

TOWN OF HAMPTON EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION (HEMO) COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING: Monday, June 19, 2023

In attendance: Keith Copeland Evelyn Bostwick Evelyn Millen Bruce Whitaker Darrell Banfield
Robin Langford Maura Collings Laure Sheel Pam McKenzie Nancy Whitticase
Mark Rodaway Mike Hickey

Town Staff: Richard Malone Jessie Dean Colin Crealock Mike Raeburn Megan O'Brien-Harrison

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Keith Copeland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Maura Collings and seconded by Laure Sheel that the minutes of the March 20th, 2023, Hampton EMO committee meeting be adopted as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

UPDATES FROM MINUTES KEITH COPELAND

CVN Generator update – proposed grant for CVNs to gain access for funding for generator panel installation. Policy to be drafted by staff, taken to Council to budget for 2024, budget in Emo budget for 2024. Megan O'Brien-Harrison gave VPR update – Town app should be live next week for text/voice messaging. VPR already live.

EXECUTIVE UPDATES

Richard Malone – RSC strategic planning includes all emergency services on committee, planning for the next couple of years, waiting to see if anything is established for EMO. Draft expected to Council in July. Mike Raeburn as representation on committee, working through the process, ideas, and goals.

INTRODUCTION OF POTENTIAL MEMBERS

Keith Copeland formally introduced three new members to the full committee with Introduction and CV details for Nancy Whitticase, Mark Rodaway, and Mike Hickey presented to committee members. With exceedingly high credentials & experience, Richard Malone allowed for Mark Rodaway & Mike Hickey to attend last months training meeting to begin work prior to appointment by council.

Moved by Bruce Whitaker and seconded by Evelyn Bostwick to request Council to appoint Nancy Whitticase to Hampton Emergency Measures Organization Committee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Moved by Laure Sheel and seconded by Robin Langford to request Council to appoint Mark Rodaway to Hampton Emergency Measures Organization Committee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Moved by Bruce Whitaker and seconded by Pam McKenzie to request Council to appoint Mike Hickey to Hampton Emergency Measures Organization Committee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

CORE COMPETENCIES & TRAINING

Mark Rodaway – Discussed at last month's training meeting, draft document of *Hampton EMO Competency Framework* was distributed for review. Provided overview of the new working document. Suggestion to work on training over the next twelve months, including two weekend workshops working towards base competency levels.

Mike Hickey – Overview of role to fill in training. Use experience to create a structure of contingency plans for possible scenarios. Work on contingency planning and drills. Use competency document to develop training for committee. Debrief on lessons learned through training to decide how to build on plans/training.

Keith Copeland – Asked Mike Hickey to review ICS from Ontario to review, takeaways and how we can adapt/adopt here in Hampton.

2023 FRESHET AAR & POLICY PROPOSAL

Keith Copeland discussed the 2023 Freshet after action review (AAR) which has been forwarded to Richard Malone as well as a proposed policy document modelled after the Saint John EMO policy. The AAR details events before during & after the freshet & how a trial run of this policy worked through the various stages up to Flood Stage. A *Flood Zone Registry* has been created for the residents & locations historically known to flood. Daily contact with these residents by email distribution list was very well received.

Richard Malone requested a motion from the committee to forward this policy to council for consideration.

Moved by Robin Langford and seconded by Evelyn Bostwick to recommend Council approve the Hampton Spring Freshet Response Policy for Hampton Emergency Measures Organization Committee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ATLANTIC MUNICIPAL MAGAZINE

Keith Copeland – overview and key takeaways from the publication which featured four articles related to recent weather & fire related disasters here in the Maritimes affecting many communities the same size as Hampton. Key takeaways were a theme on not being properly prepared, mental health supports, timeliness of supports, access to fuel, accessibility of comfort centers, demand for heat, food and care, communications, availability of personnel, including external resources like the Red Cross who were unable to keep up with demands for shelter & nutrition.

Megan O'Brien-Harrison – spoke about Alert Ready & how it was used in Nova Scotia during recent fires.

ROUND TABLE

Mark Rodaway – brought up the need for HEMO members need to take into account mental health & wellness during extended operations. Topic was mentioned by several in the Atlantic Magazine articles.

Megan O'Brien-Harrison – suggested to investigate possible local schools who have department of health approved food facilities and if we may be able to arrange an agreement to use during emergency if we need to provide food. Will make inquiries & advise committee.

Keith Copeland – Current HEMO facilities have become too small for the number of members & will impact future operations. No permanent alternate locations exist but the need has been identified & noted. EMO shirts arrived.

Colin Crealock – Speaking about cell-phone dead spots in our expanded boundaries suggested satellite phones for emergency communications. Will seek information about specific dead spots & coverage to determine need/options.

Mike Raeburn – Mention that current wildfires had Hampton Fire Department on standby by Fire Marshall's office. This has never happened before.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Trainings Meetings: Monday July 17th, 7 p.m. @ EOC, Monday August 21st, 7 p.m. @ EOC

Business Meeting: Monday September 18th, 7 p.m. @ EOC

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Bruce Whitaker to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.