

**Village of Bible Hill**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**August 18, 2020**



The Village of Bible Hill regular monthly meeting was held on August 18, 2020 in Village Hall. Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm; the meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Call to Order: Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg  
Commissioner Burke  
Commissioner Kennedy  
Clerk and Treasurer Bell  
Recording Secretary Chandler  
Solicitor Roper, Burchell MacDougall

Guests: Tim Shea, Commissioner candidate  
Justin Clark, Commissioner candidate  
Carvell McNutt, Commissioner candidate

Regrets: Chair MacCormick  
Commissioner Pitcher

**Review and approval of the minutes of July 21, 2020.**

*Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Burke, that the meeting minutes of July 21, 2020 be approved. Motion carried.*

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

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg called for new or other business.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell requested to remove one closed session item. He also requested the deferral of the community garden item to the September Commission in Committee meeting.

*Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Burke, that the agenda be approved with amendments. Motion carried.*

**Call for declaration of conflict of interests**

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg called for any declarations of conflict of interest and no conflict was declared.

**Miscellaneous business including delegations**

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg welcomed Carvell McNutt, Justin Clark and Tim Shea to the meeting.

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee membership approval (2)**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented summary information regarding two nominated Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee members, Andrew Parsons and Meghan MacEachern.

*Moved by Burke and seconded by Kennedy, to approve the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee membership of Andrew Parsons and Meghan MacEachern. Motion carried.*

### **Crosswalk renewal reviews - NSTIR**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell noted the Commission's prior year request to have Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR) review existing crosswalks for renewal to improve infrastructure and its uniformity. He explained that NSTIR has requested that the Commission prioritize three crosswalks for their review this year, with the progress and process to be reevaluated next year. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Burke, that Village of Bible Hill respond to NSTIR with the following three crosswalks as priority for NSTIR review: Main Street at Riverside Avenue, Hazel Drive at Pictou Road, and Pictou Road at East Court Road. Motion carried.*

### **Business arising out of the minutes**

There was no business arising out of the minutes.

### **Review of Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to review.

### **Reports of Commissioners and Clerk and Treasurer**

#### **Commissioner Burke, Transportation Services**

Commissioner Burke discussed how Village signage on College Road, and requested an update from Clerk and Treasurer Bell. Commissioner Burke mentioned that the recent heat wave has been causing a lot of complaints with regards to our roads and taxes, and that people are starting petitions. He explained how he has heard a lot of grumbling on other issues, including the new subdivision at Covington Place, where a crosswalk will be needed, but until construction is completed we should not move forward.

Commissioner Burke noted that the Commission has a sidewalk capital priority list, but that ~~we~~ it should also be considered to develop a road work priority wish list for submission to County Councilors and our MLA. Commissioner Burke suggested an article should be written in a publication of Action on the Hill that explains road ownership and who to contact if residents have a problem with their road.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell addressed Commissioner Burke's request for information by discussing the status of the signage at College Road.

Lastly, Bell noted that Village had ~~already~~ created a priority list for road work approximately two years ago, which was submitted to the County at that time, with the response from the County that they were not in a position to undertake road work on J-class roads.

#### **Commissioner Kennedy, Protective Services**

Commissioner Kennedy presented the Fire Chief's report - as attached.

Commissioner Kennedy noted that there is an online 50/50 Brigade draw which the Brigade is taking part in to fundraise. He explained how this draw is a great opportunity as normal fundraising efforts are limited due to COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Commissioner Pitcher, Recreation and Cultural Services**

In Commissioner Pitcher's absence, Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg presented the August recreation report – as attached.

### **Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg, Environmental Health Services**

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg discussed the progress of the Village's sanitary sewer system study to date.

### **Chair MacCormick**

Deferred.

### **Clerk and Treasurer Bell**

Clerk and Treasurer bell opened his report by noting how the board of Association of Nova Scotia Villages passed a motion to defer its annual general meeting, which usually takes place in September. The board's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell then noted that the NSFM's annual fall conference has been cancelled this year due to COVID-19. He then explained that he would also typically attend the fall conference of the Association of Municipal Administrators of Nova Scotia, but this has also been cancelled this year.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell provided additional information on the status of the sanitary sewer system study and of grant funding applications to the Province of Nova Scotia and Federation of Canadian Municipalities. He noted that the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing has informed him that applications far exceeded the funding available for the Provincial Capital Assistance program, and unfortunately, our sanitary sewer system study project was not successful.

Bell then informed the Commission that the Village's sidewalk snow removal contract is up for renewal and requested the Commission's desired approach of obtaining a contractor.

Commission discussed. It was agreed by consensus to approach Justaart Landscaping Limited to negotiate details of a proposed contract.

Bell moved on to note that he has reviewed the TAAC Revitalization presentation with the Parks & Recreation Director, and additional questions have been asked of the Committee, which remain outstanding at this time.

Bell explained that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing's directives are still in effect, and therefore, all Villages continue to be directed to hold on elections and annual meetings at this time.

Bell mentioned that the Accessibility Advisory Committee has set their next meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 2pm., and that Committee membership includes one Commissioner. He requested a Commissioner attend the next meeting. Commission discussed.

## **Accounts**

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

## **New Business**

### **Policy review**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented an overview of current policies, and noted he suggests the Commission review two policies, being the Personnel Policy and Purchasing Policy. Bell noted that the current Personnel Policy is from 2010, while all others have been reviewed and adopted since November 2016

### **ICIP: COVID-19 resilience stream**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented information on a new funding stream announced by Federal government, covering up to 80% of eligible projects with a grant. He noted that active transportation would be the most applicable to Village capital plans and recommended two projects for potential application to the program, as follows:

- Multi-use path along Main and College to Cobequid Trail - \$1.23MM (2016)
- Multi-use trail between BHRP and Osprey Ct - \$100K

Clerk and Treasurer Bell noted details of the application process. The Commission discussed.

Commissioner Burke requested the Commission defer the topic to the September meeting when Chair MacCormick and Commissioner Pitcher are present. The Commission agreed by consensus.

### **Unightly property complaint**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell described concerns received from residents about a property collecting an unusual amount of garbage. Clerk and Treasurer Bell recommended the concern be forwarded to Colchester for consideration as a Dangerous or Unightly Premises. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Burke that Village of Bible Hill forward the unsightly property complaint to Colchester for review. Motion carried.*

### **Inter-account fund transfer**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell recommended the Commission authorize the transfer of funds from the maintenance reserve account to the operating account in the amount of \$40,600 and transfer \$245,000 from the capital reserve account to the operating account. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Burke and seconded by Kennedy that Village of Bible Hill transfer \$40,600 from the maintenance reserve account to the operating account and transfer \$245,000 from the capital reserve account to the operating account. Motion carried.*

**Procurement: Trash/recycling bins**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell spoke about requests for public waste receptacles, as the Village currently offers receptacles at parks and trailheads. Clerk and Treasurer Bell expressed the concern of the maintenance department that much bulk household waste is disposed of in Village bins, requiring frequent maintenance. Clerk and Treasurer Bell requested a decision of the Commission on the desired direction for offering garbage disposal service to pedestrians. Bell presented a quote for new bins made from sustainable HDPE plastic lumber costing \$1,595.00 + freight each. Bell noted that this standard is intended to replace the wooden units currently in use over time. The Commission discussed.

The Commission discussed and agreed by consensus to defer the item to the upcoming budget process.

**Procurement: Thermal imaging cameras (12)**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented two quotes for thermal imaging cameras for Bible Hill Fire Brigade, noting the intended use of the equipment. A quote from Nova Fire Equipment was at \$12,300.00 plus HST, and a quote from Micmac Fire & Safety Source Ltd. was at \$13,200.00 plus HST. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Kennedy and second Burke that Village of Bible Hill purchase 12 thermal cameras from Nova Fire Equipment for a total of \$12,300.00 plus HST. Motion carried.*

**Procurement: Portable radios (3)**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented one quote from Nova Communications for three portable radios for Bible Hill Fire Brigade, at \$4,491.75 plus HST.

*Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Burke, that Village of Bible Hill purchase three portable radios for Bible Hill Fire Brigade from Nova Communications for a total of \$4,491.75 plus HST. Motion carried.*

**Procurement: Elkhart Brass shut-off valves**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented a quote from K&D Pratt for Elkhart Brass shut-off valves for Bible Hill Fire Brigade, at \$1,721.80 plus HST. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Burke, that Village of Bible Hill purchase Elkhart Brass shut-off valves from K&D Pratt for a total of \$1,721.80 plus HST. Motion carried.*

**Engineering services for sidewalk design – selection of priority**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell noted that the Village has budgeted for undertaking engineering services for its next sidewalk renewal project. Bell presented a table of sidewalk renewal priorities approved by the Village.

Commission discussed and agreed by consensus to prioritize College Road (North) between Vimy Road and Johnson Avenue for design work.

### **Closed Session – Personnel**

*Moved by Kennedy and seconded by Burke that Village of Bible Hill go into closed session.*

The Village of Bible Hill regular monthly meeting went into closed session at 8:37 PM.

The Village of Bible Hill regular monthly meeting returned to open session at 8:55pm.

### **Adjournment**

*Moved by Kennedy that the August 18, 2020 regular monthly meeting of Village of Bible Hill be adjourned. Motion carried.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg

Recording Secretary Chandler

Clerk and Treasurer Bell

Donna Van Kroonenburg  
Frank Chandler  
Michael Bell, CPA, CA.

Member of

N.F.P.A.  
C.F.F.A.  
M.F.C.A.  
M.F.F.A.

**BIBLE HILL**



**FIRE BRIGADE**



69 Pictou Rd., Bible Hill, NS B2N 2R9 ❖ TEL: 902-895-8822 ❖ FAX: 902-895-1498 ❖ bhfire@biblehill.ca

## Fire Chief Report – August 2020

The brigade responded to 7 emergency calls during the period July 8<sup>th</sup> and August 12<sup>th</sup> 2020, they are as follows:

1. July 25<sup>th</sup>, 11:51am 62 Avon Street. Residential Fire alarm sounding. Nothing found returned to the hall at 12:15pm with 11 members responding.
2. July 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:38 pm 282 Pictou Rd. Commercial Fire Alarm sounding, returned to the hall at 10:00 pm with 13 members responding.
3. July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2:35 pm, 158 Main Street, MVA stood down by officer who arrived on scene, returned to the hall at 2:40 pm with 8 members responding.
4. August 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:37 am, Mutual Aid for Valley Kempton stand by at our station. Stood down at 10:30 am with 6 members responded.
5. August 8<sup>th</sup>, 4:58 pm, 14 Retson Drive Garbage fire. Arrived on scene and was smoke from a bbq. Returned to the hall at 5:11 pm with 9 members responding.
6. August 9<sup>th</sup>, 4:29pm, 184 Pictou Rd, Mulch on fire in the Tim Hortons yard. Returned to hall at 5:05 pm with 13 members responding.
7. August 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:15 pm, 19 College Rd. Dog trapped on roof, dispatch called the chief without paging in out. Returned to the hall at 5:40 pm with 6 members attending.

Total Calls: 59

Main St Fire – estimated at \$50,000.00

Total fire loss: estimated at \$102,300.00

Albert Ave Fire – estimated at \$52,300.00

### Notes:

- Bible Hill Fire Brigade meetings have resumed as of August 12, 2020, with social distancing.
- BHFB trainings have been ongoing with social distancing.
- Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, the BHFB is unable to provide bar services in Village Hall.
- The Staff and members of the Fire Brigade would like to extend our thanks to Commission, clerk, and the rest of the village staff for all the work that has been done with the renovations to the upstairs of the fire station.

Respectfully submitted,

Joey Bisson

Fire Chief

## August 2020 Recreation Report

August has seen some different things this year due to Covid-19. We implemented a new program at Bible Hill Recreation Park three afternoons a week for kids to get out and enjoy the park. "Park Days" is a free program that is running every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The Park Days program is a drop-off program for kids 6-12 years of age. They get to use the Splash Pad, playground equipment, play various games like tag, water games and go for walks on the trail adjacent to the park. We have hired two day camp leaders from previous summers to facilitate this program. Thus far, Park Days are a hit with both kids and parents.

The past weeks have been unusually hot, and the Splash Pad has been used constantly. We have had many people taking advantage of the Splash Pad this summer. We extended the hours of operation from 9am until dusk and the extra hours have been very busy. We are seeing a lot of parents from the area, and from East Hants, Pictou County, etc. posting photos online of their time spent at BHRP.

Senior Fitness began again on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 after having to come to an end during the pandemic. Groups of 12 exercisers can take part in each of the five classes per week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in Village Hall. Covid-19 precautions are in place for Senior Fitness.

Finally, our fourth annual Back to School Bash is being planned for Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 12:00pm-2:30pm, at BHRP. As with last year, there will be a free BBQ, games, and the Splash Pad. There will be no inflatables this year due to the pandemic, however we feel the event will be a great way to wrap up the summer recreation season!

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Kennedy

*Parks and Recreation Director*