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KINGSTON VILLAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

COMMISSION:

Wayne Fowler - Chair
Mike Bishop - Vice Chair
Maggie Travis
Neil Larder
Lauren Avery

Mike McCleave - Clerk/Treasurer
Janice Knickle - Administrative Assistant

Guest:

Martha Armstrong - Councillor District 4, Municipality of the County of Kings

OPENING

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chair asked for a review of the August 8, 2024, Regular Session meeting minutes.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER LARDER AND COMMISSIONER BISHOP, THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2024, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

COUNTY UPDATE

- The 2025 list of proposed J-Class road repaving include Lincoln Court and Bishop Ave.
- The next Village/County meeting will be held Wednesday, September 18th at the County. Councillor advised the Commission to voice their concerns regarding the Village Infrastructure and Capital Enhancement (VICE) (gas tax) policy proposal to Greg Barr before the meeting and be open minded to the new proposal.
- The reading of a new deed transfer tax has been deferred until the new year, after the fall election. The tax would be for a new recreation centre but there is no plan or cost analysis for it. Councillor Armstrong is not in favour of the tax now for that reason.
- Riley Peckford is in by acclamation as the new councillor for District 4.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Irving parking lot will be sealed next summer.

CONSENT TO AGENDA ITEMS

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

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – See Full Report

Commission suggested purchasing a camera for sewer videoing. Clerk will discuss with Wastewater Supervisor Dan Lundrigan.

PUBLIC WORKS – See Full Report

The Village is expecting another quote for the crosswalk work on Bridge Street. Nova Scotia Department of Public Works (NSDPW) area manager will be visiting the site next week with Village Public Works Supervisor Dan Lundrigan. NSDPW may end up doing the installation. The cost of the entire project may end up being around \$30,000.

The bad repair job of the storm drain by NSDPW on Westwood St was reported to the area manager.

RECREATION – See Full Report

Community Development Job Description

Commission would like to see the job description for the October meeting.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – See Full Report

Social Media

Commission would like to have more social media posts regarding village activities and more engagement with the community.

EASTERN HEMLOCK TREE REPORT – See Full Report

Staff Steve Mosher attended an extensive course to learn about the overall strategy to combat the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid that is destroying these trees in Nova Scotia. Staff is looking for direction from the Commission regarding treating the trees at Stronach Park with the information provided. After a discussion, Commission agreed it is important to protect our parks and would like to act quickly. They would like to see a detailed cost analysis from Steve. There was a discussion around liability for this work. Commission asked if Clerk could check to see if there is support from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or if the Village could purchase the equipment and DNR could treat the trees, or if there are grants available. Private residents may also want this information and a social media post may be necessary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Steer BBQ

Commission will discuss after September 18th wrap up meeting.

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC)

Commissioner Bishop attended their meeting last night. This committee will not be combining with the Equity and Anti-Racism committee. Clerk will have more information next meeting.

Kingston Area Advisory Committee (KAAC)

N/A

Audit Committee

N/A

Soldiers Memorial Hospital (SMH) Foundation – Dr. Recruitment Committee

See correspondence.

Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV)

Conference takes place September 20th and 21st in St. Peters.

CLERK REPORT – See Full Report

Printer Lease

Xerox printer was ordered from Nova Imprint (lowest bid) and will be delivered end of September.

County/Village Meeting

Commissioners Bishop and Fowler will attend on Wednesday, Sept 18th.

Oakhurst Greenspace

Commission asked staff to inform inquiring resident that this item will be discussed at capital budget time.

Pump Track

Commission discussed the possibility of having a pump track for the Village. Clerk will get more information.

Christmas Dinner

Commission agreed to go with staff wishes.

Snow Removal Tender

There was only one tender received today so the contract was awarded to Michael Gillespie. Year one of the three-year contract was \$29,000, year two was \$31,000 and year three was \$33,000.

Streetlight Request

A resident on Pleasant St would like to have a streetlight added on the other side of their property as a safety concern. Clerk will check to see if the lighting is required.

Outstanding Payable

The village received a statement with unpaid invoices from 2015 and 2019 from a business. After a discussion Commission agreed to give a partial payment.

Capital Projects – See Full Report

No changes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Soldiers Memorial Hospital (SMH) Foundation – Dr. Recruitment Committee

Commission received an invitation to a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new veteran's patio at Soldiers Memorial Hospital on Wednesday Sept 18th.

Letter to MLA - Christmas Lights at Stronach Park

A letter was sent to MLA Chris Palmer asking the Villages of Kingston and Greenwood if they would decorate Stronach Park for Christmas. Commission agreed it was a great idea in theory, but there are logistical problems such as extension cords/power. Vandalism/theft is another concern.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, Commissioner Bishop moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm.

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

CLERK/TREASURER