
KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

April 26, 2011

PRESENT

Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd, Councilor Mark Pearl, Councilor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Tony Bentley, Interim CAO Mark Phillips, Solicitor Peter Muttart and Town Clerk Carol Harmes

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor David Corkum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Interim CAO Phillips reported that all Council members were in attendance.

Moment of Silence – Ken Simpson
Mayor Corkum asked if everyone would stand for a Moment of Silence in the memory of Ken Simpson of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

**that the agenda be approved with the
addition of:**

8 (c) KCA Trophies and Banners

MOTION CARRIED

NOTE

“Points from Discussion” below show various comments made by individual councilors during debate. They do not necessarily represent the opinion of the group, nor do they always reflect accurate information.

PRESENTATION

(a) NKEC Boys Hockey Team

Mayor Corkum recognized those members of this team who competed successfully and recently won the Provincial Championships. Certificates were presented to each of the players and congratulations were offered to the coaches, managers and trainers who worked so hard in preparing this team for their year in hockey.

(b) Kentville Wildcats Mini Girls Basketball Team

Mayor Corkum recognized those members of this team who compete successfully and won the Provincial Championships. Certificates were presented to each of the players.

(c) NKEC Green (Environmental) Team – Update

Sharon Watson introduced herself and stated that the members of this group have worked together on some of the environmental projects. They presented some statistics gathered from a survey conducted in the area regarding idling, buying local, buying organic, etc. and this information was sorted by age demographics. It appeared that those over the age of 50 were more aware of global issues and shared a sense of responsibility for the environment.

(d) Valley Community Learning Centre

Kathy Gartner, Dave Eisnor and his daughter, Hannah gave an update to Council on some of the programs carried out by this organization. Some of the initiatives were the literacy program which offers GED preparation classes, adult learning programs, English as a second language, and the Jump Start to Trades program.

Kathy noted that 108 Kentville students and 114 county students are now registered with this organization. A short dvd was shown on Dave Eisnor's family during which he indicated that his daughter's health conditions necessitated his returning to an training and upgrading program in order to financially support his family. Together, the Eisnor family wrote a book about their family and the success they have found through the Valley Community Learning Centre.

Lastly, they mentioned the upcoming Literacy Mile which is an annual fundraiser scheduled for May 7th from 12 noon until 2:00 p.m. Kathy noted that funding is available under specific conditions, however, all individuals do not qualify under the criteria imposed. Help from the Town, in what ever way possible, would be appreciated.

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It was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that the Minutes of March 28, 2011 be approved, as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) April 11, 2011

It was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the minutes of April 11, 2011 be approved, as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/OLD BUSINESS

(a) none

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Council Advisory Committee

(i) Spring Debenture Issuance - 2011

Councilor Eric Bolland noted that at the April 11, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Debra Crowell reported that Council must approve any pre-approval resolutions for the Spring debenture fund issuance and these must then be forwarded to the NS Municipal Finance Corporation.

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

that the attached resolutions for Pre-approval of Debenture Issuance, be approved as follows:

**Various TBR 10/11-01 \$1,226,600
Sanitary Sewer TBR 10/11-03 \$127,400**

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Withdrawal Capital Reserve - \$10,720.93

Councilor Eric Bolland noted that at the April 11, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Debra Crowell reported that another resolution is required to fund (or partially fund) some late-arriving invoices for 2010-11 capital investment plan. She identified the various items to be funded, and noted

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that following these withdrawals, the total reserves will be \$418,391.

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

that a resolution be approved, as attached, to withdraw \$10,720.93 from the Town's Capital Reserve to fund various capital construction projects.

MOTION CARRIED

(iii) CPI Increase – 2011 - 2012

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at the April 11, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Debra Crowell reported that the annual Cost of Living increase is based on the average CPI for the Province, for the period March the prior year, to February the current year, as posted by Statistics Canada. She added that for this previous period, the average Cost of Living increase was 2.3%.

The Town's Policy on this issue supports the addition of this percentage to the salaries of non-bargaining staff.

Therefore, it was moved by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that the Cost of Living increase be granted to non-bargaining employees of the Town (effective April 1, 2011), and further, that the rate applied to these salary scales be based on the Statistics Canada's figure of 2.3%, as per the Town's policy.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The fluctuating costs of CPI from month to month can affect the rate received by non-bargaining employees and perhaps there is a more equitable method to do these calculations.
- Council should engage the Director of Finance in a discussion regarding this at a future CAC meeting.

(iv) Park Street Apartments – Cost-Sharing of Watermain Relocation

Councilor Eric Bolland noted that at the April 11, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, CAO Keith Robicheau reported that the developer of a proposed apartment building at 150 Park Street, has received approval from the Town to relocate the existing water main which runs through the property. As the relocation of this water main added an extra expense to the costs of construction, the developer asked if the Town would consider some form of cost-sharing for this project.

A staff report and recommendation was submitted for Council's review, in which it was noted that the construction of this apartment building would enhance downtown development and provide a higher density infilling. As such, it would appear reasonable to make a financial contribution towards the cost of relocating this infrastructure.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that the Town offers 25% of the cost of relocating this water main, up to a maximum of \$15,000, subject to the conditions that the work be completed to the satisfaction of the Kentville Water Commission, and that the developer takes out a building permit for a multiple residential building on this site and commences construction.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- This is the Town's water line, placed at its current location years ago, and therefore, it would seem fair that the Town shares the costs for relocation.
- The solicitor felt that the motion, as presented, indicates that the costs for relocation will be paid out by the Town, only after those conditions outlined above, have been met.

(v) Paddy's and Rosie's Sidewalk Café

Councilor Eric Bolland noted that at the April 11, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Town Clerk Carol Harmes reported that each year John FitzGerald, the General Manager of this downtown establishment, asks for the Town's permission to erect an outdoor patio on the sidewalk on Aberdeen Street. Mr. FitzGerald adheres to the conditions outlined in the Town's Policy on Sidewalk Cafes, and upon checking with the Traffic Authority, no complaints have been received regarding this seasonal operation.

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

that approval be granted to allow the use of the sidewalk on the west side of Aberdeen Street, in front of Paddy's and Rosie's Restaurant, for the purpose of an outdoor patio, which will operate from May 1st to the end of September, under those conditions outlined in *Policy Statement G29-Sidewalk Cafes*.

MOTION CARRIED

(vi) Paddy's and Rosie's Apple Blossom Festival Tent

Councilor Eric Bolland noted that at the April 11, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Town Clerk Carol Harmes reported that each year John FitzGerald, the General Manager of this downtown establishment, asks for the Town's permission to erect a food and beverage tent on Aberdeen Street during the Saturday of the Apple Blossom Festival.

There have been no complaints or concerns expressed regarding closing that part of the street during this event, and furthermore, the additional facilities appear to be appreciated by patrons.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that the south part of Aberdeen Street (from Webster to Main) be closed during the

Saturday (May 28th) of this year's Apple Blossom Festival, and further, that permission be granted to allow Paddy's and Rosie's to erect tents for the outdoor service of food and beverages.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Musical entertainment, or some other attraction, makes this area a lot more attractive to the public.

(vii) UNESCO – Canadian Commission – Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at the April 11, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Town Clerk Carol Harmes noted that a letter from the Canadian Commission for UNESCO congratulated the Town of Kentville for joining the coalition, however, pointed out that in doing so, has committed to developing its Plan of Action for the elimination of racism and discrimination. A request was further made for the appointment of a council member and staff person as contacts for the Town. It was understood that the Plan of Action would be created when these individuals have had the opportunity to review the issues more thoroughly.

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

that Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd be appointed as leader on this project and that staff person, Carol Harmes, also be appointed to serve.

MOTION CARRIED

(b)Fire

(i) Chief's report

A report from Fire Chief Shawn Ripley indicated that the Town saw 16 alarms, with 338 kilometers travelled, the County saw 18 alarms, with 858 kilometers traveled and there were 2 mutual aid calls, with 442 kilometers traveled. These calls ranged in scope from outdoor fires, chimney, structure and car

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fires, to rescuing a person and a dog, and motor vehicle accidents.

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

that the report from the Fire Chief be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Fire Governance Report

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd reported that although there has been no meeting recently, one is anticipated shortly.

(c) Valley Waste – Resource Management Authority

The Management Minute for April was received, from which it was noted that the 2011-2012 budget approval process is well underway and that the authority is anticipating full partner approval. A surplus of \$50,000 is anticipated and a policy regarding surpluses is being drafted that allows for small surpluses to be turned into the reserves. A Board Governance Information Session was held, at which the role of the board members was explained.

For Earth Day on April 22, the authority is working with K-Rock on promoting environmental awareness; the Compost Giveaway will take place on May 7th. The design development of the new administrative offices is nearly complete and it is hoped that the building will be complete by next February. Lastly, he noted that the next meeting will be on May 18, 2011.

It was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd

that the report from Valley Waste Resource Management be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(d) Kings Regional Development Agency

(a) Representative's Report

As Jennifer Weisner was not available to deliver a

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verbal report, a Monthly Activities report was prepared by this organization and presented by Councilor Mark Pearl. In this, it was noted that with the BRE Program's focus has been on export or import substitution; with the Industrial Park, Phase 2 will occur next month, and the Hotel Study has been completed by Colliers International and should be available by early May.

Work continues with the agriculture and food initiatives; the Food as Culture initiative continues; 4 students will be engaged in Kings RDA activities over the next many months; a study on a volunteer centre is being done; an energy strategy is being conducted; work continues with the Nomination of Grand Pre, on the Kings Hants Heritage Connection, the Immigration Settlement and Welcoming Initiatives, the Kings County Business Development Team and marketing;

The AGM is scheduled for June 1st and finally, a position for a general director is vacant.

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

that the report from Kings RDA be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Numbers are being tracked regarding the impact that the recent visit to Ireland has had on this area.
- On the Industrial Park development, an assessment is being done of available lands in Kings County and the capacity for this development.
- Mayor Corkum reported that the Kentville rep on this committee, Dave Ritcey, was sorry to have missed his first meeting, however, he had the flu.

(e) Kentville Community Development Committee

(i) Report

Mayor David Corkum reported that there has not been

a meeting as yet, although Tiffany Connell has returned. She has been working with the Webster Court residents and business owners, as it relates to parking, sidewalks, traffic flow, etc.

Mayor Corkum added that some presentations have been made to new businesses and others will be done in the future. Lastly, he noted that the Kentville Connection should be distributed within a few weeks.

(f) Kings Transit Authority

(i) Representative's Report

A report from Kings Transit indicated that the financial information as of February 28th indicated a deficit of \$115,320. These are the same figures as presented last month.

However, ridership is down by 1%, revenue is short by 2% and this continues to be a problem.

It was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the report from Kings Transit Authority be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(g) Environmental Advisory Committee

(i) Report

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that the committee has met twice over the last two months and that work continues with the NKEC group to establish a spring clean-up. The date will be set soon. A new "idle free" banner has been purchased and will be put up before the Apple Blossom Festival. Some additional "No idling" signs have been placed in areas that have been noted as high idling places.

Activities for Clean Air Day are being considered and the committee has directed staff to prepare policies on bottled water use at public meetings, styrofoam cup use in Town operations and the purchase of hybrid vehicles, when vehicles are replaced.

It was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Mark Pearl.

that the report from the Environmental Advisory Committee be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The no smoking signs have not been erected as of yet, however, will be done soon.

(h) Councilors' Report

Councilor Tony Bentley attended all meetings and the EAC meeting. The plans for the Earth Day events have been rescheduled. He attended the Friends of the Library meeting and the members were pleased with the County's contribution to their new facility. He also attended a library meeting and was impressed with the video and audio books which they are currently promoting. He enjoyed the Volunteer Dinner, helped at the Home Show and felt that both were excellent events.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that she attended all meetings and the Volunteer Dinner, which was an excellent event. She participated in the Exit Interview for the CAO and this document was placed on file. The Farewell potluck dinner (for Keith Robicheau and Greg Kehoe) was a nice event, and the Home Show was most enjoyable.

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that he attended everything and the Home Show was excellent. He felt that congratulations should go to Kevin Bennett for a job well done.

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that he attended all meetings and some phone conferences organized by UNSM on sustainability. The highlight most recently was the march by the UNSM members on Province House in protest of the MOU. He was not able to attend Volunteer Awards event, due to a conflict with work.

Councilor Bernie Cooper reported that he attended all meetings, including the Home Show and Volunteer night.

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd reported that he was not able to attend his commitments due to having been out of the country, however, was not surprised to learn that politics in Florida resemble politics in Kentville. He felt that the new technology available today provides great access to information.

(i) Mayor's Report

Mayor Corkum reported that his monthly report is attached, however, wished to reiterate that is has been a busy month with a funeral, birthday, a visit from the Girl Guides and retirement parties, along with Provincial and local volunteer awards ceremonies and several fund-raising events. He attended the Mayor's Congress in Halifax, a meeting regarding the VIC, another for the Destination SW Nova, a Rally organized by UNSM in Halifax protesting the province's position on the MOU and a candidate debate for Kings-Hants.

With the issue of the provincial government renegeing on the MOU with the municipal units, he was surprised to hear the Premier and the Minister of Finance report that these changes on this MOU would not affect the units. This simply is not true. He added that this approach goes along with their other initiatives, like the change-over to LED lights, with the costs becoming the responsibilities of the units. This is a lack of communication and understanding between the two government levels.

He added his congratulations for the success of the Volunteer Dinner and the Home Show. These were two wonderful events, at which the staff worked very hard.

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) R. Douglas Macdonald

A letter from Doug Macdonald thanked the Town for selecting him as the community representative during this year's Volunteer Recognition events. He congratulated staff for this event and wished the Town well during its birthday celebration.

(b) Hon. Keith Colwell

A letter from this gentleman pointed out that although the NDP government has chosen not to honour the

Memorandum of Understanding between the province and the municipalities, the Liberal Caucus is very concerned about this breach of trust. Director Crowell has prepared and sent this information on to him as to how this will financially impact upon the Town of Kentville.

(c) Friends of the Library

A letter from this organization thanked Town Council for the donation of the property on River Street, as part of Kentville's contribution towards the costs for the construction of their new facility. In addition, they requested a written copy of the Town's commitment, outlining the terms and conditions of its involvement, and further a request was made that the Town contributes \$6,750 towards costs for 2011.

It was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd

that this letter be reviewed at the next meeting of Council Advisory Committee

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- There should be no need for a Fund Raising Strategy Session.
- There are some assumptions made in this letter and it requires further discussion, prior to directing it on to budget deliberations.

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Policy Statement G58-Traffic Authority Appointment

Interim CAO Phillips reported that *Policy Statement G58- Appointment of Traffic Authority* was created, so as to appoint Hal Henderson to the position of Traffic Authority.

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

that Harold Henderson, the current Director of Engineering of the Town of Kentville, be appointed as the Traffic Authority for the Town of Kentville, as per *Policy G58 – Traffic Authority Appointment*.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Budget Meeting Dates – Scheduled

Interim CAO Phillips reported that he has sent out a survey on potential dates for the required 3 budget meetings, and it appears that Tuesdays might be the best days.

The dates proposed were May 10 at 4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (including dinner) for the Operation Budget
May 17 – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. for Capital Budget.
A third meeting is being proposed for May 31st at 4:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and would be a blended meeting. (dinner would be included.)

(c) KCA Trophies and Banners

Councilor Mark Pearl noted that there appears to be no room at the new KCA school to include the trophies and banners from events held in past years. He felt that it was important to have available an area that this memorabilia could be displayed. To dispose of these items, instead of displaying them, is a lack of respect to the efforts made by many individuals.

Councilor Pearl felt that Council should take the initiative to decide which of these items should be kept and to ensure that those particular archives are preserved.

It was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that a letter be written to the School Board asking to make every effort to find a place to display these trophies and banners in the new school.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- A catalogue of what is being considered for disposal should be prepared.
- Criteria should be set as to where these items should be placed (i.e. displayed or passed along to individuals, etc.)
- There appears to be lots of room in the new school.
- Our school board representative expressed her

concern, and this has allowed the Town an opportunity to react to the potential loss of these items.

- Our School Board Representative should be invited to the next meeting at CAC, or at a time when she is available.
- Councilor Pearl has volunteered to make himself available to meet with the school board representative when she is available.
- Much of the heritage of KCA has been lost already. (i.e. Cavaliers changed to Kodiaks)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

none

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the meeting adjourns at 9:12 p.m. to go In Camera to discuss land negotiations and contract negotiations.

MOTION CARRIED