



**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Committee of the Whole Minutes
November 27, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
Sanford Council Chambers**

Present:	P. Morton	Deputy Warden
	A. Zebian	Warden
	R. Jannasch	Councillor District 1
	K. Monroe	Councillor District 2
	T. Leopold	Councillor District 4
	D. Francis	Councillor District 5
	R. Hussey	Councillor District 6
	J. Daniels	Councillor District 7 (left at 8:47 p.m.)
	P. Morton	Councillor District
	R. Zwicker	Councillor District 10
	M. Laycock	Chief Administrative Officer
	B. Carrigan	Director of Public Works
	C. Rochon	Director of Finance
	R. Brown	Municipal Clerk
	C. McClare	Waste Reduction Coordinator
	J. Woodman	Administrative Assistant

Guests:	Jason Hart	Resident
	Gerry Isenor	G. A. Isenor Consulting Ltd.
	Blaine Rooney	Blaine S. Rooney Consulting Ltd.
	Colleen Rogers	West Hants Uniacke Community Health Board
	Andrea Parker	NS Health Authority
	Andrea Boone	West Hants Dial-A-Ride
	Sara Downing	West Hants Dial-A-Ride
	Nancy McKinley	West Hants Dial-A-Ride

There were 12 members of the public in attendance.

1. Call to Order
Chair Morton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Announcements
Chair Morton announced the meeting was being broadcasted on Facebook Live and reviewed the standard fire evacuation procedure.

Councillor Leopold invited everyone to attend the Annual Community Potluck supper at the Ardoise Hall on December 1st.

Warden Zebian advised the Christmas Angels telethon is scheduled for December 2nd and he encouraged everyone to donate, stating this year's goal was \$45,000. Councillor Daniels added that the Brooklyn and Hantsport Fire Departments will be doing their annual walk for Christmas Angelson that day as well.

3. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions
MOVED and SECONDED that the agenda be approved with the following changes:
 - **Addition 10 (b) Correspondence – Ellershouse Community Hall Thank you, Councillor Leopold**
 - **Deferral to the next Committee of the Whole of 11 (c) – Consolidation of Mayoral System****Motion Carried.**
4. Approval of Minutes

**MOVED and SECONDED that the Committee of the Whole Minutes of October 23, 2018 be approved, noting any errors or omissions.
Motion Carried.**

5. Presentation (s)

a. Consolidation Communications Concerns

Deputy Warden Morton welcomed Jason Hart. Mr. Hart indicated that most Councillors are familiar with his stance on how the amalgamation process was handled without public consultation. He suggested the information given to the public has been contradicting, stating the public has been told it is a pilot project and then it was not; instead it is modeled after the Queens/Liverpool amalgamation. He noted the public have been told that Council did not have input into Bill 55. He confirmed at the November 20th meeting, the public were told Council did have input through Tim Merry who acted as a liaison with the Province. He suggested all questions he asked over the series of eleven Town Hall meetings have been answered with multiple responses and that the responses changed during the same meeting.

Mr. Hart confirmed at the first Town Hall meeting held on October 15th the Warden was asked directly if CAO Coutinho would have a hand in picking the Transition Coordinator and the response was absolutely not and that the Province would appoint someone. He noted at the November 6th meeting Councillors in attendance were surprised to learn that Windsor/West Hants was hiring the Transition Coordinator with resumes being directed to CAO's Coutinho and Laycock. He suggested that fear of the unknown grows when the facts are still in dispute by Council. He indicated that he felt that Council is not intentionally misleading the public but rather unsure of the facts because the process has moved too fast.

Mr. Hart advised that the public has been informed by many Councillors that they were directed to attend these town hall meetings. He stated that he would like Council to give orders not take them, adding if Council cannot find it in their hearts to repeal the motion to amalgamate then at the minimum to make a motion to request a one-year extension from the Province. He pointed out that Bill 55 is a five-page document, and noted the Bill for Queens is 133 pages, Cape Breton 176 pages. He suggested that some of this missing information might be covered in the Municipal Government Act; asking "are we sure." He offered if Council must continue down this road to please slow down to a speed safe to the conditions. He expressed the importance of learning what Bill 55 does and does not say and asked that Council leave West Hants with as little damage as possible by considering his request.

There were no questions for Mr. Hart.

b. West Hants Dial-A-Ride

Colleen Rogers presented a brief background before the group from Dial-A-Ride made a presentation. She reported the Community Health Board had produced a Community Health Plan, which identified transportation as one of the priorities for the area in terms of meeting some of the social determinants of health. She explained the sub-committee consulted with the general public, Mayors, Wardens and representatives of community services and found that everyone they spoke to identify a need for a link from Windsor to the Valley and to HRM. Ms. Rogers suggested that people without transportation rely on others to get drives for medical appointments and for basic needs. She added that families need access for services and other activities, and that many seniors experience anxiety and isolation if they can not drive or are uncomfortable in their driving ability. She confirmed there is a significant need for transportation for dialysis and cancer patients to specialized clinics that aren't available in this area.

Ms. Rogers explained that many people mention they cannot obtain employment as they do not have transportation to get to there. She also noted that students cannot participate in afterschool activities as they cannot get a ride home. She reported the sub-committee looked at what ideas could be considered such as small vans on a schedule or a small bus to link into metro or Kings Transit. She noted that Dial-A-Ride does door to door service for a lot of medical needs and other things. Ms. Rogers indicated Dial-A-Ride had presented the idea that a community champion is required. She suggested the Community Health Board is an opportunity to link partners together. She noted the concept of a transportation navigator came from discussions with community transportation, and Dial-A-Ride was recommended as they already have the infrastructure.

Councillor Leopold asked what the Municipality's former role was when Kings Transit was available in West Hants. CAO Laycock informed West Hants contributed approximately \$70,000 to Kings Transit per year, however the ridership was significantly low, and Council made the decision to give notice to Kings Transit to withdraw the service. Councillor Leopold asked if the Municipality had any other role other than financial. Councillor Daniels offered that Kings Transit only provided a specific route and not in the rural areas where needed. Councillor Leopold asked where the funding for Kings Transit came from. CAO Laycock confirmed it was taken from the general tax rate based on a formula from Kings Transit.

Sara Downing, Nancy McKinley, and Andrea Boone presented a PowerPoint presentation from Dial-A-Ride. A request was made for \$11,600. Councillor Daniels recommended that this request should be deferred to budget deliberations.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council consider Dial-A-Ride funding during budget deliberations.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Daniels asked if the group needed to meet certain criteria for the funding they receive. Ms. McKinley responded there are no conditions on the grants received and that they only request annual reports, but she cautioned that there is never a guarantee on government funding. Councillor Daniels asked if Dial-A-Ride were to receive additional funding whether there would be room to reduce the rates for the users. Ms. McKinley confirmed there is an opportunity for reduction adding they would like to be able to subsidize the rides.

Councillor Leopold asked if they had the capacity to provide rides to all calls and whether they must turn away requests. Ms. McKinley confirmed they can provide rides to all requests as they have many volunteer drivers. Councillor Leopold asked whether there were special insurance considerations for volunteers. Ms. McKinley confirmed the volunteer drivers must have a \$2 Million liability insurance. Councillor Leopold agreed that rural residents are really limited to transportation options and that there is a need for the service. Warden Zebian agreed and felt it is a crucial piece of infrastructure for residents who are most vulnerable and have no other options.

c. West Hants Water and Sewer Rates

Gerry Isenor and Blaine Rooney presented a PowerPoint on the proposed water and sewer rates. Councillor Leopold asked if there was discussion on how to smooth the spike for the citizens who will see more of an increase. CAO Laycock confirmed this was discussed in the initial stages, but it was decided to move forward without smoothing. Councillor Leopold asked if any citizens will notice a significant increase. CAO Laycock clarified the recommendation is to recommend the rate studies and that the decision on consolidating the utilities had already been made, he suggested with any change there will always be some users that are impacted more than others.

Warden Zebian asked if the numbers given are based on an average of four in a household. G. Isenor clarified that they are based on an average consumption for all the houses in a community. He suggested that many users when they see the bill will begin to cut back on water usage. He noted the principal for setting rates in this matter is to charge fairly.

Councillor Francis asked if there are households that have a significant increase and are not prepared, whether there is a way the Municipality could work with them. CAO Laycock advised on the water side the Municipality is regulated by the Utility and Review Board and are obligated to follow the rules, however he suggested if residents call in advance the Municipality will work with them to figure out a solution.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approve that the Municipality of the District of West Hants apply to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for changes in its rates for water, water service and fire protection to the Municipality of the District of West Hants, and changes to its rules and regulations for customers served by the Three Mile Plains/Wentworth Water Utility, the Falmouth Water Utility, and the Hantsport Water Utility, as set out in the water rate study prepared by G.A. Isenor Consulting Limited in association with Blaine S. Rooney Consulting Limited dated November 1, 2018.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approve the rates for sewer service for customers in Three Mile Plains/Wentworth, Falmouth, and Hantsport, as set out in the sewer rate study prepared by G.A. Isenor Consulting Limited in association with Blaine S. Rooney Consulting Limited dated November 1, 2018 be adopted and that staff prepare the necessary changes to related by-laws and policies.

Motion Carried.

6. Hearing (s) – Dangerous & Unsightly
There were no Dangerous & Unsightly Hearings.

7. Business Arising from Minutes

a. Highway 14 Safety Concerns – Councillor Keith

Councillor Keith expressed concern about the trucks on Highway 14, he noted that it is becoming an extremely dangerous situation and there has been some accidents that could have been very serious, asking the situation be rectified before someone is hurt. He suggested that Council arrange a meeting with the Department of Transportation to determine a solution.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that a representative from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal be asked to attend a Committee of the Whole meeting and present what actions they are taking to resolve safety issues on Highway 14 from Milford to Chester.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Hussey expressed that he believed the trucks are coming this way to avoid the scales and suggested putting in a temporary scale that can be opened at any time and pull over the trucks. Councillor Jannasch indicated that he drives by the section by the Petro-Can agreeing it was extremely dangerous and he felt part of the problem is the view is not right to determine who is coming from different directions. He added there is also an increase of garbage trucks that are coming from Halifax and going through the intersection. Councillor Keith pointed out that the situation is not only about scales and suggested the most significant reason is the highway is not safe and cautioned that someone is going to be killed there. He suggested if a scale is opened the drivers just warn each other and it does not resolve the issue.

Councillor Leopold indicated the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (DTIR) is responsible for the commercial vehicle compliance officers who can review any infractions. She added that they are also responsible for traffic authority and highway construction. She supported a review of the three-way in front of the Petro-Can; questioning whether DTIR should review the amount of access that exists in front of this business which she suggested further increases the safety concerns.

Warden Zebian agreed that something needed to be done and he would contact a representative to meet with Council.

8. Report of the Chief Administrative Officer

a. Social Media Guidelines

CAO Laycock reported that Council had sent the policy back for review and noted upon review staff determined that a guideline would be more appropriate.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approve that the Social Media Guidelines (COGE-010.05) as presented on November 27, 2018.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold asked for clarification on what constitutes damaging the reputation of the Municipality and suggested that there have already been some incidents where

this has happened. CAO Laycock suggested it would be someone has cause to act on the comments that were made or diminishes the ability to act on a task as a result, or needlessly puts the Municipality in a difficult situation where Council is dealing with the repercussions of a comment and there is a tangible result.

Councillor Leopold inquired if there is any suggestion on who would monitor for inappropriate content. CAO Laycock clarified this would be in relation to a Councillors own posts and are guidelines for Councillors to monitor themselves and deal with it directly. CAO Laycock explained the Municipality would only monitor anything it is responsible for. Councillor Leopold suggested the reality is Council has no repercussions except to get themselves elected the next time around. She questioned if she noticed that a Councillor made what she considers harmful or detrimental comments what she should do. CAO Laycock advised the Councillor should refer to the guidelines and then go to the Council Code of Conduct, but agreed it is challenging to have a Councillor reprimanded.

b. Hospitality Policy

C. Rochon reported this is the last financial requirement through Bill 10, adding it has some new review requirements and the Policy needs to be reviewed in January after a municipal election. She noted Bill 10 requires an established approval process, the Municipality will follow the Procurement Policy for a hospitality expense. She explained all the hospitality events will have a form that needs to be approved prior to the event happening and stated this Policy will provide a definition of what is a hospitality event, what is acceptable to happen at an event and the reporting requirements under Bill 10. She added that Council will see a hospitality line in the budget.

Councillor Leopold asked for clarification on expenses relating to alcohol. C. Rochon indicated that the expenses need to be reflected but confirmed the amount would not be reimbursed and noted there is very strict guidelines on what is acceptable when alcohol is involved in an event which CAO reviews. She confirmed this would allow the Municipality to have an event with alcohol.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approve the Hospitality Policy (COFN-008.00) as presented on November 27, 2018. Motion Carried.

c. Gas Tax Funding – Hantsport and Area Historical Society.

CAO Laycock reported this is a formality that is required by the Province when using a significant amount of Gas Tax funds for a third party. He indicated the grant is for the upgrade to the heating system at the Hantsport and Area Historical Society.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approve the use of \$11,000 of Gas Tax to upgrade the heating system to a heat pump at the Hantsport and Area Historical Society building. Motion Carried.

Councillor Daniels asked whether education and hospitals could use Gas Tax funding. CAO Laycock suggested use of Gas Tax would be project specific.

d. Write-off of Uncollectable Tax Accounts

C. Rochon reported that staff have reviewed the tax accounts and looked at how to clear up some of the outstanding balances. She confirmed the four properties all have unique collection issues.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that for the outstanding balance of Harold J. Fraser, 7663 Hwy 215, Cambridge (AAN#01583425) Council approves the sale of this property by public tender with a minimum bid of

\$1.00 and that any taxes and fees remaining on the property not recovered from the sale be written off.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that for the outstanding balance of Randall William Nicoll, 19 Walker Road, Mosherville (AAN#00467561) Council approves the sale of this property by public tender with a minimum bid of \$100.00 and that any taxes and fees remaining on the property not recovered from the sale be written off.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that for the outstanding balance of Sherri Lee Barker, 150 Williams Rd, lot B. Ellershouse (AAN# 02649063) Council approves the sale of this property by public tender with a minimum bid of \$100.00 and that any taxes and fees remaining on the property not recovered from the sale be written off.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that for the outstanding balance of Jamie Randall Atwal Laffin, Ball Park Road, St. Croix (AAN# 09893954) Council approves the sale of this property by public tender with a minimum bid of \$1.00 and that any taxes and fees remaining on the property not recovered from the sale be written off.

Motion Carried.

9. Reports – Other Committees
There were no reports from other Committees.

10. Correspondence
a. Ellershouse Community Hall
Councillor Leopold advised that she received correspondence this evening from the Ellershouse Community Hall which she read to Council, thanking Council for the grant of \$5,000 so their community breakfasts could continue.

MOVED and SECONDED that the correspondence from the Ellershouse Community Hall be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

11. Miscellaneous/New Business
a. Underwood/Edward Drive Emergency Gate
Warden Zebian advised this topic of an emergency gate has been discussed for many years between the two municipal units and put the following motion on the floor.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that for the benefit of the residents of Windsor and West Hants and for the safety of all the residents of Hants County, the staff, patients, and visitors of Hants Community Hospital, the students and staff of Avon View High School, and for all the residents who live off of Payzant Drive, Windsor, and for the residents of the Crossing, West Hants, that the Municipality of West Hants recognize the connection of Underwood Drive in Windsor and Edward Drive, West Hants as an emergency access point and that an emergency access gate be installed on Municipal land with funds to come from the operating reserve and be installed by the end of January 2019.

Councillor Daniels asked why this issue could not wait until the consolidation occurs and confirmed there already is an emergency plan and exit. She offered there has not been any adverse issues that has hindered life and safety at this point. She stated that she would like to see it resolved mutually and did not see why it could be looked at in a non-gated method.

Warden Zebian noted this topic has been brought up at numerous town hall meetings, he confirmed there was an accident and a fire, and the exit was blocked off. He suggested the

wooden gate represents the division in the community but clarified he would not want to see it opened permanently. He indicated that he supports residents' concerns and that is why he has made the motion. Councillor Leopold advised that she supported the motion and appreciated that there has not been a significant issue but cautioned the consolidation will not take place until April 1, 2020. She reminded Council of the incident that took place at Avon View High School where there was a potential shooter on site which turned out to be false. Councillor Leopold noted that she is sure the school has their own plan for evacuation, but the fact remains that parents showed up to that area out of concern for their children. She added she as a parent and wanted to be ensured that there is some plan to evacuate or access her children in the event of an emergency.

Councillor Daniels expressed that she understood Councillor Leopold's concerns but noted that she has constituents in the Falls Lake area who have one way in and one way out and not the measures to have a secondary way out. She asked what happens when a gate is erected on West Hants side and the Town digs a trench. Councillor Hussey stated this has been a safety issues for years and felt it made no sense to have the road blocked with a permanent barricade, he confirmed there were two incidences last year on the West Hants side, questioning what would occur if an ambulance could not get access as it was a seniors area. He added there is no gate behind the school, only a concrete block which is not safe, and he felt this is the only viable solution; calling on the Town of Windsor to do the right thing once the motion is passed.

Councillor Leopold responded to Councillor Daniels comments about Falls Lake not having another access and reminded that that area does not have an institution that houses 1,000 students or housing of those that are most vulnerable. She encouraged if there is concerns with Falls Lake then it should be addressed as well, adding you cannot say because one area does not have access another should be denied. Councillor Leopold stated if the Town of Windsor digs a trench as suggested, so be it. She indicated that as a Councillor she is responsible to West Hants residents and she wants to ensure she has done her part.

Councillor Monroe asked whether this would fix the issue. Councillor Hussey suggested the end goal would be to have a secondary exit from the Crossing and Payzant but offered until we get to that point this is temporary resolution.

Motion Carried.

Councillors Zwicker and Daniels voted nay.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that the emergency access gate be locked and the keys given to the appropriate emergency or public safety providers such as fire departments, REMO, RCMP, and all appropriate others.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that staff draft a letter to the Town of Windsor notifying them of our action to install an emergency gate at Underwood Drive and Edward Drive to protect the residents of Windsor and West Hants and that staff prepare a letter to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Hants West MLA Chuck Porter notifying him of our action to protect the people of his constituency of Hants West.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Daniels asked if it was necessary to copy the MLA as it is a municipal issue. Warden Zebian suggested that the MLA has the authority to resolve this issue himself and he wished he would do so for the benefit of all the residents. Councillor Leopold added the hospital and school are examples of Provincial infrastructure so as the member of Legislative Assembly the MLA would be ideal to inform.

b. Sports Complex Facility

Councillor Francis reported that the Design and Fundraising Committee meetings are held during the day and many residents are not able to attend so she was asking that an information session be scheduled for an evening to update residents on the project. She suggested by delaying an information session it is missing out on opportunities for residents

to volunteer. She suggested that she would like to reach out to the Town of Windsor to contribute to the field house.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council direct the CAO to ask the Town of Windsor for financial support in the amount of \$800,000 for the field house and sports complex facility.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold added that the Design Committee met this afternoon, she offered that members are meeting during the day as it is difficult to coordinate everyone's schedule, and to respect staff's time so they compromised and meet late afternoons. She indicated that she supports Councillor Francis's desire to invite the public to the meetings but added as far as public consultation it is difficult for the Design Committee to agree on the design and felt it was unfair to invite the public's input at this stage. CAO Laycock offered the meetings could be broadcast live on Facebook. Councillor Francis understood the Committees cannot offer input at this time but suggested it could be an informative meeting to garner support.

The Municipal Clerk confirmed that minutes and committee packages are available on the municipal website for the public to read and the next meeting dates are always posted as well.

Councillor Monroe agreed the meetings should be live-streamed to be transparent to the public. CAO Laycock clarified the policy was for Council meetings which were defined and suggested that Council could revisit that. Councillor Keith offered he has no issues meeting with the public to update them on what is happening, and suggested design features do not have to be addressed.

Councillor Leopold agreed that the public are curious and cannot attend the meetings, but she offered there are minutes that are taken but due to the tight timeline between meetings they are not often available immediately to the public.

c. Consolidation Mayoral System

The matter was deferred.

d. Fire Protection Rates – Areas Serviced by Hydrants

Councillor Daniels reported it was brought to her attention that the fire hydrant protection rate has been cost shared through the general tax rate. She indicated in fairness, the cost of any service/ benefit received by a specific user should be borne by the user.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, to direct staff to remove the Fire Protection Hydrant Rate from the general tax rate and administer the associated charges as an area rate, as per the Area Rate Policy.

CAO Laycock pointed out the financial implications adding that currently the hydrant rate charged by the water utilities is over \$623,331 which is spread out over the general rate. He explained if this motion moves forward it would need to happen in the next budget year and would be allocated to residents who benefit from hydrants. He cautioned the figures in the report are very rough estimates but noted it would lower the general rate but would result in an area for the surrounding areas and would ultimately raise their taxes.

Warden Zebian cautioned that he would like to see accurate numbers before a decision is made on this motion. He worried that for the average home in Falmouth it would cost approximately \$600 more per year and felt he could not support it tonight.

Councillor Jannasch indicated that rural areas do not want to pay for services that other residents receive and suggested that Council needs to give the motion serious consideration.

Councillor Zwicker indicated he would not support the motion and reminded that fire is a general rated service and the reason there is hydrants in TMP, Falmouth, and Hantsport is due to density, and suggested it is how the service is provided. Councillor Leopold suggested she would not be able to support the motion, adding it should remain a general rate unless more information is provided.

Councillor Daniels felt it is not fair the rural areas are being charged for a service that is on infrastructure in growth areas and that hydrants are part that infrastructure. She suggested that rural residents do not have reduced house insurance and do not have benefits for fire protection that the growth areas do. She pointed out that the dry hydrants are not fire hydrants and reiterated this is a service provided to residents on infrastructure. She offered the hydrant use should be based on an area rate for those that benefit from it. She indicated if Council would prefer, she could table the motion so that further discussion could take place.

Councillor Francis agreed that this is not correct information to make an informative decision. Warden Zebian clarified that fire protection is a general rated service and he did not see why hydrants are different and he indicated he would not support the motion.

Motion Defeated.

Councillors Zebian, Morton, Zwicker, Monroe, Keith, Francis and Leopold voted nay. Councillors Daniels and Jannasch voted yea.

e. Leaf and Yard Waste Collection

Councillor Leopold reported that she had been contacted by an elderly resident who did not have the capability of hauling their leave and yard waste. She asked if this was an issue in other areas of the Municipality. C. McClare confirmed to date she has not received any complaints on this issue. She offered that an option could be free disposal at the landfill site. Councillor Leopold asked if transportation of the materials is included. C. McClare clarified that transportation is by the property owner but it is free once it reaches the landfill for disposal.

Councillor Leopold indicated that she reviewed the collection calendar and found there was no special collection for this type of waste product. She asked if it is was a common problem could a special collection be held once per year. C. McClare added that Council could choose to give direction for this action. CAO Laycock clarified that if staff determines there is a demand for this service it can be budgeted for as it has already been approved at the Council level.

Councillor Leopold asked if there was a Christmas tree curbside collection. C. McClare confirmed there was not.

f. MLA Contact Issues

Councillor Leopold explained that she has been unsuccessful reaching our Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). She confirmed on November 7th she made several attempts during the day to reach him. She went on to say she called and went to office on November 8th but he was not present. She advised on November 13th she sent an email to his MLA address and asked for an acknowledgment and she received a response from his assistant. She noted she has requested a meeting to discuss Municipal and Provincial issues as the Municipality is approaching consolidation.

She confirmed a week later she still did not hear from Mr. Porter, so she sent a follow up email asking for a response and she received a response back stating there are several Councillors who want to meet with him and he is trying to arrange a date. She asked if other Councillors were having difficulty reaching him as well.

Warden Zebian indicated that he usually has success reaching him and noted that he had some information to report from MLA Porter on the aboiteau in Hantsport. The Warden confirmed the issue is being passed on to different levels of government and that Department of Fisheries and Oceans is indicating that Hantsport will remain as it currently is, and nothing will be done; noting this is not what Council or the residents of Hantsport wants to hear. He confirmed that residents are being encouraged to contact their Member of Parliament on this matter to address any concerns. Chair Morton agreed this is a very frustrating situation.

Councillor Leopold expressed concern as a Councillor she has Municipally related concerns that she wishes to speak to the MLA about. Councillor Daniels indicated that she has not had any issues getting in touch with the MLA on matters of concern.

g. Joint Council/Consolidation Discussion

Councillor Leopold stated as the Municipality moves further into the consolidation process whether it would be beneficial to have one last Joint Council meeting to discuss and understand the roles of Councillors who are not part of the Transition Committee and approve the last set of minutes. She inquired where the last set of minutes were as they were not circulated to Councillors after the meeting. The Municipal Clerk responded that she would check with the minute taker to ensure that the last set of minutes are sent out.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approve holding one more Joint Council meeting to be held at a date to be determined by both units.

Motion Carried.

12. Public Participation

Shirley Pineo, of Mantua, stated that she would appreciate it as a citizen if Council would consider live-streaming all the public meetings, especially the rink committee meetings. She questioned why public meetings could not be held before the RFP is sent out. CAO Laycock responded that Council decided to move forward without public input. Councillor Leopold added that the committees reached out to various sport groups, rinks for their expertise, and she did not want the public to think Council was moving forward without any input.

Shirley Pineo commented on the concerns with leaf and yard waste, she noted in the past there was agreements with local farms to collect the leaves and waste.

Shirley Pineo explained that she was thankful that Councillor Daniels brought the fire hydrant matter for discussion. She stated that consolidation is coming, and she noted that residents are hearing there is going to be a rural committee to look after rural issues. She confirmed that residents in the rural areas are very concerned about consolidation and they fear that they will not be heard and added this was evident this evening. She offered that Council just showed residents what the rural areas must look forward to with consolidation. Ms. Pineo suggested that Council had an opportunity this evening to do something that would have shown the rural residents that maybe consolidation will work, but they did not. She explained the rural residents are paying in their taxes part of the \$600,000 for fire hydrants that they do not use. She indicated that she feared even more for consolidation after Council made this decision tonight.

Bill Preston, of Hantsport, expressed concern about the aboiteau in Hantsport and adding that he would like to be part of a committee to address the issue. He stated that he had made a suggestion to block the bridge temporarily to make a statement and bring more attention to the concerns. He suggested that this is a priority and it needs to have some action.

Jane Davis, of Hantsport, commented on the discussion regarding special collection and noted she found it interesting that the Waste Reduction Coordinator had not received any calls on the issue as she had made a request for another resident to bring back the two special collections dates in Hantsport. She questioned since this amount is already in the budget when the next special collection date would be, particularly for large special collection items which residents in Hantsport are interested in. She noted that residents are still paying for this and want it.

Ms. Davis also expressed concern on how the recording of votes is done on motions through Council. She asked that Council adopt a policy to automatically record how councillors vote. The Municipal Clerk explained although it is not written in the Council Procedural Policy it has been practice for the last year to record which councillor voted nay in the minutes, and clarified if it states motion carried, they it was a unanimous vote. Jane Davis suggested for transparency and historical accuracy the nays should be recorded.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular Committee of the Whole will be on January 22, 2019.

14. Adjournment

**MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn.
Motion Carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Paul Morton, Chair

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk