



Making a difference...together

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee, held Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 9:30 a.m., In the Goldstream Meeting Room, 479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC

PRESENT: Committee Members: M. Fossil (Chair); J. Deschenes (Vice Chair); P. Brent (Electoral Area Director) (EP); W. Foster (EP); D. Reed (EP); R. Sullivan (EP)

Staff: I. Jesney, Acting General Manager, Integrated Water Services; J. Marr, Acting Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering; J. Dales, Acting Senior Manager, Wastewater Infrastructure Operations; L. Xu, Manager, Finance Services; J. Kelly, Manager, Capital Projects; D. Robson, Manager, Saanich Peninsula and Gulf Islands Operations; Martina Bona, Project Engineer, Wastewater Engineering and Planning; M. Risvold, Committee and Administrative Clerk (recorder)

REGRETS: K. Heslop

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 6.1 was moved to Item 6.2.

MOVED by P. Brent, **SECONDED** by W. Foster,
That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by W. Foster, **SECONDED** by J. Deschenes,
That the minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

4. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were none.

5. SENIOR MANAGER'S REPORT

I. Jesney introduced staff in the room and advised he is now the Acting General Manager, Integrated Water Services and J. Marr is the Acting Senior Manager, Infrastructure Engineering. J. Marr is the primary contact for the Committee effective immediately.

6. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

6.1. Magic Lake Estates Communication Upgrades

M. Bona presented the report.

Staff responded to a question from the Committee regarding the recommended technology. Staff advised other technologies such as Starlink were not considered because Orbit Technology is the Capital Regional District (CRD) standard and is used internally with operations.

MOVED by D. Reed, **SECONDED** by J. Deschenes,
That the Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee recommends the Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the provisionally approved Magic Lake Estates Water Service 2023-2027 Capital Plan and Budget be amended to include a new Capital Project for 2023 to complete communication improvements at all Magic Lake Estates Water sites with a budget of \$90,000 to be funded from the Water Service Capital Reserve Fund.

CARRIED

Staff advised the project is expected to be substantially completed by the end of 2023.

6.2. 2023 Operating and Capital Budget

J. Dales and J. Marr presented the report.

MOVED by J. Deschenes, **SECONDED** by P. Brent,
That the Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee:

1. Approve the 2023 operating and capital budget for the:
 - (a) Magic Lake Estates Water System Local Service as presented and that the 2022 actual operating deficit be balanced on the 2022 Reserve Funds transfer (CRF and/or ORF); and
 - (b) Magic Lake Estates Sewerage System Local Service as presented and that the 2022 actual operating surplus or deficit be balanced on the 2022 Reserve Funds transfer (CRF and/or ORF); and
 - (c) Magic Lake Estates Water Service 2023-2027 Capital Plan and Budget be amended to include a new Capital Project for 2023 to complete communication improvements at all Magic Lake Estates Water sites with a budget of \$90,000 to be funded from the Water Service Capital Reserve Fund.
2. Recommends that the Electoral Areas Committee recommend that the CRD Board approve the 2023 Operating and Capital Budget and the five-year Financial Plan for the Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Services as amended.

CARRIED

Opposed: Sullivan

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Taxable folios
- Single Family Equivalents (SFE's)
- Increasing user charges

Staff advised the water consumption rate is a minimal percentage of the whole revenue stream. The rate was set to influence behavior regarding water consumption, and revenue is increased through parcel tax and user charges.

The system requires an amount of certainty on the revenue side, fixed user charge and fixed user tax to support the service delivery. In order to change the rate, analysis is required to make an informed decision. A more fulsome discussion would be required to increase the rates.

Staff noted the Local Service Area Water Conservation Bylaw will be available for Committee review in 2023.

6.3. Project and Operations Update

Staff provided the project and operational updates.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding:

- Algae bloom
- Risks regarding the environmental impact assessment
- Pump Station and Treatment Plant Upgrades permitting cost

Staff advised the water quality department recorded that the algae has subsided in Buck Lake and Magic Lake. There are no major concerns at this time regarding the environmental impact assessment, and that it is required due to expanding the wastewater treatment plant facility. The cost to obtain the permit is an estimate and includes the potential cost for remediation.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1. Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee Response: Dog Park Proposal for Ketch Road

Received for information.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Raising the water level at Magic Lake

The Chair advised a proposal was made at a Magic Lake Property Owners Association meeting in October to approach the Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee to request to raise the water level of Magic Lake to improve the water quality. Staff advised there would be implications to the dams and dam safety which would be dealt with by the Dam Safety Officer through the Province. Staff advised the most effective option for storage would be to dredge Magic Lake of the weeds and silt.

MOVED by R. Sullivan, **SECONDED** by M. Fossil,
That the Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee form a working group to study the storage concerns of Magic Lake.

CARRIED

Staff advised a working group is not part of the Committee bylaw and there is no formal structure for working groups.

8.2. Disposition of property above Buck Lake

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding disposition of a property above Buck Lake and staff advised the property is generally covered by zoning. If a request was received to change the zoning, the CRD would receive a referral and feedback would be provided based on what is proposed.

8.3. Adjusting the water rate and parcel tax

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Increasing user fees
- Processes to be followed
- Rebates

Staff advised usage can be reviewed and statistics can be provided back to the Committee. Rebates are not found to be effective as industry standards have changed.

MOVED by D. Reed **SECONDED** by J. Deschenes,

The Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee directs staff to provide the Committee with water usage statistics for the previous year.

CARRIED

8.4. Water treatment sludge

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding the disposal of the water treatment sludge. Staff advised the Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) residuals and sewage generated are disposed of into the sewer collection system at the Magic Lake Estates Water Treatment Plant. It is discharged to Schooner for further treatment and disposed of off island with the solids. The water treatment plant pays a fee to sewer side for the disposal of the material.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by D. Reed, **SECONDED** by W. Foster,

That the November 29, 2022 meeting be adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY