

APPROVED – JULY 11, 2007

KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

June 13th, 2007

PRESENT

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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
AND ROLL CALL**

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Deputy Mayor Larry Honey

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

***3(a) 2. Apple Blossom Festival Presentation
8(a) Community Clean-Up***

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

**(a) Garth Calkin – Presentation of the *Key to
Town***

In recognition of the many years of service to the town of Kentville, Council felt it deserving that Garth Calkin be presented with a *Key to the Town*, during the year of his 100th birthday.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Deputy Mayor Larry Honey

**that Garth Calkin be presented with a Key
to the Town for his many years of
outstanding community service.**

MOTION CARRIED

(a) i Apple Blossom Presentation to the Town.

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Mayor Corkum displayed a beautiful framed photograph which was presented to the Town of Kentville for its contribution to the Apple Blossom Festival over the last 75 years.

(b) Ellen Clarke- Welcome Wagon

Kentville Welcome Wagon representative, Ellen Clarke, presented to Town Council (on behalf of Welcome Wagon Limited), an award she had previously received for Kentville. The Town had been chosen Community of the Year at last month's Welcome Wagon Spring Conference, as the Kentville operation has met all the criteria to fulfil this role. Welcome Wagon staff has met the required number of visits to new families, visits to expectant parents and to couples planning a wedding; they have had good participation by the business community, a high ratio of family visits; and have provided good civic services. She presented a plaque for the Welcome Wagon's Achievement on behalf of the Town.

(c) Norm Dray – AVRSB

Superintendent Dray wished to share with Council some information relating to School Board business. He highlighted some points from a previously circulated report, noting that Lavinia Parrish-Zwicker is the Chair, Jackie Foster is a new board member and several changes have taken place with the administrative staff.

In addition, he stated that work on the business plan is nearly complete and the 2007-2008 budget was approved by the Board recently. With the declining student registration and retention of approximately 1,000 teachers, student-teacher ratios will improve with smaller classes.

The newly revised Vision for the School Board is "Working Together for Students" and the new Mission Statement is "To create a supportive student – centered environment, where each student succeeds and all educational partners are respected and valued."

With the Emergency Management Committee, issues such as water contamination, bus accidents, bomb threats, medical emergencies, school lockdown (threat

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from intruders) etc., have been addressed and plans put into affect.

In summary he pointed out that enrolment continues to decline (last year by 361 students) and that construction and renovation dates of the new KCA school have not yet been announced. He added that the Mayor will be asked to sit on the Site Selection Committee and that 3 locations will be selected and sent to the Department of Education for review.

Points from Discussion

- The new KCA will be a Primary to Grade 8 school.
- The Kentville enrolment is part of an overall reduction in students, although the Town's statistics are good by comparison to other areas.
- Future use of the existing KCA building will be determined by a facility study and next Spring should see the designated use announced.
- The school has embraced the Anti-Idling Program in principle and are working on some signage.
- The catchment area for a new KCA would encompass a similar area to what presently exists. Boundaries will be examined in the future.

(d) Jay Underwood – NS Railroad Heritage Society

Mr. Underwood had asked to speak to Council regarding the proposed demolition of the DAR Round House. He stated that there are experts who would assist the Town to preserve this building, as this structure is one of the most unique buildings in the province. He asked that time be allocated to enable a full and complete restoration and presented the Town with a petition indicating that these 667 individuals would like to see the building remain. Many people from outside the province support maintaining the building which is indicative of the tourism value of the structure and of its widespread impact. Interest in keeping this structure has been received from as far

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away as Sweden and Germany.

The NS Railroad Heritage Society and the Round House Action Group will endeavour to find funds to restore this structure, so that the tax payers of Kentville will not be given the financial burden of reconstruction.

He added that as the Round House has a great deal of potential for other uses, the RAG wish to be given some time to establish a plan and secure some funding. Therefore, RAG members have subsequently asked that Council plans for the Town's future, while respecting its past.

Points from Discussion

- The Round House served every community from Windsor to Yarmouth and therefore, the mayors and wardens of each municipality have been contacted to support it at this time.
- The Cornwallis Inn is a monument to the railroad.
- The decision to demolish the Round House has not been done hastily.
- Recycled buildings are “greener” and more economical than new building construction.
- A plan could be prepared by November with Federal, corporate and possible funding from service clubs throughout the Valley.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) May 9, 2007

It was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Mark Pearl

that the Minutes of May 9, 2007 be approved with no errors or omissions.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

none

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**REPORTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

(a) Council Advisory Committee

(a) Operating Budget – 2007-2008

Highlights of this budget were presented by Director Debra Crowell, following which Councilor Dennis Kehoe stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, and again earlier this evening, Director Crowell outlined various aspects of the proposed 2007-2008 Operating Budget, adding that this is a balanced budget totalling \$9.2 million.

She stated that overall expenditures have increased this year by 6%; Provincial Mandatory expenditures have increased by 5%; and that there have been significant increases in uncontrollable expenditures and in other levels of services. She further expounded upon the various revenue funding sources and the disbursement of these funds in the delivery of municipal services to the citizens of Kentville.

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

**that the 2007-2008 Operating Budget for the
Town of Kentville be approved for
\$9,215,200.**

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Capital Budget – 2007-2008

Highlights of this budget were presented by Director Debra Crowell, following which Councilor Dennis Kehoe stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, and again earlier this evening, Director Crowell reported that the proposed 3-year Capital Budget will include programs to maintain and improve current infrastructure and to add to the Town's capital assets. She stated that the Capital Budget for 2007-2008 totals \$1,671,500, and further highlighted some costs for various services and the funding sources which would offset these.

Capital costs for the years 2008-08 and 2009-2010 have also been proposed, as these are required by legislation.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

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that the three-year Capital Budget for the Town of Kentville (along with the related funding sources) be approved as follows:

2007-2008	\$1,671,500
2008-2009	\$1,838,900
2009-2010	\$2,706,900

MOTION CARRIED

(c) Tax Rates 2007-2008

Highlights of these tax rates were presented by Director Debra Crowell, following which Councilor Dennis Kehoe stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, and again earlier this evening, Director Crowell presented the details regarding the 2007-2008 Operating Budget for the Town of Kentville. She added that the tax rates must be established to achieve revenue sources as budgeted and that these will require funding of \$5.2 million.

She further reported that the general tax rate has remained at \$1.57 per \$100, which is no change from 2006-2007; although, as a result of the Business Occupancy phase-out, the overall commercial tax rate has increased to \$3.0442/\$100.

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

that the following tax rates for the Town's Operating Fund for 2007-2008 be approved, as follows, which will provide the level of taxation required to meet the needs of the above-noted budget:

	<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>	<u>COMMERCIAL</u>
Mill rate	\$1.1880/\$100	\$2.8890/\$100
Fire Area Rate	\$0.0452/\$100	\$0.0452/\$100
Hydrant Area Rate	\$0.1100/\$100	\$0.1100/\$100
Total Tax Rate	\$1.34 1/3 / \$100	\$3.04 2/5 / \$100

MOTION CARRIED

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(d) Capital Works Projects 2007-2008

Following a presentation of the Highlights by Director Hal Henderson, Councilor Dennis Kehoe stated that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Town Engineer Hal Henderson reported that tenders recently closed for the 2007-2008 Capital Works Projects Contract 2007-038 with eight tenders having been received. For clarification, he added that two of these projects are sanitary sewer works, three are storm sewer projects, five include new concrete sidewalks/curbs and/or paving, two are for water (one an extension and the other a renewal). He further noted that the Town's Consulting Engineers reviewed these tenders and submitted a report with their recommendation.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that Council awards the 2007-2008 Capital Works Projects Contract 2007-038 to G. K. Morse Trucking Limited, in the amount of \$625,302.50, plus HST.

MOTION CARRIED

(a) Finance

(i) Director's Report

A report from Director Debra Crowell stated that both utility bills and interim tax bills were due in late May, as are the auditors, who will begin the annual audit. Draft financial statements are anticipated for CAC in June, with the final statements to be ratified at Council's July meeting. An operating deficit of \$26,003 is anticipated, along with an operating surplus of \$26,569 for Sanitary Sewer and \$71,438 for the Water Commission.

She added that interim taxes were due on May 31st and that 89.4% of these were collected, however, \$302,334 in outstanding taxes remain.

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

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**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 16 permits for the month for a building value of \$2,198,800, bringing the year total to \$4,127,861. She added that the recent NS Planning Directors' Conference dealt primarily with the Federal Gas Tax and the municipal requirement to prepare an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. Further, she noted that Cassedele has prepared information on their proposed development of the CP lands; 3 rezoning applications have been prepared for PAC in June; and that rezoning requests have been received from Roger Cameron and John Parsons.

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

(ii) Committee Report

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that the committee met on Monday and this involved a presentation on the Hunter Crossing development. Also three rezoning applications were discussed, and the policy for rezoning will be reviewed in the future, along with the signage policy.

(c) Fire

(i) Chief's Report

Fire Chief Shawn Ripley reported that there were 10 alarms in Kentville (204 km travelled); 20 alarms in the county (1396 km travelled) and 8 mutual aid alarms for 1396 km. These incidents ranged in scope from grass fires and MVAs, to oil spills and electrical and house fires.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

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that the report from the Fire Chief be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(i) Governance Committee Report

Councilor Dennis Kehoe reported that there was a meeting on May 22nd which involved a brief discussion on the Fire Services Report.

(e) Parks and Recreation

(i) Director's Report

A report from Director Mark Phillips outlined some of the activities taking place in this department. At the rink, maintenance is underway and ice will be ready for August; Memorial Park pool will open at the end of June; early bird tennis sessions are underway, the District and Regional track meets were held; the soccer fields are busy; and several tournaments are scheduled. Flowers and baskets will be installed very soon. With special events, the Apple Blossom festival was a big success and plans are underway for the Kings Senior Games and the July 1st celebrations. Camp programs will be offered from July 2nd onward.

In addition, Director Phillips listed a number of meetings, conferences and exercises undertaken during the month.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Committee Report

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that the monthly meeting will be moved ahead a week due to scheduling problems. Notices of this change have been sent.

(f) Police

(ii) Chief's Report

Police Chief Mark Mander reported that the Apple Blossom Festival and Police Week activities kept the

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department busy. These events were held, along with a ball hockey tournament at KCA and the anti drinking and driving campaign at NKEC. An Open House and Awards Night was also held, during which 10 year service medals, community awards and certificates of commendation were presented.

He added that a group of individuals were arrested relating to break and enters, and during the month of May, 70 hours were spent on foot patrol, compared to 134 hours in 2006 and 121 hours in 2005.

It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that the report from the Police Chief be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(iii) Board Report

Councilor Dennis Kehoe reported that the next meeting will be on June 21st. He added that the Police Week event was very successful.

(g) Transportation Services

(i) Director's Report

Director Henderson reported that the Public Works staff has been very busy with many aspects of the Apple Blossom Festival, and that work will begin soon on street repaving. He added that Belcher Street (from Mee Road to the Port Williams' bridge) will be repaved by the Department of Transportation, however, the water valve boxes must be adjusted by the Town to prepare for this work.

Tours of the Round House have been conducted and safety fencing around portions of the remaining CP lands will be altered soon. He added that work continues on the proposed sewer bylaw and to the spills cost recovery formula. The 2007-08 Capital Budget for the Regional Sewer was approved, and lastly, a schedule of quarterly meetings has been created for this committee.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Larry Honey and

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seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

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

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Committee Report

Deputy Mayor Larry Honey reported that Regional Sewer Management staff will be busy reviewing items involving finance, technical operation, management operations and alternatives for capital construction. He added that governance of this operation involves ongoing discussion. The Committee has modified its solution for upgrading from \$10m to about \$1m for this project, and several options exist.

(h) Water Commission

(i) Directors Report

Director Henderson reported that the Capital Budget (2007-2008) has been approved by the Water Commission and UARB, and that awards will be announced shortly. In addition, weekly data on water levels in each of the 6 monitoring wells have been done and that newly installed level-loggers allow for information to be stored and downloaded, as required. Security Fencing has also been installed around the three well pump houses along the Kentville trails.

It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

**that the report from the Director of the
Kentville Water Commission be received.**

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Commission Report

Mayor David Corkum reported that at a recent meeting, members discussed the ongoing costs of keeping the water quality high, maintaining a safe supply and detecting problems in water delivery. This service has become very expensive and the consultant will be asked to prepare a report to increase the water rates.

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(i) Valley Waste Resource Management Authority

(i) Representative's Report

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that a meeting was held on May 16th and that Scotia Recycling is expected to sign the contract very shortly. He added that the compost give-away event was a success, as was clean-up week. The flow-control court case from HRM has been completed and the judge's verdict is pending. The auditors are reviewing the year end statements, following which the management group and the CAOs will review it and make a recommendation to the Board at the July meeting.

It was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that the report on Valley Waste Resource Management Authority be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(j) Kings Community Economic Development

(i) Representative's Report

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that a late report has been received, a meeting held on May 11th will be the last meeting until September, and that the Annual General Meeting is concurrently being held in Wolfville.

It was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Dennis Kehoe

that the report from the Kings CED be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(k) Kentville Community Development Committee

(i) Report

A written report from Erin Mason noted that the Kentville Connection Newsletter has been completed and will be mailed out; the Apple Blossom Market held on June 2nd in Centre Square was not as successful as hoped; the flower baskets for the

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downtown beautification program (Communities in Bloom) have arrived and should be installed soon; and that work continues on tourism material which will promote the Town.

It was noted that a motion was passed at a recent meeting of KCDC to support the demolition of the Round House.

Lastly, Erin Mason introduced Jennifer Weisner, who stated that the AGM had been held earlier this evening, and that at this meeting, a token of appreciation was given to all the funding partners for their assistance to the agency, and this gift was passed along to the Council.

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

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that Ron Mullins of Falmouth has been hired as the new general manager and will start on July 5th, although Linda Ramsey will continue as interim manager until that time. The issue of Kings Para Transit will be discussed at the upcoming general meeting; the Federal Public Transit Capital Fund Disbursement was received in April for \$321,179 and April ridership was up to 22,998 from last year, as was revenue, which was up to \$50,663 from last year.

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

that the report from Kings Transit Authority be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(m) Councilor's Report

(Note: the microphones were not activated for this part of the meeting.)

Councilor Bernie Cooper reported that he attended all meetings and the FCM Conference in Calgary. At the FCM conference, he learned about big city government, but was pleased to hear about the REMO exercise in Kentville.

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that he attended all

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meetings, the Apple Blossom Festival Opening and Police Week events. He confirmed that the Eco Kings Committee has been reactivated and further information will follow on this committee. Lastly, the Towns of Berwick and Wolfville and the County of Kings will be joining Kentville in its Anti-Idling Campaign in the fall.

Councilor Dennis Kehoe reported that he had nothing further to add.

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that he had nothing further to add.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that she attended the Planning Conference in Halifax and the FCM Conference in Calgary.

Deputy Mayor Larry Honey reported that he attended all meetings, some Apple Blossom Festival activities, the Town clean-up program, and events and meetings relating to the Round House

(n) Mayor's Report

Mayor David Corkum gave an outline of the meetings and events that he has attended over the last month, pointing out that he has been busy with the media and with Apple Blossom Festival Events. He especially enjoyed the presentations to Garth Calkin and his birthday party, along with the Meet and Greet and presentation of gifts to the Past Queens of the Festival.

(o) Chief Administrative Officer's Report

CAO Boyd made reference to the attached report and added that the CAOs continue to meet and that several issues are progressing well, with the Recreation Study well underway.

He added that he attended the CAMA Conference which was excellent, and noted that Director Hal Henderson will be retiring on September 30th and that candidates are being recruited for this position.

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

that the Chief Administrative Officer's report be received.

MOTION CARRIED

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CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Muscular Dystrophy

A copy of a letter from this organization to KVFD thanked the Kentville Firefighters for raising \$4823 for Muscular Dystrophy. This brings the fire department's contribution to \$55,800 over the years.

(b) Kings Historical Society – Maynard Stevens

A letter from President Stevens outlined the importance of Council's reconsideration of demolishing the Round House. He felt that this structure should be preserved as part of Kentville's heritage.

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

that this correspondence be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(c) Industrial Heritage NS – Robert Tennant

A letter and a background history referring to the Kentville Round House were submitted for consideration. Again, this organization is requesting Council's reconsideration of demolishing the Round House.

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

that this correspondence be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(d) Home Life Re: CP Land

A letter from Home Life Valley Realty indicated that a client may wish to purchase a portion of the Kentville Futures Site.

It was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Deputy Mayor Larry Honey

that this proposal be discussed In Camera, following the next CAC meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

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(e) AB Festival

A letter from Sheila Dick, the Director of Corporate Sponsorship and Public Affairs, thanked the Town of Kentville for its support, and advised that next year's theme is "Our Future Blossoms" and is scheduled for May 28 to June 2nd.

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

that this correspondence be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(f) Dept. of History and Classics – Gerry Gerrits

A letter was received from this organization, asking for Council's reconsideration of the demolition of the Round House.

It was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Mark Pearl

that this correspondence be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(g) Heritage Trust NS – Pacey

A letter from this organization asked the Town to preserve the Round House.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Larry Honey and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that the letter be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(h) NS Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage

A letter was received from the province in which the Coordinator of the Heritage Property Program expressed support for keeping the Round House and offered to assist in having it designated as a *Heritage Property*.

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

that the letter be received.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Community Clean-Up

Mayor David Corkum publicly thanked Deborah Mahoney, who volunteered to chair a town-wide clean-up initiative. He also thanked the Deputy Mayor, town staff and the many other citizens and patrons to the downtown, who came forward to assist with the event. A half truck full of garbage was collected.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- Bria Stokesbury (Kings Historical Society-Kentville)

She stated that about two years ago, a province-wide heritage discussion process was undertaken through public meetings. Kentville's turnout of over 100 residents was the largest of any in Nova Scotia. This heritage strategy referred to downtown development and revitalization, with each successful project recognizing heritage. She added that former mayor Gladys Porter had been an employee of DAR and although made history in many of her achievements, also supported heritage issues.

She added that culture and tourism works hand-in-hand and that the Old Kings Courthouse Museum and the restored Kentville Round House would support one another.

- Jim Snowden – Kentville (Heritage Trust)

He stated that a letter previously received from this organization, pointed out that an architect (Powter) is a well recognized architect who worked on some notable projects, and from his experience felt that the Round House could be restored. Mr. Snowden added that it would cost the Town nothing to leave the Round House as it is at this time, and further that the Town would save the money budgeted for demolition. In addition, he announced that the professionals on the Heritage Trust Board would offer their services at a reduced rate, should restoration be considered.

- Deborah MacNabb – (Director of NS Museum)

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of Industry-Stellarton)

She stated that many communities are looking at heritage as a key to their identity, as heritage is seen as both an attraction to tourists and to potential residents. Tourists seek an authentic experience and want to see the “real thing,” like historic buildings. People travel half way around the world to see railroad memorabilia. Kentville’s Municipal Planning Strategy (2001) stated that Council felt that establishing a sense of place and pride through heritage was important.

- Dan Conlon – (Transportation Historian from the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax)

Mr. Conlon gave a brief history on how the area developed through industry (exporting agriculture) and cultural tourism (visitors to Grand Pre Park) through the railroad. He felt that this building was basically sound as it had been constructed to sustain heavy, long term use. He added that he was aware (through the Heritage Canada Foundation) of 3 foundations which may be interested in funding renovations to the Round House – the Infrastructure Canada Program, the Cultural Spaces Program, and the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Program. There may also be private or corporate interests. He gave examples of former rail road buildings which are now in use for other purposes, and asked for a six-month extension before demolition.

- Sherri Turner – (Steam Mill)

She stated that in 1998 and 1999 she was involved in the economic development of Kings County and quoted sections from the Sperry Report about development of the lands in downtown Kentville. In this, the Round House was specifically identified.

She added that her group has already spoken with some members of the community, the Province, the Railroad Heritage Groups, Margaret Watts (Vancouver Round House) and other professionals who can add a great deal to this project. All individuals felt that the Round House was an asset and that the Town would not have to spend money on its restoration or its demolition, as this could be done by a special interest group. In closing she urged the Town to reconsider the demolition and to allow an extension of time for RAG to prepare a plan and secure funding. She did add that

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this work may exceed the six-month period of time.

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Larry Honey moved adjournment of this meeting at 9:35 p.m.