

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2015
7:00 p.m.,
Conference Room, Louis Millett Community Complex (LMCC)
A G E N D A

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Louis Millett Community Complex

In Attendance: Chair Dave Chaulk
Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens
Commissioner Mary Munroe
Commissioner Ken Pineo
Commissioner James Redmond
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Also in Attendance: Mr. John MacKay, MacKay Realty
Mr. Scott Hearn, MacKay Realty
Ms. Kathy Siddall, 2016 Canadian Masters Curling Championship
Mr. Jim Noonan, 2016 Canadian Masters Curling Championship
Mr. Tony Stirling, 2016 Canadian Masters Curling Championship
Mr. John DeCoste, Reporter – Advertiser/Register

Regrets Mr. John Ansara, Recreation Director

CALL TO ORDER, Dave Chaulk

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: October 13, 2015

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Redmond, that the Agenda for the Regular Commission meeting of October 13, 2015 be approved with the following addition: OTHER ADDED ITEMS (a) ANSV Report – Commissioner Pineo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 14, 2015

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting held September 14, 2015 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATION: 2016 Canadian Masters Curling Championship – Kathy Siddall/Jim Noonan

Chair Chair welcomed representatives of the 2016 Canadian Masters Curling Championship Committee, and invited them to present to the Commission.

Ms. Siddall, Mr. Noonan and Mr. Stirling all spoke of the exciting event being held in Wolfville and Kentville curling rinks from April 4 through April 10, 2016 – the 2016 Canadian Masters Curling Championship. They explained this is a national event and will bring in many people as participants, volunteers, and spectators, with hopefully 13 other provinces participating, and with 120-140 curlers. They feel the Championship will provide a significant economic stimulus for the participating towns and the Village of New Minas, with anticipated spin-off revenues of upwards of \$1.2M.

They explained they are looking for New Minas to become partners in this event, along with the Towns of Kentville and Wolfville, and the Municipality of the County of Kings. The Commission had been provided with information, including a projected budget (\$80,000) – attached to these minutes. They stated that Bell will be providing a live stream of at least one game/day, and there are/will be Facebook, Twitter, GooglePlus, media programs and a Website. Donors will be featured either on banners or on the ice. The Committee is looking for confirmation of any commitment from the Village within the month if possible. Given that this is not a budgeted item for 2015/2016, the Commission will consider an item in the 2016/2017 Budget (this event will happen within that budget timeline).

Besides becoming a partner in the planning and execution of the event, the Committee is looking for sponsorship by way of advertising, among other opportunities. The Village of New Minas would be asked to consider sponsoring \$5,000 towards the operating revenue budget.

After a brief question/answer period, Chair Chaulk thanked the representatives for their presentation and advised the Commission to give consideration to this request and be prepared to discuss it at the November meeting.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) Sale of Civic Center
- Listing – In Camera

It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that the Commission go in Camera to discuss “Listing, Sale of the Civic Center”. MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Commission go out of the In Camera session and return to regular session. MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Commission direct the Village’s Realtor, MacKay Real Estate to list the Village’s property, known as the former “Civic Center” at 9209 Commercial Street, New Minas, at \$455,000. MOTION CARRIED

- b) Village Status Process – Update

Due to the County of Kings Council’s decision to embark on a “Regional Governance Review” the Commission had decided to not pursue the continuation of their Town Status study until further discussion.

After discussion, the Clerk was directed to contact the Consultant to continue the discussion about continuing the Town Status Study, taking into consideration former Minister Furey’s recommendation to re-focus the study.

Chair Chaulk advised the Commission that, with their approval, he had met with the Mayor of Wolfville, and had discussed the area in general terms. He asked the Commission if they would like him to organize and attend a meeting with the Mayor of Kentville and the Mayor of Wolfville to further discuss current issues. The Commissioners felt this would be beneficial.

Vice-Chair Stevens expressed his displeasure with the County of Kings that the Villages were not considered as part of the County’s motion the first of October to do a Regional Governance Study. He said, once again, the Villages have received a “slap in the face”, in spite of all the talk about the new era of co-operation and the signing of the ***Memorandum of Understanding***, which Villages signed in good faith.

Commissioner Redmond stated that Villages have good Village representation on the MGA Review, and feels that a Regional Governance Review would not even be able to move too far forward until the MGA Review process is completed.

Commissioner Pineo stated that we do have great representation on the MGA Review Committee until the process moves up to the Steering Committee level, where the representatives are only from Towns, Urban and Rural Municipalities, UNSM and AMA. He said it seems like “déjà vu” from the Fiscal Review process.

Chair Chaulk stated he doesn't like the prospect of other people talking about any form of regionalization or amalgamation when we have no opportunity to have a say when it could impact us the most. He agreed with the Commissioners that once again, we are being ignored.

It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that the Chair write a letter to the Municipality of the County of Kings asking why the Villages were not cited as participants in the County's motion to discuss a Regional Governance Study, and express the Commission's great disappointment at not being invited to sit at the table during the process. MOTION CARRIED.

The Clerk Treasurer was requested to contact the Study Consultant to set up a meeting.

- c) Request to Purchase land – Todd Johnson – Update

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Commission consider selling the land owned by the Village adjacent to 21 and 25 Minas Crescent to Mr. A. Todd Johnson, after the Commission is satisfied that appropriate easements are in place, including adequate access for Village needs. MOTION CARRIED

- d) Crosswalk request – Bishop Ave East/West on Prospect - Update

The Commission discussed the process to determine the feasibility of doing a study for a crosswalk at Bishop Avenue East and West/Prospect. The Clerk will clarify with DTIR whether having a study will require action.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Recreation Director's Report – John Ansara

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

- i. Trail Erosion – Motion to Use Gas Tax for Study

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Redmond, that the Clerk be authorized to request that a portion of the Village's Gas Tax allocation for Trails be used for the Erosion Study on the rail bed. MOTION CARRIED

- b) New Minas Water Commission Report – Vice-Chair Stevens

Vice-Chair Stevens advised there was no New Minas Water Commission meeting to Report.

- c) New Minas Area Advisory Committee – Commissioner Pineo

Commissioner Pineo advised there was no New Minas Area Advisory Committee meeting to Report.

d) Sign Committee – Commissioner Munroe

Commissioner Munroe advised there was no Sign Committee report.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Request for Proposals – Lockhart Drive Sidewalk

The Commission reviewed a letter from the Village’s Engineers regarding the proposals to do the Lockhart Drive Sidewalk final phase. The bids have been received, but it was felt best to recall proposals in the late winter/early spring. Furthermore, approvals from DEL and DFO were late coming in and applications will have to be submitted again.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Copy of Letter from Minister Zack Churchill

The Commission received a copy of a letter from Minister Zack Churchill addressed to District 11 Councillor Jim Winsor (attached to original minutes), in response to Councillor Winsor’s letter of concern about democracy in Kings County.

OTHER ADDED ITEMS

a) ANSV Report – Commissioner Pineo

Commissioner Pineo stated that every year at the Association of NS Villages, Commissioners are recognized for their years’ service as elected officials. He stated that Commissioner James Redmond was recognized with 20 years’ service and Commissioner Pineo presented him with a Long Service Award certificate from the Association. The Commission congratulated Commissioner Redmond on this dedication, and his recognition from the Association of NS Villages.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Redmond, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer