

APPROVED JANUARY 9, 2008

KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

December 12, 2007

PRESENT

Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Dennis Kehoe, Councilor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Larry Honey, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, CAO Bill Boyd, Town Solicitor Peter Muttart and Town Clerk Carol Harmes.

Director Bev Gentleman and Erin Mason, KCDC

PUBLIC HEARINGS

(a) Subdivision Bylaw Amendments Re: Road Classification

Director Gentleman reported that various road classifications were addressed at a meeting of Planning Advisory Committee, and the issue of sidewalk construction on arterial roads was noted. Acadia Drive has been identified as an arterial road, and in accordance with the present Subdivision Bylaw, a sidewalk should be installed on one side of the street.

However, it was noted that as Acadia Drive is 40 feet wide (instead of the standard 30 feet) pedestrians and motorists can safely share this street at the present time. When, in the future, Acadia Drive is connected to the cross-town collector road, sidewalks can be installed to handle the increased traffic.

No citizens were in the audience to oppose these amendments, and no verbal concerns or written correspondence was received regarding this matter.

(b) Subdivision Bylaw Amendments Re: Materials and Products

Director Gentleman reiterated that a report from the Planning Advisory Committee was prepared by Director Henderson, in which he recommended several amendments to the current Subdivision Bylaws and Regulations.

He stated that changes in the type of material and products available for construction, and for Public Works, require additions and alternative products to suit the acceptable

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practice being carried out. He felt that for continuity and consistency in the document, those amendments proposed (as attached) should be considered at this time.

No citizens were in the audience to oppose these amendments, and no verbal concerns or written correspondence was received regarding this matter.

**CALL TO ORDER AND
ROLL CALL**

CAO Boyd reported that all members of Council were present.

**APPROVAL OF THE
AGENDA**

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

**that the agenda be approved with the addition of:
*9(b) Spouses***

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

(a) Ken Crichton

Ken Crichton of CBDC Hants and Kings Counties wished to bring an annual report to Town Council. He stated that it has been a successful year. There are two programs operating – one through ACOA and the other through Service Canada. He identified the Board of Directors and staff and stated that the staff is located on Webster Street with Kings CED. He added that \$4.6 million was loaned in the two counties last year and he gave statistical information about the programs, the loan activity (4 deals in Kentville - \$284,000) and other deals conducted throughout the area. He added that participation in the *Students in Business Program* was a disappointment, as no one in Kentville applied. It involves interest-free loans up to \$5,000 for students returning to school, and those who qualify will get a rebate of 25%.

Following a review of the programs, he elaborated on the Financial Statements,

(b) Whitney VanBlarcom

Mayor David Corkum welcomed Whitney to Town Council. He reiterated her achievements with the Atlantic Colleges Athletic Association, and her recent recognition at Most Valuable Player for women's soccer. Following congratulations to her from all of council, he also presented her with a certificate of achievement.

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(c) NKEC Football Team

Mayor Corkum welcomed the NKEC Football Team, who recently won the title of Provincial Tier II Champions. He called upon each member of the team and presented individual certificates of achievement.

**APPROVAL OF THE
MINUTES**

(a) November 14, 2007

It was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Dennis Kehoe

that the Minutes of November 14, 2007 be approved, as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM
THE MINUTES**

(i) Swimming Pool Bylaw – Chapter 75 – Second Reading

It was noted that First Reading to adopt this bylaw was held on November 14th, following which advertisements were placed in the local newspaper and on the Town's website advising the public that Second (final) Reading had been proposed for this meeting. In a report prepared by the Town Clerk, it was noted that no public objection was received.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl

that Second Reading to adopt Chapter 75 – Swimming Pool Bylaw, be given.

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) 2nd Reading Amendments to Subdivision Bylaw Re: Road Classifications

Councilor Nola Folker Hill reported that First Reading of these amendments were held at the November meeting of Council, following which, public notification was given regarding this evening's proposed 2nd Reading. As no objections have been received, she recommended that the bylaw approval process continue.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that 2nd Reading be given to the adoption of the amendments to the Subdivision Bylaw, regarding

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Road Classifications, as attached.

MOTION CARRIED

**(iii) 2nd Reading Amendments to Subdivision
Bylaw Re: Materials and Products**

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that First Reading of these amendments were held at the November meeting of Council, following which, public notification was given regarding this evening's proposed 2nd Reading. As no objections have been received, she recommended that the bylaw approval process continue.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

**that 2nd Reading be given to the adoption of the
amendments to the Subdivision Bylaw, regarding
Materials and Products, as attached.**

MOTION CARRIED

**REPORTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

(a) Council Advisory Committee

**(i) Withdrawal – Town Capital Reserve –
Sanitary Sewer Area Service Capital**

Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell reported that the 2007/2008 Sanitary Sewer Area Service Capital Budget requires a withdrawal from the Town's Capital Reserve Fund – Sanitary Sewer, as a partial funding source. As final costs for 2007-2008 capital projects are near completion, a request for withdrawal from the Capital Reserve is being made.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl

**that approval be given for a withdrawal of
\$63,000 from the Town of Kentville Capital
Reserve, Sanitary Sewer portion, to partially fund
sanitary sewer capital construction during 2007
and 2008.**

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Online Voting

Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, members reviewed a brochure

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from *intelvot systems inc.*, which advertises that this company can deliver an online voting program. It was felt that electronic voting would be a useful tool in future elections, and that Council and our Chief Electoral Officer should have an opportunity to consider this option.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that *intelvot systems inc.* (or a similar business) be asked to present their online voting program to Council and that the Town's Chief Electoral Officer, Al Kingsbury, be invited to attend.

MOTION CARRIED

(iii) Citizen Appointments – Water Commission and Police Board of Commissioners

Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, the Town Clerk reported that 3 additional applications have been received for the two remaining vacancies on the Town's committees. She added that Larry Kemp has applied for a position previously filled, and the other two (Ron Belanger and Fred Ward) both applied for a position on the Police Board. After reviewing all resumes, a proposal was made.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Dennis Kehoe

that the following offers be made to the applicants:

- **Ron Belanger - Board of Police Commissioners**
- **Fred Ward - Kentville Water Commission**

and if Mr. Ward is not interested in serving on the Water Commission, then Larry Kemp would be asked to return to the Kentville Water Commission, if he wishes to do so.

MOTION CARRIED

(iv) Carbon Off-Setting Policy Statement – G51
Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of

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Council Advisory Committee, members discussed the importance of municipal government taking a leadership role to reduce green house gas emissions and to help environmental sustainability, where possible. The attached policy allows for the purchase of carbon credits when staff or councilors travel by air on Town business. These credits will then be used to purchase trees.

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

that Policy Statement G51- Carbon Off-Setting Policy be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

(v) Christmas Office Closure – Proposed Policy Statement – G52

Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, CAO Boyd reported that over the last many years, it has become acceptable practice for municipalities to close their offices during the week between Christmas and New Years, and, in fact, some office staff routinely request this time off.

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

that a policy be created to close the Town Office between Christmas and New Years.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Staff would be expected to take vacation time during this closure period.

(vi) Sustainability Conference - Ottawa

Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, a discussion took place regarding the sustainability conference scheduled for Ottawa, on February 13-15th, 2008. It was felt that environmental issues are becoming regular agenda items for all levels of government and more information and networking on projects would be of value to the Town.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and

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seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the Chairman of the Environmental Advisory Committee, Councilor Bolland, and perhaps another staff member, be sent to the sustainability conference in Ottawa in February.

MOTION CARRIED

(vii) Environmental Advisory Committee – Monthly Reporting to Council

Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, it was noted that the Environmental Advisory Committee has been appointed by Council to address issues surrounding global warming, and subsequently, meetings have been taking place on a regular basis. Several projects have been undertaken by this group and members felt that information should be formally presented to Council on a regular basis.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl

that a monthly report from the Environmental Advisory Committee be placed on Town Council's agenda for future meetings.

MOTION CARRIED

(viii) Maxwell Communication with Town Staff

Councilor Eric Bolland stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, CAO Boyd reported that Mr. Maxwell (Hillcrest Developments) has been having difficulty since 1964, with some of the standards and requirements relating to the development of his subdivision. He added that there appears to be no opportunity to resolve these issues, as Mr. Maxwell refuses to conform to present requirements, and therefore, has been the source of a great deal of anxiety and wasted time for both staff and council members.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Dennis Kehoe

that the solicitor assist in writing a letter to Mr. Maxwell from the Planning Department, outlining the requirements which must be met, in order to allow his development to move forward,

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**and further,
until he is prepared to meet these requirements,
staff will not be expected to assist him,
and further
the CAO will distribute, as seen fit, any
correspondence from Mr. Maxwell, and will
coordinate any contact with staff.**

MOTION CARRIED

(Note: Mr. Maxwell protested this motion as he felt that his right to address council was being removed.)

Points from Discussion

- Mr. Maxwell must prove that he is prepared to move onward and accept the current requirements before staff will deal with him further.
- The case which he refers to with his letter of protest, has no relevance to his situation with the Town of Kentville.

(a) Finance

(i) Director's Report

A report from Director Debra Crowell stated that the department has been busy with utility billings, capital projects, and prep work for the 2008-2009 budget. She added that revenue to November 30th showed that overall revenue exceeds the average, based on the 67% benchmark for the budget. Overall expenditures were slightly above the average, although some departments have exceeded the guideline. She noted in the summary of outstanding taxes, that 96.1% of the current tax levy has been collected (2006-97.3%), with outstanding property taxes at \$249,429.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Larry Honey

that the report from the Director of Finance be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Planning and Development

(i) Director's Report

Director Gentleman reported that there were 7 permits issued during the month, for a total building value of

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\$937,500, bringing the year total to \$9,361,036. She added that work is being done on the Land Use Bylaw and MPS, with one of the issues being the committee for the Wellfield Protection Zones, and further that discussions continue with Thom Oulton regarding a new access road off Belcher Street.

Further, Mazda has prepared a site plan for expansion of their car dealer operation, and an application has been received from Ron Martin for a site plan for an accessory building for storage on his property. Plans are also underway for the NS Planning Directors' Spring Conference next May.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the report from the Director of Planning and Development be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The Planning Director will review some of the regulations regarding the wellfield protection zone.
- Valley Waste is involved with long term planning, so the issue of well head protection is important to their decision.

(ii) Committee Report

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that the committee was scheduled to meet on November 19th, however, no one showed up, as there appeared no need for a meeting.

Mayor Corkum added that Shannex has been approved for their bed application and this new development will take place soon in the downtown.

(c) Fire

(i) Chief's Report

Fire Chief Shawn Ripley reported that there were 20 calls for alarms in the Town, with 410 km. travelled to provide assistance with a fire alarm sounding, flooding, lift assist, trees down, power lines down, smoke, fires and a MVA. In addition, there were 25 alarms for the County, with a distance travelled of 1546 to provide assistance for fires, MVAs, hazmat, power lines down, floods and smoke. There

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were two Mutual Aid calls for 348 km. travelled. One was for a fire in a mobile home, and another for a second house fire.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that the attached report from the Fire Chief be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- 2 mutual aid calls in the county represented 348 km. and it appears that this is becoming increasingly more expensive.
- Attendance at MVAs is as a result of the potential need for their skills with hazmat or vehicle extrication.

(i) Governance Committee Report

Councilor Dennis Kehoe reported that this committee met a week ago to discuss the budget. The preliminary budget would have had a paid chief and 2 paid deputy chiefs in the current fiscal year, with a full paid staff eventually. The number of calls to the department is high and there are not enough firefighters available to respond. Recruiting has been a problem and volunteer staff for this service is dwindling. The new budget will include salaries for the chief positions initially. (Both Windsor and Wolfville fire chiefs presently receive partial salaries.)

A report to Council will be forthcoming regarding the costs for providing the fire service.

(e) Parks and Recreation

(i) Director's Report

A report from Director Mark Phillips indicated the work involved with the Remembrance Day ceremony at the cenotaph. However, with an overnight storm, the ceremony was moved indoors, with thanks to the White Family Funeral Home. He added that the Torchlight Parade and Party on November 22nd was well attended and that Christmas lighting around town has been increasing each year. Erin Mason has been working with the downtown businesses to ensure that LED lights are available to them and that they get some decorating tips for the holidays.

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He added that staff training with defibrillators has been completed and that these AED units are placed in the town hall, recreation centre, arena and pool. Work continues for the county grant for recreation services, and that the business plan and operations procedure for AVESTA were presented at its first AGM. To finalize his report, Director Phillips reiterated the many meetings and events that he attended during the month.

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

that the report from the Parks and Recreation Director be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Committee Report

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl reported that there was nothing further at this time. However, it was noted that the new outdoor equipment should arrive over the next few weeks, although it may not be installed and available for use until spring.

Mayor Corkum added that he has received many compliments regarding the downtown lighting and the Torchlight Parade. A suggestion was made that downtown recorded music would also make a nice addition, and should be incorporated in the future.

(f) Police

(ii) Chief's Report

Police Chief Mark Mander reported that the province has agreed to fund the pilot project for the creation of an integrated traffic enforcement team. Members of this team will work in South West Nova and will focus on the 3 leading causes of highway deaths in the province (impaired driving, speeding and failure to wear seatbelts). He added that at the November Board meeting, new member Rob Suffron was sworn in, and Councilor Dennis Kehoe was re-elected as chair, with Councilor Bernie Cooper elected as Vice Chair.

It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

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that the report from the Chief of Police be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(iii) Board Report

Councilor Dennis Kehoe reported that there had been a meeting on November 27th, however, there was nothing further to report.

(g) Transportation Services

(i) Director's Report

Director Henderson reported that the Public Works staff has been called out for two major snow storms, and further that overnight parking is banned from 1 am until 7 am, and during and/or two hours following a snow fall.

With the Capital Projects, the design for the river dyke project will include flood control structures, emergency pumps and a concept for the trail system. Hiltz and Seamone will also prepare a design and cost estimate for the Rural Municipal Infrastructure Project for School and Glenview Streets. With the Dangerous and Unsightly premises issues, several dangerous trees have been removed from private property.

It was moved by Councilor Larry Honey and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that the report from the Director of Transportation Services be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(Note: Council noted its appreciation to Director Henderson who, since his official retirement some months ago, has generously agreed to remain employed with the Town, as the Town continues its recruitment for his replacement.)

(ii) Committee Report

Councilor Larry Honey reported there was nothing further to add.

(h) Water Commission

(i) Directors Report

Director Henderson reported that an application to the

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UARB for a water rate increase has been made. This increase is required due to the additional costs to meet the requirements for testing, security and reporting to the Department of Environment and Labour. With the Balsor/Eaglecrest/Ward Avenue Water Service, Director Henderson reported that the County expects to make a decision and complete a tender very soon, with an award being made in February. The AWWA/IWA Water Balance, a Water Audit and Water Balance Report were recently received and will be presented to the KWC in December. An active leak detection program may be considered as part of this system.

It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that the report from the Water Commission, be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Commission Report

Mayor David Corkum had nothing further to report.

**(i) Valley Waste Resource Management Authority
(i) Representative's Report**

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl reported that a meeting was held on November 21st and that Scotia Recycling's new building is well underway, the bylaw and policy changes for the implementation of clear bag residual waste collection have been drafted and will be presented to Council next month. An increase has been made to the organics tipping fee at \$11 per ton, effective December 1st.

It was further noted that Mike Coyle has been retained for a 5 year period for legal services, CIBC has been retained for a 5 year period for banking services, and that the next meeting is January 16th, 2008.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl and seconded by Councilor Larry Honey

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

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

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- Implementation of the clear bag policy is scheduled for April 1st.
- An educational program will be initiated.
- Perhaps an exchange program for green/black bags for clear bags will be offered to citizens.
- Information on pick up and clean-up dates for VWRM is available on their website.
- Although printed calendars create waste, recycled paper is used and these pieces of literature are retained by citizens and found useful.

(j) **Kings Community Economic Development**

(i) **Representative's Report**

Councilor Eric Bolland had nothing further to report at this time.

(k) **Kentville Community Development Committee**

(i) **Report**

Erin Mason reported that a new Kentville Farmers' Market Committee has been formed, the Town has been awarded 5 blooms at the Communities in Bloom Awards in Halifax on November 27th, the Torchlight Parade and Party was successful, with the new addition of a community tree being well received. Food donations from this project were made to Treasure House Soup Kitchen.

Lastly, she added that 39 businesses participated in the "Get in the Holiday Spirit" beautification program.

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

that the report from KCDC be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The Wednesday Farmers' Market works very well and seems well attended.
- A Saturday market might be a problem with parking and competition with the Wolfville Market.
- Sensitivity must be exercised when Farmers' Market vendors offer the same products as do Kentville businesses.

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(l) **Kings Transit Authority**
(i) **Representative's Report**

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl reported that ridership increased over October of last year, although revenue decreased slightly, with revenue to October 31st at \$738,928, while expenses to date were \$567,147. He added that a third bus had been placed in service as a result of construction in Coldbrook, schedules are being revised for the Hants County expansion, KTA has renewed the lease with the Cambridge facilities for another 2 years, the December 8th retreat has been delayed until January 8th and Mr. Sylvain Brodeur, a very popular bus driver has regrettably passed away. Lastly, he added that the next meeting will be on January 22, 2008.

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

that the report on Kings Transit Authority be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(Note: Deputy Mayor Pearl was asked to extend sympathy on behalf of Town Council, to Mr. Brodeur's family at this very difficult time.)

(m) **Environmental Advisory
Committee**

A report was given relating to the monthly activities of this committee. It was noted that Councilor Dennis Kehoe reported on his trip to a Sustainability Energy Conference in Calgary, and that Councilor Bolland and Director Gentleman will attend a similar conference in Ottawa, scheduled for February 14-16th. It was further noted that as part of the Gas Tax Funding allotment, communities must submit an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, however, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations will assist with this document, if needed. It was suggested that the Environmental Advisory Committee be renamed the "Environmental and Sustainability Advisory Committee," to better portray its mandate.

It was further noted that students from NKEC and members of EAC undertook an Anti-Idling Campaign, and lastly that a Carbon Offsetting Policy Statement G51 came before council earlier in the evening for approval. This will help

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reduce GHG through the purchase of credits which will be used to plant trees.

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

that the report from the Environmental Advisory Committee be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Director Gentleman has joined the committee as she will be involved in the ICSP.
- Canada is the third highest polluter in the world so little things, like the anti-idling campaign, the carbon offsetting policy and communities in bloom, help by small degrees.
- The ICSP should be a stand-alone document, as there is a substantial difference between this document and the MPS.

(n) Councilor's Report

Councilor Bernie Cooper had nothing further to report.

Councilor Eric Bolland had nothing further to report.

Councilor Dennis Kehoe had nothing further to report.

Councilor Larry Honey had nothing further to report.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill attended all meetings, the Torchlight Parade, the police contract meeting, the strategy sessions and the Town's party.

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl had nothing further to report.

(o) Mayor's Report

Mayor David Corkum reported that he has had a busy month with meetings – Rotary, KCDC, CAC, Police Commission, KPSC, Strategy Sessions, Kings County Council, Mayors' and Warden's and the KWC. He also attended several events – Torchlight Parade, KVFD fund raising dinner and later their Xmas party, Opening for Tier II – Provincial Football, the Championship presentations, the Christmas Miracle, a birthday party celebration, the Town's Social and Awards Ceremony (Newfoundland Night), an anniversary party and a reading at St. James Church.

(o) Chief Administrative Officer's Report

CAO Boyd reported that Shannex has received its bid for the 62 full care beds, and construction is planned to begin soon

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on this 8 acre site. KPSC has been busy, with the recreation study received at the November meeting, along with the ratification for two action plans; work continues with the fire study; recruitment continues for a new town engineer; 3 additional acres downtown should be available for sale soon, resulting from the removal of the round house; the strategy session was a success, as was the annual awards and social event. He reminded Council that the office will be closed between Christmas and New Years.

He added that negotiations with PANS continue. The Kings CED workshop was very successful and it is expected that this will become an annual event

It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl

that the report from the CAO be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Letter from Town Crier Lloyd Smith

This letter advised Town Council that Lloyd Smith has been a Town Crier here in the Valley for 30 years, and has represented the Town of Kentville as his Home Community for over 20 years.

(b) Canadian Cancer Society

A letter from this organization congratulated the Town of Wolfville for passing a bylaw which prevents smoking in vehicles when children are present.

(c) Bonavista Estates – Statement by Mayor

Mayor Corkum wished to advise that it appears that a group from Bonavista Estates has hired a lawyer to request information from the Town. He added that this information has already been made available and therefore, this additional request is being viewed as an intimidation tactic.

Mayor Corkum read a statement on behalf of Town Council regarding this request.

(d) Mark Parent – KCA

MLA Kings North Mark Parent sent a copy of a letter to the Town, which directed to the Hon. Karen Casey, Minister of Education. In this correspondence, he asked if a site for the

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new school has been selected from the proposed 3 suggestions, and when the construction is expected to begin.

(Note: A letter will be prepared to the Minister from the Town, urging a decision in the near future.)

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Education Agreement

A brief background was given on the issue regarding the education agreement between the AVRSB and the County of Kings and Towns of Berwick, Kentville, Wolfville and Hantsport. It appears that County Council is considering dissolving this agreement, which will in turn negatively affect other units. Several attempts have been made to have County Council delay this action, however, it appears that they will be moving forward.

It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Larry Honey

that the County of Kings be notified that Kentville is prepared to revisit the issue of education, provided all other agreements are also reviewed.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Town Council should support, in principle, the concept of reviewing all funding agreements, should the County pursue its intention of dissolving the AVRSB agreement.
- Staff should look at alternate funding arrangements for Valley Waste, Kings Transit and KVFD mutual aid, prior to going forward with this.
- At the upcoming January 18th meeting of County Council, the issue of education funding will again be addressed.
- This issue needs some indepth debate and more information.
- There should be one voice from the towns.
- Berwick, Hantsport and Wolfville have expressed support of this action.
- The agreement will terminate by notice but it would take 29 months to reach that point.
- The County has said that they will continue with the motion unless there is a protest involving other agreements.

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(b) Spouses

Mayor Corkum wanted to present small Christmas gifts to the spouses of Council members, and to also thank Kirk Starratt for his professional reporting on Town Council business.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD none

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.