

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
7:00 p.m., Civic Center, Downstairs

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on Monday, September 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Center, downstairs.

In Attendance:

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

Also in Attendance:

Mr. Don Wallace, Developer
Ms. Jennifer Weisner, Kings RDA
Mr. Steve Kerr, Kings RDA
Mr. Fred Hayward, New Minas Sunrise Rotary Club
Mr. Greg White, New Minas Sunrise Rotary Club
Mr. Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works
Ms. Freida Burger, Businesswoman
Mr. Gordon Silver, Resident

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Dave Chaulk, Chair

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: September 13, 2010

On motion of Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, the Agenda of the September 13, 2010 regular Commission meeting was approved as amended: Item #4 be moved to item 5 and Item 5 be moved forward to item #4.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting July 12, 2010

On motion of Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, the minutes of the regular Commission meeting held July 12, 2010 were approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

➤ **Minutes of Special Meeting August 31, 2010**

**On motion of Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, the minutes of the Special Commission meeting held August 31, 2010 were approved as presented.
MOTION CARRIED**

PRESENTATION: New Minas Sunrise Rotary Club

Chair Chaulk welcomed Mr. Fred Hayward and Mr. Greg White, who were representing New Minas Sunrise Rotary Club. Mr. Hayward thanked the Commission for the opportunity to appear before the Commission, and Ms. Weisner and Mr. Kerr from Kings RDA for kindly allowing them to change spots on the Agenda.

Mr. Hayward and Mr. White gave some background on the fine works of the NM Rotary Club and mentioned a number of projects in New Minas and other areas for which the Rotary Club has fund-raised, including the Skateboard Park in New Minas and Camp Brigadoon.

Their message to the Commission is that their organization is very interested in partnering with the Village to do projects that will benefit the youth of the Village. They thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak with them.

Chair Chaulk thanked Mr. Hayward and Mr. White, and stated the Commission has always been appreciative of the assistance the NM Rotary Club has provided, and have never forgotten their generosity. He stated the Commission is currently working on a project and when the time is right, we will indeed be contacting them.

PRESENTATION: Jennifer Weisner, Kings RDA Strategic Planning

Chair Chaulk introduced Ms. Jennifer Weisner and Mr. Steve Kerr from Kings RDA and welcomed them to the meeting.

Mr. Kerr and Ms. Weisner spoke of their involvement in regional development in the Kings County area, and pointed out the six "economic zones". They identified some of the challenges Villages have insofar as their independence from Kings County. It was noted that, for all intents and purposes, some Villages, New Minas in particular, is just like a Town; in fact, it is larger than some in Kings County, and should continue to forge ahead to continually improve. Discussion took place with regard to traffic issues, "tired" storefronts, etc..

There was a question/answer period at which time Mr. Kerr advised their success is measured by (1) key performance indicators, and (2) the "ISO" chart. Discussion took place regarding a proposed development in Kings County that would have an impact on the area's economic stability. Mr. Kerr stated that Kings RDA is able to assist New Minas

with most projects they would love to work with the Commission on anything they may have coming up.

Chair Chaulk thanked Ms. Weisner and Mr. Kerr for their informative presentation and stated the Commission will contact them in the future.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Brison Development Subdivision Parkland – Update

Mr. Mitch Brison is developing a subdivision in the Highbury Road area, and has offered the Village Commission (through the County of Kings Parks office) a 10-acre area of resource land for greenspace. The Commission reviewed a report from Peter Pothier, Superintendent of Public Works. Peter was in the audience and was asked to comment on his report and the land being offered (report attached to original minutes).

Most of the Commissioners had visited the site with Peter.

Vice-Chair Pineo stated he had visited the area and feels there are some high-risk environmental concerns with the steep ravine, and there is also an old garbage dump on the land that has to be dealt with. Commissioner Stevens stated he hates to see any green space not being developed; however, after viewing the land in question, he could not see any suitable development opportunities by the Commission. Commissioner Hatt stated there is a huge ravine through the donated land and he fears the liability would be too great to make it feasible for the Village to own. Commissioner Redmond felt the reason the Village would take over the land would be for recreation purposes; however, he cannot see there would be a huge recreation benefit to the entire 10 acres.

Terry Silver added that normally the County would require one single lot be designated as a green space, and she pointed out that lot on Mr. Brison's plan. She said she and Peter talked about this and she suggested the Commission may wish to take over that lot and maybe an area larger if they so chose. Peter Pothier stated the ravine is close to all the lots and this could be a risky lot, liability-wise.

It was moved by Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Hatt, that the Clerk advise the Municipality of the County of Kings that it will decline the offer of a 10 acre green space on the Brison Subdivision on Highbury Road. MOTION CARRIED

b) Coole Agreement - Decision

It was the consensus of the Commissioners that the Clerk notify Mr. and Mrs. Coole that the last Land Use Agreement presented to them on April 12, 2010 not be changed and that they be requested to sign and return said agreement.

COMMITTEE REPORTSa) Water Commission Report – Commissioner Maynard Stevens

Commissioner Stevens read a report of the New Minas Water Commission (attached to original minutes).

It was moved by Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo that the report of the New Minas Water Commission be approved as submitted. MOTION CARRIED

b) Area Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

c) Recreation Advisory Committee – Vice-Chair Dale Pineo

d) Transportation Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

There being no meetings of the Area Advisory, Recreation Advisory, and Transportation Advisory Committees, there were no reports.

NEW BUSINESSa) CANKOR Holdings Limited – Request

Chair Chaulk stated that the Commissioners had received a report from Mr. Don Wallace, and asked for comments. The Commissioners wished to hear from Mr. Wallace, who was in the audience.

Mr. Wallace presented the Commissioners with more information and gave a history of his attempts to develop his land south of the 101 Highway, and adjacent to the Village of New Minas. He stated he has spoken with the landowners in the area in question (per attached list), and most of them are prepared to sign a petition to join the Village. He spoke of the advantages for the landowners to be part of the Village.

**It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo to petition the landowners as shown on the plan provided by Mr. Don Wallace, to extend the Village's boundary, and on successful completion of the petition to subsequently make application to the NS Utility and Review Board for this boundary extension .
MOTION CARRIED**

b) Roundabout/Highway 101 – Commissioner Redmond

Commissioner Redmond stated he has had a conversation with Hon. Ramona Jennex with reference to the proposed roundabout (Commercial Street connecting to Granite Drive), and that it be suggested to the Department of Highways that the connector ramps be installed on the north side of Highway 101 at the same time as the roundabout is installed. He said it only makes sense to do this now. Commissioner Hatt stated it would be sensible to install all the ramps.

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Vice-Chair Pineo that a letter be written to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, and the Minister of Service Nova Scotia, Ramona Jennex, to request the ramps from Highway 101 be installed at the same time as the Commercial Street and Granite Drive roundabout is being installed. MOTION CARRIED

c) Request – Rotary Club of Kentville – Chair Dave Chaulk

Chair Chaulk stated he had received a request from the Rotary Club of Kentville requesting the Village to place an ad in their “Valley Faces Yearbook”. Commissioner Redmond stated that the circulation of this publication is from Hantsport to Aylesford, and he didn’t feel this would benefit the Village of New Minas to the extent of justifying the cost. Commissioner Stevens stated he would be in favour of it if New Minas’ Rotary Club was producing it.

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, that the request from Kentville Rotary Club to advertise if their yearbook be turned down. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

Ms. Freida Burger – Business Owner – Ms. Burger reminded the Commission that the Valley Faces Yearbook is a fundraiser, and is done in place of a radio auction. She stated that this is not only given out to the general public from Hantsport to Aylesford, but many people moving into the area are given these publications and are given the opportunity to educate themselves on what they will find in the area. Chair Chaulk thanked Ms. Burger for her information.

Ms. Burger asked about the roundabout, and expressed concern that bypassing the Village will hurt New Minas businesses. Chair Chaulk stated it is hoped to enhance traffic to businesses because people are avoiding New Minas now because of the heavy traffic. Chair Chaulk stated that the Village is not doing the roundabout, and actually has no say as to whether it happens or not. He said the NS Department of Transportation is fully in charge of this.

Gordon Silver, resident – Mr. Silver said he wanted to pick up on what Commissioner Hatt was saying about installing all the ramps now, and it would only make sense to have the ramps placed on both the north and south sides of Highway 101, with the north side ramps connecting to the connector road, south side ramps being connected to the twinned highway when that time comes.

Chair Chaulk advised the Commissioners he and the Clerk are meeting with the soccer people tomorrow morning.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice Chair Pineo, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer