

Council Advisory Committee

MINUTES

June 15, 2015

PRESENT

Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl, Councilor Bill Boyd, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Tony Bentley, Councilor Eric Bolland (left at 4:00 p.m.), Solicitor Geoff Muttart, CAO Mark Phillips and Town Clerk Carol Harmes.

Also present: Finance Director Deb Crowell, Planning Director Bev Gentleman, Town Engineer Fred Whynot, Recreation Director Rachel Bedingfield and Acting Police Chief Ken Reade.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor David Corkum called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and CAO Mark Phillips reported that all members of Council were present, in addition to all department heads, Solicitor Muttart, Town Clerk Harmes and CAO Phillips

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 Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

**that the agenda be approved with the addition of:
*8(g) Maritime Sports Hall of Fame***

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

(a) Marilyn Cameron – No Farms – No Food

Ms. Cameron wanted to address Council on the concerns of the No Farms – No Food watchdog group, with the disappearance of farmland in Kings County. She felt that urban municipalities have designated areas for future development in their Municipal Planning Strategies and Land-Use Bylaws. However, the County of Kings has allowed and encouraged development in rural areas, without regard for the impact that this lost farmland will have on agriculture, infrastructure costs and the general economy. With designated areas now mapped by the County for future

development, farmland is threatened needlessly, as growth areas in many urban areas are still able to accommodate future growth. The No Farms – No Food group advocates that residential, commercial and mixed-uses should be concentrated into the urban areas.

One third of the province’s agriculture takes place in Kings County and the economic spin-off with agri-related jobs is huge. Although there is some protection of farmland on the valley floor, the County’s new Municipal Planning Strategy and Land-Use Bylaw do not protect the agriculture industry. Over 200,000 acres of soil in the area is threatened; an allowance is being made for in-fill of lots in existing residential areas; there is a rural mix zone and urban-holding zones identified for areas like Greenwich, Coldbrook, South Berwick, Waterville, North Kentville, Port Williams and Avonport. “Urban Creep” is also extending to the North and South Mountains. New residential and commercial development in these areas is detrimental and will continue to conflict with agriculture.

In support of controlled development, Kentville (along with other urban centres) is being asked to recommend to the County that future residential and commercial development be directed to the urban areas and that, if this fails, that the Towns are being asked to contact the Minister of Agriculture.

Points from Discussion

- It costs more to develop a lot in an urban area than in a rural area, as the same types of services do not exist in the County.
- County taxes are also cheaper, sometimes making the county more attractive to developers and home-buyers.
- The Town has expressed its concerns many times about development in rural areas, and although the pitfalls of urban sprawl have been known, the County continues to pursue residential and commercial development.
- The County and Towns in Kings County initially worked together on what was called the Kings 2050 project, in which one aspect involved sustainable development. Over the years, however, the County has chosen to make this Kings 2050 plan its own Municipal Planning Strategy and although the towns contributed a great deal of information and time towards this project, the County has withdrawn from this partnership with its urban neighbours.

(b) KDCL Downtown Revitalization and Development Plan

President, Cate Savage, COO JD MacCulloch and Gary Morse reviewed the Downtown Revitalization and Development Plan, as prepared by KDCL, with consultation with the Town of Kentville.

Points from presentation:

- This plan will sustain growth and development, enhance property values and will attract a large customer base.
- It is important to have a multi-faceted plan for the downtown.
- Funding will be requested from a number of sources and financial assistance will be asked from the Town.
- In 2013 a volunteer board was organized and hired JD MacCulloch as the COO.
- A Downtown Merchants Group, focusing on marketing, has been formed.
- Following the “Imagine Kentville” project, considerable data was analyzed and KDCL developed the plan for the downtown.
- The Plan will help position Kentville as an economic engine for the valley region, sending the message that the town is “open for business.”
- KDCL members supported the creation of a Master Plan, which would be prepared by a consulting firm who will be expected to deliver the final report and recommendations within 8 to 12 weeks.
- The Master Plan will be a blueprint for revitalization and future growth, with strategies, tools and specific action plans to deliver short and long-term objectives.
- The Master Plan will include three major components; The Core Plan, the Building Façade Program and the Kentville Way Program, all of which will ultimately attract new investment, support existing businesses and foster residential and commercial growth to the benefit of the Town and area.
- The Plan will include MPS and LUB content.
- The Façade program will give a fresh look to the downtown, through design, grants, upgrades, signage and streetscapes.
- The Kentville-Way will ensure that every visitor to town has a positive experience and that the town becomes known for its welcoming and friendly environment. Representatives will be visible on the streets, on the trails and at the programs and special events.

- Kentville needs to tie in its assets to the downtown (i.e. the trail system, river front, Miner’s Marsh, etc.): it needs to be more parking friendly and more attractive through streetscapes and green areas; and needs to make better use of signage.
- There are a number of vacancies in the downtown, some which are focal points or high profile properties, and efforts need to be made to fill these with new occupants. Empty buildings reduce the look of prosperity and are a deterrent to attracting new businesses to the area.
- Some very positive improvements and transformations have been made with many buildings in the downtown.
- Consumers are looking for an experience and visits to Kentville will not currently meet most expectations.
- The costs for the program would be \$455,000 and funding sources anticipated as follows - ACOA at \$150,000, the town of Kentville at \$100,000, \$150,000 from property owners for the façade program, \$31,000 from KDCL as cash or in kind, and an application to the NS Department of Tourism is being submitted for \$24,000 for the Kentville Way program.

Points from Discussion

- The ACOA Funding application has been submitted, however, rumour has it that a flood of applications may be creating a backlog.
- Branding and signage is important to attract visitors.
- Council will have to examine its financial resources to determine how best to assist with this project.
- Further discussion can be scheduled for CAC in July, which will allow time for preparation of staff reports.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Minutes of May 11, 2015

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

that the Minutes of May 11, 2015 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/OLD BUSINESS

(a) Belcher Street Dumping

CAO Phillips reported that this item is a continuance of a previous issue regarding a legal action between a resident and the Town. This involves the remediation of property at Miner’s Marsh, damaged as a result of dumping.

Points from Discussion

- The Mayor and CAO met with Mr. Mutch who explained some options which might be an acceptable response to the remediation issue. The signing of an Agreement is pending.
- Perhaps this resident could explain his remediation plan to Council as a group.
- There is not much more to report on the legal aspect of this situation, however, if further discussion is required, Council should proceed with this In Camera.

(b) Policy G28 – Requests for Funding from Organizations.

During the recent budget review process, the issue of funding requests and grants to organizations was discussed. It was noted that the current policy did not indicate a deadline date for the submission of applications, and therefore, draft amendments to this policy had been brought to this meeting for review.

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

***Recommendation to
Town Council***

that a recommendation be made to Town Council that those amendments and the inclusion of the deadline date of February 28th, as proposed for Policy G28 – Requests for Funding from Organizations, be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The date of February 28 was selected as it is prior to year end and at the beginning of the budget process.
- The Town needs to set its deadline in accordance with its budget patterns, not with neighbouring communities.
- If the February 28th date creates problems in the future, a change can be implemented.
- Funding may be available through reserves, should emergencies arise.

(c) Chapter 52 – Skateboarding Bylaw

A report from Andre Bouchard, the Community Outreach Coordinator, pointed out that the current bylaw restricting skateboarding on town sidewalks conflicts with Kentville’s 2009 Physical Activity Strategy, as skateboarding is a recognized method of safe and healthy transportation. The description of a sidewalk could include the trail system, which would be a logical route for students traveling to school. In addition to out-of-date references,

this document criminalizes skateboarding and in doing so, deters a physical activity.

Andre noted that he has also been in contact with both Fred Whynot, the Traffic Authority and Police Chief Ken Reade and neither individual sees a problem with rescinding the bylaw. Therefore, Andre recommends that the bylaw be rescinded.

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

that a recommendation be made to Council to give First Reading to rescind Chapter 52 – Skateboarding Bylaw.

MOTION DEFEATED

Points from Discussion

- Scooters and long skateboards are different, as skateboards do not have a breaking system. This creates a different risk to others and to the skateboarders themselves, with uneven sidewalks and unexpected obstacles in their path.
- This bylaw was enacted in 1995 to respond to a need, and it would appear that there continues to be a need.
- There are other forms of active transportation that do not involve skateboarding.
- Wolfville, Berwick and other communities should be contacted to see what they are doing.
- The possibility of getting a ticket is a deterrent for young people who might normally skateboard.
- Education on the proper use and safety of these pieces of equipment should reduce any risk.
- It might be a better option to amend this bylaw, so that control is still in force and safety ensured.
- From a legal liability perspective, Solicitor Muttart responded in saying that there are different types of users (skateboarders and scooter users) and their level of responsibility and caution may differ; collisions between skateboarders and pedestrians seem unlikely on the flat streets around the downtown, however maintenance of sidewalks might create a liability situation; areas like Centre Square prohibit skateboarders because the ramps and rails in that area were being destroyed from improper behaviour.
- Enforcement policies could layer over the bylaw to provide tools, if necessary.
- Helmut laws should also be enforced as part of this bylaw.

- KCA students would likely observe the bylaw and skateboard etiquette, but older youth might not.

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

that the issue of the Skateboarding Bylaw be tabled until the next meeting of CAC, at which time staff can prepare some amendments to the existing document.

MOTION CARRIED

**DEPARTMENTAL
REPORTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**(a) Finance
1.Directors’s Report**

Director Debra Crowell reported that:

- The 4th quarter utility bills were due May 25th.
- Interim taxes were due on May 29th.
- Audit preparations are nearly complete and financial statements are being drafted.
- Kent and Duffett began the external audit on May 19th.
- The Town’s Operating and Capital Budgets for 2015-16 were ratified at the May Council meeting, and the Sanitary Sewer Area Rate Service draft budgets will be proposed later on the agenda.

Director Crowell added that Schedule A (Revenue) with a benchmark of 17% shows revenue exceeding the average at 35.9%, with Schedule B (Expenses) showing slightly above, at 17.9% due to annual payments and bulk ordering. Schedule C (Summary of Outstanding Taxes) shows 87.0% of the current interim levy collected, with \$824,084 outstanding.

Schedules E and F (Perpetual Investment Fund) shows the Balance Sheet at April 30th with investments at \$13.1 million at cost, while the Statement of Reserves shows capital losses at \$5,828, managements fees at \$3,034, a budget target at \$600,000, with the potential of a supplemental capital gain withdrawal of \$12,500, which could be drawn if a deficit position is realized at year-end.

It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the report from the Director of Finance be received.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Interest Charged for Outstanding Accounts

Director Crowell referenced a policy statement regarding interest charges on outstanding accounts, pointing out that the MGA provides authority for such charges. She noted that the Financial Condition Index recently released from the Province indicated that the potential lost revenue from uncollected taxes could threaten the financial stability of a municipal unit.

She further noted that the current rate charged is 2% per month (26.8% per annum) and has been an incentive to pay, thereby providing the Town with cash reserves, while reducing both internal and external collection costs. She recommended that this rate of interest be maintained for the upcoming year.

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

*Recommendation to
Town Council*

that a recommendation be made to Council that the interest rate on outstanding accounts for the Town remain at 2% per month, or part thereof, and (26.8% per annum) for the year April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Sundry Account Write-Off

Director Crowell noted that \$1,819.61 remains uncollected as a Sundry Receivable in spite of internal attempts for collection. The account is currently in the hands of an external collection agency and any funds received after write-off will be recorded as income in the future.

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

*Recommendation to
Town Council*

that a recommendation be made to Town Council that the Sundry Receivable Account for \$1,819.61 be written off.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Renewal of TBR Resolution (Demolition of School)

Director Crowell reported that the TBR Resolution for the demolition of KCA, has expired and must be replaced with current authorization, as attached.

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

*Recommendation to
Town Council*

that a recommendation be made to Council to authorize the renewal of the Temporary Borrowing Resolution (TBR 12/13-01) in the amount of \$130,000 for the Demolition of the School.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Planning and Development

1. Director's Report

Director Beverly Gentleman reported that there were 19 permits issued in May for a building valuation of \$1,447,900, bringing the yearly total to \$2,253,300. She added that:

- After a 3-week work experience with mapping for the LUB, our COGS student changed his discipline to Planning.
- The Town is still waiting for the bond for maintenance of the infrastructure for the cul-de-sac in Deer Haven and the construction bond for future paving.
- The installation and unveiling of the sculpture of Dr. Charles Eaves is complete.
- Several calls have been received for Dangerous and Unsightly premises due to garbage.
- A variance application, approved by staff, will allow the increase of 20 feet in the height to the small scale wind turbine at Valley Waste. This was sent to adjacent property owners and with no appeals, the permit has been issued.
- The MPS and LUB Plan Review Committee has reviewed the signage section. However, as signage affects the aesthetics of a community, response from KDCL will be reviewed prior to making amendments.
- The Planning Directors' Conference (May 28-29) involved discussions regarding cultural intelligence. A world café session was held and the group addressed several issues which are noted in the attached graphic.
- Municipalities are being asked to support UNSM's request to amend the MGA, so that municipalities can regulate architecture through site plan approval.

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

that the report from the Director of Planning and Development be received.

MOTION CARRIED

2.Environmental Advisory Committee Report

Chairman Eric Bolland reported that there has been no meeting recently, however, one is being planned for August.

3.Community Development Coordinator’s Report

A report received from CDC Lindsay Young, indicated that:

- A “shop downtown” promotion was featured on K-rock for Father’s Day. Another publication in the Herald will feature Kentville in an article called “All in a Day’s Drive.”
- Marketing will focus heavily on the outdoor experience for the summer.
- Kentville Merchants Group has reorganized themselves and has finalized a working plan for promoting the downtown. The design and print of the business directory; a raffle/ticket sale on a painting of Kentville; and a TGIF Fall into Kentville campaign (which will involve special Friday night events), are all being planned.
- Work continues with new promotion materials for the River Street properties.
- NSTA – First Impressions Grant Application – An application had been submitted to support the next phase of the Branding Project and the purchase and installation of new gateway, wayfinding and brand reinforcement signage.
- At an upcoming BRE International Conference (June 24-26), issues like enhancement of skills and programs, promotion and dissemination of relating information, and the promotion of BRE as a primary economic development strategy, will be addressed.
- Wayfinding Kiosk Maps should be ready to go to print by June 19th.
- Smart Community project with Nova Communications will be discussed further during a meeting on June 29th.

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

that the report from the Community Development Coordinator be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(c) Parks, Recreation and Community Development (1)Director’s Report

Director Bedingfield reported that:

- The 2015 ParticipAction Report indicated that Canadian Youth are falling short of the physical activity required to maintain good health, and emphasized the importance of outdoor, unsupervised play. The benefits of this do not only relate to physical health, but also develop resilience, self-regulation and skills for dealing with stress.
- Many programs and special events focus on physical activities with an emphasis on convincing parents and caregivers to allow children to explore the benefits and risks of unstructured outdoor play.
- Damage to the arena roof is being examined and until repairs are completed, groups using this facility will be relocated.
- Further renovations are being done at the pool and this should be completed by the opening date of June 30th.
- Trails and fields are open and being well used by a variety of groups. New trails and jumps are being added to the Gorge Trail system.
- Renovations at the “Hub” building will not only see a new deck and exterior work, but also public washrooms, a community room and a workshop for staff.
- Japanese Beetles have infested the pond field and control of these insects is underway.
- The Kentville Skateboard Association and staff have been applying for grants and have been completing design work, with the hope that ground-breaking will take place in 2016.
- Updates are being done on an RFP for a Multi-purpose Facility and feedback will be gathered from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.
- The Apple Blossom Festival was successful, with Meredith Moore representing the Town very well, and our float placing 2nd in the Community category.
- The Moms in Motion group banner was carried in the children’s parade and will be hung in the Recreation Centre.
- Oakdene Days (June 16th) involved a clean-up party and barbecue by the Rotary Club, a community engagement exercise by department staff and a kick-off for Bike Week with a scavenger hunt.
- NS Walk Day was recognized at Miner’s Marsh.
- Bike Week (June 23-21) will involve a ride and barbecue, a lunch time bike talk, a mountain bike demo and a women’s only road ride.
- June 4th was walk or wheel to school day at KCA and half

the students participated.

- Music concerts are being scheduled for Thursday evenings under the gazebo in Centre Square.
- Paint the Town Event (September and October) will feature artists showcasing local art.
- Artists will also be on display at the Recreation Centre, the first of which will be photos of Miners Marsh.
- Free Yoga classes are being scheduled for Wednesdays from 5:30 until 6:30 at Oakdene Park.
- This year’s summer camps will focus on nature, physical activity and free play. Registration has been excellent.
- Healthy lunch and snacks will be included in the camp experience, with the support of the Designer Café, the Community Health Board and a private donation from Dr. Danielle Woo.
- Moms, Dads and their children, or anyone interested in outdoor physical activity, is invited to the Stroller Fit program at Miners Marsh.

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

that the report from the Recreation Director be received

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- The Wrestling Show was held at KCA, as the Arena was not available, and things went really well.
- Outdoor facilities can, on occasion, be used as an alternative to the arena, however, if “containment” of the crowd is required, this option is not manageable.

(d) Police Report

(1) Chief’s Report

Acting Police Chief Ken Reade presented his reports, from which he noted that:

- From the 186 regularly scheduled shifts for the month, 34 were lost due to scheduled leave and sick time.
- 1,153.5 hours were spent on mobile patrols which resulted in 216 vehicles being checked, with 87 warnings and 231 charges laid.
- With the warmer weather, 203 hours have been spent patrolling the block from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

- There were very few incidents during the Apple Blossom Festival.
- The GIS, CISNS and SCEU units are at full capacity and quarterly reports will be shared regarding their actions.
- A 2015 Dodge Ram 1500 crew cab police package should be available before the end of June.
- New radios are being programmed and training will be conducted on their use.
- The Bylaw Enforcement Officer (Gideon Travis) is expecting to return to work on July 7th.
- The Alarm Bylaw will soon be enforced and every alarm installation company will be notified of this.
- A price has been received for the installation of 3 heat pumps at the Police station, and this will be discussed further at the next Board Meeting. (3 separate units would be needed at a cost over \$21,000.) Additional estimates will be sourced.
- July 6, 7, and 8th are the dates scheduled for the next APA negotiations.

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

that the report from the Acting Police Chief be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(2) Board Report

Councilor Bernie Cooper reported that the next meeting will be in July after the negotiations have taken place. The work done on the foot patrols and the Alarm Bylaw is much appreciated.

(e) Transportation Services

(1) Directors Report

Director Whynot reported that:

- Public Works crews remained busy with street work and preparations for the Apple Blossom Festival.
- Summer students are helping with the workload.
- Staff attended the MPWANS conference and made a brief visit to the Spring workshop for UNSM, to discuss the recent flood study.
- The Dr. Apple statue installation went well with few issues.
- A small deformation in one of the roof beams at the arena is being repaired.
- The Regional Sewer System Committee meetings continue,

with recent discussions regarding the erosion along the rail trail in New Minas, which has caused issues for the proposed forcemain replacement. This should result in increased costs of \$150,000.

It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the report from the Transportation Services Director be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(f) Water Commission

(1) Directors Report

Director Whynot noted that:

- Staff has been busy with spring start-up work (flushing hydrants, opening systems and fixing leaks, difficult to find during the winter.)
- The reserve production well was brought in line and is being tested; it is replacing the well that collapse last year.
- Work continues with the caustic soda problems and piping was replaced at the Prospect Avenue site. The nearby reservoir was plugged to shut off possible back flow.

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

that the report from the Director of the Water Commission be received.

MOTION CARRIED

(3) Commission Report

Mayor David Corkum noted that a meeting is being scheduled.

(i) Administration

(1) Chief Administrative Officer's Report

CAO Phillips noted some highlights from the attached report:

- The Kings Partnership Steering Committee - Kings CAOs Working Group - met June 11 to discuss the proposed viability study and action items from the Joint Spring meeting. The issues of policing, recreation and tourism were noted as top priorities at that meeting. The next meeting will take place in October.
- REN - The budget of \$555,322 was approved, although the new funding formula has not endorsed by the Glooscap and Bridgetown/Annapolis County partners.

- The Joint Fire Services Committee will meet soon regarding adjustments on the Operating Budget, as that Kings County has not supported the budget. The KVFD is currently using a budget model that will result in a deficit.
- KDCL – A meeting of the proposed Development and Revitalization Plan was held on May 27th at the Fire Hall.
- The AMANS Spring Conference will take place from June 17 – 19 at Saint FX Campus and a session on regional economic development will take on Thursday.
- Rebranding group is working on Phase 2 – logo design and championing the new brand.
- 2015-2016 budget sessions finished in May, with the Town holding the residential rate and reducing the commercial rate.
- Others meetings – E-voting Bulk Purchase Committee, Library Committee meeting, Dr. Eaves’ Statue Ceremonies, Budget meetings and Investment Advisory Committee.
- Town is working with the Whynot Group of businesses to secure a location, building and lease agreement for the future space for the Library.
- CAMA Conference in Jasper had a theme of leadership. Workshops were held on communications, engagement, enablement, transparency and technology.
- FCM – Edmonton involved highlights of study tours, keynote speakers, opposition party leaders and sessions, along with a trade show with service providers and trends. An interesting program called “citizen budget” allows residents to review the services provided (with costs attached) and add or subtract services to show the impact they have on the budget. This might serve as an educational tool for Kentville residents.
- APA Negotiations are scheduled for July.
- CUPE negotiations – Bargaining is scheduled for June 22, 23, and 24th.

It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

that the report from the CAO be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Points from Discussion

- Council members to review some of the information that

came out of the Kings Partnership Steering Committee workshop with Gordon MacIntosh.

- There may be a renewed interest in the Valley REN from Annapolis.

(h) Council Information Sharing (Workshops and Conferences)

Mayor David Corkum – FCM Trade Show introduced a pothole paving machine which could heat up the asphalt and pave when the temperature is 10 below zero. Costs for this type of unit could be shared with other neighbouring areas. FCM is the association that chases after Federal funds like the Building Canada Fund and the Gas Tax projects and attendance by municipal officials allows their interests to be brought forward. He also visited Camrose (sister town of Kentville) toured Town Hall - their council recently built an \$18 million Council Chambers. He went to Whiteport to meet the Mayor, viewed the Council Chambers and plans for a new micro hotel. The Mayor promised to visit Kentville to consider a micro hotel in our area when he comes to Prince Edward Island.

Councilor Bill Boyd – Attended the Planning Conference – good regional planning is necessary; attended the FCM conference – networking, trade show offered some innovative ideas and products, sessions on urban flooding (Trudeau, Mulcair and May spoke to the group). Mayor was elected to the Board representing Atlantic Canada for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Councilor Bernie Cooper – attended all meetings, programs and the Catholic Women’s League Conference.

Councilor Eric Bolland – not present

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl – Attended the Planning Conference, the KDCL Presentation – FCM Conference where he found the tour of the wellness centre a highlight.

Councilor Nola Folker-Hill – Attended FCM and enjoyed the trade show and the presentations given by the 3 federal leaders.

Councilor Tony Bentley – Attended the KDCL Downtown Development

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Travelers Club

A letter from the Board of Directors of the Travelers Club noted that this is a private members club, and because of issues with revenue, they have found it necessary to close its doors. The premises are for sale.

The Board has asked if the property might be of interest to the Town and if a reduction in property tax would be possible.

Points from Discussion

- A tax reduction for this type of situation would not fall within the guidelines, as the building has not been destroyed or partially destroyed.
- In the past, consideration was given to the reassignment of the corner of West Main Street and Park Street and this may have affected that property. However, those plans are not in the foreseeable future.
- The Town should write a letter expressing regret of their circumstances, stating that it is unable to take possession of the property, nor can it provide a tax reduction.

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Sanitary Sewer – Operating and Capital Budgets 2015-2016

Director Fred Whynot noted that after revenue and expenses, a \$22,500 excess in revenue is being projected, as part of the increases in sewer rates. Expenses increased slightly, relating to the Kings County Agreement, depreciation and a sewer renewal.

With the Capital Budget, projects include the sewer renewals on Maxwell Place, Campbell Road and Chester Avenue, along with an upgrade of four lift station panels.

It was moved by Councilor Bill Boyd and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

***Recommendation to
Town Council***

that a recommendation be made to Council to approve the Sanitary Sewer Area Service Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,066,500, and the Capital Budget in the amount of \$430,000 for 2005-2016.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Audit Committee Restructure

CAO Phillips reported that members of the Finance and Administration Committee recommended that those councilors be automatically appointed to the Audit Committee, along with a citizen representative. To accommodate this amendment, Policy Statement G-57 – Committees of Council was revised and presented for consideration.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill and seconded by Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl

***Recommendation to
Town Council***

that a recommendation be made to Council that Policy G57 – Committees of Council be amended to reflect the structural change of the Audit Committee, from its current model to include members of the Finance and Administration Committee, plus one citizen appointment.

MOTION CARRIED

(c) Monarchist League of Canada

A request was received from the Monarchist League of Canada asking all municipalities to pay tribute to Queen Elizabeth II, in recognizing that she has served the commonwealth for the longest period in or modern history. Celebrations will be held on Wednesday, September 9th. Council agreed that work should continue with the County of Kings on this joint event.

(d) Canada Post Corporation (CARP)

CAO Phillips noted that a letter was received from Ken Harrison who asked if the Town could intervene with the proposed loss of door-to-door postal delivery in Town. A copy of a letter from CARP to Halifax City Council was also included for discussion.

Council agreed that a response should be made to Mr. Harrison stating that the Town has formally expressed its concerns through UNSM and FCM regarding the loss of door-to-door services.

(e) Student Bursary Awards

Councilor Tony Bentley reported that 9 applications were recently reviewed and evaluated as eligible applicants for the Town of Kentville bursary. Once again this year, the decision was a very difficult one to make with so many deserving candidates, however, 4 recipients have been chosen for a \$500 bursary each. Their names will be announced during the graduation ceremonies.

(f) Municipal Government Act – Part 8 – amendments regarding site plan

A report from Director Gentleman noted that during the recent Planning Director's Conference, discussions ensued regarding the obstacles to development and the need to balance flexibility with timely permit processes. As a result, municipalities are asking for support from their councils to endorse UNSM's request to amend Section (Part) 8 of the MGA, so that municipalities have the ability to regulate architecture through the site plan approval process.

Director Gentleman noted that the issue addresses Development Agreements versus Site Plans. Whereas the approval of a Development Agreement can be a very lengthy process, the more streamlined Site Plan option is preferable in many municipalities as a development control tool. The Site Plan process involves the development officer and the developer on certain site related aspects of the project, except for items like regulating architecture. To have this development aspect included in the Site Plan process, a more balanced flexibility and improved permit processing would result. A draft letter was prepared for Council's decision, which would be directed to the Minister of Municipal Affairs showing support of this change to the MGA.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Tony Bentley

that staff be directed to send the attached letter to the Honourable Mark Furey Minister of Municipal Affairs, thereby showing support of the UNSM's request to amend Section (Part) 8 of the MGA, so that municipalities have the ability to regulate architecture through the site plan approval process.

MOTION CARRIED

(g) Maritime Sports Hall of Fame

Deputy Mayor Mark Pearl noted that a well-known and worthy individual from our Town has been named to the Maritime Sports Hall of Fame, and that Burton Russell should be acknowledged during the next meeting of Council for this achievement.

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

that Mr. Burton Russell be asked to attend the next Council meeting to be recognized by the Town.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

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

that the meeting adjourn at 5:06 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED