

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF July 15, 2008

PRESENT: Lewis Benedict, Kim Cogswell, Ernie Hovell, Doug Gates and Scott Leier

IN ATTENDANCE: Stanton Hancock , Phillip Porter, Robyn Whidden, Brian Tupper ,Janet Newton, Shirley Fisher ,Wayne Blenkhorn and Thomas Janes.

The Chairman, Lewis Benedict called the Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the June 17, 2008 monthly meeting be approved as presented. Motion Carried.

Upon review of the minutes of the June 24th special meeting it was noted that the full name of Flemming Jensen should be recorded to correctly identify the described location.

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the June 24th special meeting be approved with the one addition as noted above.

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the June 26th , 2008 special meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Brian Tupper – Brian reported that the white board and an air conditioner had been installed in the Village Board room. It has been a fairly quiet month. The signs for the recycle bins have now been posted. There has been an enquiry from a band group that may be interested in booking the auditorium but need access to storage space for a file cabinet and photocopier. It was agreed that they could have access to the storage area off of the auditorium. Geneve Newcombe will inform the group of this decision.

Hall Trustees – Ernie Hovell noted that the last scheduled meeting of trustees was unable to proceed due to a lack of quorum. The next meeting will be held in October to review the current fee schedule.

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Fire Department- Report attached. Phillip noted that the department had several alarm calls due to the high humidity, responded to a brush fire, a home in Planters Square was hit by lightning and had three mutual aid calls. 10,000 gallons of water were used.

Lions- Brian Tupper reported that the Lions Club will be fairly quiet over the summer. They have recently elected a new slate of officers: President, Paul Benjamin; Secretary, Cameron Porter and Treasurer, Ernie Hovell. The Lions club has just received their insurance premium in the amount of \$815. For liquor liability and requested that the Village pay one half of the premium as they have done in past years. It was moved and seconded that the Village pay \$407.50, representing one half of the premium cost, for the liquor liability insurance for the Lions Club. Motion carried. One of the upcoming projects of the Lions is to improve the sign in front of the Community Centre.

Recreation- Wayne Blenkhorn reported that the soccer program is running well with a large number of participants. Our sporting fields are in excellent shape and Wayne commented on what a great job Peter McPhee does in maintaining our fields.

Thomas Janes then circulated a letter he had written requesting support from the Village in his endeavor to get the shoulder of the road paved between the Port Williams Bridge and Greenwich. As a biker Thomas has found this a dangerous stretch to travel. It was decided that this item would be discussed under new business.

Transportation- Report attached. Stan reported some ditching work has taken place on Starrs Point Road. He noted that Centennial Drive is in need of some class A gravel. It was asked if there are any plans for a culvert by the Industrial Park as this area needs some attention.

Councilor Newton: Janet noted that she is now on the committee that is responsible for Kings Transit so will be able to bring the comments on a bus route in Port Williams (that were made at our AGM) to the attention of that committee. Janet recently met with a Scottish Trade mission, who dined in Port Williams, and she presented them with our Village pins. Janet extended congratulations to Doug Gates and Scott Leier for being elected as Village Commissioners. Some of the other items that Janet highlighted were:

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Greenwich's Secondary Planning Strategy, no longer names on the County Activity report (privacy issue), Tim Cox needs a development agreement to expand his poultry operation and the issues Mike Porter was having with his farm market. Janet was asked for an update on the Carty property and responded that she will email an update when she has one.

Gas Tax Committee: Kim Cogswell reported that the Gas Tax Committee has not met since the last Village meeting and a meeting date has not yet been set.

Secondary Planning Strategy: Robin Whidden reported that the July meeting date was changed from the 10th to the 17th to accommodate the Kings County public forum on Port Williams. The committee will be looking at parks, open spaces and shorelines at the next meeting. It was noted that the time of the meetings should be posted on the website. Janet Newton volunteered to take the minutes for the July 17th meeting.

Public Works- Report attached. Stanton noted the repair work that has taken place on Belcher Street. The fire hydrants will be painted this summer.

Treasurer's Report- Report attached. It was moved and seconded that the bills presented be paid. Motion Carried.

The cheque log for April, May and June was reviewed. It was moved and seconded that the cheque log be approved as presented. Motion Carried.

The April 1, 2008 to June 30th, 2008 financial statements for both the general account and the water account were reviewed.

It was moved and seconded that the interim Village Clerk's wages be paid. Motion Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes: It was requested that an update of the pothole on High Street be made at the next meeting.

The graffiti on the old Shur Gain was taken care of.

The machines to line fields will not be considered until next year.

Old Business: A motion was made and seconded to approve a 5.5% raise for Stanton Hancock retroactive to March 7th, 2008. (secretarial note: raises are normally effective April 1st, the beginning of the financial year)

It was moved and seconded that the Lafarge contract be accepted for paving at the Community Centre. Motion carried.

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It was noted that the Village Commission needs to develop and approve a budget for this fiscal year. It was decided to hold a budget meeting on Monday, July 28th at 7 pm.

New Business: A date needs to be set to meet with Bob Hoolahan from Service Nova Scotia. Several open dates were agreed upon. Geneve Newcombe is to contact Mr. Hoolahan and set up a meeting.

It was mentioned that Sylvia Jacquard had been receiving an honorarium from the Village for all her work on weekly articles in the Advertiser. It was moved and seconded that Sylvia receive a \$100 per month honorarium retroactive to April. Motion Carried.

It was decided that the TGN Ancestry subscription was no longer required by the Village. Geneve Newcombe was directed to cancel the subscription.

The issue of a pathway between Port Williams and Greenwich was discussed. This is an issue which was brought to this meeting by Thomas Janes and was also brought up at the recent Village AGM. Before the Commissioners would feel comfortable recommending a path on the dykes they would require more information as it affects the Marshland Act and would involve taking agricultural land out of production. The commissioners were more favorable to the idea of the paving of the shoulder of the road. This would not only be of benefit to bikers but may also be beneficial for winter driving. It was moved and seconded that the Department of Highways be contacted for information on the possibility of having the shoulder paved for the stretch of road between the Port Williams Bridge and Greenwich. Motion carried.

In regards to the motion made at the Annual General Meeting to set up a meeting between the farmers in the well zone and a Nutrient Management Planner it was agreed to pass this recommendation over to the Water Shed Protection committee. A meeting needs to be set in the near future for this committee as they also have to revisit the bylaws.

It was moved and seconded that the job description for the Village Clerk / Treasurer position be accepted. Motion carried. The commissioners expressed their thanks to fellow commissioner, Kim Cogswell for her effort in developing the current job description.

Correspondence-

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A letter from Great Valley Juice was received concerning their expired sewer contract. As there are a number of variables and issues the Commissioners decided that they would require more information before being able to respond to Great Valley Juice. It was also noted that a meeting should occur with Great Valley Juice.

A letter was received from Canada - Nova Scotia Infrastructure re project # 05-08-008.

A notice of an upcoming public hearing was received from the County of Kings. It was moved and seconded that a letter of support for the Oulton's Fuel agreement be forwarded to the County office.

Municipality of Kings Activity Report - renovation for residential \$72,000.

An email request from Robert Eaton looking for ancestral information was received. It was suggested that Mr. Eaton be referred to the Kings Historical Society.

An email from the Fancy Street Clock and Light Company was received. No further action required.

A letter from Muttart Tufts DeWolfe & Coyle was received informing the Commissioners of an action that is being filed.

A notice on a Road Name Reconciliation Project was received.

Thank yous were received from NSSBA, Apple Blossom Festival and Kickoff.

There being nothing further to come before the meeting UPON MOTION being made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Lewis Benedict, Chairman

Geneve Newcombe,
Interim Village Clerk

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