



**WEST HANTS
NOVA SCOTIA**

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Committee of the Whole Minutes
June 25, 2019, 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
	D. Keith	Councillor District 3
	T. Leopold	Councillor District 4
	D. Francis	Councillor District 5
	R. Hussey	Councillor District 6
	J. Daniels	Councillor District 7
	M. Laycock	Chief Administrative Officer
	C. Rochon	Director of Finance
	M. LeMay	Director of Planning
	S. Shah	Municipal Planner
	S. Poirier	Municipal Planner
	R. Brown	Municipal Clerk
	K. Ritchie	Administrative Assistant
Regrets:	R. Zwicker	Councillor, District 10

Guests: Brooklyn Fire Department Members
Chief, Jason Cochrane
Deputy Chief, George Pineo
Executive President, Art Crowell
BFD Auxiliary, Paul McCully
Nova Scotia Fracking Research and Action Coalition - Barbara Harris

There were 41 members of the public in attendance.

1. Call to Order

Chair Morton called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Announcements

Chair Morton announced the meeting was being broadcasted on Facebook Live and reviewed the standard fire evacuation procedure.

a. Sports Complex Seat Draw - Congratulations Chris Strikey

3. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions

MOVED and SECONDED that the agenda be approved with the following additions and deletions:

- **Delete Tabled Motion of Council June 11, 2019 "...that Council write a letter to the Town of Windsor asking them to remove the barricade at the end of Underwood Drive"**
- **Add 10 (e) Pride Flag – Warden Zebian**
- **Add 12(b) In-Camera - MGA (22)(2)(e)- Warden Zebian**

Motion Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOVED and SECONDED that the Committee of the Whole Minutes of March 26, 2019 and Special Committee of the Whole Minutes of April 3, 2019 and Committee of the Whole Minutes of May 28, 2019 be approved, noting any errors or omissions.

Motion Carried.

5. Presentation(s)

- a. Brooklyn Fire Department (Replacement of Truck 1 at Station 2)

Deputy Warden Morton welcomed Brooklyn Fire Chief, Jason Cochrane & Auxiliary, Paul McCully. The guests thanked Council for the opportunity to speak and reviewed their presentation.

Councillor Hussey inquired if, with Truck 1 down and truck 9 out for repair, options have been explored to work with neighboring departments to alleviate risks. Chief Cochrane said yes, the Auto Aid will take care of this.

Councillor Leopold asked if this was a line item in the 2019-2020 Budget to which CAO Laycock replied no. He went on to ask the presenters if Council wished to proceed with the purchase of the truck would a deposit be required. It was stated that there was no need for a deposit.

Councillor Francis questioned the timing of the delivery of the truck and if the item had been put to tender or if direction was needed by Council. Paul McCully replied that the tender had been drafted and ready to send to the CAO for review. Councillor Francis expressed that she was not comfortable leaving rural areas without protection. The CAO clarified that the process for approving the replacement truck purchase would be a recommendation to Council from Committee of the Whole, then approval from Council would go to the Co-ordinating Committee as the funds would be part of the next fiscal year and directly impact the new Regional Municipality.

Councillor Monroe inquired on an update of the Fire Service RFP, CAO Laycock said a response has been received and is being reviewed and if awarded the work would be completed by the end of October.

Councillor Jannasch, questioned why Windsor's ladder truck was not on the agenda yet to which Deputy Warden Morton indicated that it had not yet been brought forward.

Councillor Hussey inquired if the asset management takes the fire assets in account. CAO Laycock indicated that the current asset management leaves out Fire, however, it would be done at the end of October as a part of the Fire Services RFP.

Warden Zebian stated that a tender process does not commit Council to purchasing the truck and supported the request. Councillor Hussey asked if it would be possible to have it written in the tender that the purchase would be subject to approval of funding. Paul McCully stated that doing so would decrease the responses.

Deputy Warden Morton questioned if it would be possible to temporarily place one of the pumper trucks from Windsor in the Three Mile Plains Station to which Chief Juteau replied yes.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council recommend to the Co-ordinating Committee to support the replacement of Truck 1 at Brooklyn Fire Department Station 2, up to the amount of \$800,000 plus or minus 5%.

Motion Carried.

Councillors Jannasch, Monroe and Deputy Warden Morton voted nay.

b. Nova Scotia Fracking Research and Action Coalition – Barbara Harris

Deputy Warden Morton welcomed Barbara Harris to the Committee of the Whole meeting. Barbara Harris reviewed her presentation. Warden Zebian thanked Barbara for the presentation noting it was factual and appreciated as it was an issue of importance.

MOVED and SECONDED that the following recommendation be made to Council:

Whereas hydraulic fracturing (fracking) or unconventional drilling for natural gas and other fossil fuels often involves the injection of hundreds of toxic chemicals in the ground; and

Whereas hydraulic fracturing uses massive amounts of water, as much as millions of litres per fracking "job"; and

Whereas pollution of water caused by fracking may threaten the long-term economic, social and ecological well-being of communities that depend on clean water sources to meet their basic needs; and

Whereas while the industry claims that natural gas is a cleaner fuel, some independent studies have shown that hydraulic fracturing creates more life-cycle greenhouse gas emission than mining and burning coal and clearly more specific study is required; and

Whereas water and air are shared commons and public trusts and as such require genuine public consultation and a process that enables communities to be a part of the decision-making process; and

Whereas there are thousands of documented cases in the US of water contamination near fracking sites;

Be It Resolved that Council declares it does not support fracking.

Councillor Monroe questioned if the ban that exists today protects the region as it sits to which Barbara Harris replied no, it does not prevent all fracking. The Councillor asked if Council should confirm what was done by the previous Council in 2016 to ensure nothing has changed and asked if there would be an opportunity to create a municipal by-law. CAO Laycock replied that as it is a Provincial issue a municipal by-law could not be created adding that he was unsure of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities' position on the resolutions.

Councillor Jannasch stated that he had heard that embarking on the shale gas industry that a useful source of energy would be created for our local industries. Barbara Harris replied that although it is an easy thing to say she questioned how many would be hurt from doing so. The Councillor went on to say that people are concerned about water quality due to fracking and questioned if they would be able to submit a sample to the Province for testing. Barbara Harris replied that it would be a complicated process due to too many chemical's and issues.

Councillor Jannasch stated that as the Municipality is in the process of changing its Land Use By-law it would be an appropriate time to put things in place regarding fracking to which Barbara Harris replied yes.

Councillor Daniels suggested that the motion be made into a solid resolution to ensure the wording is clear.

MOVED and SECONDED to amend the motion after "Be It Resolved" to state "that Council declares it does not support hydraulic fracturing that would result in the short or long-term economic, social or ecological ramifications that arise from the process of hydraulic fracturing in shale".

Amendment Carried.

Motion Carried as amended.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that the Municipality of the District of West Hants send a letter to the Province stating our support for a ban on fracking as stated in our motion and that if the Province does change their mind on the ban on fracking, that the Province does do an extensive public consultation and full consideration be given to the protocols and procedures to address fracking of water and the eventual disposal of this product through wastewater treatment plant facilities.

MOVED and SECONDED to amend the motion to add that the letter be copied to every municipality in Nova Scotia.

Amendment Carried.

Motion Carried as amended.

MOVED and SECONDED to receive the fracking presentation and additional material.
Motion Carried.

6. Business Arising from Minutes
There was no business arising from the minutes.
7. Report of the Chief Administrative Officer

a. Second Amendment to the Repeal By-law (Recommendation Report)
Municipal Clerk, Rhonda Brown reviewed the Recommendation Report.

Councillor Monroe questioned if complaints that would've fallen under the Livestock at Large should be forwarded to the By-law enforcement Officer or to the Fencing Committee. The Municipal Clerk indicated that fencing complaints should be forwarded to the her.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council give First Reading and proceeds to a Public Hearing for R-004 Second Amendment to the Repeal By-law, as presented at Committee of the Whole on June 25, 2019.

Motion Carried.

b. 3rd Amendment to the Fees Policy COFN-005.03 (Recommendation Report)
Municipal Clerk, Rhonda Brown reviewed the Recommendation Report.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council amend the Fees Policy, COFN-005.03 to reflect the amendments shown in the attachments to the 3rd Amendment to the Fees Policy Report to Committee of the Whole dated June 25, 2019.

Motion Carried.

c. Repeal of Policies (Recommendation Report)
The Municipal Clerk reviewed the Recommendation Report.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council repeal the following policies:

a. Policy for Creating New General Service Areas (GSAs) dated April 14, 2009

b. Fire and Emergency Services Registration Policy dated April 13, 1999

c. Installation of Water Service Lines Policy dated March 13, 2007.

Motion Carried.

d. Water and sewer service consolidation - Update (Information Report)
CAO Laycock reviewed the Water and Sewer Service Consolidation Update Information Report.

e. Pension Plan Merger (Recommendation Report)
CAO Laycock reviewed the Pension Plan Merger Recommendation Report.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approve the merger of the Municipality of the District of West Hants and Town of Windsor pension plans and that they be managed by Manulife Financial.

Motion Carried.

f. Rural Public Transportation (Information Report)
Municipal Planner, Sara Poirier reviewed the Information Report.

g. Appointment of Assistant Building Official (Recommendation Report)
CAO Laycock reviewed the Appointment of Assistant Building Official Recommendation Report.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that effective July 10, 2019, Council appoint Tina McKay as Assistant Building Official in accordance with Section 5(2) of the Nova Scotia Building Code Act.

Motion Carried.

h. Temporary Borrowing Resolutions (Recommendation Report)
CAO Laycock reviewed the Temporary Borrowing Resolutions Recommendation Report.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approves a temporary borrowing resolution 19/20-01 in the amount of \$124,000 for supply tracked mini excavator equipment for the Public Works Department.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approves a temporary borrowing resolution 19/20-02 in the amount of \$2,625,000 for Hantsport Fire Department Station.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approves a temporary borrowing resolution 19/20-03 in the amount of \$5,135,000 for the West Hants Sports Complex.

Motion Carried.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approves a temporary borrowing resolution 19/20-04 in the amount of \$41,500, for radios for the Brooklyn Fire Department Station 1 and 2, and for jaws of life equipment for South West Hants Fire Department.

Motion Carried.

i. Write-off of Uncollectable Account Tax Accounts (Recommendation Report)
CAO Laycock reviewed the Write-off of Uncollectable Account Tax Accounts Recommendation Report.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approves the sale of the property located at 7328 Highway 215, Bramber (AAN 06200958) by public tender with a minimum bid of \$250.00 and that any taxes and fees remaining on the property not recovered from the sale be written off.

Motion Carried.

8. Reports – Other Committees

a. MCCAP

i. West Hants GHG Emissions Inventory and Forecasting Model
(Recommendation Report)

Municipal Planner, Saira Shah, reviewed the Recommendation Report concerning West Hants GHG Emissions Inventory and Forecasting Model.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council award the tender for the Green House Gas Emissions Inventory and Forecasting Model to WSP for a total contract price of \$59,413.50 + HST.

Motion Carried.

9. Correspondence

a. 06-12-2019 Letter from West Hants Trails Association

Councillor Daniels questioned what would occur to the trails if they are no longer maintained to which the CAO replied that the Municipality would be responsible.

b. 06-18-2019 Letter from Parks Canada

10. Miscellaneous/New Business

a. Sports Complex Operations – Councillor Francis

Councillor Francis stated the need for to put out an RFP for the operations of the new Sports Complex to consider options moving forward.

Councillor Daniels stated that as she would not be supporting the motion as she did not have any information.

Councillor Jannasch agreed with Councillor Daniels stating it was unclear if both municipal units would be responsible, if it would be run by our Parks and Recreation Department or by a Commission. Councillor Leopold echoed Councillor Jannasch's concerns noting that an issuing an RFP would suggest that the Municipality is not considering running the Complex in-house. CAO Laycock clarified that the RFP would be issued to explore all avenues for operations including in-house.

Councillor Daniels requested that information on previous discussions be forwarded to Council prior to a decision being made on the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council that Council direct staff to prepare a Request for Proposal for the operations of the new Sports Complex Facility.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Francis spoke of struggles being faced by the time commitments required for the Fundraising Committee suggesting that Council consider a third party for fundraising for the new Sports Complex. CAO Laycock advised that an outside source would provide a great opportunity to increase the funds being raised and would lighten the load for staff.

Councillor Daniels expressed that she supported contracting out the fundraising adding that she felt as it would result in higher returns for the efforts. Warden Zebian agreed adding that he would support the motion as well.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council direct staff to prepare a Request for Proposal for the fundraising of the new Sports Complex Facility.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold voted nay.

b. Sweets Corner Community Hall - Councillor Francis

Councillor Francis advised Council that the funding that the Sweets Corner Community Hall was depending on for repairs to the roof has fallen through. She went on to say that the roof is leaking, and the Hall is looking for funding to make the repairs.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council use \$19,000 of Gas Tax funds to upgrade the roof at the Sweets Corner Community Hall.

Motion Carried.

c. Notice to Rescind Motion of June 11, 2019 "that Council write a letter Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal using the Falmouth Great Dyke Marsh Body template supporting their position to preserve Lake Pisiquid freshwater levels that are adequate to serve the agriculture and recreation communities." – Councillor Monroe

Councillor Monroe gave notice to rescind the motion of June 11, 2019, "that Council write a letter Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal using the Falmouth Great Dyke Marsh Body template supporting their position to preserve Lake Pisiquid freshwater levels that are adequate to serve the agriculture and recreation communities."

Councillor Munroe voiced that by endorsing this we are taking an inappropriate action we want all requirements to be met adding that Council should take a conservative approach to allow this process to evolve.

d. Asset Management Policy – Councillor Daniels

Councillor Daniels stated that asset management is the management of our Assets it looks at current and future needs and uses the best of our resource to budget and predict over a short term and long term the needs for the replacement or upgrades to our assets.

e. Pride Flag – Warden Zebian

Warden Zebian stated that he had heard from a concerned group of veterans stating that the Canadian Flag should remain in place when flying another flag. Clerk Brown looked into the protocols and the Canada Flag should not be flown with any other flag.

Councillor Daniels stated that she appreciated the veteran's concerns and questioned what happened to the second flagpole that Councillor Hussey mentioned purchasing last year. Clerk Brown replied that discussions had taken place about purchasing a second flagpole, but no motion was made. Councillor Jannasch expressed that, as the Municipality was currently going through the process of consolidation, the topic would be brought forward again in the new year.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that two new flagpoles be installed at the Municipal Office on Morison Drive.

**MOVED and SECONDED to amend the motion to state "one new flagpole" not two.
Amendment Carried.**

Motion Carried as Amended.

Councillor Jannasch voted nay.

11. Public Participation

Tacha Reid addressed Council questioning how the public finds out about presentations being made to Council prior to meetings in order to keep informed. Clerk Brown indicated that the full packages, including presentations, for meetings of Council are put on the Municipality's website prior to the meetings suggesting that checking the website would be the best avenue to use to keep up to date.

Dais Taylor stated that Halifax Transit does not come close enough to the borders of the Municipality to be considered as a connection for transit. He noted that the Information Report, item 7.f. Rural Public Transportation, had no discussion.

12. In-Camera

- a. MGA 22(2)(e) – Contract Negotiations
- b. MGA 22(2)(e) – Contract Negotiations

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting move in-camera.

Motion Carried.

The meeting moved in-camera at 9:28 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:21 p.m.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular Committee of the Whole will be on August 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Paul Morton, Chair

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk