 year term in office, and if the Vice-Chair would be one of the partners instead of council alternate.

Public Discussion Period:

Mary Munroe questioned about public education on what is appropriate to put down pipes. It was brought up that there have been several articles in the quarterly newsletter aimed at both residents and commercial businesses. Chair Stevens suggested having a dedicated page on our new website.

Adjournment:

Redmond

THAT the meeting adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Maynard Stevens, Chair

April Ernest, Clerk Treasurer