
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Asset Management Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 5:30 pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron
Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart
Councillor Mary MacLellan
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Councillor Remi Deveau
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Harris McNamara
Councillor Shawn Brophy

Regrets: Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance
Marlene Melanson, Director of Recreation
Daryl Myers, Director of Public Works
Alisha Bowie

1. Call to Order – Chairman, Councillor Bill MacFarlane

The meeting of the Asset Management Committee was called to order by the Chair, Councillor Stewart, at 5:30.

2. Approval of Agenda

Deputy Warden Stewart called for any additions or deletions to the agenda.

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of October 26, 2021 Asset Management Minutes

Deputy Warden Stewart called for any errors or omissions to the minutes of the previous meeting.

Moved and Seconded

That the Asset Management minutes of October 26, 2021 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

An update was provided regarding the Lanark local improvement process for the proposed waterline. The 2/3 threshold has been satisfied on a smaller section along the original proposed water line extension, being the first 3.5 km along Highway 337 from where current line ends. This section includes Marl Pit Road and the properties that front Terra Tory Drive. Staff will finalize the results from the process and formally report back to the Committee.

5. Presentations

a. Bill Garvie - Antigonish Golf Course Waterline

Duncan Chisholm and Bill Garvie made a presentation on behalf of the Golf and Country Club. They raised a concern regarding the relocation of the water meter, specifically regarding the lack of consultation with the golf course. The meter is located on the Allan Boyd farm property and the Golf course has been getting the bill for 6 years.

Mr. Garvie outlined the water bills for the golf course since 2013. Starting in 2014-15 there was significant increase in the water bill. The golf course would like a reimbursement for paying for the Allan Boyd property's water use and has also requested to have the meter relocated back on the golf course property.

Mrs. Duggan spoke to the water rate increases, which could possibly be the cause of the bill increase at the Golf Club. Councillor Brophy requested for the consumption to be looked at from 2016 to present. A suggestion was also made to put a second meter on the line at Allan Boyd's property and deduct the water consumption passing through that meter from the golf course.

Bill Garvie noted that they shut the water off at the golf course about a week and a half ago. He enquired about the possibility of a new line from College Street to the golf course. Warden McCarron asked a question about whether, if a new line was considered coming from College Street to the clubhouse, would the other two properties that it would pass by connect to the service?

Mr. Garvie and Mr. Chisholm were thanked for their presentation.

6. Continuing Business

a. Update on 2021/22 Capital Plan

Mr. Myers provided an update on the South River Road water line replacement. Williams Point connection is expected to happen on December

1st, and then out to the Oasis Trailer Court. Governors Lane will be the last connection.

Mr. Horne gave update on Capital Plan work done to date, including:

- Florence Circle to Appleseed Drive was adjusted
- Antigonish Court House - Replacement of front door is completed and fibre glass columns are on order
- 3/4 tonne pick up ordered.
- Garbage truck replacement ordered.
- Appleseed Drive and Townsend Repaving, Curb & Gutter - complete.
- Beech Hill Picnic Park - no funding, so the project scaled back to cost \$10,000 or less
- Municipal Office Accessible Washroom - final drawing in coming weeks
- Equipment Loan Building - building installed, equipment being moved in
- J-Class Roads
 - Pottery Lane paving - completed
 - Tamara Drive - denied cost-sharing
 - Cunningham Road – work not being undertaken
 - Church Street Road Extension - denied cost-sharing
 - Landing Road - approved for cost sharing but chose not to undertake work
- Beech Hill Solar Field - completed cheque from NSP for just over \$2000
- Mount Cameron/Bethany trail - Kevin MacCulloch from the Public Works team cut the trail

b. Review of Preliminary 2022/23 Capital Plan

Mr. Horne gave an overview of the projects being considered as part of the capital plan for the coming fiscal year. They include:

- Water Utility Projects
 - St. Joseph's Waterline - waiting for feedback on funding proposals
 - Trunk 7 Waterline Replacement - Mr. Myers spoke about the water line, summarizing a meeting last week regarding the project. Staff consider this to be a very important project, just like the South River Road waterline replacement. Mr. Horne spoke about the multiple water breaks on that line in the last 8 months. One of the oldest sections of water line will continue to be a problem until its replaced. An 8-inch line being proposed, connecting to the 10 -12 inch line coming from the new water tower.

- St. Andrews residential development. Contracts are being developed
- Beech Hill Road in-line booster - will provide additional pressure to serve lines above the DNA property when brine solution is being mixed for the winter maintenance of Highway 104. Staff has spoken to DNA representatives. Possible road names for the access road were shared.
- Dunmore Road sewer extension
- Antigonish County Court House - Planning on replacements for siding and windows
- Garbage Truck - an update was already provided
- Roads - there will be a focus on sidewalk construction this year
- Nothing planned for Municipal facilities at this time
- J-class roads - details of the cost-sharing program will be provided by the Province in May
- ICIP Funding projects - first phase would occur in the next fiscal year

Councillor MacLellan had a question regarding broadband services, and discussion took place regarding what vendors had towers.

7. New Business

a. Approach to Funding Sidewalk or Curb & Gutter Extension

Mr. Home spoke to the memo included in agenda package. As written, the Local Improvement By-law Includes curb and gutter and sidewalks, raising the question of whether they should be subject to local improvement charges. The purpose of the by-law is to recoup some of the cost from those directly benefitting from the capital improvement. Very few other municipalities have applied local improvement charges to curb and gutter and sidewalks.

Discussion followed regarding local improvement charges. A majority of those around the table felt that some sort of a local improvement charge could be possible, to be applied to the people that would benefit from it.

Mr. Myers noted that the municipality can't lose sight of the storm water management. Mrs. Duggan suggested that they should be treated like streetlights; if an intersection is dark or unsafe the Municipality puts in a streetlight, and perhaps sidewalks should be the same.

8. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

9. In Camera Items

There were no in-camera items.

10. **Adjournment**

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 6:49pm.

Motion Carried



Councillor Bill MacFarlane



Glenn Horne, CAO