

VILLAGE COMMISSION OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
June 10, 2013
7:00 p.m.
LMCC – Board Room

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Commission of New Minas was held on Monday, June 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. In the Board Room, LMCC.

<u>In Attendance:</u>	Maynard Stevens, Vice-Chair Dean Hatt, Commissioner Mary Munroe, Commissioner James Redmond, Commissioner Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer
<u>Also In Attendance:</u>	Mr. John Owen, Resident Mr. John Ansara, Recreation Director Ms. Rose Stevenson-Davidson Mr. Blair Davidson Ms. Kyla Davidson Mr. Basil Pitts, Area Manager, NS Department of Transportation Mr. Jim Winsor, Councillor District 11
<u>Regrets:</u>	Dave Chaulk, Chair

Vice-Chair Stevens called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, Regular Commission meeting June 10, 2013

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt that the Agenda for the regular Commission meeting of June 10, 2013 be approved as circulated with the following addition: under “New Business” add “b) Basil Pitts, NSTIR”, and correct item “Approval of Agenda” by changing May 13, 2013 to “June 10, 2013”. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, Regular Commission Meeting, May 13, 2013

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Munroe, that the minutes of the Regular Commission meeting held May 13, 2013 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

a) Facility Update – Fundraising, John Ansara

John advised that we have received the \$10,000 grant from NS Health and Wellness towards the acoustic panels for the gymnasium, but he did not have anything else to report for corporate donations.

b) Sale of Old Civic Center – Update

Terry Silver advised there has not been any word on interested parties for the sale of the old Civic Center in the past month.

c) Letter from Minister – Habitat for Humanity

Vice-Chair Stevens asked the Clerk Treasurer to explain to everyone what has transpired to date with regard to the lot of land the Village Commission wishes Habitat for Humanity to have on which to build a home for a family. T. Silver did so, and stated that the Minister's letter has requested the Village to lobby the Association of NS Villages to request the Minister to change the Act to allow Villages to sell property similar to other municipalities in the province.

It was moved by Commissioner Munroe, seconded by Commissioner Hatt that the Chair write a letter to the Association of NS Villages asking the Association to request the Minister to change the Act to permit Villages to sell land for less than market value by a similar process as other municipalities. MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATION of Certificate of Appreciation to Kyla Rose-Marie Davidson, Princess New Minas 2012

Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens stated that Kyla Rose-Marie Davidson represented the Village as Princess New Minas for the Apple Blossom Festival and other occasions throughout the year. He stated Kyla was an excellent ambassador for the Village, and with her wonderful personality, and her contagious smile, won the spot for “*Miss Congeniality 2012*”. He called Ms. Davidson to the Commission table and presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Village Commission. Kyla thanked the Commission for their support and their faith in her, and stated she was honored to represent the Village.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Recreation Director's Report – John Ansara

The Commission reviewed Rec Director John Ansara's monthly report (attached to original Commission minutes, and circulated last week), and were asked if they had any questions.

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt to accept the Recreation Director's report as presented. MOTION CARRIED

b) New Minas Water Commission Report – Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens

Vice-Chair Stevens read the report of the New Minas Water Commission (attached to original minutes).

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Munroe that the Report of the New Minas Water Commission Report be approved as read. MOTION CARRIED

c) New Minas Planning Advisory Committee – Commissioner Dean Hatt

Commissioner Hatt advised the New Minas PAC had not met since the last Commission meeting; therefore there is no report at this time.

d) Apple Blossom Committee Wrap Up Report – Vice-Chair Stevens

Vice-Chair Stevens read the report of the Apple Blossom Committee (attached to the original minutes).

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt that the report of the Apple Blossom Committee be approved as read. MOTION CARRIED

Vice-Chair Stevens asked the Commissioners if they wished to send a letter along to the Apple Blossom Festival thanking them for their assistance with the official opening, since the opening was a Village event. The Commission felt that, although the official opening ceremony was actually an Apple Blossom Festival event and just hosted by the Village, a letter should be written to the Festival Committee commending them on such a successful event.

Vice-Chair Stevens permitted Ms. Rose Stevenson-Davidson to speak. Ms. Stevenson-Davidson is Chair of the Apple Blossom Festival and stated she had the honor of working with the Apple Blossom Committee for the Official Opening Ceremonies of the Festival 2013. She said she was

very pleased to work with all the people from the Village, and the Opening Ceremonies were well organized and well attended, and she wanted to express her appreciation on behalf of the Apple Blossom Festival. Vice-Chair Stevens stated the Committee had good help and guidance.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Date of Village Commission's Annual Meeting of the Electors

Vice-Chair Stevens advised that the Village Commission will be holding its Annual Meeting of the Electors on Monday, June 17th in the Board Room at the Louis Millett Complex at 7:00 p.m.. The 2013/2014 Budgets and 2012/2013 Audited Financial Statements will be presented. The Chair will give the Commission's report for 2012/2013.

b) Basil Pitts, NS Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal

Vice-Chair Stevens asked Mr. Basil Pitts, who was in the audience, to speak to the Commission on street condition in the Village.

Mr. Pitts thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak. He stated that he is currently involved in getting a plan together to do some resurfacing and repairs to the roads and streets in New Minas, and with the assistance of a summer student, the mapping of these projects will take place. He stated that Prospect Road will be re-paved this year, and the Granite Drive interchange project is in its initial stages, with clearing taking place this year. The bypass for this project will be started next summer. He stated that Commercial Street, from Greenwich to the Town of Kentville line will have patching done this summer.

Commissioner Munroe asked about the pot holes in the remainder of the Village. Mr. Pitts stated that due to DTIR taking on part of the contract work themselves (versus contracting it out), much of his crew are elsewhere working on other projects. Commissioner Munroe stated that it was her understanding that when people have questions about the roads and streets, they were asked to call DTIR directly, and is that still the case. Mr. Pitts answered that this is absolutely the same process, and they log the calls.

Councillor Jim Winsor stated he has met with Mr. Pitts, Ramona Jennex and the Deputy Minister and understands there are some cost-sharing issues that are now being looked at and being discussed further. Mr. Pitts stated that DTIR has had money in its budget over the years to repave streets in New Minas, but didn't spend it because the County did not fund its portion.

Discussion took place with regard to different areas of New Minas in desperate need of paving, as well as issues around getting the paving done. Such issues as the length of subdivision streets (not fitting into the criteria), requiring ratepayers to cost-share, when it is felt the gas taxes are supposed to go towards road maintenance, etc..

After Mr. Pitts answered more questions from the Commission and the audience, Vice-Chair Stevens thanked him for attending the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter, Mr. Pierre Clouthier

The Clerk Treasurer read a letter from Mr. Pierre Clouthier addressed to Mr. Les Millett (attached to the original minutes), in which he expressed his sincere gratification to the Millett family for the kind contribution to the Facility.

It was moved by Commissioner Redmond, seconded by Commissioner Hatt that Mr. Pierre Clouthier's letter be received by the Commission. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

Mr. John Ansara, Recreation Director – John informed the Commission that he has received a generous donation of a sizeable air hockey table for the Youth Room from Mr. Dave Bolton. John suggested, and the Commission agreed that a letter of gratitude be forwarded to Mr. Bolton.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Hatt, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer