

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF PORT WILLIAMS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lewis Benedict, Kim Cogswell, Craig Newcombe, Ernie Hovell and Doug Gates

IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Tupper, Philip Porter, Joseph Memet, Joe Keddy, Mike Graves & Darlene Robertson

REGRETS: Geneve Newcombe and Peter Muttart

The Chairperson, Lewis Benedict, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- (a) It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the regular Commission meeting on October 20, 2015, be approved as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED**

CORRESPONDENCE:

II. Municipality of County of Kings:

- (a) Building Permit Report for Month of October, 2015. In Kings County 37 building permits were issued with a total value of \$2.2 Million, 1 permit was issued in Port Williams. *(information only)*
- (b) E-mail from the Municipality of the County of Kings providing Council's action lists for October 1 and October 6, 2015. *(information only)*

III. Other Correspondence:

- (a) Inspection report from Nova Scotia Environment advising that an audit was performed at 1226 Highway 358 Port Williams. Superintendent of Public works stated that he contacted Nova Scotia Environment and advised them that they had had the wrong location address on the report. *(information only)*
- (b) E-mailed resignation from Chief Forsythe. *(information only)*
- (c) E-mail from Nancy Handrigan, thanking the Village Commission for taking the matter of Belcher Street, west of Port Williams Elementary School to the Municipality of the County of Kings. *(information only)*
- (d) Letter from Zach Churchill, Minister of Municipal Affairs, responding to the letter sent by the Village Commission regarding the potential sale of the Wharf property. *(information only)*

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- (a) **Easements** – Village Office sent reminder letters regarding easements to property owners. Village Office to continue to contact property owners in order to complete required easements.

- (b) **Concerns reported to the Department of Transportation** – Superintendent of Public Works, Joe Keddy reported that the 50km speed limit sign has been moved to the other side of the bridge coming into Port Williams on Highway 358. Superintendent of Public Works, Joe Keddy is following up with the Department of Transportation regarding the list of items still outstanding. Joe was asked to mention to the Department of Transportation, the area close to 1190 Starrs Point Road where the ditch had been gathering water when he contacts them regarding the other outstanding issues.

REPORTS:

Village/Municipal Meeting: Lewis Benedict reported:

- Meeting was held in New Minas on October 21st,
- MLA's round table
- Presentation about Fiber network technology by Valley Community Fiber Network – cost is approximately 30 thousand dollars per kilometer

Recreation Director: Joseph Memet reported:

- Joseph requested funding from the Village Commission in the amount of \$2,750.00 to purchase the supplies required to construct an outdoor hockey rink. Commissioner Doug Gates asked if there is the ability to flood the rink in the proposed location. Joe Keddy responded that there is water at this location. Commissioner Craig Newcombe asked if someone had checked on the grade and preparation of the ground in the proposed location. Joe Keddy said he could get a laser leveler and check the grade. He believes that the ground should be ok for the liner once the ground freezes for the winter.
- It was moved and seconded that up to \$2,750 be allotted for the purchase of building materials required for the outdoor rink. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- It was mentioned that Joseph would need to solicit for a list of volunteers for the construction and maintenance of the rink.
- Joseph said that he has a lot of interested people to volunteer however no one has taken the lead on the project.
- Joseph mentioned that he was talking to the Dance Time group and they would like to have a heating/cooling system in the auditorium. Joseph suggested that one could be purchased and paid for by making regular payments through Nova Scotia Power Corporation's program. Village Commission stated that this is something that is still under discussion.
- Joseph said that he has a contact with Equilibrium who could provide a quote and cost saving estimate.
- The Village Commission said they would consider the quote when it is presented.

Recreation Committee: Doug Gates reported:

- Tree lighting will be November 29th
- Winter frolic is scheduled for the last two Sundays in January, with the second Sunday reserved in case the first Sunday turns out to be a storm day.
- Lion Brian Tupper presented the Recreation Committee with a donation in the amount of \$150.00 to go towards the Children's Christmas Party.
- Park has a small standalone library/book exchange box.

- Joe Keddy mentioned to Joseph that Bridgetown has a lawn bowling group which he might be interested in contacting.
- Not sure at this time if Dance Time is going to have a New Year's Dance. They are currently looking at one for members only.

Janitorial: Brian Tupper reported:

- Furnace cleaning has been completed
- Things have been busy around the Community Centre
- Library renovations are coming along

Fire Department: Chief Philip Porter reported:

- Jason Stevens has been appointed Deputy Chief
- New battery was needed and has been replaced on Truck #11
- Officers will be meeting to discuss their go forward plan
- The society will also be meeting to discuss their go forward plan
- Currently reviewing turn out gear quotes.
- Will be reviewing automated aid for county structure fires
- Helping out with the tree lighting
- There was some discussion regarding Santa but no confirmation
- 2500 gallons of water used
- Radios are a work in progress

Lions Club: Brian Tupper reported:

- Have two catering jobs in December
- On November 28th they have a pancake breakfast fundraiser from 8am-10am in the auditorium, working in conjunction with Rogers Home Town Hockey and the Port Williams Elementary School.

Public Works: Joe Keddy reported:

- UV sewer disinfection system is up and running
- Nitrates outlet 5.8 and inlet 8 average
- Shop clean up
- Still working on obtaining plans from Hiltz and Seamone
- Service manager for the radar speed sign will be onsite sometime between November 28th and December 10th to help determine the reason the signs stop working after a couple of weeks and then need to be reset to continue working.
- Getting equipment ready for winter months
- Noticed that the only street light out is at the Benedict field. It was mentioned that at the corner of the Community Centre Parking lot there is a street light out.
- Fixed the Port Williams sign on Church Street.
- Well number 6 is working correctly
- Howard Little inspected the new pumps in preparation for the installation.
- Had a meeting with homeowners regarding the quality of water at 1307 Highway 358 – Homeowners said that the water tastes metallic and that they cannot drink it. Joe said that a water sample was collected today and sent in to the lab for testing.
- Generators have been tested and serviced – they tested as having a 10% load. It was noted that the heaters for the pumping stations were not hooked up. The invoice will exceed the quote due to extra work performed.

- Joe was asked how many meters he had on hand. Joe explained that he usually purchases a box and when he has a few left he will order more. The 4 house unit on the corner of Terrys Creek and Starrs Point Road will have a 1 ¼ inch meter and the distillery has 2 inch meter.
- Commissioner Doug Gates stated that the public works shop is in need of a painting and suggested that it might be a good time for Joe to paint the inside of his shop before he gets busy with snow removal.

Treasurer's Report:

- A motion to accept the Village General Operating and Water Utility financial statements for October, 2015 as submitted was moved and seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- Budget requests have been sent to both the Recreation Director and Fire Chief.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (a) **Water rate study** –Hearing date set for January 12, 2016.
- (b) **Bar Renovations** –Lions Club and the Fire Department met to discuss the cost of the bar renovation. Together the groups asked the Village Commission if they would consider covering 1/3 of the cost of the renovation and further asked if the Village would consider covering the cost of the renovations and the Lions Club along with the Fire Department auxiliary would each contribute there 1/3 of the cost over a two year period. After discussions the Village Commission agreed that it did not make fiscal sense to have our volunteer groups fundraise to cover the cost of the bar renovation in order to do future fundraising which would service the community. It was moved and seconded to cover the cost of the bar renovations up to a total of \$35,000. plus hst. **MOTION CARRIED.** The Village further discussed the current renovations to the library and agreed that the ceiling should have sound absorbing insulation above the library due to sound issues when the auditorium is rented. It was moved and seconded to proceed with sound absorbing insulation installed in the ceiling above the library area. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- (c) **Application for environmental cleanup and liability insurance for storage tanks** – Village office to review prior meeting notes regarding insurance and advise the Commission.
- (d) **Fire Chief** – A motion was moved and seconded to send a thank-you letter to Adam Forsythe, for his contribution as Fire Chief. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion was made and seconded to appoint Philip Porter as the new Port Williams Fire Chief. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- (e) **Area Advisory Committee**– One of the members of the Area Advisory Committee sent an email advising that they are stepping down due to family commitments. Office staff to advertise in the next newsletter and advise the County of the change.

Meeting went in camera at 9:26 pm to discuss a contract negotiation.

Meeting came out of camera at 10:06 pm.

- (f) **Wharf tender** – A motion was moved and seconded, pending negotiations, to accept the offer of twenty five thousand dollars for the purchase of the wharf property. **MOTION CARRIED**

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

MOTION CARRIED.


Lewis Benedict, Chairperson


Darlene Robertson, Clerk