

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

February 23, 2015

PRESENT

Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl (skyped), Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Bill Boyd (absent due to illness), Councilor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Eric Bolland, Councilor Tony Bentley (excused), Solicitor Cris Shirrett, CAO Mark Phillips and Clerk Carol Harmes.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor David Corkum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and CAO Phillips reported that there was a quorum present, with Deputy Mayor Pearl, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Bernie Cooper and Councilor Eric Bolland. Also present were the solicitor, the Town Clerk and himself, as CAO.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Corkum asked for a Moment of Silence in remembrance of former Warden Fred Whalen of the County of Kings and former Councilor Eric Smith.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

that the agenda be approved with the following changes:

1(b) Moment of Silence

(9) Public Comments moved to 3(b)

(7.b) Correspondence Freiss/Mullen added

(7.c) Correspondence from R. Robichaud moved to 3(b)

(7.d) Correspondence from Isabella Parrish moved to 3(b)

(7.e) Correspondence from Leanne Jennings moved to 3(b)

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

(a) **Judy Rafuse – AVCC**

A request for funding was made by the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. Judy Rafuse guided the process for the presentations and noted that work being done by the AVCC could be considered an investment in community development. She introduced Heather Leeman, co-chair of the Tourism Committee, who noted that:

- The Tourism Marketing Committee made presentations to all

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

municipalities from West Hants to Digby last year, seeking financial assistance for tourism related marketing.

- Marketing was done via radio, television advertising, the Chronicle Herald, the Nova Star and Saltscapes.
- There were increases in overnight stays in the Valley and visits to the valleytourism.ca website grew by 100 a day throughout June. The VIC visitors in Kentville during 2014 saw a total of 1630 visitors
- An estimated \$11 million in revenue came to the province.

The budget presentation noted that:

- A map/brochure is being planned as either a hand-out or as an interactive option on mobile devices.
- Along with advertising in the media, work will continue on the website, in the May Tourism Quarterly, Trade Shows and Product Development.
- Last year the Town allowed the AVCC to use the new VIA building for its offices in return for operating the Visitor's Information Centre.
- Kentville is being asked to support AVCC for \$8,000 to be used for Tourism Marketing for the Annapolis Valley.
- The application for grants shows a budget of \$199,000 for 2015, with provincial funding at \$175,000, \$58,000 in the bank and contributions from the municipalities.
- These contributions have not been confirmed and are only requests at this point in time.

(b) Public Comments (Re: Royal Oaks Park)

Colin Chase of Lacewood Drive noted that this is a small piece of land and provides privacy and a habitat for wildlife. There are many near-by properties that provide park settings for people to enjoy.

Ron Robichaud of Lacewood Drive stated that he had little new information to add, however, felt that this property is very small and probably does not warrant the amount of the Town's time being spent on it.

- (i) **Correspondence from Ron Robichaud was read into the record.**
- (ii) **Correspondence from Isabella Parrish was read into the record.**

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

- (iii) **Correspondence from Leanne Jennings was read into the record.**

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

that the three pieces of correspondence identified above, be received.

MOTION CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF THE
MINUTES**

- (a) **January 26 , 2015**

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

that the minutes of January 26, 2015 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM THE MINUTES**

- (a) **Building Bylaw- Chapter 95 – Second Reading**

Clerk Harmes noted that at the January 26th meeting of Town Council First Reading was given to adopt this bylaw, while subsequently rescinding Chapter 46 – Building Bylaw, as this latter document was out-of-date. Advertisement of the proposed Second Reading was placed in the local paper on February 3, and as no opposition had been received on this document, she proposed Second Reading.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that second reading be given to adopt Chapter 95 – Building Bylaw.

MOTION CARRIED

**RECOMMENDATIONS
AND REPORTS**

- (1) **Policy Statement G60-Styrofoam (expanded polystyrene) Products**

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Clerk Harmes presented a recommendation that this policy be rescinded, as it would appear redundant due to the new program currently being offered through Valley Waste Resource Management Authority. This new program assists in the recycling of Styrofoam into new products, after pick-up during regular collection times.

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

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

that Policy Statement G60-Styrofoam (Expanded Polystyrene) Products Restriction be rescinded

MOTION DEFEATED

Points from Discussion

- Valley Waste’s new program was implemented to reduce the amount of Styrofoam going into landfill, however, in spite of its re-use for new products, Styrofoam use is still being discouraged, as other products can be better recycled.
- This policy can be reviewed at a later time, if necessary.

(2) Kentville Ravine – Management Agreement

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Director Bedingfield noted that work has been done with the Friends of the Kentville Ravine Society and the Department of Agriculture regarding the preservation and maintenance of the Ravine.

The Department of Agriculture has made some significant improvements to the area (i.e. bridge work and general maintenance), and reports indicate no elevated liability or risk to the users. However, they find themselves unable to carry out future maintenance due to budget restraints and have had discussions with the Town regarding an easement that would allow the Town to take over the maintenance. This maintenance would exclude public washrooms, the picnic area, and both parking lots.

Therefore, Director Bedingfield is recommending that the Town pursues the opportunity to ensure that this beautiful and unique area remains available for public use, and asks that an annual amount of \$10,000 be placed in the Operating Budget to ensure that Town standards and the trail’s integrity are maintained.

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

that the Town accepts stewardship through the use of an easement with the Department of Agriculture, so as to take

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

**over the management of the Kentville Ravine,
And furthermore,
that a Management Agreement be developed in cooperation
with the Friends of the Kentville Ravine Society and the
Blomidon Naturalists Society.**

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Although \$10,000 is mentioned in the preamble, the amount for maintenance cannot be ascertained at this time. However, Council should be aware that there may be an associated cost.
- This amount can be discussed at budget deliberations and should not impact on the motion.

(3) KVFD Budget 2015-2016

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill stated that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, CAO Phillips reported that at the JFSC meeting on January 8th, members requested some revisions to the Fire Department's Operating Budget, as proposed for the upcoming year.

Therefore, the attached draft budget for \$620,500 was prepared, which instead of an increase of 8.5% as previously submitted, includes a lesser increase of 4%. The accompanying report from the Fire Chief outlines those areas affected by the reductions.

In accordance with the Funding Agreement, Kentville's portion of this budget would be \$189,400.

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

**that the 2015-2016 Operating Budget for the Kentville
Volunteer Fire Department , in the amount of \$620,500 be
approved.**

MOTION CARRIED

(4) Explore Joint E-Voting Project

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, CAO Phillips reported that under the umbrella of the Association of Municipal Administrators, and through the leadership of HRM and CBRM, several municipalities are attempting to jointly tender electronic voting services for the election in 2016.

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

He added that he has met with the group, which is now in the process of preparing an RFP, following which time, all units will be contacted to respond as to whether or not they are interested in this joint project, and if so, to what degree. CAC Phillips wanted direction as to if he should continue with this project.

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

that CAO Phillips continue participation on the E-Voting Services Group Purchase Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

(5) Royal Oaks Parkland

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Director Bedingfield presented a report in which she noted that when the Royal Oaks Subdivision was being developed several years ago, an area of land, consisting of 17,818 square feet, had been dedicated as park space. To access this area, two entrances were identified – one on Birchwood and the other on Lacewood Drive.

Over the course of several months, citizens in that area have been brought together for the purpose of discussing park development. However, some residents expressed concerns about the potential of increased crime, loss of privacy, and damage to the natural habitat. It became clear that the majority wished to have the designated park space remain as natural as possible.

Therefore, Director Bedingfield proposed several recommendations which would not only clean up the area (which had become overgrown with thorns and underbrush), but would maintain the unspoilt natural setting, while attempting to make the area available and accessible to all community residents. In doing so, she hoped to consult with members of the Blomidon Naturalist Society.

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

- **that citizens be given the opportunity to come together and to agree collectively on how this designated parkland will be developed.**

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

- **that minimal alterations will be made to the parkland (to maintain the natural habitat) while also allowing persons of varying abilities to access and enjoy this park.**
- **that no structures be constructed on or placed in the park;**
- **that access to this park area be from the Birchwood entrance only.**

MOTION DEFEATED

Points from Discussion

- When Royal Oaks Subdivision was being developed, the Town should have laid out its intent as to how that park area would be developed in the future.
- The park space is so small that it has little potential and would appear to be a waste of time and money.
- Parks and green spaces are important parts of any community for all ages.
- When backyards border on greenspace, it is only natural that homeowners take possession of it and want to preserve it for themselves.
- The Recreation Director has undertaken this process in response to a vocal few, and although the majority of the citizens in that area did not want a park, the Town's mandate was to pursue this recreation option. This was done very well and democratically by the Director.

**(6) Valley Regional Enterprise Network (VREN)
Amendment to Funding Agreement**

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, CAO Phillips reported that the Liaison and Oversight Committee is recommending that amendments be made to the current funding formula, so as to better represent the funding partners.

The proposed formula would require that each funding partner (the municipal units and Glooscap) pay a base fee of \$7,500, with 50% of the remaining balance paid by the Province and 50% funded by the partners. The percentage paid by each partner would be determined based on 50% population and 50% uniform assessment

For the most part, this means that all partners (except for the County of

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

Kings) will have a reduction in their percentage. In the case of Kentville, the revised percentage would be reduced to 8.7% from the previous 12.2%. This, when referenced to the proposed budget for 2015-16 of \$610,000, would mean a contribution of \$26,598.

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

that the revised funding formula be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

(7) Valley Regional Enterprise Network (VREN) Budget

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, CAO Phillips reported that the budget being presented for the VREN was approved at the last Liaison and Oversight Committee meeting. This \$172,000 budget for 2014-2015, prorates expenses up to March 31, 2015. Of this amount, one half (\$86,000) is paid by the Province, with the balance being funded by the partners, of which Kentville would pay 12.1%, or \$10,444.

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

that the Town supports the 2014-15 budget for the VREN (Valley Regional Enterprise Network) up to the year ending March 31, 2015, in the pro-rated amount to Kentville of \$10,444.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- It is important to make sure that the Town's Community Development Dept., KDCL, VREN and AVCC are working within their specific tier of economic development, as per their mandate. There is a connectivity but each has a different focus.

(8) Withdrawal Town Capital Reserve – Additions

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill stated that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Director Crowell reported that those projects added to the capital program for 2014-2015, require funding from the Town's Equipment Reserve and Capital Reserve. Equipment and ornamental lights amount to a total capital requirement of \$18,875.67.

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

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

that the attached resolution be approved for a withdrawal of \$5,735.70 from the Town Capital Equipment Reserve to fund the sidewalk sweeper

And further

that the attached resolution be approved for a withdrawal of \$13,139.97 from the Town's Capital Reserve – General Allocation to fund the replacement of ornamental lights.

MOTION CARRIED

(9) Withdrawal Town Capital 2014-2015 Construction

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Director Crowell noted that the 2014-15 capital budget provided for partial funding of capital construction from the Town's Capital Reserve Fund, and therefore, with various projects completed or substantially completed, a resolution is required of Council to withdraw funds.

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

that the attached resolution be approved for:

- **A withdrawal of \$76,953.53 from the Town of Kentville Capital Reserve-General Allocation, and**
- **A withdrawal of \$19,523.01 from the Town of Kentville Capital Reserve – Soccer**

to fund various capital construction projects for 2014-2015

MOTION CARRIED

(10) Skatepark Agreement with Newline Skateparks

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Director Bedingfield noted that this proposed 15,000 square foot skatepark facility would cost approximately \$750,000. She added that the budget prepared by Kentville Skatepark Association identified 3 funding partners – the Town of Kentville, the Municipality of Kings and the Department of Health and Wellness, with each to

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

contribute \$150,000, with the balance of \$300,000 being raised by KSA from the community.

RFPs were released in early January to consulting firms with experience in skatepark design and from the three submissions, the Selection Committee awarded the bid to Newline Skateparks.

Phase 1 of the project, at a cost of \$25,500, would involve planning, conceptual design work and estimating for the construction budget. She added that \$18,000 of this phase of the project would be funded by the Town of Kentville.

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

that Town Council supports the Kentville Skatepark Evaluation Committee's final scored results, and that the Town enter into an agreement with Newline Skateparks, and further, that the Town moves forward with Phase One of the skatepark development plan that Newline Skateparks has proposed.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland that an amendment be made to include

that the Town would contribute \$18,000 of the \$25,500 cost for Phase One.

AMENDMENT MOTION CARRIED

(11) Valley Waste Resource Management Authority – 2015-16 Operating Budget

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Ross Maybee, General Manager of VWRM presented a draft copy of the 2015-16 Operating and Capital Budgets, noting that the Board has approved these for presentation to the funding partners.

He added that although the Operating Budget does reflect a 7.27% increase over last year, there would be no changes in the current level of service, with the exception of the reinstatement of the fall clean-up.

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

Subsequently, with Revenues and Expenditures balanced at \$10,372,787, Kentville would be responsible to pay \$601,586, which represents its 7.85%.

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

that the Town approves its contribution towards the 2015-2016 Valley Waste Resource Management Authority's Operating Budget of \$10,372,787.

MOTION CARRIED

(12) Valley Waste Resource Management Authority – 2015-16 Capital Budget

Councilor Nola Folker – Hill reported that at the February 9th, 2015 meeting of CAC, Ross Maybee, General Manager of VWRM presented a draft copy of the 2015-16 Operating and Capital Budgets, noting that the Board has approved these for presentation to the funding partners.

He added that the Capital Budget for 2015-16 includes a wheel loader and the replacement of a scale, site signage, a scale-house service window and the construction of a small wind turbine, therefore, bringing the total capital budget to \$895,000. Of this amount, Kentville's portion will represent 7.85%.

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

that the Town approves its contribution towards the 2015-2016 Valley Waste Resource Management Authority's Capital Budget of \$895,000.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Fire

(i) Chief's Report

CAO Phillips reported that there is no report at this time, however, a Rate Payers Meeting is being scheduled and a report will be given following that event.

(ii) Joint Fire Services Committee Report

Councilor Bernie Cooper reported that there was nothing to report at this time.

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

(c) Valley Waste Resources Management – Representative’s Report

Councilor Bernie Cooper, the alternate for this committee, made reference to attached Management Minute from Valley Waste Resource Management and pointed out that:

- At a board meeting on February 18th, the draft 2015-2016 Operating and Capital budget was discussed and it was noted that some of the partners have approved both.
- The wind turbine is viewed as an alternative source of income, which is expected to produce a positive cash flow, with net revenues of approximately \$20,000 annually. There is a guaranteed rate of 49.9 cents per kilowatt hour for the energy produced.
- Ten responses have been received on the RFP for an organizational review. The Department of Municipal Affairs will pay 50% of the costs for this review (up to \$10,000)
- Storms have resulted in some cancellations for waste pickup. A program for either alternate pick-up dates or additional bag allowance helps during these cancelled collection days.
- A contract will be approved with Valley Community Fiber Network following approval of the budgets.
- Applications are being reviewed for the vacancy left by retiring Operations Manager, Ken Redden. Recyclable Processing is up slightly from last year, as is organic recyclables. Residuals to Chester are down from last year.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

d) Kings Transit Authority

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl reported that Councilor Tony Bentley has been attending meetings and the attached report noted:

- Atcom has had difficulty trying to remove large banks of snow around the bus shelters.
- Bus drivers on the King Transit busses do not use cell phones as indicated in a recent “letter to the editor” of the Kentville Advertiser. The instrument in use was a two way radio, which

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

is required as a communication device between the bus and the office.

- An RFP has been posted for auditing services.
- Snow storms – Although snow storms have been the cause for some changes in bussing schedules, the busses have not been cancelled for a complete day during the month of February.
- Repairs are being made to the plumbing and resulting water damage as a result of a broken water valve.
- New busses – work is being carried out on the busses and a technician from (Grand West) in British Columbia has flown in to carry out some of the work.

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

that the report from Kings Transit Authority be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(e) Councilor's Report

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl had nothing further to report.

Councilor Bill Boyd was not present

Councilor Bernie Cooper attended all meetings, along with the Grand Opening of Jason's Independent Grocery store.

Councilor Tony Bentley was not present

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill attended all meetings and wanted to thank the Public Works crews who have the streets cleared overnight, as this allows for safe, early-morning travel..

Councilor Eric Bolland attended all meetings, except for CAC this month, along with a meeting with the Royal Oaks Park group, a special Recreation/Economic Development Meeting, the FCM Sustainability Conference, and an EcoKings Special Transit meeting in New Minas

f) Mayors Report

Mayor Dave Corkum reiterated some events and meetings he participated in noting that:

- Meetings involved UNSM, Rotary, CAC, One Nova Scotia, AMA meeting and one for Fiscal Indicators
- Events involved Recreational Coasting, WOW, Winter Carnival at Riverside Court, birthday celebrations, the Grand Opening of Jason's new grocery store and the Opening and closing of the Special Olympics.

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

- He added that the Special Olympics offers such a great opportunity and support system for the participants, and it is a heart-warming event. Camp Aldershot and Glooscap Curling Club contribute a great deal to this event, which allowed over 400 Olympians to compete.
- Mrs. Gillan (a teacher from KCA) was presented with a special Recreation Award, as she took her class to a full day of outdoor play as a reward for their hard work.
- At Kings County Council, the Skateboard group was presenting their proposal for financial support, following which the County's Recreation Director established that over 80% of the users of Town facilities are from the county.

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Kings Citizens Coalition

A letter from Co-chairs Gordon Lummis and David Ritcey outlined the efforts made by this group to encourage the Kings Partnership Steering Committee to engage in a study relating to the governance of the municipal units in Kings County. This letter appeared in the Kentville Advertiser, as well.

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

that the letter from the Kings Citizens Coalition be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(Note: Mayor Corkum noted that Kentville Town Council has gone on record in supporting KPSC and members have made themselves available for any proposed meetings; the Town has also passed a motion in support of a Governance Study, providing there is an acceptable Terms of Reference; and further, has passed a motion in support of village representation on the Partnership Steering Committee. As such, he felt that the Town should not be criticized by the Kings Citizen Coalition for any lack of support.)

(b) Anna Freiss and Eric Mullen

A letter dated February 17 from residents living at 63 Chapel Hill, was read into the minutes. Their complaint is as a result of ongoing

APPROVED – March 30, 2015

dumping (in a residential area) of construction waste, household appliances, landscaping debris and now truckloads of snow and ice from private parking lots.

They felt that this debris being allowed by neighbouring property owner, George Mutch, is not only destroying the adjacent Miner's Marsh park and leaching onto other properties, but is being done late at night with a great deal of noise, vibration and lights from trucks turning in the driveway. Damage has been done to the sidewalk due to heavy truck traffic, and snow is being left in huge piles on the sidewalk. The residents asked for the Town to intervene to terminate these activities.

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

that the letter from Anna Freiss and Eric Mullen be sent to the next meeting of Council Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

(a) none

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

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

that the meeting adjourn at 8:45 p.m. to go In Camera to discuss the Kentville Library.

MOTION CARRIED

IN CAMERA

(a) Kentville Library

Meeting from 9:00 p.m. until 9:38 p.m.