

# WEST QUESNEL LAND STABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

7:00 pm

**Advisory Committee:** Heinz Loelke, Marty Put, Councillor Ron Craigmyle, Mel Dunleavy, Archie Hlady

**Staff:** Jack Marsh, Matt Wood, Carol Anderson

Councillor R. Craigmyle called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

### 1 Adoption of Minutes

**MOVED H. Loelke, Seconded M. Put and resolved: THAT the minutes from the meeting held on April 12, 2006 be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

### 2 Business Arising from previous Minutes

- 2.1 **Comments regarding Open House held on May 18, 2006** – J. Marsh noted that attendance was low and hoped it was a sign that people were happy that things were starting to happen in the area.

M. Put feels there is apathy from the residents.

M. Dunleavy feels the low attendance was a sign that there was lack of any new news. He suggested an open letter to the community reporting what we are doing and what is happening. In that letter suggest to residents that if they have any questions, they could contact either one of the Advisory Committee members or Jack Marsh. He feels unless there is something major to report, there is no need for another public meeting at this time.

Question on the data Terasen Gas is collecting – who is paying for their readings? J. Marsh confirmed that Terasen is paying for their own readings and forwarding the data to the City. They are working in cooperation with the City.

### 3 New Business

- 3.1 **Update on 2006 Work Plan** – J. Marsh reviewed the reporting facsimile that was sent to the Ministry of Community Services on September 21, 2006 with the additional comments:

(a) Urban Systems – There are nine (9) monitoring stations in place and the data has been collected. This part of the project is on schedule and on budget.

- (b) AMEC Earth & Environmental – The final drill hole (at the top of the hill by the diatomite plant) has been delayed due to the fact that it has been difficult getting a driller. J. Marsh will be talking to Nick Polysou tomorrow to find out exactly when a driller will be available. This part of the project is now 1 – 1.5 months behind schedule but on budget.
- (c) Aspen Communications – M. Wood reported on the communications. He noted that of the \$44,000 budget, only \$9,000 has been spent to date. This is largely due to the fact that a lot of the work has been done in house.

He noted that the core messages have been updated and refined with three key/solid points - all handouts and power point presentations have been updated. He is working on the website so that both technical and non technical information can be viewed. There has been one media briefing since April and the media has not reported on anything since the news of the government funding. The newsletter (Special Edition Q City News) was well received by residents – feels that a 4-page newsletter would suffice for the next mailing.

Reported that actively lobbying the senior government has come to a halt until the 2006 Work Plan is complete although the Mayor will be talking to the Minister at UBCM and reminding them that this is just the start of the funding needed to rectify the situation in West Quesnel.

The posters that were put up at the West Park Mall were a good form of advertising.

Plan for present and future communications - There will be a brief mention of an upcoming Special Edition Q City News in the regular Q City News coming out in the next two weeks. When the reports are in from the geotechs, the City will plan another media briefing and a presentation to Council should be considered. The website will continue to be updated as well.

Discussion on sending out another newsletter by the end of the year. M. Dunleavy asked A. Hlady if there was any way to compile a comparison using factual evidence of the house sales in the land slide area as opposed to those in other areas of Quesnel. A. Hlady says he will get those sales stats (12 month period) for the next newsletter and give them to M. Wood.

**MOVED M. Put, Seconded H. Loelke and resolved: THAT the a Special Edition Q City News be sent to all City residents as soon as the reports have been received from the geotechnical engineers, tentatively end of November, early December.**

**CARRIED**

- (d) City of Quesnel – J. Marsh reported on the City’s Leak Detection Program. This Program is a priority – checking all of our water lines. It was started last

year at the top of Uplands (described how the tests were done) and the City found two major leaks. J. Marsh is trying to make this an annual Program. The Leak Detection Program and the City's findings would make great NEWSLETTER INFORMATION.

He reported on the City's works to date – ditching up at the top end of Abbott Drive – completion of the Bettcher storm drain – water line replacement on Abbott Drive (replacing current 10” AC pipe with heavy duty pipe). Discussion on the condition of the pipe being removed – it was still good. Nick Polysou is aware that the pipe was not damaged and J. Marsh will ask him for his comments. J. Marsh advised that the City is just patching Abbott Drive instead of repaving. He explained that it doesn't make sense to spend the money repaving this year as the City will be tearing it up again next year for work on this project. M. Dunleavey said that the residents would probably like to know that - why it is just being patched – add to the newsletter.

There was discussion regarding the ditching close to the diatomite plant and a question was raised if the ditching the City did was for the diatomite plant. J. Marsh confirmed that the taxpayers money was not tied into the plant. The ditching was intended all along.

### **3.2 Discussion on work program update to area residents -**

(a) Public Meeting or mail out – Discussion on communications. No value in spending money on a public meeting at this time. A mail out to all City residents later this year would suffice. J. Marsh believes all reports will be available for the mailout around the end of November. This Committee will meet prior to the release of that newsletter to review the data. J. Marsh will invite the engineers and geotechs to that meeting.

M. Put asked if hydro has reported any damage or movement to any of the power poles in the area. J. Marsh says they have never reported anything to him but will follow up.

M. Dunleavey suggested sending out a public notation on the “water leak” on Lewis Drive the other weekend which was actually a sewer back up. Put small notice in the Q City Page (newspaper).

## **4 Other**

Correspondence was reviewed. It was noted with regard to (c) letter to School District re weather station that there were concerns of vandalism to the equipment being placed on the school property and that the weather station is in fact located on Alan McDonald's property – Lark Apartments.

Question on when the trial dewatering will begin. The City is waiting for all of the data to be compiled – there is money available for the dewatering. The data will confirm what methods will be most effective.

R. Craigmyle noted that Council has kept communications open with MLA Bob Simpson and MP Dick Harris in this matter to secure future funding.

H. Loelke asked where the provincial funding monies will go if there is any left over this year. J. Marsh confirmed that the province is paying the bill as we go and that any money remaining this year will be carried over to next year.

R. Craigmyle thanked the members for coming to these meetings and the time they have put into this Committee. He thanked communications staff for their efforts in saving budget money and J. Marsh for all of the work he has been doing in coordinating the entire project - contractors, engineers, etc.

## **5 Adjournment**

**MOVED M. Dunleavy, Seconded M. Put and resolved: THAT there being no further business, the meeting adjourn at 8:00 pm.**

**CARRIED**

The next meeting will be scheduled after the geotechnical data is in, around the end of November, early December. J. Marsh will invite the City's engineers to that meeting.

*cc: Maureen Murray, Deputy Clerk*