



**Monthly meeting of Village Commissioners of Cornwallis Square
December 17, 2024**

Present: Chair Michael Keith, Vice Chair John Foote, Commissioner Doug MacLean, Commissioner Ric Hamilton, Commissioner Sara White

Firefighters: Chief Wayne Johnstone, Firefighters Vaughn Gates and Ron Rafuse

Absent:

Guests: Kings County Councillor Robbie Hiltz

Call to Order: Chair Keith called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

- 1. Approval of the agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda as amended to add 7e, Land Acknowledgement. Moved by Commissioner Hamilton, Second by Commissioner MacLean. Carried.
- 2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting:** Moved by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner MacLean. Carried
- 3. Accounts:** The Village Clerk gave an overview of the accounts up to date. (attached to package) Motion to accept the report made by Vice Chair John Foote, seconded by Commissioner Ric Hamilton. Carried
Chair Keith made note we must work on our Village Capital budget soon.
- 4. Fire Department Incident Report:** Chief Johnstone presented the incident report for November 2024. (as attached to the package)
- 5. Fire Department Chief's Report:** Chief Johnstone reported the Training Tower was not used in December. The Water Storage was used by one neighbouring department. All new TMR radios are installed, however there is a problem with Unit #21. The issue has to be resolved through Bell and Hi-Tech and will not be ready until January 6th, 2025. The drying room has had some use. WDFD would like to purchase a System 64 Live Fire training apparatus. Price is quoted at \$115,000 plus tax and transfer. The Village Clerk is looking into changes to insurance premiums with the addition of this new equipment.

The Fire Service Advisory Committee has been advised all non-contract fire departments in the County of Kings are to sign contracts by the end of March 2025.

6. **Fire Department Maintenance Report:** The air compressor at Station #1 has broken down and needs replacing. There is money in the budget for equipment replacement.
Ron Rafuse reported that 8 sets of bunker gear have been ordered and should be here by the first of the new year.

7. **Building Rental Report:** as attached. Banquet Hall had 31 uses, Banks Room 9

8. **Correspondence:** Email from Commissioner White re: a "thank you" to the person who placed benches and garbage cans in Cambridge. Also, Commissioner White has written to NSFM to learn the process of changing our name once we have decided on it.

9. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**

Name Change: Commissioner White will compile the top replies of suggested names and send out via email prior to the January 2025 commission meeting.

Credit Card Policy: Motion to approved the presented policy made by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Hamilton. Carried.

Request for flashing light at crosswalk: The clerk has been in touch with Tom Best at Department of Public Works. He will be in touch in the new year to look at areas of concern with Chair Keith.

Investments/Banking: Chair Keith inquired at the Valley Credit Union about interest rates. They require a look at our last 12 months of bank statements. Clerk to send statements and also inquire about lending rates.

Land Acknowledgement: The land acknowledgement presented by Vice-Chair Foote will be used at all public meeting of the Village.

GIRD Application- application has been completed for the accessible fire alarm pull stations and strobe light indicators.

Recognition for benches/garbage cans: Commissioner White made a motion for the Village to purchase a \$50 gift card to be presented to Brian Chandler in appreciation for the benches and garbage cans placed in Cambridge. Second by Commissioner MacLean. Carried.

10. **New Business:**

Sage Accounting: Commissioner Hamilton asked for the authority to start the process of updating the Village accounting system. Moved by Commissioner MacLean, second by Vice-Chair Foote. Carried.

Harassment Policy: noted that there are steps to complete to satisfy our insurance company. The Village Clerk will check with other villages to see their policies.

JAAC: Commissioner MacLean attend the Joint Accessibility meeting which was the Annual Meeting. Topics included community engagement-finding reasons for transportation, updating the accessibility plan every year, upgrades to buses for public transportation.

Village Clerk to send information on accessibility grants to the communities in our Village.

- 11. Other Business:** Firefighter Gates circled back to the air compressor replacement asking if we need a motion. Commissioner MacLean moved to replace the unit; approximate cost \$12,000. Second by Commissioner Hamilton. Carried.

Councillor Hiltz noted that orientation for new councillors of the Municipality of Kings finished Dec 17th. He plans to attend our Village meetings at least by-monthly and indicated Councillor Lutz would also try to attend when able.

- 12. FYI:** Chair Keith shared a copy of by-laws from 1976 found in old files.

Vice Chair Foote brought up the subject of the money received from Annapolis Valley First Nation. Is there a way to increase the amount currently at \$8500/yr. Chief Johnstone has tried setting up a meeting with the Band Chief with no luck. Village Clerk to send a letter to the AVFN Chief asking for a meeting. With new development beginning in the area a conversation needs to be held.

Commissioner MacLean suggested we establish road signs at the entrances to our Village once a name has been decided on.

Motion to go in camera at 8:50pm by Commissioner MacLean, second by Commissioner White. Carried.

Motion to go out of in camera at 10:30pm by Commissioner MacLean, second by Commissioner White. Carried.

- 13. Adjournment:** Moved by Vice Chair Foote