

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Asset Management Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 26, 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 Remi Deveau (by Zoom)

Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Councillor Harris McNamara
Councillor Shawn Brophy (by Zoom)

Regrets: Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart

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

Beth Schumacher, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Marlene Melanson, Director of Recreation

Also Present: Gallery

Call to Order – Chairman, Councillor Bill MacFarlane

The meeting of the Asset Management Committee was called to order by Councillor Bill MacFarlane at 5:31pm.

Approval of Agenda

Councillor MacFarlane called for any additions or deletions to the agenda.

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Approval of June 27, 2023 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 June 27, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Delegations

There were no scheduled delegations.

Continuing Business

ICIP Project Updates

St. Joseph's Water System Expansion

Mr. Myers noted that the construction of the line was done, a pressure test had been conducted, and the water storage tower was expected to be arriving in the spring due to production delays.

Lanark Waterline Extension

Mr. Myers noted that the connection of the line was done on September 25th. The line is fully installed but is not yet operational; it is expected to be operational later in the fall.

Active Transportation Corridor

Ms. Melanson provided an update on the installation of the AT Trail. Construction is on schedule for completion later in the fall. Ms. Melanson shared photographs of the progress to the Committee. A question was asked about the walking materials on the active transportation trail, which will be an asphalt surface. Mr. Horne noted that the waterline realignment has been completed, and the sewer work is currently underway. Mr. Myers explained regarding a section of the waterline on Spruce Lane will to be realigned where it crosses a culvert.

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.

New Business

Amendments to the Local Improvement By-law to Include Current Projects

Mr. Horne reviewed the proposed amendments to the Local Improvements By-law, noting the by-law and policy amendments included with the staff memo to include the St. Joseph's and Highway 337 water extension projects. The Lanark project had two properties removed due to exemptions for inclusion due to those properties having topographical situations restricting their ability to be developed. Mr. Horne provided a detailed description of those two properties.

Moved and Seconded

The Asset Management Committee recommends that Municipal Council receive the proposed amendments to a By-law Respecting Local Improvements for First Reading, and that the Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the proposed amendments to Municipal Local Improvements Fees Policy when it gives second reading to the proposed by-law amendment.

Motion Carried

Consideration of 2024-2025 J-Class Road Submission

Mr. Horne noted that where the submission for cost-sharing were not approved by the province last year, the same road priorities would be put forward this year.

Moved and Seconded

The Asset Management Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves identifying Duncan MacIsaac Road, Tamara Drive, and Macken Road as priorities for 2024-2025 J-Class Road cost-sharing with the Province.

Motion Carried

Consideration of 2023-28 Capital Investment Plan

Mr. Horne noted that the Capital Investment Plan lists any project on a capital planning list that might require funding applications or cost sharing with the Province and is submitted to the province in order to qualify for Gas Tax. Mr. Horne provided a brief overview of the projects listed in the plan and noted that projections for later years are listed for forecasting purposes.

Moved and Seconded

The Asset Management Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves the 2023-28 Capital Investment Plan as presented.

Motion Carried

Discussion of Pine Ridge Estates Subdivision Water Concerns

Councillor Dunbar spoke to concerns raised by residents in the Pine Ridge Estates neighbourhood regarding drainage and storm water in the community. Heavier rain

events have created situations where residents have concerns with flooding in their yards and driveways. Councillor Dunbar noted that across Trunk 4, where the former Ben's Bread store building sits, site conditions such as ditching and culverts is a concern. He requested that a letter be sent to the NS Department of Natural Resources to have maintenance work to clear these ditches and culverts done.

Moved and Seconded

That the Asset Management Committee recommends that Municipal Council approves sending a letter to the Provincial Department of Public Works to address concerns with ditching and repairs work in the area of Pine Ridge Estates.

Motion Carried

Councillor Dunbar also requested that a review of the engineering work done as a re-evaluation of the design in response to the concerns with the drainage in the subdivision. Warden McCarron shared further background on the previous engineering reviews done when the subdivision was in his district. He shared that, at that time, the recommendation was to maintain the open ditch drainage system as that system allowed for greater water flows with the street for overflow, where a closed system would have more of a restriction on capacity. Discussion followed.

Moved and Seconded

That the Asset Management Committee recommends that Municipal Council commission an update to engineering review of the stormwater system in the Pine Ridge Estates subdivision.

Motion Carried

Councillor MacFarlane noted that it would also be a good idea to ask the Planning Commission to encourage the construction of basements at a higher level with egress windows to reduce the likelihood of basement flooding. Discussion about elevations relative to the street for new construction, and other measures that homeowners can take to protect their properties from flooding such as ensuring that downspouts are not tied in to weeping tiles followed.

Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

In Camera Items

Moved and Seconded

That the Asset Management Committee move to an in-camera session at 6:20pm to discuss the Acquisition, Sale, Lease, and Security of Municipal Property.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

That the in-camera session adjourns at 6:30pm.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved

That the Asset Management Committee meeting be adjourned at 6:31pm.

Motion Carried



Councillor Bill MacFarlane



Glenn Horne, CAO