



**Village of Chester Commission
Regular Monthly Meeting
September 14, 2016**

Present: Ray Cambria, Chair; Tom Mulrooney, Commissioner; Dave Foley, Vice-Chair;
Michael Heisler, Commissioner; Bill Zinck Jr., Commissioner Iris Tolliver, Clerk Treasurer;
Dave Richardson, Chester Fire Chief; Maxine Veinot, Recording Secretary
Regrets: Nil
Absence: Nil
Public Gallery: 14 people were in attendance

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Cambria called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

a) **MOTION: Commissioner Heisler moved the approval of the August 10, 2016 minutes, Commissioner Mulrooney seconded. Carried.**

Motion

3.0 Approval of Agenda

a) There was an addition to the agenda – under Business Arising - Central Water – Commissioner Mulrooney

MOTION: Commissioner Zinck Jr., moved, Commissioner Mulrooney seconded, the approval of the agenda for Sept 14/16. Carried.

Motion

4.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

a) **Central Water**

Motion: Commissioner Mulrooney moved to instruct the Clerk to issue an RFP (Request for Proposals) for a pre-design on a central water system for the Village of Chester, Chair Cambria seconded the motion.

Motion

Discussion was held on the issue.

Commissioner Mulrooney feels that time is of the essence to make the potential spring deadline for Provincial/Federal government grants.

The Clerk read a document which describes what a pre-design would include, which describes what the proposal would entail.

Discussion continued on Request for Quote as opposed to Request for Proposal. Commissioner Foley felt there is an “implied contract” when asking for RFPs, and felt this would be a very dangerous route to take.

Commissioner Mulrooney asked the Chair to call for a vote on the motion.

The only vote in favor of the motion was from Commissioner Mulrooney, therefore the motion was defeated.

Motion Defeated

4.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes (continued)

a) Central Water (continued)

Discussion continued.

Motion: Chair Cambria moved, that the Clerk be directed to prepare, for the Commissioners, a detailed document with exactly how we go about figuring out how to install a water system in the Village of Chester. To include whether we start with an RFP, RFQ, what the pre-design work includes and if there is a cost associated with doing this, then the Clerk to bring that information back to the Commissioners.

Seconded by Commissioner Zinck Jr.

Discussion continued on the motion.

Vice-Chair Foley took over the meeting and stated that there is a motion and seconded made, is there any further discussion. There being no further discussion Vice-Chair Foley called for a vote on the motion.

Commissioners Zinck Jr., Heisler, Cambria voted in favor, Commissioner Mulrooney abstained. Motion carried.

Motion

Motion Carried.

5.0 Reports

a) Fire Chief's Report

Chief Richardson reported that there were 9 callouts since the last meeting.

The Department would like to know when the boat is set to come out of the water, as Scott will put the motor cages on the engines for a sea trial. The MBU was here and gone with a large number of members taking the training

Another successful appreciation night at the Chester Yacht Club was held. The department made a motion at their regular meeting and drafted up a proposal for compensation for services rendered for non-related fire activities.

Chief Richardson stated that the replacement of #551, with a tanker of 2000 + gallons of water storage is needed to keep the Villages superior water shuttle accreditation.

If any Commissioners have any questions about any of the equipment, the officers of the department will be glad to answer them at the next officers meeting, which is the first Monday of every month.

Discussion was held on the date for taking the Fireboat out of the water.

b) In Camera Meeting report

Chair Cambria reported that on September 7, 2016, following the conclusion of the COW meeting, an In Camera meeting was held to discuss a matter relating to Human Resources.

c) Financial Report

The Clerk emailed documentation for June and July/16, bank reconciliations.

The balances: Chequing - \$241 633.34

Fireboat - \$29 824.70

EHS – \$51 097.82

Motion: Commissioner Mulrooney moved to accept the Financial report, seconded by Commissioner Zinck Jr. Carried.

Commission

5.0 **Reports** (continued)

d) **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reminded Commissioners that there is a meeting scheduled with MODC Council on September 29th, 2016. If there are any Commissioners that will not be able to attend, please make the Clerk aware prior to the meeting.

Association of Nova Scotia Villages Annual General Meeting will be held this weekend, September 17th and 18th.

Monday, September 12th, a meeting was attended for the NS Fire Service Review at the Bridgewater Fire Station. Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) and the Association of Municipal Administrators (AMA) and the Department of Municipal Affairs engaged POMAX Consulting to undertake a review of fire services in Nova Scotia from a municipal perspective. Three key issues that were discussed were funding, standards, and organizational structures. There will be a final report made available with conclusions and recommendations when the review is completed.

Kerry Keddy will begin taking down the hanging baskets. There will need to be some modifications made where some of the baskets are located.

Wreaths will be next on the agenda, with plans to have them installed mid-November, to coincide with the merchants focusing on Christmas shoppers. The wreaths will then be taken down in early January.

A quote was received from Black & MacDonald to supply and install a solar LED lighting fixture by the Fire Boat, the quote was \$7820.00.

Also received was quote to custom fabricate a shroud to the existing parking lot light at the fire hall for \$1100.00

The Lido pool has been winterized and the tiles have been removed from the deck at the public washroom. The new tiles are expected to be installed in the next few days.

A letter was received from NS Municipal Services concerning our election day by-law. It will not be sent for ministerial approval and strongly suggest that we review the issues noted with our solicitor before re-submitting the by-law. The Clerk will email this to the Commissioners. It was agreed to table this issue for the next Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting.

Upcoming Meeting with
MODC re Central Water

6.0 **New Business**

a) **Motion to spend funds for Diane Wooden Consulting**

Motion: Commissioner Zinck Jr., moved that the Village of Chester engage the services of Diane Wooden Consulting for hiring a new Clerk Treasurer with a budgeting cost of \$6000.00 plus HST, Commissioner Heisler seconded. Carried.

COW meeting item

Motion

7.0 **Any Other Business**

Nil

8.0 Correspondence

- MODC, Arden Weagle – all Lido Pool required action was carried out.
- MODC, Arden Weagle – A list of deficiencies was reported from the Fire Hall inspection. All deficiencies have been rectified. A follow-up inspection will happen in the near future.
- NS Municipal Affairs - the Municipal Finance Corporations Annual Report was received.
- An email as received from Sharon Archibald, Founder/President of Refresh Market Research, regarding a possible water problem solution with their Company.
- An Email from Cedric Gunthrie regarding the mail-out of water survey. The Clerk read the email from Mr. Gunthrie.
- VOCTADA, Chair Jo-Ann Grant – A letter was received asking for it to be read into the meeting of September 14, 2016:

Dear Commissioners,

Please read this letter into the record at the Village Commission meeting on September 14, 2016.

On July 27th, the need for the Commission to exercise its authority, under the MGA, to provide a central water system was presented. On August 2, Commission Chair Ray Cambria attended a meeting organized by VOCTADA to discuss the need for a central water supply for Chester. Given MODC's failure to date to take required action on the Village's need for water, VOCTADA invited the Commission to this meeting rather than a rep from MODC. In attendance besides Ray, were Senator Wilfred Moore, MP Bernadette Jordan, Annie Morrison (Bernadette's assistant), and representatives from VOCTADA, Chester Playhouse and merchants. Senator Moore and Bernadette Jordan spoke in support of a central water supply for the Village and committed to offer their assistance.

In response, on August 11th, the Village initiated a survey that was placed in every post office box. The response, by Village standards, was overwhelming and clearly in favour of proceeding with a feasibility study.

It is our understanding that on September 29th, the Commission will meet with MODC to discuss Council's interest in collaborating with the Village on a central water system. We strongly urge VOC to take the reins on this project and move ahead by issuing an RFP for a feasibility study ASAP and using the utility reserve to pay for it. We recommend that the feasibility study include determining the best municipal unit (MODC or VOC) to manage a central water system, including managing borrowing costs for the residents.

The recently announced infrastructure funds have already been allocated to projects that were ready to go ahead. It's therefore important that we expedite the feasibility study and planning of this project so we're ready to submit our plan when new Federal and Provincial infrastructure funds

8.0 Correspondence (continued)
VOCTADA Letter (continued)

are available. Given the sluggish Canadian economy, this could happen at any time and we need to be ready to take advantage of the favourable cost-sharing.

We look forward to your response and your action on this dire need for a safe and adequate central water supply.

Sincerely,

*Jo-Ann Grant
Chair, VOCTADA
902-275-5985*

9.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Commissioner Zinck Jr., moved the meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm, Commissioner Heisler seconded.

Motion to Adjourn

**Ray Cambria
Commission Chair**

**Maxine Veinot
Recording Secretary**