

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
May 9, 2011
7:00 p.m., Civic Center

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on May 9, 2011 in the Civic Center at 7:00 p.m..

In Attendance

Commissioner Dave Chaulk
Commissioner Dale Pineo
Commissioner Dean Hatt
Commissioner James Redmond
Commissioner Maynard Stevens
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Also in Attendance:

Peter Pothier, Supt of Public Works
Saï Sherwood, Recreation Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Chaulk called the meeting to order.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE NOMINATION DAY APRIL 20, 2011 – Commissioner Dave Chaulk reported that there were two seats and two nominations filed. He congratulated returning Commissioners James Redmond and Dale Pineo who were voted in by acclamation.

ELECTION OF CHAIR – called by Commissioner Dave Chaulk

Commissioner Dave Chaulk called for nominations of Village Commission Chair.

Commissioner Stevens nominated Commissioner Dave Chaulk as Chair of the Village Commission. There being no further nominations, Dave Chaulk was declared Chair of the Village Commission.

Chair Chaulk thanked the Commission for their confidence in him over the years and again this year as Chair of the Commission. He stated he does not take this responsibility lightly and considers it an honor to Chair the Village Commission.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR - Called by Chair Chaulk

Chair Chaulk called for nominations of Village Commission Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Dale Pineo nominated Commissioner Maynard Stevens as Vice-Chair of the Village Commission. There being no further nominations, Chair Chaulk declared Commissioner Stevens Vice-Chair of the Village Commission.

Commissioner Stevens was congratulated and thanked the Commission for the appointment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: May 9, 2011

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Hatt that the Agenda for the May 9, 2011 regular Commission meeting be approved with the following additions: Under NEW BUSINESS (c) 4 x 4 Rally, and (d) Request – Mobile Ice Cream Vendor. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Commission Meeting April 11, 2011

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Redmond that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting held April 11, 2011 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Boundary Expansion – Update

Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver advised that on April 29th, she and the Village's solicitors took part in a conference call set up by the NSUARB. The purpose of this call was for the Board to determine the amount of time they would need to book for the hearing.

The Board will notify the parties of a date for submission of documents, and after that will set a date and place for the hearing.

Vice-Chair Stevens stated he is extremely disturbed to read that at the April 19th, 2011 County Council meeting, the motion of County Council to oppose the Village's application to expand the Village boundaries was made by the Village's own Councillor, Eric Smith. He said Councillor Smith was elected to represent the people of New Minas, and for him to make a motion to go against something in the Village is disgraceful. Vice-Chair Stevens wishes the Commission to invite Councillor Smith to the next Village Commission meeting to explain his actions.

Chair Chaulk agreed with Vice-Chair Stevens concerns, and added that he is also disappointed that Councillor did not see fit to come to the Commission meeting tonight.

Commissioner Pineo expressed great disappointment in the fact that our own Councillor did not validate the expansion application, not to mention making the motion to oppose it. He said the people in the community he has been speaking with are also very disappointed in Councillor Smith and Council in general for opposing this application. Commissioner Pineo also requested that we contact Councillor Smith to come to our next Commission meeting and answer questions the Commissioners, and maybe the public, may have.

The Clerk will write a letter to Councillor Smith outlining the Commission's concerns and ask Councillor Smith to attend the June session of the Village Commission.

b) Proposed Facility – Update

Clerk Silver advised that at the County Council meeting held May 3rd, County Council agreed unanimously to guarantee any necessary borrowing the Village may require for the proposed facility, up to \$3,000,000. She stated she received the signed and sealed documents from the County today and will be forwarding them off tomorrow. She stated that the Village Commission would need to pass a *Temporary Borrowing Resolution* for submission to the Minister.

It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS Section 438 (1) of the Municipal Government Act provides that a village, subject to the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, may borrow to expend funds for a capital purpose authorized by statute;

AND WHEREAS under Section 423(ab) the village has the authority to expend funds for the capital purpose of playgrounds, trails, bicycle paths, swimming pools, ice arenas and other recreational facilities;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act provides that no money shall be borrowed until the Village Commissioners have obtained the approval of the electors to the proposed borrowing at a public meeting;

AND WHEREAS the electors of the Village of New Minas present at a duly called public meeting on the 7th day of April, 2011 approved of the proposed borrowing by the Village Commissioners of a sum not exceeding Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000);

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT under the authority of Section 438 (1) of the Municipal Government Act, the Village borrow a sum or sums not exceeding Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in total for the purpose set out above, subject the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Village to such an amount as the Council deems necessary;

THAT the issue of debentures be postponed pursuant to Section 92 of the Municipal Government Act and that the Village borrow from time to time a sum or sums not exceeding Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in total from any chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia;

THAT the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Twelve (12) Months from the date of the approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations of this resolution;

THAT the interest payable on the borrowing be paid at a rate to be agreed upon; and

THAT the amount borrowed be repaid from the proceeds of the debentures when sold.

MOTION CARRIED

The Commission noted that the County of Kings has committed approximately \$2.5M over the next 16 years to assist with the financing of a federally-owned rink on base Greenwood.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Recreation Director's Report – Saï Sherwood

Chair Chaulk asked Rec Director Saï Sherwood to present his report for the previous month. He also asked Saï to provide the Commission with a written report in the future. Sai read his report (attached to original minutes). Chair Chaulk questioned him on the position of Intern for the summer. Sai advised that this person is hired to carry out the functions of events coordinator and itinerant Day Camp floater as needed. Chair Chaulk stated he questions this position every year and wants to make sure the position is not a “make work” position. T. Silver advised that the person also kick-starts the Village's process for donations for all the upcoming events for the entire year. Commissioner Pineo stated we have always had an Intern, and he personally feels it is absolutely crucial this position be filled every year. He stated this is an extremely busy time of the year for the Rec Director, and is also one of the busiest times of the year for events, and the extra person is required.

Commissioner Pineo asked Saï about the Volunteer recognition events this year. Saï stated there would be no banquet this year, and Commissioner Pineo stated it was his understanding that it was because the attendance had become embarrassingly low. T. Silver stated the Commission did not receive any nominations for the provincial event

It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that the report of the Recreation Department be accepted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

b) Water Commission Report

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

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Pineo to accept the report of the New Minas Water Commission as presented. MOTION CARRIED

b) Area Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt did not have a report available for this meeting, but will have one ready for the June Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Clarification – Program Fees - Commissioners – Commissioners Hatt and Pineo

Commissioner Pineo stated that he had misunderstood what the Commission's intent was a year and a half ago with regard to paying half of the Commissioners' fitness fees (in his case gym membership), and thought the motion last year only referred to Day Camp registrations.

Chair Chaulk stated he was not aware that gym fees would be funded by the Commission, and recalled the Commission's discussion last summer that any "perks" for Commissioners would not be funded through the Village. He stated the motion did not include families of Commissioners. The Commissioners all agreed that families of Commissioners would not receive any perks through the Village coffers either.

b) Approval to Lease Village Parks from County of Kings.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Pineo to renew the Parks Leases as presented by the County of Kings. MOTION CARRIED

c) 4 x 4 Rally

Commissioner Redmond stated that the organizers of the yearly 4 x 4 Rally (Thunder in the Valley) are currently in negotiations with "Lucas Oil", to film the Rally event this year. Commissioner Redmond stated that this would be very big for the event, and for New Minas, and could considerably add to the number of people coming into the Village. The Commissioners all agreed that they support this event every year, and continue to this year as well.

It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that a letter of support for the 4 x 4 Rally "Thunder in the Valley" be forwarded immediately to the County of Kings. MOTION CARRIED

d) Vendor Application – Michael Fahie and Allen Selig

A letter was submitted by Mr. Fahie and Mr. Selig to seek the Commission's permission to place their mobile ice cream vending business at Lockhart Ryan Park during special events, as well as along Commercial Street in New Minas (the permission from the Commission is a requirement to comply with the County's Vendor Bylaw).

The Commission felt that it would be inappropriate for them to support an ice cream vending business to set up on Commercial Street because there are tax payers selling ice cream, and the mobile business would contravene the Land Use Bylaw for New Minas.

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Pineo, that the Commission give permission for Mr. Fahie and Mr. Selig to set up their mobile ice cream vending business at Lockhart Ryan Park during special events at the park, subject to conditions for location and power, but not on Commercial Street in the Village. MOTION CARRIED

OTHER ADDED ITEMS

CORRESPONDENCE

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Redmond, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer