

**ANNUAL MEETING
VILLAGE ELECTORS**

**TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2002
8:00 O'CLOCK P.M.**

NEW MINAS CIVIC CENTRE

In Attendance:

Chairman Ted Nicholson
Les Barrett
Wayne Merrill
Bob Horne

Absent:

Marvin Messom
James Redmond
Rod MacInnis

Chairman Nicholson opened the meeting (11 Electors present) and welcomed those in attendance.

Notice of meeting was read by the Clerk-Treasurer.

Chairman's Annual Report

Building permits for the period April 2001 to the end of March 2002 totalled \$4,079,975. The total for this period includes 3 single family dwellings, 3 duplexes, 4 mini homes, the Shell Station and renovations to the Atlantic Superstore.

The tax rate was increased from 32 cents to 35 cents per \$100 of assessment. The Village's total assessment for the year was approximately \$233,000,000.

Cavalier Contracting looked after snow plowing and PK Construction looked after maintenance of the sewer and water systems.

The Village received funding under the Canada/NS Infrastructure Program for wellhead protection of the Civic Centre well which will raise the pitless adapter and include fill for the area. This work is now complete.

The Village also received funding assistance for storm drainage and sidewalks for Milne Avenue as well as 3 crosswalk signs under the Canada/NS Infrastructure Program. The Contractor for the Milne Avenue work is Howard Little Excavating.

In October, Municipal Council gave approval to Bylaw 84, Noise Control Bylaw, which is now in effect in New Minas.

Page 2
2001/2002 Annual Report

Presently, the Commission is reviewing a draft Vendors, Peddlers and Hawkers Bylaw.

A committee of 12 individuals has been meeting concerning a proposed Recreation/Wellness Centre for the New Minas area. They are now in the planning stage of doing a needs assessment and feasibility study. The Village Commission committed \$20,000 to assist with the costs of the assessment and study.

The Water Utility presently serves 1431 customers.

The New Minas Area Advisory Committee assists the Kings County Planning Advisory Committee in preparing planning recommendations for Municipal Council on matters affecting the Village of New Minas. Applications relating to rezoning and development agreements within the Village are submitted by the Kings County Department of Community Development Services to the Area Advisory Committee for consideration and recommendations.

Among the items considered during the past year were an application by Apollo Venture capital for a development agreement relating to the old Horton High School; a request from John Askew for a development agreement permitting a restaurant/lounge in the Minas Court Mall; and amendments to an existing development agreement to permit establishment of a teen shelter in the Hazen Fowler commercial complex at 9323 Commercial Street. The Area Advisory Committee and the Municipality's Community Development Department are involved in an ongoing review of the Village's commercial zones and are developing measures to protect the Village's water supply.

The New Minas Parks and Recreation Department had another busy year in 2001/2002. The Recreation Director, Bruce MacArthur, left August 3, accepting a position with the County of Recreation Coordinator. For the summer we will probably be looking for someone to coordinate the programs for the busy summer period.

The Department continued to operate a variety of programs throughout the year. Special Events were run by the Department, including the Volunteer Banquet, Canada Day, Seniors Day and Celebration Days.

The underground irrigation project is complete and the field house washrooms are being used on a regular basis by soccer, ball and other park users.

Shelley Murphy and Allie Craswell resigned from the Recreation Advisory Committee and new additions to the Committee include Teresa VanWilgenburg and Jack Hersey.

The Chairman extended special thanks to Les Barrett for his efforts on the Committee during the past several months.

The New Minas Volunteer Fire Department responded to 167 emergency calls in the past year, with a fire loss of approximately \$156,000.

During the past year, the Department took delivery of a new rescue unit, replacing an aging, overloaded 20 year old unit.

Work has now begun on replacing the roof of the station and quotes are being received to upgrade the auditorium to meet fire code and building code requirements, with wheelchair accessible washrooms, etc.

Gerald Giddens spoke at this time on a proposed recreation/wellness facility indicating he was asked to serve on the Committee to determine if a facility such as a recreation/wellness facility should be built in the Village of New Minas for the citizens. Dave Harris is Chair and meetings are held once a month either at the Fire Hall or Kent Co-Op to determine what type of facility should be built for New Minas to address all recreation needs. It would be an indoor facility close to this building and possibly on School Board lands. The Committee has engaged the firm of Burke Oliver Consultants from Bridgewater to carry out a needs assessment and feasibility study, and the firm has provided the Committee with an outline for the New Minas work schedule.

Les Barrett questioned if the Committee had looked at other parcels of land for the proposed facility. Mr. Giddens noted the vacant land on the east side of the Civic Centre and the old Horton High School had been looked at. The final report should be available by Christmas. Mr. Giddens pointed out that they want to address the needs of seniors in New Minas as well.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held Tuesday, May 1, 2001 were read by the Clerk and:

**ON MOTION OF LES BARRETT AND BOB HORNE SUBJECT MINUTES
BE APPROVED AS READ. MOTION CARRIED.**

The Financial Statement for the year ending March 31, 2002 was presented by the Clerk-Treasurer who called for questions from the floor.

Marg Horne questioned the water deficit of \$51,000. The Clerk responded the deficit resulted from overspending in maintenance and operations of the year. Anything of a capital nature was funded by the Depreciation Fund.

**BOB HORNE MOVED THE 2001/2002 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS
PRESENTED TO THE MEETING BE ACCEPTED. SECONDED BY JACK
HERSEY. MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting,

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED ON MOTION OF STEVE DALZIEL AND
JACK HERSEY AT 8:45 P.M.**

APPROVED

CHAIRMAN

CLERK-TREASURER