

## DEBERT SOURCE WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Debert Source Water Protection Advisory Committee was held at the Debert Administration Building, 439 MacElmon Road, on May 21, 2019 at 11:00 am.

- Present:** Councillor Robert Pash, Chair  
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart  
Don Geldart, Citizen Rep  
Steve Emery, Home Hardware  
Charlotte Sullivan, Nova Scotia Environment  
Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works  
Michael Allen, Nova Scotia Environment
- Regrets:** Mayor Christine Blair  
James Freill, Home Hardware  
Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development  
Jonathan Whitlock, EnviroSystems  
Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq
- Approval of Agenda:** The meeting was called to order at 11:04am.  
  
The agenda was approved.  
  
Moved by Don Geldart, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart.
- Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from October 19, 2018 were approved  
  
Moved by Steve Emery, Seconded by Don Geldart.
- Watershed Uses** Construction on the Kohler expansion is complete. The demolition of the water tower on MacElmon Road will be completed in a couple of months; A new waterline has been installed at Well 1C to feed the new tower. There have been no changes at the Terrapure site or on Lancaster Crescent.  
  
The Committee discussed #250 Dakota Road as well as #450 Dakota Road. Members of the public as well as water utility staff have recently expressed concerns regarding the activities on these sites, which appear to be salvage yards. Charlotte Sullivan of Nova Scotia Environment has conducted site visits and referred both properties to Halifax to determine which is commercial salvage. She will visit both sites again.  
Discussion on #250 Dakota Road:
- It has been determined that this property is being used to buy and dismantle vehicles.
  - Dismantling takes place in the building
  - Parts are shipped in containers to Nigeria.
  - There is usually a yard full of vehicles

- Two totes have been identified on the property: one for oil and one for antifreeze, but these are very small therefore Councillor Pash feels they require more space for fluids
- They did indicate to Councillor Pash that they do drain everything prior to loading into the containers however, Councillor Pash feels they have gone over space under the Salvage Act and he has brought this to their attention.
- The owner has reached out to Councillor Pash, requesting he come and view the property in order to meet with him and make recommendations as Councillor Pash is a previous customer of his and also runs his own salvage business
- This property is on the cusp of requiring a salvage permit based on the area being used for the activity (not based on total property size).
- Charlotte Sullivan will follow up with them and if they do require approval, she will assist them with the process

The question was raised by Don Geldart: why would they allow this in a watershed area? Charlotte Sullivan responded: there are currently no restrictions for approvals in a watershed area, but there may be extra conditions. Nova Scotia Environment can not currently limit activities unless it is a designated area. It is up to the Department if they wish to issue an approval for salvage. She will see if Halifax would add any conditions to this and future salvage permits where properties are within a watershed area.

Discussion on #450 Dakota Road:

- Councillor Pash has not viewed the property to date
- The classification of the property as a salvage yard depends on the active area; online they are listed as repair and restoration
- Charlotte Sullivan will go and do a site visit to see what they are doing and to GPS the active area to verify if they require approval
- If approval is in place, the activity can be monitored and controlled based on risk-based timing. The more compliance issues the more often the inspections.

At this time Charlotte Sullivan also requested that when the committee brings issues forth – they need to be able to get as much detail as possible to trigger an investigation. Nova Scotia Environment needs reason to believe that an offence is being committed or has been committed in order to have authority to enter a property.

**Source Water Protection  
Monitoring Program:**

Monitoring program was reviewed; no issues identified.

**Public Education Initiatives:**

Education was completed in the Fall via the County Newsletter, which included articles outlining past FAC projects. Next newsletter to include information on illegal dumping in the watershed. A water conservation pamphlet was included in the June water bills.

**New Business:**

No new business was identified.

**Next Meeting:**

The Committee agreed to meet again in the Fall, on October 22, 2019 at 11:00 am

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:41 am.



Michelle Newell  
Recording Secretary