

FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Flood Advisory Committee was held at the Municipality of Colchester Council Chambers on August 28, 2019 at 11:00 am.

Present: Councillor Ron Cavanaugh, Chair
Mayor Christine Blair
Hank Kolstee, Citizen Representative

Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
Rod MacLennan, Project Supervisor / Consultant
Robyn Homans, Area Manager, NSTIR

Regrets: Councillor Lloyd Gibbs
Councillor Eric Boutilier
Laurie Sandeson

Notes: As a quorum was not reached, no motions were passed.

Approval of Agenda: An agenda was prepared and circulated for the Committee's review and approval. The Committee agreed to follow the agenda as circulated.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the meeting held on June 27, 2019 were circulated for the Committee's review and approval. The Committee had no comments on the minutes.

Business Arising from the Minutes: None.

Discussion – Amending the Terms of Reference During its June meeting, the Committee directed staff to propose changes to Committee's Terms of Reference. Staff presented a modified Terms of Reference for the Committee's consideration, which removed item 2 under the Flood Advisory Committee Mandate which reads "*coordinating the development of a storm water master plan including making recommendations to the Council on action to be taken with respect to policy, capital and operating budgets, etc.*". Committee members were in favour of this change and felt that the master planning function was best left with staff from Public Works and Community Development.

The Committee also discussed some proposed changes to the Small Flood Damage Reduction Projects Policy to better define the scope of a 'Small Flood Project'. Staff presented possible definitions to be added to the Policy which would include work along watercourses, but also consider work resulting from stormwater runoff.

The Committee discussed whether its mandate should include stormwater projects and also considered different scenarios under

which stormwater projects may qualify under the policy. Scenarios included the following:

- Stormwater projects associated with a larger drainage area, potential to deal with older subdivisions which did not address stormwater retention;
- Projects which are located along a defined drainage route;
- Stormwater projects of any type, to be selected at the discretion of committee;
- Projects where stormwater is affecting a structure (primary residence or primary place of business);
- Projects to address stormwater which originates from a public right-of-way;
- Stormwater related projects that would involve more than 2 property owners.

Staff noted that, in the past, the County solicitor indicated that stormwater issues involving private properties/neighbours are a civil matter. The Committee discussed the potential liability of getting involved in issues among neighbours.

The Provincial Ditches and Watercourse Act prohibits the blockage of a natural drainage path. The Act essentially enables municipalities to deal with drainage issues, at the cost of affected property owners. Rod MacLennan made it known that DFO announced this morning that a new Act will be coming soon. This new Act may change our approvals moving forward.

Michelle Newell will summarize the points made today and will present at the next meeting.

It was determined at this time, that without a quorum, it would be better to table this discussion. Proposed changes to the Terms of Reference and Policy will be discussed at the next meeting, when more members are present and NSE is in attendance.

Gasper Cross Road Update

Michelle will contact the owner in question to discuss options for watercourse re-alignment.

New Applications:

None

Review of Projects:

The following updates were made to the project list:

Baxter:

- Rod to meet with property owners on willingness to proceed with berm

Hilden Fire Hall:

- Should be completed this season

Law:

- Sitting with DFO

Portapique Cemetery:

- Rod to visit this Fall and report back.

Weatherbee:

- Sold property – new owner will have to reapply, remove from list

Franklin:

- Pending announcement of FRIIP Funding

MacAskill:

- Should be completed by end of September

Logan:

- Should be completed by end of September

MacGrath/Clark:

- Should be completed by end of August

Johnson:

- Sitting with DFO

Langille:

- Rod and Ron to do a site visit

Rod discussed the project on the Dal AC property on the Salmon River. He has regulatory approval to proceed and Dal has agreed to fund 50% of the \$70,000 cost. The matter was referred to JFAC at the Committee's meeting of June 27, however Rod would like to proceed right away as the JFAC will not meet until later in September. The work will require 1 week to complete and the FAC budget can support the work. Everyone present at today's meeting is in agreement to move forward, however a quorum is required to make the motion.

(Robyn Homans left the meeting at 12:09 pm)

**Status of Payments
from Property Owners:**

The following property owners are in the process of being sent to collections:

- Tammy Comeau/Mark Upham - \$957.00
- William Meyer (formerly Jillian Horn) - \$2,922.82
- Harold Mattatall - \$1,410.88

The following property owner still has an outstanding balance:

- Graham Johnson - \$641.74

New Business:

None.

Future Meeting Dates: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 10:00 am.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm.

Joy Hewitt,
Recording Secretary