

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
May 14, 2007
CIVIC CENTRE
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Village Commission of New Mina was held on May 14, 2007 in the Civic Centre.

In Attendance

Commissioner Dave Chaulk
Commissioner Les Barrett
Commissioner Dean Hatt
Commissioner Dale Pineo
Commissioner Maynard Stevens
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Also in Attendance:

Linda Lockhart, Resident
Pierre Cloutier, Resident
Stephen Schofield, Resident
Mark Redmond, Resident
Sam Milne, Resident
Don Zwicker, Resident
Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works
Paulette Hersey, Resident
Vince Forrestall, Director of Recreation

CALL TO ORDER – Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver called the meeting to order.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ELECTION HELD MAY 2, 2007 – Clerk Treasurer

Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver gave the report of the Village Commissioner Election held May 2, 2007. The results, in alphabetical order, are as follows:

Linda Lockhart 58
Maynard Stevens 228

286 electors voted. The Commissioner elected to the Village Commission of new Minas is Maynard Stevens.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND OFFICE – Maynard Stevens

Maynard Stevens took the Oath of Allegiance and Office.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver then called for nominations for Commission Chair

Commissioner Hatt nominated Commissioner Dave Chaulk for Chair.

Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver called for further nominations three more times. There being no further nominations, the call for nominations ceased. Commissioner Chaulk was declared the Chair of the Village Commission

Commissioner Chaulk took over the Chair at this time.

Chair Chaulk welcomed Maynard Stevens as Commissioner to the Village Commission of New Minas.

Chair Chaulk expressed thanks to Linda Lockhart for her term of office as Village Commissioner from May 2004 through May 2007.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Chair Chaulk called for nominations for Commission Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Hatt nominated Dale Pineo for Vice-Chair.

Chair Chaulk called for further nominations three more times. There being no further nominations, Dale Pineo was declared the Vice-Chair of the Village Commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: May 14, 2007

It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo that the Agenda for the regular Commission meeting of May 14, 2007 be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting April 10, 2007

It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, that the Minutes of the Regular Commission meeting held April 10, 2007 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Membership Kings Partnership Steering Committee

T. Silver advised that her letter to the Kings Partnership Steering Committee requesting that the Village of New Minas be included as members on this Committee was acknowledged by Councillor Janet Newton; however, nothing has been received since this acknowledgement.

Sick Leave Policy –
Revision

It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that the Sick Leave Policy be accepted, with revisions. MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water Commission –
Commission Chair
Chaulk

Chair Chaulk read the report of The New Minas Water Commission, which met on April 25, 2007 (copy attached to original minutes. He highlighted the following items:

Sewer Treatment Alternatives Update - It was decided to meet again with the Village of Port Williams to further discuss the option of partnering with them for sewage treatment.

Water Rate Study Update - The report should be forthcoming in June.

Monitoring Station – DOT Greenwich site – update - The request from the Village to DOTPW to partner with them to build a new test site on their property in Greenwich has been refused. The Clerk Treasurer will write another letter requesting an explanation of this refusal.

Fire Department Letter - The Clerk has written a letter to the Fire Chief in response to his letter to the Water Commission. The Clerk requested the New Minas Fire Department to advise the Village in writing whenever a hydrant has been used, to ensure that Public Works personnel can ensure proper maintenance. The Fire Department have routinely notified the Village whenever they have opened any of the hydrants, and the Village's request serves as the practice of due diligence.

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

Area Advisory
Committee –
Commissioner Dean
Hatt

Commissioner Hatt advised that there was no Area Advisory Committee meeting, therefore no report from this Committee.

Recreation Advisory
Committee –
Commissioner Dale
Pineo

Vice-Chair Pineo gave the report of the Recreation Advisory Committee (copy attached to the original minutes). He highlighted the following:
Lockhart Ryan Park Project 2007 – Grant Announcements.
Provincial Volunteer Week – the Village’s Volunteer banquet was well attended and a great success
Kings County Basketball Academy (K.C.B.A) update
A.V.E.S.T.A - Events Valley
Winter / Spring 2007 Programs & Events Update - list maintained on the Village’s website.
Golfview Homeowners Association - The Golfview Homeowners Association was commended by the Committee for their initiative and interest in working with the Village to improve their community park.
New Minas Tourist Information Centre –. The Rec Director will continue to pursue this and report to the Committee at the next meeting.
Community Recreation Funding Program

It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, that the Village Commission of New Minas institute a program whereby fees for programs offered by the Village of New Minas be waived for needy youth, provided appropriate recommendations/references are submitted by community leaders. MOTION CARRIED

Lockhart Ryan Park Road Sign (Drawing/Art)

IT was moved by Vice Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, that the Village Commission of New Minas promote recreation and the benefits of recreation by declaring June Recreation month.

Summer Programs & Events – The Summer Program Schedule and Events are posted on the Village’s website.
Summer Staff / Staff Training @ Greenwood on May 29th
Beach Volleyball Program offered this summer.
Sentimental Journey Dance (s) – two tentatively scheduled for the upcoming year.
Giant Soccer Ball - The Rec Director will investigate the feasibility of painting the Village’s Water tank to depict a gigantic soccer ball.
McHappy Days – D. Pineo and Princess New Minas will be working at the counter for this event.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Pineo, seconded by Commissioner Stevens that the Recreation Advisory Committee report be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

Transportation Advisory
Committee –
Commissioner Hatt

Commissioner Hatt advised there was no TAC meeting, therefore, no report

NEW BUSINESS

Thank You Card – New
Minas Elementary
School

A huge card of “Thanks” was displayed from the students of Mme. Baldwin’s class at New Minas Elementary School.

Millett Estate – Letter to
County of Kings

The Village’s solicitor prepared a report for the Village Commission with regard to the Millett Estate on Commercial Street in New Minas (report attached to original minutes).

It was moved by Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo, that the Clerk Treasurer direct the Village’s solicitor to start taking action on the recreational portion of the Millett Estate as outlined in the Action Summary of the report prepared by the Solicitor. MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Kentville Rotary Club –
Yearbook Ad
Opportunity

T. Silver advised that she has been approached again by representatives of the Kentville Rotary Club inviting the Village Commission to buy an ad for the Club’s Yearbook.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commissioners that, in light of the fact that the Sunrise Rotary Club of New Minas is not only located in the Village, but has been very generous to the Village’s projects and programs, the Commission should support the Sunrise Club exclusively

It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that the Village Commission of New Minas not contribute to the Kentville Rotary Club Yearbook Ad campaign. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

Ms. Linda Lockhart, Resident

Ms. Lockhart stated that there had been a motion a few months ago that the Commission look into renovating the Civic Centre. She asked if this will be considered in the 2007/2008 Budget.

The Clerk advised that at this point in the budget process, there is no money available for that type of capital project. Chair Chaulk stated that this could be a consideration in the Millett Estate discussions, although the Commission has no idea where that will go so far. Ms. Lockhart stated that the Commission should continue to pursue this and consider having a public meeting to get the money to do something.

Mr. Sam Milne, Resident

Mr. Milne expressed concern that the crosswalk lights are above the vision of drivers, and are therefore creating a potential hazard to pedestrians. He suggested the Transportation Advisory Committee might want to approach the Dept of Transportation to lower the lights.

Mr. Pierre Cloutier, Resident

Mr. Cloutier has observed that drivers are negligent and very inconsiderate to pedestrians in the crosswalks. He stated that this may explain why they are not giving consideration to people in the crosswalks.

Mr. Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Pothier stated that enforcement is an issue and the RCMP will be requested to keep an eye on the crosswalks. He stated further that the Provincial Department of Transportation determine the height standards for crosswalk lights, and the lights installed by the Village meet these regulations. They were inspected when they were installed.

ADJOURNMENT

On Motion of Commissioner Stevens, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer