

**VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS**  
**REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2012**

**7:00 p.m.,**

**Conference Room, Louis Millett Community Complex (LMCC)**

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Louis Millett Community Complex.

<b><u>In attendance:</u></b>	Chair Dave Chaulk Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens Commissioner Dean Hatt Commissioner Dale Pineo Commissioner James Redmond Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver
<b><u>Also in attendance:</u></b>	John Ansara, Recreation Director Gary Connolly, Councillor District 11

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** December 10, 2012

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that the Agenda for the meeting of December 10, 2012 be approved as presented, with the following additions: under "NEW BUSINESS" add "(f) Granite Drive Interchange", and "(g) Apple Blossom Festival Official Opening Location".**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** November 13, 2012

**It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Redmond that the minutes of the November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Commission meeting be adopted as circulated. MOTION CARRIED.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**a) Boundary Expansion – Update

T. Silver advised that she had distributed a letter to the Commission from the NSUARB advising the Board is still deliberating on the application and they expect a decision will be made in mid-January.

b) Facility Update➤ Fundraising – Update John Ansara

John Ansara advised that Gates Insurance has donated \$10,000 to equip and furnish the Youth room in the LMCC, and they would like to do an official presentation on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013. He has forwarded information to the Commission by email.

John stated that he has been working on a number of grants, and this process is on-going. He stated he is pleased with how fundraising has been going the past couple of months.

Vice-Chair Stevens stated he has heard many positive comments on the plaques on the gymnasium change room doors (Kings Physiotherapy and Tim Hortons).

c) Sale of Civic Center – Update

T. Silver advised that, although there has been some general interest lately in viewing the old Civic Center, there have not been any offers.

d) Letter from Don Wallace – Update

T. Silver stated she has discussed the Commission's request at the last meeting to have the Village's Solicitor give an opinion on what action, if any, the Commission should take on Mr. Don Wallace's request to call for County Council to "cancel and rescind" motions opposing the Village's Boundary Expansion application. Terry stated that the Village's Solicitor advised that it would be inappropriate for the Commission to act on Mr. Wallace's request.

e) Town Crier Uniform Expenses – Report T. Silver

T. Silver had provided a report of her findings in her research to determine if the Commission had made a decision to assist the Town Crier, Mr. Lloyd Smith, with funds to maintain his uniform. It was the majority consensus of the Commission that since the Town Crier charges for services, he has a means of recuperating his business costs.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**a) Recreation Director's Report – John Ansara

Chair Chaulk asked the Commission if they had any questions related to the Recreation Director's report, previously submitted.

Commissioner Pineo noted that work has begun on the rail trail, and asked if we yet had a "closing" date. John stated that there is no actual date of final completion, except we are obligated to spend a certain sum of money by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

Vice-Chair Stevens stated he had attended the Village's Tree Lighting Ceremony and children's party afterwards, and said he has received so many favourable comments on the event. John said that the community is very excited about the new complex, and the only challenge we have had for these events is organizing parking, but he has a plan for that as well. Vice-Chair Stevens stated there was very good coverage in the Advertiser on the event.

**It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that the report of the Recreation Director be approved as submitted. MOTION CARRIED**

(b) New Minas Water Commission Report

Vice-Chair Stevens advised there was no Water Commission in November.

New Minas Planning Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt read the report of the New Minas Planning Advisory Committee (attached to original minutes).

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Redmond that the report of the New Minas Planning Advisory Committee be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

Vice-Chair Stevens asked Commissioner Hatt if there was any news on Kent's application for development. Councillor Connolly was given permission by the Chair to speak, and he stated that the item will be on County Council's Agenda for December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS**a) Closing between Christmas and New Years – Admin Office (Dec 27, 28, 31 (1/2d)

The Commission considered the Clerk's report and request to close the Village's operation for December 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and half a day on the 31<sup>st</sup> (also to consider ½ of December 24<sup>th</sup>). Vice-Chair Stevens expressed concern that there would be people wishing to use the facility on these dates and they would not be able to do so. Commissioner Pineo stated it has been his experience that over the Christmas season, very few people use facilities of this nature because

they are doing their own family functions. John Ansara was given permission to speak by the Chair, and stated the last gym booking is on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and no other bookings have been made until after January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

It was the consensus of the majority of the Commission that this request be granted. T. Silver advised in her report that the facility would be inspected every day.

b) Village Generating Village Tax Bills

Chair Chaulk referred to the Clerk's report on the Village taking over the task of generating their own tax bills (Village Rates only).

Discussion took place on the merits of doing this task, and Terry's report addressed the associated costs and procedural items.

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo to accept the recommendations as outlined in the Clerk's report and that staff be directed to generate the Village's own tax bills. MOTION CARRIED**

c) Request – Valley Vending

The Commission reviewed the letter from Valley Vending to install vending machines in the LMCC. Commissioner Pineo stated he would only support this if healthy snacks were being sold. Chair Chaulk asked if the Village should be getting quotes, given this is an untendered contract.

John Ansara was given permission to speak on the topic and he stated he has spent a lot of time researching the placement of vending machines in public places, and wanted to suggest to the Commission that we would better serve the needs of our clients/facility users if we provided free water. He went on to state that we can get a water system, using the Village's directly plumbed-in water for about \$70/year for filter replacements.

The consensus of the majority of the Commissioners was that we will not bring in vending machines.

d) Proclamation – Alzheimer Society – January 2013

**It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Village Commission proclaim January Alzheimer Month. MOTION CARRIED**

e) Request to lease green space, Denim Homes Subdivision, Prospect Road

Discussion took place with regard to a request from the County of Kings to the Village to take over green space in the "Denim Homes Subdivision", as indicated on Subdivision Plan # 11566,

and as shown on an aerial photograph. The Commission reviewed a report from the Village's Engineer and Superintendent of Public Works as well.

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Redmond that the Village Commission will take the recommendation of the Village's Engineer and Superintendent of Public Works and not accept from the County of Kings the green space indicated on the Denim Homes Subdivision plan as a leased park area. MOTION CARRIED**

f) Granite Drive Interchange – Commissioner Redmond

Commissioner Redmond stated that after having read the report from Scott Quinn, Acting CAO for the County of Kings with regard to the timeline of the Granite Drive Interchange, he feels the Commission should contact the province and emphasize that this project should not be delayed.

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that a letter be written to NS Transportation and Infrastructure advising them the Commission does not want the Granite Drive Interchange project delayed, and that we support their plan and wish them to make it a priority. MOTION CARRIED**

g) Apple Blossom Festival Official Opening Ceremonies Location.

Vice-Chair Stevens brought forward a letter from the Apple Blossom Club requesting submissions to host the Apple Blossom Festival Official Opening. He stated he felt the Village should submit a bid to host this event, now that we have the beautiful facility to accommodate it.

Discussion took place with regard to the cost to the Village and the demands on Village staff. T. Silver advised that we do not have sufficient staff to organize and carry out such an event, and all Village staff would be able to do would be to set up tables and chairs and put them away after. She stated Village staff carried out the organization and provided the refreshments for the LMCC Grand Opening, and did it willingly because it was our own event, but it took a full day of 4 staff members and several volunteers.

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that the Village will apply to host the Apple Blossom Festival Opening Ceremonies, this dependent upon getting support to organize and carry out the event from the New Minas Lions Club or the Sunrise Rotary Club of New Minas by December 31<sup>st</sup>, and that the Village staff will set up tables and chairs and tear down the tables and chairs after the event. MOTION CARRIED**

Vice-Chair Stevens offered to set up a Committee to investigate this and make the application on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> if the proposal can move forward.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

Gary Connolly, Councillor District 11 – Mr. Connolly reported that he had met casually with the Chair of the New Minas Water Commission, Bob, and was happy to hear that the Water Commission will be debt free in a year and a half. It was pointed out that the Chair of the Water Commission is actually Commissioner Stevens, and the New Minas Water Commission has been debt-free for two years. Councillor Connolly apologized for having reported incorrect information.

Mr. Connolly stated that he has spoken with everyone about the proposal for the Exit 12 project, and they are happy with it, and the Councillors are not opposed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Vice-Chair Stevens, the meeting adjourned.**

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Dave Chaulk, Chair

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Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer