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# KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### July 28, 2014

- PRESENT** Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Bill Boyd, Councilor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Tony Bentley and CAO Mark Phillips.
- CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** Mayor David Corkum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and CAO Phillips reported that, with the exception of Clerk Carol Harmes, all members of Council were present, including himself as CAO.
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

**that the agenda be approved with the addition of  
7(g) Department of Justice**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

##### **(a) Marnie Parker – Welcome Wagon**

Mayor Corkum welcomed Marnie Parker, the new representative for the Welcome Wagon for the Kentville, New Minas, Cambridge, Berwick and Coldbrook areas, along with all points North and South. She reviewed the contents of the basket, noting that typical information for new residents would include a welcome letter from Mayor Corkum, a bus schedule, calendar from Valley Waste and similar items. Gifts and gift certificates from local businesses are also included which can be picked up at their locations, with the hope that new residents might become customers in the future.

She noted that:

- since Ellen Clarke left this position 2 years ago, there has been an absence of this service.
- any move is eligible for a Welcome Wagon visit and even people who live in an area and move within the same area, often don't know some of the services that exist.
- sponsors of the basket pay a small fee for advertisement.
- although there are 16 sponsors for the basket, she intends to increase that by canvassing more in the commercial and service areas. That would not only add to the basket's value, but would also increase awareness of the area businesses.
- to access Welcome Wagon, many people go on-line and find the representative in their area. Neighbours will sometimes

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- contact her to say someone new has moved into the area.
- visits are for 30 minutes only and the intent is to welcome and inform new community members.
- JD MacCulloch (the COO for KDCL) could help facilitate more support from the Kentville Business communities and the Chamber of Commerce might also be of support in this regard.
- the Town of Kentville will add a token gift to the basket and contact should be made with the Community Development Coordinator for that item.

**APPROVAL OF THE  
MINUTES**

**(a) June 23, 2014**

It was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

**that the minutes of June 23, 2014 be approved with a couple of minor amendments.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM THE MINUTES**

None

**RECOMMENDATIONS  
AND REPORTS**

**(1) Policy Guidelines for Municipal Lands and Facilities  
Naming Policy**

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that at the July 14, 2014 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Rachel Bedingfield reported that she has been giving some consideration to the implementation of a citizen recognition policy, following requests for the Town to recognize certain individuals by naming facilities in their honour. She felt that in order to widely recognize deserving individuals, that it might be more appropriate to plant trees or to dedicate “elements” in the name of those citizens.

She added that a report has been provided for Council’s consideration, and it includes policy guidelines, suggested practices for name selection, suggested principles and other issues.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

**that a Municipal Lands and Facilities’ Naming Policy be prepared from the recommendations made in this report.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Points from Discussion

- There seems to be a natural connection between this proposed policy and the Street Naming Policy and perhaps the 2 should be joined together.

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- It is important to maintain the phrase that “Council may seek public opinion”, as this might be sometimes necessary.

It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

**that an amendment be made to the recommendation to incorporate the Municipal Lands and Facilities’ Naming Policy into the existing Street Naming Policy.**

**AMENDED MOTION CARRIED**

**(2) Kentville Skate Park Land Allocation**

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that at the July 14, 2014 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Bedingfield reported that a group of citizens approached Town Council in 2012 regarding the construction of a skate park in the Town, following which the Kentville Skatepark Association (KSA) was created. In support of this facility, the Town agreed to provide land for the project and to allocate \$100,000 in the 2014-15 budget for capital construction, provided that the balance was raised from other sources.

The KSA has identified two potential sites – Option One - between the Multipurpose Facility and Park Street and Option Two - at the old Imperial Oil property (corner of Gary Pearl Drive and West Main Street). In an attempt to keep the project moving forward and to continue to motivate members of the KSA, Director Bedingfield made a recommendation for Council’s approval of a site for this facility. She based this on safety and visibility to both the public and the police.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

**that Option Two, the 15,000 – 20,000 square foot land on the former Imperial Oil Lot on West Main Street, owned by the Town, be earmarked for the purpose of a skateboard park.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Points from Discussion

- Option One would seem to have better visibility from Park Street and therefore, one councilor did not support the motion due to the location proposed.

**(3) Substitution of 2014-15 Capital Projects**

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that at the July 14, 2014 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Fred Whynot reported that

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the upgrades to Chester Avenue (the Town's # 1 priority) fall under the New Build Canada Fund, and were estimated at \$3,000,000 over a two year period. However, as the agreement between the Provincial and Federal governments to fund 2/3 of this project will be delayed until fall, only the design portion of the project can be completed this year. Therefore, the remaining 1/3 portion still exists, as funded by the Town, at \$280,000 for Transportation Services and \$88,570 for Sanitary Sewer Services. This \$368,570 will come from borrowings.

Therefore, under Transportation Services, consideration has been given to fund future capital projects (as part of a past development incentive) for Macdonald Park Road, Queens Court and Memorial Court. This was estimated at \$220,000 for paving and curbing, thereby leaving approximately \$60,000 for other projects, including design fees for the Chester Avenue project.

With the Sanitary Sewer Services, the relocation of the gravity sewer south of the Cornwallis Bridge could proceed when the actual footprint of the new bridge is known. The budget for work on design, tender and construction of this project is \$50,000, leaving \$38,570, which in turn, could be used to upgrade a lift station at the cost of \$35,000.

Director Whynot made a recommendation to proceed with that work, and therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

**that approval be given for the substitution of the following projects, in place of the Chester Avenue Upgrade project under the approved 2014-2015 Capital Project Program:**

- **MacDougall Heights Pave and Curb - \$220,000**
- **Cornwallis Bridge Sanitary Sewer Upgrade - \$50,000**
- **Lift Station Upgrade - \$35,000**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**b) Fire**

**(i) Chief's Report**

CAO Phillips reported that no written report has been received.

**(ii) Joint Fire Services Committee Report**

Councilor Bill Boyd noted that the next meeting is scheduled for September 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

**(c) Valley Waste Resources Management – Representative's Report**

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl noted that the Management Minute is attached, however, added that:

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- The recyclable processing and residuals to Chester remain consistent.
- All member councils have passed the budget from VWRM and VWRM will be asking partner Councils to support an amendment to the Inter-municipal Services Agreement, to allow the Authority to adjust the timelines for the budget development process, which will allow for more timely and accurate information.
- Also, an amendment for the retention of any surplus funds will be coming to partnering Councils for approval.
- Changes in the fall clean-up and leaf collection have been advertised publicly and through the participating Councils.
- A meeting has been scheduled with the Environment Minister and Premier for August 7 in Kentville, to plead the case for additional provincial support of this service.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

**that the report from Valley Waste Resource Management Authority be received.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Points from Discussion

- The matter of retaining or returning any surplus funds by Valley Waste came to Council about 4 years ago. At the time, a request was made to return any surplus to the partners and this had become the practice over the last few years.
- The Board has accepted the recommendation from the Budgetary Advisory Committee and it must now be taken to the partners.
- Either the County of Kings or County of Annapolis could veto the recommendations being made.

**d) Kings Transit Authority**

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl noted that the report is in the package but added that:

- KTA participated in Bike Week.
- An announcement was made in Digby of new bus from Gas Tax funds.
- Ridership and revenue are being increased throughout the whole system.
- Some route changes and service level adjustments have been made.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl and seconded by

Councilor Tony Bentley

**that the report from the Kings Transit Authority be received.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(e) Councilor's Report**

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl noted that the press has been absent from the last couple of meetings, so reporting to the public is lacking.

Councilor Bill Boyd attended all meetings required.

Councilor Bernie Cooper attended all meetings required.

Councilor Tony Bentley attended all meetings required.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill attended all meetings required.

Councilor Eric Bolland attended a meeting with Eco Kings and Shannex Pumpkin Mile.

Points from Discussion

- The Town can do more promotion itself on some of the “news” articles, and perhaps even prepare “live” interviews online on the Town’s website.

**f) Mayors Report**

Mayor Dave Corkum recapped some highlights from his report:

- The Life Cycle event saw over 600 bikers this year which has doubled from the year before.
- The Gas Tax announcement was good news for the Town.
- A welcoming gift was given to Ocean Zn a relatively new business in Town.
- The Citizen Coalition meeting will take place tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m., however, the Mayor has made it known that he will not be making comments on behalf of Kentville Town Council.
- A discussion was held with Emma VanRoyen regarding more youth involvement in civic affairs.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a) Municipal Affairs Minister Furey – Notice of Changes for 2015-16**

CAO Phillips summarized this correspondence relating to the *MGA* requirement of the Province to advise municipalities at least 12 months in advance of any changes being proposed that might affect their budgetary processes. Some changes to programs will result in some municipalities getting more funding, while others get less.

Points from Discussion

- Some of these changes relate to funding of roads and this may result in municipalities paying more of the costs.

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- It is likely that the Minister will announce some of these changes at the Fall Conference of UNSM and perhaps amendments to the MOU will be addressed at that time.
- Some of the changes are recommendations from AMA, UNSM, Department Staff, and so on.
- The “year’s notice” is questionable as to what that means.
- The Minister of Environment and the Premier have announced increased costs for Waste Resource Management programs.
- These changes may also relate to the Property Valuation programs, alternative energy policies, and any number of things.

**(b) Education Minister Karen Casey – School Review Process Study**

CAO Phillips noted that this correspondence related to the review study and noted that it is online for reference.

**(c) Flowercart – Thank You**

This letter expresses the appreciation for the grant of \$500 made to them by the Town.

CAO Phillips added that this organization should have included Financial Statements and, although he isn’t sure, these may have been received and if so, will be shared with Council.

**(d) Our Community Our Health Campaign – Thank You**

This letter was a “thank you” from the hospital to the Town for the \$17,700 grant towards the Hospice Centre.

**(e) Anna Jamison – Thank You –Bursary Award**

This was a thank you note from a student at NKEC who received a \$500 bursary from the Town.

**(f) Vanessa Hutchison – Thank You – Bursary Award**

This was a thank you from another student at NKEC who received a \$500 bursary from the Town.

**(g) Department of Justice**

A letter from the Honourable Lena Metledge Diab, the Minister of Justice, was received today and is a response to the CAO’s request to provide an interpretation of the Town’s decision to reduce its policing complement by one member. The Minister advised that she concurs with the view of Council and the Commission that the service will remain adequate, efficient and effective with this reduction, with the police to population ratio being 230 per 100,000 – above the Provincial average of 201 and the National average of 197.

Points from Discussion

- The statistics quoted by the Minister do not seem to add up and should not be used to base the decision on officer reduction.
- This response indicates that previous numbers represented an over-staffing.
- A response regarding the granted officer should be forthcoming, however, this response was required beforehand.
- The Chair of the Police Commission (Councilor Folker-Hill) offered to follow-up with the Provincial Chair, David Walker regarding a discussion regarding the granted officer.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**(a) none**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS  
Q & A on Council Size  
Review Process**

**(a) No questions on Council Size**

**(b) Imagine Kentville – J.D. MacCulloch**

Imagine Kentville

The COO of KDCL invited Council to participate in a workshop on August 12, which will be facilitated by Rob LeBlanc and will offer several workshops on that day. In the morning (8:30 a.m.) a selected group of business owners will meet as a focus group to address a number of issues, following which there will be a walk-about around Town.

After lunch, there will be a merchants' and property-owners' workshop to address specific items (i.e. façade programs, parking, etc.) and will be by invitation, including council.

In the evening, there will be an open public meeting, and later Rob will evaluate the information received. Council's input in the sessions is important. Rob is also gathering zoning and other pertinent information from town staff.

Progress Magazine

A magazine supplement in Progress Magazine (September publication) will involve Kentville and will have a 100,000 distribution. This will not cost the Town anything, but will be a great promotion tool. Mountain biking will be focused, along with other healthy lifestyles. A comparison between a mountain-biker and an entrepreneur will be made with such things as risk-taking, charting a difficult course while keeping an eye on the objectives, etc.

Points from Discussion

- It might be possible for our IT staff person to post the

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discussion on the last session of Imagine Kentville.

**ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. to go In Camera (until 8:53 p.m.) to discuss 5 items regarding land negotiations.