

FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Flood Advisory Committee was held virtually via Zoom Webinars on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 11:00 am.

Present: Councillor Ron Cavanaugh, Chair
Mayor Christine Blair
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs

Hank Kolstee, Citizen Representative
Laurie Sandeson, Citizen Representative

Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
Rod MacLennan, Project Supervisor / Consultant

Absent: Councillor Eric Boutilier
Charlotte Sullivan, Environmental Inspector, NS Environment
Carl Esau, Manager, Land Protection, Department of Agriculture

Approval of Agenda: An agenda was prepared and circulated for the Committee's review and approval.

Moved by: Laurie Sandeson
Seconded by: Hank Kolstee

"That the agenda be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the meeting held on November 20, 2019 were circulated for the Committee's review and approval.

Moved by: Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by: Laurie Sandeson

"That the Minutes from the meeting on November 20, 2019 be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes: None.

Gasper Cross Road Update: The scope of work and cost details of constructing a swale/spillway was discussed with property owner Ken Upham. As Mr. Upham was not willing to cost share, a letter was sent to Mr. Upham in December for his reconsideration of cost sharing on the project. To date, Mr. Upham is still not willing to make a financial contribution.

The property owner may be trying to control flooding on his property as excavation work is currently being done to the driveway culverts. However, additional work would be required to help alleviate flooding

in the area. NS Environment was contacted as these ditches have been identified as watercourses.

As flooding has been an ongoing problem in the area and Mr. Upham's unwilling to cost share on the project, Councillor Gibbs suggested that the Committee pay for the entire cost of the project.

Moved by: Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by: Laurie Sandeson

"That the Flood Advisory Committee proceed with the flood remediation project on the Ken Upham property on Gasper Cross with 100% of the costs, to a maximum of \$25,000, being funded by the Committee."

Motion carried.

Permission to access property will still need to be granted by Mr. Upham to complete the work. Michelle to send letter to owner.

Updated Policy:

The Committee's recommendations on policy changes were approved by Council. A copy of the updated policy was attached to the meeting package.

Outstanding Requests, Stormwater:

As part of the updated policy, the definition for a "Small Flood Damage Reduction Project" was revised to include flooding caused by stormwater drainage courses that carry water from public road right of ways. There were three properties related to stormwater issues that the Committee agreed to put on hold until the Policy updates were finalized.

Springwater's Place:

- Drainage ditch from a TIR road located between two residential properties
- Owner is looking to have the drainage ditch/piping improved
- TIR was approached and will not be fixing it
- The culverts on Springwater's Place being undersized also contribute to the problem
- Project meets definition of project in new policy
- Committee agreed to have Owner submit formal application and explain process of cost sharing

College Road:

- Flooding in backyard of property not caused by watercourse or run-off from public road
- Neighbouring property has a pond and the outlet pipe has been blocked off
- Rod to do a site visit and confirm where the water is coming from before the Committee makes a decision

Hillcrest Avenue:

- Drainage course that runs through private property
- Ongoing problem for many years
- Meets criteria of small flood project
- Property owner not interested in cost sharing
- Village of Bible Hill has expressed interest
- Michelle to speak with Village about submitting an application, cost sharing and obtaining property owner approvals

New Applications: None.

Review of Projects: The following updates were made to the current project list:

Baxter:

- Property is currently listed for sale
- Send letter to owners that project will be removed from the list as the size/scope of work exceeds the capacity of the FAC and regulatory approvals will be difficult to obtain

Portapique Cemetery:

- Rod conducted another site visit in June 2020
- No further damage was observed - not a high priority
- Conduct another site visit in the Fall
- Association to still try and secure additional funding as FAC can't cover all costs - large project
- Rod to contact Alden Knight and update on site visit

Franklin:

- Scope of work remains the same
- Major concern is how to access the property as existing bridge will not support the required heavy equipment
- Rod will need to reapply to DFO for approval if Committee decides to proceed
- Michelle to look into FRIIP and see if Province is offering this program this year due to COVID

Johnson:

- Rod to request extension of approval from NSE as original approval was not received last year when it was issued

Langille:

- Site visit completed by Ron and Rod
- Existing culverts in driveway are two different sizes and both undersized; need to be replaced with 36" culvert
- Cost estimate \$9,000
- Contact owner with cost estimates and their cost sharing portions

Status of Budget: Approximately \$70,000 of the \$100,000 budget for fiscal 2019/20 was spent.

Budget for Fiscal 2020/21: Council approved the recommended budget of \$100,000 for the 2020/21 fiscal year.

Status of Payments from Property Owners: There are two outstanding accounts, Johnson and MacGrath. Finance has started the collection process with the Johnson property as was done with other projects in the past. As the MacGrath property was a project completed in 2019/20, the Committee agreed to send a letter reminding him of his outstanding balance.

Consulting Services 2020/21: A proposal for consulting services was submitted by Rod McLennan for fiscal 2020/21. The proposal remains the same as years past and consists of a monthly stipend, construction/supervision costs and inspection services. The monthly stipend is partially funded by the Joint Flood Advisory Committee which they approved at their last meeting in February 2020.

Moved by: Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by: Laurie Sandeson

“That the Flood Advisory Committee (FAC) approves Rod MacLennan’s proposal for consulting services for 2020/21 which includes a stipend of \$1,200 per month; with \$400 being funded by the FAC; 10% of project costs; and \$75/hour for inspections.”

Motion carried.

New Business: As Councillor Boutilier was not present at the meeting, the Holding Pond at the Exhibition Grounds will be moved to the next meeting.

Councillor Gibbs inquired about maintenance funds available for previously completed projects, namely the trees along the Murray Siding Brook. Some trees have been damaged but this does not seem to be a concern of Department of Fisheries and Oceans as they conducted a site visit and released remaining funds, so no further action is required.

As the Committee only has one budget, all new projects as well as any ongoing maintenance of previously completed projects will come out of the \$100,000 budget.

Future Meeting Dates: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 11:00 am.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm.

Crystal Deuille,
Recording Secretary