

**VILLAGE COMMISSION OF NEW MINAS**  
**REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012**  
**7:00 p.m.,**  
**Conference Room, Louis Millett Community Complex (LMCC)**

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room, of LMCC

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Dave Chaulk, Commission Chair  
Maynard Stevens, Commission Vice-Chair  
Dale Pineo, Commissioner  
James Redmond, Commissioner  
Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

John Ansara, Recreation Director  
Gary Connolly, Councillor District 11  
John Owen, Resident & Vice-Chair NMPAC  
Gordon Silver, Resident

**ABSENT due to Illness:**

Dean Hatt, Commissioner

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** November 13, 2012

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Agenda for the regular Commission meeting of November 13, 2012 be approved as presented, with the following additions: Under "OTHER ADDED ITEMS" (a) Update on Commissioner Hatt – Commissioner Pineo; (b) Race Relations – Vice-Chair Stevens; (c) Town Crier – Vice-Chair Stevens. MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** October 9, 2012

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting of October 9, 2012 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

a) Boundary Expansion – Update

T. Silver advised that a letter has been received from the NSUARB advising that the Board is still deliberating and a decision will not be made before mid-January, 2013.

b) Facility Update

➤ Fundraising – Update John Ansara

John recapped the Fundraising activity for the LMCC. He advised we have received a sponsor for the other gymnasium change room: Kings Physio Therapy has donated \$10,000 over 10 years. John advised that he has re-structured the donation schedule, and is making some progress.

c) Sale of Civic Center – Update

T. Silver stated that there has been nothing firm with regard to the sale of the old Civic Center; however, there have been a couple inquiries lately.

d) Report to Commission – Schedule of Fees LMCC –Vice-Chair Stevens re charges for use of gym

Vice-Chair Stevens read a message to the Commission on his opinion of user fees for the gymnasium, pursuant to discussion at the October meeting (written message attached to original minutes). Vice-Chair Stevens stated in this time when we are trying to encourage healthy lifestyle for Seniors, it seems wrong to him to charge Seniors the \$2.00 drop in fee to walk the track. He proposed three scenarios: (1) Waive the walking fees altogether for Seniors; (b) offer a free day on a regular basis; (3) charge a monthly fee, but give Seniors a discount.

Discussion took place with regard to fee schedule. Commissioner Pineo stated he has heard from a few people, and his first reaction is that this seems reasonable. John Ansara was welcomed to speak and he stated he has come up with a \$10.00 membership for those people planning on coming to the track more than 5 times a month (i.e. \$2.00 drop in fee for under 5 times a month), but that would be reduced to \$8.00 per month for Seniors.

Commissioner Redmond asked how many complaints we have received. Staff have received a lodged complaint from one Senior, but they have also received comments both for and against charging the \$2.00. T. Silver stated that staff is in a very awkward position with this. She stated

that we want users of all ages to be healthy, and it is difficult to justify segregating any sector of society.

Chair Chaulk felt that the Commission should not over-react to the opinion of one or two people. Commissioner Pineo stated he appreciates the delicate position staff is in, and staff has to make sure we don't price ourselves out of collecting enough revenue to operate the facility. He reiterated the drop in fee schedule at the Soccer Dome in Kentville.

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Rec Director's proposal to charge a discounted fee for Seniors to use the gymnasium walking track (currently \$8.00 per month). MOTION CARRIED**

e) Edible Gardens land location - Update

T. Silver stated that staff is still working on a location or locations for possibilities for the edible gardens.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) Recreation Director's Report – John Ansara

Chair Chaulk asked the Commission if they had any questions for John on the Rec Director's Report.

Commissioner Pineo stated, referring to a report from the October meeting regarding fee schedules, that it is obvious the Village is offering a wide variety of programs. He asked John for specific details on the programs. John advised that things are evolving, and among the programs offered for adults is indoor soccer, and badminton, floor hockey, etc.. Commissioner Pineo stated he would be interested in the floor hockey.

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Pineo, that the report of the Rec Director be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

b) New Minas Water Commission Report

Vice-Chair Stevens advised there was no Water Commission meeting since the last Commission meeting.

b) New Minas Planning Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Pineo read the report of the New Minas Planning Advisory Committee (attached to original minutes), prepared by Vice-Chair John Owen.

**It was moved by Commissioner Pineo, seconded by Vice-Chair Stevens, that the report of the New Minas Planning Advisory Committee be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

## NEW BUSINESS

a) Letter from Mr. Donald Wallace

The Committee reviewed a letter from Mr. Donald Wallace, requesting the Village Commission to request the Council of Kings County cancel or rescind the motion passed earlier opposing the Village's application to the NSUARB to expand the boundary. Also, that the Commission request the County of Kings to rescind their motion to delay all new applications to amend the MPS for the Kings 2050 process. (Mr. Wallace's letter attached to original minutes).

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Clerk be instructed to get a legal opinion on what, if any action the Commission should take with regard to Mr. Wallace's request. MOTION CARRIED**

b) Grand Opening – Louis Millett Community Complex November 15<sup>th</sup>

Chair Chaulk advised that the Village Commission and Staff will be hosting the Grand Opening of the new Louis Millett Community Complex on November 15<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 3:00 with staff tours of the facility, and with the official ribbon-cutting ceremony at 6:30.

## OTHER ADDED ITEMS

a) Update on Commissioner Hatt – Commissioner Pineo

Commissioner Pineo advised he had spoken with Commissioner Hatt today and was happy to report that Dean is recovering at home and wanted to pass along greetings to everyone. He stated that Dean hopes to be in attendance at the Grand Opening. The Commission and staff all wish him well and a speedy recovery.

b) Race Relations – Vice-Chair Stevens

Vice-Chair Stevens wished to applaud the County Council for creating the Race Relations Committee and stated he had attended a symposium and was leaving information for the Commission's perusal and to possibly gather information on how the Village can help. He suggested we invite someone to the January Commission meeting to speak on the topic.

Chair Chaulk stated it may be inappropriate to do something of this nature, particularly where they have done such a fine job of celebrating so well.

**It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that representatives from the Race Relations Committee to do a presentation to the Village's Commission meeting in January. MOTION DEFEATED**

c) Town Crier – Vice-Chair Stevens

Vice-Chair Stevens asked if the Commission had ever donated towards the Town Crier's request for funding towards his uniform maintenance.

T. Silver advised that she was not prepared for this question; however, if the Commission wishes, she can research whether any funding had been approved and report back to the next Commission meeting. The Commission directed her to do so, but to not spend an excessive amount of time doing so.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

a) Letter from Habitat for Humanity re donation of land

The Commissioners reviewed a very nice letter from Habitat for Humanity thanking them for the generous donation of land for a "build". Chair Chaulk advised he was present this morning at the official presentation and the group was very thankful for the donation. Chair Chaulk's message back to them was the "thanks" should go to them for their hard work and dedication.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

Gordon Silver, Resident – Wanted to wish Commissioner Dean Hatt a speedy recovery. He stated he had been in to visit Dean, and although he was weak, he was in good spirits and said he was recovering well.

Gary Connolly, Councillor, District 11 – Stated he was also in to see Commissioner Hatt and Dean expressed he was anxious to get back. He then stated he was unfortunately able to make it to the Grand Opening of the LMCC, but is aware it is an incredible facility.

Councillor Connolly stated this is the beginning of a new relationship between the County and the Village. He stated he believes in growth and will work with the Village, although he also has to work for the overall County as well. He stated it is his wish to work towards the benefit of the people of his District, and if there are items of interest for the Commission, he asked them to be sure and bring these items to his attention.

Councillor Connolly asked if there was an alternative plan if the Village's application for boundary expansion is denied by the NSUARB. The Commission confirmed there are no alternative plans at this point.

Commissioner Redmond stated he hopes with the new Council things will change, and he reminded Councillor Connolly that he was elected by the people and his main focus should be the people who elected him. Chair Chaulk stated he echoes Commissioner Redmond's comments and stated there have been issues in the past, and although he understands that

decisions have to be in the best interests of the entire County, and Councillor Connolly and the Commission may not agree every time, he needs to be sure he doesn't lose track of who elected him.

Commissioner Pineo stated that disagreement is one thing, but working together is a matter of spirit and he looks forward to having a better working relationship as well. Councillor Connolly stated that in fairness, he felt that Council was not "kept informed", to which Commissioner Redmond responded that was because Council meetings were often held behind closed doors.

Everyone agreed that it is important to have open communication and work cooperatively and everyone is looking forward to a new and better relationship. Councillor Connolly promised he will place his vote on any issue based on the good of the community. The Commission agreed to let him know if they feel Council's actions are done in a proper manner.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**On Motion of Commissioner Redmond, the meeting adjourned.**

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**Dave Chaulk, Chair**

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**Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer**