

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, November 28, 2023, 5:30pm

Council Chambers

Municipal Administration Building

285 Beech Hill Road

Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

1. Call to Order – Chair, Bill MacFarlane
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of October 24, 2023 Asset Management Committee Minutes
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Delegations
 - a. Richard and Alena Wilgenhof - Upgrade to .9 km of Seabright Road
6. Continuing Business
 - a. ICIP Project Updates
 - i. Net-Zero Community Buildings
 - ii. St. Josephs & Lanark Water System Expansion
 - iii. Antigonish AT Corridor
7. New Business
8. Additions to the Agenda
9. In-Camera Items
10. Adjournment

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF **ANTIGONISH**

Asset Management Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 5:30 pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

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

Regrets: Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO
Daryl Myers, Director of Public Works (by Zoom)

Beth Schumacher, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Also Present: Basil Pitts, Area Manager, Nova Scotia Department of Public Works
Josh Chisholm, Operations/Maintenance Supervisor, Nova Scotia Department of Public Works
Andrew MacPherson, Construction Manager, Nova Scotia Department of Public Works
Paul Colton, Director, Nova Scotia Department of Public Works
Gallery

Call to Order – Chairman, Councillor Bill MacFarlane

The meeting of the Asset Management Committee was called to order by Deputy Warden Bill MacFarlane at 5:34pm.

Approval of Agenda

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

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Approval of September 26, 2023 Asset Management Minutes

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

Moved and Seconded

That the Asset Management minutes of September 26, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Councillor Dunbar asked for an update for the two items regarding Pine Ridge Estates. Mr. Myers noted that Strait Engineering has been engaged to conduct a review, and the requested correspondence has been sent.

Delegations

Nova Scotia Department of Public Works

Mr. Colton introduced the team from the local Nova Scotia Department of Public Works office. Mr. MacPherson spoke to ongoing construction projects, including the construction of the Active Transportation trail, the Salt Springs Brook Bridge on Highway 7, repaving of Highway 316, Ohio East Road repaving, storm culverts on Highway 245 and 337, and the Aulds Cove intersection on Highway 104. Updates were also provided on several gravel roads and bridge projects in the community.

The floor was opened to questions from Committee members. Questions included those about stormwater management in Aulds Cove following flooding earlier in the month, repaving projects for roads deferred into the next construction season, Breens Pond, and the treatment of the temporary river access at the West River Bridge.

Mr. Pitts provided an update on the maintenance operations in the community. Operations are transitioning to fall grading and preparations for winter weather. The floor was again opened for questions, and those asked included questions about roads projects that were pushed into next summer for work, areas where the shoulders are washing away near recently patched paved roads, and locations where some additional safety measures could be beneficial in the community. Questions were also asked about timing for grading and road conditions, the status of brush cutting on local roads, the provision and repair of road signs, and getting roads in need of repaving identified.

Some questions were asked about plans for the upcoming year for the gravel road program, thanks were expressed for mowing along the shoulders in the community, and concerns expressed with road edges breaking away along the highway. An update for the timing of the roundabout in Monastery was requested and discussed. Some questions were asked about the speed and signage along the rebuilt Trunk 4

following the construction of the Active Transportation Trail, and the road condition on the Church Street Extension just past Trunk 4 was flagged for attention.

Deputy Warden McFarlane thanked the team from the Department of Public Works for coming to the meeting.

Continuing Business

ICIP Project Updates

Net-Zero Community Buildings

Mr. Horne provided an update on the installation of the lighting and solar features and provided timelines for upcoming installs. The project is currently on schedule.

St. Joseph's Water System Expansion, Lanark Waterline Extension

Mr. Myers noted that the construction of the lines was done. The water storage tower for the St. Joseph's project is expected to be arriving in the spring due to production delays.

Active Transportation Corridor

Mr. Horne didn't have any further updates beyond what was shared by the Department of Public Works team earlier in the meeting. He noted that photographs were included by staff in the agenda package.

New Business

Request for a Sewer Line Extension on Highway 337

Mr. Horne reviewed a request that was received through the planning department for the consideration of the extension of the sewer system along Highway 337 to facilitate the development of the property adjacent to the Parkland development across the highway from Mount Cameron. Mr. Horne provided a general overview of the types of development that are envisioned for the property, including housing, assisted living residential, and a medical clinic.

Mr. Horne requested the consent of the committee to add the project tentatively to the Capital Plan for further negotiation and consideration. A suggestion was made to ensure that provisions for pedestrian-supportive infrastructure to support the proposed development was considered. Comments from the committee were generally supportive of the proposal, noting that it provided housing desired in the community. Consensus was provided to add the sewer line extension to the capital plan.

Preliminary Review of the 2024/25 Capital Plan

Mr. Horne introduced a preliminary draft of the 2024/25 Capital Plan. Each of the items on the list were reviewed individually as an introduction for the benefit of the committee, with brief discussions for each item.

Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

In Camera Items

There were no in-camera items.

Adjournment

Moved

That the Asset Management Committee meeting be adjourned at 6:40pm.

Motion Carried

Deputy Warden Bill MacFarlane

Glenn Horne, CAO

SUBMISSION TO THE ASSET MANAGEMENT MEETING

The Municipality of the County of Antigonish

November 28, 2023

We respectfully submit the following statement of facts concerning Seabright Road, Antigonish County, N.S.:

1. Seabright Road is owned by the Province of Nova Scotia for the last 46 years.
2. The first kilometer of road from Highway 337 to Martha's Lane, is a listed road, maintained by the Province of Nova Scotia.
3. The next .9 km of dirt road is a K class road which apparently was never listed or maintained by the Department of Public Works, Province of Nova Scotia. This .9 km section also houses the Boat Club which we believe has in excess of 100 members and/or users. The Municipality at present subsidizes boating programs and activities held at the Boat Club but the residents and land owners that use this section of highway have been paying over the years to maintain the road.
4. Over the last 20 years, the 20 residents (10 residences) and land owners who live down at the end of Seabright Road have maintained this .9 section of the road to ensure they were able to reach their homes through winter snow removal, summer gravelling, ditching and general maintenance to allow access. As well, Hierlily Cemetery where some of our ancestors are buried and dates back to the late 1700's is also located along this .9 km section of Public Highway, The Cemetery is maintained by the Anglican Church Parish of Three Harbours.
5. Numerous discussions and meetings were held with Warden Owen McCarron, Councillor Donnie MacDonald, Basil Pitts and Paul Colton, Dept of Public Works addressing the concerns of the residents on the .9 km of road. The road receives absolutely no service to provide safe driving conditions on this road. This is particularly important over the winter months. All costs to maintain this road has been borne by the residents who live on the road. As a result of these meetings, there was a general agreement that if the Department of Public Works upgraded the .9 km Section of Seabright Road, that the Municipality of the County of Antigonish would take over the .9 km Section of the Seabright Road. The estimated cost of this upgrade presented by Mr. Basil Pitts was \$70,000.00.
6. In a meeting with The Honourable Minister Michelle Thompson, Councillor Donnie MacDonald and representatives of the residents of Seabright Road, Minister Thompson suggested a 3 way split to see if funds could be secured for Department of Public Works to upgrade the road.
7. The Province would contribute 1/3 of the Cost, the residents contribute 1/3 of the Cost but Councillor MacDonald indicated that the Council would not contribute the other 1/3 cost.
8. In discussions between the residents of Seabright Road, it was determined that it was getting more and more difficult to maintain the .9 km on our own. Mostly Seniors on fixed income with multiple health issues live on the road. Securing snow removal, road maintenance, fire protection and insurance, ambulance service, service by Nova Scotia Power and telephone communication were the main concerns of the residents.
9. The taxes paid to the county of Antigonish by the residents on this .9 km section of the road totals \$40,000.00 plus yearly. We receive absolutely no services from municipal or provincial governments. We are surprised that the Municipality is still issuing permits over this .9 km section of the road with no consideration regarding access.
10. As of this date, The Province of Nova Scotia has agreed to pay 1/3 of the cost for upgrading the .9 km of the road and the residents and land owners have agreed to pay 2/3rds of the \$70,000.00 cost to upgrade the .9 km section of Seabright Road. We respect that the Municipal Council has declined to contribute the 1/3 requested of the cost to upgrade the road, approximately \$23,000.00.

We are pleased, as indicated in our discussion with the warden, councillor Mac Donald,, members of public works, and minister Thompson that the municipality would consider taking ownership of

the .9 km section of the road after the section was upgraded to expected standards by public works.

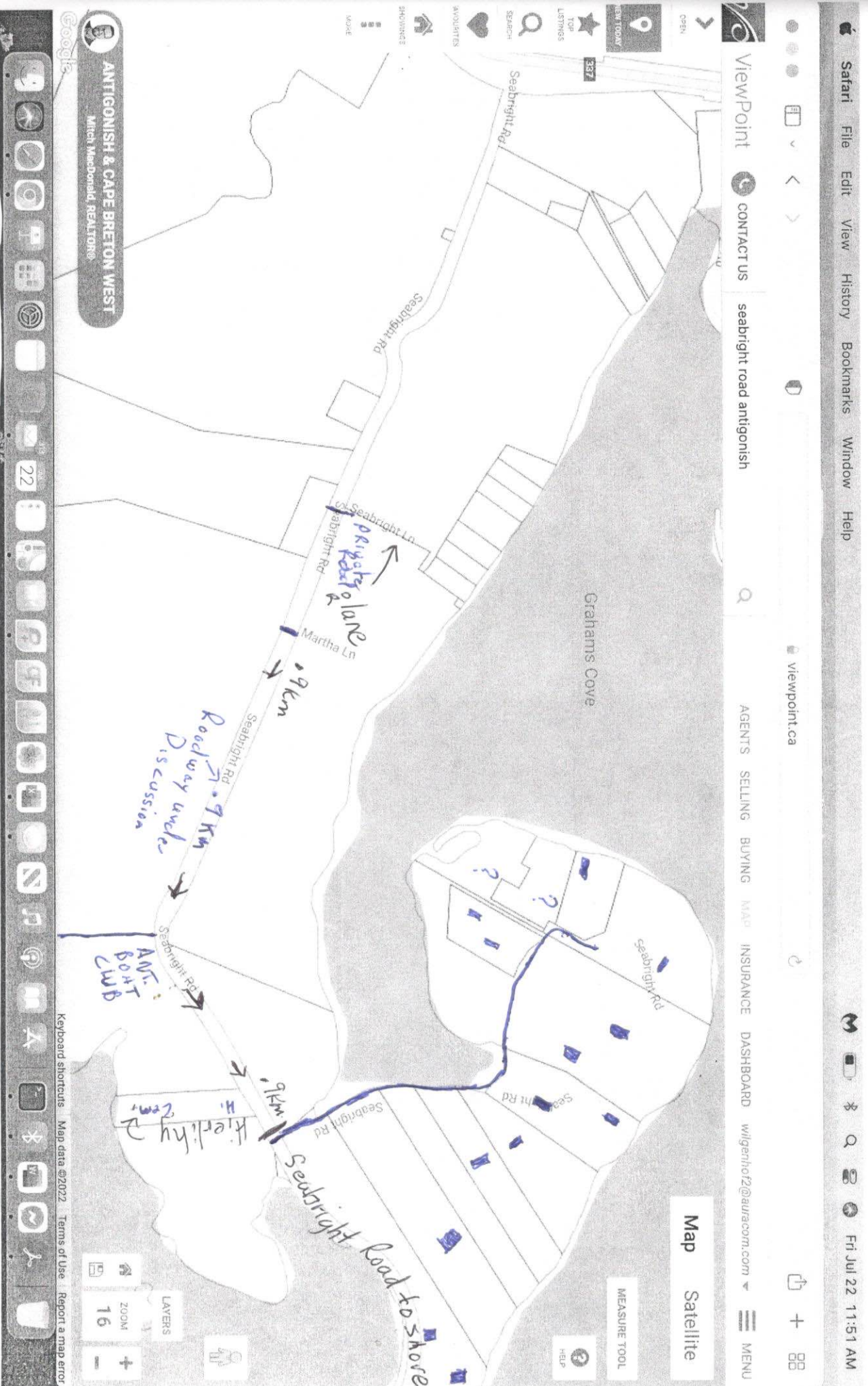
11. The reason for our submission this evening is to secure confirmation from the Council Members of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish, that if the Department of Public Works completes the required upgrades to the .9km of Seabright Road in question, enabling it to be listed, that the Municipality of the County of Antigonish will accept the turnover of the .9km of Seabright Road from the Province to the County. We understand there are similar roads in the county that are owned by the municipality and are serviced by the province. There should be little inconvenience to the province as they already maintain the first kilometer of the road.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request. Please peruse the attached map of the area.

Dated at Antigonish in the County of Antigonish, N.S. this 17th day of November A.D., 2023.

Richard and Alena Wilgenhof, Ernie and Jane Porter, Peter and Colleen Bowler, Rainer and Burgit Wunn, Susan Vincent and Mark Genuist, Manfred Goring and Marie Clare deClerk, Margarite and Marcel, May Goring, Mike and Jayne MacDonald, Ms. Heffernan, Jeff and Denise MacLean, Sean Day.

Residents, landlords and property owners of Seabright Road, Antigonish County, Nova Scotia



- !! Indicates existing dwellings
 - ?? Indicates new building permits issues or to be applied for
- Please note: This .9 km section of road is a Provincially owned road, it is NOT a private road.

MEMO FOR INFORMATION

TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: GLENN HORNE, CAO
SUBJECT: ICIP PROJECT UPDATES
DATE: 28/11/2023

Net Zero Community Buildings

- Heat pumps are all in.
- For lights, still waiting on a couple for the Highland Curling Club to be switched out. New fixtures needed.
- Solar installs have started. Racking is underway at St. Josephs.
- The installation will continue as planned in Heatherton. There was a delay due to waiting on word to proceed from Nova Scotia Dept of Public Works, because of the highway work happening in that district, but as of this week confirmation was received that the project is good to proceed.

St. Josephs & Lanark Water System Expansion

- St. Josephs project on hold until tank is delivered in 2024. Some preliminary work on the concrete pad is being done now.
- Lanark project is bacterial testing is complete, and

Antigonish AT Corridor

- Trunk 4 through the construction area was reopened to traffic on Friday November 17th.
- Finishing work on lighting and seating areas continues.
- Photographs attached on the next page.



