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KINGSTON VILLAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 3, 2017

COMMISSION:

Don Holmesdale – Chair
John Pierce – Vice Chair
Bruce Carter
Paul Parsons
Muriel West

Mike McCleave – Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Hatfield – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Martha Armstrong – Councillor District 4 – Municipality of the County of Kings
Brian Hirtle – Councillor District 3 – Municipality of the County of Kings
Shalene Taylor – Proposed Child Care Centre Operator

OPENING

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair Holmesdale asked for a review of the April 5th, 2017 Regular Session meeting minutes.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER PIERCE AND COMMISSIONER CARTER THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 5TH, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Holmesdale asked for any business arising from the minutes of April 5th, 2017.

Clerk reported the Village has been given a letter of consent by the Department of Natural Resources to install a sewer line along the rail bed and once they approve the design the easement should be granted by fall.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Holmesdale asked for a motion to approve the agenda items as presented.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CARTER AND COMMISSIONER WEST THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

WATER SYSTEM REQUEST FROM BUSINESS OWNER

Shalene Taylor stated she was soon going to be the operator of an accessible child care centre in Kingston at the previous T&S Office Essentials building. She was attending the meeting on a networking and outsourcing capacity but mainly wanted to explain that she ran into an obstacle when she looked into accepting infants. She discovered she would need a sprinkler system and since Kingston does not have a water system she would have to install a pool sized tank which would cost \$200,000.00. Ms. Taylor also found it unfair that if it was an in-home business, a sprinkler system would not be required. She then asked the Commission if there were any plans for a water system in Kingston.

Councillor Armstrong stated since the business was to open in a month, another solution had to be made. She stated the County and the Village could offer support and speak on her behalf but advised Ms. Taylor to approach the provincial government for possible changes to their regulations.

COUNTY UPDATE

Councillor Hirtle provided an update on changes to Valley Waste and garbage pickup at cottage areas to try to solve the illegal dumping problem. He also informed the Commission that Gas Tax allotments are not just going to go toward sewer and water but will now include such items such as Broadband internet, arenas with the reasoning that this money belongs to all residents in Kings County. Commissioner Carter asked if there will be a leaf pickup by Valley Waste. Councillor Hirtle stated the leaf pickup is not in the budget but suggested the Village send a letter of request to the County for this service.

Councillor Armstrong reported County Council passed the capital budget but are still working on the operating budget. She noted she was against the changes made for gas tax allotments because the County's sewer reserves are too low and County staff had sewer work that needed to be done which she thought should be a priority this year. She stated the gas tax changes should have been considered over the next year. As far as the new municipal complex she stated there are 4 options that the consultant is looking at for location and they should have an answer in a few weeks. County council is also looking at the possibility of including an independently run day care centre which may be provided through the Nova Scotia Community College program.

Councillor Hirtle reported the process of hiring a new Chief Administrative Officer should be completed by July.

Clerk asked about the status of the \$25,000 request for funding for the Credit Union Centre since it is patronized by 55-60% County residents. He also stated even though the arena made their presentation with two other arenas it should be considered separately and not dismissed just because the other two entities did not apply for funding this year.

Councillor Hirtle also reported on the many important Land Use Bylaw zoning changes coming up that will be available online.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – See Full Reports

WASTEWATER – See Full Report

Clerk stated it will cost an extra \$30.00/month to do the ammonia testing for the Federal Department of Fisheries.

PUBLIC WORKS – See full report

Commissioner Pierce asked if the contractor was working on repairs for Bishop Ave and Windsor St. resulting from last year's sewer replacement. Clerk stated they were given a list of deficiencies and have started working on them. Clerk stated Mid Valley Construction wants to get started soon on the Pine Ridge Ave curbing. Commissioner Carter suggested tenders should include no lapse of time between start to finish.

Commissioner Pierce noticed the street sweeping is being done but gradually by the Department of Transportation.

Clerk reported the cemetery across from Avery's Farm Market on Main Street may be in limbo regarding caretakers and that this may be an item the village ends up taking responsibility for. Chair Holmesdale suggested looking into provincial regulations and church responsibility.

RECREATION – See Full Report

Commissioner Parsons suggested having buskers perform at the Steer BBQ for both Friday evening and Saturday and that Halifax may have a list of local performers to invite.

Commissioner West stated the planning committee for the Canada Day event in Greenwood are requesting to have the village's steer costume in the parade. Commission agreed to lend the costume for the event.

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

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT – See Full Report

CANADA 150 BANNERS

Clerk stated he was getting quotes for Canada 150 banners and asked the Commission if they wanted to add the village's name. Commission agreed to include 'Village of Kingston' on the banners. Commissioner West suggested asking the Village of Greenwood to partner on this to keep the costs down.

YEAR-END AUDIT

Clerk stated the auditors completed their audit and will provide draft financial statements before the annual general meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR) LAND PURCHASE

Clerk confirmed that part of the tender requirements for the project is that the design and tender documents will have to be approved by the Department of Natural Resources.

RESIDENT DRIVEWAY UPDATE

Clerk reported Scott Peckford asked the office if the Department of Transportation had sent a formal reply stating they would not allow a driveway entrance on the "race track right of way". Commission suggested he talk to Richard Lloyd directly since there was no formal response to the office.

OPERATING BUDGET

Clerk asked the Commission if there were any questions before approval of the operation budget and with no questions the following motions were approved:

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER PIERCE AND COMMISSIONER PARSONS THAT:

THERE WILL BE NO INCREASES TO THE 2017/18 RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE AND IT BE SET AT 30.9 CENTS ON RESIDENTIAL AND RESOURCE PROPERTIES. MOTION CARRIED.

THERE WILL BE NO INCREASES TO THE 2017/18 COMMERCIAL TAX RATE AND IT BE SET AT 41.3 CENTS ON COMMERCIAL PROPERTY. MOTION CARRIED.

THERE WILL BE NO INCREASES TO THE 2017/18 SEWER RATES FOR ALL RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES. MOTION CARRIED.

EXPROPRIATION – UARB HEARING

Clerk reported the Utility and Review Board public hearing on May 30th and 31st is being moved from the Fire Hall to the arena due to the provincial election being held on May 30th.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE:

SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT

Surveyors should have the tender ready by the end of the month for the sewer line replacement behind The Crossing Restaurant.

GREENWOOD ROAD DESIGN for NEW GRAVITY LINE

The engineering quote deadline for the new sewer gravity line on Greenwood Road is May 7th.

KN 14 FORCEMAIN DESIGN

The deadline for the engineering quotes on the design work for the new sewer line along the old rail bed is May 7th.

PINE RIDGE AVE CURBING

Mid Valley Construction was the successful bidder for the Pine Ridge Ave curbing project in the amount of \$80,340 + HST.

DUMP TRAILER

Clerk reported the contract has been awarded to the lowest bidder, Shay Tirecraft for \$8,268 + HST. The old dump trailer was advertised and sold for \$2,400.

UPCOMING CALENDAR DATES

Nomination Day – Wednesday, May 10
Advance Poll – Should have read *Tuesday*, May 23
Election Day – Saturday, May 27
Annual General Meeting – Wednesday, May 24

CORRESPONDENCE:

APPLE BLOSSOM FESTIVAL INVITATION

Chair Holmesdale stated he received an invitation from the Apple Blossom Festival to attend their various events.

SCOUTS CANADA INVITATION

Chair stated the Commission received an invitation to attend Scouts Canada's Good Turn Week event at the Kingston Superstore on Saturday. Commissioner Carter will attend.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:00PM. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER