

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a Meeting of
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Held in Council Chambers, 210 Aberdeen Road, Bridgewater, NS
Monday, November 18, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Brian Keizer, District 1 & 2 Fire Commission, Chair
Chief Steve Patterson, Cornwall Fire Department, Vice Chair
Deputy Chief Dean Schmeisser, Dayspring & District Volunteer Fire Department
Deputy Chief Dean Schmeisser, Dayspring & District Volunteer Fire Department
David Fancy, Member-At-Large
Herbert Seymour, Member-At-Large
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson
Deputy Mayor Eric Hustvedt
Councillor Reid Whynot
Councillor Wade Carver
Councillor Cathy Moore

Regrets: Chief Tom Lockwood, Indian Point Fire Department

Staff: Chris Kennedy, Fire Services Coordinator/Administrator
Tina Robichaud-Bond, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Keizer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

2.1 Council Appointments

Mr. Keizer welcomed the new Council members to the Committee, Councillor Cathy Moore and Deputy Mayor Eric Hustvedt.

2.2 Insurance Subcommittee Member

Mr. Keizer advised that with the change in members, the insurance subcommittee was short a representative. Councillor Moore volunteered to sit on the insurance subcommittee.

2.3 REMO Coordinator

Angela Henhoeffler, Regional Emergency Management Officer for Lunenburg Region, was in attendance. She provided the committee with her background and training in Emergency Services.

A discussion followed regarding the possibility of forming a committee of first responders which would include representatives from vehicle recovery companies.

Ms. Henhoeffler reported that she could arrange various training for First Responders and advised that she would send out information on any upcoming courses. She noted that requests for training should go through the Fire & Emergency Coordinator.

It was suggested that Ms. Henhoeffler attend a Lunenburg Regional meeting to discuss the possibility of a First Responder Committee and training opportunities. Ms. Henhoeffler noted that she would arrange to have representatives from EMO Nova Scotia attend as well.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Dean Schmeisser that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Motion Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes of the September 9, 2019 Meeting

Moved by Herbert Seymour, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the Minutes of the Fire and Emergency Committee meeting of September 9, 2019 be approved as circulated. Motion Carried.

5. Business Arising from Minutes and Unfinished Business

5.1 Motions of Council

5.1.1 Fire Department General/Liability Insurance

Mr. Keizer referred to the memo circulated with the Agenda and advised that the matter was brought forward for information purposes.

5.1.2 Amended Terms of Reference – FESC

Mr. Keizer referred to the memo circulated with the Agenda and advised that the matter was brought forward for information purposes.

5.2 Firefighter Personnel Insurance/WCB – Update

Mr. Keizer reported that the Province effected the requirement that volunteer firefighters be covered by Workers Compensation. He noted that certain members/conditions will not be covered under the Workers Compensation Board plan, i.e., members over 65 years of age, auxiliary members, members traveling to and from a practice event.

Mr. Kennedy advised that the FES Personnel Insurance sub-committee would be meeting on December 9th at 3:00 p.m. with representatives from Workers Compensation Board, Labour & Education, and the personnel insurance representative.

5.3 Recruitment & Retention Strategy – Update

Mr. Kennedy referred to his memo, “Recruitment & Retention Recognition for Information Only” (circulated with the Agenda).

Mr. Kennedy reported that the Municipality’s Recruitment & Retention Strategy was highlighted in the local paper, the Canadian Firefighter Magazine, and the Canadian Volunteer Firefighters Services Association Facebook page. He further reported that since the recruitment strategy has been put launched, fire departments have reported several new members had joined as volunteer fire fighters.

5.1.3 – Pump Testing Cistern Proposal

Mr. Keizer reported that Lunenburg Regional voted to have the pump test requirement as part of the application process for the annual registration. A discussion followed as to whether Policy MDL-36 would have to be amended to reflect this requirement or if it would just need to be highlighted on the registration package and discussed at the AGM.

It was decided that both Policy MDL-36 and the Registration Package would be reviewed to determine if any revisions were required to clarify the mandatory pump testing requirements.

5.4 Propose Date – Strategic Planning Workshop

The Strategic Planning Workshop was scheduled for February 10, 2020 at 5:00pm.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 2020 FES Meeting Schedule

The Committee reviewed and approved the Fire & Emergency Services Committee meeting schedule for 2020.

6.2 Recognition Certificate Program – MDL-70 Proposed Amendments

Mr. Kennedy reported that a request was received from a fire department to provide recognition to an individual for a donation to the department.

A discussion followed regarding the criteria for the program. It was noted that the Recognition Certificate Program was developed to recognize businesses who employ volunteer fire fighters that are permitted to leave work for emergency purposes, as well as community groups that contribute financially to aid in significant equipment purchases. It was not intended for individual contributions. It was noted the fire departments could recognize individuals for contributions made.

It was recommended that no change be made to the policy.

6.3 Municipal Grants 2020-2021

The Committee reviewed the proposed increase to the municipal grants for 2020-2021.

Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Dean Schmeisser that the Fire & Emergency Services Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council approve a 2% increase (which totals \$3,600) over the 2019/2020 grant amounts and approves the following municipal grants for the 2020/2021 fiscal year:

Matching Grant	\$42,400.00
Municipal Grant	\$64,100.00
Training Grant	\$10,900.00
Insurance Grant	<u>\$54,100.00</u>
Total Grants	\$171,500.00

Motion Carried

6.4 Unification Discussions re Pleasantville, LaHave, and Conquerall Bank

Chris Kennedy advised that the Pleasantville, LaHave and Conquerall Bank fire departments were in the early stages of unification discussions and expect to report back in the new year.

A discussion followed regarding the difference between “Commission” and “Society” and how it relates to unification discussions.

- 8. IN CAMERA (Nil)**
- 9. NEXT MEETING – January 13, 2020**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business at 8:04 p.m., it was moved by Dean Schmeisser, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the meeting adjourn. Motion Carried.