

**REGION OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY
SPECIAL COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019
7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor David Dagley, Chair
Councillor Kevin Muise
Deputy Mayor Heather Kelly
Councillor Susan MacLeod
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 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2.0 TO DISCUSS ODOR COMING FROM THE MARSH WETLAND ON HANK SNOW DRIVE BEYOND THE BROOK:

Councillors provided their opinions and concerns, some highlights included:

- Providing the public the ability to provide their input/concerns.
- Initiate tests on the wetlands, water and air; air quality tests to determine health risks, especially to residents with asthma issues.
- Initiate discussions with experts who can provide information on what needs to be tested and what tests to determine cause of odor and recommendations to eliminate.
- Investigate what has changed to the area to cause the odor.
- Concern was raised on spending money without knowing cause of odor.
- Discussion to initiate application with Department of Environment to alter the wetlands, as this is where it is suspected that the issue of the odor originates.
- A copy of Update #3 – Odor near Bristol Avenue, Liverpool, Route #3 Highway to Brooklyn dated July 5, 2019 was available to attendees, as well as on RQM website (copy attached to original set of Minutes) on the progress and steps staff have undertaken.
- Information surrounding Item 10.1 Maintenance of South Queens Sewer Treatment Facility which is part of the July 9, 2019 Regular Council agenda was discussed. This item is a recommendation following discussions with consultant.
- Names of consultants were suggested by Councillor MacLeod to follow-up with, Bluenose Coastal Action and East Coast Aquatics, for their expertise on the odor issue.
- Suggestion to consult with the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute for their expertise.
- Concern for the upcoming events in August whereas there are several scheduled, e.g. Hank Snow Festival.
- Suggestion to perform a dye test for leakage to the wastewater system.
- Information to be provided to CAO on a local Environmental Engineer who may be able to provide insight to the issue.

Mayor Dagley stated that staff will follow-up on the air quality testing and associated health issues raised.

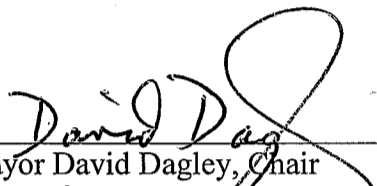
The CAO is working with wetland consultants and will provide options as they come forward.

Mayor Dagley thanked everyone for attending.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Fralic that the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

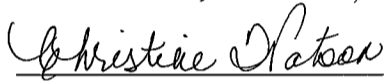
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.



Mayor David Dagley, Chair



Chris McNeill, CAO



Christine Watson, Administrative Assistant – Planning & Development

Date Approved: 

Update #3: Odour near Bristol Avenue, Liverpool, Route #3 Highway to Brooklyn

July 5, 2019; Liverpool, NS: Region of Queens Municipality continues to receive inquiries from the public regarding an odour at various times near Bristol Avenue, Liverpool, and Highway #3, Brooklyn. Region representatives continue to proactively consult with experts to try to determine the cause of the odour, and to pursue a solution. The Municipal Sewage Treatment facility located on Hank Snow Drive continues to meet all regulatory effluent requirements. The local odour is suspected to be from the marsh area located behind the businesses on the seaward side of Bristol Avenue and Hwy. #3 to Brooklyn, the tidal shoreline principally at low tide, and the operating sewage treatment facility. The prevailing wind direction generally dissipates odour, however certain wind direction and humidity levels can result in noticeable odour levels. It should be noted that the Kentville/New Minas area is also experiencing a similar odour issue.

Proactive efforts over past weeks have included the flushing of our sewage lines from Milton, as well as on Bristol Avenue, to the sewage treatment plant. Skimming of the surface of the primary cell was completed early this week and last week to remove any fats or oils which may be present, which could potentially generate an odour.

It should be noted that residents outside of local sewer serviced areas have contractors pump out their septic tanks every several years, and those contractors utilize the Septage Receiving station on a regular basis, with that waste being processed by the sewer treatment plant. No person is known to be dumping raw sewage into the wetland area and any stories to that effect are deemed to be untrue.

The Region also removes rainfall collected in our second generation landfill cells, with that leachate being hauled to the Receiving station on a daily basis. This is the large truck that residents may witness entering and exiting the sewer treatment facility several times a day, all year long.

Additionally, an expert who was consulted has advised that although the dredge cycle for sludge in the lagoons was projected to be approximately 25 to 30 years, and de-sludging would be premature, it may be beneficial to de-sludge the primary cell in view of recent odour concerns. A recommendation will be taken to the upcoming Council meeting to be held on July 9th to approve the hiring of a contractor, at the earliest opportunity, to perform this de-sludging by means of a self-contained odourless process. The estimated cost for this work is \$150,000 and is expected to take two weeks to complete.

Staff will continue to research and consult with experts in their areas of expertise. Activities will occur towards ruling out potential causes and seek solutions, as timely as possible.