



Village of Kingston
655 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 AUGUST 11, 2021

COMMISSION:

Wayne Fowler
Mike Bishop
Muriel West
Brad Beardsley
Neil Larder

Mike McCleave – Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Knickle – Administrative Assistant

OPENING

Clerk called the Regular Session meeting to order at 7:00pm.

SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONERS

Clerk swore-in newly elected Commissioners Muriel West and Wayne Fowler with an oath of allegiance and of office. Each will serve another 3-year term.

CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR APPOINTMENT

Clerk called for nominations for the position of Chair.

Commissioner Larder nominated Commissioner Fowler. Commissioner Fowler accepted the nomination. Seconded by Commissioner Bishop. As there were no further nominations, Clerk declared Commissioner Fowler as Chair.

Chair Fowler called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Commissioner Beardsley nominated Commissioner Bishop. Commissioner Bishop accepted the nomination. Seconded by Commissioner Larder. As there were no further nominations, Chair declared Commissioner Bishop as Vice Chair.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair asked for a review of the July 8, 2021 Regular Session meeting minutes.

**ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY AND COMMISSIONER BISHOP,
THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
OF JULY 8, 2021. MOTION CARRIED.**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Fowler asked for any business arising from the minutes of July 8, 2021.

Robert Joudrey is in the process of appraising the parcels of Village land and his appraisal should be completed in a few weeks.

Most of the parts have arrived for the lift stations so Pennecon staff will start work at the beginning of next week and the job should be completed by the end of that week.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

Chair asked for any additions to the agenda. Commission agreed to remove the in-camera session from the agenda.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BISHOP AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH CHANGE. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – See Full Reports

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – See Full Report

Last month the pump for the lift station at 321 Main St was causing trouble and since the pump is now obsolete and parts cannot be ordered, staff requested quotes for a new pump. Staff received quote of \$7,500 for one pump or \$11,000 for two pumps, so the decision was made to order two.

Staff recommended having two splash style aerators for the sewer treatment plant and asked that a second one be considered in next year's budget.

PUBLIC WORKS – See Full Report

Chair received a complaint about the unpaved parking lot next to Pharmasave that belongs to Irving Oil. Since Irving periodically does environmental testing beneath the surface of the parking lot, the Village does not have permission to pave it. Clerk suggested planters could be placed next to the sidewalk to at least block the view of the unpaved parking area from the road.

A new motor was ordered for the duck pond fountain after the old one burnt out.

The deadline for the downtown snow removal tender is August 26th at 1pm.

New 12' streetlights were installed on the south side of Main St. Paving still has to be completed where cuts were made in parking lot. Staff are waiting for the extensions to be added to the older 10' streetlights; location of those to be determined.

Commission discussed the fact that the Department of Transportation (DTAT) always had the street sweeper here by the end of June before the Steer BBQ event. The explanation given by DTAT for the delay is that they only have one machine and one

driver. The machine was in for repairs, it was busy in other areas and now their only driver is on vacation for two weeks. Commission agreed the Village would have to adhere to DTAT and wait for the sweeper. In the meantime, due to the provincial election and possible changes, staff did not send letter to the Minister of Transportation. Commission asked Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Deputy Minister of Transportation to discuss various issues.

The results of the tender for the siding of the new library:

- Rick Gillis had the lowest tender bid of \$85,000
- Mid Valley Construction - \$116,000
- Avondale Construction - \$158,000

The tender includes provisions for repairs to the building. Commission agreed that if references checked out the tender would be awarded to Rick Gillis. Commission commended Public Works for all their hard work in making the Village look so good, including the newly renovated ballfield at Ravenwood.

RECREATION – See Full Report

Commission agreed that a committee for a future Steer BBQ event should be formed by September or October. Commissioner Beardsley will meet with Muriel West and staff to discuss how a future Steer BBQ Committee could look.

EMILY HARRIS REPORT – See Full Report

Village will advertise for a new full time position in the fall, which will involve recreation, community development and social media skills. Commission also agreed there should be more social media promotion of commissioner efforts and their responsibilities on various committees.

Commissioner Beardsley will check on other outdoor movie licensing information for a cost comparison with NS licensing.

A request came from the province to hold an event for Emancipation Day (the international day is August 23rd). Recreation staff booked the band Shoulder to Shoulder to perform at Centennial Park for Emancipation Day on Monday August 23rd. The Lions Club will be providing food during the performance. The cost for the band is \$800 and staff are applying for a grant of \$500. Clerk stated there is room in the budget for this event. Commission agreed to support this event using funds from the Festivals and Events Policy budget item.

Commission will revisit the prospect of holding a celebratory 'end of Covid' event.

CLERK REPORT – See Full Report

Property Taxes Arrears

Arrears for property taxes dropped from \$92,889 last month to \$59,247 in August. There are 11 properties in arrears of over \$1,000.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The government recently passed legislation to make **September 30th** a federal statutory holiday for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This day provides an opportunity for federally regulated workers to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools. It will become a designated paid holiday and will allow employees in the federal public service to observe and participate in this important day starting September 2021. The Village was asked to participate in a walk that day from 14 Wing Greenwood to the cenotaph. Commission asked Clerk to research what other municipalities are doing for an event and provide an update if/when the province makes it a paid holiday.

Committee Members

Commissioners agreed to sit on the following committees:

- **Steer BBQ Committee** – Commissioners Muriel West and Brad Beardsley
- **Audit Committee** – Commissioners Wayne Fowler and Mike Bishop
- **Policy and Finance Committee** – Commissioners Wayne Fowler and Mike Bishop
- **Area Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Wayne Fowler, Muriel West and Brad Beardsley. Clerk will advertise on Facebook for a third position.
- **Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Wayne Fowler and Mike Bishop.

Annapolis Valley Chapter of Autism NS Event Funding Request

The Village received a funding request of \$550 from the Annapolis Valley Chapter of Autism NS through the Village's Festivals and Events Policy. The fundraising event is the Annapolis Valley Autos for Autism, an antique car show to be held on Saturday, September 25th at the Recreation grounds on Westwood St.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY TO APPROVE FUNDING REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$550 FOR THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY AUTOS FOR AUTISM EVENT ON SEPT. 25TH. MOTION CARRIED.

Association of NS Villages – Conference and Annual General Meeting

The annual conference is being held in New Minas this year and is a good learning experience for all commissioners.

Conference Day is on Friday, September 17th – Commissioner West, Commissioner Bishop and Chair Fowler will attend.

Annual General Meeting is on Saturday, September 18th – Chair Fowler, Commissioner West (voting delegate) and Clerk will attend.

Service NS advised Clerk to have a discussion with the other villages regarding problems experienced with the Department of Transportation. If they are also having problems, the association could represent the villages collectively.

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee

Commissioner Bishop reported they have held a few meetings and have chosen a Chair and Vice Chair. The cost of the consultant was double the anticipated amount and took 95% of the budget.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BISHOP AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY TO APPROVE THE BUDGET INCREASE AS REQUESTED BY THE JOINT ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BISHOP AND COMMISSIONER LARDER TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

Commission asked Clerk to add the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee and Steer BBQ Committee to the Regular Session Meeting agendas. Clerk will send report reminder notices to Commissioner Bishop and Commissioner Beardsley one week prior to the meeting.

Christmas Bonuses

Commission agreed to increase gross cash bonus to offset taxes, EI and CPP premiums and deductions.

Capital Projects – See Table

DISCUSSION:

Well Drilling

Commissioner Larder noted the County has recently been successful drilling wells in Greenwood for a secondary backup and would like to see if it was feasible to bring water across the river to Kingston with directional drilling. This would save the cost of more (possibly unsuccessful) well searching/drilling. Commission agreed to ask the County if the Village of Kingston could tap into a suitable source in Greenwood.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commission agreed the public affairs office at 14 Wing Greenwood would be the best choice for Alan Lynch to get information on how Nova Scotia responded to the needs of the people stranded after the September 11th terrorist attacks in 2001.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY AND COMMISSIONER BISHOP TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:10PM. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER