

**Village of Bible Hill  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
October 20, 2020**



The Village of Bible Hill regular monthly meeting was held on October 20, 2020 in Village Hall 69 Pictou Road. Chair MacCormick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm; the meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.

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

Guests: Tim Shea, election candidate for the Office of Village Commissioner  
Justin Clark, election candidate for the Office of Village Commissioner  
Carvell McNutt, election candidate for the Office of Village Commissioner  
Eric Boutilier, Councillor - District 1  
Wade Parker, Councillor - District 11  
Ashton Comeau, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee member

**Review and approval of the minutes of September 15, 2020, and October 13, 2020.**

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Burke, that the meeting minutes of September 15, 2020 and October 13, 2020 be approved. Motion carried.*

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

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Kennedy, that the agenda be approved. Motion carried.*

**Call for declaration of conflict of interests**

Chair MacCormick called for any declarations of conflict of interest and no conflict was declared.

**Miscellaneous business including delegations**

Chair MacCormick welcomed Eric Boutilier, Councillor District 1 and Wade Parker, Councillor District 11, congratulated them on their recent re-elections, and thanked them for attending the meeting.

**Business arising out of the minutes**

**Commission in Committee Report**

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Kennedy, that Village of Bible Hill adopt the Personnel Policy with the following amendments: add DUI terms, add an introduction, add a complaint process, and remove new part-time employee benefits, otherwise as presented by Clerk and Treasurer Bell. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Kennedy, that Village of Bible Hill defer the current proposal from the TAAC Revitalization Committee in regard to upgrades to Field #3, and for the Village to further investigate and explore field #3 revitalization costs and funding opportunities. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Pitcher, that Village of Bible Hill adopt the Bible Hill Recreation Park Dog Control Policy, with an amendment clarifying that dogs be permitted off-leash in field 2, otherwise as presented by Clerk and Treasurer Bell. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Pitcher, that Village of Bible Hill adopt the Water System Expansion Policy as presented by Clerk and Treasurer Bell. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Kennedy, that Village of Bible Hill purchase a temporary speed radar sign for \$4,480.00 plus HST to install within the Village with the intent to improve pedestrian safety. Motion carried.*

## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Report**

*Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Kennedy, that Village of Bible Hill approve the application for Youth Committee Member of Ashton Comeau. Motion carried.*

## **Review of Correspondence**

### **Trail development**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented a letter from a property owner regarding proposed trail development near Bible Hill Recreation Park. Clerk and Treasurer Bell summarized the letter's message, stating that the property owner is not interested in selling property, however they are in favour of trail development on their property. Clerk and Treasurer Bell recommended the Village negotiate entering an agreement with the property owners to place an easement on the property for construction and continuing maintenance of a proposed multi-use trail.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell added that this would leave \$40,000 of budgeted funding open for re-allocation, which could be directed elsewhere or transferred to a reserve account for future use. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Kennedy that Village of Bible Hill authorize the Clerk and Treasurer to proceed with negotiating property usage with the property owners to advance proposed trail development. Motion carried.*

### **NSPEC Letter of Support Request**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented a letter from Darrelyn Hubley, General Manager of Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission (NSPEC) requesting a letter of support from Village of Bible Hill. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Kennedy that Village of Bible Hill write a letter of support for NSPEC. Motion carried.*

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

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

Commissioner Burke spoke on project updates, noting that new crosswalk lights are to be installed this week at College Road and Cumming Drive, and that there will be renewal work at the office/hall parking lot property this week.

Commissioner Burke discussed that, along with Chair MacCormick and Clerk and Treasurer Bell, he recently met with MLA Dave Ritcey, discussing J-class roads, curb maintenance, and other transportation issues within the Village, highlighting priority streets for future repairs.

Commissioner Burke highlighted that the Village has contacted Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR) several times this year requesting crosswalk line painting maintenance, noting that the response from NSTIR has been minimal to date, with the inquired on school crosswalks and other lines not having been painted by the time of their own maintenance standard deadlines.

Commissioner Burke discussed the deer population being a nuisance in Village residents' yards, with deer destroying residents' landscaping investments on their properties. He continued by noting that the Village had 17 signs installed discouraging residents from feeding deer.

Commissioner Burke ended by briefly discussing local property taxation, noting that residents have requested the Village be considerate when developing the budget for next year. The Commission discussed.

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

Commissioner Kennedy noted his recent activities, and then followed with the presentation of the Fire Chief's report – as attached.

He noted that fire brigades across the province are hosting an online 50/50 raffle, where residents can purchase tickets weekly in support of their local or chosen brigade.

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

Commissioner Pitcher noted that in recent weeks she took part in training for Dealing with Difficult People, with Village staff. Commissioner Pitcher noted that she was in attendance for an October 7<sup>th</sup> tree planting ceremony in honour of Constable Heidi Stevenson. Commissioner Pitcher highlighted that this event was well attended and well received by RCMP members. Commissioner Pitcher then presented the Parks and Recreation Director's Report – as attached.

Commissioner Pitcher ended her report by welcoming Ashton Comeau as the new youth member on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee member and thanked him for attending the Commission meeting.

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

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg discussed the progress of the Village's sanitary sewer system study to date, noting that the Village's engineering firm has commenced CCTV inspections of sewer lines, following recent manhole inspections.

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg noted that the Village is proceeding with co-funding a stream bank stabilization project at Hillcrest Avenue which had been recently submitted for consideration by the Village to Colchester's Flood Advisory Committee. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$9,000.00, with the Village's share being \$4,500.00.

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg noted that she attended the most recent Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, noting the enthusiasm of Committee members and progress made on the Committee.

Van Kroonenburg noted that she recently took part in Dealing with Difficult People training. She thanked the Village for offering the opportunity of this training session.

## **Chair MacCormick**

Chair MacCormick spoke about how she attended a recent meeting with MLA Dave Ritcey, with Commissioner Burke and Clerk and Treasurer Bell, discussing the J-class road prioritization and other transportation issues within the Village.

Chair MacCormick discussed how Association of Nova Scotia Villages (ANSV) held a conference call meeting last week, though she was unable to attend due to timing of invitations. She noted that she has reached out to ANSV on the subject.

Chair MacCormick noted that the ANSV will have a conference in November, there are a number of vacancies on the board, and how Commissioners should seriously consider taking a leadership role by serving on the board. Chair MacCormick spoke of the collective importance of the ANSV since its incorporation to all Villages across the province, noting the body as a unified voice for Villages with the Province of Nova Scotia.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell clarified that the ANSV's annual general meeting will be a teleconference to be held November 21<sup>st</sup>, and it is at that meeting board members will be elected. Clerk and Treasurer Bell indicated that meeting details will be circulated to Commissioners once available. Commissioner Pitcher requested a list of positions available, with descriptions.

## **Clerk and Treasurer Bell**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell noted changes to legislation requiring Workers' Compensation Benefits be extended to volunteer firefighters. Bell noted that the Village is cooperating with Mr. David Westlake, Protective Services Coordinator, Municipality of the County of Colchester to coordinate these benefits for Bible Hill Fire Brigade members and satisfy Colchester's legislative requirement.

Clerk and Treasurer noted recent Provincial COVID-19 guideline changes that have permitted up to fifty persons participate in physical activities such as senior fitness classes.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell brought attention to spray paint damage that recently occurred at Airport Fields Park, noting that staff have cleaned up the affected doors, garbage bins, signs, picnic tables, etc. He further noted that, in response to this vandalism, the Village has since installed lighting around the building at Airport Fields Park and Bible Hill Recreation Park to better prevent such events. Clerk and Treasurer closed this topic noting that some signs need replacing and have been ordered accordingly.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell noted that seventeen signs asking residents to not feed deer have been installed throughout the Village.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell discussed how he, along with the Parks and Recreation Director and the Administrative Services Coordinator, attended two 'Supporting Meetings' webinars offered by Bernie White, Registered Parliamentarian, and Association of Municipal Administrators of Nova Scotia (AMANS), and that he attended 'Dealing with Difficult Persons' training by Steven Franklin.

Clerk and Treasurer closed his report by reminding the Commission that over the next number of months the Commission in Committee will be focusing on budget development for the next fiscal year, and for Commissioners to address their thoughts and concerns accordingly to Clerk and Treasurer Bell.

## **Accounts**

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

## **New Business**

Chair MacCormick requested to add a personnel closed session item to the agenda, which was approved by consensus.

### **Procurement: Engineering services – Accessibility improvements at 69 Pictou Rd**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented a quote for engineering drawings for accessibility improvements at 69 Pictou Road. Clerk and Treasurer Bell provided the quote from ABLE Engineering Services Inc. at \$16,200 plus HST. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Kennedy, that Village of Bible Hill award the 'Engineering Services – Accessibility Improvements at 69 Pictou Rd' to ABLE Engineering Services Inc. for \$16,200.00 plus HST. Motion carried.*

### **Procurement: Engineering services – College Rd sidewalk renewal**

Clerk and Treasurer Bell presented quotes for all phases, and for Phase 1 from ABLE Engineering Services Inc. at \$34,000.00 plus HST and \$13,000.00 plus HST, from GEMTEC Consulting Services at \$37,350.00 plus HST and \$15,487.50 plus HST, from EXP at \$45,124.00 plus HST and \$21,238.00 plus HST, from Design Point Engineering at \$41,006.00 plus HST and \$18,530.00 plus HST, and from CBCL Engineering at \$31,327.30 plus HST and \$13,201.20 plus HST. The Commission discussed.

*Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Van Kroonenberg, that Village of Bible Hill award the 'Engineering Services - College Rd pedestrian sidewalk renewal' project to CBCL Limited, and instruct the Clerk and Treasurer to direct a change order be made to reduce the scope of the project to Phase 1 only, for the cost of \$13,000.00 plus HST. Motion carried.*

**Closed Session – Personnel**

*Moved by Van Kroonenberg and seconded by Kennedy to enter closes session. Motion carried.*

The Commission entered closed session at 7:55pm  
The Commission returned to open session at 8:00pm

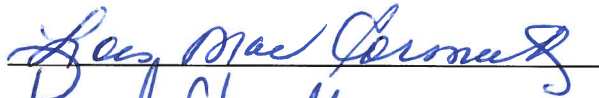
*Moved by Van Kroonenburg and seconded by Kennedy, that Village of Bible Hill authorize the execution of the Clerk and Treasurer employment contract as presented. Motion carried.*

**Adjournment**

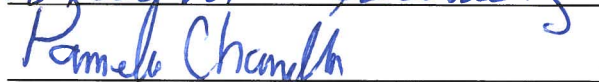
*Moved by Kennedy that the October 20, 2020 regular monthly meeting of Village of Bible Hill be adjourned. Motion carried.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Chair MacCormick



Recording Secretary Chandler



Clerk and Treasurer Bell





## Fire Chief Report – October 2020

The brigade responded to 10 emergency calls during the period of September 9<sup>th</sup> to October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020, they are as follows:

1. September 10<sup>th</sup>, 4:01 pm, 22 Pictou Rd, 2 vehicle MVA no entrapment, fluids leaking. Returned to the hall at 4:26pm with 11 members responding.
2. September 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:25 pm, mutual aid to Truro, 622 Prince Street to the scene of a structure fire. Returned to the hall at 5:55 am with 17 members responding.
3. September 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:40 am, 749 College Road, smoke condition, from sewer. Returned to the hall at 2:12 am with 11 members responding.
4. September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:19 am, 46 Allison Ave, commercial fire alarm, nothing found returned to the station at 8:18 am with 9 members responding.
5. September 20<sup>th</sup>, 5:07 pm, 61 Guest Dr. Residential fire alarm, stood down, returned to the station at 5:10 pm with 10 members responding.
6. September 29<sup>th</sup>, 11:32 pm, 385 Pictou Rd, Medical Assist for cardiac arrest. Stood down by EHS and returned to station at 11:45 pm with 8 members responding.
7. October 1, 10:47 am, 280 Main St. Vehicle in ditch, tow truck had just hooked on to tow him out. Stood down at 11:00 am with 4 members responding.
8. October 1, 2:00 pm, 166 Guest Dr., resident reported smoke on Guest drive found to be a backyard fire. Returned to the station at 2:40 pm with 8 members responding.
9. October 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am, 199 Bernie Macdonald Dr., alarm sounding, broken wire. Returned to station at 12:30 pm with 12 members responding.
10. October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2:35 pm, Mutual Aid to Truro to standby at their station, stood down at 4:10 pm with 11 members responding.

Total Calls: 76

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:

- Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, most fire brigade activities have been cancelled to date, except for Brigade trainings occurring Tuesday nights.
- The Brigade would like to thank all that attended Doug Boyce's memorial.
- The Brigade has added 3 Junior members to date to our roster, Lee Morrison, Ben Mingo and Arpan Kaur.
- The Brigade has added 2 new members to regular membership.
- The Brigade would like to thank everyone that supports us in the Fireman's 50/50 draw every week, we really appreciate it.
- The Brigade would like to wish everyone running in all the elections the best of luck.

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](mailto:bhfire@biblehill.ca)

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- Downstairs bar shut down until restrictions ease

Respectfully submitted,

Joey Bisson

Fire Chief

## October Recreation Report

Safe Halloween preparations are in full swing now. The donation letters have gone out to many of the businesses in the Village to ask for donations of Halloween treats, or a monetary donation to purchase treats for Halloween night. The local Pathfinders and Rangers are going to be helping make this night a success.

There is plans for a haunted maze inside the Village Hall where kids and families can find their way to the end of the maze through different haunted sections to receive a bag of treats.

This year safe Halloween is going to look a little different then other years due to Covid-19, but I feel that it will still be a success. There will be precautions in place to keep everyone safe, including social distancing inside and outside. There will be limited numbers allowed inside at one time, and the treats will be in bags to be given out at the end of the maze instead of trick or treating at different tables, reducing the amount of people touching the treats.

The Parks and Recreation Director has began a Trailblazers program at Redcliffe Middle School where he takes a class of students and their teacher out into the woods and plays games, and teaches skills to the students using things they can find in the woods. Some of the things we focus on is bridge building, shelter building, and safe fire building using only items found in nature.

The students are really liking the program because they have the opportunity to get out of the classroom and learn real life skills that can be used when they are camping or



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hiking. We are currently running an eight-week program once a week with two different classrooms of students taking part in four sessions.

Christmas programming has begun as well. Programs such as the annual Christmas tree lighting, Tour of Lights, Light Up Bible Hill Competition, teen baking, cookie decorating, and a Christmas craft are all in the planning process.

The Village is looking to hire a Casual Recreation Assistant to help with various events throughout the year including the Christmas events, senior socials, and any special events. There are two people being interviewed for this position and we will be hiring soon after.

The Splash Pad and washroom buildings at the Bible Hill Recreation Park and the Airport Field Park have been closed for the season.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Kennedy

*Parks and Recreation Director*