



**Village of Chester Commission
Regular Monthly Meeting
December 17, 2014**

Present: Brenda Mulrooney, Commissioner; Bill Zinck, Chair; Wynand Baerken, Commissioner; Bill Nauss, Commissioner; Iris Tolliver, Clerk Treasurer; Dave Richardson, Fire Chief

Regrets: Michael Heisler, Commissioner

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Zinck called the monthly meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2.0 Minutes from November 12, 2014

MOTION: Bill Nauss moved, Wynand Baerken seconded, the acceptance of the November 17, 2014 minutes. Carried.

MOTION: Brenda Mulrooney moved, Wynand Baerken seconded, the acceptance of the change to 'Questions to the Electors, Nancy Hatch re the position of the Administrator for the Fire Department'. Carried.

3.0 Additions to Agenda and Approval of Agenda

New Business - Bill Nauss added 'discussions on topics from Public Meeting'

MOTION: Bill Nauss moved, Brenda Mulrooney seconded, the acceptance of the agenda, with the above addition. Carried.

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Eastlink Tower

The survey was received as to where the tower will be placed and copies distributed to Commissioners present. Iris Tolliver felt the tower will be finished mid-March.

Chair Zinck asked about the radiation being emitted from the tower. Iris will copy

Iris reminded the Commission that the lease fee will have to be discussed and decided.

Iris will forward the radiation reports to the commission via emails.

MOTION: Brenda Mulrooney moved, Bill Nauss seconded, to sign the survey for the Eastlink Tower, on the condition that the information from the report on radiation be responded to by Eastlink. Carried.

5.0 Reports

a) Fire Chief's Report

Since the last commission meeting we had 12 calls consisting of 1 medical assist, 1 alarm, 3 MVCs, which one was to cut a person out with the jaws over in Western Shore, 1 stove fire, 1 elevator incident at Shoreham, 1 cardiac arrest at Shoreham, 2 pole fires and 2 flooded basements.

5.0 Reports (continued)

a) **Fire Chief's Report** (continued)

A number of the members are taking ongoing training and the department had a propane practice at LP.

The boat and float are both out of the water and the boat will be going to Honda Power House to be winterized.

Some of the members had a work day at the hall and did some major cleaning up of our old gear that was lying around.

The new Commission Coordinator has been hired and Chief Richardson looks forward to seeing what he will bring to the table to help the fire department.

A number of activities will be coming up in the New Year that the department will be taking part in. Eastlink will be putting up the tower and the siren will be installed on it.

A resident questioned the chief on the condition of the hall and if a new building was in the near future.

MOTION: Dave Richardson moved the adoption of the report, Bill Nauss seconded. Carried.

b) **Financial Reports**

Clerk Treasurer Iris Tolliver distributed bank reconciliations to the members present and the statements were scanned and emailed to the Commissioners, to save on the paper distributed.

The balance of the VOC Chequing account is \$381,716.69; Rental account is \$14,891.75; and Fire Boat is \$15,882.89.

Clerk Treasurer Iris Tolliver asked if there were any questions.

Chair Zinck asked about the #301.00 paid to Superior Propane. Iris Tolliver stated that was the rental fee for the tanks. Iris will give the Commissions the difference in the cost of propane compared to the previous oil bills.

MOTION: Brenda Mulrooney moved, Wynand Baerken seconded, to accept the financial report as presented. Carried.

6. New Business

a) **Five Year Plan**

The Five Year Plan has been discussed and needs to be developed. Chair Zinck stated that Terry Reddon, in the Insurance report, had said that a five and ten year plan should be in place for the Fire Service. Chair Zinck asked Chief Richardson if he would prepare this and bring to the Commission for review.

The five year plan is needed in order to apply for the Gas Tax money.

The Committee volunteers for the Five Year Plan are - Brenda Mulrooney, Wynand Baerken and Bill Zinck.

b) **Public Meeting Discussion**

Discussion was held on Adhoc meetings, Fire Advisory for service contract area, and Community groups, Five Year Plan, Fiscal Review and Commission meetings and how they are carried out.

Chair Zinck suggested to begin having Public Meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month, beginning with January 28/15, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

6. **New Business** (continued)

b) **Public Meeting Discussion** (continued)

MOTION: Bill Nauss moved, Wynand Baerken seconded, that starting on the fourth Wednesday of January, 2015, that there be a monthly open forum meeting, with no agenda, for Village residents to come and discuss issues from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm; and if no public is in attendance by 7:05 pm the meeting is cancelled. Carried.

There was discussion about the Fire Advisory Committee as suggested by MODC. Iris Tolliver stated that the MGA has no provision for outside people to be on a committee re assets.

Bill Nauss felt that in light of the Fiscal Review, the Commission should not wait to find out the Provinces response. The Commission should find data for both sides, re if a decision may need to be made to either amalgamate with MODC or go to a town.

MOTION: Bill Nauss moved, Bill Zinck seconded, that Village of Chester Commission direct the Clerk Treasurer to seek request for proposals to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of changing the current status of the Village. Carried.

Wynand Baerken stated that at the public meeting it was said no money would be spent but it was felt that money would not be spent by just doing RFP. This data would then give the residents information to make an informed decision.

7. **Any Other Business**

- Clerk's Report

Iris Tolliver brought the petition which was put out at the Public Forum last week.

The 1990 pumper that is at Western Shore Fire Department, an email was received that they want to proceed with the purchase of the truck for \$2500.00, so the paperwork will be completed for that transfer.

Iris reported that the cart which the speed sign sits on is probably going to be over budget, so it could be held off until the next budget or else proceed and come in over budget.

Iris has had a call from the Lunenburg RCMP about renting the speed sign, which would bring income in from renting it at times.

Brenda Mulrooney suggested to check into grants/funds that may be applied for to help offset, about safety on roads and highways. Iris will call Terry about this and check it out.

The fire hall roof has been ordered and should arrive in January and pending on the weather will be installed as soon as possible.

A letter was received from a concerned resident which is a copy of a letter which the resident sent to the Municipality of Chester. Iris brought it to the attention of the Commissioners as they may want to provide a response as well. Iris read the letter.

Wynand Baerken asked about the status on the Electric Car Charger sign; Iris stated it was received and has not been installed yet.

8. **Correspondence**

<> MODC Parks and Rec – deadline to nominate volunteers to be recognized at the MODC awards ceremonies, Feb 6/15; Second call for recreation grants, but it doesn't apply to VOC; free public skate; lucky duck lottery

<> Received notification from MODC of registration approval for Chester Fire Department

MOTION: Wynand Baerken moved, Brenda Mulrooney seconded, the receiving of correspondence. Carried.

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

9. **Questions from Electors pertaining to this meeting's agenda:**

- a. **Ray Cambria, Central Street:** Has the Fire Coordinator been hired? Yes Shawn Wagg has been hired for a one year renewable contract.
Ray asked about the boundaries for village as opposed to town. UARB would inform us on the boundaries.
Ray suggested a 'suggestion box' for the folks who may not want to come to public meetings.
- b. **Carol Nauss, Main Street :** Stated that she likes the public meetings for the residents to speak as well as the Five Year plan.
Carol stated she likes the idea of the Fire Advisory committee.
Carol asked how many electors there are; MODC gave the Village a list which was not accurate.
The bamboo/Japanese weed – can it be cut, as controlling it is not easy.
- c. **Ray Cambria, Central Street:** Cell phone tower is going on Fire Hall land. The comment of going back to MODC was made, does VOC not own the property. Chair Zinck stated that the Fire Department owns the land, but with the condition that when it does not get used, it goes back to the MODC.
Ray asked if we know of the rent that Eastlink is willing to pay. Iris said three options were presented; one was suggested \$2000.00 plus GST.
- d. **Nancy Hatch, Central Street:** Nancy asked Dave for his opinion on the Fire Service committee. Dave Richardson said he doesn't see a problem for the outside areas to voice their opinions and they would not have a vote. Chair Zinck stated that it would be considered and hasn't been taken out, it is still on the table.
The contract is not up until 2016.
Nancy asked that if we have to be absorbed by MODC, is there any way to safeguard the assets? Iris Tolliver stated that the assets belong to the residents who then would be part of MODC.
- e. **Carol Nauss, Main Street:** Carol suggested putting information on the website to better inform the residents of the Commission's actions. Iris Tolliver felt this would be a good place to update on actions taken on various issues, to keep residents better informed.

11. **Adjournment**

Bill Zinck adjourned the meeting 8:50 pm.

William Zinck
Commission Chair

Maxine Veinot
Administrative Assistant