



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 FEBRUARY 9, 2023

COMMISSION:

Wayne Fowler – Chair
Mike Bishop – Vice Chair
Muriel West
Neil Larder
Lauren Avery

Mike McCleave – Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Knickle – Administrative Assistant

OPENING

Chair Fowler called the Regular Session meeting to order at 6:03pm.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair asked for a review of the January 12, 2023, Regular Session meeting minutes.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER AVERY, THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2023. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No business arising.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

Chair asked for any additions to the agenda.

The following item was added to the agenda:

1. In Camera Session

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER BISHOP THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH ONE ADDITION. MOTION CARRIED.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – See Full Report

PUBLIC WORKS – See Full Report

NS Power was finally able to install a power pole this week for the new public works building. Electrician is now hanging lights and XCountryTV ran fibre cable to the building.

RECREATION – See Full Report

Disc Golf

Commission would like to have information/timeline from the installer before confirming an opening date and grand opening date. Commission suggested having the opening in the spring and having a tournament around Steer BBQ time.

Commission agreed to have Rec staff contact building owners to see about having a mural painted on the back wall of their business facing trail, as per request from Kings County Trail Society.

Request for Gym Membership

Commission declined the request to have the Village pay for a gym membership for the Volunteer of the Year to encourage more volunteers. It may not be suitable to all so the Village will continue with a plaque presentation.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – See Full Report

Business Lunch

All commissioners plan to attend the business lunch, once a date is confirmed.

Social Media

Commission agreed to have Community Development staff work at social media efforts to enhance the community, like the efforts used to enhance the Town of Truro.

A NEW BUSINESS

A new business owner, who is renting a house on Main St for her new osteopath business, discovered after a County of Kings inspection, that the building is not up to code for a commercial business. Chair assisted with advice on other potential buildings that might be more suitable. Commission agreed to provide a letter of support if asked.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Steer BBQ – See Full Report

Commissioner West provided a report.

- Library is open to hosting an Open House again this year, in conjunction with Steer BBQ.
- The post office is onboard for sponsoring another Colouring Contest.
- Paul Parsons would provide a small steer, dressed at 300 lbs, if a steer is to be cooked. Paul also agreed to sponsor the cost of the Mechanical Bull, which will be approximately \$1,500.
- Bounce Kingdom has been booked.
- Grants are being applied for.
- Various ideas are being pursued for entertainment.
- Commission suggested a golf tournament in partnership with Paragon Golf Club.

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC)

Commissioner Bishop attended a JAAC Teams meeting at 7pm on Feb 8. The Committee was advised that there are currently two Provincial grants available for accessibility upgrades. The information on the grants was emailed to Village Clerks and the deadline to apply is February 14, 2023.

Minutes from the monthly meetings are now available to the Commission on SharePoint.

Kingston Area Advisory Committee

N/A

Audit Committee

N/A

Soldiers Memorial Hospital Foundation – Dr. Recruitment Committee - See full report.

Commissioner West provided the following highlights from the meeting on January 19th.

- Percentage of area residents needing a doctor has risen slightly to 22.8%.
- Committee is hopeful that a doctor, who is going through the Practice Ready Assessment Program (PRAP), is looking to practice in Kingston for a three-year term commitment. The position may be filled this summer.
- Committee may be receiving a 70,000 grant.
- NS Health recruiter for the western zone, is working to recruit doctors for the Annapolis Valley and is aware of the lack of emergency room doctors at Soldiers Memorial Hospital.
- For Valentine's Day, deliveries of baked treats + hot chocolate will be made to our 4 centers + Dr Goddard. Commissioner West will assist with the delivery to the Kingston Medical Centre.
- Chair Fowler will attend the next meeting on Feb. 16.

Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)

- Chair Fowler attended virtual ANSV meeting held on Friday January 19th.
- The NS Code of Conduct Working Group will be seeking individual feedback from elected officials and senior departmental staff on their recommendations.
- All units would contribute \$3,000 annually toward someone to adjudicate/arbitrate code of conduct violations.
- Clerk will attend village code of conduct virtual session on February 16th.

CLERK REPORT – See Full Report

Crosswalk Reflective Strips

A request for reflective strips on Village crosswalks was made and Clerk is waiting for a response from the NS Department of Public Works.

KN-4 Sewer Lift Station

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER LARDER THAT THE VILLAGE OF KINGSTON COMMISSION AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW PUMPS FOR KN-4 FROM XYLEM AT A TOTAL COST OF \$23,138.80 + HST. MOTION CARRIED.

Asset Retirement Obligation (ARO)

Villages are now required to account for and report a liability for ARO. Clerk is working on a policy and will present a draft for commission to review.

Village Election and Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Proposed dates:

Nomination Period	Thursday, May 11, 2023 to Wednesday, May 24, 2023
Nomination Day	Wednesday, May 24, 2023
Advance Poll	Tuesday, June 6, 2023
Annual General Meeting	Thursday, June 8, 2023
Election Day	Saturday, June 10, 2023

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER AVERY THAT THE KINGSTON VILLAGE COMMISSION APPROVE THE PROPOSED DATES FOR THE 2023 ELECTION AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

Budget Schedule

At Regular Session Meetings – (beginning at 6pm to include budget).

Capital Budget – March meeting – approve at either March or April meeting.

Operating Budget – March/April meetings – approval at May meeting.

Meetings are open to the public.

Capital Projects – See Report

Public Works Building

Power has been installed for electrical and mechanical work to proceed.

East Main St Sidewalk Design

Finalized drawings should be available soon.

Irving Parking Lot Beautification

Michelle Moreau will have a presentation ready for March meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

General Operations should have a surplus of \$100,000 at year-end.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Response from Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

Chair received response to a letter the Village sent regarding Commission's concern with the display of the Confederate flag and other symbols of hate. One aspect of the response from government was that displaying the Confederate Flag may be difficult to prove, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the offence was intentional hate propaganda. The government is continuing work to develop and introduce legislation to combat hate speech both online and offline.

Thank you, Card - Toy Drive

The Village received a thank you card from the board members of the Christmas Hamper program for allowing them to use our office and the Santa Comes to Kingston event for a toy drop. This was a very successful effort.

In Camera Session

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER LARDER AND COMMISSIONER BISHOP THAT THE COMMISSION MOVE IN-CAMERA AT 7:20PM. MOTION CARRIED.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER BISHOP THAT THE COMMISSION CLOSE THE IN-CAMERA SESSION AT 9:15PM. MOTION CARRIED.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER BISHOP AND COMMISSIONER LARDER THAT THE VILLAGE OF KINGSTON COMMISSION AUTHORIZE THE REIMBURSEMENT OF DISCREPANCIES IN SEWER RATES FOR THE PRECEDING 3 YEARS FOR THE COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES APPEALED BY PARSON'S INVESTMENTS. MOTION DEFEATED.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER LARDER AND COMMISSIONER WEST THAT THE VILLAGE OF KINGSTON COMMISSION AUTHORIZES THE REIMBURSEMENT OF DISCREPANCIES IN SEWER RATES FOR THE PRECEDING SIX YEARS FOR THE COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES APPEALED BY PARSON'S INVESTMENTS. MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:20pm.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER