

**West Pubnico Sewer Committee
West Pubnico School Library
7:00 p.m., March 22, 2007
Minutes**

Present: Warden Aldric d'Entremont, Councillor Bruce Hubbard, Councillor Calvin d'Entremont, chairperson, Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise, Members Delmar d'Entremont, Gus d'Eon, Harold d'Entremont, Floyd d'Entremont, Maurice d'Eon, Lindsay d'Entremont, Acting Director of Public Works, Lorelei Doucette and Assistant to the Director of Public Works Carol LeBlanc.

Also Present: Gordon Amiro and Brian Surette, Amiro and Surette Trucking and Excavating Ltd.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Calvin d'Entremont.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

It was moved by Warden Aldric d'Entremont, seconded by Bruce Hubbard to accept the agenda with the addition Meeting Time and Place.

Motion Carried

MINUTES OF THE PAST MEETING

It was moved by Warden Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Lindsay d'Entremont to Approve the minutes of August 30, 2006 which were formally approved at the September 12, 2006 regular Council meeting.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

OLD BUSINESS

O & M Manual

On November 9, 2006 Property Inspection and Public Works received the completed Operation and Maintenance Manual. A copy is in the Property Inspection and Public Works Department, one in the Municipal vault and Gordon Amiro, Plant Operator has a copy.

The manual will be updated as needed.

NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Proposed Sewer Extension – Montague Road

Amiro & Surette Trucking wish in their subdivision to extend the existing sewer main on the Montague Road.

Environment and Labour denied the application and requested a plan of action to improve outfall samples before the extension would be considered.

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer, explained the cause for the refusal was due to the review of our sample results from March 2005 to December 2006. These results revealed that 63% of BOD5 (oxygen levels) samples and 59% of suspended solids samples were in compliance with regulations. Actual compliance needs to be at 80%.

This has prompted the Municipality to discuss options with Horner and Associates, our engineer. The restoration of the pumping stations should reduce potential overflows, which will increase volume at the treatment plant resulting in more waste for the plant to treat. Furthermore, Horner and Associates has recommended the purchase of a manually raked bar screen which will improve suspended solid results. All these options must be approved by the Department of Labour before additional extensions are placed.

The committee was reminded of the 1997 Horner Study for the treatment plant that included other solutions: 1) sand filtration, 2) new lagoon with UV filtration and control building and included costs involved with studies.

The bar screen will be discussed when we present the budget.

6.2 Sewer Connection applications:

Augustin d'Eon, Claire d'Eon, Lot 1 & 2

Augustin d'Eon declared a conflict of interest.

An application to connect to the West Pubnico Sewer was received from Augustin d'Eon. Whereas the connection will be more than 150 feet from the sewer main the committee must review the application.

Lorelei Doucette, Acting Director read Part 4 # 5 and # 7 of the By-law.

It was moved by Aldric d'Entremont and seconded by Harold d'Entremont that approval to connect to the West Pubnico Sewer Main be granted to Augustin d'Entremont providing all applicable permits are obtained.

Motion Carried

Donna Morton/Melanie Surette/Matthew Morton

Whereas the connection will be more than 150 feet from the sewer main the committee reviewed the subdivision for Lot 1.

It was moved by Lindsay d'Entremont and seconded by Gus d'Eon to accept the proposal if they come with the proper application.

Motion Carried

6.3 Confined Space Training

On March 21, 2007 Brian Surette and Yvon Surette successfully completed a confined space awareness refresher course. Congratulations Brian and Yvon.

6.4 Meeting Time and Place

Some members are unable to attend daytime meetings; therefore meetings will remain in the evening and Pubnico is a good location.

PROPOSED SEWER BUDGET AND LEVY 2007-2008

CAO Alain Muise presents two scenarios for the West Pubnico Sewerage and Treatment Plant Budget to the committee.

Option one anticipates the replacement of a walkway, and the replacement of three 10HP pumps during the year (total budget of \$31,000). The second scenario includes the three pumps and the manually raked bar screen, for a total budget of \$43,500. Last year the Sewer Committee and council approved \$28,000 for capital repairs.

Should the sewer committee select option one, the cost of the bar screen will be added to the infrastructure project proposal. However, due to budgetary constraints, this would reduce the amount of pumping stations repaired under the infrastructure project. Clearly option 2 is more expensive, but it will allow for more work to be done on an aging sewer system.

In order to continue to build the surplus and upgrade the system a 9% tax rate increase is proposed, this brings last year's rate of \$184.50 to \$201.00. Scenario 1 attached.

It was moved by Maurice d'Eon and seconded by Harold d'Entremont that the 2007-2008 West Pubnico Sewerage and Treatment Plant Rate of \$201 and the proposed budget be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT – Pumping Station

CAO Alain Muise explained that in December of 2006, the Province of Nova Scotia informed the Municipality that Infrastructure funds (approximately \$210,000) was available and Argyle has made application for this funding to assist us in the restoration of the pumping stations and minor upgrades to the sewer treatment facility. We have yet to receive confirmation and this funding. Should the funding be confirmed, we are proposing a major restoration that would cost approximately \$470,000. The remaining funds would be taken from the West Pubnico Sewer's accumulated surplus and would therefore not require an increase in the sewer levy for the West Pubnico residents.

It was moved by Delmar d'Entremont and seconded by Bruce Hubbard that with the infrastructure money we proceed with a plan to upgrade the pumping stations.

Motion Carried

There being no further business Maurice d'Eon moved and Bruce Hubbard seconded the meeting be adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Carol LeBlanc, Recorder

Approved: _____

DATE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

CHAIRMAN