



Village of Kingston  
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## **KINGSTON VILLAGE COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 10, 2011**

#### **COMMISSION:**

Tom Beardsley – Chairman  
Martha Armstrong  
Brad Beardsley  
Lorne Reid  
Doug Beaman

Greg Towne – Clerk/Treasurer  
Janice Hatfield – Administrative Assistant

#### 1. OPENING

Chairman Beardsley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

#### 2. REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Beardsley asked for a review of the February 10, 2011 Regular Session meeting minutes.

**ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER REID AND COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10TH, 2011 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.**

#### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Clerk stated a list of concerns was sent to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and that there is a new Area Manager in place who would have to be updated on the Village's concerns. Staff is also trying to coordinate a meeting with Joe Crowell, Traffic Authority Supervisor with DTIR to discuss speed limit concerns within the Village. Chairman Beardsley requested an invitation be extended to the Village of Greenwood for this meeting.

Commissioner Reid reported he had attended an informal Hotel Feasibility Study meeting on Monday, February 14th, 2011 at the Kings Regional Development Agency office in Kentville with the Village of Greenwood, Kings County and the consultant firm. The consultant firm stated they were looking into suitable land possibilities and would keep interested parties informed of the progress.

#### 4. PRESENTATION – ECONOMIC & BUDGET UPDATE

Clerk presented the economic update which included an improved economic outlook compared to previous periods but that economic recovery is still fragile. There are also concerns with recent events which may cause inflationary pressures. Provincial and Federal governments are experiencing significant deficits which would cause constrained spending and reductions to other areas. The provincial budget may have a negative impact on Municipal units which would trickle down to Villages and affect their funding requests to the County.

The budget goals are to maintain existing service levels, continue to incorporate efficiencies, improve customer service and communications, incorporate proactive infrastructure renewal plans, and prepare for current and future years with regard to appropriateness of rates, strategic planning and adequacy of reserves.

Village priorities for the current year include continued work on the long-term capital and maintenance plan, funding ventures with the Municipality, improved relationship with the Department of Transportation, continuation of policy development and the incorporation of Kingston Recreation within the Village.

The budget outlook for 2011/12 involves a change in the Provincial assessment cap of 2.9% over 0% the previous year. The overall assessed values on residential properties has increased by 5.7%, while assessment on commercial properties has decreased by 3.6%.

The budget pressures facing the Village are environmental standards and compliance for the wastewater system, Village assets are approaching expected lifespan, improving preventative maintenance, project management challenges and capital cost share funding.

Clerk presented budget goals which include a continuing plan towards fiscal sustainability, the integration of commission priorities within fiscal constraints, appropriate and stable tax and sewer rates, proactive planning, improved partnerships and cooperation, adequacy of reserves, capital replacement and funding.

The budget procedure will include a presentation to the public at the April 14th Commission meeting with no deliberations. Copies of the budget will be distributed to the public at the office, the library, municipal units and various organizations. On April 28th at a special Commission meeting there will be an opportunity for public deputations and budget deliberations. Budget will receive final approval after additional deliberations at the May 12th Commission meeting.

#### 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Wastewater, Public Works, and Recreation reports were received as presented.

6. SECOND READING – BY-LAW #1 – ELECTION BY-LAW

Clerk stated a change was necessary to the first reading which would include holding Nomination Day on the third Wednesday preceding Election Day rather than the second Wednesday. This change would allow more time between Nomination Day and Election Day to advertise to the public. The Commission approved this minor change.

**ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BEAMAN AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY THAT THE COMMISSION GIVE FINAL READING TO BY-LAW #1 BEING THE ELECTION BY-LAW OF THE VILLAGE OF KINGSTON. MOTION CARRIED.**

7. UPDATE - APPLE BLOSSOM COMMITTEE

Clerk stated even after a newsletter was sent to all Village residents seeking volunteer support for the Apple Blossom Committee as well as a front page local newspaper article and an advertisement on the Village website the Village did not receive sufficient support.

**ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG AND COMMISSIONER BEAMAN THAT THE VILLAGE FORMALLY WITHDRAW PRINCESS PARTICIPATION IN THE APPLE BLOSSOM FESTIVAL DUE TO A LACK OF SUFFICIENT VOLUNTEER BASE. MOTION CARRIED.**

8. DISCUSSION – SUMMER USAGE OF WESTERN KINGS ARENA

Commissioner Reid asked the Commission if they wanted, for budgeting purposes, to renew the Memorandum of Understanding with the Western Kings Arena with the Village operating the arena during non ice time.

**ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY AND COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE USAGE OF THE WESTERN KINGS ARENA DURING SUMMER 2011 AND TO INCLUDE IN THE 2011/2012 OPERATING BUDGET. MOTION CARRIED.**

9. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

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CLERK/TREASURER