



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 FEB 10, 2022

COMMISSION:

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

Mike McCleave - Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Knickle - Administrative Assistant

GUEST:

Chris Palmer - MLA Kings West

OPENING

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair asked for a review of the January 13, 2022 Regular Session meeting minutes. Commissioner West asked that the following sentence be reworded under the heading Covid-19 Vaccination Policy: "The Village technically does not require a vaccine policy but it ~~having one~~ would allow the Village to dictate ~~whom~~ who we hire...."

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY, THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2022 WITH CHANGES. MOTION CARRIED.

MLA CHRIS PALMER

MLA Chris Palmer attended the meeting to see what the priorities are for the Village and to keep the lines of communication open. He was in communication with Doug Pulsifer, at the NS Department of Public Works (NS DPW), who will do another traffic count at the intersection of Main and Maple. Clerk pointed out that visibility is the issue, particularly when there is a large truck in the turning lane. It would be ideal if Tim Hortons patrons could use King St to exit the drive-thru, as it would be more of a 4-way stop.

Chair advised MLA that one of the Village's main issues is with the NS DPW. MLA advised that the provincial government has increased their budget, which should help, but that there are staffing issues as well, partly due to Covid-19.

MLA is working closely with the Mid Valley Doctor Recruitment group to try to expedite certain procedures. He is also working on improving emergency services at Soldiers Memorial Hospital in Middleton.

Commissioner West asked if MLA could look into possible agricultural grants for the Steer BBQ event.

MLA advised that his office in Berwick is offering tax preparation services. Commissioner West reported the Kingston Library has volunteers offering that service.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Fowler asked for any business arising from the minutes of January 13, 2022.

Commissioner West asked if staff could number the pages going forward.

No updates on Public Works building or East Main sidewalk study.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

Chair asked for any additions to the agenda.

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

Commissioner West asked to have the Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV) added to the Committee Reports section of the agenda going forward.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – See Full Report

PUBLIC WORKS – See Full Report

The head mechanic with Saunders Equipment Ltd in Fredericton is going to come down and try to troubleshoot the problems with the MT7 snow removal machine.

RECREATION – See Full Report

The interview process is taking place for the Recreation Coordinator position.

EMILY HARRIS REPORT – See Full Report

The pdf brochure for new residents could also be distributed at 14 Wing Greenwood's Wing Welcome in the fall.

The Commission agreed the Village/Library could not participate in the 7Arts art rental program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Steer BBQ

Commissioner Beardsley met with Commissioners Larder and West, the Clerk and the Recreation Coordinator to discuss logistics and ideas. The province's 3-phase plan of loosening Covid-19 restrictions should allow the event to take place in July. It will take place on Saturday only, the second week of July. The Kingston Fire Department will host the pancake breakfast but they have discontinued the Sparky Fun Run.

Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)

Nova Scotia Villages held a Zoom meeting on January 21st to discuss issues they are experiencing. Other villages concurred with Kingston Clerk that they are frustrated with the NS Department of Public Works. They agreed the annual maintenance, such as crosswalk line painting, are either being done quite late in the year or not at all. Villages were also all receiving the same excuse of their lack of budget.

Commissioner West will be attending an Accessibility Directorate Webinar on Feb 15th. The province will lead the webinar to help other public sector bodies develop an accessibility plan.

CLERK REPORT – See Full Report

Kingston Area Advisory Committee (KAAC)

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE PAUL MCNEIL TO SIT ON THE KINGSTON AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED.

The committee met and approved a proposed self-storage unit for Main St. The County of Kings will now continue with the process.

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC)

Each party to the Intermunicipal Service Agreement must approve all appointments to the committee, including the new appointment in Aylesford, Kirk MacLennan.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BISHOP AND COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY THAT THE VILLAGE OF KINGSTON APPOINT KIRK MACLENNAN AS THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE VILLAGE OF AYLESFORD ON THE JOINT ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED.

Nova Scotia Equity and Anti-Racism Legislation

An All-Party Committee is developing the legislation and is holding eight virtual public engagement sessions (1.5 hrs long) on proposed equity and anti-racism legislation. There were four sessions in January and four in February. This information will be shared on the Village Facebook site.

Recreation Coordinator

Recreation Coordinator agreed to help the Village during the replacement job search. Commission agreed to pay Recreation Coordinator hourly, when needed, during the search.

New Clarifier Study/Design

The clarifier study/design was expanded to include the entire plant since there had not been a review of the sewer treatment plant (STP) since its upgrade in 1992. The Village received tender bids from Able Engineering, Dillon Consulting, RV Anderson and EXP ranging from \$28,800 to \$60,764 + HST. Staff scored the tenders based on costs and the ability of the companies and recommended using Dillon Consulting at a cost of \$38,340.00+HST.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY AND COMMISSIONER WEST THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE TENDER BID OF \$38,340.00+HST FROM DILLON CONSULTING TO COMPLETE NEW STP CLARIFIER STUDY/DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT OPERATIONS. MOTION CARRIED.

The work will begin this summer.

Irving Parking Lot

The beautification at the Irving parking lot may be limited due to snow removal.

Finance Report – See full report

DISCUSSIONS:

The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), a federal program run through the province, offers 33-cent dollar grants for the following:

- Public Transit
- Green Infrastructure
- Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure
- Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure

County of Kings requested the seven county villages send a list of projects to be funded and they would make an application for all. This funding can only be applied for once.

Commissioner West reported that Westwood Street is still a mess with flooding that then freezes.

FYI the Village of Bible Hill is doing a design study for the Bible Hill Recreation Park, which is replacing a natural park. They are holding a zoom discussion for public input on the park and they want ideas for their other parks.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BEARDSLEY AND COMMISSIONER LARDER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:06PM. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER