



FIRE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 17, 2019 7:00 pm
Vineyards Room, Municipal Complex
181 Coldbrook Village Park Drive, Coldbrook

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Business Arising from Minutes July 16, 2019
4. Approval of Minutes July 16, 2019
5. Discussion surrounding submission of WCB and EAP account statements
6. Discussion surrounding Municipality involvement in dangerous structures
during or after a fire
7. Roundtable Discussion
8. Other Business
9. Next Meeting
10. Comments from the Public
11. Adjournment

FIRE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 18, 2019
MINUTES

**Meeting Date
and Time**

A meeting of the Fire Services Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vineyards Room, Municipal Complex, Coldbrook, NS.

1. Call to Order

District	Name	Title
Aylesford	Shawn Carey	Chief
Berwick	Laurie Saunders	Chief
Canning	Jeff Skaling	Chief
Greenwich	Jason Ripley	Alternate
Kentville	Brian Desloges	Chief
Kingston	Watson Armstrong	Chief/ Chair
New Minas	James Redmond	Chief/ Vice-Chair
Port Williams	Philip Porter	Chief
Waterville	Wayne Johnstone	Chief
District 5	Brain Hirtle	Councillor (Alternate)
District 7	Emily Lutz	Councillor/Deputy Mayor
District 9	Peter Allen	Councillor
Western Area	Mike LeRue	Citizen Member
Eastern Area	Owen Jordan	Citizen Member

Also in attendance were:

- Rob Frost, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
- Terry Brown, Manager, Inspection & Enforcement Division
- Chloe Austin, Recording Secretary

Regrets:

- Paul Spicer, Councillor District 5
- Belay Issau, Citizen Member, Central Area
- Todd Crowell, Wolfville
- Doug Clark, Greenwich
- Thomas Lowe, Waterville
- David Watson, Hall's Harbour
- Paul Maynard, Hantsport

Members of the Public: 3

The Chair, Watson Armstrong, and Terry Brown extended a welcome to the new Citizen Members.

2. Approval of Agenda

On motion of Chief Skaling and Councillor Allen, that the July 18, 2019 agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes April 18, 2018

On motion of Chief Carey and Deputy Mayor Lutz, that the minutes of the Fire Services Advisory Committee meeting held on April 18, 2018 meeting be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED.

- 4. Business Arising from Minutes April 18, 2018**

Chief Skaling inquired about any follow up action related to the budget conversation that took place at the last meeting. Chief Desloges confirmed that the matter is being looked into.
- 5. Discussion of EAP and billing**

Terry Brown provided an update on EAP and requested confirmation about the names to be included on the invoices for billing. Corrections were provided for Canning and Kentville. Copies of the invoices are to be provided to the Municipality.
- 6. Update on False Alarm By-law**

Terry Brown provided an update on the False Alarm By-law. There is still information being gathered.
- 7. Bulk Purchasing update**

Terry Brown provided an update on the possibility of Bulk Purchasing. This item was taken to the Chief Officers Working Group. The current research indicates that it is complex and might not be feasible.

Discussion/Comments:

Chief Skaling noted that while there is interest in participating, the difficulty lies in administrating.

Chief Desloges noted that there could be significant savings and that it would be unwise to dismiss it entirely.

Chief Skaling noted that comments from Lunenburg indicate they did not have success with bulk purchasing.

Deputy Mayor Lutz questioned whether municipal staff might have time to do the administering. Deputy CAO Frost commented that it would be feasible for simple things like looking at standing offers and fuel costs, etc.
- 8. Fire Services briefing**

Rob Frost gave a briefing on a presentation previously made to Committee of the Whole on July 16, 2019.

The presentation reviewed the complex nature of fire services in the County including topics such as the Rural Fire District Act, other legislation, current municipal policies and future discussions that should be had including funding models, contracts, registration, capital plans. The presentation documents are available online.

Discussion/Comments:

Many acknowledged the complexity of how fire services are delivered in Kings County.

Deputy Mayor Lutz noted that the current policies don't reflect what actually takes place in terms of funding.

There was general agreement that more discussion is needed around funding models. Several commented that recommendations to do with budgets shouldn't be made without consulting the village commissions.
- 9. Dispatch presentation by Terry Canning**

Terry Canning delivered a presentation that reviewed Fire Dispatch in the Province of Nova Scotia and the need for standards.

Chief Skaling inquired as to specific recommendations. Terry Canning

spoke of a meeting with Minister Porter. There is general agreement that the system needs to change.

Chair Armstrong questioned what would happen if the dispatch service could not meet this standard. There were questions about provision for funding and speculation about the overall costs. Terry Brown clarified that when an RFP is put out, it isn't exclusively awarded based on the lowest bid.

Deputy Mayor Lutz inquired as to whether this presentation had been made to the NSFM. Mr Canning replied that there had been some commination but no invitation to present it as of yet.

10. Roundtable Discussion

Terry Brown informed that the concerns about the length of time spent on the scene following Highway accidents had been raised at the Police Services Advisory Board (PSAB) meeting on July 17 and that the RCMP are aware of the issue. An update will be brought before the PSAB at the next meeting in September.

Councillor Hirtle informed that the recently posted Climate Change Position could have some useful insights on assessing emergency services once this position is filled.

Councillor Allen informed the West Hants is having a Fire Area Rate meeting on July 30.

Terry Brown reminded the group about long service awards that are available.

Deputy Mayor Lutz informed that the final public consultation for the draft MPS/LUB is taking place on July 23.

11. Correspondence

There was no new correspondence.

12. Other Business

No other business was brought forward.

13. Next meeting

Thursday, October 17, 2019
7:00 - 9:00pm
Vineyards room, Municipal Complex

14. Comments from the public

No comments from the public.

15. Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Hirtle and Chief Carey, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Approved by:

Chief Watson Armstrong
Chair

Chloe Austin
Recording Secretary