

The Village of Bible Hill Commission in Committee Meeting was held on November 12, 2013 in the Village Office, 67 Pictou Road. Deputy Chair MacCormick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm; the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Call to Order: Chair Burke
Deputy Chair MacCormick
Commissioner McLeod

Regrets: Commissioner McLean
Commissioner Van Kroonenburg

Staff: Clerk and Treasurer Christianson
Recording Secretary Curry

In Attendance: Chief Mellish, Bible Hill Fire Brigade
Secretary Cavanagh, Bible Hill Fire Brigade
Councillor Parker, County of Colchester
M. Chiasson, Truro Daily News

Approval of the Minutes of October 8, 2013

*Moved by McLeod
Seconded by Burke*

"That the minutes of October 8, 2013 be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

Review and Approval of the Agenda, call for new or other business

*Moved by Burke
Seconded by McLeod*

"That the agenda be approved with the addition of 2014 Summer Student Employment under New Business."

Motion carried.

Deputy Chair MacCormick welcomed Chief Mellish, Secretary Cavanagh, Councillor Parker, and Ms. Chiasson to the meeting.

Delegations:

- Bible Hill Fire Brigade

Fire Chief Mellish made a presentation on the need for a replacement of the Fire Brigade's 1999 Suburban Utility Vehicle that has recently been deemed inoperable. The Brigade proposed purchasing a new 4-wheel drive Quad Cab as a replacement. The Chief suggested that this purchase should be made over and above existing budget allocation. The Deputy Chair requested the Clerk to have a staff report for the next Commission meeting next week.

- Councillor Parker

Councillor Parker spoke to the Commission of his concern regarding several unsightly premises on Guest Drive in Bible Hill. He and the County Building Inspector, Mr. Withrow, viewed the properties in question. Councillor Parker requested that the Village of Bible Hill sign Unsightly Premises Reports on four properties in that area and submit them to Council. Councillor Parker would like to change the planning bylaw regarding the installation of older modular homes in the Village. He would like to see the bylaw amended to state that the replacement modular home be no more than 20 years old and meets CSA standards. Currently substandard mobile housing units are being installed under existing planning and development regulations. Councillor Parker is also looking for a letter of support from the Village regarding his efforts to amend the current bylaws governing modular homes. He says he is working hard to improve the working relationship between the County and the Village.

*Moved by Burke
Seconded by McLeod*

“That the Commission in Committee recommends that the Village of Bible Hill sign the four Unsightly Premises Reports and forward them on to the County of Colchester.”

Motion carried.

*Moved by Burke
Seconded by McLeod*

“That the Commission in Committee recommends that the Village of Bible Hill write a letter of support to Councillor Parker regarding his efforts to have the planning bylaws amended to restrict placing older non CSA approved substandard modular homes on building lots in the Village.”

Motion carried.

Business Arising out of the Minutes

- 5-Year Capital Plan

The Clerk passed out and discussed in detail the proposed 5-year capital plan. Village Staff prepared a “wish list” for the Commission on proposed Village Hall renovations. Commissioners were asked to prioritize these items so that the Clerk can get an idea of the Commissioners wishes. Dugouts, trails, sidewalks, and crosswalks were also discussed.

- Crosswalk Vimy at College

PDI Engineering was engaged in September to do a report on the viability of a crosswalk at the intersection of Vimy Road and College Road. The Clerk passed out copies of the report to the Commissioners. As the report was positive, a copy of the report will be forwarded to Mr. Webster at Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. If approved through TIR, this location will be put on a project list for the summer of 2014. Chair Burke would like to see the Village

approach Dal for some cost sharing of this project as he views Dal students as the major users of this crosswalk.

An engineering study for the proposed sidewalks in the Saywood area should also begin soon.

- Amendment of Advertising Sign Policy

The Clerk outlined the proposed change in the Advertising Sign Policy. After discussion, it was agreed to go ahead with the change in wording.

*Moved by McLeod
Seconded by Burke*

“That the Commission in Committee recommends that the Village of Bible Hill amend the wording of the Advertising Sign to include commercial recreation events held at the hall to be allowed on the sign.”

Motion carried.

- Operating Reserve Policy

The Clerk explained to the Commission the importance of creating an Operating Reserve Policy to identify how much money to put in each year and what the money is to be used for. This will be used to hopefully maintain a stable tax rate, as unexpected expenditures will be paid for with this fund. He is proposing to set the reserve at 15% of the tax levy, which is currently \$1.8 million. The Clerk will email the policy paper that he used to develop this policy to Commissioners for their information.

- Bible Hill Crossing Guard Station Child Counts

Crossing Guard station child counts were presented to the Commission as an information item. These numbers will be monitored on an on-going basis.

New Business

- Purchase of Four Bunker Suits for the Bible Hill Fire Brigade - Cuming’s Fire & Safety
\$6,348 + HST

*Moved by Burke
Seconded by McLeod*

“That the Commission in Committee recommends that the Village of Bible Hill purchase four bunker suits from Cuming’s Fire & Safety at a cost of \$6,348 plus HST.”

Motion carried.

- Cobequid Trail Extension

A draft agreement has been received from the Province of Nova Scotia, which would enable the Village to extend the Cobequid Trail system from Village Court to the boundary with Valley through the Perennia Park. The agreement has been sent to the Village Solicitor.

- Left-Hand Turning Lane from Pictou to Vimy (East on Pictou)

Commissioner McLeod would like to see the Village approach TIR regarding a flashing green light being installed going up Pictou Road at Vimy Road.

*Moved by McLeod
Seconded by Burke*

“That the Commission in Committee recommends that the Village of Bible Hill approach Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal regarding the addition of a flashing green light and possibly a left turning lane on Pictou Road at the Vimy Road intersection.”

Motion carried.

- Report Efficiency Nova Scotia

A report on the Village Office and Village Hall has been received from Efficiency Nova Scotia. Energy consumption has been noted as reasonable with a few suggestions to improve efficiency. Occupancy sensors are recommended in specific locations, vending machines should be unplugged when not used or gotten rid of altogether, and the air compressor in the old fire bays should be tested for leaks.

- Parks & Recreation Committee Members

Parks and Recreation Committee Members were due to be up for re-election in March 2013. The Village will advertise beginning in January 2014 to fill these positions to begin April 1, 2014. The Village may wish to review and amend the Parks and Recreation Policy before these positions are advertised.

- Student Employment

The Chair brought forward information that applications for funding for student employment in the summer of 2014 are early this year. The Clerk will check into this.

Adjournment

*Moved by McLeod
Seconded by Burke*

“That the November 12, 2013 Commission in Committee Meeting of the Village of Bible Hill be adjourned.”

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Deputy Chair MacCormick

Recording Secretary Curry

Clerk Christianson
