



IRRIGATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Members Present: Kevin Buis - Chair, Councillor Erwin Wiens - Vice-Chair, Michael Kauzlaric, Kurt Neumann, Rob Enns, George Lepp, Aaron Oppenlander

Staff Present: Brandon Enns - Drainage & Irrigation Superintendant , Cheryl Lootsma - Administrative Assistant Operations

Staff Absent: Rome D'Angelo - Director of Operations, Darren MacKenzie - Manager Public Works

Others Present: Sarah Marshall - Ontario Tender Fruit
Craig Fowler - OMAFRA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kevin Buis called meeting to order at 2:06 P.M.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Brandon Enns added Meters to new business.

Chair Kevin Buis added change of Personnel to new business.

Moved by George Lepp that the agenda be adopted, as amended

APPROVED

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 June 19, 2023

Moved by Vice-Chair Councillor Erwin Wiens that the previous minutes be adopted.

APPROVED

5. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

8. BUSINESS

8.1 Pump Status Update

Brandon Enns provided update on pump status.

All pumps are operating as intended.

Whirlpool pumping station a gate valve has seized. Contractor was in to asses and recommended replacement. Check valve is needed to run the second pump, estimation for cost and labour to replaced is approximately \$4000.

Moved by Vice-Chair Councillor Erwin Wiens that the Town proceed with the replacement of the check valve at an estimated cost of \$4000.

APPROVED

ABL is running smoothly, after being shut down for a culvert installation.

The Town is working with Associated Engineering and the Region for the pump twin.

Dee Road - one pump running.

Hydro Canal - one pump running.

8.2 Four Mile Creek Maintenance OPS-23-010

Brandon Enns advised that the update is deferred to the next meeting.

The Committee discussed their partnership with the Town and some expressed that they would like to see strengthened communications between Staff and the Irrigation Community. The Committee requested that the update regarding the report from Town Staff be communicated to them as soon as possible.

Aaron Oppenlander joined the meeting at 2:08 pm.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Change of Personnel

- Brandon Enns advised Brett Ruck is no longer with the Town.
- Brandon Enns remains Irrigation and Drainage Superintendent.
- Darrin Wills is in the Acting Environmental Services Supervisor role.
- Committee requested for Darrin to attend a future meeting, for introductions.
- Brandon Enns to continue on Irrigation Committee of the Whole.
- Committee expressed their gratitude to Brett Ruck for his work over the years.

9.2 Meters

Brandon Enns discussed metering.

- Meters received from OMAFRA have digital totalizer that requires a battery, and the ones the Town received are currently not working and cannot be used at this time
- Grower that was using it as a trial advised that it is working great, doing what was expected.
- Investigating to see if batteries can be replaced or a solar panel can be used
- Craig Fowler offered his assistance

Brandon Enns advised that a representative from Everest Automation would like to meet with some growers along with a representative from AVB (another metering company).

9.3 OMAFRA Update

- Sarah Marshall advised that Staff and Regional participants along with OMAFRA, will host a delegation tour with Jodie Parmar from Canada Infrastructure Bank on Tuesday July 18. Participants from all levels of Government to attend.
- Intention to fund engineering study Lincoln/St. Catharines proposed areas.

- Chair Kevin Buis requested to be added on Niagara sector of tour.
- Kurt Neumann asked Vice Chair Erwin Wiens to mention Encore Ontario Report to delegation. Highlight that in 2019, Niagara wine sector contributed just over \$1 billion to Canada's GDP.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

10.1 Wednesday, August 30 @ 2:00 P.M.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Chair Kevin Buis to adjourn meeting at 2:31 P.M.

APPROVED