



**Village of New Minas**  
Minutes of a Regular Commission Meeting  
Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
7:00 p.m.

Louis Millett Community Complex (LMCC)

**Commissioners Present:** Dave Chaulk, Chair  
Maynard Stevens, Vice-Chair  
Mary Munroe, Commissioner  
Ken Pineo, Commissioner  
James Redmond, Commissioner

**Staff Present:** April Ernest, Clerk Treasurer  
Gerard Hamilton, Municipal Operations Manager  
John Ansara, Director of Recreation & Community  
Development  
Krista McDonald, Deputy Clerk

**Others Present:** Jim Winsor, County Councillor

**Call to Order:**  
Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance at 7:00 p.m.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Commissioner Pineo added two items to the agenda: Accessible Parking and Chairpersons' Chain of Office.

**Munroe - Stevens**

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Village of New Minas Commission of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**Approval of the Minutes:**

**Pineo - Stevens**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of New Minas Commission on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 be approved.

**CARRIED**

## **Business arising from Minutes:**

### **a) Apple Blossom Festival:**

April Ernest updated that there were no issues stemming from the Blossom Brew Night from the previous year and that there was no negative feedback associated with moving the event to New Minas. Commissioner Stevens expressed that he was not in favour of moving the event to New Minas.

## **Pineo - Redmond**

THAT the Village of New Minas host the Blossom Brew Night event in 2018.

### **CARRIED**

### **b) Bar Management:**

Staff and the Lions Club will alternate working the bar for functions in the Lynn Spencer Hall. The Lions will keep 30% of the proceeds for the functions they volunteer for. The proceeds from the events our staff run will be used to pay staff and to fund New Minas children's recreation programs.

### **c) Skate Park:**

John Ansara updated that the conversation with the province about funding has been initiated. He will be looking at other parks in the area and engaged in an ad hoc meeting with local youth. A discussion followed about the approximate number of users which is difficult to assess at this point. Mr. Ansara did point out that the age range varies from young children on scooters and up to teens and beyond. He also commented that parents are strongly advocating for the new park.

### **d) Photo History:**

Staff met with photographer Dick Killam to discuss his photo catalogue. Mr. Killam has hundreds of aerial photos of New Minas dating from 1973 to present. He is interested in selling the photographs to the Village. Commissioner Munroe advised that staff contact the Acadia University Archives to determine if they would be interested in the project.

## **Committee Reports:**

a) **Water Commission** – No Report

b) **Area Advisory Committee** – No report

c) **Regional Sewer Committee** – Commissioner Stevens updated that the Regional Sewer Committee are working on priorities for budget time. One of the partners was inquiring about exploring the possibility of new development, which would require increased sewer capacity. The Terms of Reference are being updated and will be presented in January.

**Stevens – Redmond**

THAT the Regional Sewer Report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

- d) **New Minas 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Committee** – John Ansara updated that the New Year's Day Levee is the kick-off event for the 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations and is currently being promoted; other events are planned throughout the year including a large event for Canada Day.

**Stevens – Redmond**

THAT the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Committee Report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

- e) **Recreation & Community Development Report** – Report attached.
- f) **Administration Report** - Report attached.
- g) **Clerk Treasurer Report** - Report attached.
- h) **Public Works Report** - Report attached.

**Pineo – Redmond**

THAT the staff Departmental Reports be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

- i) **Beautification Committee** – Commissioner Munroe updated that the committee is doing research and gathering ideas. A recent meeting had to be rescheduled but the group has a meeting coming up.

**Munroe-Redmond**

THAT the Beautification Committee Report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**New Business:**

- a) **Cannabis Update** – Krista McDonald reported that she had attended a consultation with the Province on the legalization of cannabis. The village will be impacted by the need to adapt workplace policies (Health & Safety, Employee Discipline) in the coming months.
- b) **Regional Sewer Terms of Reference** – no update available.
- c) **Regional Sewer Terms of Reference: Technical Committee** – no update available.
- d) **HR Policies for Review**
  - i. The Storm Day Policy will replace the sections of the current employment policy which it directly pertains to (attached). There was a discussion about what conditions constitute a storm day.

**Stevens – Redmond**

THAT the Storm Day Policy replace existing elements of the current Employment Policy.

**CARRIED**

- ii. The Vacation Policy will replace the sections of the current employment policy which it directly pertains to (attached). The Commission requested changes to this policy with regards to the amount of vacation days that can be carried forward (5) and that those days would need to be used before June 30<sup>th</sup> of that year.

**Stevens – Redmond**

THAT the Vacation Policy (with proposed changes) replace existing elements of the current Employment Policy

**CARRIED**

- e) Sewer Bylaw Amendment – The 2017/2018 Budget approval included a sewer rate change. Commission approved and completed the Second Reading and officially adopted the amendment to Sewer Bylaw 3 (attached).
- f) Accessible Parking – Commissioner Pineo remarked that the generator displaced some accessible parking spaces in front of the gymnasium entrance to the LMCC. Staff will be looking into the situation.
- g) Chain of Office – Commissioner Pineo would like to see the chain cleaned and engraved to honour the New Minas 50<sup>th</sup> Celebrations.

**Correspondence:**

The Commission postponed a discussion regarding recent correspondence until after the adjournment of the meeting.

**Public Discussion:**

Councillor Jim Winsor spoke of the changes to capacity planning for the regional sewer partners. The partners need to look to the future and work together. He also reported that the Municipal Planning Strategy is moving slowly but that a lot of work is being done. Growth areas will be dealt with as a second phase of the strategy and he is very optimistic about the process.

**Stevens**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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Dave Chaulk, Chair

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April Ernest, Clerk Treasurer