



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 JULY 13, 2023

COMMISSION:

Wayne Fowler
Mike Bishop
Muriel West
Neil Larder
Lauren Avery

Mike McCleave – Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Knickle – Administrative Assistant

GUEST:

Harley Hazelwood – Volunteer of the Year

OPENING

Chair Fowler called the Regular Session meeting to order at 7:03pm.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Chair Fowler congratulated Harley Hazelwood for being selected by the committee as Kingston's Volunteer of the Year for 2022 and presented him with a card and plaque. Mr. Hazelwood has volunteered with the Upper Room Food Bank for 34 years. He thanked the Village for the presentation and for supporting the Food Bank by offering to be a year-round drop-off location of donations from the public.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair asked for a review of the June 8, 2023, Regular Session meeting minutes.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WEST AND COMMISSIONER AVERY, THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 8, 2023, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EV Stations

Clerk will investigate suppliers.

Farmer's Market Request

The Kingston Farmer's Market organizers requested to have someone in the bull mascot suit at their July 6th market for photo-ops. This was a big success as the organizers added a cow calling contest.

Steer BBQ

Commissioner Avery thanked Commissioner West for doing such a great job representing the Village at the Steer BBQ. Chair Fowler heard all positive comments from the public regarding this year's Steer BBQ and commended all staff for their part in making it a success.

New Public Works Truck

The truck arrived at Connell Motors, they are outfitting it with some extras, and it should be ready next week.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

Chair asked for any additions to the agenda. Commissioner Avery requested one additional item – Community Garden Request.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – See Full Report

KN3 Lift Station

Commission agreed it would be prudent to have Clerk look into retendering since only one bid that came in and well over budget.

Sewer Permit

The sewer connection application needs to be modified to include number of units being built per year.

PUBLIC WORKS – See Full Report

Steer BBQ Work

Commission thanked public works staff for all the preparation work they did before the Steer BBQ weekend.

Complaint from Hearing Impaired Resident

The complaint regarding a lack of sidewalk on either side of the west Superstore entrance should be directed to Loblaws/Superstore since it is on their land.

Portable Stage

Chair Fowler will discuss cost-sharing to replace the rotting stage sections, with the Village of Greenwood. It may be an item for next year's budget, or it could possibly be built over the winter.

Rec Hut Doors

The other double doors on the Rec Hut also need replacing in the next year/budget.

RECREATION – See Full Report

Steer BBQ

It was suggested to the BBQ committee that the generators be located away from the games area in the future due to the loud noise. Another option is to run more power to the area.

Mural Ideas

The Kings County Trail Society is funding a mural for the back wall of 1496 Park Rd across from G.W Sampson. The owner of the building has agreed to the mural. A suggestion for a mural on the railbed side was to use an old picture of the group of men cooking the steer, a slogan, or something bright, colourful, and lively. Commission agreed they would like to have more information and input.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – See Full Report

Groups Involved in Steer BBQ

Staff will reach out to all groups to see how they did at the Steer BBQ and if they would want to come back again next year. The NS Dairy Farmers should be added to the list of Funds/Sponsors for contributing \$500.

Credit Union Centre Sign

President of the arena board gave Village staff permission to use arena sign on Main St across from Westwood St to advertise the summer concert series at the bandstand.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Steer BBQ – See Full Report

- The event was a success and the new additions such as the Friday night Foam Party were a big hit.
- The weather cleared and was great for the four days of activities.
- The first ever Steer BBQ golf tournament at Paragon on Friday July 7th was a big success with 30 teams registered. The revenues for the Village will be used to provide ice time for public skating and other recreational activities in the community. They held a random draw for prizes. Suggestion was made to have a steer plaque made for the golf tournament and to make it an annual event.
- Commission thanked Brad Beardsley for chairing the Steer BBQ committee and all the work that goes along with that position as well as Commissioner West and Commissioner Larder for their contributions.
- The process of cooking the steer went well with Hugh Moore as the guide/mentor to Robert McMaster, Commissioner Larder and others.
- Revenue for the Lions Club goes back into the community.

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC)

The meeting was cancelled last night.

Kingston Area Advisory Committee
Jamie Kane's position will need to be filled.

Audit Committee
N/A

Soldiers Memorial Hospital Foundation – Dr. Recruitment Committee

Commissioner West provided the following highlights:

- The new doctor will hopefully be practicing by September in the Kingston Medical Centre.
- Another doctor who has purchased a home in Kingston is doing a two-year residency here.
- Commission agreed to have some swag on hand for the new doctors such as reusable bags or discs for disc golf with the Village logo. Businesses may want to supply discs with their logo on them.
- Suggestion was made to have shirts for commissioners and staff when attending events/meetings as well as some blank cards with the Village logo.

Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)
There will be a virtual meeting on July 20th.

CLERK REPORT – See Full Report

Kingston Historical Society

Volunteers sold 12 sets of Echoes Across the Valley books at the Steer BBQ Craft Fair.

Sewer Bylaw/Policy Changes

Commission agreed to have the Association of Nova Scotia Villages present to the province an amendment to the Municipal Government Act to allow Villages to change sewer fees without re-approval from the province each time. This item will be brought up at the virtual meeting on July 20th.

Cybersecurity Update

The County of Kings was hit with a cybersecurity threat this week and have been shut down ever since. Since the Village's website was created by the County, it has been down as well. The Village has not been affected otherwise. Clerk will look into an insurance policy that will protect against cyber attacks.

Irving Parking Lot

Commission agreed with Option 3 stonework for the flower beds. The Commission agreed to wait for confirmation on the size of the bus shelter from Kings Transit/County of Kings and, in the meantime, allocate space for the bus shelter and bike racks.

Capital Projects – See Report

Sewer Treatment Plant UV Room Flooding

Engineers have been very busy but are finalizing tender documents.

Salt Shed

Tender should be ready to go out next week for a two-week period. If bids come in under budget, Commission agreed to look into bringing in Class A gravel.

Public Works Building

Manager of Able Engineering was to ask Equilibrium today for an update and the heat pump is not running yet since the drainpipe hadn't been installed.

Crosswalk on Bridge St

The province has approved a Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) crosswalk for Bridge St., and they should hopefully install it sometime this year.

Sewer Treatment Plant

As part of the sewer treatment plant assessment, the Village will go ahead with the electrical, ventilation, and mechanical changes that are needed, with a budget of \$303,000 using gas tax.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Provincial Funding Allocated to Villages

The Association of Nova Scotia Villages received a response from Municipal Affairs confirming that it was expected the villages would receive a portion of the SSGF Fund that the province had sent to the county. Villages would like to be able to receive the SSGF Fund and the Federal Gas Tax Fund sent directly to villages by the province instead of through the County.

Community Gardens Request

Commissioner Avery was approached by someone working with NSCC who is going to petition the Villages of Kingston and Greenwood to supply a space and access to water for a community garden. The Village does not have the authority to adhere to a petition. Commission would like to know if there were a solid group of people that would maintain it. The Village may also be able to help them find a suitable piece of land through various groups, i.e., churches.

DISCUSSIONS:

Steer BBQ Logo

Village will get a trademark for the new Steer BBQ logo.

Loose Gravel on Trail

The loose recycled asphalt on the trail may have to be removed.

Commissioner Committee Appointments

Commissioner West advised the Commission that at the August meeting, when Village Committee Member appointments are decided, she step down from the Steer BBQ Committee next year.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, Commissioner Larder motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:30pm.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER