

APPROVED OCTOBER 26, 2009

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# KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### September 28, 2009

#### PRESENT

Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Mark Pearl, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Bill Boyd, CAO Keith Robicheau, Town Solicitor Peter Muttart and Town Clerk Carol Harmes. (Regrets Councilor Tony Bentley)

Director Beverley Gentleman and Director Mark Phillips

#### 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.

#### 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.*

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

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

***6(a) vi – VIC in Downtown Kentville***

***6 (a) vii – Kings Transit Facility***

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### PRESENTATION

##### **Concerned Citizens – New School**

Kathleen Boutilier, a local teacher and the Vice President of the PTA at KCA spoke on behalf of a group of concerned citizens regarding some concerns about the new school. She felt that the design of the structure leaves cause for concern, with the present classroom space being 25 classrooms but the new school including only 23 classrooms. She feels that the school will not meet the needs of the students, especially with the growing subdivisions.

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Points from Presentation

- There is an inadequate facility for music and the program will be compromised as a result. The music and band program are growing steadily.
- The current gym is not large enough to split to make two classes. This will reduce the amount of time dedicated for physical education.
- The playground is positioned in such a way, with doors located in areas that do not allow for a lockdown. This puts the children at risk for abduction and exposure to adults who might have restricted access.
- The playground will not support 580 children in the designated area.

Points from Discussion

- Margo Tait (Superintendent of Schools) will meet with the Deputy Minister of Education to ask about the extra classrooms.
- Two weeks will not be enough time to make major structural changes to the blueprints.
- The Town does not have input into the blueprints for the school; the School Board would have more influence in that regard.
- The Town can make some enquiries and try to find out what might be done.
- The Director of Recreation is the Town's representative on this committee and he is working towards initiating some changes.
- Although the classrooms are designed to hold up to 30 students, the Department of Education has a mandatory cap on the number of students, and does not permit that many per class.

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

**that the agenda be reopened and that 8.c.-  
New School be added**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

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

**that the minutes of September 9, 2009 be  
approved with an amendment on page 3,**

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**with the word “received” replaced with the word “presented.”**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**(i) Second Reading – LUB – Rodger Cameron Development – Chester Avenue**

Bev Gentleman, the Director of Planning and Development reiterated that Rodger Cameron is proposing to rezone a portion of property on the east side of Chester Avenue from Residential Future (RF) to Residential Two Family Unit (R2). First Reading was given to these amendments on July 15, 2009, and as required a Public Hearing was held on September 8, 2009.

During the course of this hearing, it was noted that there existed some inconsistencies regarding setback requirements, etc. and as a result, the proposal required additional work and information from the applicant. As these additions have since been completed, Director Gentleman recommended that the bylaw amendment process continue.

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

**that Second Reading be given to amendments to the Land Use Bylaw, to allow for the rezoning of PID# 55490270 from Residential Future, to Residential Two Unit (R-2), subject to the water lines either being moved or buried deeper, in order to facilitate the development.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**(a) Council Advisory Committee**

**(i) Committee Structure**

CAO Robicheau reported that at an earlier Council Advisory Committee that afternoon, Council reviewed the existing structure for Committees, Boards and Commissions. Although members recognized that some boards and commissions would be mandated, there is opportunity for council to streamline some of its committees. CAO Robicheau suggested that this be established with a policy.

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

**that a draft policy statement for committees be presented at the next meeting of Council Advisory Committee.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

Town Clerk Carol Harmes noted that at a meeting of Council Advisory Committee earlier that day, Finance Director Crowell presented a report regarding the initiation of a new process to increase revenue for the Town. She pointed out that fees for the provision of Tax Information and Tax Financial Information are charged in several municipalities and a similar program here in Kentville could provide substantial revenue over the course of time.

She further noted that this project would cost the Town very little money or staff time, as Aliant would arrange the collection of fees through a 1-900 number, and that staff must prepare the tax information anyway.

A bylaw – *Chapter 81 – Fees for the Provision of Tax Information Bylaw* was introduced to govern this new process, and therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bernie Cooper

**that First Reading be given to approve Chapter 81 – Fees for the Provision of Tax Information Bylaw.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(ii) Chapter 82 – Board of Police Commissioners**

Town Clerk Carol Harmes noted that at a meeting of Council Advisory Committee earlier that day, Chief Mark Mander presented a draft bylaw for the *Board of Police Commissioners – Chapter 82*, which replaces an out-of-date bylaw – Chapter 35, currently in force. She noted that this bylaw has been reviewed by the Police Board and by the Town's solicitor, and subsequently, she recommended that it proceed through the adoption

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process.

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

**that First Reading be given to adopt *Chapter 82 – Board of Police Commissioners Bylaw.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(iii) Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Sanitary Sewer Area Service – Capital**

Town Clerk Carol Harmes noted that at a meeting of Council Advisory Committee earlier that day, Director Debra Crowell reported that a Temporary Borrowing Resolution was presented for capital programs relating to wastewater facilities and storm water systems, and that the resolution requires authorization at this time.

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

**that TBR 09/10-02 – Sanitary Sewer, in the amount of \$135,000 be authorized.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(iv) Street Naming – MacDougall Heights**

Town Clerk Carol Harmes noted that at a meeting of Council Advisory Committee earlier that day, Director Gentleman reported that a currently existing Policy Statement *G-27 Street Naming Policy* dictates criteria regarding the naming of new streets in Kentville. She added that in the phase currently being developed by Mitch Brison in MacDougal Heights, he is proposing specific street names, along with the extension of MacDonald Park Road.

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

**that the following street names be adopted by the Town for those roads specified in MacDougal Heights:**

- **Memorial Court**
- **Queens Court**

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**MOTION CARRIED**

**(v) VIC – Downtown Kentville**

Town Clerk Carol Harmes noted that at a meeting of Council Advisory Committee earlier that day, a discussion took place regarding a presentation made earlier in the summer by Madonna Spinazola of Destination SouthWest Nova. In this 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. She also pointed out that the Town's share of the costs to operate this new location would be either \$11,000 if begun in November, or \$7,000 if the start-up time was in the Spring.

In subsequent conversations with Ms. Spinazola, Council learned that the County has opted to initiate start-up of the VIC in November, and as a result, consideration of this matter was once again brought back for Council's review.

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

**that, subject to the approval of the location and information regarding the operating costs, funds would be taken from the Town's surplus to financially support the relocation of the VIC to the downtown area, with a start up time of November 2009.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(vi) Kings Transit Authority Garage**

Town Clerk Carol Harmes noted that at a meeting of Council Advisory Committee earlier that day, Kings Transit Authority Representative Councilor Mark Pearl reported that the consultants hired by this organization presented their report, in which one recommendation was that the maintenance garage be located closer to Kentville than previously proposed. He asked that Council endorse this recommendation.

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

**that Council endorses the recommendation that Kings Transit Authority builds a pre engineered, steel building to be used as a transit garage, and that this be located within close proximity to the terminal in Kentville, with construction to begin by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(b) Valley Waste Resource Management Authority**

**(i) Representative's Report**

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that a Strategic Planning session has been scheduled for November 12 and this event will be facilitated by Erin Beaudin and Jennifer Weisner of the Kings RDA. With the 2009-2010 Operating Budget, the Authority anticipates a balanced budget at the fiscal year end. A Briefing Paper is being prepared for partnering Councils with regard to amendments to the Inter-municipal Service Agreement, and will address the issue of borrowing powers, amendments to the agreement, funding to meet the 2009 – 2010 capital budget, and so on.

In addition a Waste Management Trade Show is being held in the Walmart Parking lot on October 24<sup>th</sup> and this will involve a free used battery drop off, paper shredding, etc. The Cambodia project is working well and a delegation has been working with this country.

Councilor Pearl added that the next meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>, will include the Minister of Environment, the Honourable Stirling Belliveau. Lastly, the report noted a resolution, which will be on the UNSM agenda in November, is calling for an improvement in the balance of representation on the Resource Recovery Fund Board to strengthen municipal representation.

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

**that the report from the Valley Waste**

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**Resource Management Authority be received**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(c) Kings Regional Development Agency**

**(i) Representative's Report**

Councilor Mark Pearl asked if Jennifer Weisner could present the report, as it has just been received prior the start of the meeting. Jennifer added that a summer student has compiled an updated online business directory with over 2,000 businesses and that information from the business survey is also being tabulated. Lastly, she stated that their website promotion award for the valley vineyards has been received.

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

**that the report from Kings RDA be received.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Points from Discussion

- Information will be made available on the Scottish Trade Mission.
- Erin Beaudin visited a UNESCO site while in Scotland, as she wanted to compare how the process was undertaken; she also had some conversations about value-added agriculture.
- Councilor Pearl noted that Erin Beaudin has submitted her resignation and her excellent leadership will be missed.

**(d) Kentville Community Development Committee**

**(i) Report**

Mayor Corkum reported that a meeting was held recently at which Tiffaney Connell gave a report regarding the Farmer's Market. He added that a recommendation was made to support the relocation and proposed location for the downtown VIC.

**(e) Kings Transit Authority**

**(i) Representative's Report**

Councilor Mark Pearl reported that there is no written



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report, as there has been no meeting recently. He commented that the Federal Transit Funds have been a concern to KTA and that the consultant presented a business case to move forward on the facilities.

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

**that the report from Kings Transit Authority be received.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(m) Environmental Advisory Committee**

Councilor Eric Bolland reported that there has been no meeting recently, although he is happy that the Town has purchased a water cooler which will eventually eliminate bottled water.

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 attended all meetings including the presentation on Education Funding at the fire hall.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill attended the Police Conference in September, which was informative.

Councilor Mark Pearl attended the Police Conference and found it worthwhile.

Councilor Eric Bolland had nothing further to add.

Councilor Tony Bentley was absent.

Deputy Mayor Bernie Cooper attended all meetings, the Police Board Conference and the Education Funding meeting.

**(o) Mayor's Report**

Mayor Corkum stated that his report was self-explanatory, but he wanted everyone to know that Billy Joe MacLean has suffered a mild stroke, however, has since been released from the hospital.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a) Warden Newton (Municipality of Annapolis**

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**Re: Resolution Resource Recovery Fund)**

CAO Robicheau noted that this resolution regarding the Resource Recovery Fund has been previously addressed.

**(b) Kentville and Area Youth Association**

A letter of appreciation was received from this organization thanking the Town for its financial support of their programs. Some of the programs and services were outlined.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**(a) Municipal Pumpkin Growing Challenge**

Mayor Corkum stated that Kentville won the Municipal Pumpkin Growing Challenge.

**(b) Minister Estabrooks**

This letter confirms the meeting with Mayor Corkum regarding the Cornwallis River Bridge, although the Minister was not prepared to make a commitment.

**(c) New School**

As Director Mark Phillips has been the Town's representative on the committee involved with the new school, he was asked to respond to the earlier presentation of the concerned citizens. He reviewed the points made by Ms. Boutlier earlier in the evening.

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

**that Council send a letter to the Department of Education, with a copy to Margo Tait, Kathy Boutilier and our MLA, to ask if consideration could be given regarding the concerns expressed about the new school facility.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Points from Discussion

- There will be enough useable space for the students, as the special use rooms will be used for their specified purpose throughout the day.
- The older students move around the school for various courses.
- The gymnasium is larger than other schools and shows a divider.
- Need for additional play space at the school can

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be meet easily, and the nearby facilities at Memorial Park can be used.

- There will a schedule for the use of cafeterias, playgrounds, etc. so all students will not be using all common areas at the same time.
- The Department of Education people have been very obliging in trying to make everything work. They have built many schools and the Town must have faith that they know what they are doing.
- The shortage of classrooms seems to be the most pressing issue.
- The School Board makes decisions on what courses and programs are offered.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

none

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**that the regular meeting of Town Council adjourns at 8:35 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED**