

FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Flood Advisory Committee was held in Council Chambers on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

Present: Councillor Tim Johnson, Chair
Councillor Lisa Patton
Mayor Christine Blair
Hank Kolstee, Citizen Representative
Robert Monk, Citizen Representative

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

Regrets: Carl Esau, NS Agriculture
Charlotte Sullivan, NS Environment & Climate Change

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

Moved by: Mayor Blair
Seconded by: Hank Kolstee

"That the agenda be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the meeting held on August 9, 2022 were circulated for the Committee's review and approval.

Moved by: Councillor Patton
Seconded by: Robert Monk

"That the Minutes from the meeting on August 9, 2022 be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes: An update was provided on the status of the Retson Drive Drainage project. The Contractor has not started yet due to a supply issue with the precast concrete manhole. The work was scheduled for mid-November and will still be completed this year once the manhole is received.

New Applications (Chafe, Martell): Two new applications have been received since the last meeting.

Rod has already visited the Chafe property with the Area Councillor and directed the owner to submit an application. A provincial drainage ditch runs along the rear of this property and has caused flooding to this property. Rod spoke with NSPW who has no plans for ditching in this area. Rod to complete another site visit to determine the source of the water and take photos. If caused by storm water runoff from a public right-of-way, then it could qualify for assistance from the Committee, but if the water is coming overland from the neighbouring property, then it becomes a civil matter and would not fit the criteria

of this program. Michelle to look into contour mapping for this area and discuss with NSPW. Michelle cautioned that surface runoff from the Provincial right-of-way does cause issues in other areas of the County and that taking on this project could set an undesirable precedent.

The second application is related to a brook washing out the driveway on the Martell property. Rod to complete a site visit. The Committee has done similar projects in the past.

Review of Projects:

The following updates were made to the project list:

Ed Franklin:

- Project complete – total cost \$69K
- Rod to review site after Fiona for possible damage

Parker:

- Not complete, permit obtained
- Waiting on weather conditions to proceed with work

Patterson:

- Not complete
- Waiting on weather conditions to proceed with work

Status of Budget:

With the Franklin project complete with provincial funding, and total consultant costs to date, total expenses so far this fiscal are \$38K. This leaves sufficient funds to complete Retson Drive and the Parker property this fiscal.

Home Flood Protection Program:

A copy of the Flooding in Canada article was circulated with the meeting package for information. Mayor Blair provided an overview on who is responsible when it comes to flood protection including the municipalities' role in allowing development in flood plain areas, insurance industries not providing proper flood coverage, and property owners' lack of proper drainage and maintenance practices.

Discussion – Trees In/Around Watercourses:

Staff have been receiving calls from property owners requesting assistance in removing trees in and around watercourses caused by Fiona. The policy defines a project as one that *“will mitigate or eliminate the negative effects of flooding and erosion on a property and which takes place along a watercourse.”* Discussion was held on whether the Committee should accept applications for this type of work, and if so, should the trees be removed and disposed of, or should they just be removed, and the property owner is responsible for the disposal.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been assisting property owners with post-Fiona cleanup. Michelle to discuss with Dave Westlake to see if this would also fall under DNR's mandate. The Committee agreed to accept applications in the meantime.

Moved by: Hank Kolstee
Seconded by: Councillor Patton

“That the Flood Advisory Committee accept applications related to trees in the watercourses that may have future potential impacts on flooding.”

Motion carried.

New Business:

Robert Monk raised the issue of this Committee being able to take on the Joint Flood projects as work has not happened in a few years. As the Joint Committee involves three municipal units, one unit would not be able to take on the work. Staff will try to schedule a JFAC meeting for December.

Future Meeting Dates:

The next meeting will be held in Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 14, 2022 at 9am.

Adjournment:

“That the meeting adjourn at 2:08 pm.”

Motion carried.

Crystal Deuille,
Recording Secretary