

VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2016

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 Monday, January 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the LMCC

IN ATTENDANCE: Chair Dave Chaulk
Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens
Commissioner Mary Munroe
Commissioner Ken Pineo
Commissioner James Redmond
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. John DeCoste, Reporter, Advertiser/Register
Mr. John Ansara, Village Recreation Director
Mr. Rob Frost, Municipal Affairs Municipal Advisor
Mr. Gordon Silver, Resident
Mr. Don Zwicker, Resident
Mr. Mark Redmond, Resident,
Mr. Jim Winsor, Councillor District 11

CALL TO ORDER, Dave Chaulk

Chair Chaulk called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: January 11, 2016

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the Agenda for the Regular Commission meeting of January 11, 2016 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 14, 2015

It was moved by Vice-Chair Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Pineo that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting held December 14, 2015 be approved with the following

**correction: Page 1 third line from the bottom should read “Redmond” instead of “Redmon”.
MOTION CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Sale of Civic Center - Update

T. Silver advised there is nothing new to report since the last meeting on the sale of the former Civic Center.

b) Village Status Process – Update

T. Silver advised that the Invoice for the consultant’s fees for the Town Status report had been forwarded to the Minister and Minister Churchill confirmed payment would be made by Department of Municipal Affairs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Recreation Director’s Report – John Ansara

Chair Chaulk asked the Commissioners if there were any questions from the Recreation Director’s Report. Commissioner Munroe asked J. Ansara if the Department of Health and Wellness has been forthcoming with anything substantial, given they are reporting they are moving ahead. John stated he has not received any notification but doesn’t expect any of it would affect New Minas.

Commissioner Munroe asked if there was anything happening with the trail. John stated he has not had an update since he confirmed the Commission agrees to using part of our Gas Tax allotment to help fund a joint study.

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

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

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

c) New Minas Area Advisory Committee – Commissioner Pineo

Commissioner Pineo advised there was no Area Advisory Committee meeting and no report.

d) Sign Committee – Commissioner Munroe

Commissioner Munroe stated that the Sign Committee is continuing to meet, but they are not yet able to make a recommendation.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Municipal Boundaries Strategy

Chair Chaulk gave a brief report of the Commission's involvement in the Municipal Electoral Boundaries Strategy. He stated the Commission met earlier this evening with Mr. Rob Frost, DMA Municipal Advisor to discuss options, and to get his thoughts on Council's decision to propose Option 8 Alternate to the NSUAB, and how this decision could impact New Minas.

Chair Chaulk stated that after lengthy discussion, the Commission is comfortable with Option 8 Alternate, which essentially divides New Minas in two, giving way to municipal electoral districts 7 and 8. Essentially, there will be two Councillors representing New Minas, which the Commission hopes to be beneficial to the Village. It was also noted that the Warden system will no longer be used by the County from 2016 onward – this will be replaced by the Mayoral System, a system where the Mayor is elected at large by all electors of the County.

Vice-Chair Stevens stated that the Stantec study did not recommend this alternative Option 8, and he was concerned about the way the additional option came about, but knowing now that Stantec actually produced the Alternate 8, and after speaking with Mr. Frost, he understands the reason behind Council's recommendation, he is willing to watch and wait and hopes everything will work out for the benefit of the residents of New Minas.

CORRESPONDENCE

OTHER ADDED ITEMS

- a) Princess Tea representative from New Minas – Chair Chaulk stated he has received a request from the Princess Committee requesting the Village to appoint a representative for the Princess Tea. Vice-Chair Stevens volunteered to be the Village's representative, and this was approved by the Commission.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

Mr. Jim Winsor, County Councillor District 11 – Councillor Winsor stated Council has had to deal with some big items lately: the Mayor vs Warden system, and he confirmed the County will be applying to go to the Mayoral system. The other thing related to this is the recommendation by Council for County District electoral boundaries. He said he was happy to hear that the Commission has discussed this and solicited the opinions of their Municipal Advisor.

Councillor Winsor stated that Council has been discussing the Waterville Business park design. He has had concerns about the process, and he also wonders how it will impact New Minas if it is open to developers otherwise coming to New Minas.

Chair Chaulk welcomed our MLA, Mr. Keith Irving to the meeting. He stated that the Commission and guests appreciate his showing an interest in the Village and taking time from his busy schedule to attend the Commission meeting.

Mr. Keith Irving, MLA – Mr. Irving stated that the extension to the trail is underway. He said that the Granite Drive interchange is important to New Minas and the entire area, and he continues to push it as a #1 priority. He said he hopes to be meeting with MP Scott Brison in the very near future (given the recent announcement of available federal infrastructure money) as he feels it is a nice opportunity to leverage federal money for important projects like this.

Vice-Chair Stevens – Vice-Chair Stevens congratulated Village staff for carrying out the “Teddy Bears for Syrian Refugee Children” project that was so successful. He said he saw the impressive number of teddy bears collected. Terry stated that staff all pulled together, as they always do, to make this a successful project, and they are thankful for the generosity of public. She stated the credit goes to Krista McDonald for initiating and managing the project.

Commissioner Pineo stated this is just another wonderful example of the awesome staff the Village has. He said he is very proud of them and their community mindedness. The Commission all agreed with this statement.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Redmond, the meeting adjourned.

Dave Chaulk, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer