

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
NEW MINAS VILLAGE COMMISSION**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2003
7:30 P.M.**

In Attendance:

Chairman Ted Nicholson
Marvin Messom
Les Barrett
James Redmond
Wayne Merrill

Councillor Dan Watters

H. Heidi Foshay Kimball, Solicitor

Special Guests:

Approximately 18 Electors were in attendance.

Call to Order:

Chairman Nicholson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., welcoming all those in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Special Meeting December 23, 2002**
- **Regular Monthly Meeting January 13, 2003**

James Redmond stated he did not understand the second paragraph on page 2 of the minutes of the December 23 meeting which reads as follows:

“Les Barrett interposed a suggestion that in order to protect herself, the Clerk-Treasurer advise the Department of Municipal Affairs of the position she has taken that there is no need for another employee in the Water Department.”

JAMES REDMOND MOVED THE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING DECEMBER 23, 2002 BE APPROVED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PARAGRAPH 2, PAGE 2 AND MINUTES OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING JANUARY 13, 2003 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED. SECONDED BY WAYNE MERRILL. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS:

- **Water & Sewer Commission**

Marvin Messom, Chairman, Water & Sewer Commission, reported on the January 22 meeting, noting that G & M Project Management has started replacing meters. There are approximately 115 to be replaced.

The Chairman went on to say that representatives from the Department of the Environment have been visiting all the utilities in the Province and the Engineer met with them on behalf of the Village. The application to operate a water system had to be filed January 31. In another year's time, they want a comprehensive study covering all of the components of the Utility and a maintenance plan. The date to finish the entire process is 2008.

There had been some problems with the pitless adapter at the Towers Well last fall and it now has been replaced.

There had been several calls concerning the dumping of snow from the Wal-Mart parking lot. The Department of the Environment were contacted, investigated the situation and reported they were not concerned about it.

The Engineer attended a meeting February 10 at the County concerning increased sewer flows.

MARVIN MESSOM MOVED THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE REPORT OF THE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION. SECONDED BY JAMES REDMOND. MOTION CARRIED.

- **Recreation Advisory Committee**

Chairman Nicholson announced there will be a meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee on Tuesday, February 25 at 7 o'clock p.m. Two items for the agenda include discussion of the annual Awards Banquet and funding available for construction of running tracks. He will chair the meeting.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Nova Scotia Transportation and Public Works – Traffic Quieting – Deferred

It was agreed to defer this matter to the March meeting.

Solicitor's Review – Proposed Bylaw Respecting Licensing of Petty Traders

The Solicitor informed the Commission she reviewed the proposed bylaw and all appears to be in order.

Councillor Watters confirmed the RCMP will enforce the bylaw.

Upon a question from the Chairman regarding exemptions for the Fire Department and service clubs such as the Lions Club and Rotary Club, the Solicitor suggested drafting an exemption for service clubs and the Fire Department to be reviewed by the Commission at the March meeting.

**Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations –
Services Grant Cooke, Municipal Advisor**

AT THIS TIME LES BARRETT MOVED WE CONTACT GRANT COOKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIS SERVICES OFFERED BY THE MINISTER OF SERVICE NOVA SCOTIA AND MUNICIPAL RELATIONS IN RESPONSE TO OUR NOVEMBER 20 REQUEST FOR A MEDIATOR TO ASSIST WITH A NUMBER OF HUMAN RESOURCE ISSUES CURRENTLY BEFORE THE COMMISSION. SECONDED BY JAMES REDMOND.

LES BARRETT POINTED OUT THAT HE CERTAINLY FELT IT WAS WAYNE MERRILL'S INTENT WITH THE MOTION MADE AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING THAT IT MAY SERVE THIS COMMISSION WITH ASSISTING US TO FIND SOME COMMON GROUND.

MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Correspondence Jack and Paulette Hersey re Canteen

Correspondence dated February 3, 2003 was received from Jack and Paulette Hersey notifying the Village they have decided to give up the operation of the canteen at Lockhart Ryan Park after 11 years.

James Redmond suggested that perhaps a volunteer group might be interested in operating the canteen.

WAYNE MERRILL MOVED WE ACCEPT THE LETTER FROM PAULETTE AND JACK HERSEY GIVING UP THE OPERATION OF THE CANTEEN AT LOCKHART RYAN PARK WITH REGRET. SECONDED BY MARVIN MESSOM.

IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT A PLAQUE BE PRESENTED TO THE HERSEYS AT THE VOLUNTEER AWARDS BANQUET IN APRIL.

MOTION CARRIED.

Sherry Swanburg – Parks & Recreation Director – Letter of Resignation

It was agreed to defer this matter to an In Camera meeting following the regular meeting this evening.

Advertising Tenders – Water & Sewer System

It was agreed to bring this matter before the next regular monthly meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission and report back to the March Village Commission meeting.

Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation re Spring 2003 Debenture Funding

A letter was received from R. Mark Gilbert advising that the Municipal Finance Corporation is preparing for its 2003 spring debenture issue and if the Village wishes to undertake a debenture issue they should respond by March 21, 2003.

Valley African Heritage Society Dinner, Dance – February 22, 2003

A letter and invitation to the 4th Annual African Heritage Society “Rally in the Valley” Gala to be held February 22, 2003 was received.

LES BARRETT MOVED A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100.00 BE FORWARDED FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING GALA RATHER THAN PURCHASE A CORPORATE TABLE. SECONDED BY MARVIN MESSOM. MOTION CARRIED.

Horton High School Safe Grad 2003

A request for a donation to Horton High School Safe Grad 2003 was received from the Chairs of the Safe Grad Finance Committee.

It was agreed to contact the Safe Grad Finance Committee informing them that the Village will fund Safe Grad 2003 in the amount of \$300.00, the same as last year, if a work party is organized to clean up the access road between Highway 101 and Commercial Street to the bridge.

The Flower Cart – Crosswalk

A request for a crosswalk at the newly acquired property of the Flower Cart located at 8736/8738/8740 Commercial Street was received from Roger Tatlock, Executive Director.

It was agreed to write Department of Transportation and Public Works requesting their Traffic Division to consider a crosswalk at the newly acquired Flower Cart property on 8736/8738/8740 Commercial Street.

Municipality of the County of Kings – Application Mike Ward

A letter was received from Cindy Barker, Administrative Assistant, advising that the application by Mike Ward for a proposed development agreement to permit the construction of a 9-unit residential building will be presented to Municipal Council for initial consideration at the Council session to be held March 4 at 9 a.m.

Apple Blossom Booster Club – Guarantee

ON MOTION OF JAMES REDMOND AND MARVIN MESSOM THE VILLAGE GUARANTEE THE BOOSTER CLUB \$2,000.00, THE SAME AS LAST YEAR. MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Recreation Chairman Appointment

Chairman Nicholson indicated that at the December meeting of the Commission a motion was passed to appoint a Chairman for the Recreation Advisory Committee. Following that meeting and upon review of the Committee guidelines it was determined that the guidelines stipulate that the Committee Chair is elected from among the Committee members. He stated that it has been the practice for more than 15 years to appoint the Committee Chair from elected members of the Commission because the Committee has a large budget and it was felt that a Commission member should be in charge, not a citizen member.

Marvin Messom gave notice of motion to confirm the current method of choosing the Recreation Advisory Committee Chairperson.

Questions – Les Barrett

Marvin Messom requested that Les Barrett submit his questions beforehand in writing to be reviewed for the next meeting.

Citizens' Concerns – Wayne Merrill

Wayne Merrill pointed out it had been brought to his attention by the parent of one of our snow removal contractors that a New Minas resident, Brian Coole, is alleged to have entered the sidewalk plow and physically and verbally assaulted the operator.

Also, Wayne Merrill mentioned he was approached at the grocery store pointing out it appears that whenever Les Barrett gives an interview to Brent Fox, the Advertiser removes the horoscopes from the paper. The women are hoping the Village Commission problems can be resolved in order to stop this from happening.

It was agreed to pass the complaint of the alleged assault by Mr. Coole along to the RCMP.

Hilbert Fisher Lands

Marvin Messom indicated Hilbert Fisher would like to donate two portions of land, 2.4 acres and 32,400 square feet, which is landlocked, to the Village.

He went on to say he felt the land could be used for recreation and it was agreed that the Solicitor would look into this matter.

Payroll System

**MARVIN MESSOM MOVED THAT THE CLERK CHECK INTO A
COMPUTERIZED PAYROLL SYSTEM FOR THE VILLAGE.
SECONDED BY WAYNE MERRILL. MOTION CARRIED.**

Dan Watters – Valley Waste Resource Management

Chairman Nicholson called upon Councillor Watters who had attended a meeting of the Valley Waste-Resource Management Authority recently in Kingston.

Councillor Watters pointed out that New Minas residents should get a cheaper rate for garbage collection. Waste collection rates are likely to increase and he feels New Minas is subsidizing the rest of the County in that residents pay the same as others in rural areas such as Hall's Harbour. There should be a special rate considering the ease of transportation, pickup and concentration of the population.

It was agreed to forward a letter to the Authority, pointing out there should be a special rate for New Minas in view of the ease of transportation, pickup and concentration of the population.

Letter of Thanks – Annapolis Valley International Children’s Games

A letter of thanks was received thanking the Village for their \$500.00 donation.

Letter of Thanks – Golfview Homeowners Association

A letter was received from Pierre Clouthier, President, Golfview Homeowners Association, thanking the Village for the \$100.00 donation to their Christmas Tree Party preparations.

PAYABLES:

ON MOTION OF JAMES REDMOND AND LES BARRETT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BE ACCEPTED AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE BE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

VILLAGE	\$59,513.76
HALL	50.00
TRUST FUND	1,630.94
FIRE DEPARTMENT	11,686.86
RECREATION	<u>7,286.61</u>
	\$80,168.17

MOTION CARRIED.

Date of Next Regular Monthly Meeting

Monday, March 10, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

CHAIRMAN

CLERK-TREASURER