

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
September 13, 2004
7:00 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of New Minas Commission was held on September 13, 2004 at 7:00 p.m..

In Attendance

Chair Dave Chaulk
 Vice-Chair Linda Lockhart
 Commissioner Marvin Messom
 Commissioner Sherry Swanburg
 Commissioner Ted Nicholson
 Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Supt of Public Works, Peter Pothier
 Water Systems Operator, Gerard Hamilton

Citizen Rebecca Crouse
 Citizen Les Barrett

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting Aug 9, 2004

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart, that the minutes of the Regular Commission meeting held August 9, 2004 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

Special Meeting Aug 9, 2004

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart, that the minutes of the Special Commission meeting held August 9, 2004, be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA: September 13, 2004**

It was moved by Commissioner Swanburg, seconded by Vice-Chair

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

(a) Petty Traders Bylaw - Update

The Clerk presented a verbal and written update. A meeting will be held on September 14, 2004 with the Commission and John Warden and Bill Butler from the County of Kings in attendance.

(b) Toulon Development – Update

The Clerk presented a written and verbal update. A letter was written to Mr. John Warden requesting further investigation into yard sales being carried out adjacent to the Toulon property. It was noted that there didn't seem to be any problems for the past several weeks.

(c) Unsightly Premises Bylaw – Update

The Clerk presented a written and verbal update on the Commission's request to develop its own Unsightly Premises Bylaw. The Commission has been notified by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations that the Village has no authority to develop its own U/P Bylaw; this is covered in the Municipal Government Act for municipal government. It was recommended that the Commissioners might want to notify the County when they are aware of any infractions.

Discussion took place on the procedure for dealing with Unsightly Premises. It was noted that at the upcoming meeting with Mr. Warden and Mr. Butler on September 14, discussion will take place in this regard. Mr. Mike Ennis, Bylaw Enforcement Officer for Kings County, and Mr. Brian Smith, CAO will be invited to do a presentation on Unsightly Premises at the next Commission meeting. The Commission will be requesting a monthly status report.

A request will be made to the Department of Transportation by the Commission to allow staff to place a garbage can and bench, and to mow the vacant lot near Vail's Laundry for use as a rest park.

(d) Edwin Ditmars – Update

The Clerk presented a written and verbal update on the request from Mr. Ditmars to assist with the signage issue on Old Farm Lane. A letter was written to Department of Transportation requesting a resolution to Mr. Ditmars' dilemma, and no response has been received by the Village.

(e) User Group Insurance – Update

It was agreed that this item will be discussed at the upcoming meeting of the Commission on September 27, 2004.

- (g) **Apple Blossom Festival –Update** It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg that the Apple Blossom Festival Update and New Minas Website Update be deferred to the October, 2004 Commission meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**
- (h) **New Minas Website - Update**
- (i) **Founding Fathers Society – Commissioner Swanburg** The Clerk advised that she had spoken with Mrs. Lorraine MacPherson, who initially raised the question about the Society’s status. The Clerk advised that Mrs. MacPherson stated she was not looking for the list of donors; she already has that. Nor does she want to know the amounts. She just wanted to know where the money had gone and if the Commission would reactivate the Society.

It was agreed that the staff would investigate advertising the Commission’s desire to reactivate the Founding Fathers’ Society for the purposes of providing scholarships.

5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- (a) **Recreation Advisory Committee – Commissioner Nicholson** Commissioner Nicholson gave a verbal report from the Recreation Advisory Committee. He highlighted the following items:
- Land beside Civic Centre
 - Vice-chair elected – Sherry Swanburg
 - Director’s Report, as recorded in the Recreation Committee minutes of September 7th, 2004
 - Canada Day Update – as attached to Commission minutes of August 13th, 2004
 - Celebration Days Update – as attached to Commission minutes of August 13th, 2004
 - Canada Games – request for letter of support to be considered by Committee
 - Needs Assessment
 - Wellness Update – nothing to report to date
 - RNS Membership – Committee Vice-Chair to be added as second participant with Director of RNS Membership
 - Fall Programs – List presented to Committee
 - Terry Fox Run – Concern over low participation
 - Summer Camps – Update on Summer Camps attached to RAC minutes for September 7th, 2004 meeting

On motion of Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Commissioner Messom, the report of the Recreation Advisory Committee be adopted. MOTION CARRIED

It was noted that Commissioner Swanburg and son Paul Swanburg, Terry and Gordon Silver, and Lynn Spencer will be joining Jenn Coolen for the fun run.

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Commissioner Messom that \$100 be donated from the Commission to those participants from the Village toward the Terry Fox Run. MOTION CARRIED

(b) Water Commission – Commissioner Messom

Commissioner Messom gave a verbal report of the New Minas Water Commission:

- Representatives from the Department of Labour , including the Education Director, gave a presentation at the Water Commission meeting.

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

(c) Area Advisory Committee – Commissioner Swanburg

Commissioner Swanburg read from her Area Advisory Committee report (copy attached to original minutes). The highlights of this report outlined the AAC's activities the past month and are as follows:

- Review of amendments to the New Minas Sector Plan pursuant to application from Mr. Peter Reid.
- Reviewed an options paper on the application for amendment for the Yoga Bed and Breakfast on Roy Avenue
- Review of an application for citizen member on AAC
- Public Participation meeting in August with regard to New Minas Wellfield Protection Planning Policies and Overlay Zoning

It was moved by Commissioner Swanburg, seconded by Commissioner Messom that the report of the Area Advisory Committee be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

(d) Wellness Facility

Commissioner Swanburg reported that once again there is no update on

6. NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Sidewalk Construction

The Clerk advised that the Village's Superintendent of Public Works and Engineer had met with regard to the Sidewalk Construction item in the Capital Budget and presented two options for the Commission's consideration (report and letter attached to original minutes).

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Commissioner Nicholson, that new sidewalk construction for 2004/2005, pursuant to the Capital Budget, take place on Commercial Street, from the Superstore west. MOTION CARRIED

(b) Sewer Bylaw Amendment – 2nd Reading

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Messom to approve the 2nd Reading of Bylaw #3, Sewer Bylaw for the Village of New Minas, and to send same to the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations for approval. MOTION CARRIED

(c) Tractor Tender - Recommendation

The Clerk presented information with regard to tenders for a Tractor, pursuant to Capital Budget item for 2004/2005, as prepared by Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works (attached to original minutes).

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Commissioner Nicholson, that the tender from Planters Equipment for the 2004 John Deere, 4120 4 x 4 tractor in the amount of \$34,740 plus tax, be approved for purchase. MOTION CARRIED

(d) Kentville Rotary Club Radio/TV Auction – Request for Donation

Information was perused from the Rotary Club of Kentville which requested the Commission's participation in the 56th Annual Kentville Rotary Radio/TV Auction.

It was decided by the Commissioners that, although this is a very worthy cause, the Village Commission would support the New Minas service groups when possible.

(e) Village Offices renovations

The Clerk previously presented a written report on the need for office renovations, with 8 options considered by staff, for the Commission to consider. The Commissioners agreed to give the report consideration, and Vice-Chair Lockhart recommended adding Option 9 – have the Rec Director move to Lockhart River Park in the summer, and set up an office

(f) **Policies for consideration:**

*Group Benefits –
Employees Policy
Hiring of Former
Employees Policy
Storm Day Policy
Termination of Employee
Policy
Workers Compensation
Policy*

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that the five policies prepared for this meeting be deferred to the October, 2004 Commission meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**

7. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **Mr. Don Smith – request for Village to maintain land**

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg that Mr. Don Smith's letter dated September 13, 2004 be deferred to the October, 2004 Commission meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**

8. OTHER BUSINESS – There was no other business added to the Agenda

9. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

(a) **Mr. Les Barrett**

Mr. Barrett stated that he had made a motion when he was Commissioner several years ago that \$50,000 would be set aside each year for the next number of years for sidewalk construction in the Village, but it had to be new construction, not repair sidewalks already in existence. He asked the Village to reconsider its motion to only construct new sidewalks instead of repairing old sidewalks.

The Commissioners assured Mr. Barrett that the motion was actually for new construction, not repairs.

(b) **Ms. Rebecca Crouse**

Ms. Rebecca Crouse announced, as a courtesy to the Commission, that it was her intention to run for County Councillor in District 11.