

VILLAGE COMMISSION OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR MEETING
March 14, 2005
7:00 p.m.

The Regular meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on March 14, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Centre.

IN ATTENDANCE: Chair Dave Chaulk
Vice-Chair Linda Lockhart
Commissioner Marvin Messom
Commissioner Ted Nicholson
Commissioner Sherry Swanburg
Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer

Mr. Mike Ennis, Municipality of the County of Kings
Mr. Eric Smith, Councillor District 11
Mr. Blair Caldwell, Resident
Mr. Les Barrett, Resident
Mr. Bob Flecknell, Resident

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting February 14, 2005

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg that the minutes of the Regular Commission meeting held February 14, 2005 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

Committee of the Whole February 28, 2005

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held February 28, 2005 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: March 14, 2005

It was moved by Commissioner Swanburg, seconded by Vice Chair Lockhart, that the Agenda for March 14, 2005 Regular Commission meeting be approved with the following additions:

Under New Business: add (c) Recreation Seminar for Municipal Officials; (d) Princess Tea – Holly Thompson; (e) Booster Club Donation and (f) Offer of Land - Woodvale Place. MOTION CARRIED

4. **PRESENTATION – Mr. Mike Ennis – Emergency Measures**

Chair Chaulk welcomed Mr. Mike Ennis, Manager Protective Service, Municipality of the County of Kings, and director of Emergency Measures for Kings County.

Mr. Ennis gave an overview of the Kings County Emergency Preparedness Plan, the supporting legislation, the operations of the organization, and the changes which are taking place to improve the operations, as a result of the November 2004 blackout.

To this end, Mr. Ennis pointed out the following items:

- One staff member from the Village of New Minas will be asked to join the EMO team in the next year.
- The Village of New Minas will be notified by EMO in the event of a major emergency in the future.
- Minor EMO issues will not involve contacting the Village of New Minas
- During the November 2004 blackout, and the power outages in December 2004 the EMO team was involved (few people realized the problems in the December storm, but there were many).
- He emphasized the critical role which the Fire Services play in emergency situations, and commended all the Fire Departments in Kings County for their organization and hard work under difficult situations. He stated that most of the Fire Departments had set up emergency shelters before Emergency Measures had to request it, and most of the volunteers worked two to three days straight during the November 2004 blackout.
- The County applied for and received financial assistance from the province from the blackout
- The Provincial Emergency Preparedness Act dictates that each municipality must have an Emergency Plan and Coordinator. Kings County also covers this, referencing the Act, in its Bylaw #61.
- Declaring a state of local emergency gives police, fire fighters and other agencies certain authority they would not normally have, such as removing persons from their homes during crisis. Local state of emergency will be declared only after certain criteria is met
- An EMO Seminar is being held in the near future and Commissioners and Staff are invited to attend. He will forward information when it is available

Mr. Ennis thanked the Commission for the opportunity to do the presentation.

Chair Chaulk reiterated Mr. Ennis' praise of the Fire Departments. He stated that the volunteers in Fire Departments are under appreciated sometimes and often don't receive the credit they deserve. He thanked Mr. Ennis for his presentation.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** **(a) Amendment to LUB-Christmas Tree Sales as Permitted Use**

A draft amendment to the Land Use Bylaw adding Christmas Tree Sales as a temporary permitted use, provided by Mr. Bill Butler, was given to the

Commissioners for information. The Clerk Treasurer stated that this would be presented to the Area Advisory Committee at its next meeting.

(b) Area Advisory Committee Status – recommendation from Committee of the Whole

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Commissioner Messom, that the Village retain the Area Advisory Committee. MOTION CARRIED – 1 nay vote, Commissioner Swanburg

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Commissioner Messom, that Vice-Chair Lockhart be appointed as the Chair of the Area Advisory Committee. MOTION CARRIED

(c) Request for References R. Ramsay Wellness Facility Report - Update

It was moved by Commissioner Swanburg, seconded by Commissioner Messom that the Clerk Treasurer contact Kings CED and accept their offer to pay the balance of the invoice from Mr. Ramsay. MOTION CARRIED.

It was agreed that the Clerk request a list of references from Mr. Ramsay, and that payment would be made upon receipt of the list of references.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Water Commission – Commissioner Messom

Commissioner Messom listed the following items from the Water Commission meeting held in February, 2005:

- The Clerk Treasurer stated that the amendment to the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Planning Strategy, New Minas Sector Plan which provides wellfield protection areas has been adopted by County Council and has been forwarded to the Minister for approval after a 28 day appeal period.
- Representatives from the Water Utilities of Kings County will be meeting with Honourable Scott Brison on Wednesday, March 16, 2005 at 10:00 to discuss the downloading of services and problems with infrastructure funding.
- The Clerk Treasurer has been directed to investigate the feasibility of the Village maintaining its own water and sewer billing process.

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Vice-Chair Linda Lockhart, that the Water Commission's report be accepted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

(b) Area Advisory Committee – Vice-Chair Linda Lockhart

Vice-Chair Lockhart listed the following items from the Area Advisory Committee meeting held in February, 2005:

- AAC's approval of Development Agreement for Helen Wilson-Welsh with the hours of operation changed to read 9 a.m. to 10 p.m..

- AAC's approval of Development Agreement for Peter Reid with hours of operation changed to read 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- AAC's acceptance of Gordon Silver's application to join the Area Advisory Committee

It was moved by Vice-Chair Lockhart, seconded by Commissioner Swanburg, that the Area Advisory Committee report be accepted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Policies for consideration

- Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

It was moved by Commissioner Swanburg, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart, that the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

- Orientation Program for New Employees Policy

It was moved by Commissioner Messom, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart, that the Orientation Program for New Employees Policy be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

- Personnel Records Policy

It was moved by Commissioner Swanburg, seconded by Commissioner Messom, that the Personnel Records Policy be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

- Purchasing and Tendering Policy Revision

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Commissioner Messom, that the Purchasing and Tendering Policy amendment be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

(b) Recreation Director's Report

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart, that the Recreation Director's Report be adopted as presented. MOTION CARRIED

The Clerk Treasurer was asked to have the Recreation Director investigate the possibility of inviting former Commissioners to the Volunteer Awards Dinner sponsored by the Village Commission.

(c) Request From Holly Thompson, New Minas Community Rep Princess Tea

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart that the Commission sponsor the Princess Tea as requested in Ms. Thompson's letter. MOTION CARRIED

(d) Booster Club – Vice-Chair Lockhart

It was moved by Commissioner Nicholson, seconded by Vice-Chair Lockhart, that the Commission contribute \$2,000 to the Apple Blossom Booster Club and that the Recreation Director organize the recovery of this through a local commercial campaign. MOTION CARRIED

(e) Conference for Commission’s Consideration

Recreation Director Jennifer Coolen forwarded information regarding a Recreation Conference to be held in Dartmouth on April 15 and 16, 2005. Jennifer Coolen, Commissioner Swanburg and Chair Chaulk will be attending.

(f) Offer of Land – Woodvale Place

The Village of New Minas has been offered a small piece of land situated on the corner of Milne Avenue and Woodvale Place. Commissioner Messom stated that, although it is not a very large piece of land, it might be worthwhile for the Commission to accept it for any future infrastructure purpose. The Clerk was directed to determine the cost of migrating the title and to report back to the Commission at its regular meeting in April 2005.

7. CORRESPONDENCE**8. OTHER BUSINESS****9. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

Mr. Les Barrett – Mr. Barrett spoke with reference to the Commission’s motion to have the Recreation Director solicit money from businesses for the Booster Club. He stated that the Commission charges a higher tax rate on Commercial than it does on Residential, and it really should consider incorporating this type of expense in their budget, rather than collecting more money from the Commercial ratepayers.

Mr. Bob Flecknell – asked about the Wellness Facility referred to in the meeting discussions. Chair Chaulk gave a brief outline about the project. Mr Flecknell stated that Cornwallis_Park has just been awarded funding for a major wellness facility in that area, and the Commission might want to be careful to not duplicate services.

Mr. Eric Smith, Councillor District 11 – Mr. Smith gave a run down of Council’s process relative to the Village of New Minas. They included:

- The PAC has accepted AAC’s recommendation on the two Development Agreements
- The Water Utility Taxation issue is on the Agenda for the March 15th Council session and will be voted on.
- There is good news with regard to Building Permits in New Minas. There are some large construction items in the near future

- Lawtons in New Minas has been awarded the Grand View Manor dispensing contract
- There are a couple of applications for changes to businesses pursuant to liquor licenses.

10. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Messom, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer