



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

Public Hearing Minutes – Emergency Management By-law, RE-002 (opening & conclusion)

April 27, 2021 6:00 pm

Held via Zoom and Facebook Livestreamed

1. Call to Order

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:14 pm.

Council Present:

Abraham Zebian, Mayor

Rupert Jannasch, Councillor, District 1

Scott McLean, Councillor, District 2

Mark McLean, Councillor, District 3

Jeff Hartt, Councillor, District 4

Debbie Francis, District 5

Paul Morton, Deputy Mayor, District 8

Bob Morton, Councillor District 6

Ed Sherman, Councillor, District 7

Richard Murphy, Councillor, District 9

Laurie Murley, Councillor, District 10

Jim Ivey, Councillor, District 11

Staff and Guests Present:

Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer

Todd Richard, Dir. Public Works

Kathy Kehoe, Dir. Community Development

Saira Shah, Planner

Madelyn LeMay, Dir. Planning & Development

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk

Carlee Rochon, Dir. Financial Services

Sara Poirier, Planner

Members of the public watched the meeting using Facebook Live.

2. Introduction

Mayor Zebian stated a Public Hearing for this By-law is required by Section 168 of the Municipal Government Act and Section 15.5 of the Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy. This virtual public hearing is hosted by Council.

To gather comments from the public, material regarding the Emergency Management By-law was posted on the Municipal website on March 31, 2021 and the public was invited to comment until 3 pm, April 26, 2021.

When the Public Hearing is complete, the Council meeting will resume, and proceed with Second Reading of the By-law where members of Council may then ask questions and make comments.

3. Presentation by Municipal Clerk

Clerk Brown reviewed the presentation (attached) outlining the background and purpose of the Emergency Management By-laws. The Clerk informed that no comments had been received from the public regarding the By-law.

Mayor Zebian declared the Public Hearing closed.

The Public Hearing ended at 7:24 pm.

Abraham Zebian, Mayor

Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk



Emergency Management By-law

Public Hearing

April 27, 2021

Authority for an Emergency Management By-law

- ▶ The *Emergency Management Act* 1990 c. 8 as amended (Act) states every Municipality must :
 - ▶ establish and maintain a municipal emergency by-law;
 - ▶ establish and maintain a municipal emergency management organization;
 - ▶ appoint a Coordinator of the emergency management organization and prescribe such duties to the Coordinator, which include the preparation and coordination of emergency management plans for the municipality;
 - ▶ have an advisory committee with respect to developing the emergency management plan; and
 - ▶ prepare and approve emergency management plans.



History

- ▶ In accordance with the Act, the former Town of Windsor, Town of Hantsport and Municipality of the District of West Hants created a Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) and REMO By-law in 2003. REMO consisted of the
- ▶ The REMO Advisory Committee, REMO Planning Committee and REMO Coordinator.
- ▶ Each participating Municipality separately approves the By-law, emergency management plans and budget for REMO.





History - Continued

- ▶ In 2007 the REMO By-law of the former Town of Hantsport and Municipality of the District of West Hants was amended. It is believed the former Town of Windsor also amended their REMO By-law; however, this can not be confirmed.
- ▶ After the dissolution of the Town of Hantsport into the Municipality of the District of West Hants, the Towns REMO By-law was repealed.
- ▶ On April 1, 2020 the Town of Windsor and Municipality of the District of West Hants consolidated to form the West Hants Regional Municipality.
- ▶ As all former Municipalities which formed REMO are now one municipal unit, the Emergency Management Organization is no longer considered "Regional".



Proposed Emergency Management By-law, RE-002.



- ▶ The proposed Emergency Management By-law creates a new Municipal Emergency Management Organization outlining:
 - ▶ The establishment of the Emergency Management Advisory Committee, Emergency Management Coordinator and Emergency Management Planning Committee;
 - ▶ Sets the Committee of the Whole as the Emergency Management Advisory Committee;
 - ▶ Outlines the responsibilities of the Emergency Management Coordinator;
 - ▶ Outlines the membership and duties of the Emergency Management Planning Committee;



Proposed Emergency Management By-law, RE-002 - Continued

- ▶ Provides the ability to enter into agreements for the development, implementation of emergency plans and response to an emergency;
 - ▶ Outlines the duties of Council;
 - ▶ Outlines the duties of Councillors, staff and agents during an emergency.
- ▶ The By-law also repeals the Regional Emergency Management By-laws of the former Town of Windsor and Municipality of the District of West Hants.



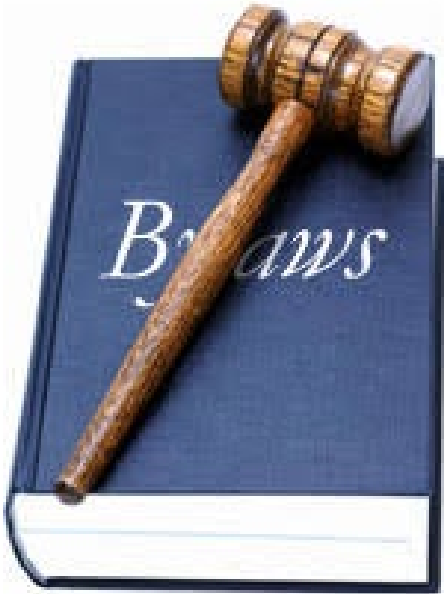
Other Information

- ▶ The *Emergency Management Act* details the procedure to declare or terminate a State of Local Emergency.
- ▶ Under the *Act* all municipalities must inform the Department of Municipal Affairs of any anticipated event or emergency that could impact the health, safety, property or environment of Nova Scotians.





By-law Approval Process



- ▶ *Municipal Government Act, Section 168*
 - ▶ By-law must be read twice.
 - ▶ Notice of Councils intent to approve a by-law is published in the newspaper 14 days before the Second Reading, which states the date & time of when the by-law will be considered and where it may be inspected.
 - ▶ That Council may by policy determine other procedures to be followed.
- ▶ Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy, Section 15.5 a)
 - ▶ Requires all by-laws to have Public Hearing before Second Reading.
- ▶ Other notifications may be required dependent on the by-law.



Process Timeline

The Public Hearing was advertised in the Valley Journal Advertiser on April 6, 2021 as well as on the Regional website and Facebook.





Questions and Comments

- ▶ Residents and members of the public can submit all questions and comments related to this proposed by-law to Rhonda Brown by 3 pm, April 26, 2021.
 - ▶ E-mail: rbrown@westhants.ca
 - ▶ Phone: 902-798-8391 ext. 110
 - ▶ Drop Off At: 76 Morison Dr., Windsor
 - ▶ Mail: Rhonda Brown, c/o West Hants Regional Municipality
PO Box 3000, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0



Questions and Comments Received

► The following questions and comments were received:
(this section will be completed after April 26, 2021)

- 1) XX
- 2) XX
- 3) XX



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TOGETHER

Recommendation

Should Council wish to proceed with the Emergency Management By-law, RE-002, after the Public Hearing and consideration of any comments made by the public, the recommended motion would be:

- ▶ **...that Council give Second Reading and approves the Emergency Management By-law, RE-002, which includes the repeal of previous Regional Emergency Management By-laws, substantively the same as that presented to Committee of the Whole on March 9, 2021.**