

# New Minas



**Village of New Minas**  
Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting  
Monday July 8, 2019 @ 7:00 PM  
Commission Room, Louis Millett Community Complex  
New Minas, Nova Scotia

**Commissioners Present:**

- Dave Chaulk, Chair
- Ken Pineo, Vice Chair
- Cheryl Manzer, Commissioner
- Mary Munroe, Commissioner
- James Redmond, Commissioner

**Staff Present:**

- John Ansara, Director of Recreation & Community
- Gerard Hamilton, Acting Clerk Treasurer
- Shelly Palmer, Finance Officer

**Others Present:**

- Daniel Blair
- Rick Jacques, Trail Co-ordinator
- Noreen Miller
- Beth Pattillo, Chair Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition Jim Winsor, County Councillor

**Call to Order:**

Chair Dave Chaulk called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, welcoming those in attendance.

**Approval of the Agenda-Additions:**

THAT the Agenda for the July 8, 2019 regular Commission meeting be approved as presented with the following addition: Presentation #2 - Daniel Blair, Potential Effects from WIFI and 5G Exposure.

**Redmond-Munroe**

**CARRIED**

**Business Arising from Minutes:****1. Certificates of Appreciation**

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to Nicole Ross and the Apple Blossom Festival Volunteers.

**2. ATM Machine**

Royal Bank of Canada was contacted about placing an ATM unit in the Millet Centre. An information package from Robert Martin and JJ Walsh is forthcoming. Shelly Palmer advised there are three options available at this point:

- Option #1: ATM Installation -The bank requires a minimum of \$10,000 in transactions a month;
- Option #2: Private Label Unit - The Village would stock and maintain the unit;
- Option #3: Handheld Moneris Terminal - Would require a separate bank account for use.

**Presentations:****1. Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition**

Beth Pattillo Chair and Rick Jacques, Coalition Trail Co-ordinator, presented an overview of what the Coalition has accomplished over the last twelve years. They also requested that New Minas continue funding the AVTC using the Coalition Funding Model, which is based on population and uniform assessment.

Rick stated the Harvest Moon Trail goes from Annapolis Royal to Grand-Pré and is essentially complete, with two exceptions (Annapolis Royal to Bear River Bridge and downtown Kentville). Beth outlined the AVTC's goals for 2020 are to enhance user experience by working with communities to implement a plan to:

- Conduct regular maintenance and working with partners;
- Create Spurs and Loops to enable people to exit and return to the trails;
- Educate partners on new initiatives;
- Improve access to the HMT;
- Launch a new website;
- Promote Business Opportunities.

Rick stated that future plans include placement of a kiosk near the Poultry Plant on Minas Warehouse Road. Commissioner Redmond questioned whether Minas Warehouse Road was the best location for a new kiosk with the manufacturing plants and the high truck traffic nearby. Beth Pattillo replied that the Coalition is receptive to suggestions for a new location from the Village.

Chair Chaulk inquired as to how the usage numbers for New Minas compare to other municipalities. Rick responded that usage is comparable to that of Kentville; however, New Minas has more bicyclists.

Chair Chaulk asked if there were some sections of the trail that are open to both motorized vehicles and cyclists. Rick stated that there are. Chair Chaulk responded by asking how that interaction is working out. Rick replied that they have not had any real issues other than a problem around the Aylesford/Auburn area with ATV's and speed. The AVTC applied pressure on the Province to increase law enforcement in this area.

Commissioner Redmond asked how the AVTC counted the number of people using the trails. Rick answered that there are three different types of counters:

- Magnetometers are placed in the ground and measure anything that has a magnetic content going by;
- Infrared counters measure a warm body;
- Noise counters differentiate between an ATV and a bicycle, but it may also be a ride on lawn mower or a piece of equipment going by.

The counters cannot differentiate between a dog and a person as the body temperature for both is comparable.

The trails in New Minas seem to have more people with children learning how to ride bikes, more people with mobility issues using mobility scooters, and more people recovering from medical issues, all of whom feel safer using a paved surface.

Chair Chaulk inquired as to whether there is less pedestrian traffic on account of motorized traffic. Rick responded, when taking a trail count at Cambridge Station where motorized access ceases due to a barrier, there was almost the exact number of pedestrians and cyclists on both sides of the barrier. Motorized use has declined in the entire Valley. In the western region it declined from 50–55% to approximately 28%, with all the other users on the trails it is not the kind of experience they are looking for.

## 2. Potential Effects from WIFI and 5G Exposure

Daniel Blair, a resident of New Minas, expressed a concern for potential health hazards from WIFI and 5G. He requested that we employ an independent EMF specialist to measure the exposure of WIFI within the Village of New Minas.

### **Committee Reports:**

- Area Advisory Committee – no report
- Clerk Treasurer & Administrative & Finance – report included in package
- Public Works & Water Report (& Building Maintenance) – report included in package
- Recreation & Community Development – report included in package
- Regional Sewer Committee - no report
- Water Commission – no report

THAT the reports for Clerk Treasurer & Administrative & Finance, Recreation & Community Development, and Public Works & Water Report (& Building Maintenance) be accepted as presented.

**Redmond-Munroe**  
**CARRIED**

- Beautification Group – report included in package

THAT the report for the Beautification Group be accepted as presented.

**Munroe-Redmond**  
**CARRIED**

**New Business:**

1. New Minas Community Plan and MPS

Commissioner Munroe requested the Commission coordinate with the Municipality of Kings regarding the New Minas Community Plan and MPS. Chair Chaulk asked County Councillor, Jim Winsor, for his opinion. He opined that it would be a good idea for the Village to approach the County to reach a common understanding. Chair Chaulk agreed and directed Commissioner Munroe to send a letter to Mayor Peter Muttart and Scott Quinn, Director Engineering and Public Works, Land and Parks requesting a meeting. Commissioner Redmond requires a copy of the study for the future water supply of the New Minas Water Commission. Councillor Winsor stated it would be appropriate for the Commission to request that the County provide an update to the commission in the letter.

2. Municipal Advisor Workshop

Commissioner Munroe requested that the Commission contact Jason Haughn, Municipal Advisor, to set up a workshop on the relationship between governance and the administration groups. Chair Chaulk requested that Gerard Hamilton contact Municipal Advisor Jason Haughn, to set up the workshop.

**Correspondence:**

Letter from New Minas Children's Centre

The New Minas Children's Centre has requested a property tax exemption, on the premise of their designation as registered charity, effective on the registration date of 16 July 2018 (Business #86120 7330 RR0001).

Chair Chaulk requested that a letter be sent to Reverend Daniel Cormier, requesting clarification on whether the New Minas Children's Centre generates a profit from the day care operations even though they now have charitable status, prior to making a decision on full property tax exemption.

**Public Discussion Period:**

Maynard Stevens, a resident of New Minas, stated the New Minas float won first prize in the Hantsport Canada Day Parade and the decision to move everything inside on Canada Day was a good idea. He also asked about the possibility of allowing a candidate for the Village Commission to have an official agent act on the candidate's behalf on nomination day should

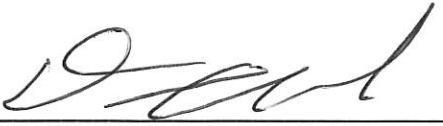
that candidate not be present on that day. Gerard Hamilton was directed to speak with Jason Haughn (Municipal Advisor) and advise on this request.

County Councillor Jim Winsor informed the Commission that there will be a Municipal Planning Process meeting on July 23, 2019. This meeting will offer an opportunity for representatives to discuss any issues that they may have.

**Adjournment:**

**Redmond**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 pm



Dave Chaulk, Chair



Gerard Hamilton, Acting Clerk Treasurer