

**VILLAGE COMMISSION OF NEW MINAS**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**October 4, 2005**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**Conference Room – Village Office**

A Special meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held in the Conference Room in the Village Office at 5:30 p.m. on October 4, 2005.

**In Attendance**                      Chair Dave Chaulk  
   Commissioner Les Barrett  
   Commissioner Dale Pineo  
   Village Solicitor Paula Howatt  
   Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

**Absent due to**                      Vice-Chair Linda Lockhart  
**Declared Conflict**                Commissioner Sherry Swanburg

**CALL TO ORDER**

D. Chaulk called the meeting to order

**MOTION TO REQUEST LEGAL OPINION**

**It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Barrett, that the Clerk Treasurer request an independent legal opinion as to whether Commissioner Barrett has a conflict and should remove himself from further discussions regarding the Lockhart and Swanburg lawsuits against the Village. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**INFORMATION FOR COMMISSIONERS**

P. Howatt distributed brochures to the Commissioners regarding Human Rights procedures and mentioned there is more information on their website.

Chair Chaulk asked P. Howatt to outline the steps for mediation.

P. Howatt stated that documents are filed. Human Rights would assemble the information and decide whether to move forward. She stated there is always an opportunity for mediation at any point in the process.

The two cases facing the Commission are independent and would be handled independently if mediation were considered. She stated that Human Rights have trained

mediators and they would facilitate a mediation process. She said that mediators do not make decisions; their role is to bring the parties together.

Commissioner Pineo asked if mediation has ever been discussed in these cases. Chair Chaulk stated it was discussed with the Commissioner (different members).

Chair Chaulk asked if there is a reasonable timeframe to get the legal opinion. It was hoped that a two-week to one-month turn around would be anticipated.

Commissioner Barrett stated he would be happy to meet with the independent lawyer if needed to clarify anything.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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**Dave Chaulk, Chair**

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**Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer**