



ATTENDING

- Councillor Mike Butler (Chair),
- Mayor, Wendy Donovan
- Councillor Wendy Elliott (arrived 12:37pm)
- John Brustowski,
- Meghan Swanburg
- Mike Allen, Nova Scotia Department of Environment
- Karen Outerleys, Recording Secretary

ALSO ATTENDING

- Alex de Sousa, Director of Engineering & Public Works
- Colin Walker, CBCL Hydrogeologist

ABSENT WITH REGRET

- Shane Warner
- Marcel Falkenham, Acadia University Representative
- Councillor Peter Allen, Municipality of the County of Kings,
- Dawn MacNeill, Nova Scotia Department of Environment
- Devin Lake, Director of Planning & Development, and

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Councillor Mayor Oonagh Proudfoot, called the meeting to order at 12.31 pm

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF THE SOURCE WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 21, 2022.

CARRIED

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Introduction of committee members in attendance for the new Chair Councillor Mike Butler
- There were no items of business from the last Source Water Protection Meeting. One question noted from the March meeting, was regarding the timeline for reviewing and updating the Source Water Protection Plan. According to NS Environment the plan is to be reviewed/ annually and updated every 5 years.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Update on the Well and Conservation**
Since our last meeting, two well pumps failures, in each of our source water wells, we had a placement pump on site that was to go into the Cherry Lane well, that failed in May 2022, but when the Wickwire Pump well failed, the pump we had was now needed for Wickwire, and was installed



within 24 hours of the Wickwire pump failure. A thank you to all our staff and contractors that came together to get the pump install with very short notice.

- We issued a conservation advisory to the town because only one well pump was in service, the advisory's aim was to reduce unnecessary use of the Town's potable drinking water, the Splash Pad was shut down, notices were also sent out to residents about conserving water in the water bills advising residents to conserve.
- An additional pump and motor were ordered for Cherry Lane, the new items have arrived, and the pump and motor are being assembled as of November 21, 2022. The new pump is to be installed at Cherry Lane by Wednesday, Nov 23, 2022, with testing and commissioning completed by the end of the week. The goal, that both Cherry Lane and Wickwire will be up and running by Nov 28, 2022. The Conservation Advisory will removed at that time.
- A spare pump and motor assembly has been ordered to on hand and ready to go if needed. The year-old pump that failed at Wickwire is being sent out to the manufacturer to conduct a forensic investigation on the pump as to why it failed. Requesting a report from the manufacturer, in the event there are underlying issues as to why it failed, we can work to correct.
- A proposal for a third source well is being developed to add to our water system.

- **DISCUSSION**

Underlying issues that may have caused the pump to fail, is a fault with the pump, or issues with the nature of the Town water, the hardness? More likely to be either a mechanical component failure or how much demand we were putting on that one singular well. The investigation should give us a clearer picture and then we can speculate further.

- How high was the risk of having not enough water? The risk can't be quantified but the risk was high, there was 24 where we had no source water being pumped into the reservoir. The reservoir has a time capacity of 2.5 days depending on demand.
 - Was there any enforcement of the advisory, we did not have to enforce, there may have been a few warnings to those washing cars, etc. The only recourse we would have is to turn off water, we can't issue fines or arrest folks, but we can turn off the water if necessary and charge a \$50, reconnect fee.
 - Do the pumps operate at 50 percent each? Typical operation of the two well, the Wickwire Well is the primary well runs 80-90 % of the time, because the ground water coming out of the ground at the Wickwire requires less chemical treatment to balance the pH.
 - The configuration of the two wells, was that Wickwire could not be hooked up to stand by emergency power due to an upgrade of the electrical components at Wickwire and the generator was too old to be compatible, the portable generator was moved to Chery Lane well, to use as backup. Shortly after a power outage and the generator kicking in at Chery Lane well was when the pump failed.
 - Water supply to Fire trucks. Would the fire trucks fighting fires cause the pressure to be low at resident home. All the hydrants feed off the reservoir as the same as our drinking water. Discussions with the WVFD once the advisory came into affect, the WVFD offered to have the trucks full and ready to go from other sources of water, this would reduce the extra demand on the pumps. However, if while fighting a fire they required more water they would be able to hook up to the Town fire hydrants, the volume and compacity has not changed.
 - The water usage at the Splashpad has become a source of discussion as the water is not recycled and uses a large amount of our treated water, was the creation of the pad a "irresponsible
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decision”. There are various options for recycling the water from a splashpad, one option would be to collect some of the water and use it for irrigation around the Town, or another option to a full recycling system, both of which would need disinfection & filtration treatment monitoring.

- What about a rain garden where the water seeps back into the groundwater, the soil around the splashpad is not compatible for this type of recycling, too much clay and poor infiltration.
- A committee member mentioned they had a resident reach out to say they were not aware of the advisory to conserve water until a few weeks after it came out. the advisory was sent out through as many possible we have access to, FB Twitter, website, water bills that are mailed out, newspaper and there were a number of interviews with the Mayor.
- What is the path forward and timeline to update the Source Water Protection Policy? Alex will investigate this a little more, per a committee member the update will require a study and would need budget approval.

5. **NEXT MEETING:** January 23, 2023, 12:30-1:30

6. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 1:07pm.

Approved at the ***, 2023 Source Water Protection Advisory Committee Meeting.**

As recorded by Karen Outerleys, Administrative Assistance Public Works