

**Village of Chester Commission
Regular Monthly Meeting**

May 8, 2019 – 7:00 pm

Attendance: Michael Heisler, Commissioner; Nancy Hatch, Vice Chair; Bill Nauss, Commission Chair; Tom Mulrooney, Commissioner; Jo-Ann Grant, Commissioner (via phone); Dennis Egedy, Clerk Treasurer; Maxine Veinot, Recording Secretary; Everett Hiltz, Fire Chief

Regrets: nil

Public Gallery: There were four members of the public in attendance

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Nauss called the May 8th, 2019 regular monthly meeting of the Village of Chester Commission to order at 7:02 pm.

2.0 Public Forum

John Curry – 27 Prince Street: Mr. Curry requested that the maple trees on the Jib lot, which have overhanging branches, be trimmed as they block his view of his wharf. The branches need to be professionally removed and Mr. Curry is willing to cost share the removal of the branches.

The Commission discussed this issue and asked the Clerk Treasurer to investigate the pricing and contact the Curry's.

3.0 Review/Approval of Minutes

a) Regular Monthly Meeting: Wednesday April 10, 2019

MOTION #19-024: Commissioner Mulrooney moved, Commissioner Heisler seconded:
The approval of the minutes of the April 10, 2019 monthly meeting.

Unanimously Carried

b) Committee of the Whole Meeting: Wednesday April 24, 2019

MOTION # 19-025: Commissioner Mulrooney moved, Commissioner Heisler seconded:
The approval of the minutes of the April 24, 2019 special meeting.

Unanimously carried

4.0 Review/Approval of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

- 6 (c) Correspondence from John Curry
- 6 (d) Correspondence from R. Cambria
- 8 (a) Red Cross Learn to Swim
- 8 (b) Fire Alarm

MOTION #19-026: Commissioner Hatch moved, Commissioner Mulrooney seconded:
To approve the agenda with the noted additions.

Unanimously Carried

5.0 Business Arising

a) EDM Final Report – Trevor Hume

Mr. Hume reviewed the recommendations contained in the final report. The five immediate priorities were (1) Governance, (2) Access to Information, (3) Relationship with Volunteer Organizations & Levels of Government, (4) Economic Development, and (5) Recreation Programs.

Mr. Hume stated the primary recommendation is to develop a Strategic Plan. Commissioner Grant asked Mr. Hume if the scope of respondents could be summarized into geographic areas. Mr. Hume stated that the primary residence of respondents will be investigated. The Final report will be delivered to the Clerk Treasurer next week along with Appendix A and B.

The survey priorities were broken down into Fire, Public Works, and Community Recreation. Residents consider streets as a top priority while seasonal residents were concerned with solid waste collection. Mr. Hume repeated that the number one priority is a Strategic Plan with Public Consultation.

b) Meetings and Procedures Policy

The Clerk/Treasurer, Egyedy presented the Policy with the amendments made at the previous meeting, on April 10th.

MOTION # 19-027: Commissioner Hatch moved, Commissioner Heisler seconded:
To approve the Meetings and Procedures Policy as presented.

Unanimously Carried

c) Budget

The Clerk/Treasurer, Egyedy presented the Commission with the 2019/20 amended Budget as recommended by the Committee of the Whole on April 24th.

Commissioner Mulrooney questioned the commitment of MODC Councillor Barkhouse to provide three waste bins for the village. Clerk Treasurer Egyedy stated that when the budget is finalized at MODC the Councillor to the Village will be able to work this issue out and have more bins available.

Commissioner Mulrooney stated that the \$10,000 in the budget for upgrades to a building housing the antique fire truck could be used in other ways to benefit the electors. Secondly, the building does not belong to the village as it was built by local fire fighters and sold to the firemen for \$1.00.

A discussion entailed on the importance of fire fighter pride in old equipment and to preserve their history. Commissioner Heisler stated that it is important to keep the building in good shape for morale. The fire fighters have put a lot of time and money into the building and the village should provide financial assistance.

MOTION # 19-028: Commissioner Hatch moved, Commissioner Heisler seconded:
To approve the 2019/20 Operating "Budget in the amount of \$687,950.00".
In favour – Commissioners Hatch, Heisler, Grant and Nauss
Opposed – Commissioner Mulrooney

Carried

MOTION # 19-029: Commissioner Mulrooney moved, Commissioner Hatch seconded:
To approve the 2019/20 Capital Budget in the amount of \$55,500.00

Unanimously Carried

MOTION # 19-030: Commissioner Mulrooney moved, Commissioner Heisler seconded:
To approve the 2019/20 Reserve Transfers in the amount of \$180,000.00 (Fire Equipment \$150,000.00, and Lido Pool \$30,000.00).

Unanimously Carried

031 de
MOTION# 19-030: Commissioner Hatch moved, Commissioner Grant seconded:
To approve the Transfer of Reserves to Operating in the amount of \$27,514.00 (Building \$10,000 and Operating \$17,514).

Unanimously Carried

032 de
MOTION # 19-031: Commissioner Mulrooney moved, Commissioner Hatch seconded:
To set the 2019/20 Village rate of \$0.1517 per \$100 of assessment.

Unanimously Carried

Press Release – Commissioner Grant recommended a press release be prepared and advertised stating the budget was approved and the tax rate remains the same.


6.0 Correspondence

a) Municipal District of Chester – Taxes Collected

Chairman Nauss read the April 15th letter which results in a final cheque to be forwarded to the Village in the amount of \$30,970.85 for additional taxes collected in 2018/19.

- b) Municipal District of Chester – Preliminary Assessment
Chairman Nauss read the April 16th letter which provides the preliminary assessments for Residential as \$348,581,800 and Commercial \$23,907,600 and the 2019/20 Fire Assessment outside the Village is \$396,701,800
- c) John Curry – Tree Trimming
This issue was discussed in the Public Forum and Clerk Treasurer to provide cost of trimming for Commission review.
- d) Ray Cambria – Website Budgets
Clerk Treasurer Egyedy reviewed the letter and budget information requested and will reply to Mr. Cambria on his various inquiries.

7.0 Reports

- a) Clerk Treasurer *033* 
MOTION #19-032: Commissioner Mulrooney moved, Commissioner Heisler seconded:
To accept the Clerk Treasurer report as presented.


Unanimously Carried

Clerk Treasurer stated that the Village received approval for a lifeguard position through the Canada Summer Jobs grant in the amount of \$1,388.00.

The RFP (Request for Proposal) for flower basket care closes on June 3, 2019. The Fire Tandem Tanker RFP has been posted on the Nova Scotia Government Procurement website. Clerk Treasurer Egyedy stated the RFP closes June 6, 2019 and at that time an evaluation of bids will be completed, and a recommendation will be taken to the Commission for approval.

An ad hoc MODC staff committee was developed to deal with a water strategy for the Municipality. The strategy will identify approaches and options related to water for the benefit of communities, business and individuals. Clerk Treasurer, Egyedy was invited to attend and the first meeting was held on Friday, May 3, 2019. The Municipality is hoping to have a water strategy within place in six months.

- b) Financial – Comparative Statements – April 1, 2019 to April 30, 2019
Clerk Treasurer, Egyedy presented a Cheque log for April 1 – 30, 2019 and stated he has been working on inputting the 2019/20 Budget on our accounting program. Comparative financial statements will be available when adjusting journal entries are provided by the auditor.

034 
MOTION #19-033: Commissioner Mulrooney moved, Commissioner Hatch seconded:
To approve the Cheque Log as presented.

Unanimously Carried

035 *de*
MOTION #19-034: Commissioner Hatch moved, Commissioner Heisler seconded:
To approve the successful completion of probation for Clerk Treasurer, Dennis Egyedy as of April 24, 2019.

Unanimously Carried

036 *de*
MOTION # 19-035: Commissioner Hatch moved, Commissioner Mulrooney seconded:
To approve a draft multi-year contract for Dennis Egyedy, Clerk Treasurer, pending a contract review with the Village Solicitor.

Unanimously Carried

c) Fire Chief Report

Chief Hiltz reported that at the annual fire meeting and banquet was held on April 27th. There have been seven emergency dispatches consisting of 3 alarms, 1 MVA, 2 medicals and 1 boat assistance. Ice rescue equipment has been removed for the season and seasonal forest fire equipment has been added.

037 *de*
MOTION # 19-036: Commissioner Heisler moved, Commissioner Hatch seconded:
To accept the Fire Chief's report as presented.

Unanimously Carried

8.0 New/Other Business

a) Red Cross Learn to Swim Program

Commissioner Mulrooney proposed that the Commission revise the hours for public swim and lessons. The intent is to have the pool open for more public swim time. The Village may hire the instructors for swimming lessons and then the instructors may work as Lifeguards after the classes end for each day.

The Clerk Treasurer instructed to speak with Darcy Stevens about the past request for financial assistance and bring back the information to the next meeting.

b) Fire Alarm

Commissioner Mulrooney was asked by a resident who lives close to the fire hall if the fire alarm siren could be turned off from June 1st to September 1st as the firefighters have pagers. Discussion was held and it was agreed to not make any changes in the siren.

9.0 In Camera – Personnel

038 *de*
MOTION # 19-037: Commissioner Mulrooney moved the meeting continue In Camera at 8:33 pm.

Unanimously Carried

Clerk Treasurer, Egyedy; Fire Chief, Hiltz; and Deputy Chief, Zinck remained in the meeting.

039 *de*
MOTION # 19-037: Commissioner Mulrooney moved the meeting Go Out of In Camera at 8:47 pm.

Unanimously Carried

A review of the following dates was noted:

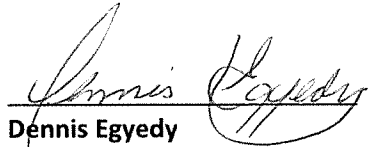
- Nomination Day, Wednesday, May 29th, 2019 – 9:00am to 5:00pm
- Annual Public Meeting, Wednesday, June 5th, 2019 – 7:00pm
- Advance Election Poll, Saturday, June 8th, 2019 – 11:00am to 7:00pm
- Election Day Poll, Tuesday, June 11th, 2019 – 9:00am to 7:00pm

9.0 Adjournment

Commissioner Heisler moved the May 8, 2019 meeting adjourn at 8:52 pm.



Bill Nauss
Commission Chair



Dennis Egyedy
Clerk Treasurer