



Village of Kingston
671 Main Street PO Box 254
Kingston NS B0P 1R0

ph 902 765-2800
fx 902 765-0807

KINGSTON VILLAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 10, 2016

COMMISSION:

Martha Armstrong – Chair
Don Holmesdale – Vice Chair
John Pierce
Bruce Carter - Absent
Paul Parsons

Mike McCleave – Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Hatfield – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Wayne Atwater – Councillor, Municipality of the County of Kings
Glen Abriel – Recreation Coordinator – Village of Kingston

OPENING

Chair Armstrong called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair Armstrong asked for a review of the February 9th, 2016 Regular Session meeting minutes.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER PIERCE AND COMMISSIONER HOLMESDALE THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9TH, 2016 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Armstrong asked if there was any business arising from the minutes of February 9th, 2016.

Commissioner Pierce asked about the status of the request to the County of Kings for information regarding funding amounts allotted to other villages and towns for Visitor Information Centres and libraries. Clerk stated he had not yet received the information but was told there is a county staff member assigned to handle the request.

Commissioner Parsons suggested if there is a shortage of New Years Eve donations from local businesses that it may be advisable to let them know the struggle when canvassing for donations. After a discussion Commission agreed to allot budget amount for fireworks from Steer BBQ to the New Years Eve event. Clerk will build into 2016/17 budget.

Chair Armstrong opened up the floor to the audience.

A resident of Ravenwood Subdivision stated she was asked to attend the village meeting to advise the Commission that signatures have been collected on a petition by residents who are against the proposed Eastlink cell tower. She was advised to submit the petition to the County. She also asked how the Commission felt about the proposed tower and if they could provide a letter of support for the petition. Chair Armstrong stated if the commission knew when the petition was to be presented to the County, they could arrange to have a letter of support for the petition sent at the same time.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Chair Armstrong invited Village Recreation Coordinator Glen Abriel to provide more information on the community gardens proposal. Mr. Abriel stated Kingston Recreation is providing leadership and partnership with the Kingston/Greenwood Community Health Board and the Canadian Mental Health Association and they have met to discuss a plan for a community garden in the village since food insecurity is prevalent in Nova Scotia. He stated community gardens are becoming more popular in the province and that a workshop was taking place on May 26th to create awareness and to find out if there is community interest in this idea. Mr. Abriel stated he has also met with the Upper Room Food Bank to get their members on board and possibly plant a garden next to their building. It was explained they would start out by having a few small gardens around the village, possibly using straw bales, which are the easiest to install and dismantle. Maintenance and supervision could possibly be provided by a placement from the Canadian Mental Health Association. Mr. Abriel stated they would start small to not overburden the Village's Public Works Department and that he was not looking to add to the budget but to possibly use some of the existing beautification budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – (See Reports)

WASTEWATER

Chair asked if Clerk contacted the County Building Inspector to see if their bylaw allows sump pumps to be tied into sewer systems. Clerk stated he has contacted the department but has not heard back. He stated if the building inspector can prevent it from happening with new construction going forward it would help with the problem.

PUBLIC WORKS

Chair Armstrong and Commissioner Parsons commented on how nice Centennial Park looks since the underbrush has been cleared.

Commissioner Pierce asked if the crosswalk by DeCoste Kitchens on Main St. should be eliminated totally if it is not a proper crosswalk. Commission decided since it was the only crosswalk between Tim Horton's and King of Donair along Main St. that it would remain but the standard and light fixture would be removed and light provided by streetlight.

RECREATION

After a discussion Commission decided it would be best to have community gardens in one location for ease of maintenance.

Chair asked Commission if they all agreed to send a letter to the Warden of the County stating the Village is against the installation of a cell tower in the green space next the ball fields in Ravenwood Subdivision. Commission agreed and suggested sending copies to all 11 County Councillors.

Commissioner Pierce asked if the March Break Day Camp was going to be cancelled due to lack of participants. Clerk stated the day camp will take place since there were more registrations received.

Commissioner Pierce stated the Steer BBQ Committee needed a representative from the Village Commission. After a discussion, Commissioner Holmesdale will sit on the committee jointly with Commissioner Pierce.

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

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

OPERATIONS

Clerk reported on a few known variances (see report).

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

EXPROPRIATION – EAST MAIN LIFT STATION LAND

Clerk stated the landowner was expected to respond to the offer by April 7th.

PUBLIC Wi-Fi and SECURITY CAMERAS

Clerk anticipates the work will be completed by mid summer.

Monthly Finance report was received as presented.

CLERK REPORT

SPEED RADAR SIGN

Clerk asked the Commission where they would like to have the new speed sign placed after the data at the east Main St location is collected. Commission agreed to have it moved next to 501 Pine Ridge Ave.

UPDATE ON KINGSTON MEDICAL CLINIC AND GREENWOOD ROAD SOUTH PAVING

Clerk stated he will let Commission know as soon as he receives an update from Minister Glavine.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION POLICY

Commissioner Holmesdale stated the Policy and Finance Committee met and drafted the attached policy based on other municipal policies and asked for input from the Commission. After a discussion the Commission decided to make a change under Employee Departures/Retirements to read - After 5 years of employment, "at the discretion of the Clerk/Treasurer". The Commission also agreed to remove "departing gift" under the same heading. Clerk will make changes and send new draft to the Commission and item will be included in April agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION/LIONS SIGN REQUEST

Chair stated the letter received from the Legion and Lions asked for Village support to install two off site directional signs to indicate their location. Clerk will advise organizations that this item falls under the County's sign bylaw and will ask them for more information regarding the sign design.

PORT GEORGE JAMBOREE

Chair stated the Village received a request for funding for the 2016 Port George Jamboree. Commission agreed to provide "Silver Sponsorship" in the amount of \$125.

ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLMESDALE THAT THE MEETING BE
ADJOURNED AT 8:40PM. MOTION CARRIED.**

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER