



**Monthly meeting of Village Commissioners of Cornwallis Square
March 18, 2025**

Present: Vice Chair John Foote, Commissioner Ric Hamilton, Commissioner Sara White and Clerk Judy Rafuse

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

Absent: Regrets from Chair Michael Keith, Commissioner Doug MacLean

Guests: Jason Haughn, Municipal Advisor

Call to Order:

1. **Approval of Agenda-** Motion by Commissioner Hamilton to approve the agenda. Second by Commissioner White. Carried
2. **Approval of previous month's minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Hamilton. Carried.
3. **Accounts:** The Village clerk gave a review of the accounts, reporting a bank balance of \$572,240.78. A \$250,000.00 GIC has been purchased. Commissioner Hamilton noted that \$100,000 of the GIC needs to be allocated to reserve for truck replacement.
4. **Fire Department Incident Report:** as attached
5. **Fire Department Chief's Report:** Chief Johnstone reported that any new quotes for parts or equipment being received are of concern as most products come out of the US and may be subject to tariffs. An effort will be made to source Canadian made products.
Chief Johnstone has reached out to Annapolis Valley First Nations to connect with their new EMO person.
The Municipality of Kings has reached out to set up a time to sign the new agreement for WDFD.
Village Clerk to get a copy of the agreement before the signing date.
There had been some speculation that the Fire Dept may be reimbursed by the insurance company for foam used on a recent boat fire. There has been no correspondence on this as of yet.
6. **Fire Department Maintenance Report:** Firefighter Rafuse reported the purchase of the Hurst tool for Unit #11 will potentially be subject to tariffs after April 2nd. This purchase is included in the 2025-2026 Outside Area Rate budget. A quote of \$24,144.25 has been received, subject to change if tariffs apply. The Canadian supplier has some in stock and can deliver before that date.

After some discussion, Commissioner Hamilton moved to purchase the Hurst Combo Tool for Unit #11, provided the invoice can be dated April 1st with funds coming from the 2025-2026 Capital budget not yet approved. Seconded by Commissioner White. Motion carried.

Firefighter Gates reported the A/C unit in the banquet hall will be installed next week. There are two leaks in the building roof. Roscoe construction is coming to take a look and repair. Apparatus floor washroom floors have had new tiles installed. The installer donated his time. All washrooms in the building need some work, new fittings, etc.

Harassment training- 25 members attended. There was a lot of information in a short amount of time. Not many questions were asked.

7. Correspondence: No correspondence to report

8. Business Arising from the Minutes:

Village Name Change- The Village name change is nearly ready for a vote. Municipal Advisor, Jason Haughn gave an explanation of what happens once the name is approved by the commission. A policy analyst has already been assigned to our file. Once a motion for the change has been approved, it needs to be certified with our seal and sent with a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. After that, it's not a quick process. We also need to send two separate emails, one with the official name change and one with the process it took to get to this point.

JAAC Report- attached. Commissioner Maclean attended the Spring meeting held on Microsoft Teams. Three presentations were made to the committee. One from a citizen in New Minas looking for the parking lot at the former Flowercart location, specifically by the bus stop, to be plowed in the winter.

Another presentation by the regional Advocate for the CNIB. Her issue is snow clearing of sidewalks and walkways.

The third presentation was by a gentleman stating his disgust at accessibility rule enforcement and standards lacking for the disabled in general. (side note-I've since seen him in a news story on TV)

There are two upcoming events regarding accessibility slated in early May and the next committee meeting is in June.

Update on meeting with Annapolis Valley First Nations-everyone felt it was a very good meeting. They are a progressive council, working hard to improve their community for their people and the surrounding area. A follow up meeting will be planned to be more informed about the new development along the 101. Also, as mentioned in the Fire Chief's report, he will be meeting with the new EMO person at AVFN.

9. New Business: Trash Cans- Chairman Keith provided a quote for the meeting for the purchase of trash cans for areas on Highway #1. Three two-tone panel recycling/trash units quoted at \$4785.00 plus tax and shipping. Commissioner Hamilton moved to purchase the trash cans, Commissioner White second. Carried.

- 10. Other Business:** Jason Haughn noted one of the changes in his department has been the changes to minimal setbacks for windmills.
- 11. FYI:** Next commissioners only meeting, Thursday, March 27th. 7pm.
- 12. Adjournment:** Commissioner Hamilton moved to adjourn at 8:50pm.