

TOWN OF KENTVILLE WATER COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes: July 26, 2023

PRESENT

Councillor Andrew Zebian, Councillor Craig Gerrard, Councillor Paula Huntley, Director of Engineering Dave Bell, Director of Finance Wanda Matthews, Clifford Hill and Recording Secretary Carla MacDonald.

Regrets / Absent:

Mayor Sandra Snow
Councillor Kings Lexi Misner
CAO, Dan Troke
Fire Chief Scott Hamilton
Kings County Engineer Abdelkhalek Omar

*Voting members: The Mayor as chairperson, three (3) councillors, one (1) citizen representative, one (1) representative from the Kentville Volunteer Fire Department, and one (1) representative from the County of Kings. The CAO, Planning, Director of Public Works, and representative from the Department of the Environment provide technical expertise with a voice but **no vote**.*

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Councillor Craig Gerrard called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

Note: "Points from Discussion" below show various comments made by individual members during debate. They do not necessarily represent the opinion of the group, nor do they always reflect accurate information.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda of July 26, 2023 Kentville Water Commission meeting, Councillor Andrew Zabian and second by Cliff Hill.

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion that the minutes for the Kentville Water Commission Budget meeting on May 10, 2023 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion that the minutes for the Kentville Water Commission regular meeting on May 10, 2023 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

4. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Operations Update

See Report

I. Financial

- Director of Finance Wanda Matthews provided financial report for Water Commission Operating Fund and Water Commission Capital Fund.
- Information to the Non-Consolidated Financial Statements Retirement Pension Plans, Rate of return rate base was shared as well as the CUPE Local 4403's collective agreement that expired March 31, 2023 and a new agreement ratified on June 29, 2023.

Points from Discussion

- Concern of rates to cover expenditures, rate increase to be considered in the next quarter.
- Director Bell advised that sewer rates are not sustainable and should be increased and suggested this should be done every five years. This last increase was in 2015 and phased in by 2019.

II. Engineering Update:

Water meter replacement

Director Bell reported that there is continued work being done on a priority list of water meters that are to be replaced or calibrated as the next steps begin for rate study.

See Report

Points from Discussion

- Few Meters that have users with larger water usage have been replaced.
- Extra cost for the change out of meters as it is contracted out.
- There has been an increase in accuracy with the industrial meters.

Fluoridation of Potable Water

See Report

Points of Discussion

- It was expressed by Cliff Hill that if used properly Fluoridation of Potable Water is safe and the residents of the Town of Kentville should have input or a vote as to have it removed.

Motion that the Kentville Water Commission direct the Director of Engineering David Bell to investigate elimination of fluoridation from the Kentville Water Supply, Councillor Paula Huntley and second by Councillor Craig Gerrard.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Source Water Protection Advisory Committee Report: No report

Points of Discussion

- The concern of flooding due to climate.
- Improvements along the Harvest Trail and well heads need looking into.
- Methods of protecting wells in future from heavy rainfall to be investigated.
- Look into FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) funding to help improve and prevent damage to wells to due climate change.

(c) Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on November 29, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion that the Kentville Water Commission adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED

Adjourned at 4:33 p.m.