

Village of Bible Hill
Commission in Committee Meeting
January 11, 2022



The Village of Bible Hill Commission in Committee meeting was held on January 11, via videoconferencing, per the direction of the Minister of Municipal Affairs issued July 29, 2020 (enclosed). Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg called the meeting to order at 7:04pm; the meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

Call to Order: Commissioner Kennedy
Commissioner Van Kroonenburg
Commissioner Burke
Commissioner Shea
Clerk and Treasurer Bell
Recording Secretary Chandler

Guests: Josh Kennedy, Parks and Recreation Director
Fire Chief Joey Bisson, Bible Hill Fire Brigade

Regrets: Commissioner Pitcher

Call for new or other business and review and approval of agenda

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg called for new or other business, and Commissioner Kennedy requested to add discussion on a letter received, and a radio interview to new business.

Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Shea, that the agenda be approved, with additions. Motion carried.

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg welcomed Mayor Blair, Fire Chief Bisson and Director Kennedy to the meeting.

Call for declaration of conflict of interests

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg called for any declarations of conflict of interest, and none were declared.

Miscellaneous business including delegations

There was no miscellaneous business to discuss.

New business

Budget development – operating budget

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented a timeline for budget development.

Commissioner Burke joined the meeting at 7:08pm.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell then presented a draft operating budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, highlighting the components of general government services, protective services, transportation services, recreation and

cultural services, environmental health services, and other expenditures and transfers. The Committee discussed.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell invited Commissioners to inquire with Fire Chief Bisson on any questions pertaining to the protective services draft budget. The Committee discussed.

Chief Bisson left the meeting at 7:31pm.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell invited Commissioners to inquire with Parks and Recreation Director Kennedy on any questions pertaining to the recreation and cultural services draft budget. The Committee discussed.

Director Kennedy left the meeting at 7:47pm.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell asked Commissioners to review the draft operating budget and consider any changes, additions, deletions they wish to see, and to bring forward any questions or concerns they may have.

ANSV AGM planning – round table

Clerk and Treasurer Bell spoke of the Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV) annual general meeting (AGM) which will take place in Bible Hill on September 16 and 17, 2022. Bell presented options for draft schedule for the AGM. The Committee discussed.

Volunteer awards – format and provincial nomination

Clerk and Treasurer Bell discussed the upcoming annual volunteer awards format, timeline, and need for the Commission to select a Provincial Volunteer Award nominee. The Committee discussed.

The Committee agreed that the Village shall hold a recognition event like was done in the previous year, and keep the awards ceremony in April as originally scheduled with National Volunteer Week.

Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Shea that the Commission in Committee recommend Village of Bible Hill nominate Alison (Al) and Beryl Keilty for the Nova Scotia Provincial Volunteer Awards. Motion carried.

Review and re-adoption of policy - Expenditure Reimbursement Policy

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented an updated draft Expenditure Reimbursement Policy, highlighting one minor change to the name of the referenced Department of Municipal Affairs. The Commission discussed.

Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Shea that the Commission in Committee recommend Village of Bible Hill re-adopt the Expenditure Reimbursement Policy, with amendment. Motion carried.

Review and re-adoption of policy - Hospitality Policy

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented an updated draft Hospitality Policy, highlighting one minor change to the name of the referenced Audit Committee. The Commission discussed.

Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Shea that the Commission in Committee recommend Village of Bible Hill re-adopt the Hospitality Policy, with amendment. Motion carried.

Letter received

Chair Kennedy presented a letter he received from President Jack Benzaquen, of Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA), recognizing Village staff for hard work, continuous effort, and leadership through the pandemic over the last two years. The Committee discussed.

Radio announcement

Chair Kennedy spoke of a recent CBC interview with Jeff Douglas of CBC Radio, interviewing Justine Mabey on the topic of her election at Bible Hill Fire Brigade as the first female to be elected to a chief officer role. Kennedy noted that this interview was great to listen to, as Mabey has done and continues to do inspiring work between her volunteerism and balancing a nursing career. Kennedy recommended Commissioners listen to this interview online.

Adjournment

Moved by Shea that the January 11, 2022 Commission in Committee meeting of Village of Bible Hill be adjourned. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg

Donna Van Kroonenburg

Recording Secretary Chandler

Brenda Chandler

Clerk and Treasurer Bell

Walter Bell

Direction of the Minister
under a Declared State of Emergency
(Section 14 of the *Emergency Management Act*)
20-008

Under my authority in Section 14 of the *Emergency Management Act*, I order that this Direction (20-008) repeal and replace the Direction regarding municipal meetings issued on March 22, 2020.

During the Provincial State of Emergency declared on March 22, 2020, and under the authority provided to me in Section 14 of the *Emergency Management Act*, in addition to any other directives I have issued and not repealed or otherwise terminated, I direct that all municipalities and villages in the Province:

1. **Effective at 8am on July 29, 2020**, may hold meetings exclusively in person if all the following conditions are met:
 - i) the total number of persons present does not exceed a gathering limitation imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order;
 - ii) all physical distancing requirements or other requirements imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order are met.
2. If the conditions set out in (1) cannot be met, the municipality or village must not hold meetings exclusively in person and must instead hold the meeting partly or wholly as a virtual meeting by video or telephone, and ensure that all of the following conditions are met:
 - i) the total number of persons present for any in person portion of the meeting does not exceed a gathering limitation imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order; and
 - ii) for any in person portion of the meeting, all physical distancing requirements or other requirements imposed in a *Health Protection Act* order are met.

For clarity, this direction does not apply to statutorily required meetings of electors for a village commission which are covered under Direction 20-007 issued on May 20, 2020.

Despite this direction, municipalities and villages are still authorized to continue making other operational decisions especially those required for service delivery.

Please note that these directions are in addition to any requirements established in a Medical Officer's order under the *Health Protection Act*.

A failure to comply with this direction could result in a summary conviction with fines between \$500 to \$10,000 for individuals and up to \$100,000 for a corporation per incident.

This direction will remain in place for the duration of the Provincial State of Emergency unless it is terminated in writing by me earlier.

Dated July 29, 2020.

Original signed by

Hon. Chuck Porter
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing