

The Village of Bible Hill Commission in Committee Meeting was held on January 12, 2016 in the Village Office, 67 Pictou Road. Deputy Chair MacCormick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm; the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Call to Order: Chair Burke
Deputy Chair MacCormick
Commissioner Kennedy
Commissioner McLeod
Commissioner Van Kroonenburg

Staff: Clerk and Treasurer Christianson
Recording Secretary Ogden

Attendance: Dwane Mellish, Chief Bible Hill Fire Brigade
Scott MacDonald, Deputy Chief Bible Hill Fire Brigade

Review and Approval of minutes of December 8, 2015

*Moved by Van Kroonenburg
Seconded by McLeod*

That the minutes of December 8, 2015 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

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

*Moved by McLeod
Seconded by Kennedy*

That the agenda be approved with the addition of Canada Day.

Motion carried.

New Business

- **Budget Review- Bible Hill Fire Brigade**

The Bible Hill Fire Brigade proposed budget was presented to the commission for Operating and the Capital account. The Deputy Chief MacDonald also presented the 2016/17 detailed training budget.

The Chief reviewed the significant fires in Bible Hill this year on Main Street and at the Dalhousie Agriculture College and the importance of our mutual aid system. He also outlined that the majority of capital expenses and special equipment requirements are made in the USA and the Canadian dollar plays a major role in expenses for the fire department. The proposed budget had changes to convention with an increase of \$500 up to \$2,500, a decrease to fire fighter training of \$1,100 to \$10,000 and the addition of scott air flow testing up by \$2,500. The

scott air flow testing is completed every second year. The overall proposed operating budget would be increased by \$1,900 from the 2015/16 budget.

The Chief reviewed the 2016/17 proposed capital budget. The list of capital items consisted of the purchase of Scott 4.5 BA, bottles and voice amplifiers, bunker gear, portable radios, minitor VI pagers, Stihl saw, BA bottle cart and the purchase of new hose at a total proposed budget cost of \$80,285. He also outlined that upcoming major capital items would be the replacement of the 3 old bay doors with an estimated cost of \$30,000 and the replacement of a pumper tanker that is over 20 years with an estimated cost of \$550,000. The proposed budget would be an increase of \$285 from the 2015/16 budget.

A discussion took place relating to bulk purchasing with other local fire departments. The County fire chiefs meet to discuss policies, mutual aid and looking into group purchasing options. The Chief also clarified the details relating to the proposed mutual aid membership that will be voted on at the brigade meeting on January 13.

This upcoming year marks the 70th year of incorporation for the Bible Hill Fire Brigade. The Chief requested that the commission consider installing a second flagpole to fly the brigade's flag in recognition of their 70th anniversary at 69 Pictou Road. The commission will discuss this request later during budget deliberations.

- **Village Budget Review**

The Clerk reviewed the working budget. He reported that the Village has received the letter from ACOA relating to our application for replacement of our boiler system at the hall and three bay doors at the fire hall. He is currently unsure if the boiler system will qualify under the conditional grant and is looking into it but the hall doors will qualify if awarded. He also reported that the boiler system is underway as the company from Halifax will be manufacturing the controls next week for the system.

The commission discussed the brigade's proposed operating, training and capital budgets. The Commission agreed to keep the convention expense at \$2,000 but to apply the same travel policy that both the Village Staff and Commission follow. The commission felt this made everyone more accountable as reimbursements will be issued for mileage, receipts and a per diem rates.

The commission agreed that they did not want to increase the tax rate therefore they did not want to see an increase in expenditures. Therefore the protective services budget will remain the same as last year with no increase in both Operating and Capital.

The Clerk outlined that the Recreation Director will be presenting the Recreation Operating and Capital proposed budget next month to the Commission. The Commission requested that the Operating Transportation services, sidewalk & crosswalk maintenance be reduced to \$120,000 from \$150,000. The Commission reviewed the capital budget list, it was agreed to keep the Village Hall renovation budget at \$20,000 for new outside doors and to budget next fiscal year for the new inside automatic doors to make our facility totally wheelchair accessible. The commission agreed to place the replacement of a digital advertising sign at 69 Pictou Road to the Capital budget for 2016/17. The Clerk will look into a budget price for this item with an estimate of \$40,000. The Commission agreed that a new sidewalk including an overhead crossing from Don Smith to the Auto Trans garage needed to be constructed for the new school.

This item will be added to our Capital budget for the 2017/18 year. The commission agreed that they wanted to commit \$400,000 to be placed in the 2016/17 Capital Reserves. The Clerk was instructed to amend the proposed budget with the above revisions and bring it back to the commission for review.

- **OH&S Committee- Elected Representative**

Commissioner Van Kroonenburg volunteered to sit on the OH&S Committee as the Commission representative. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 20th at 3:30pm. The Clerk to ensure staff is made aware of time change for the meeting.

- **Canada Day**

The Commission expressed disappointment in the lack of participation in the Canada Day parade last year, they would like to see more community involvement and more concentration on obtaining participants for our parade this year. It was agreed to form a Canada Day Parade Committee that consist of the Recreation Director, Clerk, Deputy Chair MacCormick and Commissioner McLeod. The Clerk will set up the first meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by McLeod

Seconded by Van Kroonenburg

That the January 12, 2016 Commission in Committee Meeting of the Village of Bible Hill be adjourned.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Deputy Chair MacCormick _____

Clerk and Treasurer Christianson _____

Recording Secretary Ogden _____