

KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

October 25, 2010

PRESENT

Mayor-for-the-Day Hunter Brule, Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Mark Pearl, Councilor Tony Bentley, CAO Keith Robicheau, Solicitor Peter Muttart, Town Clerk Carol Harmes

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor-for-a-Day, Hunter Brule called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and CAO Robicheau reported that all Council members were in attendance, except for Councilor Bernie Cooper.

It was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that Councilor Bernie Cooper be excused from this meeting with the approval of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

that the agenda be approved with no additions, however, 6 (a) 3 was moved earlier on the agenda.

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) Kentville Minor Baseball Bantam AA
Mayor David Corkum introduced the accomplishments of the Kentville Minor Baseball Bantam AA team, which recently won both the Provincial and Atlantic Championships. Mayor David Corkum and Mayor-of-the-Day Hunter Brule presented certificates to the members and to the team as a whole.

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(b) Honourary Town Piper (Ed Coleman)

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd noted that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, a discussion took place regarding the request from Ed Coleman to be personally appointed as the official Town Piper for Kentville. As such, he offered to perform at those special events hosted by the Town, at an established reduced fee, but wished to be acknowledged in this capacity.

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

that Ed Coleman be appointed as the Official Town Piper for the Town of Kentville

MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd further noted the terms of the agreement between Mr. Coleman and the Town, and read a resolution into the minutes. A Certificate of Recognition was presented to Mr. Coleman, following which it was moved by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that the resolution (attached) between Town Piper Ed Coleman and the Town of Kentville be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) September 27, 2010

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

that the minutes of September 27, 2010 be approved, following the removal of paragraph # 7 on page 9.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/OLD BUSINESS

(a) 2nd Reading of Chapter 6 – Committees and Boards Bylaw

Town Clerk Carol Harmes reported that First Reading to rescind this bylaw was given on September 27th, following which an advertisement was placed in the local paper giving notice of the proposed Second

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Reading at this meeting. As no public feedback was received, she recommended that the procedure continue, and therefore, it was moved by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that Second (Final) Reading be given to rescind *Chapter 6 – Committees and Boards Bylaw* and that a Notice of Passing be placed in the local paper.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) 2nd Reading of Chapter 31– Kentville Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Bylaw

Town Clerk Carol Harmes reported that First Reading to rescind this bylaw was given on September 27th, following which an advertisement was placed in the local paper giving notice of the proposed Second Reading at this meeting. As no public feedback was received, she recommended that the procedure continue, and therefore, it was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that Second (Final) Reading be given to rescind *Chapter 31 – Kentville Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Bylaw* and that a Notice of Passing be placed in the local paper.

MOTION CARRIED

**REPORTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Council Advisory Committee

**(i) Building Committee Appointment –
County of Kings**

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd noted that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, members reviewed the County's invitation to appoint a Town Councilor to sit on the Building Committee for the new Municipality of the County of Kings Complex.

As there was some uncertainty of the location for this construction, Council Advisory Committee members felt that more information was needed prior to making an appointment, and therefore, it was moved by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

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that the County be asked to provide the Town of Kentville with the Terms of Reference for their Building Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The CAO has sent a request to the County however, nothing has been received to date.

(ii) Signage – Land Use Bylaw

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd noted that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, a discussion took place regarding off-site signage in the Town of Kentville. Although prime concern was the number of real estate signs on Town property, comments evolved to include other advertising of businesses and services.

Council members felt that the current section of the Land Use Bylaw relating to off-site signage should be reviewed, and therefore, it was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that staff reviews the current Land Use Bylaw as it relates to signage, and makes recommendations for amendments, where appropriate.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Efforts will be made to have a report for the next meeting of CAC.

(iii) Official Town Piper

(addressed earlier in the meeting)

(iv) Expropriation of St. Joseph's Property

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd noted that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, a discussion took place regarding the exchange of property between the Town of Kentville and St. Joseph's Church. It was determined that the most efficient method of fulfilling the legal requirements relating to the acquisition of a section of this property, was to expropriate it. Subsequently, all parties agreed that this would be an acceptable recourse in expediting the process, and

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accordingly, the Town's solicitor prepared the appropriate resolution.

Upon review of this document, it was moved by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that Council approves the attached Resolution regarding the expropriation of Land of Trustee, Apostolic Administrator of the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Yarmouth, relating to parcel PID 55480321.

MOTION CARRIED

(v) CAC Meeting – March 2011

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd noted that at a recent meeting of Council Advisory Committee, he asked if the March CAC meeting could be moved forward to March 7th next year, to accommodate those individuals whose spring vacation plans conflict with Council meetings during this time.

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

that the March 14, 2011 meeting of Council Advisory Committee be moved to March 7, 2011.

MOTION CARRIED

(vi) Absence with the Approval of Council – Cooper

(This issue was addressed earlier in the meeting)

(Note: Solicitor Peter Muttart agreed to provide members of Council with the excerpt from the Municipal Government Act (Section 17 and 25) which indicates that absences of Council members from meetings should be approved or disapproved by Council.)

Points from Discussion

- Having a record of absenteeism with approval noted, protects the Council member from public criticism.

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- Such record-keeping is a requirement of the MGA.
- There have never been situations in Kentville, in the memory of this Council, where a Councilor missed a number of meetings for no good reason.
- In some levels of government, and/or in other areas, a member might, as a protest of an issue, not attend meetings. This reaction is not a common practice in Municipal Government.

(a) Fire

(i) Chief's report

Fire Chief Shawn Ripley had not submitted a report for the month.

(ii) Fire Governance Report

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd reported that the internal review has begun. Gerald Walsh Associates is conducting this and some of the Terms of Reference involve governance, the structure of boards and the governance committee, review of other committees, financial reporting procedures, and so on. With the hiring of the full-time Fire Chief, it is important to establish these Terms of Reference, as they were identified as an important part of the hiring procedure.

(b) Valley Waste – Resource Management Authority

Councilor Mark Pearl noted that the regular meeting was held on September 29th, at which a discussion took place regarding the return of surplus funds to the partners at the end of each fiscal year. He added that from the 2009-2010 budget, approximately \$300,000 has been realized as surplus and cheques will be prepared for the funding partners. In addition to this reimbursement, there will be a letter indicating that some new and enhanced programs can be expected in the upcoming year.

Councilor Pearl further stated that the Working Group continues to prepare information with a goal of presenting various options on intergenerational responsibility and on fiscal acceptabilities by partners.

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Also, at the September meeting a presentation was done on the new LEEDS administration offices, and it was noted that requests for proposals for architectural services are being prepared for release. A labour dispute began on September 27th regarding their first collective agreement, and the implementation of the strategic plan is underway, with content involving increasing board and staff long-term capacity, fostering external partnerships and staff succession planning.

From the statistical data, Councilor Pearl noted that recyclables and organics for this year compare favourably with last year's statistics, although the residuals to Chester were somewhat lower.

Councilor Pearl added that he received the October Management Minute earlier that day, so reiterated some of its content, such as:

- The recycling, processing and organics continue to rise, while residuals reduce.
- The annual surplus is over \$300,000 and those funds will be returned to the partners. Approximately, \$80,000 of this amount relates to diversion credits, and the committee will earmark these types of revenues for Authority purposes in the future.
- The Authority will begin to accept leaves, at no cost, at the centre this fall.
- The RFP is moving forward on the administration office and a consulting firm has been hired.
- A strike has been underway for about a month and this is being monitored on a regular basis.

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

**(c) Kings Regional Development Agency
(a) Representative's Report**

Jennifer Weisner reported that a written report has been submitted for Council's information, however, added

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that the agency partnered with the Acadian Centre for Business and Entrepreneurship early in October and delivered a workshop to members of the public regarding strategic planning. This session was filled and a waiting list was taken for a December session.

Also, with her own strategic planning work, a session was held regarding the volunteer work being done, the County of Kings, the Berwick Economic Development Advisory Committee and Nomination for Grand Pre. Another Joint Council meeting is being hosted for November and mid-year review work is being undertaken. Municipalities will all receive copies of this and invitations will be sent to all partners who might wish to attend with the Provincial and Federal Partners, when a verbal presentation is done in Halifax on November 3rd.

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

that the verbal report from Kings RDA be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- A corporate strategic plan, for the whole organization, is being done at the County of Kings.
- This plan is separate from the ICSP.
- The Strategic Plan for Eco Kings will be undertaken as well.
- There is renewed vigour on the Valley Community Fibre Network project and this group might be requesting an opportunity to present information to Council again.

(d) Kentville Community Development Committee

(i) Report

Mayor David Corkum reported that a meeting was held last week, but there was no quorum. Good discussion took place and future meetings will be better attended. The upcoming Business Expo is expected to be another success story.

It was moved by Councilor Tony Bentley and seconded

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by Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd

that the report on the Kentville Community Development Committee be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The topic of smoking in public places was brought up and there was a mix of reaction to the proposed bylaw.

(e) Kings Transit Authority

(i) Representative's Report

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that road construction is playing havoc with the bus schedules; the operation is up and running in its new facility and the Cambridge location has been vacated, with all equipment and busses relocated to the new facility. On October 19th UARB approved the application to offer a lower student rate; year to date revenues are running at 58 percent; and expenses are estimated at 53%. September totals show ridership and revenue both down.

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

that the report from Kings Transit Authority be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The old VIA Rail building is being maintained as a terminal in Kentville for both Kings Transit and Acadian Lines. The Authority will later determine its long term usefulness.

(m) Environmental Advisory Committee

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that there has been no meeting since the last Council meeting.

(n) Councilors' Report

Councilor Tony Bentley reported that he attended all meetings; the Harvest Festival; a meeting of KCDC (Friends of the Library); the Strategy Session and also worked on the staff barbecue.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill reported that she attended

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all meetings, along with the Strategy Session.

Councilor Mark Pearl had nothing further to report.

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that he attended the SAC/PTA meeting (this group is busy fund-raising for playground equipment). He noted that attendance at KCA is down about 16 students. He attended a seminar on LEED certification on VWRM's building, and has met with the Environmental Club at NKEC.

Councilor Bernie Cooper was not in attendance.

Deputy Mayor Bill Boyd reported that he worked on the staff barbecue and attended all meetings. He missed the last Council meeting but filled in for the Mayor at a recent dinner of the Gyro Club.

(o) Mayor's Report

Mayor Corkum reported that the staff barbecue was done very well and thanked those who worked on the event. In addition, he attended the NDP gathering, to hear the Minister of Health speak. He told her what was happening with the No Smoking Bylaw in Town, and she suggested that the Province would, no doubt, introduce legislation along these lines in the near future.

He is anticipating good news on the Town's Caucus Task Force from SNSMR Minister, Ramona Jennex, as it relates to the sustainability of small towns in the province.

Mayor-of-the-Day Hunter Brule, reported that he got the chance to drive the new Zamboni and the street-sweeper. He visited some of the facilities and enjoyed the opportunity to be Mayor-for-the Day and appreciated the help and support he has been given.

Points from Discussion

- Kentville has been recently recognized as the number one community in NS for doing business, and this is another honour for the Town.

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Kentville and Area Youth Association
CAO Robicheau reported that a letter of appreciation

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was received from this group for the donation made by the Town towards their programs.

(b) No Farms – No Food

A letter was received from this organization in which Pauline Raven has asked if the Town would take a position in support of their concerns with the planning processes in Kings County, as they relate to development of farmlands. She felt that if the Town voiced its concerns to County Council, this might help with decisions being made.

CAO Robicheau reported that the Mayor has responded to Ms. Raven already, although it might be in order to discuss this issue with all Council members.

It was moved by Councilor Tony Bentley and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that this matter be discussed at the next meeting of CAC.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Kentville Town Council has no jurisdiction on the decisions made by County Council.
- When development takes place on farmland instead of on vacant lots in surrounding towns, this puts towns at a disadvantage, as it is difficult to compete with lower tax rates in the rural areas.

NEW BUSINESS

(a) none

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Deputy Mayor Boyd complimented the Mayor-for-the-Day for running an efficient meeting, with the business all addressed in a short period of time. On behalf of those members present, he presented a plaque of congratulations to Hunter Brule, for a job well done.

Mayor Corkum also presented a copy of the book identifying Kentville as being the number one town in the province.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(a) none

Debbie Joseph and Amanda Harper were recognized as being in the audience observing a Council Meeting, as

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part of a business program in which they were enrolled at Kingstec.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Tony Bentley and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

that the meeting adjourns at 8:22 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED