



Town of Oxford
Committee of the Whole
Council Chambers and Zoom
Wednesday, May 8, 2024
6:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Welcome

2. Approval of Agenda
Pages 1 - 2

3. Approval of the Minutes – April 10, 2024
Pages 3 - 7

4. Town Departments Reports
 - 4.1 Public Works Department – presented by Nick Purdy, Public Works Supervisor
Pages 8 - 9

 - 4.2 Fire Department – presented by Bruce Rushton, Fire Chief and Kyle Purdy, Deputy Fire Chief
page 10

 - 4.3 Administration Report – presented by Linda Cloney, CAO
Page 11 – Admin Assistant Report
Submitting separately – Dangerous and Unsightly Update
Submitting separately – Municipal Election Update
Submitting separately – Foundry Street Water Main Replacement Update

5. Council Committees and Boards Reports – presented by Linda Cloney
 - 5.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee
Verbal report

5.2 Recreation Commission

Verbal report – including Walk & Wheel Public Meeting

5.3 Communities in Bloom Committee

Verbal Report

5.4 Source Water Protection Committee

Verbal Report

5.5 Road Trails Act Review Committee

Verbal Report – including Public Information Meeting and next steps.

5.6 Oxford Capital Theatre Update

Verbal Report

5.7 Library Report

Page 12

5.8 Audit Committee Report

Verbal Report

5.9 Police Advisory Board Report

Pages 13 – 17 - January 30, 2024, approved minutes

Pages 18 – 22 - RCMP Report

5.10 Northern Region Solid Waste Report

Pages 23 – 25 – February 2, 2024, approved minutes

6. Items of discussion and correspondence – presented by Linda Cloney

6.1 Alternative Voting Bylaw – discussion

6.2 Roads Trails Designation Bylaw - discussion

7. Adjournment



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024
Presiding Officer: Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald
Councillors Present: Mayor Greg Henley, Carla Black, Olivia Canning, and Brenton Colborne, Chrystal McNutt, and Paul Jones
Councillor Regrets: Nil

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney - CAO, Stan McDougall - Admin Assistant (recording secretary), Ruthann Brookins - Manager of Finance, Nick Purdy – Public Works Supervisor, Bruce Rushton – Fire Chief, and Kyle Purdy – Deputy Fire Chief

Presenters in attendance: Nil

Media in attendance: Mark Rushton, Six Rivers News, Radio, and TV

1. Call to Order – Welcome

At 6:03 PM, Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance at the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda, Pages 1 – 2

Moved by Mayor Henley and seconded by Councillor Jones that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of the Minutes – March 13, 2024, Pages 3 - 8

Approved by

Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald, Chair, on April 10, 2024

4. Town Departments Reports

4.1 Public Works Department – presented by Nick Purdy, Public Works Supervisor - Page 9

4.2 Fire Department – presented by Bruce Rushton, Fire Chief and Kyle Purdy, Deputy Fire Chief, submitted separately – verbal report

4.3 Administration Report – presented by Linda Cloney, CAO - Page 10 – Admin Assistant Report

Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald thanked the Town staff for their respective reports.

5. Council Committees and Boards Reports – presented by Linda Cloney

5.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee, Verbal report

Linda Cloney, CAO reviewed with the Committee of the Whole that the Accessibility Advisory Committee met in March and Danielle Laurie was elected Chair and Jo MacDonald was elected as vice-chair. The Accessibility Audits were in for the buildings and exterior accessibility audits were near completion. Nova Scotia Access Awareness Week is May 26 to June 1.

5.2 Recreation Commission, Verbal report by Councillor McNutt

The Town of Oxford is looking to celebrate volunteers through Volunteer week, April 14 – 20, 2024. The following week is Earth Week, April 21 – 28, 2024. Residents are encouraged to clean up around their areas, send in pictures of their cleanup efforts for a contest. Bags and gloves will be available at the Town Hall office. A post will appear on the Town of Oxford Facebook pages prior to the start of Earth Week. During Earth Week, the recreation department will be holding a Spring crafts session at the Oxford Arena on April 23, 2024. The May long weekend yard sale for 2024 is also

being organized where residents can send in their address to be advertised in a town-wide yard sale. More information on this will also be posted on our Facebook pages as the event got closer.

5.3 Communities in Bloom Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO presented to the Committee of the whole that a few members attended the first meeting of the Communities in Bloom Committee. Councillor Black volunteered from the Council. Many ideas were shared. Flower Baskets were discussed as well as some funding opportunities for further discussion at future meetings.

5.4 Source Water Protection Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the first Source Water Protection Committee meeting was held on March 26, 2024. The next step is building the committee and reaching out to those that own property close by the wellfield area to invite them to be part of the committee process going forward.

5.5 Farmers Market Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the first Farmers Market Committee meeting was held, and more people are required to form the committee. Linda encouraged all residents to reach out to Linda at the Town Hall if there is interest in seeing Oxford have a Farmers Market. Vendors and people to help put the Farmers Market together are encouraged and ideas for locations were encouraged.

5.6 Road Trails Act Review Committee, Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the first Road Trails Act Review Committee held a public information session at the Oxford Capitol Theatre on April 3, 2024, where what an ATV friendly community would look like, to seek the public's input, ideas, and concerns. Attendance was approximately 50 plus the panel of experts that were present. A meeting is to be scheduled in the next few weeks to discuss feedback from the public information session.

5.7 Oxford Capitol Theatre Update - Verbal Report

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed with the Committee of the Whole that the Oxford Capitol Theatre requires a new furnace and replacement heat pumps. Linda reviewed with the Committee of the Whole that there were two great groups of volunteers working the theatre led by Ruth Collins, the Drama Group and the Music Society. The two groups are working very well together and with the Town and are collaborating on ways to fundraise and looking at grants for the heat. The theatre is busy with a birthday party booked and future events planned

Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald thanked all Council Committees and Boards for their respective reports.

6. Items of discussion and correspondence – presented by Linda Cloney

6.1 Letter from Minister Lohr – Service Exchange, Pages 11-19, for information purposes available online and in the council package

6.2 Letter from Minister Lohr – New Provincial Department of Emergency Management, Pages 20-21, for information purposes available online and in the council package

6.3 News Release – Cumberland Public Libraries Services Restored, Page 22, for information purposes available online and in the council package.

7. Adjournment

Before the adjournment of the meeting, Deputy Mayor MacDonald presented that the Walk and Wheel public information session is on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Oxford Fire Hall, 115 Waverly St. All are encouraged to come out and share experiences walking and wheeling around the Town of Oxford and to discuss ways to improve Oxford Streets and trails for active travel.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Deputy Mayor, Arnold MacDonald, Chair

Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

Date Approved

Public Works Report April 2024

Weekly Water samples.

Monthly Lagoon samples.

Weekly water checks.

Salting and plowing as needed.

Cleaning out ditches on Seven Lee Way.

Removed ice from arena.

New meter installs.

Street sweeping.

Repaired sink at townhall.

Repaired floor in washroom at the public works garage.

Repaired fence on Ellis Street.

Cleaned lift station floats.

Spring clean-up around town.

Filled various potholes with cold patch.

Shoulder work on Main Street.

Repaired water leak on the Old Tank Road.

Repaired water leaking from a shut of at a residence on Main Street.

Dump Truck down for repairs.

Cleaned valve boxes around town.

Cleared brush at Black River Park.

Dismantle winter gear, grease, and store away.

Repaired leak at the old tank.

Fixed deck at town hall.

Cross walk coverage.

Repaired water trailer.

Graveled shoulder on Pugwash Road.

Loads of mulch for bunny trail.

Installed benches, dug outs and garbage cans at ball field.

Benches and garbage cans around town.

Cleared brush around wells.

Installed corner park items.

Stand pipe measurements for new houses.

Porta potties delivered to areas.

Weekly litter pick up around town.

Any questions feel free to reach out, Thanks.

Nick Purdy

Public Works Supervisor

902-397-3002

Fire Report – May 2024

The fire department responded to 19 calls in April with a total to date of 61.

- 10 medical calls (9 in town)
- 2 motor vehicle accidents (1 in town)
- 1 vehicle fire (coverage area)
- 3 Grass/woods fires (1 in town; 1 coverage area, 1 mutual aid)
- 2 Structure Fires (assisting our mutual aid partners)
- 1 public assistance call (in town)

12 of the calls were in Town.

4 calls in our coverage area

3 calls assisting our neighboring departments.

With the medical calls...we have adjusted our response level to a lesser level to respond to “Immediate Life Threat”. This includes calls for Cardia Arrest, Respiratory Arrest, Choking with possible Obstruction. This is approximately 2% of EHS calls whereas the “Time Critical” calls averaged about 25 % of EHS calls.

Last month we talked about the need for a secondary water supply in the event the town hydrant system was down for maintenance or repairs. I investigated the old dry hydrant that was off the Little River Rd (in the Black River) and found that the strainer is still in the river. The Head (hose connection end) was what the ice took out during a flood. Estimated cost of the head - \$ 1100.00 plus pipe and fittings. This is a relatively inexpensive repair when compared to hydrant repairs or replacement. I also have approval from Dept. of Environment.

Training:

We had 9 members from this department along with 11 members from various departments throughout the county, participate in the Wildland Fire training at the Oxford Fire station.

Members from Oxford and Collingwood participated in training in Oxford on April 11th. This included pump operations, SCBA with interior searching (with artificial smoke), accountability, etc.

Members will be participating in regular monthly training along with extra special training sessions over the coming weeks.

Two members recently completed the Level I training which took them 14 weekends along with various hands-on training within our own department. This is a huge commitment for a volunteer!

Trucks:

We had to have Pumped and Wired in to work on a couple of the trucks as there were valves leaking, tank gauges not working as well as a few pressure gauges that had to be replaced.

I would like to meet within the next week or so to continue moving forward with finalizing the requirements for a new fire truck to replace the 35-year-old truck that is currently still in service. This is not a process that can be held off for much longer.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Rushton, Fire Chief

Kyle Purdy, Deputy Fire Chief



April 2024

- **Interim Taxes** – prep work for reviewing and creation of the Interim Tax Bills. Analysis of TownSuite Tax Levy for tax and sewer charges. Worked with the CAO to confirm reconciliation between TownSuite and PVSC before generating the interim tax bills.
- **4th Quarter Water Bills** – prep work on reviewing and issuing of 4th quarter water bills. Worked with the Clerk and Manager of Finance to review meter readings and re-reads where required with analysis of broken meters. Water bills were prepared and printed on April 15, 2024, with a due date of May 24, 2024. Prepared and printed Oxford Frozen Foods' water bills with the same date/due date - processed/emailed out by the Clerk.
- **Council Expense Reporting** – updates have been posted to the website.
- **Employee Personnel Policy** – working with the CAO on a review and update to the Employee Personnel Policy language, grammar, and general updates.
- **Procurement Policy** – updated to reflect the motion from the March 27, 2024, Council Meeting to revise the limits of Town VISAs and add a Fire Department Visa.
- **Month-end/year-end work with Senior Accountant** – ensuring bills are in for March 31 and other related work.
- **ATV/ATVANS Information session** on Oxford becoming an ATV-friendly community on April 3, 2024. The session has been uploaded to FB and YouTube.

**Cumberland Public Libraries
Brief Report- Oxford
April, 2024**

Library hours and services

Thanks to our amazing local representatives, hours are being restored at all of our locations!

This would not be possible without the dedication of our Municipal and Town Councillors, Mayors David Kogon, Murray Scott, and Greg Henley, and the countless members of their staff. They have shown that Cumberland County deserves sustainable and affordable core library services in the region.

We are working diligently to restore hours at all of our locations, and will let everyone know when hours are back to normal.

Provincial Library Funding review

The Provincial government has begun a funding review for all public libraries in the province. The committee is made up of Library Directors, government representatives, and library board representatives. Amherst Town Councillor and Cumberland Regional Library Board Chair, Dale Fawthrop, is a member of this committee trying to develop a new funding formula.

Food Security

Cumberland Public Libraries received a \$52,900 grant from the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage for food security. The Library will be providing snacks in all locations as well as working with our community partners, Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading (CAN-U) and the YMCA, to fund work already being done in the community.

State of the Library

The Board will hold its annual Public Meeting on April 25, 2024 at the Springhill Library. We will also be live streaming on our Facebook page.

Statistics

In the month of February, Cumberland Public Libraries signed out over 13,915 items, 801 items in Oxford. This includes books, DVDs, magazines, renewals, e-books and more.

Also, in February Oxford library offered 1 in-person program with 5 people in attendance. The Oxford library had 224 in person visits.



Minutes of the Police Advisory Board

Place: Council Chambers
Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2024
Chair: Thomas Shears
Members Present: Mike Masters, Councillor Brenton Colborne, Deputy Mayor Arnold McDonald, and S/Sgt Andrew Clarke
Regrets: Myra Thiemann and District Commander Brian Cameron.

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney - CAO and Stan McDougall – Admin Assistant (recording secretary).

Gallery in attendance: Gary MacDonald, resident.

1. Call to Order – Welcome

At 5:59 PM, Thomas Shears called the meeting to order and extended a welcome back together with Linda Cloney, CAO to S/Sgt. Andrew Clarke and welcomed gallery attendee Gary MacDonald, resident of the Town of Oxford and to all committee and staff in attendance.

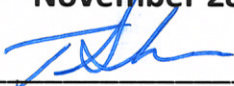
2. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded that the agenda of the Police Advisory Board Meeting for Tuesday, January 30, 2024, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of the Minutes – November 28, 2023

Approved by _____


Thomas Shears, Chair, on November 28, 2023

4. Business

4.1.1 RCMP Report – S/Sgt Andrew Clarke

S/Sgt. Clarke presented the July 1 to September 30, 2023, RCMP report to the Police Advisory Board members.

S/Sgt Clarke also discussed that new cadets are coming into the system with one about to complete training. There are also about 70 new cadets coming this year in the province of Nova Scotia whereas in other years there have been 7 to 10 normally.

Moved and seconded that the RCMP report for Oct 1 to Dec 31, 2023, be accepted, as presented.

Motion Carried

4.1.2 Digital Speed Signs – discussion – Linda (*motion to recommend to Town Council for budget consideration*)

Linda Cloney, CAO reviewed with the committee options for digital speed signs for the Town of Oxford to help aid in speed and vehicle data collection around town. Information was obtained through four options quoted by Barry Arnold at Absolute Traffic and Sign Authority as discussed with the committee. The signs are portable, and easily moved from pole to pole around town for data collection. They would have to be secured as much as possible to prevent theft of the sign. Prices of the sign were described to be between \$3500 and \$4800 approximately.

These signs are popular in many areas of the province of Nova Scotia as well as in the province of PEI.

The data tracking capabilities of these signs are even more of an attractant to the Town to allow for data collection for street improvements.

S/Sgt. Clarke advised that we look to get more information and seek to purchase a version that does not allow motorists to get a “high score” on

the sign – display only a SLOW DOWN message after a certain speed is reached (yet record the actual speed). Staff will reach out to Barry Arnold at Absolute Traffic for clarification on the information presented.

4.1.3 Flashing Lights – update – *Linda*

Linda Cloney, CAO provided an update to the committee on the progress of the newly installed flashing stop signs at the corner of Main and Water Street. The signs had been ordered incorrectly with flashing yellow lights instead of red, which had motorists and the traffic authority confused.

The red lights are coming and for now, the lights are turned off. It was noted that the sign on the pole on Main Street would be hard-wired into the pole because it would not receive enough sunlight for solar power.

4.2 Board Member Issues

4.2.1 – Round Table – *all members*

One concern regarding consistent speeding issues on Little River Road which has not changed. The primary concern is with larger vehicles including buses and trucks.

4.3 Municipal Issues

4.3.1 Municipal Staff formal inquiry regarding mischief – *Linda*

A concern from staff regarding mischief involving throwing of rocks and removal of a crosswalk sign from Water Street. S/Sgt. Clark reviewed that without a complaint filed with the RCMP, the events cannot be investigated. Bring complaints to the RCMP if it is felt they should be investigated.

4.3.2 Concerns raised by Public Works Supervisor – Linda

A concern was brought forward by the Public Works Supervisor regarding parking on Main Street across from the post office where there are no parking signs, and speeding in the work zones.

S/Sgt. Clarke reviewed the use of “no stopping” signs which are easier to enforce instead of “no parking” signs.

S/Sgt. Clarke reviewed with the committee that if there are speeding concerns, please take a plate number and description of the vehicle to forward to the RCMP for investigation. If it’s a real concern, RCMP can also attend. The use of flaggers and slow signage is ideal where required. Linda will check on the signage available for the Public Works Department.

4.3.2 Round Table – all members

Nil.

4.4 Correspondence

4.4.1 Gary MacDonald emails – Linda

Linda Cloney, CAO discussed the list of concerns brought forward by resident Gary MacDonald. The Town of Oxford responded to the questions that the town could respond to and brought forward the questions that potentially could be responded to by the RCMP. S/Sgt. Clarke reviewed questions concerning posted speed, the use of “Jake” brakes and speed of large trucks, overloaded trucks, 4x4 activity in the town limits and their use of excessive speed, and others concerning traffic concerns.

4.4.2 Josephine MacDonald inquiry – Linda

Linda Cloney, CAO, discussed a concern brought forward from Josephine MacDonald, who witnessed a truck hauling a house on a flatbed that drove straight through the stop sign without slowing down.

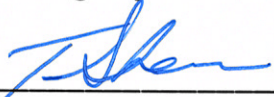
S/Sgt. Clarke recommended that if these things are noticed, an attempt to call the RCMP with a plate number, description and/or plate number should be made to allow the RCMP to investigate.

4.5 Date and time for next meeting

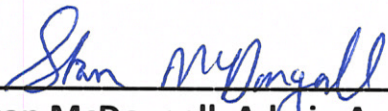
The next Police Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM



Thomas Shears, Chair



Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

04-16-24

Date Approved

RCMP



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Town of Oxford

Police Advisory Board

January 1 to March 31, 2024

S/Sgt. Andrew Clarke



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Canada 

Town of Oxford

Calls for Service January 1 – March 31, 2024

Criminal Code Offences

		Cleared by Charge	Cleared Other	Insufficient Evidence	Unfounded	SUI
Assault	3				1	2
Breach	1		1			
Break and Enter	1				1	
Child Pornography	0				0	
Criminal Harassment	1				1	
Disturbing the Peace	3		1	2		
Failure to Comply	5	1	4			
Flight from Police	1			1		
Identity Theft	1					1
Impaired	1	1				
Mischief	1		1			
Sexual Assault	2			1	1	
Theft of Truck	1					1
Theft - other	2			1	1	
Unauthorized use-Computer	1			1		
Unsafe Storage of Firearm	1	1				
Uttering Threats	3		2		1	
Total	28	3	9	6	6	4

Non Criminal Code Offences

Motor Vehicle Act – Speeding	12
Motor Vehicle Act – Use of Electronic Hand-held Device	1
Traffic Collision	3
Check stops *	5
Other Provincial Traffic Offences	13
CDSA	1
Explosives Act	1
Mental Health Act	3
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property	3
Trespass Act	1
Wellness Checks	4
Other non Criminal Code Offences	23
Total	70
Total Criminal Code and Non CC calls for Service	98

* Total individual Checkstops 5 – 54 vehicles checked

Oxford Detachment Occurrences

January 1 – March 31, 2024

2024180350

Assault - 911 – complainant M/56 advised his friend, M/60 travelled with him from Alberta and has assaulted him a few times over the last three days. Tonight he pushed the complainant onto the bed and grabbed his beard – no injuries. Investigation revealed the two men were arguing over money and there was a scuffle, both said the other started it. Matter resolved by one party agreeing to stay elsewhere and the other would keep the room. No statements provided and no further action wanted by either party. Appears to have been a consensual altercation.

2024287005

Assault - Complainant reported he was hit in the arm and in the face by male suspect at the baseball field in Oxford. The complainant had left the scene and was waiting for police at the Tim Hortons. Member attended but the complainant had left Tim Hortons, member unable to reach him by phone. Patrols of the Oxford area but unable to locate his vehicle to speak with him. Matter still under investigation.

20249089

Assault - While investigating a file of mischief, investigation revealed the complainant had been assaulted by a man in the building. The complainant does not know the man's name but knows which apartment he lives in. Statement obtained from complainant. Matter still under investigation.

2024267622

Break and Enter - Complaint of a possible Break and Enter into the house next to the post office, patrol made - building is the church. No signs of a Break and Enter. Call believed to be a hoax, member unable to reach complainant who only has files in Cape Breton.

2024100635

Sexual Assault - File created to interview victim in relation to a possible sexual assault that may have occurred in Ontario several years prior. Interview conducted, investigation determined no offences took place. No further investigation will be done and matter will not be forwarded to Ontario. Statement added to file, investigation to be concluded.

2024293929

Sexual Assault - social worker reporting M/14 disclosed he touched F/10 inappropriately at their house in Oxford. Investigation revealed the family reported this incident to FCS but in that report did not want police involved and was going to deal with everything within the family. Member spoke to family members and confirmed they did not want police involved and was taking the steps through mental health and family court to deal with situation. File concluded.

2024348670

Impaired Operation - impaired operation of side by side ATV - member located vehicle driving on streets in Oxford and followed it to a house on Foundry Street. Suspect arrested for impaired operation, provided samples of 200 and 200 mgs% (over twice the legal limit). Released for court, file open for court preparation.

2024225110

Missing person - 911 - complainant reports daughter F/16 left the house about 1.5 hours ago. She left a note stating "don't bother looking for me I'll come back when I feel like it". Member attended, obtained details from complainant. Patrols were negative. Complainant advised subject of complaint was making contact via snapchat with a friend that she was fine, safe and just mad at her parents. Member attended friend's residence and spoke with subject of complaint, everything was fine, parents updated. File concluded.

2024248053

Missing person F/31 reported to be emotionally disturbed and delusional, left residence on foot. Search of property and outbuilding completed with negative results. Possible self-harm concerns relayed by family. Ground Search and Rescue and Police Dog Service activated. While waiting for GSAR to assemble member was advised the subject of complaint had returned. Member attended residence and spoke with subject who said she went for a walk and then to one of the sheds and took a nap. Family stated they would take her to the Halifax Infirmary so she could get a proper mental health assessment done as police can only force her to go if she is a danger to herself or others. GSAR and PDS stood down. File concluded.

2024118543

Firearms - suicidal male - complainant reports her boyfriend (M/34) had a long firearm and is threatening suicide by blowing himself away. Risk Manager engaged, members contained the house and contacted the male. The crisis line spoke with the male, and deemed he was not suicidal. Shotgun was surrendered to police, and the male was arrested for unsafe storage and released on Undertaking with conditions. Matter still under investigation.

Cumberland District RCMP Resources

District Office:

District Commander: Staff Sergeant

Operations NCO: Sergeant

Community Policing officer: Constable, (currently vacant due to parental leave)

Domestic Violence Coordinator: Public Servant

District Public Servant

Amherst Detachment:

NCO: Corporal

Five Constables (cadet started in February)

One Public Servant

Oxford Detachment:

NCO: Corporal

Four Constables

One Public Servant

Parrsboro Detachment:

NCO: Corporal

Five Constables (two vacancies, replacements arrive summer 2024)

One Public Servant

Pugwash Detachment:

NCO: Corporal

Three Constables

One Public Servant

Springhill Detachment:

NCO: Sergeant

Six Constables (one retirement, one restricted duties, cadet started in February and cadet arriving in May)

One Public Servant

Street Crime Unit:

Unit is operational on a limited basis with 3 members in place, two additional members have been named and will assume their positions in the near future.



Solid Waste Resource Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 2, 2024
Online

Present

Elected Officials

Chair Jennifer Houghtaling, Mun. of the County of Cumberland
Eldon Hebb, Mun. of the District of East Hants
Eric Boutilier, Mun. of Colchester
George Baker, Town of Amherst

Present

Staff

Linda Cloney, Town of Oxford
Brenda Rioux, Amherst, Oxford, & Mun. of Cumberland
Phil Redden, Mun. of Colchester
Robert Matheson, Mun. of Colchester
Ishamar Senior Gentles, Mun. of Colchester
Jessica Rushton, Mun. of Colchester
Andrea Trask, Mun. of the District of East Hants

Call to order and welcome

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Hebb, seconded by Councillor Baker to approve the agenda as circulated.
Motion carried.

2. Approval of Minutes

November 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Moved by Councillor Boutilier, seconded by Councillor Hebb to approve the minutes as circulated.
Motion carried.

3. Regional Chairs Updates

a. **Divert NS Board Update**

Councillor Houghtaling reported that many items discussed at the Regional Chairs Meeting will be covered later on the NR Agenda.

4. Regional Coordinators- Brenda Rioux, Andrea Trask, Robert Matheson

a. PANS/Sharps

The Chair of Regional Coordinators and Divert staff met with the Pharmacy Association of NS in mid December to discuss the concerns that municipalities are having with sharps. The sharps program is a voluntary program, and the feeling is that until it is regulated there are likely going to be concerns with the operation of it. Staff have expressed their concerns to the Department of Environment, and they are aware that municipalities would like to see this program regulated. The Regional Coordinators have developed a working group to put together an education campaign.

There will be ads in the newspapers in the coming months on the following: Sharps, 2 bag recycling, and unintentional litter.

b. Northern Region Coordinator Agreement

As outlined in our agreement, the administrative duties for the Regional Coordinator rotate between, Cumberland, Colchester, and East Hants. Currently, the position sits with Cumberland Region Solid Waste but it will be moving over to East Hants on April 1, 2024. Staff will ensure that our contacts receive notice and contact information for East Hants will be forwarded.

c. Northern Region Meeting Schedule

Staff wanted to get the committee thinking about meetings for the upcoming year. Our current meeting schedule runs out on April 5, 2024. Typically, our committee tries to follow the schedule of the Regional Chairs Committee, meeting a week after their meetings. They are in the process of putting together a schedule for the upcoming year which we can then look at once it has been approved.

5. NS Manager/Directors Committee Update- Andrea Trask

a. C&D Regulation Changes

- East Hants hosted a training session with Don MacQueen, NSECC on the new requirements.
- It was a great session with lots of questions being answered. It was reported that NSECC is looking to work with facilities to help with compliance.
- NSE has committed to sending out communication to contractors.
- Councillor Houghtaling mentioned that it would be great to see education done at Point of Sale. Andrea responded to let members know that at this point, that doesn't seem to be on the radar for NSECC.

6. Municipal/Provincial Priorities Update- Andrea Trask

a. EPR- BLAE

EPR for Batteries, Lighting, and additional electronics is coming in 2024. Industry will have to submit plans to NSE outlining how they will manage batteries, lighting, and additional electronics. The deadline for submissions varies depending on the product.

7. Divert NS

a. HHW Claims

Submissions are due to Divert on February 29th. Divert announced that they are increasing funding from \$140,000 to \$210,000 which amounts to \$30,000/region.

9. Regional Partners Education & Operational Programs

The Regional reports are attached.

10. Other Business

11. Correspondence

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.