

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF PORT WILLIAMS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lewis Benedict, Ernie Hovell, Doug Gates, and Scott Leier.

REGRETS: Kim Cogswell

IN ATTENDANCE: Janet Newton, Chief Philip Porter, Stanton Hancock, Geneve Newcombe and Laura Wightman

The chairman, Lewis Benedict called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the February 17, 2009 meeting be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED.**

REPORTS:

Janitorial: No report as Brian Tupper was not in attendance.

Fire Department: Chief Philip Porter presented his report as attached. New pagers were being purchased; therefore the selling of 25 of the old pagers for \$75/pager was discussed. Moved and seconded that Chief Porter be allowed to sell the old pagers. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Lions Club: As reported by Ernie Hovell:

- Annual visit by District Governor on March 18/09
- Port Williams Days meetings re entertainment and desire of Port Pub to participate in event. Financial support of the Fireworks is being sought. Utilization of the back parking lot of the Community Centre for the Yard Sale is being considered.
- Adopt a Highway will be the first Saturday after Easter with participation by the Women's Institute
- Apple Blossom Float building is up coming – Theme: Applelicious
- Banquet for Fire Department – menu still undetermined.

Kings County Councillor: Janet Newton reported:

- Paving highway 358 to Jawbone Corner – Council is to write a letter to consider paving shoulder to Greenwich. Curbs should have attention too. Trails Committee working on this project also.
- Compilation of Grants from County of Council
- Port Williams apply directly for economic stimulus instead of going through Municipality of Kings.
- Budget will be started March 30th.
- Carty property and feed mill – nothing new
- It was noted that the County due to zoning had turned down a home-based business.

ACTION: Janet Newton will look into this.

Board of Trustees: Doug Gates reported that the next meeting was April 16th.

Recreation Committee: Scott Leier reported:

- Statement of expenses for budget purposes were reviewed
- Lots of new couples at Dance Time
- Rink is melting
- Soccer: East Kings do not pay for our fields because 60% goes to Soccer NS. It was noted the Geneve Newcombe is now on their board.
- June 13/14 Port Williams Days new activities being planned at the Port Pub with profits designated for Camp Brigadoon. Some ideas were children's games, bike rodeo and assist with fireworks
- Kite flying re Fathers Day was being investigated
- Electrical panel on ballfield- weatherproofing needs to be done to repaired toggle.
- Benedict Soccer field building was broken into on Friday and the smashed window needs to be fixed.

Park Planning Committee: (Sub-committee of the Recreation Committee) Scott Leier reported that the playground for 1-12 year olds, the hard court surfaces, and the trails concerning the Park are being worked on. Janet Newton reported that Stan Kochanoff of Environova Planning Group Inc. came to review the plans and is going to come to the next meeting on April 21st to formally present the drawings for Commission endorsement.

Gas Tax Committee: Kim Cogswell was not present therefore there was no report.

Secondary Planning Strategy Committee: Details stage on major themes starting with the Growth Centre will be the next step. Future meetings are April 9th and April 23 and May 7th at 7pm.regular meeting time. Ben Sivak is getting together with owners of businesses in the Industrial Park prior to discussions at the next meeting.

Source Water Protection Committee: Lewis Benedict reported that the Committee was still awaiting the water study prior to setting meetings with Stakeholders. Before the Water Study is released it should go to the Commissioners prior to appearing in the media. A presentation to the Commission will also take place.

Water/Sewer/Public Works/Transportation Report: Stanton Hancock's report was read (report attached).

- Quote received from Resource Systems on water monitoring maintenance program.
- Streetlights: Paper trail of reporting these to NSPC will be by Fax Form. NSPC indicated should allow 7 working days to change
- Repairs are becoming major for the Public Work's truck. The purchase of a new truck will be added as a Budget Item to discuss.
- It was noted that all water and sewer work required should be done prior to the Provincial paving of Hwy 358. The valve controls on Main Street were already, but sewer valves should be added to the Budget.

- Doug Gates requested stop light price and installation for the corner of Starrs Point Road and Main St. **ACTION: Stan Hancock** He will also obtain a copy of the traffic study done in the fall.

Treasurer's Report: The Village Operating and Water Utility financial statements for February were presented. Approval to pay the Village's bills was moved and seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval to pay the Village's- Water Utility bills was moved and seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved and seconded that prior to March 31, 2009, the Guaranteed Investment Certificates be purchased as required. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A meeting for review of the Budget for 2010 was set for April 7th at 7:30pm.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- a) **Evacuation Plans** –This will be commenced next week.
- b) **2009 Volunteer of the Year Award-** All applicants have been notified that Dot Farnsworth was the Volunteer of the Year. Certificates of Appreciation and pins have been purchased for all nominees. Per a previous Commission Meeting a rate of .42cents per kilometer will be paid for travel. The Chairperson, Lewis Benedict was granted one ticket and as he will not be attending, Doug Gates will utilize it. It was **agreed** that Doug Gates and Ernie Hovell plus their spouses should attend the ceremony in Halifax if they so wish.
- c) **Great Valley Juice:** Nothing back as yet.
- d) **Linda Woodworth Sewer Damage:** A reply to her letter was sent.
- e) **Re-development of waterfront:** A letter was sent to the Municipality of the Co. of Kings and the Kings CED.
- f) **Water pipes in the Youth Room:** Nothing new
- g) **Acoustic problem in Multi-Purpose Room:** No report. Action: Brian Tupper.
- h) **Fire Grant Meeting:** Ernie Hovell reported as the attendee to the meeting. The Chiefs proposal at the meeting was in excess and therefore they were going to revamp their list and resubmit it to Council. A copy of a letter from New Minas which was brought up at the meeting re financing of Fire Services was being looked into (copies of these were provided to Commissioners for info).
- i) **Newsletter** was sent out beginning of March. It was decided that the print run of the newsletter should be increased and copies of the newsletter should be placed in the local coffee shops.
- j) **Meeting with Board of Trustees:** A short discussion after the meeting will take place to determine plan of action and date for meeting.
- k) **Dedicated Phone Line:** The phone line for the SCADA monitoring system is now in place.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. **Building Canada Fund** – Water Tank- A meeting to discuss the financing of this project will be held on Tuesday March 24 at 7:30 pm in

the Boardroom. Laura will check with Loretta to see if we are able to use any of the funds currently in reserves for this project.

Letters of interest have been received from 2 contractors regarding this project. These letters will be forwarded to Doug Seamone

- II. **Economic Stimulus Package:** No information has been provided as to type of infrastructure or procedure to apply directly as indicated by Janet Newton in her report.
- III. **Green bin cleaning:** Lewis Benedict has arranged for the Village of Port Williams to utilize Kendall Moores of Berwick under contracted for once a month during April/May to October for the day after garbage day. It was suggested that perhaps an article on green bin cleaning could be mentioned in the Newsletter. It was moved and seconded that the Village of Port Williams contract for green bin cleaning at least once a month for \$20 per bin. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Correspondence:

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

- a) **Building Permit Report for Month of JAN 2009(FOR INFO):**
Total building-permit activity for Kings County for Feb 2009 amounts to 28 permits issued with a value of \$2.7M. **For Port Williams**, activity consisted of 1 building permit, estimated value \$2,000 for residential renovations.
- b) **Letter dated Feb 26/09 from Wendy Salsman, Supervisor of Revenue Services RE: 2009 Assessment Roll** (*being worked on for June 1, 2009 deadline*)
- c) **Letter dated Mar 11/09 from the Municipality of the County of Kings** (FOR INFO) Public Meeting April 2/09 re proposed amendments to Bylaws 56,75,42,57. **ACTION:** *Janet Newton to check into this and notify the Village if someone should attend.*

II. **Valley Communications Inc Report for Port Williams Volunteer Fire**

Dept(FOR INFO): Report for Month of Feb. 2009: 3 mutual aid calls (tanker to sawdust fire Canard, to barn fire Canning and to stand in at Berwick Fire Dept), 2 alarms (Orchard View Manor and 843 Church), 1 Medical and 1 Structure (fire in basement).

- III. **Letter from ValleyArts** - **NO ACTION.** It was discussed that perhaps a letter be sent, to organizations asking for donations, indicating that it is not in the mandate of the Village Commission to make donations and would they remove us from their mailing list.

- IV. **Letter dated March 5/09 from NS Environment-** Quarterly HAA (Haloacetic Acid) sampling required re new drinking water quality guideline (limit .08 mg/L) **ACTION:** *Stan Hancock to ensure sampling and make sure limits are part of his water report to Commission.*

- V. **Letter dated February 9/09 from Environment Canada** - Outdoor wood boiler survey (*Completed and sent*)

VI. **Email Correspondence:**

- a) **MEGAwatt Reduction** – Vending Products- proactive in minimizing the cost of electricity to run vending machines. *NO ACTION.*
- b) **Chris Daly of NS Environment** – NS’s Climate Change Action Plan and discussion paper – “An approach to regulating Electricity Sector Greenhouse Gas and Air Pollutant Emissions”. *NO ACTION.*
- c) **Chris Bavis of MacDonald Chilsholm Trask Insurance for Habitat for Humanity** – Requested a representative for March 23rd Kick-off Event at Old Orchard Inn. – *No representative will be attending.*
- d) **Steve Murphy of CBCL Limited** — assist with construction of Water Storage Reservoir - *NO ACTION as Hiltz & Seamone will be handling this.*
- e) **Letter from Primrose** – letter of intent. Due to decrease in availability of volunteer services there appears to be a need for additional catering services in the area. It was moved and seconded that a letter of intent be prepared for Mr. Primrose. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- f) **ICSP re deadline** federal Sept 30th and final - *Info only*
- g) **Invoice for Initial Park Planning by Environova:** As this was approved by the Park Planning Committee, the Commission moved and seconded the motion to pay this bill. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- h) **Letter from Port Williams Landing Re: Request for street lights:** Installation of poles, lights and underground wiring would be the landowners’ responsibility and maintenance would be the Village. There is a Federal grant for solar street lights. NSPC will have to be contacted to find out the cost. A required percentage of people in subdivision would be needed on the petition prior to being able to make this happen. **ACTION:** *To be investigated.*
- i) **Request for use of hall by the hour for dance practice:** The Commission agreed that it could not be Wednesday morning when the library was open, that other events would take precedence and that the fee be set by the rate divided by the hours.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Commission agreed that recognizing people such as the Olympic torch carrier, new citizens, etc should be done by a letter and presentation of a Village pin. It was also suggested it be noted in the Village Newsletter. A letter should be sent to new businesses also.

Upon a motion being made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Lewis Benedict, Chair

Laura Wightman, Clerk/Treasurer