

**Municipality of the District of Lunenburg**  
**Notes of a Fire & Emergency Services Committee Meeting**  
**Held in Council Chambers and Virtually via Microsoft Teams**  
**Monday, May 9, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Attendance**

Brian Keizer, District 1 & 2 Fire Commission  
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9  
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2  
Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4  
Councillor Michelle Greek, District 7  
Chief Tom Lockwood, Indian Point Fire Department  
Retired Chief Steve Patterson, Cornwall Fire Department  
Deputy Chief Dean Schmeisser, Dayspring & District Volunteer Fire Department  
Randy Harris, Member-At-Large (via Teams)  
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, Ex-Officio

**Staff**

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy C.A.O. (via Teams)  
Chris Kennedy, Fire Services Coordinator  
Sandra Challis, Administrative Assistant

**Regrets**

Angela Henhoeffler, REMO Coordinator  
Herbert Seymour, Member-At-Large

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Election of Officers**

**2.1 Chair**

Mr. Kennedy called for nominations for the position of Chair. Those nominated by ballot for the position of Chair were:

- Brian Keizer
- Steve Patterson

Retired Chief Patterson withdrew his name; therefore, Mr. Keizer was acclaimed as Chair of the Fire & Emergency Services Committee.

**2.2 Vice Chair**

Mr. Keizer called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Those nominated by ballot for the position of Vice Chair were:

- Michele Greek
- Randy Harris
- Tom Lockwood
- Steve Patterson
- Dean Schmeisser

Councillor Greek, Randy Harris and Retired Chief Patterson withdrew their names.

Following a further vote by ballot, Deputy Chief Schmeisser was acclaimed as Vice Chair of the Fire & Emergency Services Committee.

**Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Hubley that all ballots be destroyed. Carried.**

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by Councillor Greek, seconded by Councillor Bell that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

### **4. Approval of Minutes – March 14, 2022**

**Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Deputy Chief Schmeisser that the Minutes of the March 14, 2022 Fire & Emergency Services Committee meeting be approved, with the amendment from CBSFA to CVSFA in item 7.2. Carried unanimously.**

## **5. Business Arising from Minutes**

### **5.1 Options for reduction in Insurance Premiums**

The potential for creating a mutual fund for deductibles to reduce premiums was discussed and it was decided not to pursue this matter any further, due to the complexity of collecting and administering the fund. It was agreed that Mr. Kennedy would contact the insurers in September, prior to policy renewal and update departments on where the premiums were likely to be for the following year.

### **5.2 Fire Scene Security**

Mr. Kennedy reviewed the approved Council MODL Policy 094, Fire Scene Security memo, circulated with the agenda. A draft procedure had been developed and was currently under review, once finalized, a presentation would be made to LRFES and a training session for departments would potentially be held.

### **5.3 Mutual Aid Agreement**

Mr. Kennedy reported that, to date, all but one signature had been received as there was a question related to the Towns Act. A question had also been raised regarding the time mutual aid comes into effect and insurance coverage; the agreement said from arrival to and departure from scene. It was suggested this be changed to a mutual aid alert until the firefighter returns to his station. These housekeeping changes would not require each department to re-sign the document, but the departments would be notified of the changes when final signature received.

#### **5.4 Air Pack Certification/Turn-out Gear Safety**

To move this item forward, it was agreed to draft a document that could be presented for discussion at LRFES. Mr. Kennedy would contact Committee members to ask for their ideas on what a policy or procedure could include to ensure departments are considering the health and safety of their firefighters; including air pack certification, turn-out gear cleaning, maintenance & replacement schedule and hose replacement. It was noted that the insurance policy does not insist that any particular standards are met for coverage. Mr. Kennedy would collate this information and it would be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **5.5 Municipal Funding Options – Procurement of Equipment for Departments**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson reported on a recent presentation at the NSFM Conference from the non-profit organization Canoe, Procurement Group of Canada, which highlighted preferred rates for trucks and PPE for fire departments. This organization was currently being used by municipalities in ON, NB and NL and cost savings appeared to be significant.

Noting that firefighter apparatus through this scheme would likely be base-specifications as standard, the advantages and disadvantages were discussed; advantages – familiarity with the same vehicle across different departments would be beneficial to firefighters; disadvantages – lack of individuality between departments and personalization of equipment to suit departments.

It was suggested that the specifications of the vehicles be obtained for review, and Mr. Kennedy would liaise with Council to arrange for the organization to present a fire services specific presentation to FESC and perhaps LRFES.

Although low-cost financing options were not included in discussion, it was noted that this item would remain on the FESC agenda for future research and discussion.

### **6. L.R.F.E.S. Report**

Mr. Keizer reported that the focus of the recent LRFSE meeting was a discussion of an overhaul of the Committee looking at incorporation and membership. It was noted the LRFES AGM is to be held next week.

**7. New Business**

None.

**8. In Camera**

Not required.

**9. Next Meeting – Monday, July 11, 2022**

**10. Adjournment**

**There being no further business at 7:42 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Deputy Chief Schmeisser that the meeting adjourn. Carried.**