

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

Asset Management Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 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 (by Zoom)
Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Councillor Harris McNamara
Councillor Shawn Brophy

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Tammy Feltmate, Director of
Sustainable Communities (by Zoom)
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance
Daryl Myers, Director of Public
Works (by Zoom)

Call to Order – Chairman, Councillor Bill MacFarlane

The meeting of the Asset Management Committee was called to order by the Chair, Councillor MacFarlane, at 5:35pm.

Approval of Agenda

Councillor MacFarlane called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. One addition was requested:

- Discussion about Pine Ridge Subdivision storm water concerns

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of January 25, 2021 Asset Management Minutes

Councillor MacFarlane called for any errors or omissions to the minutes of the previous meeting.

Moved and Seconded

That the Asset Management minutes of January 25, 2022 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Continuing Business

Discussion on Approach to New Sidewalk Construction

Mr. Horne spoke to a memo included in the agenda package regarding the construction of new sidewalks, curb and gutter in the municipality, which is a follow-up to provide information requested when the committee first discussed the issue in November of 2021. Mr. Horne outlined the consultations undertaken with other municipalities and outlined the options that were available for the committee to consider. The committee was invited to discuss the matter further.

Councillor Mattie asked whether curb cuts made in any new sidewalks would be accessible. Mr. Horne noted that he expects that the accessible standard for curb cuts would be included in any new construction. A recent example on Townsend Street, including tactile warning panels. Councillor MacDonald voiced support to construct sidewalks, curb and gutter not to be included as a local improvement, but instead to be paid by the municipality for the overall community use. Councillor McNamara voiced his support for treating all local improvements equally, whether they are for sidewalks or for sewer lines. Councillor Brophy expressed that he witnesses those from the county driving in to town to walk on the sidewalks, and supports the safe atmosphere that it brings to a neighbourhood.

Discussion followed, with particular focus on looking to incorporate sidewalk infrastructure in areas outside of the fringe that may could benefit from sidewalks. Mr. Myers noted that sidewalks are secondary to curb and gutter being used to control stormwater management.

When planning for future sidewalk, curb and gutter, staff was directed to implement option 1 outlined in the staff report.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council take the following position with respect to curb, gutter and sidewalk projects: Status Quo – Do Not Apply Local Improvement Charges for new Sidewalks, Curb & Gutter

Motion Carried

Update on 2022/23 Capital Plan

Mr. Horne reviewed the 2022/2023 capital plan, and the estimates that have been updated to reflect updated estimates, funding, and additional projects identified. Mr. Myers provided an update on the pending new garbage truck delivery. Mr. Horne noted that the capital plan would continue to be updated as further estimates and tender prices are submitted until it is locked down with the budget process. Discussion about the proposed tonne truck took place.

Mr. Horne asked for a motion to provide permission for staff to tender two projects:

- Dunmore Road Sewer Extension
- St. Andrew's Waterline Extension

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council authorizes staff to issue tenders for the St Andrews Waterline Extension and the Dunmore Road Sewer Extension.

Motion Carried

Review of Accessible Heritage Park / Patio

Ms. Feltmate spoke to a proposal to look to place interpretive panels and accessible tables on the patio at the Municipal Administration Building. Staff invited any questions from Council and would like permission to order the proposed furniture for installation in the spring. Councillor MacLellan asked follow-up questions about how the heritage components would be incorporated into the design. Warden McCarron spoke about potential opportunities that could be explored working with the pioneer cemetery group that is working on compiling community information. Ms. Feltmate noted that she would follow-up with the committee with respect to the interpretive panels.

Tender Award - Trunk 7 Waterline Replacement

Mr. Horne reviewed the recommendation put forward by the Engineer. Mr. Myers provided his input on the bid and the project.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves a bid from B. D. Clifton Contracting Ltd. for the bid price of \$ \$729,666.50 +HST.

Motion Carried

New Business

Discussion of ICIP Application

Mr. Horne identified that there are two projects that staff is recommending be put forward as the top two priorities for ICIP funding:

- St. Joseph's Water Tower and Distribution Line
- Lanark Waterline Extension

Staff is in the process of drafting the applications, and welcome discussion from the committee regarding the projects identified for the application. Applications for ICIP funding close on April 4th. Direction was provided to staff to proceed with preparing the applications for the projects identified.

Additions to the Agenda

Pine Ridge Subdivision Stormwater Concerns

Councillor Dunbar spoke to concerns raised by residents in the Pine Ridge Subdivision regarding storm water management in their neighbourhood. A description of the locations and amounts of water affecting properties in the neighbourhood were reviewed. Councillor Dunbar's concern is that the frequency and severity of storms increasing could cause more damage in the future. He requested the committee's feedback on whether curb and gutter might be appropriate in the neighbourhood. Mr. Myers provided a summary of the storm events in November and earlier in February, work that has been done in the neighbourhood over the past few years. An overview of the storm water flow in the community, including where it is coming from and where it is going, was provided. Quite a bit of water is coming through the neighbourhood from the trailer court across the old highway.

A suggestion was made to have an engineering firm look at the neighbourhood and come up with some option. A suggestion was also made to look at consulting with planning to look at avoiding situations where basement elevations sit below storm water systems.

In Camera Items

This subject matter falls within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as a matter that a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session.

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned to an In-Camera Session to discuss the Acquisition, Sale, Lease, and Security of Municipal Property and Contract Negotiations at 6:31pm.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

That the in-camera session adjourns at 6:36pm.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 6:37pm.

Motion Carried



Councillor Bill MacFarlane



Glenn Horne, CAO