



Village of Kingston
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KINGSTON VILLAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF DEC 9, 2021

COMMISSION:

Wayne Fowler - Chair
Mike Bishop - Vice Chair
Muriel West
Brad Beardsley
Neil Larder

Mike McCleave - Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Knickle - Administrative Assistant

OPENING

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair asked for a review of the November 4, 2021 Regular Session meeting minutes.

Commissioner West clarified that there were 50 'plus' people who attended the doctor recruitment event in Bridgetown.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY, THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 2021 WITH AMENDMENT. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Fowler asked for any business arising from the minutes of November 4, 2021.

Reports were given by each of the seven villages at the Kings County/Villages meeting. The main topic of discussion was regarding the NS Department of Public Works (NSDPW), (formerly Dept. of Transportation) and the dissatisfaction with the quality of work and work just not being done. Commission agreed to have staff draft a letter as a follow up to the meeting with the County asking that they put in a request to the province to increase the budget for NSDPW. This was a unified request from all seven Kings County Villages.

During the same meeting, the County reiterated that they are still in the process of a planning project to hook Kingston to the Greenwood water utility. The Village of Greenwood is also in favour of this endeavor.

The County has not yet organized a planning meeting regarding the proposed storage units in Kingston. Commission asked that Clerk contact the County for an update.

The letter to the NS Minister for the Department of Public Works (NSDPW) regarding the traffic backup at the Tim Hortons Drive-Thru was also sent to the franchisee, who had questions. It was explained to the franchisee that the letter was to hopefully have NSDPW find a suitable solution.

The New Year's Eve event will consist of fireworks only, due to Covid-19 and the spread of the new Omicron variant. The Village of Greenwood will be contributing toward the fireworks. There was no request sent out to businesses for donations since it was not a full event.

Commissioners checked the state of both Hillcrest Ave and McMaster Cres and agreed that McMaster should be on the 2022 list for repaving. Clerk will advise the County that the Commission agreed to substitute George St and Varner St with McMaster Cres.

Clerk confirmed he emailed Scott Quinn at the County and copied NSDPW, asking that the section of Markland Rd in front of the Superstore be delisted and grassed over **or** that the rest of Markland Rd be fixed next year.

Commission Bishop reported there is a citizen vacancy for the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC). Commission agreed that Ben Brown, an advocate for disability, would be an ideal candidate and asked Clerk to send his contact information to the committee.

The Santa Drive-Through was a success with many residents out to greet Santa. The accompanying fire truck had to leave near the end of the tour to respond to an emergency call.

The Village's recreation position has been posted on Indeed.ca and the Clerk has started to receive resumes.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

Chair asked for any additions to the agenda.

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

Commission asked that the draft minutes be sent to them earlier to prepare for the meeting.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – See Full Report

Legion Sewer Backup

As per report, the Legion had a sewer backup due to a blockage (video showed what appeared to be a diaper) in their line and they have asked the Village to reimburse

them for the repair bills. The diaper had to come from either the Legion or the Lions Club and therefore Commission agreed they would not set a precedent by paying the bill. Commission asked Clerk to contact the Legion with the decision.

West Main St Development

Clerk reviewed that the purpose of the Village's \$380 sewer permit is to give permission to connect to Village sewer, to inform the Village of a build and to provide an inspection of the line. He suggested the Village may want to adopt a 3-tiered system with costs determined by whether there is a lateral in place or not. Commission agreed to have Clerk meet with STP Supervisor Dan Lundrigan to discuss the details.

PUBLIC WORKS – See Full Report

Leaf/Brush Bins

Commission agreed with public works staff that the Village needs an alternate location for the leaf/brush bins to save the grassed area from getting destroyed. As well, a suggestion was made to the office to have two leaf bins available during the busy weeks.

New Streetlamps

Commission commented on how nice the Village looked with the Christmas lights and decorations and in particular, the new lampposts with the new silhouette light decorations. Commission would like to add the Irving parking lot area next to the beautification budget.

New Public Works Building

The building permit will be ready in the next couple of weeks. Construction will most likely begin early summer.

New Trees Planted

Commission commented that the trees planted at the Elm St playground look great.

Bridge St Turning Lane

Chair confirmed he received about 75-100 complaints regarding the terrible quality of the road patching job that was done on the east bound turning lane by the Dept. of Transportation. Area Manager Richard Lloyd said they plan to fix it next year.

RECREATION – See Full Report

A third day of classes was added for Senior Fitness in order to offer a more active workout. The Village added Wednesday as the extra day during the month of December to see if it is viable to have 3 classes per week.

EMILY HARRIS REPORT – See Full Report

Commissioner West prepared Christmas cards and Community Development staff Emily Harris prepared an infographic on Collaborative Business Groups. They visited each Kingston business to hand deliver the cards and business group information. Emily received a positive response from businesses regarding forming a business group and invited them to contact her.

The seniors who attended the dinner theatre in Halifax, which was organized by the County of Kings, were all from the Kingston area and the feedback was very positive.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Steer BBQ

Commissioner Beardsley stated he has not yet heard from the Legion regarding their participation in the Steer BBQ. He will ask them to send an attendee to the next meeting.

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC)

The funding calculation for the proposed 2022/23 budget shows that the Village of Kingston's share will be \$630.00.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BISHOP AND COMMISSIONER LARDER THAT THE VILLAGE COMMISSION APPROVE THE \$630.00 AS PER PROPOSED JAAC BUDGET. MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Bishop clarified that there were images in the report that were incorrectly labeled the Village of Kingston. Clerk will advise the Committee.

Kingston Area Advisory Committee

The County is supposed to organize a meeting soon to discuss the proposed storage unit at 787 Main St.

Audit Committee

Chris Fowler will sit on the audit committee.

Soldiers Memorial Hospital Foundation

Commissioner West will attend the next meeting on December 10th regarding doctor recruitment and retention and report back to the Commission.

CLERK REPORT – See Full Report

Overnight Parking

A new resident on Markland Rd asked for permission to use the Village's parking lot next to Markland Rd. Commission denied this request due to snow removal issues and setting a precedent.

New Year's Eve Fireworks

The Villages of Kingston and Greenwood and the County of Kings, with a total budget of \$12,000, will sponsor the fireworks. Paragon Golf Course is prepared for the setup.

Library Siding

Clerk will contact contractor on Friday for an update on whether or not he can do the work.

Finance Report – See full report

Clerk reported the numbers look good and that there is a surplus at this point.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Kingston Legion

(Sewer bill discussed earlier)

DISCUSSIONS:

Commissioner West suggested, for next year, having a large Christmas wreath propped up under each of the Village signs.

ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BISHOP AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:50PM. MOTION CARRIED.**

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER