

**VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS**  
**REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**  
**February 12, 2007**  
**7:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on February 12, 2007 in the Civic Centre, at 7:00 p.m..

**In Attendance:** Chair Dave Chaulk  
Vice-Chair Dale Pineo  
Commissioner Les Barrett  
Commissioner Dean Hatt  
Commissioner Linda Lockhart  
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. Glyn Bissix, Kieran Trail Development  
Mr. Maynard Stevens, Resident  
Mr. Don Zwicker, Resident  
Mr. Sam Milne, Resident  
Mr. Vincent Forrestall, Recreation Director  
Mr. Gerard Hamilton, A/Supt of Public Works/Water Systems Operator  
Mr. Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works  
Mr. Doug Seamone, Village Engineer  
Mr. Al Golding, Consultant GAALCO

**CALL TO ORDER – Chair Chaulk**

Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order. He welcomed everyone to the meeting

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting January 8, 2007

**It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart, that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting held January 8, 2007 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** February 12, 2007

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that the Agenda for the regular Commission meeting of February 12, 2007 be approved as presented, with the following additions: *Under Other Added items, (a) Village's Representative for Apple Blossom Princess Tea, April 24<sup>th</sup>, and (b) Village's Representative for Apple Blossom Coronation, June 1<sup>st</sup>.* MOTION CARRIED**

**PRESENTATION:** Kieran Trail Development

Dr. Glyn Bissix, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer of the Kieran Pathways Society, and Dr. Keith MacCormick, MD, Kieran Pathways Society President gave a very informative presentation on the Society's mission to promote active forms of transportation in Kings County. (Report and Executive Summary attached to original minutes).

After the presentation, there was a question/answer period. Highlights from this are as follows:

1. Asphalt is difficult to walk on; are other options being considered? Dr. Bissix stated that the anticipated trail design will be two-directional and will have a shoulder of couple of feet on either side to accommodate foot traffic as well.
2. The trail is intended for non-motorized traffic only, with the exception of motorized wheelchairs.
3. People must be encouraged to use healthy, alternative means of transportation.
4. It was found in other jurisdictions with similar development that more people use the trail than expected.
5. Cost was expressed as a concern. This is being considered by the Society and funding options are being investigated.
6. The owners of the Railway are very supportive of the plan and are in favour of allowing the trail to be developed on their right of way, adjacent to the railbed.
7. Other jurisdictions, as well as corporate players, will be approached to assist in the project as well.
8. When asked if they had considered doing the project in phases, Dr. Bissix stated that the Society has been reluctant to "think small". They are convinced if the trail is built, it will be used.
9. New Minas, geographically, is in the middle of the trail, and they are projecting major spin-off benefits to this community.
10. As the planning progresses, New Minas will be requested to consider funding 5% to 10% of the total cost of the project.
11. The lay of the land of New Minas is positive (eg.: No bridges, fairly flat land, etc).
12. The use of sidewalks for bicycle travel is dangerous, both for pedestrians and for the cyclists.

Chair Chaulk thanked Dr. Bissix and Dr. MacCormick for their presentation. He stated he sees this as a wonderful concept.

**It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo to write a letter to the Municipality of the County of Kings supporting, in principle, a positive view of the Kieran Pathways Society Strategic Plan, and to provide staff assistance as much as possible in this endeavour.**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Al Golding, New Minas Transportation Study

Mr. Al Golding, of GAALCO, consultant for the Village's recent Traffic, was present to give a synopsis of the **Commercial Street Traffic Operations Study** and the **Alders Avenue Traffic Calming Study** (attached to original minutes), and to present the Syncro-Sym Traffic demonstration. Mr. Golding summarized the recommendations of this study. Briefly, the recommendations are:

1. For the North Collector Roadway to serve a complementary role to the Granite Drive Extension, and the ability to construct it should be preserved.
2. The east-bound right turn lane at the Highbury Connector intersection should be lengthened by 80 meters.
3. An additional east-bound lane at the intersection of Commercial Street with Highbury Connector.
4. An additional east-bound lane at the intersection of Commercial Street with Prospect Road.
5. Several commercial parking lots on the north side of Commercial Street interconnected so that the traffic can move from one to another without entering Commercial Street.
6. Smaller items:
  - Widen the throat on the north leg of Cornwallis Avenue to accommodate painting left and right turn lanes and relocate the detector loop.
  - Paint short wide skip lines in the intersection of Commercial Street with Cornwallis Avenue to guide left turn traffic
  - Paint left and right turn lanes on the north leg of Jones Road
  - Revise the lane use on Prospect Road at the intersection.
7. Although heavy traffic volumes were not indicated on Alders Avenue, some high speeds recorded were a cause of concern, and three changes were recommended in the report:
  - No left turn at intersection of Alders Avenue and Alders Avenue North, no right turn at intersection of Alders Avenue North and Jones Road.
  - Make a portion of Alders Avenue a dead end street
  - Construct a sidewalk on the south side of Alders Avenue North

The estimated costs of all these recommendations are approximately \$550,000, plus land costs. Discussion took place with regard to the actual implementation of these changes, etc..

Chair Chaulk thanked Mr. Golding for his informative presentation.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

(a) Economic Development Committee – Update

**It was moved by Commissioner Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that a request be forwarded to Kings Partnership Steering Committee to include the Village of New Minas, and all Villages in Kings County, as members. MOTION CARRIED**

(b) Village Business Electronic Service - Update

T. Silver stated that in November, 2006, staff had been approached to investigate the possibility of having an electronic information service. At the January, 2007 meeting, it was brought up again; the “list serve” service had already been implemented. T. Silver stated that to date, two persons have signed up, and staff will continue to provide this service for meeting notices.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(a) Water Commission - Commissioner Linda Lockhart

Commissioner Lockhart highlighted the following items from the Water Commission meeting held January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007:

- There was a presentation by Ms. Marnie Parker with regard to 5664 Prospect Road
- The Amendment to the Water Bylaw has been approved by the Province
- It is hoped that the first draft of the Water Rate Study will be available for the February meeting
- Sewer Treatment alternatives were discussed
- The Clerk advised that the applications for funding through CNSIP and County Gas Tax allotment for water and sewer services for Prospect Road West have been removed, but staff continues to keep this project in the forefront.

**It was moved by Commissioner Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Barrett that the report of the Water Commission be accepted as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

(b) Area Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt highlighted the following items from the Area Advisory Committee:

- Motion was passed to recommend the Development Agreement submitted by Jerry’s RV to Kings County PAC, as submitted by County Planner Ben Sivak.
- Motion was passed to recommend to Kings County PAC, the application submitted by Kent Co-Op to amend their existing Development Agreement to allow a manufactured homes display.

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart to accept the report of the Area Advisory Committee as submitted. MOTION CARRIED**

(c) Recreation Advisory Committee – Vice-Chair Dale Pineo

Vice-Chair Pineo gave the report of the Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held February 6, 2007, and highlighted the following items.

- New Minas Elementary School gymnasium Grand Opening to be held at 7:00 p.m. on February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Staff continues to work with Stephen Bishop on the ***Light Up the Strip for Christmas/Flick the Switch***
- The Village has submitted an application to the County of Kings and Province of Nova Scotia for Facility Development Grant
- The Director continues to take part in the Valley Event & Sport Tourism Group
- Plans are being made for a Seniors Day/Luncheon
- A presentation was made by Mr. Keith Fuller giving preliminary suggestions for the possibility of all-weather turf for a field at Lockhart Ryan
- The outdoor rink at Lonnie Milne Memorial Park is up and running and very well received
- V. Forrestall attended the County Rec Directors meeting
- Mark Murphy is slated to organize events for the Skateboard Park in 2007
- There are 23 registrants for March Break Camp
- The many Winter Programs are being well received and are very popular
- The Village has received notification from the Province that of two successful applications for Community Development Grants (\$3,000 and \$2,400)
- V. Forrestall is in the process of organizing a County Basketball Academy Program
- The Winter Carnival is scheduled for February 23 – 25 with many events being planned
- Provincial Volunteer week is April 15 to 21. The Village's Volunteer Banquet will be held on April 16, and the provincial banquet will be held on April 10
- Staff has recommended Commission support a wellness incentive program for staff and Commissioners

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart that the Village Commission support the concept of an All-Weather Active Living Turf Project for a Lockhart Ryan field in principle, and move forward with recommending the cost of carrying out a Needs Assessment in the 2007/2008 Budget. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart, that the list of facility expenditures as prioritized and presented by staff be considered for the 2007/2008 Budget, based on funding. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Barrett, that the Village Commission write a letter of support in favour of New Minas Elementary School's application for a playground equipment grant. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Barrett, that the Village Commission proclaims February 23 to 25 the *Official New Minas Winter Carnival 2007*. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Barrett, that the Village Commission offer staff and Commissioners a 50% cost-sharing for wellness incentive programs. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart that the Recreation Advisory Committee report be accepted as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

(d) Transportation Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt gave the report of the Transportation Advisory Committee held February 7, 2007, and highlighted the following items:

- Final Draft of the Traffic Study was presented
- Discussion took place with regard to sidewalk improvements and new sidewalk construction
- The issue of the drainage ditch on the Jordan Subdivision on Prospect Road was discussed
- D. Hatt attended a public meeting at the County office on February 1<sup>st</sup> on the "New Minas Collector Road"
- Discussion on construction of a sidewalk from Maple Avenue to Valley View Drive.
- Copies of letters from Mr. Brian Ward, NSDOTPW were perused by the Committee.

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo, that the Village Commission accept the Traffic Study as recommended by the Transportation Advisory Committee, and that a copy be sent to Hon. David Morse for endorsement with a request for follow up. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo, that subject to budget restraints, the Commission budget for repairs to asphalt sidewalks on Commercial Street at Cornwallis Avenue to Ken Wo Golf Club, and for new sidewalk construction for Cornwallis Avenue and Lockhart Drive. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart, to approach the property owner for an easement for a sidewalk from Maple Drive through the Vogue Optical property through to Valley View Drive. MOTION CARRIED**

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart, that the Report of the Transportation Advisory Committee be accepted as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) Lynn Spencer–Congratulations on successful completion of NACLAA Level 1

Chair Chaulk advised those present that Lynn Spencer has successfully completed Level 1 of the National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA).

- (b) Bruce Bezanson – Congratulations on successful completion of Water Distribution Level 1

Chair Chaulk advised those present that Bruce Bezanson has successfully completed Water Distribution Level 1.

Chair Chaulk stated that staff is encouraged by the Commission to take courses applicable to the operation; in fact, financial support and incentives are offered. He commended Lynn and Bruce for their dedication and hard work.

**It was moved by Commissioner Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Barrett that the Clerk forward a letter to Ms. Spencer and to Mr. Bezanson congratulating them on the completion of these courses. MOTION CARRIED**

- (c) Request – Friends of the Kentville Public Library Society

Chair Chaulk noted a letter from Friends of the Kentville Public Library Society, in which the Village Commission has been requested to provide a letter of support for this organization's project to build a new library.

**It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo, a letter of support be forwarded to the Friends of the Kentville Public Library Society supporting their project to build a new public library. MOTION CARRIED**

**OTHER ADDED ITEMS**

(a) Village's Representative for Apple Blossom Princess Tea, April 24<sup>th</sup>

T. Silver advised that plans are underway for the 2007 Apple Blossom Festival, and a list of Village representatives must be provided to the Festival organizers asap. Vice-Chair Pineo volunteered to represent the Village of New Minas at the Princess Tea to be held April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

(b) Village's Representative for Apple Blossom Coronation, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Chair Chaulk volunteered to attend the Coronation ceremonies as the New Minas Princess' Escort, being held June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Commissioner Lockhart, the meeting adjourned.**

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**Dave Chaulk, Chair**

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**Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer**