Village of Bible Hill Regular Monthly Meeting February 15, 2022



The Village of Bible Hill regular monthly meeting was held on February 15, 2022 in Commission Chambers, at the Village Office, 67 Pictou Road. Chair Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:03pm; the meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

Call to Order: Commissioner Burke

Commissioner Kennedy Commissioner Pitcher Commissioner Shea

Commissioner Van Kroonenburg

Clerk and Treasurer Bell

Recording Secretary Chandler Recording Secretary Chaplin

Solicitor Roper, Burchell MacDougall, via telephone

Review and approval of the minutes of January 18, and February 8, 2022

Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Van Kroonenburg, that the meeting minutes of January 18, and February 8, 2022 be approved. Motion carried.

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

Chair Kennedy called for new or other business and requested to add Commissioner Honorarium to New Business and Horseman's Club to Review of Correspondence.

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

Call for declaration of conflict of interests

Chair Kennedy called for any declaration of conflict of interest and no conflict was declared.

Miscellaneous business including delegations

Budget update at January 31, 2022

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented a budget update as of January 31, 2022, highlighting operating funds, and capital funds.

Solicitor Roper was disconnected from the phone at 7:13pm and reconnected at 7:15pm.

Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented minutes of the February 17, 2021 Accessibility Advisory Committee, from the Committee's last meeting before dissolution of said committee.

Moved by Van Kroonenburg and seconded by Pitcher that Village of Bible Hill approve the minutes of the February 17, 2021 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Volunteer awards presentations

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented important dates regarding the 2022 volunteer awards. He noted that nominations are due on February 28, with the plan of presentations of awards on March 30 and 31, with photographer Steve Currie.

Central Colchester Planning Advisory Committee

Clerk and Treasurer Bell provided correspondence from Mayor Blair, declaring that the Central Colchester Planning Advisory Committee now reserves a position for a Village Commissioner, recognizing the important voice Commission representatives can bring to discussions. Bell asked the Commission to appoint a Commissioner to fill this vacancy. This information was brought forward from the February Commission in Committee meeting.

Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Shea that Village of Bible Hill elect Commissioner Donna Van Kroonenburg to sit on the Central Colchester Planning Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

Business arising out of the minutes

Commission in Committee Report

Moved by Van Kroonenburg and seconded by Pitcher that Village of Bible Hill allow increase of the Bible Hill Fire Brigade's honorarium cap from \$999.00 to \$1,500.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Van Kroonenburg and seconded by Shea that Village of Bible Hill order five (5) inflatables from Glow Parties for Canada Day celebrations at Bible Hill Recreation Park, at the price of \$5,147.00 plus HST. Motion carried.

Review of Correspondence

Justice Minister Johns – Accessibility Act

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented correspondence received from Justice Minister Johns regarding the Accessibility Act, noting the upcoming deadline of April 1, 2022 for public sectors, including Villages, to have an Accessibility Advisory Committee and plan in effect. Bell noted that working with the Regional Accessibility Committee, the Village is on track to meet this deadline. The Commission discussed.

Municipal Affairs Minister Lohr - ICIP

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented correspondence received from Municipal Affairs Minister Lohr regarding 2022 – 2023 Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) funding. Bell added that applications for 2022 opened on February 2, and close on April 1, and that this funding can be utilized for wastewater, drinking water, and/or solid waste projects, and that he would be submitting an application for funding the Village's upcoming sewer project.

Bible Hill Cemetery Company – Bike trail notice

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented correspondence received from Bible Hill Cemetery Company, regarding a request for an activity report for the bike trail. Bell added that a response has since been provided on updates on the trail, including signage updates and trail maintenance.

Bible Hill Cemetery Company - Directors

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented correspondence received from Bible Hill Cemetery Company, noting their newly elected officers and directors for 2022, as determined at their annual general shareholders meeting in January, 2022.

Horseman's Club - Tax refund

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented correspondence received from Tammy MacKay, Vice President of the Truro Horseman's Club, requesting tax refunds and tax exemption, dating back to 1957, as a not-for-profit organization. Bell noted that this property is classified by PVSC as a commercial taxable property, therefore a commercial tax bill is applicable. The Commission discussed.

It was agreed that Clerk and Treasurer Bell will review and send a letter in response.

Reports of Commissioners and Clerk and Treasurer

Commissioner Burke

Commissioner Burke provided an oral report, and spoke about the Village road conditions, highlighting the recent flood with major potholes and traffic issues. Burke added that the sidewalks have been clear for users, but that upcoming weather may negatively impact these conditions.

Commissioner Shea

Commissioner Shea provided an oral report, noting that the Regional Accessibility Committee is meeting next week, and that he is hopeful to see a draft report soon. Shea then noted his recent Village activity. He then presented the February, 2022 Fire Chief's report – as attached.

Commissioner Pitcher

Commissioner Pitcher provided an oral report, noting their recent Village activity. Commissioner Pitcher then presented the February, 2022 Recreation report – as attached.

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg provided an oral report, noting their recent Village activity, including reviewing Retson Drive flooding concerns, attending the recent Parks and Recreation presentation with Trace Planning and Design, etc.

Chair Kennedy

Chair Kennedy provided an oral report, noting their recent Village activities, including attending meetings, in person and virtually.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell

Clerk and Treasurer Bell provided an oral report, stating that the Village has applied for summer student funding grants, Canada Day funding grants, and that results will be announced once known. Bell further discussed

various topics and noted that the Village's flag was at half staff on account of the passing of former Village Chair, Wayne McCormick.

Accounts

Moved by Burke and seconded by Pitcher, that Village of Bible Hill approve the accounts for payment. Motion carried.

New Business

Electric Vehicle Charging

Clerk and Treasurer Bell spoke of a grant funding opportunity through Clean Nova Scotia, to help support the deployment and installation of up to 250 Level-2 EV chargers in Nova Scotia. Bell also discussed information regarding electric vehicle charging solutions for cities and municipalities, and associated costs. Bell questioned if such a project was wanted by the Commission for the upcoming fiscal year, how many units. The Commission discussed.

The Commission agreed that the Village move forward with a grant application for up to three locations for electric vehicle charging stations.

AMANS - AMA Winter training lineup

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented correspondence received from Association of Municipal Affairs of Nova Scotia (AMANS) regarding their Winter training lineup, including budget training sessions for elected officials. Bell encouraged Commissioners, and office staff, to attend the training and requested Commissioners advise of the trainings they wish to register for.

Commissioner Honorarium

Commissioner Burke requested the Commission consider a Commissioner honorarium increase, as the last review/adjustment was in 2012. Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented rate comparisons over a 20-year span. The Commission discussed. Clerk and Treasurer Bell will gather information and comparisons with neighboring municipalities and bring that information back to the Commission.

Closed Session – Legal advice (1) and Personnel (1)

Moved by Shea and seconded by Van Kroonenburg to enter closed session. Motion carried.

The Commission meeting entered closed session at 8:34 pm. Recording Secretaries Chandler and Chaplin left the meeting.

The Commission meeting returned to open session at 9:00pm.

Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Burke to authorize Clerk and Treasurer Bell to extend an offer to Alex McNutt for Temporary Maintenance Worker position for the next fiscal year. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Pitcher that the February 15, 2022 regular monthly meeting of Village of Bible Hill be adjourned. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

Chair Kennedy

Recording Secretary Chaplin

Clerk and Treasurer Bell