

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Asset Management Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 28, 2020, 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 Vaughan Chisholm
Councillor Remi Deveau
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Neil Corbett
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: None

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

Also Present: Basil Pitts, Area Manager, Department
of Transportation
James Kelly, Department of
Transportation

1. **Call to Order – Chairman, Councillor Bill MacFarlane**

The meeting of the Asset Management Committee was called to order by the Chair, Councillor MacFarlane, at 5:32 pm.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Councillor MacFarlane called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. Councillor MacLellan asked to add an item:

- Picnic Park

Moved & Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

3. **Approval of September 8, 2020 Asset Management Minutes**

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

Moved & Seconded

That the Asset Management minutes of September 8, 2020 be approved as presented

Motion Carried

5. Delegations

a. Semi-Annual Check-in with DTIR Team

Basil Pitts provided an update on the summer and fall maintenance activities taking place in the department, and preparations underway for the winter season. Mr. Pitts then asked Councillors if they had any questions or concerns. Items brought up by Council included:

- brush cutting along the roadways
- signage
- gravel road concerns
- weeds growing along the roadway
- calcium application on gravel roads
- speed/traffic counts and length of time to have work done
- policy for crosswalk installation and annual maintenance
- resident concerns with the Sydney call centre
- new culverts creating water discharge concerns
- whether rumble strips are ever used for speed changes

Councillors also asked whether there were any projects for next year that were on DTIR's radar for taking place next summer season. Mr. Pitts shared what he could, although any projects could not be confirmed until the budget was finalized. Further discussion took place regarding the Sydney call centre, the volume and typical topics of complaints, and how the system transfers the concerns to the local team to be addressed.

On behalf of Council, Councillor MacFarlane thanked the DTIR team for coming to the meeting.

6. Continuing Business

a. Consideration of J-Class Road Overspend

Mr. Horne spoke to the five J-Class roads that were tendered through the cost-share agreement with the Province, and the bids that were over the estimated amount. While the projects are overbudget, the opportunity to do this many cost-sharing projects may not come around again. Discussion about the variance in amount for Somers Road, which is the only project subject to a Local Improvement By-law process, took place. Staff suspect that the difference in the pricing may be due to the timing of the tendering of the projects due to COVID.

Moved & Seconded

The Committee recommends that Council approve the new tender and cost share amounts with the Province for the following J-Class Roads: Somers Road,

Sylvan Valley Road, Sylvan Valley Lane, and Townsend Street, as outlined in the memo from the Department of Transportation dated September 22, 2020.

Motion Carried

7. New Business

a. Pricing for a Waterline to Salt Springs

Councillor MacFarlane asked whether a price could be sought for the extension of the waterline in Salt Springs of approximately 2km.

Moved & Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council direct staff to get pricing information for a waterline extension of approximately 2km in Salt Springs.

Motion Carried

b. Sidewalk Petition

Councillor Chisholm brought forward a petition from the residents of Crockett Country, who are looking for a sidewalk along Townsend Street.

Moved & Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council look to put sidewalk, curb and gutter for Townsend Street on the Capital Project List.

Motion Carried

8. Additions to the Agenda

a. Picnic Park

Councillor MacLellan read a letter from Pat and Lyle Smith suggesting a picnic park with some historical information about the County at the Municipal Office. Mr. Horne gave an overview of where the solar panels are expected to occupy in the green space in front of the building, and how the project might be a partnership with the Heritage Museum as well. Consensus was given to ask staff to look into the project further.

10. Adjournment

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Motion Carried

Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Glenn Horne, CAO