

APPROVED – NOVEMBER 30, 2009

KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

October 26, 2009

PRESENT

Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Mark Pearl, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Tony Bentley, Councilor Bill Boyd, CAO Keith Robicheau, Town 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 CAO Robicheau reported that all Council members were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that the agenda be approved as circulated.

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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Corkum called for a Moment of Silence in remembrance of Ann Longley, the Municipal Clerk at the County of Kings.

He also called a Moment of Silence in remembrance of Doug Robinson, the Mayor of the Town of Parrsboro.

PRESENTATION

Downtown VIC – Madonna Spinazola

A presentation was made earlier in the summer by Madonna Spinazola of Destination SouthWest Nova during which time she pointed out the advantages of relocating the current Visitor’s Information Centre from its Park Street location to the downtown area. Although she identified a property which would be highly visible for this service, some concerns regarding traffic flow and parking were expressed. As a result, Council wished to engage in more dialogue with Ms. Spinazola about the project.

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Points from Discussion

- The parking problem would be a Kentville problem and this must be rectified by the Town.
- There is still time to begin this project in the Fall.
- A downtown VIC would be a regional project, although the biggest winner might be the Town of Kentville.
- The county is ready to go forward.
- There are over 12,000 visitors stopping at the VIC each year, and the Town will have to allocate some parking spaces for this use.
- This is not a Destination SouthWest Nova project, only a personal observation and suggestion.
- The Doers and Dreamers' Guide is waiting for a decision about the Kentville VIC location.
- There appears to be a need for a year-around VIC service.
- There have been some parking spots which will be freed up as some businesses in that area, have changed location.
- The county has agreed to contribute \$11,000, providing the Town also supported this project.
- If this location does not work out, then the VIC can return to its current location.
- Other smaller VICs throughout the region (that closed during the off-season) will advertise that the Kentville centre is open year around.
- There should be at least one VIC open in the region all year to serve the travelling public.
- \$5,500 has been allocated for repairs to the current VIC and with a grant to offset some staff wages, there may be savings to the Town of approximately \$3,500, thereby reducing the Town's commitment to \$7,500.
- This would be an over-expenditure and the Town would be budgeting for a deficit.

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

that the Town of Kentville joins in partnership with Destination SouthWest Nova and the County of Kings in the project to relocate a year-around Visitor's

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Welcoming Centre to the current vacant property at the corner of Main and Cornwallis Street, for a financial contribution of \$11,000.

An amendment was proposed by Councilor Bill Boyd and Councilor Tony Bentley

that the \$11,000 be allocated to this project providing staff can find the funds prior to October 30, 2009

AMENDED MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

that the minutes of September 28, 2009 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) Chapter 81 – User Fees for Tax Information Bylaw (Second Reading)

Town Clerk Carol Harmes reported that First Reading was given on September 28th to implement this new bylaw, a notice of Second Reading was published in the local newspaper and as no responses were received from the public, it would appear in order at this time to give Second Reading.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that Second Reading be given to Chapter 81 – Fees for Provision of Tax Information and that a Notice of Passing be published in the local paper.

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Chapter 82 – Board of Police Commissioners Bylaw (Second Reading)

Town Clerk Carol Harmes reported that First Reading was given on September 28th to implement this new bylaw, a notice of Second Reading was published in the local newspaper and as no responses were received

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from the public, it would appear in order at this time to give Second Reading. She noted that this bylaw also rescinds Chapter 35, as its content was out of date.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bernie Cooper

that Second Reading be given to Chapter 82 – Board of Police Commissioners Bylaw and that a Notice of Passing be published in the local paper.

MOTION CARRIED

(iii) Chapter 4 – Town Council Bylaw (Second Reading)

Town Clerk Carol Harmes reported that First Reading was given on September 9th to rescind this bylaw, as its content is out-of-date. A notice of Second Reading was published in the local newspaper and as no responses were received from the public, it would appear in order at this time to give Second Reading.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that Second Reading be given to Chapter 4 – Town Council Bylaw and that a Notice of Passing be published in the local paper.

MOTION CARRIED

**REPORTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

(a) Council Advisory Committee

**(i) Policy G57 – Committees of
Council Policy**

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, a draft policy was presented for review. However, as members felt that each committee needed to be evaluated on its mandate, its effectiveness and the schedule of its meetings, and the policy itself needed to be analyzed for content, more time should be allocated for this review.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that a workshop be included on the agenda of

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the next meeting of CAC, so as to allow full discussion on the proposed policy, Policy G57 – Committees of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Policy G37 – Tax Reduction Policy

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Debra Crowell submitted a written report regarding this policy, which included a request for a tax reduction from a property owner in Kentville. As this property has become unusable due to a fire, the owner has requested a reduction in his taxes.

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

that, subject to receipt of a letter from the building inspector regarding the building's usefulness, and following receipt of a new valuation from Property Valuation Services Corp, that the taxes owed on the property located at 51 Main Street, owned by John Budden, be reduced in proportion to its reduction in value.

MOTION CARRIED

(iii) Climate Change Resolution – 350 Target

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, it was noted that October 24, 2009 will be a day of action to share the united worldwide message of the urgent need for global leadership in the reduction of green house gas emissions. It was further noted that current global concentrations of CO₂ are at 385.92 ppm and must be reduced to 350 ppm to stabilize increasing temperatures.

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

that Town Council supports and endorses the global need for all countries of the world to collectively reduce global greenhouse gas

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emissions by at least 45 % from 1990 levels by 2020, and by at least 95% from 1990 levels by 2050, to meet the target of 350 ppm of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere

And further

Supports and endorses the need for the new global climate agreement to be strong, equitable and grounded in the latest science and appropriately meet the scale of the climate crisis

And further

supports and endorses the planetary day of action being planned for October 24, 2009 through 350.org, to share in the united worldwide message of the urgent need for global leadership to respond appropriately to the issue of global climate change.

MOTION CARRIED

(iv) Annapolis Valley Regional Library Request

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell noted that although the provincial mandatory amount for funding for the AVRL is for \$34,400, the funding cited in the Memorandum of Understanding with the Town is for \$37,700. The Town had budgeted for this \$37,700, however, this now appears to be \$3,300 more than agreed upon in the MOU..

The Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board is urging municipal partners to continue to fund it at the MOU levels, as this will enable the Board to provide new services.

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

that the Town funds the Board of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library at \$37,700, as budgeted this year, however, notifies the Board that this additional \$3,300 be considered a supplement only for this one year.

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MOTION CARRIED

**(v) White Family Funeral Home –
Offer to Purchase**

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, a request was read from Cyril White in which he asked that the Town give consideration to selling 95 Cornwallis Street to him, with the agreement to lease parts of the building until it is vacated in the future.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Mark Pearl

that a letter be sent to the White Family Funeral Home stating that the Town may be interested in disposing of this property in the future, however must determine beforehand whether or not it will be required for realignment of the new bridge and/or for the installation of a traffic circle at this corner, and further, that the letter include the message that should the property be considered surplus in the future, that the Town must follow those requirements set out in the Municipal Government Act and its own policies regarding the disposal of property.

MOTION CARRIED

(vi) Deputy Mayor 2009-2010

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, the policy addressing the annual appointment of the deputy mayor was brought forward as a guideline in filling the impending vacancy for this position. It was noted that the term of office begins during the first Council meeting in November.

As part of the appointment process, two candidates were nominated to serve in the capacity of deputy mayor, and subsequently, an election was held.

As part of the scrutineers' report, the election results were announced.

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

that Councilor Bill Boyd be appointed as Deputy Mayor.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Fire

(i) Chief's Report

Fire Chief Shawn Ripley reported that there were 12 alarms in Kentville, for a distance travelled of 114 kilometers, 14 alarms in the county for a distance travelled of 842 kilometers and 3 mutual aid calls for 432 kilometers travelled. He indicated that a wide range of incidents were addressed, from fires, MVAs to rescues and smoke alarms sounding.

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

that the report from the Fire Chief be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(ii) Governance Report

Councilor Bill Boyd added that at a recent meeting, a discussion took place regarding the County's position on the paid fire chief. The County had elected to do a review of all fire departments and this report was expected by the December 31st. However, the fire department felt that this was unacceptable and subsequently, the County of Kings representatives promised to move these deadlines along.

(c) Valley Waste Resource Management Authority

(i) Representative's Report

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that the October report has been received, although he had not had time to forward it to Council. From this report, he read the tribute to Ann Longley.

He also reported that the clear bag policy continues to be successful and that recycling processing is up to over 2,000 tonnes from last year; organic material is up over

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2,000 tonnes and the residuals are down about 1,000 tonnes from what goes to Chester.

Plans are underway for the Strategic Planning session for November 12th; and he gave updates on Waste Reduction Week, the Cambodia Project, the Regional Chairs Committee, Waste Management Strategy and the UNSM Resolution.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

(d) Kings Regional Development Agency

(i) Representative's Report

Jennifer Weisner reported that Erin Beaudin's last report as the Executive Director indicated that the mid year review has been scheduled for November 27th and the Joint Council Session will be held on November 12th at 7 p.m. Lastly, she handed out an invitation to attend a bon voyage party for Erin Beaudin on October 29th.

It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that a letter be sent to Kings RDA to acknowledge the excellent effort made by Erin Beaudin over the last few years.

MOTION CARRIED

(d) Kentville Community Development Committee

(i) Report

Mayor Corkum reported that there was nothing further to add at this time.

(e) Kings Transit Authority

(i) Representative's Report

Councilor Mark Pearl noted that a statistical report has been received, in which ridership is shown to have

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increased from last month, 2 new busses have been ordered and a RFP is being issued for a 40 foot bus. He noted that he and the General Manager met with the Honorable Ramona Jennex and MLA Jim Morton to discuss the deadline for spending the Federal Public Transit Funds and Minister Jennex obtained a extension until 2011. He added that KTA is still waiting to hear further news on the tri-government complex proposed for the County of Kings, as their operation was proposed as being included in this new structure.

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

that the report from Kings Transit Authority be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(m) Environmental Advisory Committee

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that a meeting was held on October 19th, at which discussion took place about fall cleanup before the Olympic Torch relay. He added that an energy audit update is underway and the NSP community pilot project for the thermal solar energy is underway. Lastly, he added that the water cooler should be hooked up in the next couple of days, and that the next meeting of EAC is December 17th at Valley Waste.

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

(n) Councilor's Report

Councilor Bill Boyd reported that he attended all meetings, but missed the Harvest Fest. He also attended the Recreation Conference and was also pleased to hear the acknowledgements for the efforts of the Town of Kentville.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that she attended all meetings, along with the Harvest Fest, and the Recreation Conference.

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Councilor Mark Pearl wished to thank CAO Robicheau and Director Crowell for the reports they have worked on recently to provide assistance to him.

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that he attended the Recreation Conference and was proud to learn that Kentville is held in such high esteem. He pointed out that all public buildings must be Leeds gold certified by January 2010. In addition, he did an ad on K Rock for Valley Waste and attended the Global 350 event in Wolfville.

Councilor Tony Bentley reported that he attended all required events and meetings, and attended the Memorial Soccer Tournament and noted that funds raised amounted to \$5,500. This money will provide 2 bursaries. He also attended the recognition ceremony for the new Library site and the conference on Recreation. He reiterated some of the sessions which were part of this conference, noting sessions on physical inactivity and aging.

Deputy Mayor Bernie Cooper reported that he attended all meetings and events, and noted that Sergeant Reid has been promoted to Inspector.

(o)Mayor's Report

Mayor Corkum stated that his report is attached, however, he reiterated some events and meetings he attended. He congratulated Director Phillips and his staff for doing such a great job with the Harvest Fest and added that Kentville is well respected in the recreation field.

He further noted that the Utility and Review Board has made an amendment to \$250,000 from \$50,000 for utility changes, which allows for more flexibility and more efficiency when carrying out projects. He added that in 2013 there will be a joint UNSM and AMANS Conference.

As a follow-up on reports about late-night disturbances in the downtown, he pointed out that on the previous Saturday night he watched the crowds in front of Kings Arms Pub and was embarrassed by the mobs of people fighting and drinking in the streets. A local resident reported that every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night this type of activity takes place.

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Lastly, he noted that at the UNSM Board meeting a presentation was done by Connie Nolan, on the results of the Assessment Caps for East Hants. He asked the presenter to prepare a similar report for Kentville, as he is very concerned about the impact of the Assessment Caps on many property owners. It appears that this cap penalizes low income people, while those with million dollar properties, have a cap on what they would pay in taxes. He plans to share this information with the local MLA, as there is a misunderstanding by the general public and some politicians about the impact.

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Thank you – Councilor Tony Bentley

A note of appreciation was received from Councilor Bentley for flowers from the Town during his recent surgery.

(b) ALS – Invitation to Fund Raising Event

An invitation was received asking the Town to participate in a fund-raising event on April 10th at which this organization hopes to raise awareness and funds for this disease. The goal is \$15,000.

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

that the letter be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(c) Destination Southwest Nova Association – Thank you

A letter from Madonna Spinazola thanked the Town for assisting in the Municipal Investment Program.

(d) Centre Stage – Thank You

A letter of appreciation was received from this organization for the Mayor's contribution to the joint Centre Stage Theatre and Glooscap Curling Club fund raiser. Over \$6,000 was raised at the dinner theatre.

(e) Valley Health Revitalization Campaign – Thank You

A letter of thanks was received from the Chair of this organization for the Town's \$141,600 to this campaign.

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(f) Glooscap Curling Club – Thank You

A letter of appreciation from the President of this organization thanked the Town for its financial support of the construction of a new floor in the rink.

**(g) Nova Scotia Community Based
Transportation Association**

A letter was received introducing this organization and noting the importance of community based transportation in the area. An invitation was extended to the Town of Kentville to join this association.

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Town Flag

Mayor Corkum introduced the concept of having a Town Flag designed for Kentville, as currently the only flags in existence are the Centennial Flag and one which was prepared for the Recreation Department.

The CAO has agreed to take this on as a project and bring back some suggestions to CAC for discussion.

Some discussion also took place about the production of vehicle license plates with the Apple Blossom Town logo on them.

(It was noted that the crest is used for more formal occasions, whereas, the blossom logo is for recreational events, and similar functions.)

(b) Town Clock (update by Councilor Bentley)

Councilor Bentley wanted the opportunity to share with Council the recent status of the Rotary Club's donation of a town clock to Kentville. He stated that a four-faced clock would exceed the budget allocated and therefore, the committee will engage in further discussion or fund-raising.

It was suggested that the current clocks (at the Cornwallis Inn and the Bus Station) be repaired, as the Cornwallis Inn clock only works during the summer months and the Bus Station is never accurate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Eric Bolland

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**that the regular meeting of Town Council
adjourns at 9:00 p.m. to go In Camera**

MOTION CARRIED

IN CAMERA

- (a) Litigation**
- (b) Offer to Purchase Town Land**

COUNCIL MEETING RESUMES

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

**that the In Camera meeting adjourn and that
the regular meeting of Town Council
resumes**

MOTION CARRIED

(a) Appointment of Solicitor

Following discussions on the legal representation of the
Town on the issue of the educational funding formula,
it was noted that the Town's Solicitor was unable to
represent either the Town of Kentville or County of
Kings due to a conflict of interest.

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

**that the law firm of Stewart McKelvey be
engaged to act for the Town of Kentville,
along with the Towns of Wolfville and
Hantsport, on the issue of the action being
taken by the County of Kings regarding the
education funding formula .**

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Mark Pearl moved to adjourn the meeting at
10:06 p.m.