



**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Committee of the Whole Minutes
September 24, 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
	J. Daniels	Councillor District 7
	R. Zwicker	Councillor District 10
	M. Laycock	Chief Administrative Officer
	C. Rochon	Director of Finance
	M. LeMay	Director of Planning
	D. Gibson	Accountant
	C. Remme	Acting Municipal Clerk
	J. Woodman	Administrative Assistant
Regrets:	R. Hussey	Councillor District 6
Guests:	M. Tate	Tate Engineering
	I. Storey	IB Storey
	J. Tufts	Chief Executive Officer Valley REN

There were 8 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 encouraged all residents to attend the Ellershouse breakfast hosted the last Saturday of each month.

Councillor Francis announced a fundraising event scheduled for October 26 for the West Hants Sports Complex facility which includes a hockey game at 6:30 p.m. at the Windsor Arena followed by a kitchen party at 9:00 p.m. at the Windsor Community Center, tickets can be purchased at the local Home Hardware stores or from Warden Zebian or Councillor Francis.

3. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions
**MOVED and SECONDED that the agenda be approved with the following additions:
11 (d) Sports Complex – Public Information Session West Hants Sports Complex
Motion Carried.**

4. Approval of Minutes
**MOVED and SECONDED that the Committee of the Whole Minutes of August 27, 2019 be approved, noting any errors or omissions.
Motion Carried.**

5. Presentation(s)
a. West Hants Sports Complex

Murray Tate & Ian Storey provided a PowerPoint update on the project. Mr. Tate confirmed that Lindsay Construction is doing a good job on site and delivering a quality product. He reviewed the process of design and stated the design should be complete before Christmas. He noted as the award was 20 weeks late so scheduling was challenging and a phased permit process was implemented to help. He advised the biggest challenge for scheduling and budget was the weather and that the ability to get work done before the cold weather which may depend on how much money is willing to be put in for acceleration. Mr. Tate informed the budget and acceleration would affect the scheduled dates.

Mr. Tate reviewed his understanding of the hard cost budget noting the contingency cost of \$1.022M. He explained the contingency budget, noting the full amount budgeted for acceleration cannot be used if they are to make the upgrades they think should be made. The upgrades included HVAC and refrigeration whose cost has been committed but did not include the reduction of the payback value, user enhancement such as dasher board and turf upgrades, and schematic design adjustments noting 60 had been made so far. Mr. Tate suggested the contingency would be used but they would still be within budget unless there are other options for upgrades from Council.

Mr. Storey reported the facility is intended to have an Integrated Thermal Plant consisting of refrigeration, mechanical and HVAC components that move the energy around the building. He noted there would be no boiler plant and no use of fossil fuels; it works using a sophisticated control system. Mr. Storey stated the refrigerant is XP10 or Opteon, which is non-toxic, non-flammable and increases safety over ammonia. He stated the NHL have been promoting the use of Opteon for sustainability of community rinks. The system is low maintenance, has a long warranty period and would provide a 42% reduction in annual energy use, so would qualify for an energy rebate. He as a result of the plan there would be a reduction of 782 tonnes of CO2. He reiterated there was a 2.2-year payback on the increased mechanical costs. Mr. Storey suggested the easier and safer operations would help with staff turnover. He spoke of the core performers for the system such as the Industrial Trane Package and Big Ass Fans.

Councillor Keith confirmed the package was a 10-year warranty and asked whether the service contract was included in the overall price. Mr. Storey confirmed the service would cost an extra \$3,000-4,000 per year but suggested it could be done in house or maintained by local contractors.

Councillor Keith asked about the insulation of the complex. Mr. Storey stated that more insulation is better and confirmed that R100 was better than R20.

Councillor Keith asked if the facility should have a back-up generator for ice. Mr. Storey explained it would be better that the facility as a whole, but the ice could last up to 3 days if other systems were shut down before the ice delaminates if the building was airtight but would depend on the weather. He stated there would be a trade off with investment.

Councillor Monroe asked how many other facilities in the Maritimes have a heat recapture system. Mr. Storey stated 5-10 facilities in Nova Scotia have an Integrated Thermal Plants.

Councillor Daniels asked if there is an opportunity for external funding for green initiatives. CAO Laycock stated he is reviewing options with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, but the project may not qualify. He suggested one significant cost savings would be through Efficiency Nova Scotia with the indefinite reduced power rate savings.

Councillor Leopold asked Mr. Tate what became of the geotechnical report that suggested that the critical systems should be elevated and whether this was completed. Mr. Tate clarified that the position was strengthened so that the refrigeration system and mechanical distribution will be located on an infusion welded floor with no joints in the piping below the second floor which prevents opportunities for leaks and reduces risks associated with flooding.

Councillor Leopold asked if Trane serviced the Rath Eastlink Center in Truro. Mr. Storey confirmed they did not supply the refrigeration but may have been involved in the construction of the building. He personally felt one of the issues at that facility was due to the natural light hitting the ice surface. Councillor Leopold expressed concern hearing this as one of the reasons Lindsay's was chosen was for their windows. Mr. Tate clarified that Lindsay's proposed the use of translucent panels which is different.

Councillor Leopold requested clarification on the indefinite incentive for the Efficiency Nova Scotia grant. Mr. Tate explained \$161,490 from Efficiency Nova Scotia was a onetime lump sum under their new construction incentive program for saving over 40% energy. Director Carrigan explained on going savings was 12 cents per kilowatt per hour for an undetermined time period.

Councillor Leopold inquired about the quality of ice with the proposed system. Mr. Storey explained the quality of ice is affected by the flow from the pump and the temperature the floor is maintained at. He suggested the ice quality would depend on ice maintenance, thickness, and water chemistry. He indicated this system has over 90 tons of refrigeration which exceeds most facilities with single pads which normally has about 68 tons and confirmed that there would be no issues building or holding ice. Councillor Leopold inquired if his comparison was to other facilities in Nova Scotia or in Canada. Mr. Tate confirmed he was referencing both.

Councillor Leopold asked where the refrigerant comes from and whether it is easily accessible. Mr. Storey confirmed it is manufactured by a company in Delaware and noted it is included with the Trane package which includes a 10-year warranty on the refrigerate with full global distribution.

Councillor Leopold advised that it is being presented as a safer and easier system to operate which could lead to staff retention and she questioned whether this meant that staff would no longer require a refrigeration ticket. Mr. Storey clarified that he was not suggesting that staff would not require a refrigeration ticket only that it was a safer and easy system to run.

Councillor Leopold asked if a significant amount of contingency has been utilized. Mr. Tate confirmed the only item that has been committed to is the \$440,000 for the HVAC and refrigeration and cautioned delaying that decision would increase the acceleration costs that they anticipate. He confirmed this was being viewed as a substantial change to the contract and thus compounded the delay. He advised the \$440,000 has not been signed as a changed order but that general direction has been given to proceed.

Councillor Leopold inquired where the change originated. Mr. Tate confirmed it resulted from discussions with the Directors of Public Works, Mr. Murray, the Committee and himself who decided as a group this is a better approach given the payback and quality of ice.

Councillor Leopold asked if the ammonia system is more common throughout the country. Mr. Storey indicated that ammonia is commonly used across Canada however, following the deaths in British Columbia, municipalities are required to have evacuation plans involving the fire departments. He noted in terms of the rink industry there are a significant number of NHL clients who are moving to the proposed system. Councillor Leopold appreciated that but reminded him that Council is not dealing with NHL budgets. Mr. Storey stated the initiative to change to from ammonia was community based. He went on to note that for ice an ammonia and Opteon plant are the same quality, it was the safety of Opteon that was better. Councillor Leopold asked what the anticipated acceleration costs would be. Mr. Tate advised the contingency for acceleration of \$330,00 - \$530,000 was due to the delay in awarding the contract which impacts the close-in date; change to structural steel instead of masonry block so that work can continue through the winter; additional heating costs for winter; and general conditions to have Lindsay's manager and additional buildings on site. Mr. Tate advised that Lindsay took a \$2 Million risk in ordering materials for the building before the contract was signed but because it was still ordered later than anticipated the cost for the materials did increase.

Mr. Tate stated the building is wanted by September 1, 2020 but if it was not accelerated it would not be ready until the end of November.

Councillor Francis clarified that the contingency is being pushed because Council was delayed on deciding and this created a late start on the project. CAO Laycock confirmed this.

Councillor Monroe asked the CAO if the Municipality owns the land that the project is on. CAO Laycock confirmed he has provided all the necessary paperwork to the agricultural society lawyers.

MOVED and SECONDED that the presentation on the West Hants Sports Complex be received and placed on file.

Motion Carried.

b. Valley Regional Enterprise (REN)

Jennifer Tufts presented on behalf of Valley REN. Ms. Tufts highlighted what they've done this year regarding the Business NOW program and noted they have served 47 businesses since April 1 and 30 were new or unique to Valley REN.

Councillor Monroe asked if Valley REN could provide a list of who they are dealing with within the Municipality. Ms. Tufts confirmed she could provide this to Council in the future.

Councillor Daniels offered she was happy to see that Valley REN is meeting and exceeding their target goals. She suggested that looking at it from a regional basis still affects this area because it creates employment. She advised that she participated in site visits with local businesses in the community and met a business who was struggling, and that same day Valley REN was in contact looking to assist.

6. Hearing (s) – Dangerous & Unsightly – None

7. Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. Report of the Chief Administrative Officer

a. HMCC 2018-2019 Financial Statements

Director Rochon reported the most significant highlight is on page 11 which discusses the funding agreement through the approved area rate. She advised that HMCC approached the Municipality in 2016 and requested an area rate which the citizens of Hantsport voted in favour, and Council approved. She confirmed in 2019 the area rate was increased to allow for a Recreation Director to be hired after a citizen favourable vote that was approved by Council. She noted this is the audited statements showing the Municipality's contribution. She clarified there is a deficit of \$25.00 and noted based on the receipts staff will be able to release the hold back from last year and payments can be released for the current year.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council accept the financial statements provided by HMCC and that any 2018-19 hold backs and eligible 2019-20 area rate payments be paid to HMCC for the purpose of providing the services defined in the 2019-20 budget.

Motion Carried.

b. 2019 MFC Fall Debenture

Director Rochon presented the report and noted in September 2018, Council approved the purchase of a Supply Tracked Mini-Excavator and Councils approval is required to authorize the Warden and Municipal Clerk to sign the Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council authorize the Warden and Municipal Clerk to sign the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance, subject to interest rate confirmation not to exceed 5.5%, to enable the Municipality of the District of West Hants to issue a 5-year debenture of \$93,771.84.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Monroe questioned why the price was so high for the mini excavator. Staff agreed to investigate and report back to Council.

c. 1st Amendment to COFN-003.00 Procurement and Tendering Policy

Diana Gibson, Municipal Accountant, presented the report and noted the Procurement and Tendering Policy had been updated by assessing the new Canadian Free Trade Agreement and the new Alternative Procurement Practices for Municipal Governments in Nova Scotia.

The Municipal Accountant spoke of the main changes made to the Policy. She noted that the threshold amounts, updated to meet the Canadian Free Trade Agreement which had increased to goods greater than \$101,100, services greater than \$101,100 and construction greater than \$252,700. She advised the updated Policy mimics the 23 alternative procurement circumstances that the CFTA outlines, which are exceptions to the Policy. She confirmed should any of these circumstances be used and exceed the thresholds they must be posted on the Nova Scotia Procurement web portal.

Diana Gibson reported they also made some minor changes ensuring wording in the Policy matches wording in the templates and to ensure the Policy follows the same formatting as other policies by alphabetizing definitions and updating wording throughout to ensure consistency with other policy language.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council approves the 1st Amendments to COFN-003.00 Procurement and Tendering Policy for the Municipality of the District of West Hants, as presented to Committee of the Whole on September 24, 2019.

Councillor Leopold asked how this aligns with the Provincial Public Procurement Policy and whether one set of rules supersedes another. CAO Laycock suggested these would supersede as they are national/international standards and the Municipality adheres to them when they fall within the ranges of the thresholds outlines in agreements. He offered the Provincial Standards work in harmony with those standards.

Councillor Leopold asked if the consolidation would impact this. CAO Laycock suggested at some point the new Council will have to adopt a procurement policy, adding that currently the Co-ordinating Committee has adopted all financial policies and procedures of the Municipality of West Hants and, unless a change is made, this is the method that would be used moving forward which would transcend into the new unit until Council makes a change.

Councillor Leopold asked for clarification on “alternate procurement practices in effect for reasons of urgency brought about by events unforeseen by the Municipality”. CAO Laycock clarified this was a cut and paste from the language that was provided from the Atlantic Procurement Practices noting that he saw reasons of urgency as having to buy supplies quickly in a circumstance such as the recent hurricane.

Councillor Leopold asked for clarification on the wording “Confidential or Contrary to Public Interest”. CAO Laycock offered he could not think of an example but suggested the idea is that the 23 practices provide clarity to municipalities and other public agencies so there is less ambiguity on what qualifies as an alternative procurement process. Councillor Leopold suggested it seems like there is a lot more discretionary authority allowed by the CAO providing they fit within the 23 circumstances.

Motion Carried.

d. Sports Complex Business Plan

CAO Laycock spoke of the direction that was given for staff to prepare a Request for Proposal for the operations of the new Sports Complex Facility noting that two were received. He noted that one did not meet the technical threshold and the other, being close to \$100,000, staff felt was a significant cost. He advised that staff are recommending to not proceed with the award of the contract but to have staff prepare an information report on the financial models instead.

MOVED and SECONDED that the Municipality not proceed with an Award of Contract to develop a business plan for the West Hants Sports Complex.

Councillor Leopold asked where the information will come from if staff prepares the report. CAO Laycock offered one of the factors is the report from IB Storey, adding staff are aware of various ice costs from different rinks around the region. He suggested that staff will need to gather data and come up with a plan on how best to pull this together.

Councillor Leopold expressed concern about the impact on the tax rate for this project. She went on to say that she understood the cost was significant but, as it would determine how the facility would be run for many years to come, the Business Plan would require a very specialized level of expertise. She suggested that Council might want to consider this and reminded that Council has yet to discuss operations and if the cost of this facility would be borne by both units.

CAO Laycock confirmed the new Council would determine this decision. He noted there is a guiding principal related to capital but cautioned this is not binding and it would be up to the new Regional Council to determine how to move forward.

Councillor Francis offered that both units have competent staff working on this report and it would have a cost savings of \$100,000 which is substantial.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold voted nay, as she abstained from voting.

MOVED and SECONDED that Council direct staff to prepare an information report to evaluate the financial model for the West Hants Sports Complex to assist Council in determining the governance and operational structure for the new facility.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold noted nay, as she abstained from voting.

9. Reports – Other Committees

a. Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board

Councillor Leopold reviewed the report noting that she had material from the AVRLB that she would be distributing throughout the communities of West Hants.

The Councillor advised that a motion had been passed by the Board to change the dates of the meetings to the third Thursday of the designated meeting month which conflicted with the Planning Advisory meetings of West Hants Council. She noted that she raised the point to the Board and was told there are other ways to participate if she couldn't send an alternate.

Councillor Daniels cautioned that the cost of accessibility to these buildings is burdened by the Municipality and she hopes the province considers alternative funding to help offset the cost. She clarified that she did fully support the accessibility of the buildings.

10. Correspondence

a. 09-06-2019 Letter from Town of Shelburne – Fracking

b. 09-12-2019 Letter from Department of Energy and Mines – Fracking

c. 09-17-2019 Letter from Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Minimum Planning and Engagement Program Regulations

11. Miscellaneous/New Business

a. Referred Motions from Council

i. Hantsport Fire Station

CAO Laycock reported this motion was referred from the Hantsport Area Advisory Committee and it was agreed that it be discussed at Committee of the Whole. He offered he is not aware of any reports associated with this referral.

Councillor Monroe asked what the plans are for the existing fire station building. The CAO confirmed there are no definitive plans as staff are focusing on getting a design for the new fire station. He added that it has yet to be determined whether the existing building would be deemed as surplus or if there is an alternative use for the Municipality.

Councillor Leopold asked if direction had been given by Council to build the new fire station at the proposed Public Works site. CAO Laycock advised that an Information Report had come to Council, but direction had not been given. He went on to say that a Fire Study was being done noting that the proposed piece of land was being considered due to its proximity to CKF and also because it is owned by the Municipality. CAO Laycock offered Council could consider other options but cautioned it would be hard to find another suitable piece of land.

Councillor Leopold expressed concern that a proper investigation has not been completed to determine the appropriate site for a fire station. She suggested that more factors should be considered in such a decision. She asked if there is still potential to have it located in a more efficient area noting that she felt as though the Municipality owning the land was not an adequate reason to proceed and requested that staff provide information on an appropriate site location.

Councillor Leopold cautioned using the current alternate REMO Coordinator as a resource on the decision as he is part of the Hantsport Fire Department could be perceived as a conflict of interest. CAO Laycock corrected that Rick Sherrard is the temporary appointed REMO Coordinator.

MOVED and SECONDED that staff be directed to prepare an information report regarding fire station site selection in respect to Hantsport Fire Department.

Councillor Zwicker expressed that choosing a site outside of Hantsport for the station would be lunacy. He reminded Council that the Station is a key element in servicing Kings County, Mount Denson and a large employer in the area noting that the station is well staffed and provide top notch service.

Councillor Keith suggested the decision be left for the new Regional Council.

Councillor Leopold expressed that she understood the service agreement in place with Kings County and spoke of the program that maps out the concentration of calls. She added that Council had discussed regionalization of fire services which should also be considered before a decision is made. The Councillor went on to say that she is not suggesting that Hantsport does not need a fire station but felt as though this was an opportunity to work together to determine what is best for all the communities.

Warden Zebian expressed that he would not be supporting the motion as the RFP put out by the Coordinating Committee addressed all the issues being discussed.

Councillor Daniels pointed out that a similar motion occurred at another meeting and was tabled, and she questioned why this issue was brought up again. Councillor Leopold called a point of order on Councillor Daniels suggesting she was in a conflict of interest. Councillor Daniels advised the original intention of the motion this evening was consideration for community space which affects all the community and she was not in a conflict.

Motion Defeated.

Warden Zebian, Deputy Warden Morton, Councillor Monroe, Councillor Zwicker, Councillor Jannasch, Councillor Francis, Councillor Daniels voted nay.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that the RFP or tender for the Hantsport Fire Department Station include consideration for community space.

Councillor Leopold stated that she would not support the motion as no information on cost had been provided.

Councillor Daniels indicated the intent of the motion was to do preliminary groundwork with public consultation to determine community needs in that area. Councillor Leopold suggested this needs to be examined rather than adding square footage and cost to the building.

Councillor Francis asked if the motion would be required to be considered by the Coordinating Committee. CAO Laycock advised that the Committee would work on the design portion with an option to add to the RFP the cost for a community space. He added once the fire services report is received it will show what is required in the region to provide service level as expected by Council and the residents.

Warden Zebian advised he will support this motion as it may be a benefit for the community.

Councillor Monroe advised she would support this motion but offered she would have a problem if it increased the tax rate.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold voted nay.

ii. Letters Regarding Aboiteaux

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that a letter be sent to Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to express the following: After further deliberation and education, it is the recommendation of West Hants Council that while our responsibility is to the citizens of this Municipality, it is not the body responsible for the decisions being made by Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. We trust that your decisions concerning the aboiteaux will be made to satisfy the needs of ALL stakeholders of this area. To this end, we are withdrawing our earlier support for the Falmouth Great Dyke Marsh Body's letter and request that the Halfway River Aboiteau gates be tested. Instead, we implore you to ensure that ALL requirements for aboideaux are met by your actions. We expect that an appropriately acceptable solution will be found for both the Halfway River Aboiteau in Hantsport and the Windsor Causeway Aboiteau that will not negatively impact any of the stakeholders of this Municipality.

Councillor Daniels offered that she understands the need to satisfy all stakeholders but reminded Council that the letters had already been sent. She went on to say that she did not feel as though the letters did not cross the Municipality's jurisdiction and reminded Council that ultimately it is the Province's decision, but the Municipality can be a voice for affected residents. She clarified in the previous motion it was amended to ensure that it did not completely block fish passage.

Councillor Monroe explained that the motion is meant to demand that the Province meet the needs and requirements being set by all stakeholders.

Councillor Jannasch advised he supported the letter and he understood there was nothing to preclude fish passage in any of the plans that had been presented. He went on to say, at the time of

the presentations he did not fully understand the Fisheries Act but since had reviewed it and was attempting to get a legal opinion on the section regarding public interest. He offered that it is possible that Council supporting one group over another could be interpreted by the Federal Fisheries Department as public interest and that no fish passage would be allowed as a result.

The Councillor expressed that the motion is confusing as it includes issues with Windsor as well as the Hantsport aboiteau adding that he supported the motion.

Warden Zebian expressed that the Municipality supports all stakeholders in the community but reminded Council that the decision is not in the Municipality's jurisdiction adding that the motion on the table clearly reflects that.

Councillor Leopold indicated she would support the motion as it leaves the Municipality in a neutral position.

Councillor Daniels offered that the Municipality was ensuring that the lines of communication were left open to convey issues that were brought forward and highlighted. She suggested the motion be tabled until it is determined that all parties involved are satisfied.

Councillor Monroe advised the motion states that all stakeholders should be treated equally and clarified that it covered both Windsor and Hantsport as per the direction of the Municipal Clerk because it is addressed to the same department. She offered that she had waited long enough and did not want to see this motion tabled.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Daniels voted nay.

b. Resignation as Alternate on the Co-ordinating Committee – Councillor Daniels
MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council accept Councillor Daniels' resignation as alternate from the Co-ordinating Committee.

Councillor Leopold noted at a previous meeting Councillor Daniels indicated that she was frustrated with the Co-ordinating Committee but did not provide additional details and would like to know if the issues were part of her decision to resign. Councillor Daniels responded that the context with the slow-moving wheels of politics and was not what she anticipated; however, the progression of the Committee in the short amount of time has been incredible. She went on to say that the Committee conflicted with her personal life outside of politics.

Councillor Leopold advised that she understood time restraints suggesting that she was looking forward to the involvement of the current members of the Co-ordinating Committee as they were all in favour of the consolidation. She expressed concerns surrounding engaged councillors finding themselves in scheduling conflicts noting that they should be dealt with prior to accepting a position on a Committee. The Councillor expressed that she would not be supporting the motion based on those arguments.

Councillor Munroe called a Point of Order on Councillor Leopold.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold voted nay.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council replace the alternate's position on the Co-ordinating Committee with a new member of Council.

CAO Laycock reminded that Bill 55 requires a designated alternate for the Co-ordinating Committee which should take place at the next Council meeting.

Councillor Jannasch asked if only one member of a unit is in attendance and the alternate cannot attend whether there would be a quorum. CAO Laycock confirmed that a least one member from each municipal unit is required. Councillor Jannasch suggested having two alternate members to avoid this situation.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Leopold voted nay.

c. Hurricane Dorian Update – Councillor Daniels

Councillor Daniels advised she was seeking a cost estimate from the hurricane impacting the community and the Municipality and questioned if it could be recouped through a disaster claim. CAO Laycock reported this was a provincial event that was led by the provincial EMO to ensure that preparations and communications were carried out. He noted that staff took measures to check municipal infrastructure before the storm.

CAO Laycock reported during the event communications were maintained and the REMO Coordinator was in contact with the provincial EMO every six hours as well as with Public Works for both units, local fire chiefs, RCMP, and EHS. He confirmed one of the major issues was with cell phone communications which proved to be challenging. He explained, given the power was out for 72 hours, the Municipality opened comfort centers and began financially supporting them and many remained opened until September 12th.

The CAO commended the volunteers who went above and beyond to assist the communities. He suggested the impact on staff resulted in a significant amount of overtime during the event and the days to follow confirming all staff involved did an excellent job ensuring the critical infrastructure was safe and the impact to service levels was minimized.

CAO Laycock advised there was a request from EMO Nova Scotia to provide a high-level estimate of costs which were submitted at an estimate of \$18,800 with the majority being overtime costs and \$6,000 debris clean up. He suggested the damage could have been worse and confirmed the impact to the infrastructure was very minimal from a municipal standpoint.

Councillor Leopold advised that the Brooklyn Fire Department were open before the 72-hour mark and were looking at ways to communicate this more efficiently prior to another event. She added that the Department extended thank you to the CAO for his constant contact and follow up with all parties involved in the storm.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council, that Council send a letter to Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) expressing concern with the lack of reliable cell communication service experienced in the Municipality of the District of West Hants from the telecom companies in the first 24 hours of hurricane Dorian and stress the importance that these telecom companies strengthen their service to the people.
Motion Carried.

d. Sports Complex Public

Councillor Leopold advised there are citizens who are curious about the Sports Complex project adding that the last time information was shared with the public was on February 14th, 2019 when the proponents presented to Council.

MOVED and SECONDED that Council Direct staff to hold a public information session for the sports complex.

Councillor Munroe suggested that she hoped the presence of press at the committee meetings would be a means of communicating information regarding the Complex to residents.

Councillor Jannasch expressed that he was in support of the idea but did not want to commit to a timeline for holding the sessions until there was enough information to justify a meeting.

Councillor Francis stated that the Fundraising Committee was currently working on ways to promote the facility including a website and Facebook page. She asked that Council be patient and allow the Committee to continue to work towards their goals and provide the update.

Councillor Daniels agreed with the comments made by Councillor Francis reminding Council of the heavy workload already on staff at this time.

Warden Zebian agreed and offered that the Committee was working to ensure that the information is unified and consistent reiterating the comments of Councillor Francis.

Motion Defeated.

Warden Zebian, Deputy Warden Morton, Councillors Francis, Daniels, Zwicker, Jannasch, Keith and Monroe voted nay.

12. Public Participation

Darren Porter, Belmont, addressed Council stating that as the representative for the local fishery he appreciated the motion that Council passed this evening regarding the aboiteau and that the fact that Council is not supporting a specific group.

Rick Smith, Windsor, stated he was pleased to see an update on the sports complex but was looking for more information on how issues with the structural design and foundation was resolved. Mr. Smith felt the use of an integrated thermal plant and Opteon may be a great solution but again felt that the cost saving, payback and method of decision should have been made clearer. He was concerned about the use of the contingency funds for the Sports Complex, noting the design will not be finalized until December, suggesting that

Council could find themselves in a tight spot if something else was missed that is needed. Mr. Smith went on to say that the project started at a \$12 million build but is now closer to \$17 million to finish suggesting the public should know where the additional money would be coming from. He went on to say that the public would like to get excited about the project, but more information is required for that to happen.

Tasha Rogers, Brooklyn, advised that she is proud to hear that Council wants to look out for all parties regarding the abotieau. She stated that the community has concerns over the cost of the new Sports Complex and are questioning where the funds will be coming from. She went on to express the importance of the community being informed so they can be excited for the project.

Chris Cann, Baxter's Harbour, agreed with the other comments about the fish passage issue and suggested it was good to see everyone come together to become advocates.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular Committee of the Whole will be on October 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Paul Morton, Chair

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk