



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 JANUARY 3, 2018

COMMISSION:

Don Holmesdale
John Pierce
Bruce Carter
Paul Parsons
Muriel West

Mike McCleave – Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Hatfield – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Martha Armstrong - County Councillor District 4

OPENING

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair Holmesdale asked for a review of the December 3rd Regular Session meeting minutes.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CARTER AND COMMISSIONER WEST THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3RD, 2017. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair asked for any business arising from the minutes of December 3rd, 2017.

Commissioner West asked if there was any response yet from Canada Post regarding the letter the Village sent expressing concerns of the changes and downsizing at the Kingston Post Office. Clerk stated there has still been no response to date.

Commissioner West asked Councillor Armstrong if there was any word from the Department of Transportation as to when they will start the traffic count at the intersection of Main St. and Maple St. Councillor Armstrong stated there has been no word yet.

Commissioner Pierce asked if there was any word from Kings Transit with regard to the Village's request to change the temporary detoured route through Kingston to a permanent route. Clerk checked with Kings Transit's General Manager, Steve Foster

who stated the ridership on the old route is 15 and the new route would only have 10. Manager indicated he would like to see the old route stay the same but stated since the route goes through Annapolis County, they would have to be consulted. Commission agreed to send a letter to Annapolis County with a request to have the detoured route from last fall become a permanent one.

Commissioner Carter reported he examined the blue spruce tree in the center of town and deemed it to be healthy. Commission agreed to plant another tree for Christmas light decorating such as a balsam fir.

Commissioner Carter asked Councillor Armstrong if the tender had been awarded on December 13th for the new Municipal complex. Councillor Armstrong stated there had been a few extensions and that the award date was changed to January 10th.

Clerk stated, with the impending closure of the CIBC bank in Kingston, he contacted the branch manager of TD Bank in Kentville and she stated she wasn't certain TD would be interested in opening a branch in Kingston. Clerk also posted a message on Facebook and tagged the Credit Union, Bank of Montreal, and TD Bank which is seen by over a million people.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

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

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER PIERCE AND COMMISSIONER PARSONS THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

COUNTY UPDATE – COUNCILLOR MARTHA ARMSTRONG – DISTRICT 4

Councillor Armstrong updated the Commission on the following:

- Last night's agenda items included a motion from Scott Quinn, the County's Manager of Engineering and Public Works, for County to spend \$30,000 on a feasibility study for a water system in Kingston. It was discovered by County that all wells in Greenwood are on the same aquifer and they were not able to locate any back-up wells. They felt that if anything should happen to their present water source, there should be a back-up system in place, and the best place to look for a good water source is the north mountain. The study is subject to approval by council and, if approved, it would just go on as a line item in the upcoming budget.

Commissioner Parsons asked if the County would move forward with the water system if the study is approved. Councillor Armstrong stated she believed so, but that a plebiscite would have to take place and it would then have to go to the Utility and Review Board which could take a few years. Outside funding sources would also have to be sought out. The system would be under the umbrella of the county-run Greenwood water system. Chair Holmesdale stated he would like to have a tour of the Greenwood water system. Councillor Armstrong advised the Commission to send a letter to County requesting a tour. Councillor

Armstrong also stated that since the north mountain is a possible water source and is in Councillor Hirtle's district, he was wondering if he could sit on Kingston's Planning Advisory Committee. Commissioner West asked about the legalities of this request. Clerk will look into it for next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

WASTEWATER – See Full Report

PUBLIC WORKS – See full report

Commissioner West commented that the outdoor rink looked great, the sidewalks during all the snow were immaculate and the Christmas lights looked beautiful this year in the downtown area.

RECREATION – See Full Report

Chair stated Recreation Coordinator Glen Abriel and Commissioner John Pierce did an excellent job planning and implementing the 2017 New Year's Eve event. Local businesses, who were very generous with their support of the event, as well as volunteers, once again helped to make it a successful event. The fireworks, which lasted a good 10-12 minutes, were particularly popular this year. Commissioner West suggested that for next year the balloon animal making should finish up at 8:30pm to allow the volunteers to view the fireworks and the cleanup crew to begin cleaning.

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

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT – See Full Report

General Operations

Clerk stated through the first 9 months of the fiscal year there are no known variances to report on and that overall, the year end position is expected to be favourable.

Monthly finance report was received as presented.

CLERK'S DISCUSSIONS:

Utility and Review Board (UARB) Decision

Clerk reminded the commission that the land cost for the property, which was expropriated by the Village for a new sewer lift station, was determined by the UARB to be valued at \$35,000 and the injurious affection claim to be \$12,000 for a total cost of \$47,000 for the Village plus legal fees – total costs yet to be determined. After a discussion, the Commission decided that as much as they disagreed with the way it all transpired they agreed to pay the costs.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER PIERCE AND COMMISSIONER WEST THAT THE VILLAGE AGREES TO PAY ALL FEES DETERMINED BY THE UTILITY AND REVIEW

BOARD AND ALL LEGAL FEES USING CAPITAL RESERVES TO A TOTAL NOT EXCEEDING \$75,000. MOTION CARRIED.

Bill 10 - Municipal Government Act (MGA) Changes

Clerk stated the new Code of Conduct Policy will be designed specifically for the Commission and can be signed by all Commissioners at each annual general meeting. There will be a separate Code of Conduct for employees. The Policy and Finance Committee is in the process of updating the Village's Expense Policy. The MGA also requires that all Villages adopt a Hospitality Policy.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Land Purchase

Clerk stated he expects to receive the documents from the Department of Natural Resources within the month for the purchase of land next to the rail bed trail. Commissioner Pierce asked if the Village was committed to purchasing the land in the event the price is too high. Clerk stated there is no commitment to purchase.

Capital Budget

The prioritizing of the budget will take place next meeting. After a discussion the Commission agreed to hold an additional meeting, before the next regular session meeting, on Thursday, January 11th at 7pm to discuss capital projects. Clerk will ask wastewater supervisor to attend.

DISCUSSIONS:

Commissioner West asked if the Village could make a request to the Department of Transportation for a No Exit sign for Prince Street. Clerk will make request.

Chair Holmesdale stated there will be a Steer BBQ meeting at 6:30pm on Tuesday, January 9th at the Lions Hall.

Commissioner West stated she has noticed a consistent problem of grocery carts being removed from the Superstore grounds and then left abandoned in various locations around the Village, predominately on Lincoln Street. She has also noticed them in the wooded area at Centennial Park. She stated she would like to discuss some possible solutions such as writing a letter to the Superstore. After a discussion the Commission decided it would be best to call the store whenever a cart is spotted. Clerk can also contact the store at peak times, such as the Steer BBQ, when it is more problematic.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER PIERCE THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:23PM. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER