

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
July 10, 2006
7:00 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on July 10, 2006 in the Civic Centre at 7:00 p.m..

In Attendance: Chair Dave Chaulk
Vice-Chair Dale Pineo
Commissioner Les Barrett
Commissioner Dean Hatt
Commissioner Linda Lockhart
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

Also In Attendance: Mrs. Audrey Herron, Resident
Mr. Murray Herron, Resident
Mr. Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works
Mr. Maynard Stevens, Resident
Ms. Rebecca Crouse, Resident
Mr. Stephen Schofield, Resident
Mr. Gordon Silver, Resident
Mr. Allen Milton, Resident
Mr. Blair Coldwell, Resident
Ms. Linda Hudson, Resident
Mr. David Hudson, Resident

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Chaulk

Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order. He welcomed all those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting June 12, 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Lockhart, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo, that the minutes of the Regular Commission meeting of June 12, 2006 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: July 10, 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart, that the Agenda for the regular meeting of July 10, 2006 be approved with the following addition: Under “Other Items”, add “August Meeting – Chair Chaulk”. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

(a) Strategic Planning – Update

Chair Chaulk stated that the Strategic Planning process has begun with a meeting having taken place last week, and another scheduled for this Thursday, with Byron MacDonald of Kings CED facilitating the meeting.

(b) Sidewalk Projects – Capital Borrowing

Chair Chaulk stated that, pursuant to a motion made at the June meeting, the Village Commission will set up a Public Meeting to receive input from the electors on borrowing money for new sidewalk construction. Funding application will be made, if appropriate, once this process is complete.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Water Commission - Commissioner Linda Lockhart

Commissioner Lockhart gave the Report of the New Minas Water Commission (Written report attached to original minutes). She highlighted the following:

- Meeting with DOE re environmental questions along northern boundary will be scheduled for a later date
- New position for Assistant Superintendent of Public Works was approved.
- Mr. Rod MacInnis resigned
- Mr. Marvin Messom appointed as new Water Commission member
- Step 2, GUDI Protocol tabled for July meeting.

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

(b) Area Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt gave the report of the Area Advisory Committee. He highlighted the following:

- Request for the AAC to consider Development Agreement to allow Jerry's RV to expand to adjacent property. AAC had requested Planning Staff to re-work the Development Agreement to allow for Site Specific permission only. This Development Agreement application was subsequently denied by the AAC, and this rejection referred to Kings County PAC for denial also.

It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart, that the report of the Area Advisory Committee be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

(c) Recreation Advisory Committee – Vice-Chair Pineo

Vice-Chair Pineo gave the report of the Recreation Advisory Committee. He highlighted the following items:

- Dale Pineo was elected Chair
- Maynard Stevens was elected Vice-Chair
- Jennifer Coolen gave her Director's monthly report, and noted the following activities, among others: Canada Day Celebrations a great success, the Skateboard Park Jam attended by many participants and on-lookers, Sr. Games event, Apple Blossom parade (float/princess) were all organized and well attended. Things are shaping up well for Celebration Days, and more events are scheduled for the Skateboard Park for the summer. She listed the many other programs sponsored by the Village.
- Jennifer Coolen conducted the first in a series of planning sessions for the Committee to develop a five-year plan for recreation.

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

(d) Transportation Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt gave the report of the Transportation Advisory Committee. He highlighted the following items:

- Doug Seamone, Village Engineer, gave an update on the Traffic Study. All seems to be on schedule. He asked for any input/suggestions from the Committee.
- Sidewalk beside Scotiabank will be repaired in the near future, as soon as the contractor is able.

It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Commissioner Lockhart, that the report of the Transportation Advisory Committee be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Employee Service Recognition – Gerard Hamilton – 9 years
(b) Employee Service Recognition – Greg Messom – 5 years

Chair Chaulk stated that Mr. Gerard Hamilton and Mr. Greg Messom, two staff members of the Village of New Minas, are to be commended and recognized for their dedicated service and the fine work they perform; Mr. Hamilton with 9 years dedicated service, and Mr. Messom, with five years dedicated service. He stated they are valued employees and, on behalf of the Village Commission, he wanted to pass along the Commission's appreciation for the time and effort they put forth into making the Village the great place it is.

He stated that both gentlemen will receive a certificate of appreciation; unfortunately, they both had prior commitments for this evening and were not able to attend.

(c) Policies:

- Holidays Policy

It was moved by Commissioner Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Barrett, that the Holidays Policy be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED

- Facilities Use Policy – Revised

It was moved by Commissioner Lockhart, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo, that the Facilities Use Policy be approved as amended. MOTION CARRIED

OTHER ITEMS

(a) **August Commission Meeting – Chair Chaulk**

Chair Chaulk asked, with vacations, etc., how the other Commissioners feel about cancelling August's meeting. Of course, if the need arises, a meeting could be called.

It was moved by Commissioner Hatt, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo, that the August Commission meeting will be cancelled. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

Mr. Blair Coldwell

Mr. Coldwell asked if the amount of the fire fighters honorarium was passed by unanimous vote, and if not, who voted against it. Chair Chaulk explained that that item, as well as every item in the budget, was discussed and that the budget as a whole was voted on. He said that the vote for the budget as a whole was unanimous.

Mr. Coldwell also asked if the Civic Centre would be sided prior to New Minas Days. Peter Pothier spoke on this. He stated that he has just invited quotes, but the project would likely not be finished by then.

Ms. Rebecca Crouse

Ms. Crouse asked the Commission to send a letter to Councillor Eric Smith and ask him to attend the Commission meetings. She stated that it is her feeling that Councillor Smith should be in attendance at these meetings to know what is going on.

Chair Chaulk stated that the question had arisen some months ago and Councillor Smith explained that he is on many Committees and is busy most Monday nights, but would attend meetings if he did not have a County Council commitment. Mr. Smith advised the Commission at a meeting that he would welcome calls from any of the Commissioners if they had any concerns and would take any information back to the Council on the Commission's behalf.

Commissioner Barrett stated that Mr. Smith has been apprised that District 11 encompasses the Village, and has chosen not to come, but not from the lack of the Commission trying to persuade him. He went on to say that he agrees with Ms. Crouse and would also like to see a second letter expressing her concerns.

Chair Chaulk stated that Councillor Smith is on the Area Advisory Committee and attends all these meetings.

Ms. Crouse stated that Mr. Smith does not have to attend a meeting every Monday night, and would really encourage the Commission to write a letter.

It was moved by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, to write a letter to Councillor Eric Smith requesting that he attend all regularly schedule Commission meetings, at the request of a member of the public. MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Gordon Silver

Mr. Silver asked about the status of New Minas South expansion discussions.

Chair Chaulk stated that the Commission has not heard anything from the County.

Commissioner Barrett stated that the Commission has never done anything since the request was made to distribute a survey in the New Minas South area, and it was decided to not pursue that process. He stated the developer wanted services from the Village, but he was not anxious to have his development included within the Village limits. Commissioner Barrett went on to say that the developer was told that he can still develop on-site services, and that's when they dropped it. He stated that there are still Village Green residents to solicit, and it would be reasonable to include them, but nothing has happened in this regard.

The Commission agreed to place this on the Agenda for the September, 2006 meeting. As well, an inquiry will be directed to the County regarding the status of 101 Properties application for Country Residential Zoning.

Mr. Blair Coldwell

Mr. Coldwell suggested that the Commission send a letter to the Honourable David Morse requesting that he attend the Village Commission meetings also.

Chair Chaulk stated that he did not see the validity of forwarding a letter to Hon. Morse, explaining that if there is a pressing issue, we can contact his office.

Commissioner Barrett agreed with Chair Chaulk that it is not necessary to have Hon. Morse in attendance. He stated that it is more important to have the County Councillor at the meetings.

Mr. Maynard Stevens

Mr. Smith stated that last year the New Minas Acadian Sites signs both disappeared, and asked if the Village was aware of that. T. Silver stated that she was made aware of it this spring and ordered new, larger signs, which will be produced and installed by the Village. She stated that Mr. Belfountain was working with the sign-makers to make a couple of changes and following that, the new signs will be erected. Mr. Stevens thanked the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice-Chair Pineo, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer