

# KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### February 25, 2013

#### PRESENT

Mayor David Corkum, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Tony Bentley, CAO Mark Phillips, Solicitor Tom MacEwan and Town Clerk Carol Harmes. (Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl and Councilor Bill Boyd were participating by skype)

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Corkum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and CAO Phillips reported that all members of Council were present, along with the Town Solicitor, the Town Clerk and himself.

Acknowledgement was also made for those guests in the audience.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Councilor Tony Bentley 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.*

#### PRESENTATIONS

##### **(a) Mayor David Corkum –Presentation of Queen’s Jubilee Medal**

Mayor Jeff Cantwell, of the Town of Wolfville congratulated Mayor Corkum for having been nominated, by his peers at the FCM, for the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. He reiterated some of Mayor Corkum’s achievements in both the field of politics and in the volunteer community and told some personal stories of times spent together.

As today was also the Mayor’s 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, Mayor Cantwell and Wolfville CAO Mombourquette presented the Mayor with a birthday cake.

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**(b) Senior Safety**

A presentation from the Kings County Seniors Safety Program Society was done by Daisy Dwyer, Vice Chair. In attendance from this organization were also Bill Poole (Treasurer) and Peter Kerr (Policy Manager). The following points were made:

- Of the general population of 60,590, seniors represent 17.6%, however, there is a projected increase in the future as the baby boomers come of age.
- Those issues facing seniors are home security and housing needs; access to transportation, medical services, awareness of services, senior's rights and laws and issues involving senior abuse.
- Funds are being asked from the municipalities in Kings County to help with the costs associated with the Coordinator, as the budget for 2013-2014 is a deficit budget of about \$6,000.
- Funding for the short term and for sustainability is being sought.
- The County of Kings is being asked for \$23,000 and the Towns of Berwick, Kentville, Wolfville and the Villages of Kingston/Greenwood and New Minas are each being asked for \$3,800.

Points from Discussion

- These funding amounts have been determined by the number of seniors in the specific areas.
- Funding was provided from other sources in the past, (and some still exists from grants) but because of the population increase, there is a need for more funds.
- It costs the provincial government a lot less money to keep seniors in their homes, than to have them in senior care facilities.
- These types of financial requests are generally redirected to the budget process.
- There were about 350 home visits which required services and these were accessed through this organization.

**APPROVAL OF THE  
MINUTES**

**(a) Minutes – January 28, 2013**

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

**that the Minutes of January 28, 2013 be approved  
as circulated.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**BUSINESS ARISING FROM  
THE MINUTES/OLD  
BUSINESS**

**(a) Aberdeen Street Realignment**

CAO Phillips gave an update on the status of the work being done on Aberdeen Street, with the realignment of lanes to accommodate a right turning lane on Station Lane. Work is in progress regarding the bridge replacement, however, nothing more specific can be reported at this point.

**(b) Old KCA School Street Property**

CAO Phillips gave an update on the status of this property, noting that a report presented by Town Engineer Fred Whynot addressed the matter of the demolition of the elementary school. He noted that the tenders closed on February 21 and that 13 tenders were received. The lowest tender was from RL Harvey Service Station Limited in the amount of \$110,000, plus HST. Reference checks confirmed that his proposed disposal sites currently meet NSDOE approval. The work will be completed by the end of March, with the condition that should an agreement to purchase all buildings be received before February 28, than the demolition work will not be done.

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

**that Council conditionally approves the contract in the amount of \$110,000 plus HST, as submitted by RL Harvey Service Station Limited, however, should a suitable proposal be received before February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013, to purchase all buildings on this site, including the KCA elementary building, than Council will reject all proposals received for the KCA Elementary School Demolition (including that received from RL Harvey Service Station Limited).**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Points from Discussion

- There has been no interest in the site, nor has there been any interest to retain the elementary school building.
- References have been checked prior to acknowledging RL Harvey as the winning bid and his is a reputable firm, having done similar work in other parts of the province with no problems or financial over-runs.
- Demolition will be done during daylight hours (7:00 .am. until 7:00 p.m.), however, neighbours will be

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notified of the work and of the construction noise anticipated.

- Following the demolition process, the land will be levelled and covered with about 6 inches of topsoil and later seeded for grass.
- There is quite a difference in the amounts of the bids.

## REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### (a) Council Advisory Committee

#### (1) Valley Waste Resource Management – Budget Approval 2013-2014

Councilor Bernie Cooper noted that at the February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Ross Maybee presented the proposed Operating and Capital Budgets for Valley Waste Regional Management Authority.

Following some background information, he noted the comparisons of revenues and expenditures between the previous year and the upcoming year; identified the items making up the capital budget at \$242,500 and the operating cost shares of the various partners; he identified Kentville's share at 7.93%; and then made recommendations for approval. He further noted that the percentages will be adjusted when final Uniform Assessment numbers are available.

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

**that Valley Waste Resource Management's 2013-14 Operating Budget be approved;**  
**that Valley Waste Resource Management's 2013-14 Capital Budget be approved;**  
**and further,**  
**that the Town guarantees its share of the Valley Waste Borrowing costs.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### (2) Sundry Account Write-Offs - \$532.22

Councilor Bernie Cooper noted that at the February 11, 2013 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Crowell reported that a receivable in the amount of \$532.22, for the rental of a booth at the Annual Home Show, be written-off, as collection of these funds appear diminished following attempts having been made through both internal and external collection endeavours.

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

**that the sundry receivable account for \$532.22 be written-off, as per the attached report and recommendation.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(3) Environmental Leadership Grant Program**

Councilor Bernie Cooper noted that at the February 11, 2013 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, a report was introduced from the Environmental Advisory Committee. In this, a recommendation was made that the Town supports a grant program, up to \$500.00 annually, for a leadership initiative from Kings County Academy and Northeast Kings Education Centre. These projects combined would represent a total of \$1,000 per year from the EAC budget.

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

**that Council supports the annual School Environmental Leadership Grant Program, up to a total of \$1,000 (for both KCA and NKEC), to be dispersed from the Operating Budget of the Environmental Advisory Committee.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(4) KDCL – Sustainable Revenue Sources 2013-2014**

Councilor Bernie Cooper noted that at the February 11, 2013 meeting of CAC, Bill Denyar, President of KDCL reiterated the results from a recent public meeting, during which time he proposed a practical and sustainable revenue source for the continued operation of this organization. He recommended that the 2013-2014 budget be established at \$150,000 based on an area rate, and further, that a one-time grant of \$20,000 be made for the operating cost from start-up expenses.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

**that staff prepares a report based on this request and that the matter be reviewed as part of the 2013-2014 budget process.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**(5) Downtown Parking Recommendations**

Councilor Bernie Cooper noted that at the February 11, 2013 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director Fred Whynot presented a revised list of recommendations that would enhance parking in downtown Kentville.

The attached report includes the four recommendations, approved during a Council discussion on January 25, 2013, which were deemed to be the most viable at this time. Generally, these proposals involve increasing some parking spots at specific locations, improving signage that will give better direction to all-day parking areas and negotiating the use of private lots which are currently vacant.

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

**that those recommendations proposed in the staff report dated February 11, 2013, be approved by Town Council.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(b) Fire**

**(i) Chief's report**

CAO Phillips reported that there is no report from the Fire Services, although Director Crowell is getting the statistics for calls, so that the funding can be applied to the formula. The society continues to meet and following discussions on administrative short-comings, a recommendation will be going to the Joint Fire Services Committee Report.

**(ii) Joint Fire Services Committee Report**

Councilor Bill Boyd reported that there has not been a meeting, although work is being done as reported by CAO Phillips. The next meeting is March 22, 2013.

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

Councilor Cooper reported that:

- a written report has been received, in which it was noted that a meeting was held on January 16<sup>th</sup>.
- the 2013-2014 draft budgets have been presented to the partnering Councils.
- A surplus position is anticipated by year-end.
- A council orientation will take place in April.
- Statistics on communication and educational efforts

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were given.

- Statistics on recycling, organic processing and residuals transfer were given.
- A new program on waste to energy is being investigated.

It was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper 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 Representative's Report**

No formal report has been received, although CAO Phillips noted that a meeting this week will involve continued discussion on the extension of services into June or July. A cash flow statement was being prepared and although there was support for this extension at the Board level, a favourable surplus would be required beforehand, and then each partnering unit will be asked to continue sponsorship.

**(e)Kings Transit Authority's Representative's Report**

A report from the General Manager, Ron Mullins noted that:

- The implementation of a U-Pass for Acadian students was not successful with 80.9 % of those who voted, voting against the pass.
- This referendum may be carried out again.
- By year end, there should be a surplus of \$3,701.
- The 2013-2014 budget should see a 4% increase to partners (down from 5.19% originally proposed); this will be finalized by March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Councilor Bishop is the new Chair.
- Maritime Bus pays \$6,000 for the use of the facilities.
- Advertising continues on the buses and amounts to about \$9,000 in revenue.
- Ridership was up over 3% from last year.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Points from Discussion

- The gasoline reserve established in the past fiscal year, will be carried over, so funds will be in place, if required.

**(h) Councilors' Report**

Councilor Tony Bentley asked for a leave of absence on March 4<sup>th</sup>. He is now a member of the KCA Advisory Council and has been given a job to establish a community garden. A location needs to be found.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill attended all meetings in February and wanted to compliment the Town for the new meeting ads and the website.

Councilor Eric Bolland attended the FCA sustainability conference, the KCA – PTA meeting, Eco Kings strategy session at Valley Waste meeting, along with a meeting with Ramona Jennex on the transit issue

Councilor Bernie Cooper attended all meetings, including the REN meeting in Windsor.

Councilor Bill Boyd – met the Mayor Indian Shores and learned that the policing service provided, is for the area, not just the Town, and this works well.

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl thanked Councilor Cooper (the Valley Waste alternate) and Councilor Bentley (the Kings Transit alternate) for filling in during his absence.

**(i) Mayor's Report**

Mayor Corkum noted the number of events and meetings that he attended spanned the months of November, December, January and February.

- His is the Vice President of the UNSM Fiscal Review Committee and this is expected to be time-consuming. (Small towns are struggling economically and a lot of work will be needed to reach sustainability.)
- He attended the FCM Sustainability Conference in Windsor, Ontario and enjoyed the meetings with Pauline Raven from the County.
- Attended the Valley Business Awards and was happy to learn that approximately 11 of the 19 nominees received awards.
- On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, he attended the grand re-opening of the Salvation Army's new building; this is a very attractive and functional structure that will serve the community well for the future.
- He attended the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Lions Club Charter Night and noted that one of the Charter Members, Elmo

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Tupper, was in attendance.

- The Rotary Valentine's Dance was well attended in spite of the snow storm.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### **(a) Municipality of Barrington – Municipal Property Taxation**

CAO Phillips reported that a letter from this municipality urged all municipal units to ask UNSM to respond to the NS Chamber of Commerce regarding the report, titled Municipal Property Taxation, as this issue affects all 54 units.

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

**that a letter be referred to CAC for further discussion.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **(b) Tropicurl Bonspiel**

CAO Phillips reported that a letter from this organization thanked the Public Works crew for clearing the streets of ice and snow so quickly after the recent snow storm, as this allowed the Tropicurl Bonspiel participants to attend the event, which lead to its success.

### **(c) Feed Nova Scotia**

CAO Phillips noted that a letter from Feed Nova Scotia promoted the importance of supporting the local food banks and included the annual report outlining statistics on hunger in various communities. No request for funding was included.

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

**that the letter be received.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **(d) NS SPCA**

CAO Phillips noted that this letter is a copy of a letter to Minister John MacDonell in which the SPCA advises that it will be unable to preserve the enforcement part of the programs offered through this organization, as funding has not been provided to allow this.

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

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**that the letter be received.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*(Note: Mayor Corkum agreed to keep Council up- to-date should the matter come to the UNSM Board.)*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**(a) REN3 Declaration of Cooperation**

CAO Phillips reported that this document provides the guidelines to allow the REN3 Committee members to work together productively. The 4 items identified will be presented to the 11 individual Councils, and their response will be reported at the March meeting.

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

**that the Declaration of Cooperation be accepted by  
Kentville Town Council.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Points from Discussion

- Details regarding “opting out” in the future will be addressed in the 5-year agreement with the Province.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bill Denyar addressed Council. He noted that the wording of the motion to go to the budget deliberations should be clarified to reflect that \$130,000 is being requested.

With the other 8 recommendations that were previously made regarding parking changes, Mayor Corkum reported that Council felt that the 4 recommendations could move forward at this time, while the others either needed more work or would not be practical at this point in time.

Councilor Folker-Hill congratulated Mayor Corkum on behalf of Council and staff for being awarded a Queens Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Mayor Corkum responded that without the support of Council and staff, he would not have been able to achieve this recognition.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.