

VILLAGE COMMISSION OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR MEETING
May 9, 2005
7:00 p.m.

The Regular Session of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on May 9, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Centre.

In Attendance

Commissioner Dave Chaulk
 Commissioner Linda Lockhart
 Commissioner Sherry Swanburg
 Commissioner Dale Pineo
 Commissioner Les Barrett
 Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Also In Attendance

Mike Robertson, Resident
 Gordon Silver, Resident
 Maynard Stevens, Resident
 Robert Farris, Resident
 Gerard Hamilton, Water Operator
 Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works
 Blair Coldwell, Resident
 Bob Horne, Vice-Chair New Minas Water Commission
 Blake Currie, Resident
 Ron Wright, New Minas Baptist Church
 Garnet Wheaton, New Minas Baptist Church
 Todd Jones, New Minas Baptist Church
 Robert Knowles, New Minas Baptist Church
 Ted Nicholson, New Minas Baptist Church, former Commissioner
 Lynn Spencer, Administrative Assistant
 Jennifer Coolen, Recreation Director

Regrets

Eric Smith, Councillor District 11

CALL TO ORDER

The Clerk Treasurer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ELECTION HELD MAY 4, 2005 – Clerk Treasurer

The Clerk Treasurer gave the results of the Election of Commissioners held on May 4, 2005. The report is attached to the original minutes. The results, in alphabetical order, are as follows:

Les Barrett	342
Rebecca Crouse	287
Dale Pineo	448
Douglas Smith	326

For a total of 1403 votes. She stated the two Commissioners elected to the New Minas Village Commission are Les Barrett and Dale Pineo.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND OFFICE

The Clerk Treasurer advised that both Commissioner Barrett and Commissioner Pineo had been acclaimed prior to this meeting.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

The Clerk Treasurer called for nominations for the position of Chair. Commissioner Swanburg nominated Commissioner Lockhart. The Clerk Treasurer called for other nominations. Commissioner Pineo nominated Commissioner Chaulk. The Clerk Treasurer called for nominations three more times. There being no further nominations, the Clerk Treasurer declared a vote by ballot would be necessary.

Those Commissioners in attendance (Chaulk, Lockhart, Pineo and Swanburg), voted by ballot. There were two votes for Commissioner Lockhart one vote for Commissioner Chaulk, and one ballot signed with a third Commissioner's name. The Commission agreed that that Commissioner would be given the opportunity to place the name of one of the nominees on the ballot, and this was done. There were two votes for Commissioner Lockhart and two votes for Commissioner Chaulk. The Clerk Treasurer declared a tie. The Commissioners agreed that the four ballots would be placed in a hat and a name drawn to determine the Chair. This was done and Commissioner Dave Chaulk was declared the Chair.

Dave Chaulk took over chairing the meeting at this point.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Chair Chaulk called for nominations of Vice-Chair. Commissioner Swanburg nominated Commissioner Lockhart as Vice-Chair of the Village Commission. There being no further nominations, Commissioner Linda Lockhart was declared the Vice-Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting April 11, 2005

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting held April 11, 2005 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: May 9, 2005

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg that the Agenda for the May 9, 2005 meeting be approved with the following additions: Under OTHER BUSINESS, add: (a) Relay for Life, and (b) Pierre Clothier Request. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- (a) ATVs on Dyke Area

The Clerk Treasurer provided a written update on the complaint former Commissioner Messom had from a resident, which was expressed at the April, 2005 Commission meeting. She stated that a complaint had also come from a resident of New Minas, and that this complaint will be forwarded to the RCMP and the County of Kings.

Chair Chaulk stated he has also received several complaints from residents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Water Commission – Vice Chair Robert Horne

Water Commission Vice-Chair Robert Horne gave a report from that Commission. The highlights of this report are as follows:

- Clerk Treasurer presented estimates and a report for proposal to have the Village issue its own Water bills.
- Clerk Treasurer presented a Draft Budget
- Water connection of a subdivision in Greenwich was approved
- A copy of a letter from Port Williams to the County of Kings regarding provincial and federal funding consideration for Villages was read
- Suggestion was made that the Village's properties be migrated as soon as possible

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that the Water Commission report be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

(b) Area Advisory Committee – Vice-Chair Linda Lockhart

Vice-Chair Lockhart gave a verbal and written report of the Area Advisory Committee (attached to original minutes). The highlights of this report are as follows:

- Presentation by Mr. Bill Butler, County of Kings, regarding the amendment to the Land Use Bylaw regarding petty traders.
- Recommendation from the Committee of the Whole meeting held April 25th repealing the Petty Traders Bylaw
- Received a letter from Gordon Silver offering to be a member of the Area Advisory Committee was presented to the County for consideration. The County rejected this application and suggested that an ad be placed in the local paper for a citizen member. To date, one response has been received.
- A public participation meeting was held following the Area Advisory Committee meeting with regard to the operation of an Inn and Wellness Centre at 1019 Roy Avenue. A public hearing will be held on June 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council chambers.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that the Report of the Area Advisory Committee be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

Chair Chaulk expressed his concerns with the County's rejection of the application of Gordon Silver to serve on the Area Advisory Committee. He stated that the same process had been followed by the AAC when the County accepted Mr. Rollie Jenner to the AAC, as had taken place with Mr. Silver's application. Commissioner Swanburg stated that Mr. Butler's letter stated that the PAC also had a problem with Mr. Silver being the husband of the Clerk Treasurer. Chair Chaulk stated he has a problem with this also. He stated that he would recommend that the Commission request the Clerk Treasurer to provide them with the Terms of Reference and background information on whether there is a requirement to advertise; also any other information pertinent to this. He suggested that a very strong letter should be written to the County voicing the Commission's concern, if it is proven that the Village followed proper procedure.

He asked the Commission if anyone else has a problem with this and Commissioner Swanburg stated that what the County does to the Area Advisory Committee is legend, and she supports the Chair's recommendation. The Clerk Treasurer was asked to provide information to the Commission to ascertain if the Committee did anything wrong.

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Recreation Director's Report

The Recreation Director provided a written report to the Commission (copy attached to original minutes). She asked the Commission if the format of her report is acceptable to the Commission, and was advised it is.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that the report of the Recreation Director be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

(b) Signing Authority – Motion to Appoint

Since the officers of the Commission have not changed, the signing authority order will remain the same.

PRESENTATION – Todd Jones – Co-Operative Parking Area, New Minas Baptist Church

A delegation from the New Minas Baptist Church was welcomed to the meeting, and Mr. Garnet Wheaton addressed the Commission, and provided each with a copy of his presentation (attached to original minutes). They are requesting cooperation with the Village to jointly develop a parking lot on the east side of the church on lands owned by the Village of New Minas.

Commissioner Pineo asked what the timeline is for this project, and was advised that it would be expected to take shape over the summer and fall. It was noted by Water Commission Vice-Chair Horne that there is a test well in the subject area and the Commission needs to be aware of this. Chair Chaulk asked if the project would be extensive. Mr. Wheaton advised that at this point they are just exploring the possibility and asked for an opportunity to talk with the Commission in more detail.

This will be discussed further once the Commission has had the opportunity to explore options.

NEW BUSINESS, continued

(c) Performance Evaluation Policy – Recommendation from Committee of the Whole for approval

The Performance Evaluation Policy, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole at its meeting on April 25th, was brought up for adoption.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, to defer the recommendation to adopt the Performance Evaluation Policy to the next meeting. MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Barrett joined the meeting at this time.

(d) Regional Sewer Budget

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that the 2005/2006 Regional Sewer Budget be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

(e) Skateboard Park – Report from Recreation Director

Recreation Director Jennifer Coolen provided a report (attached to original minutes) to the Commission as a response to their recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to revisit the location of the proposed skateboard park. The following items were discussed:

- Was there ever any other location considered? Jennifer answered no other location other than the east side of the Civic Centre has ever been discussed.
- Concern was expressed with the approved funding to date, and if the project is delayed. Currently funding has been secured from the Province, the Rotary Club, and the Village.
- If the Commission decided to relocate the offices, or otherwise need to dispose of the land where the Civic Centre/Offices are currently located, the skatepark on this land could pose problems.
- Once approval is received and the location is ready, the projected time for construction completion is 3 to 6 weeks.
- Funding providers may not necessarily be concerned with location. Would like that, confirmed. Provincial funding would be available next year.
- The Recreation Director was requested to explore options for other locations. Jennifer Coolen requested suggestions for locations, besides Lockhart Ryan Park. None were forthcoming at this time.
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(f) Petty Traders Bylaw – Recommendation from Committee of the Whole to Repeal Bylaw

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that on recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, an application be made to the Municipality of the County of Kings to repeal the Petty Traders Bylaw for New Minas. MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Relay for Life – Canadian Cancer Society

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg that the Commission allow in-kind contribution to the Relay for Life in Middleton in June, by permitting two members of Public Works/Parks personnel to assist in setting up for the event on June 10th for 2 hours. MOTION CARRIED

(b) Request to amend the Election Bylaw

The Clerk provided a written report outlining a request from a ratepayer of New Minas for the Commission to amend its Elections Bylaw to have the polls open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m... The Clerk was asked if any more complaints were received in this regard, and she stated not since she has been with the Commission. Commissioner Barrett suggested that to accommodate this request, the deadline for proxy vote could be extended. It was agreed by the Commissioners that the Bylaw would not be amended.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

Chair Dave Chaulk Chair Chaulk opened the Public Discussion Period by recognizing former Commissioner Ted Nicholson. He thanked Ted and former Commissioner Marvin Messom for their 18 years of valued and dedicated service to the Village of New Minas. He stated there are not many people who would dedicate this kind of time and energy to serving the public.

Chair Chaulk thanked Ted and Marvin on behalf of the Village Commission.

Jennifer Coolen, Recreation Director Jennifer Coolen wanted to advise the Commission and the public that the Recreation Office has officially moved to Lockhart Ryan Park for the summer. The phone number remains the same.

Blake Currie, Resident Mr. Currie commented on the Skatepark discussions. He stated that the Commission has the opportunity to proceed now, or they could look at other locations. He stated that although it is assumed that the funding possibilities will be there if the location is changed or the project is delayed, this needs to be explored thoroughly. He also stated that the original location is the ideal site for this project: it is high profile and easily supervised. He is concerned if the original plan is not followed, then it will be quashed. He stated that, even if the property is sold, it might be difficult to move the Skatepark, but not impossible. It is not a good idea to delay this project.

Chair Chaulk responded that the Commission is not intending to delay the project; it will be discussed at the next meeting. Jennifer Coolen was asked to make this a priority; Jennifer responded that it is already a priority, and she would like to have input from the Commissioners on alternate locations. She will provide a report as soon as she has answers.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Swanburg, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer