

**Village of Chester
Regular Monthly Meeting -March 10, 2010**

Minutes

Present:

Bill Zinck Jr., Phil Ellwood, Brenda Mulrooney and Jo-Ann Grant, Mike Heisler and Iris Tolliver

Regrets: None

There were 5 members of the public present.

Additions to the agenda.

None

Minutes from the previous meeting:

Mike Heisler motioned to accept the minutes from February 10, 2010, seconded by Brenda Mulrooney. All were in favor.

Old Business:

Lido Pool/Public Washrooms update

Brenda Mulrooney began the update with the comment that she expected to have something more to report. The holdup seems to be with DOT. Our application to acquire the land has left the county office and is now on someone's desk in Halifax. A meeting has been scheduled with Denise Peterson-Rafuse in hopes of her assisting with the application. Because things are not moving as quickly as was expected, there is a tentative "Plan B" which would involve getting perhaps a baby barn in place down by the pool away from the construction zone, which could temporarily house the pumps. This along with a "Johnny on the Spot" could allow the pool to open as scheduled this summer. This is not the way the Commission prefers to go, but time is quickly passing and the beginning of construction is still weeks away.

Garbage Pick Up

The Commission is considering sending out a questionnaire to the residents in the Village asking for feedback on going forward with weekly garbage collection during the summer months. The possibility of using the Chester.ns.ca site to conduct a poll was suggested as well.

New Business:

Allocation of Reserve Funds

Brenda Mulrooney motioned to allocate \$150,000 to the Truck Reserve and \$30,000 to the Building Reserve Funds. The motion was second by Mike Heisler and all were in favor.

Correspondence

A list of correspondence was read by the Clerk Treasurer.

Fire Chief's Report

Since the last commission meeting on Feb. 10, I have logged in 75 hours in callouts, meetings, practices and fire dept. business. We have had 10 callouts this month consisting of 3 storm related calls such as downed power lines and a flooded basement, 2 practices, 1 mutual aid to Hubbards, 1 MVA, 1 chimney fire, 1 medical assist, and for the second year in a row, we have had a major structure fire while I was on vacation in Cuba. A callout to Hume Point Road turned out to be more than a cottage fire, once the flames were knocked down a very sophisticated grow operation was discovered, which was reported to RCMP and is currently under investigation.

I finally received word on the application for assistance in purchasing equipment through the emergency services provider fund. Unfortunately our request was denied due to an overwhelming number of applications and a limited amount of funding. Preference was given to departments who did not receive assistance on the previous project.

On Sunday, March 28, we will be hosting a mutual aid practice in Marriotts Cove involving all Fire Departments in the Municipality, RCMP, Red Cross, EHS and representatives from the Municipal office. A simulated structure fire with several planned evolutions will keep firefighters busy throughout the morning, and then we will be back here for a lunch and critique. This should help departments within the Municipality function as a team and make emergency situations go more smoothly.

Truck Report

There were some minor repairs to Truck 551.

Ladies Auxiliary Report:

No report.

Fire Advisory Report:

Bill Zinck Jr announced the next meeting date.

Financial Report:

A two month financial report was presented to the Commission by the Clerk Treasurer. Phil Ellwood motioned to accept the reports as presented, second by Jo-Ann Grant and all were in favor.

Questions

Kerry Keddy asked if there was still an operating Ladies Auxiliary, and if not, why keep putting it on the agenda each month. Duke Chafe said that there is no longer a bank account and there is no ability to issue tax receipts, so as far as the Fire Department is concerned, the Auxiliary no longer exists. Billy Zinck commented that since the Ladies Auxiliary is a separate entity from the Fire Department, it would be better to contact one of the members to advise the Commission in writing of their status.

Mr. Keddy offered recommendations to placing a survey on the Web site as mentioned in the meeting. He will discuss this further with the Clerk Treasurer once the questionnaire is complete.

Mr. Keddy asked permission to take a group photo of the Commission to be posted on the Chester.ns.ca web site. He feels having a more public presence will help to boost attendance at the monthly meetings.

There was more discussion concerning the garbage collection and how to conduct a survey. A question was raised as to the population of the Village. Mr. Zinck asked the Clerk Treasurer to try to obtain the number.

Phil Ellwood moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15.

William Zinck Jr
Chairperson

Iris Tolliver
Clerk/Treasurer