

**MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF PORT WILLIAMS COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lewis Benedict, Craig Newcombe, Kim Cogswell & Doug Gates

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ron TeStrote, Johanna Mercier, Coleen Sharp, Ron MacInnis, Emma VanRooyen, Ryan Miller, Laura Porter-Allen, Brian Tupper, Joe Keddy, Geneve Newcombe & Darlene Robertson

**REGRETS:** Ernie Hovell and Geoff Muttart

The Chairperson, 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 Regular Commission Meeting on January 21, 2014 be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**PRESENTATION FROM JOHANNA MERCIER:**

Johanna Mercier, Director of The New Booker School currently located in Wolfville, spoke to the Commission and expressed their desire to relocate the School to 1431 Belcher Street. Ms. Mercier made a short presentation of the School's history and values and asked how the Village felt about the School's relocation choice. Commissioner Kim Cogswell asked if the land would sustain for the School's projected growth. Ms. Mercier said yes she believes it would. The Commission said that they will provide a response on February 19<sup>th</sup> and thanked Ms. Mercier for her presentation.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**I. Municipality of County of Kings:**

- (a) Building Permit Report for Month of January 2014. In Kings County 9 permits were issued with a total value of 1.2 Million, no permits were issued in Port Williams. (*information only*)
- (b) E-mail from the Municipality of the County of Kings providing the action list from the January 21<sup>st</sup> & January 28<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting. (*Information only*)
- (c) E-mail from Ben Sivak, Manager of Planning Services advising that Council is in the process of re-establishing its Planning Advisory Committee. (*Information only*)
- (d) E-mailed media release from the Municipality of the County of Kings putting out a challenge to municipal unit to raise money for a local emergency shelter. (*Information only*)
- (e) E-mailed notice of public hearing from the Municipality of the County of

Kings to be held on March 4, 2014 regarding proposed amendments to the Land use bylaws. (*Information only*)

**II. Other Correspondence:**

- (a) E-mail notice of surplus property from Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal regarding property located in Morden, Kings County. (*information only*)
- (b) Letter of introduction from BCM Environmental offering their engineering consulting services, specializing in Municipal drinking water treatment and management to the Village Commission. (*information only*)

**III. E-mailed Correspondence:**

- (a) E-mailed from the Kings Citizens Coalition providing a list of upcoming meeting dates.
- (b) E-mail from Kings 2050 providing the January 2014 update. (*information only*)

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

- (a) **High Street in poor condition** – Emma Van Rooyen has spoken to Basil Pitts, Department of Transportation and also to our MLA, John Lohr expressing the importance of this issue.
- (b) **Sewer by-law** –. Office staff asked our lawyer, Geoff Muttart to provide a legal translation of section 3.6 of the sewer bi-law in order to clarify the homeowners' financial responsibility. Geoff felt that there is no room for confusion in section 3.6 and that the section makes it clear that the owner is responsible for maintenance.

**REPORTS:**

**Janitorial:** Brian Tupper reported

- A new stainless steel back splash for the stove has been installed
- Various maintenance activities have been done in the Hall kitchen
- Additional metal corners to protect areas around the elevator and high use areas have been made by LRB Fabricators and are being installed.
- Repairs to the toilet in the Multi-purpose room.

**Recreation:** Brian Tupper reported:

- Joseph Memet provided a paper on a 10 year plan for a multi-functional complex
- Megan Cuming from the Municipality met with the Committee and offered to continue to work with the committee to help with securing funding for a new Recreation Director .Municipality has funding where they could pay 50% of the Recreation Directors salary up to maximum of \$20,000.



**Fire Department:** Ryan Miller reported:

- 6 alarms this past month
- 0 water usage
- Radios both backup and primary are working
- Leak in the roof above the meeting room – Village will have fixed as soon as weather improves.
- Fire Fighter Laura Porter-Allen presented a written request for funding approval of their annual banquet. They would like to have Meadow Brook Meat market provide the dinner with a cost of \$16.60 plus tax per plate. They are expecting no more than 80 attendees. The Commission discussed and agreed to their funding request.

**Lions Club:** Brian Tupper reported

- Busy with the Valentine's Day Dinner. They do not have the final numbers but it was very well attended.
- They have some catering events coming up.
- Are going to start getting busy with the Apple Blossom events.
- Currently have 17 members

**Princess Selection Committee:** Betty Jean Tupper reported via e-mail

- Committee met on January 20<sup>th</sup>
- The search for candidates has begun
- Princess Tea will be Friday April 25<sup>th</sup>

**Kings County Councilor:** Emma Van Rooyen reported

- Municipal Council received the Villages letter to reconsider the original amount requested for the land purchase and will discuss it at their next meeting.
- Spoke to MLA John Lohr regarding changes he would like to make to the Municipal Act allowing Villages to have in camera meetings.
- Busy with the Municipal budget and are looking at priority based budgeting
- Will provide the office with tax exemption forms for low income households.
- Fire Department Chief meeting is scheduled for March 11 – Village office advised Emma that the Village has requested to have the meeting rescheduled.

**Water/Sewer/Public Works/Transportation Report:** Joe Keddy provided a written report

- Busy with snow removal on sidewalks
- There were three water main breaks in the last month
- Lead sampling at one of our sampling stations had high levels – took water samples before and after sampling station which revealed that high levels were from inside the sampling station and not in the water lines. Sampling station advised of the lead levels. Joe received correspondent from the lab that there had been a lab error on the sampling taken from the sampling station, however the samples were still outside guidelines. Letter sent to Nova Scotia Environment of findings – no response to date.
- Sewer blockage on 1105 Starr's Point Road

- Completing survey for Statistics Canada

**Treasurer's Report:**

- A motion to accept the Village General Operating and Water Utility financial statements for January 31, 2014 as submitted was moved and seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (a) Mugs for the Community Centre kitchen – Mix up with the mug order from Big Erics Inc. Received stacking cups instead of mugs. Big Erics pricing for mugs would be double the cost. Russell Food can provide mugs for approx. \$200. more than what the cups cost at Big Erics. Commission approved the additional cost for the mugs to be purchase through Russell Food. Office to ensure we do not get charged for the cups ordered through Big Erics.
- (b) Need to seed around goal posts – it is agreed that there is a need to put ground coverage in this area. Office to put on the agenda for the spring.
- (c) Homeowner requested that Village pay for sewer blockage – The homeowner believed that the blockage was at the connection to the Village's main line and asked that the Village pay for the repairs to the line. After reviewing the pictures provided of the blockage, both the Superintendent and an external consultant agreed that the blockage was on the lateral and not on the main line. The Commission agreed that the repairs to the lateral would be the responsibility of the homeowner as outlined in the bylaws. Office to send letter to homeowner.

Upon a motion being made, the meeting was adjourned at 8.50 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

  
Lewis Benedict, Chairperson

  
Darlene Robertson, Village Clerk