

WEST QUESNEL LAND STABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, March 5, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
Fraser Room, City Hall

Advisory Committee: Councillor Sushil Thapar, Chair
Marty Put
Cynthia Bernier
Heinz Loelke

Absent: Duane Sauve
Archie Hlady

City Representatives: Project Manager Jack Marsh
Director of Public Works and Engineering, Ken Coombs
Communications Supervisor Carol Anderson
Communications Clerk Teann Ingram (Minute taker)

Guests: Mayor Bob Simpson – *arrived at 7:15 p.m. / left at 7:52 p.m.*
Ernest Gamache

1. Call to Order

Councillor Thapar called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Introduction of Councillor Thapar as new Council Representative to the WQLS Advisory Committee

Councillor Thapar was introduced to the Committee. He thanked the members for their help and commitment.

3. Adoption of Minutes from meeting held on May 29, 2014.

Correction #1 – B) ii. The sentence should read: *The tender for the project has been accepted and awarded to MASS Construction Ltd.*

MOVED by H. Loelke. Put SECONDED by M. Put that the minutes from the meeting held on May 29, 2014 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. Business arising from previous minutes

- (a) The Committee is in need of two more members. Ernest Gamache put his name forward to be considered. The Committee decided to place an ad calling for members in the Observer.

5. New Business

(a) Presentation of 2014 Annual Monitoring Report

J. Marsh provided the Committee a summary of the 2014 Annual Monitoring Report:

- AMEC Environment & Infrastructure has carried out instrumentation monitoring in West Quesnel as part of the ongoing West Quesnel Land Stability Program.
- The purpose of the instrumentation monitoring is to track landslide related ground movement, groundwater conditions and precipitation.
- During 2014, quarterly GPS monitoring was carried out in April, July, October and November. The rates of movement and total movement recorded in 2014 were similar to those observed in 2013, significantly less than those observed in 2012 and on an overall average basis, the ground movements in 2013 and 2014 have been the lowest observed since recording began in 1998.
- In 2013, the total annual movement rate was approximately 12 mm. In 2014, the total annual movement rate was approximately 13 mm.
- Pumping Wells - Total Annual Flows
 - 2012 = 4,178,484 L
 - 2013 = 16,023,599 L
 - 2014 = 15,951,835 L
 - Total = 58,601,477 L (2008 – 2014) (water flows to Baker Creek and Sewer drains)
- Horizontal Drains - Total Annual Flows
 - 2012 = 76,966,546
 - 2013 = 157,363,347
 - 2014 = 117,146,292 (as water is drained, volumes will drop)
 - Total = 353,913,569 (2008 – 2014) (water flows to Baker Creek and Sewer drains)

- Precipitation data is currently being collected from the Airport. A new weather station located in West Quesnel will be installed this year.

(b) Update on Environmental Work 2014

- In 2014, the two wetlands that were dried up in 2013 were replaced. Water has not been added to the new wetlands but all of the services are in place. The ponds will be filled this spring. An RFP will be released this spring for the planting of plants in and around the ponds. This will complete WQLS Phase I.
- The Environmental Impact Study is complete. This study summarizes the water quality that is being released into Baker Creek from the pumping wells and horizontal drains. Water is released into Baker Creek at four locations- one near Beaubien Avenue and three locations near Lewis Drive. All pumping wells and horizontal drains were sampled as well as above and below the creek outlets. From the data used in the report, the presence of groundwater is unlikely to affect Baker Creek.
 - It was noted that a presence of caffeine was found in the outfall to Baker Creek near the Elks Hall. Public Works investigated all of the homes near ponds and found one resident who was not connected to the City sewage system. The resident was served a notice requesting him to connect. Caffeine is an indicator of the possible presence of sanitary sewage. In 2015, all of the sewer lines in the land slippage area will be investigated using a camera. Funding is available for up to \$100,000 in repair work. There will also be camera work done on the storm water system.
 - Recommendations from the report were:
 - Continue monitoring 3 – 4 times per year.
 - Keep the water discharge locations.

(c) WQLS Phase II Grant Application

The WQLS Phase II project includes subsurface drainage work, dealing with surface water and upgrading storm water infrastructure. The infrastructure upgrade will reroute surface water from the ponds near Adams Street and Flamingo Street. This phase will also replace the sidewalks, curbing and asphalt where all of the piping will be upgraded.

The application was submitted to the New Building Canada Fund on December 22, 2014. The City is expecting to hear back sometime in September and are optimistic for 100% funding.

MOVED by C. Bernier. Put SECONDED by S. Thapar that the Advisory Committee send a letter to Honourable Oakes giving support to the Phase II New Building Canada Fund application.

CARRIED

(d) Budget Update

J. Marsh reviewed the 2015 Budget.

5. Other Business

(a) WQLS Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Information item.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

cc: copy to City Council