



JOINT BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

9:00 AM

Ruthven Water Treatment Plant
1615 Union Avenue,
Ruthven

MINUTES

Members Present: Deputy Mayor Verbeke; Councillors Dunn, Jacobs, Wilkinson - Leamington
Mayor Nelson Santos (Vice-Chair); Deputy Mayor Queen, Councillors DeYong, Neufeld, Patterson - Kingsville
Councillor VanderDoelen - Essex
Councillor Walstedt - Lakeshore

Members Absent: Mayor MacDonald (chair), Councillor Hammond - Leamington

UWSS Staff: Rodney Bouchard, Manager
Khristine Johnson, Recording Secretary

Staff Present: Shannon Belleau - Leamington

OCWA Staff Present: Susan Budden
Dale Dillen

Call to Order: 9:02 am

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: none

Adoption of Board Minutes:

Councillor VanderDoelen asks that the minutes from September 18, 2019 be revised to include the total amount of coliform that was identified in the water sampled that resulted in the Boil Water Advisory affecting a small portion of the Town of Essex and that the minutes also reflect the questions posed by Councillor VanderDoelen at the September 18, 2019 UWSS Board meeting in regards to the Essex Boil Water Advisory.

No. UW-46-19

Moved by: Councillor Jacobs

Seconded by: Councillor Dunn

That the amended Minutes of the UWSS Joint Board of Management meeting of September 18, 2019 be received.

Carried

Business Arising Out of the Minutes:

There was none.

Report UW/29/19 dated, 2019 re: Status Update of the UWSS Operations & Maintenance Activities and Capital Works to October 11, 2019

The Manager reviews his report with board members. He confirms that the Cottam Booster Station (CBS) grading project has been completed and grass is now growing. The only item left is the final inspection by the engineer to close out the project.

OCWA maintenance staff have been working on innovations to correct issues with Valve Chamber 9 (VC9) and VC26. These are the valves that control the supply of water and pressure to the Town of Essex. These are very complicated valve chambers and there has been some difficulties with them, therefore a valve expert has been brought in. The company out of Markham has been brought in the assist specifically with VC26, which also includes a flow meter. The Manager feels that this outside assistance will help resolve some of the issues.

The Manager explains that Clarifier #3 has been taken out of service, drained, cleaned and the necessary repairs have been made. This Clarifier should be brought back online later this week. Clarifier #2 will be taken out of service next as the drive is leaking oil and requires repairs. The Manager reminds the board members that not all four (4) clarifiers run during the winter when the flows are lower. The Clarifier #3 carbon pump was not working optimally and required replacement.

OCWA staff is working on the sump and the piping in the boiler room and the new system should prevent future failures from occurring. Wastewater Pump #2 failed on October 8, 2019, resulting in the pump running dry and causing a failure to the electrical feed. Staff installed a new blow off in the waste water pit and new electrical wiring was installed. The pump was put back into service on October 11, 2019.

The Manager provides and update on the SCADA project. He notes to Board members that the project is about three (3) weeks behind schedule, however, this is not considered a substantial delay. Another Factory Accepted Test (FAT) is scheduled for the following week in Etobicoke. At this point of the project the cabinets are being built with the potential of them being brought to the plant in early November. He feels that by December everything should be in place.

He then provides an update on the CO2 project as this is moving forward as planned. The Chlorine scrubber and blower have been installed. The piping in the yard still needs to be completed, but this is a difficult process as there are multiple pipes in the yard to be careful of. This project is delayed slightly as well, however no additional costs on the part of UWSS.

The Manager reminds members of the Board of the residual pile near the lagoons. He states that approximately 3,500 tons of material have been removed from the pile this year. This material is now being used as daily cover for the EWSWA. He is hoping to have the remainder of the pile removed next year and then it will be maintenance mode for the piles.

Members ask how much material is removed from the lagoons when they are excavated. The Manager indicates that it is difficult to determine but he estimates 1500-2000 tons. He also reminds members it is best to allow the material to de-water so that when sending to EWSWA we are not paying for the extra weight of wet material. Board members ask if the residual material is still being tested. The Manager explains that as part of the UWSS's licence the material must be tested.

Associated Engineering (AE) has been retained to assist the Manager with a complete review of the Historical Secondary Disinfection for the UWSS. The Manager reminds members that the UWSS is currently on free chlorine until December 4th. He explains that AE and members of the UWSS attended a workshop on October 8th to review the initial data. He expects the report to be ready for the November Board meeting.

The Manager then provides an update on the restructuring of the UWSS. He explains that he has had meeting with Kingsville, Leamington and Lakeshore, which included the legal and financial consultants. He notes that the meeting with Essex is forthcoming. He feels that his report will be ready for the December Board meeting.

The Manager informs the Board that he met with ENWIN Windsor Utilities Commission (WUC) to develop a scope of work for a proposed collaborative study between UWSS and WUC on an emergency water sharing provision between both parties. He hopes to start this study in 2020. Members ask if there is any cost to upgrade the infrastructure. The Manager explains that there are valves that could potentially be opened in an emergency situation, however, the purpose of the study is to determine at what capacity UWSS and/or WUC can assist. He notes UWSS will not be able to supply 100% capacity to them, but what they would require to keep going in an emergency situation. The Manager explains that he would need to determine the costs associated to each of the four (4) municipalities.

Finally, the Manager notes that NOAA has sent out their last Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB) bulletin for the 2019 season. The Manager explains that the conditions to form HAB is no longer present and the water temperature is now below the threshold of concern. He confirms that UWSS will continue to monitor until the end of November and then start back up in the Spring. Council VanderDoelen asks if the bloom grew large this year. The Manager explains that the bloom was present but never really made its way to our side of Lake Erie. He is still working with the University of Windsor to study HAB more closely.

The flows are up quite a bit over the last year, which will also help the 2019 budget. This is good, but still a concern for the Manager as he is concerned that the trend could continue. He will continue to monitor closely. There is a brief discussion on the number of greenhouse acres applied for this year. Shannon Belleau notes that Leamington has had over 300 greenhouse acre applications this year. The Manager notes that the days of greenhouses applying for 10 acres at one time has passed, now they are applying for 25+ acres or more at one time. This trend does not appear to be slowing down.

No. UW-47-19

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Verbeke

Seconded by: Councillor Walstedt

That report UW/29/19 dated October 11, 2019 re: Status Update of the UWSS Operations & Maintenance Activities and Capital Works to October 11, 2019 is received.

Carried (UW/29/19)

Report UW/30/19 dated October 11, 2019 re: Payments from September 13 to October 11, 2019

No. UW-48-19

Moved by: Councillor Wilkinson

Seconded by: Councillor Patterson

That report UW/30/19 dated October 11, 2019 re: Payments from September 13 to October 11, 2019 is received.

Carried (UW/30/19)

New Business

The Manager reminds members that at the September UWSS Board meeting there was a discussion regarding Boil Water Advisories (BWA). He received direction from the Board members at that meeting. He explains that he has met with the Town of Essex Administration and there is now a tentative date of October 22, 2019 to meet with the WECHU to review the protocol in place and potentially improve the notification system. Shannon Belleau of Leamington asks that this information is shared. The Manager indicates that it is his intention to bring in all four (4) municipalities after this initial meeting. Councillor VanderDoelen asks if the WECHU was agreeable to the new protocol. The Manager indicates that the WECHU accepted the invitation quickly, so he feels that everyone is agreeable at this point. Councillor DeYong indicates that perhaps a regularly scheduled review should be included in the new protocol as well.

There is then a brief discussion on the greenhouse light pollution affecting the area in general.

Adjournment

No. UW-38-19

Moved by: Councillor Patterson

Seconded by: Councillor DeYong

That the meeting adjourn at 9:37

Carried

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 20, 2019, at the Unico Building, 37 Beech Street, Kingsville.