



**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Municipal Climate Change Action Plan Committee (MCCAP)
July 6, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Sanford Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Councillor Greg Miller, Chair
Councillor Randy Matheson
Councillor Tom Brown
Jeanne Bourque, Planner
Rick Sherrard, Director of Public Works
Kathy Kehoe, Director of Recreation
Martin Laycock, Director of Finance

STAFF: Velma Macumber, Admin. Assistant

REGRETS: Karen Dempsey, Director of Planning
Don Dignan, REMO Coordinator
Cathie Osborne, CAO

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA & ADDITIONS

The following item was added under Miscellaneous:

- Conference Forum

Moved and Seconded that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 1, 2016

Moved and Seconded that the minutes of the Municipal Climate Change Action Plan Committee of June 1, 2016 be approved noting errors or omissions.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Update – Draft MCCAP Work Plan

Ms. Bourque circulated the revised draft MCCAP Work Plan to the Committee which included the completed action items such the Falmouth Storm Water Management

Plan and a full time GIS Technician being hired. She advised that the next step would be to submit it to the Committee of Whole for review. Ms. Bourque stated it was important to show what the Committee has accomplished and that they are moving forward with the action items in the MCCAP.

The Committee briefly discussed the action item referring to the Hantsport MCCAP and its purpose. Ms. Bourque clarified that this refers to this document now being under the jurisdiction of West Hants, and that the MCCAP was reviewed to ensure that there would be no conflicts with the West Hants MCCAP. Municipal Affairs has confirmed that this document has been included in the overall adoption of documents as part of the dissolution process.

Moved and Seconded that the MCCAP Work Plan be submitted to the Committee of the Whole for review.

Motion carried.

Update – Falmouth Storm Water Management Plan

Ms. Bourque advised that the Committee agreed to review the plan recommendations for this meeting and that staff would meet and discuss next steps with respect to low impact development, and ways to achieve it.

Ms. Bourque stated that the main conclusion from the Storm Water Management Plan it is that there is not much remediation that can take place in Falmouth, flooding will continue to occur, and development is not the cause. It was suggested by CBCL that one way to address some of the stormwater issues is to look at it on a lot by lot basis, and to find ways to put the water back in the ground rather than piping it away from the lot. Ms. Bourque suggested that Public Works and Planning staff discuss courses of action with respect to public education, regulations and creating best management practices.

Discussion was held about properties in Falmouth that are prone to flooding.

Mr. Sherrard suggested that the community as a whole can assist through actions such as putting a T-pipe on the down spouts on their homes which allows the water to drain into the ground or by maintaining a drainage ditch which would allow the water to flow easier. Mr. Sherrard commented that the more water goes into the ground, the less they have to deal with. He stated the Municipality cannot be responsible for people building homes with basements in the water table. Ms. Bourque suggested that this could be addressed through public education.

Ms. Bourque advised that the Municipality can move ahead also by forming partnerships with Transportation and Infrastructure and Renewal (TIR) with respect to upgrading some of the culverts as regular maintenance is undertaken.

Ms. Bourque suggested placing the Falmouth Storm Water Management Plan on the municipal website to be available for the public.

A discussion was held with respect public education such as GIS mapping being available to the public as well as brochures on the matter of stormwater issues. Ms. Bourque stated that she will research information on what other municipalities have done to educate the public.

Ms. Bourque stated that she will prepare a report on the Falmouth Storm Water Management Plan to go the Committee of the Whole.

Update – Amendments to Terms of Reference

Ms. Bourque advised that there have been some minor revisions to the Terms of Reference. She noted that the document has to be sent to the Municipal Clerk and the CAO for review.

Discussion was held with respect to the clause, Responsibilities, about when the Committee would be reporting Council. The Committee also discussed under Members/Composition, the clause about Committee members meeting attendance and dismissal if not fulfilling their responsibilities. Ms. Bourque will discuss these items with the Municipal Clerk and the CAO.

Update – Avondale Wharf and Museum

Ms. Bourque advised that she contacted Dr. Danika Van Proosdij with respect to suggestions for practical ideas for short term and long term goals. Ms. Bourque stated that unfortunately, Dr. Van Proosdij would not be available until fall due to a health issue. However, Dr. Van Proosdij suggested to Ms. Bourque to contact a couple of people at Saint Mary's University for assistance, and/or get students from Dalhousie University to help as well. Ms. Bourque stated she felt that there is a need to have a qualified professional for the pilot project.

Ms. Bourque noted that the Avondale Community will be presenting to the Council on July 12th.

Ms. Kehoe advised that the community group met with her, the CAO and Councillor Pineo. The CAO will be preparing a report to go to Council. Three project options were suggested, either to rebuild the wharf or that the Municipality turn it over to the community, or the community lease it. The community decided that they would like the Municipality to turn the wharf over to them, and they will rebrand it to become "The Landing". The project will be done in two phases depending on funding. One part of the project is to put back materials around the wharf that were dug out when the Avon Spirit was put to sail.

Mr. Laycock advised that he will be checking with the Municipality's insurance company with respect to liability.

Ms. Bourque expressed concern about how the work on restructuring the land may impact the museum area. She stated that one item that would be needed is a specialist on coastal erosion, something that is addressed in the MCCAP. Ms. Bourque commented that it may create more problems with flooding in the area. She advised that she has not been in contact with TIR's engineer with respect to the road flooding. Ms. Bourque suggested that perhaps some of the gas tax reserve money could be used as this could be a climate change adaptation project.

Mr. Sherrard suggested that no consideration had been given at that time about the impact on the wharf when it was dug out. He stated that coastal erosion is important, but storm surge and sea level rise caused by climate change is as well.

Ms. Kehoe advised that the community group hopes to do Phase 1 this year and Phase 2 next year.

Ms. Bourque advised that she will discuss this with the CAO.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was heard.

MISCELLANEOUS

Conference Forum

Ms. Bourque advised that there is an upcoming conference forum called "2016 Livable Cities Forum" put on by ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives which later became Local Governments for Sustainability) that she would like to attend. ICLEI was been working the UNSM with respect to municipal sustainability issues.

Ms. Bourque advised that she has been attending the workshops put on by this group for a number of years and she has found it to be an excellent resource for networking and getting contacts. Ms. Bourque advised that this year's forum is being held in Halifax for four days in September 2016 and she has been invited to participate on a panel. Ms. Bourque asked that since the topic is about MCCAPs, is the Committee willing to pay for her registration and expenses from the MCCAP budget. She advised that Ms. Dempsey suggested that she ask the Committee and that the cost would be approximately \$600-700.

Moved and Seconded that Ms. Bourque attend the "2016 Livable Cities Forum" and that the conference registration and expenses, to a maximum of \$800.00 be paid for out the 2016-2017 MCCAP Budget.

Motion carried.

Discussion was held with respect to the MCCAP Budget and that it be itemized with general categories for the following year.

NEXT MEETING

The next MCCAP Committee meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Chair