

**REGION OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY
REGULAR COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
6:07 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor David Dagley, Chair
Councillor Kevin Muise
Councillor Susan MacLeod
Deputy Mayor Heather Kelly
Councillor Brian Fralic
Councillor Jack Fancy
Councillor Raymond Fiske
Councillor Gilbert Johnson
Chris McNeill, CAO
Christine Watson, Administrative Assistant – Planning & Development

1.0 CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Dagley called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2.0 CHANGES / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Muise and seconded by Councillor Fiske that the Agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 North Queens Ground Search and Rescue – Stephen Hopper

Mayor Dagley welcomed Stephen Hopper, North Queens Ground Search and Rescue (NQGSAR), to Council (copy of presentation attached to original set of Minutes).

Some highlights included:

- NQGSAR was established in 1984 and currently has 21 active members.
- Responds to lost and missing persons, civil emergencies and other community needs as required 24/7 year round.
- Responded to 6 searches in 2018, two in support of Liverpool Ground Search and Rescue, and four under Mutual Aid to Lunenburg, Halifax and Shelburne.
- Funding – Province of Nova Scotia \$3,000, Region of Queens \$2,000 per year for vehicle liability insurance, Donations \$2,000
- Priorities – Shelter for vehicles and motorized equipment and heated storage for electronic equipment, and a second transport vehicle for transporting equipment and personnel.

He requested that Council consider a yearly budget of \$8,400 in addition to covering the vehicle liability insurance.

4.0 TABLING OF PETITIONS:

There were no petitions to come before this meeting.

5.0 PUBLIC QUESTION / COMMENT SESSION:

Randi Dickie – 134 Hillside Road, Brooklyn – Mrs. Dickie thanked Mayor Dagley for responding to her letter of concern for the proposed expansion by Cooke Aquaculture of the fish farm in Liverpool Bay. She read a letter listing her concerns, i.e. sea levels and the erosion of marsh on the beaches and Coffin's Island, discussed the application process and the revised Nova Scotia legislation, and the historical significance of our area.

Brian Muldoon, 980 Brooklyn Shore Road, Beach Meadows – Mr. Muldoon stated as per prior statements made during previous Councils, he is opposed to the proposed expansion by Cooke Aquaculture. In trying to find benefits to the region for the expansion he was unsuccessful. He further stated that although the province makes the final decision, he asks for Council to show leadership and represent Queens County against the expansion.

Paul Emmink, 423 Long Cove Road, Port Medway – Mr. Emmink enquired to the number of household sewers going directly to Liverpool Harbour as part of the proposed project on Waterloo Street, compared and provided information he discovered on what the 400,000 fish now penned in Liverpool Bay are depositing into the Bay.

Annabelle Singleton, 105 Medway River Road, Mill Village – Ms. Singleton stated there are presently two land based salmon farms in Nova Scotia and that during a conversation she had recently, she became aware of the former Mersey ASB site and questioned the feasibility of having a land based fish farm at that location.

Mayor Dagley stated that Nova Scotia Lands would welcome any interested parties wanting to establish a land based fish farm to contact them.

Carol Reed, 736 Brooklyn Shore Road, Beach Meadows – Ms. Reed stated she was against the proposed expansion by Cooke Aquaculture and voiced her concerns of what damage may occur to not only her well water, but to surrounding homes. She indicated that the Region of Queens does not have bylaws as Halifax to deter these type of businesses, and referred to the Municipal Planning Strategy currently underway for the Region which may enable the implementation of new policies and bylaws.

Anne Laws, 19 Old Meeting House Road, Beach Meadows – Ms. Laws thanked Mayor Dagley and Councillor Fralic for their time in speaking with her on the process in the aquaculture leasing and licensing in Shelburne, so she could in turn could pass the information on to the other members against the proposed expansion of Cooke Aquaculture in Liverpool Bay. She provided information of municipalities in other parts of the province taking stands against issues they're against and asked Councillors take a stand and back the group against Cooke's proposal.

Eric Goulden, 1036 Brooklyn Shore Road, Beach Meadows – Mr. Goulden congratulated Donna Dexter, Queens Daycare Association, on her work and the successful purchase of Queens Daycare. He further thanked the previous speakers and concurred with them against the proposed expansion by Cooke Aquaculture.

Mary White, 1022 Brooklyn Shore Road, Beach Meadows – Ms. White offered her opinion on the open pen fish farm and the proposed expansion of Cooke Aquaculture, that decisions should be made on scientific truths, not only for Cooke's, but any other company wanting to have open fish pens in the region. She encouraged Council to support the group.

6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

6.1 Council Minutes – December 11, 2018

It was moved by Councillor MacLeod and seconded by Deputy Mayor Kelly:

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held December 11, 2018 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

7.0 DANGEROUS OR UNSIGHTLY PREMISES:

There were no items to come before this meeting.

8.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

There were no items to come before this meeting.

9.0 CORPORATE SERVICES:

There were no items to come before this meeting.

10.0 ENGINEERING AND WORKS:

10.1 Funding Application Approval for Capital Projects

It was moved by Councillor Fralic and seconded by Councillor Fiske:

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality submit a Funding Application under the Green Environmental Quality Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program of the Lower Waterloo Street Project Infrastructure Upgrades in the amount of \$4,493,530.00 + HST.

Brad Rowter, Director of Engineering & Public Works, provided background on the Funding Application for the Lower Waterloo Street project infrastructure upgrades.

New infrastructure applications were invited under the Green Environmental Quality Stream of the Canada Infrastructure Program. Eligibility is based upon achieving outcomes in increased capacity to treat and/or manage wastewater and stormwater and/or increased access to potable water. The maximum Federal contribution is 40%, Provincial 33 1/3% and the Municipality covering the remaining 26 2/3%. The applications close Friday, January 18, 2019.

Currently raw sewer discharge occurs into Liverpool Harbour at the bottom of Waterloo and William Streets. This sewer discharge was identified as requiring correction through Canada-Wide Strategy for Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent by the Federal and Provincial Environment Departments. This correction cannot occur without significant funding assistance from these levels of senior government, and this funding program is an opportunity to correct this situation.

The work is extensive and will require significant construction within lower Waterloo Street, Bartling Avenue, Williams Street and James Street. Altogether, there will be approximately 3 miles of piping comprised of 4,500 feet of sanitary sewer, 3,500 feet of storm sewer, 3,000 feet of watermain, 4,000 feet of temporary waterline, 2 sanitary pumping stations, fire hydrants, catch basins, rock excavation, rebuilding approximately 3,000 feet of street, curb, gutter and sidewalks.

The cost of this work by Region forces is \$4,500,000 plus HST. As required under the funding, this compares to a third party engineering consultant pricing at \$5,900,000, thus a saving of \$1,400,000 (30%).

Construction will take place over a three year period with the objective being to complete as quickly as reasonably possible. Within this same three year window, bring the Brooklyn sewer and water to completion near the government wharf.

In the first year, it is anticipated to start on Bartling Avenue, Williams and James Street which will involve installation of sanitary sewer, storm sewer, watermain, sanitary pumping station, forcemain, street reconstruction, curb, gutter and sidewalks. The sequencing of work after this is completed will be on Waterloo from the harbor and working up to the 4-way stop.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

11.0 FINANCE:

11.1 Budget Meeting Schedule

The proposed 2019-2020 Budget Meeting schedule was reviewed.

Monday, January 28, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Monday, February 25, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12, 2019 – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. (if required)

Tuesday, March 26, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. – Approval of Capital and Operating Budgets

12.0 RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES:

There were no items to come before this meeting.

13.0 PLANNING

There were no items to come before this meeting.

14.0 REPORTS

There were no reports to come before this meeting.

15.0 IN-CAMERA ITEMS

It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Councillor Muise that the proceedings go In-Camera at 8:00 p.m. to discuss the following:

15.1 Personnel Matter

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Dagley announced a 5 minute recess at 8:00 p.m.

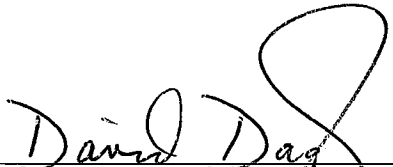
It was moved by Councillor Fiske and seconded by Deputy Mayor Kelly that the proceedings exit In-Camera at 8:47 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

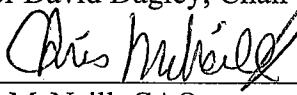
16.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councillor Muise and seconded by Deputy Mayor Kelly that the meeting be adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

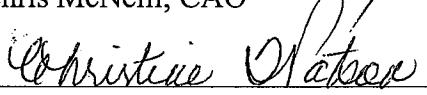
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.



Mayor David Dagley, Chair



Chris McNeill, CAO



Christine Watson, Administrative Assistant – Planning & Development

Date Approved: January 22, 2019

Request

Our operating budget is now at a deficit of \$8,400.00 and in order to carry out the full extent of the planned budget, **North Queens GSAR are requesting annual budget line item funding to be included in the 2019-20 Municipality of the Region of Queens budget in the amount of \$8400.00.**

Our most pressing need now for capital expenditures is shelter for our vehicles and motorised equipment and heated storage for the electronic equipment such as computers and radios. Not having a weatherproof cover severely restricts our ability to maintain our equipment. Heated storage is a must to preserve the electronics and prevent short-outs and corrosion from condensation. The second priority is a second transport vehicle to provide transport for equipment and personnel for searches.

North Queens Ground Search and Rescue
Capital Plan

ASSET	DESCRIPTION	REPLACEMENT YEAR	DESCRIPTION	COST
Command-Communications Centre	1991 Ford School Bus, Second Hand from Barrington GSAR	2018	Currently refitting a 2007 School Bus donated by the South Shore School Board to provide both Command and Logistical functions. Plan to convert to a modified travel trailer to provide the command-communications needs by 2023	\$7,000.00
vehicle garage priority for 2019	unheated fabric covered 30 x 60 ft structure to provide proper protection for vehicles	2019	currently our vehicles are outside in all weather and this does not allow for immediate response as it takes time to clear snow, leaves or frost from the vehicles before starting. This also shortens the life span of the vehicles	\$10,000 to purchase and install then \$1000 per year to maintain the fabric
new transport/tow vehicle Priority for 2019	require a second vehicle to transport people and gear to searches and training in lieu of personal vehicles	2019	lease or obtain a pre-owned low mileage via donation	\$500/mo
TMR radios	require one portable and two mobile units. Re-programmed units	2019	mobile units for transport vehicles. Portable for search overhead team to communicate with other agencies involved with the search	\$4,000.00
heated storage	currently have 8x8 garden shed	2020	need a 12x16 ft heated building to provide for proper storage of items as well as possibly a washroom to allow for training and working on vehicles etc	\$10,000

North Queens Ground Search and Rescue
Capital Plan

ASSET	DESCRIPTION	REPLACEMENT YEAR	DESCRIPTION	COST
Rescue Boat	1966 aluminum car top style, 16 ft with 15hp outboard used for transport and searches as well as in cooperation with NQ fire for remote medical calls	2020	16 ft modified flat hull for shallow water rescue	\$7,000.00
			15 hp eco-friendly outboard	\$6,000.00
Transport-tow vehicle	2007 Ford Expedition SUV, donated by EMO.	2022	obtain a pre-owned low milage unit or lease unit	\$300 / mo
Command Unit	2007 School bus donated by South Shore SB.	2023	22ft travel trailer refitted to provide command & communications fuctions	\$15,000 from sponsors and donations
Equipment Trailer	2010 8ft closed fiberglass body	2023	16ft closed trailer to provide equipment transport as well as a rest area for searchers	\$10,000.00
	Fundraising goals for NQGSAR	each year		\$4,000.00

North Queens GSAR
Operations Budget 2019

<u>Revenue :</u>		
Provincial EMO Grant	\$3,000.00	
Donations	\$2,000.00	
Mileage for training & meetings	\$1,000.00	(private vehicle use)
Region of Queens (Insurance)	\$2,100.00	
Fund Raising	\$2,000.00	
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>\$10,100.00</u>
 <u>non-Discretionary Expenses :</u>		
Rent	\$2,400.00	2 hr meeting & 2 hr training /mo @\$50/hr
Power	\$1,000.00	1694 Hibernia rd. block heaters and security lighting
Telephone	\$200.00	mobile phone for use in the command centre
Vehicle Fuel & Mtce	\$2,500.00	GSAR vehicles for non-search events EG. training , PR, fund raising
Reg Joint Stocks	\$32.00	
Association Membership	\$25.00	Provincial Association
Vehicle Insurance	\$2,100.00	
Bank Charges	\$30.00	
Training Supplies	\$1,800.00	
Training Courses	\$2,000.00	Provided by other agencies, EG. Cold water rescue, Boat operation, ICS, Advanced Wilderness First Aid
Mileage for Training	\$1,000.00	(Private Vehicle use)
		<u>\$13,087.00</u> total non-discretionary
 <u>Discretionary Expenses :</u>		
Small Equip. Replacement	\$1,000.00	GPS, generators, survival shelters, radios, etc.
Other	\$200.00	
<u>new expenses for full operation</u>		
Internet	\$600.00	for use of computerised search tools and training
Vehicle Lease	\$3,600.00	second vehicle for transport and towing trailers
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$18,487.00</u>
 NET INCOME (- LOSS)		 <u>-\$8,387.00</u>

Tuesday, January 8th, 2018

Mayor David Dagley & Councillors:

I've lived here in Beach Meadows, Queens county full time now since 2012. My property backs onto Beach Meadows Beach and abuts the waterways that flow into it. Through my windows I can see the tide rise and fall in Beach Meadows Creek and the salt water marsh next to our house, during the winter months the overland water regularly comes up to within 20' of the side and back of our house. I can access the beach from our property and I walk the beach all year round. Like all the properties in Beach Meadows, my house relies on well water. Being in a rural and remote location - we also grow a lot of own food in our garden 6 months of the year. Two of the most important and valuable aspects of living here for us is having an ocean beach and a vegetable garden in our *backyard*. To say that a pristine coastline with clean soil is important to me is an understatement.

Today I'd like to express my concern regarding the proposed expansion of open-pen fin fish farms in Liverpool Bay, including the existing site adjacent to the beach. I could easily spend 5 hours sharing all my concerns - from **the environmental risks, the LACK of economic benefit,,,, to the diminished beauty of this area's most valuable lands** - but in these 5 minutes I'll only focus on what I think is a most obvious and relevant concern critical to this community and Council's obligations to it.

I strongly believe that the size, location and long term presence of these sea-pens pose a direct threat of water contamination from the volume of waste created and how this waste/effluent is dispersed by the natural flow of the currents. **The shoreline of Liverpool Bay and the entire "Boundary Area" is a populated one, its not vacant undeveloped coastal land - perhaps that is the case with many other feedlots? But in our case, the proximity of the existing feedlot to Sensitive Environmental Lands, Conservation Lands (this municipality's most Valued Lands!) and residential properties that are on well water is extremely concerning.** These abutting properties, including a beach, park and residential properties are directly exposed to sea water both at the normal waterline and from overland water that spreads inland from storm surges and seasonally high seas. As you all know, the Municipality and its land use bylaws are responsible for protecting these lands AND the waterways from contamination.

I've read and am familiar with the current LUBs and the Council's policies outlined in the Municipal Planning Strategy - its evident there's an abundance of existing bylaws and policies directly related to this exact issue with the intent to protect the community from the risk of contaminated water and soil.

Its recently been shared by the Mayor that the latest tests from the existing feedlot this past July/August confirmed that the ocean floor below the pens tested as *clean*, implying there's no reason for anyone to be concerned!/? right? To me these results only prove that the waste isn't stagnant, but that its being dispersed - which is THE POINT of my concern. At Cooke Aquaculture's open house, I spoke with 2 of Cooke's biologists at length, I started with 3 but one walked away as he quickly realized where my questions were leading. For about 30-45 minutes

I expressed my general disbelief at how close this site is to shore, to the beach and the surrounding very shallow waters and questioned and continued to press them on the quantity of fish feces and its effect on the beach and shoreline. The answers changed from “Oh no, no impact at all...to,, well,,,yes its possible there could be some impact. So separately two different biologists I discussed this with admitted, reluctantly, that YES it is certainly possible the waste/effluent from the site could flow up to the beach and beyond, one even illustrated on the map with her finger the direction/route it would flow and unknowingly to her she was indicating it would flow straight towards the beach. It was obvious to me they were both unaware that there was a beach or where it was on their own map, myself and other attendees had to show them where it was. Note these Biologists are responsible for recommending suitable feedlot sites.

Next at the open house I took the opportunity to discuss my concerns with their VP of Communication’s Joel Richardson,,,, he was dismissive and laughed off my questions (and others) one after the other before I could ever finish asking them. I want to point out his first reaction was “What Beach?”

I left the open house utterly shocked at the lack of interest for our concerns, or awareness of their site's proximity to a beach **which is one of this region's and provinces most valued assets.** I also sent further questions to them thru their website but have received no response. I then saw one of their tweets boasting how successful the Open House in Liverpool was,,,, i tweeted back with my concerns and their immediate response was..... to block me on twitter.

My personal interaction with this company on this topic has been far from impressive and left me with zero confidence in their intentions to responsibly address concerns or provide the critical relevant information about their operations in the bay. Yet my only recourse at this time is to send my letter of concern to them? Minister Keith Colwell was interviewed on the local radio back in November about the proposed expansion and the local opposition ,,he stated he had received letters of concerns and instructed all listeners to NOT send the letters to him but rather to send them to the Advisory board. ? The Advisory board is now replying to the letters saying they should not be sent to them as they only address concerns in relation to an APPLICATION, there isn’t one at this time.

To date I’ve heard over and over that this existing and proposed expansion, because its sea-based, doesn't fall under Municipal jurisdiction or responsibility and thus the decision of approving or rejecting an application is not their and is beyond their control, not in their hands, or “we can’t take a position without more science data”. etc. This position also leaves me utterly bewildered and shocked.

I have been following the progress of the Future Queens Planning project currently underway. I attended and participated in the initial community information session as well as observed the past two PAC meetings. At last night's PAC meeting, various topics of land use by-laws came up (ie; forestry or roads) and at times committee members commented “Oh that’s provincially regulated that’s not within our control etc”. Ian Watson of Uplands Consulting interjected that he didn’t agree they should take that attitude but rather pointed out that areas which fall under provincial regulation are very often, and definitely influenced by the concerns and requests of

local Municipalities. As he works all over this Province he sees it happen all the time and stated its just simply up to the Municipality how involved and/or aggressive they chose to be to influence an outcome. Further he commented that Council's can create policies to support/enable that kind of involvement.

It was also mentioned that when a proposed Provincial level Development presents a potential risk to local Environmentally Sensitive Lands, Endangered Species, Conservation Lands etc.....the Municipality has the right to request Assessments from DNR, Department of Environment (or others) in order to advise and inform the Provincial regulator.

I personally feel there are so many aspects of proposed fin-fish farm developments that are in conflict with the Council's own planning strategy, the vision for the region and their most import goals for the sustainable future growth of Queens such as those noted in the 3rd item on that list of goals

“ 3. encourage land development within the Region of Queens Municipality that protects the quality of the natural environment and the safety of all residents,....., maintaining safe drinking water supplies, establishing development setbacks from water courses, and recognition and protection of environmentally sensitive areas”.

Your intentions and goals should not cease to apply to this development simply because its floating in the sea versus physically being on our lands - I understand the technical boundary of responsibilities but logical reasoning must also be applied on an individual basis to regulations and bylaws across vastly diverse regions so as not to compromise their underlying intent. This development directly effects the abutting lands equally if not more than any land based use as its affluent is deposited on shore, and undeniably our scenic views are also impacted by it.

Currently in the Queens zoning By-laws there is no designation or provisions for Aquaculture use nor is it ever mentioned (land based or sea-based). As a reference, I discovered that the region of Halifax does make provisions for Aquaculture in their LUBs, and that they distinctly differentiate between the activities of in-shore fishermen and their traditional fishery activity (“Fishery”) uses versus the scale and intensity of aquaculture uses.

WithIn the HRM bylaws RESOURCE (RE) zoning requirements it stipulates the following for AQUACULTURE INDUSTRIAL USES: **“No hatchery, tank, or processing operation over 3,000 f.t. shall be located less than 50 feet from any lot line,,,shall be at least 100 feet from any dwelling or potable water supply,,,shall be not less than 1/2 mile from any Residential or Mixed use zone. “**

This bylaw implies to me that HRM believes that its not safe or compatible for these aquaculture operations to be in close proximity to residential properties or potable water sources which only confirms my fears regarding risk of contaminated water. In contrast to what the HRM bylaw implies, here in Liverpool we have one of these operations submerged IN our water, just a stones throw off

a populated shoreline comprised of conservation lands, a public beach and residential properties that rely on well water. (I've shared and discussed this information with Uplands.)

Knowing this, it certainly highlights the seriousness of my concern - to sum up, I'll repeat what I mentioned at the beginning of my 5 minutes. My property backs on to the beach and abuts the tidal waterways that flow in and out of it. During half the year, overland sea water regularly covers the surrounding land and comes to within 20 feet of the side and rear of our house - a household that relies on well water and grows food in garden beds 6 months of the year.

Thank you for your time. Please know the concerns and opinions above are solely my own relating to my own personal situation and shared concern for other residents. I trust that you will take this concern (along with all others presented to you to date) into serious consideration and utilize all your available resources and authority to uphold the intentions of the Municipal bylaws and represent this community's best interests to the Provincial regulators.

Thank you.

Carol

Carol Reed & Mark Bernabei
736 Eastern Shore Road
Beach Meadows