

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 8, 2013
7:00 p.m.,
Conference Room, Louis Millett Community Complex (LMCC)

The regular monthly meeting of the New Minas Village Commission was held on April 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room, at the Louis Millett Community Complex.

In attendance: Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens, in the Chair
Commissioner Dean Hatt
Commissioner Mary Munroe
Commissioner James Redmond
Clerk Treasurer, Terry Silver

Also in Attendance: Anne Rogers, Resident
Gerard Hamilton, Assist. Supt of Public Works
John Owen, Resident
Don Zwicker, Resident
Mark Redmond, Resident
Jim Winsor, Councillor, District 11
John Ansara, Recreation Director
Rod Dawe, Custodian

Regrets: Chair Dave Chaulk

CALL TO ORDER, Vice-Chair Stevens

Vice-Chair Stevens called the meeting to order, and welcomed everyone in attendance.

WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONER, MARY MUNROE

Vice-Chair Stevens welcomed new Commissioner Mary Munroe, and on behalf of the Commission, stated they look forward to working with her.

Vice-Chair Stevens gave the results of the Commissioner By-Election held March 13, 2012: 362 votes cast, Mary Munroe – 231, and Bruce MacArthur – 131

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: April 8, 2013

It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Redmond that the Agenda for the regular Commission meeting of April 8th, 2013 be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 11, 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Munroe that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting held March 11, 2013 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Facility Update

- Fundraising – Update John Ansara

J. Ansara advised that the Village has received \$100,000 from Health and Wellness Nova Scotia towards the gymnasium. He stated that Recreation NS has forwarded a \$400 grant for equipment for the new center.

John stated he has been working on renewing the process for fundraising, and hopes to have something to report on this process at the May Commission meeting.

b) Sale of Civic Center – Update

T. Silver advised the Commission that she received a call from the Village's Realtor who stated that he had conducted a site visit for the RCMP, subsequent to the Village's proposal for the building of a new detachment. There will be no decision made on this project for a while.

c) Tax Billing and Interest Calculation - Policy Approval

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt that the Tax Billing and Interest Calculation Policy be approved. MOTION CARRIED

d) Rental request for old Civic Center – Update

T. Silver reported that she had advised the interested party of the Commission's direction on the rental conditions for the old Civic Center. Ms. Parker stated she would get back to the Clerk Treasurer with a decision; however, she has not.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Recreation Director's Report – John Ansara

Vice-Chair Stevens asked John Ansara if he had any comments on his report. John stated that the defibrillator has been delivered and will be installed as soon as possible. He was happy to advise that the sound panels are starting to be installed today, and with only a few up so far, there is a 50% improvement.

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Munroe that the Recreation Director's Report be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

b) New Minas Water Commission Report

Vice-Chair Stevens read the report of the New Minas Water Commission (attached to original minutes).

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt that the report of the Water Commission be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

➤ Approval – New Minas Source Water Protection Plan

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Munroe that the New Minas Source Water Protection Plan be approved as presented, and that it be forwarded to Nova Scotia Environment for final approval. MOTION CARRIED

c) New Minas Planning Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt advised there was no NMPAC meeting since his last report.

d) Apple Blossom Committee Report – Vice Chair Stevens

Vice-Chair Stevens read a report of the Apple Blossom Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Munroe to adopt the report of the Apple Blossom Committee as presented. MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Redmond thanked Vice-Chair Stevens for the efforts of the Apple Blossom Committee to bring the official opening to the Louis Millett Complex.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Notice of Appointment – new Administrative Assistant, Krista MacDonald

Terry Silver stated that Krista MacDonald started on April 1st as the Village's new Admin Assistant, and she is doing an amazing job. She said Krista is fitting in very nicely and is a great addition to the team. She stated that former Admin Assistant, Shelly Palmer has moved into the taxes and water department and things are going very well. Commissioner Redmond stated that he has met Krista and concurs with Terry. The Commissioners agreed with Terry and Commissioner Redmond and all look forward to working with Krista.

b) Request to Plant a Tree – Kyla Rose Marie Davidson (Princess New Minas 2012)

The Commissioners reviewed a letter from Princess New Minas 2012, Kyla Rose Marie Davidson. In her letter, Kyla requests permission from the Village Commission to plant an apple tree at the Louis Millett Community Complex as a token of her appreciation and "thank you" to the Village.

It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Munroe that Ms. Davidson be granted permission to plant an apple tree at the Millett Complex. MOTION CARRIED

c) Provision for Work Clothing and Safety Equipment Policy - Amendment

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that the amendments to the *Provision for Work Clothing and Safety Equipment Policy* (renamed *Work Clothing and Personal Protective Equipment Policy*) be approved as discussed. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

Councillor, District 11 Jim Winsor – Councillor Winsor introduced himself and stated he is looking forward to working with the Village Commission, and on behalf of the Village residents, over the next 3½ years. He stated he has spent a lot of time in the budgeting process since he was sworn in and is already certain that there is not enough money being allotted to New Minas; he intends to work on that on the Village's behalf. He said he is also looking forward to a very productive 3½ years and is anxious to work on having a better relationship with the Village than in the past. He stated he is aware that there is a general feeling that we all have to work together, and this is the goal.

Commissioner Redmond stated that Council must recognize that New Minas provides almost 18% of the taxes for the County and the Commission welcomes any new opportunity for our fair share of funding. He stated he looks forward to a strong voice at the Council table.

Mark Redmond, Ratepayer – Mr. Redmond asked if there has been any update with regard to any change in the boundary from the original application. T. Silver advised that the County had challenged the original boundary line stating it “made no sense”, and in its ruling, the NSUARB had given Kings County an opportunity to request the Commission to collaborate with them to discuss extending the new boundary line to satisfy both parties. She advised the deadline for this has come and gone, and the County did not make this request. So, as of April 1st, the new boundary is set for the Village.

Mr. Redmond stated there is work in Highway’s engineered plans for an off ramp to New Minas and was wondering if they would be constructing an overpass at the same time. Commissioner Redmond stated any of the plans he has seen call for an underpass at the New Minas location. T. Silver stated that this is still showing in NSDIT’s 5 year project plan. Mark Redmond urged the Commission to not lose sight of the project.

John Owen, Resident – Mr. Owen asked the Commission how much input they have with regard to the repairing of potholes in the Village. He went on to say he rides his bike and it is extremely dangerous on Main (Commercial) Street. He said that not only is it dangerous for him on his bike when he cannot avoid hitting the potholes, but vehicles near him are trying to avoid the potholes as well, which creates additional hazards for cyclists. Commissioner Redmond said he has heard that DTIR will be paving Commercial Street to the Greenwich line this year. Mr. Owen went on to say that the sweeper comes by only once a year and the Main (Commercial) Street is absolutely terrible. Commissioner Redmond stated that the sweeping happens once a year just prior to the Apple Blossom weekend.

Ms. Anne Rogers – Resident – Ms. Rogers added that Wolfville has special equipment to pave, and perhaps the Village could borrow that. Commissioner Redmond advised Ms. Rogers that the Village does not own, and cannot maintain, any of the streets in New Minas; we are at the mercy of DTIR.

The Commission directed the Clerk Treasurer to write a letter to DTIR asking if they intend to pave Commercial Street and Prospect Road. The Commission asked the Clerk Treasurer to forward DTIR’s repose to them as soon as she receives it.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Redmond, the meeting adjourned.

Maynard Stevens, Vice-Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer