



Village of Kingston
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KINGSTON VILLAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2023

COMMISSION:

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

Mike McCleave – Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Knickle – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Chris Palmer – MLA Kings West

Kingston Farmer's Market Presentation:

Sara Naesmyth
Alexander Naesmyth
Lauren Avery

OPENING

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

MLA Update

MLA Chris Palmer provided the following update:

- Town Hall meeting will be held at the Kingston Lions Hall on Thursday, March 16th with the Minister of Labour, Skills, and Immigration Jill Balser.
- Will be back in the legislature for a month.
- Funding announced for new medical school at Cape Breton University is designed to provide rural doctors for Cape Breton and Nova Scotia.
- Foreign born and Canadian doctors trained in the USA can now practice in Nova Scotia with no hurdles.
- Doctors trained outside of North America are not streamlined yet to practice in NS.
- Looking at allowing nurses to practice in NS from the US.
- Expanded scope of practice to take pressure off emergency rooms.
- Increased the mobile and popup clinics at Soldiers Memorial in Middleton.
- More access to pharmacists at Wilson's Drug Store in Berwick and Shopper's Drug Mart in Greenwood. There are only 12 such designations in the province and fortunately there are two of them in our area. More will be added in the coming months.

Commission commended the doctor recruitment committee and the government for all their efforts to combat the health care issues.

There has been a string of thefts lately from construction sites. MLA will organize a meeting possibly with MP Chris D'Entremont and Chair Wayne Fowler to discuss the increase in crime and a string of thefts lately from construction sites.

Kingston Farmers Market Presentation

Board of Directors Lauren Avery, and Sarah and Alex Naesmyth provided the following update for their farmer's market:

- Looking to support community connection and want it to be a great place to be.
- Have registered as a non-profit society and joined the Farmer's Market of NS Co-op.
- The market will be held on the Aurora Motel grounds.
- Have 25 vendors so far and hope to have 30+ with a 50/50 mix of food and dry goods/crafts.
- Hope to have 150 attendees with a duration of stay up to 30 minutes.
- Will have educational workshops to create inclusivity. They look forward to a strong workshop attendance.
- The season will run from June 1st to October 12th.
- Market to be held every Thursday from 3pm to 7pm, rain or shine.
- Looking to create school partnerships and hoping to encourage families to come over after school. They have 20 parking spaces onsite, more parking on the street, possibly at the schools and across the road on King St.

Treasurer Alex Naesmyth presented their budget and demonstrated that they have a \$4,961.00 deficit. Upfront expenses include tent rental, toilet rental, signage, décor, music bookings and workshops. They are looking at other funding sources such as Rafflebox 50/50 draw and the Steer BBQ Fun Run. MLA Chris Palmer asked to meet with the group to discuss funding. Village Commission advised group of the Village's Festivals and Events grant and offered to include the information in the Village's spring newsletter.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair asked for a review of the February 9, 2023, Regular Session meeting minutes.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER LARDER AND COMMISSIONER AVERY, THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2023. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No business arising.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

Chair asked for any additions to the agenda. No additions.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER AVERY AND COMMISSIONER LARDER THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – See Full Report

Cantilever Gate

As stated in report, staff received a quote of \$18,000 for cantilever gate at sewer treatment plant. Commission agreed to add this item to a future budget.

Sewer Certifications

Clerk will meet with public works staff before next meeting to discuss certifications for sewer staff.

PUBLIC WORKS – See Full Report

Snow Clearing Machine

Staff used old snowblower on newer MT7 machine and it worked well so both sidewalk snow machines can be used efficiently.

Duck Pond Rink

Commission appreciated staff opening the duck pond for skating, even though it was short-lived due to milder weather.

Food Trucks

Commission agreed they cannot allow vendors to park in Village parking lots due to liability and complaints from tax paying Kingston businesses.

New Village Truck

Commission agreed that the new truck will need to be a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton to handle hauling at least 9,000 lbs.

RECREATION – See Full Report

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – See Full Report

Outdoor Concert Budget

Commission agreed to increase the budget amount for summer outdoor concerts from \$4,800 to \$5,100.

APPLE BLOSSOM

There was no response to the advertisements for a Kingston Leadership Candidate. There will still be a float for the parades if volunteer group is able to get together. Commission discussed the possibility of having a permanent float instead of following the Apple Blossom's annual theme.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Steer BBQ – See Full Report

Commissioner West provided the following report from Feb 15 meeting:

- Fire Dep. Auxiliary is doing the breakfast again this year.
- Kingston Legion will hold the dance on Friday night, organize the parade and cook the hamburgers/hotdogs on Saturday. Cider and wine options by other suppliers are permitted in beer tent. Committee will contact local suppliers.
- Paul Parsons offered to provide a small steer, dressed at 300 lbs.
- Lions may cook the steer and will also provide same foods as last year.
- Looking at getting fencing to better organize the event.
- Village staff are applying for grants.
- Various ideas are being pursued for entertainment.
- *Possible* events include a Saturday evening concert by an independent partner, Strong Man Competition, 5km Fun Run, Golf Tournament at Paragon, Petting Zoo, Touch-a-truck, Magic Show/Balloon Animals, and a Sunday concert.
- Confirmed events include a Meat Smoking Competition, Cool Moves BMX, Bounce Kingdom, Mechanical Bull, Indoor Market, Domino Man, Basketball 3 on 3, a kids Foam Party as well as the usual Saturday activities.
- Plan to revamp sound on grounds.
- Plan to order banners.

Commissioner Avery suggested having a Steer BBQ logo. Staff will send a logo to Commission that was created by previous Clerk in 2011. Commission agreed to a budget of \$250 to have 3 design other options presented.

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC)

Accessibility Coordinator will reach out to Clerk for contact for social media. Commissioner Bishop will add minutes of March 8th meeting to 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 Feb 16th meeting.

- NS Practice Ready Assessment Program (PRAP) candidates have been matched and Kingston was successful in receiving one candidate.
- Three other candidates are being assessed in the area this spring.
- Committee will visit medical clinics monthly with coffee and baked goods.
- Families of doctors are being introduced to curling and being taken to the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre in Shelburne in April.
- Committee is also using the grant money for the following:
 - o extended site visit offers to prospective residents and doctors.
 - o whale watching, July 29
 - o Multi-Cultural Day, Aug 19
 - o Breakfast with the Governor at L'Habitation
 - o Family Skate Day
 - o Community Welcome Event in the fall
 - o Family Art Experience

- Chris Palmer reported that the Government has plans to ease the administrative duties that physicians currently have.
- The next monthly meeting is at 10am on Thursday, March 16th at the Annapolis Mess.

Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)

President Brian Banks sent a letter to Property Valuation Services Corp. (PVSC) to request that Villages regain access to IAS World. Clerk met with PVSC and they agreed to give permission back to Villages for tax collection purposes.

CLERK REPORT – See Full Report

Property Developments

A commercial business is going to be built on the lot of land next to 738 Main St. As well, a developer is planning to build homes on Kingston Heights Drive.

Sewer Bylaw

Municipal Affairs never sent the Village's sewer bylaw amendments to the Minister for approval in 2017. Municipal Affairs advisor is working to get approval without going through the process again.

Village Election and Annual General Meeting (AGM)

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

County of Kings

The County is looking to have a meeting with Commissioners to discuss municipal support and cooperation and opportunities for improvement.

Boardroom Table

Commissioners will continue to look at more options.

Capital and Operating 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

The inside work is ongoing.

East Main St Sidewalk Design

Tender is ready and has been publicized. Bids are due Tuesday, March 28th at 3pm.

Irving Parking Lot Beautification

Michelle Moreau provided a plan for the commission to review.

FINANCIAL REPORT – See Report

The financial position is favourable currently.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Port George Jamboree Committee

The Village received a request for funding from the Kingston Lions for the Port George Country Jamboree. Commission agreed to give the gold status of \$200.

Community Health Board Wellness Fund Celebration

Village Office received an invitation to attend a celebration of recipients of this year's wellness funds at Peopleworx on April 5th from 6:00pm – 8:30pm. Commissioner West will attend.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:30pm.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER