



Village of New Minas
Commission Meeting
May 11, 2026 @ 7:00 PM
Commission Room, LMCC
New Minas, Nova Scotia
AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. April 33, 2026, Village Commission Meeting
5. Presentations:
6. Business Arising from Minutes:
7. Comments from the Chair
8. Public Input Specific to Agenda Topics
9. Committee Reports:
 - a. Beautification Committee — No meeting since last report
 - b. Finance & Audit Committee — No meeting since last report
 - c. Access and inclusion Working Group — Draft notes included in package
 - d. New Minas Water Commission — Draft minutes included in package
 - e. Regional Sewer Committee — March 12 draft minutes included in package
10. Staff Reports:
 - a. Clerk Treasurer/CAO — Report included in package
 - b. Director of Public Works — Report included in package
 - c. Manager of Finance — Report included in package
 - d. Director of Recreation – Report included in Package
11. New Business:
 - a. Briefing – Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada’s (AAFC) Divestiture of Ravine Easement – Initial Notifications & Process Overview
 - b. Discussion regarding Potential RCMP Public Meeting
12. Correspondence:
13. General Public Input
14. Closed Session

a. Personnel

15. Adjournment



Village of New Minas
Commission Meeting
May 8, 2026@ 7:00 PM
Commission Room, LMCC
New Minas, Nova Scotia
AGENDA

4. Minutes



Village of New Minas
Commission Meeting
April 13, 2026 @ 7:00 PM
Commission Room, LMCC
New Minas, Nova Scotia
DRAFT MINUTES

Commissioners Present:

- James Redmond, Vice Chair
- Mary Munroe
- Quentin Hill
- Dave Chaulk, Chair
- Debra Windle-Smith

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present:

- Jeff Lawrence, Clerk Treasurer/CAO
- John Ansara, Director of Recreation and Community Development
- Cory Palmer, Director of Public Works

Others Present:

- Christina Sappington
- Maynard Stevens
- Julie Vanexan

1. Call to Order:

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

2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion:

THAT the Agenda for the April 13, 2026, Commission Meeting be approved.

M/J. Redmond
S/ Q. Hill
Motion Carried

4. Approval of Minutes:

a. February 9, 2026, Village Commission Meeting

Motion:

THAT the Minutes for the February 9, 2026, Village Commission Meeting be approved.

M/Q. Hill

S/ J. Redmond

Motion Carried

5. Presentations:

a. Municipality of the County of Kings - Planning – Application to Rezone PID 55210884, 9643 Commercial Street from R3 to R4

Alice Jacob, Planner, Municipality of the County of Kings, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding and application to rezone PID 55210884, 9643 Commercial Street from R3 to R4.

Following the presentation there was a question-and-answer session.

Notable Points included:

- Shadows cast from the building on neighbouring properties
- Sewer infrastructure capacity in the area
- The location of the existing Village of New Minas sign on the property

b. Village of New Minas 2026 – 2029 Strategic Plan

Craig Gibson, consultant, Peak Experiences, presented the final draft of the Village of New Minas Strategic Plan.

Following the presentation there was a question-and-answer session.

Motion:

THAT the Commission endorses the 2026 – 2029 Village of New Minas Strategic Plan

M/J. Redmond

S/ D. Windle-Smith

Motion Carried

6. Business Arising from Minutes:

a. Aggressive Coyote Season Notification

J. Lawrence indicated that, despite requests, no response was received from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding approving the Village communication piece - aggressive coyote season.

Mr. Lawrence further indicated the administration has marked its calendar to advertise next year with or without input from DNR.

7. Comments from the Chair:

There were no comments from the Chair

8. Public Input Specific to Agenda Topics:

9. Committee Reports:

a. Beautification Committee

D. Windle-Smith provided a verbal summary of the draft minutes included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

Motion:

THAT the draft minutes for the Beautification Committee be received as included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

**M/D. Windle-Smith
S/ J. Redmond
Motion Carried**

b. New Minas Water Commission

J. Redmond provided a verbal summary of the draft minutes included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

Motion:

THAT the draft minutes for the New Minas Water Commission be received as included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

**M/J. Redmond
S/ Q. Hill
Motion Carried**

10. Staff Reports:

a. CAO/ Clerk Treasurer

CAO/ Clerk Treasurer Lawrence provided a brief synopsis of the CAO/ Clerk Treasurer Report.

Motion:

THAT the CAO/ Clerk Treasurer report be received as included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

M/J. Redmond
S/ Q. Hill
Motion Carried

b. Public Works

The Director of Public Works provided a brief synopsis of the public works report. Additional points discussed included:

- The draft water study and sewer study were received with the reports showing there are some areas in the village where the sewer system is over capacity. The Director indicated that he has asked the engineers for options specific to the Commercial Street area.
- The Director requested Commission input on requiring sidewalks on both sides of the to be constructed street connecting Prospect Road to Douglas Street. Consensus of the Commission was to require sidewalks on both sides.

Motion:

THAT the Director of Public Works report be received as included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

M/Q. Hill
S/ D. Windle-Smith
Motion Carried

c. Finance

Motion:

THAT the Manager of Finance report be received as included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

M/ J. Redmond
S/ Q. Hill
Motion Carried

d. Recreation and Community Development

The Director of Recreation provided a brief synopsis of the recreation report. In addition, the Director thanked recreation staff and leaders for the success of programs.

Motion:

THAT the Director of Recreation report be received as included in the April 13, 2026, Commission agenda package.

M/ D. Windle-Smith
S/ Q. Hill
Motion Carried

11. New Business:

a. Briefing – Provincial Budget 2026-27 Impacts on Municipal Grant Programs

J. Lawrence spoke to the recent announcement by the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding cuts to provincial grant programs available to municipalities and villages. He noted that both the PCAP grant and GRID grant had been accessed by the Village of New Minas in the past but will no longer be available.

b. RFD – Request for Village Tax Exemption – Valley Roots Housing Corporation

J. Lawrence spoke to the request from Valley Roots Housing Corporation to waive the village taxes for a new 32-unit affordable housing development on Highbury Road. J. Lawrence spoke to the limited fiscal capacity of villages; the inequitable access to federal housing funding; the precedent for future requests; the service obligations to new developments; and fiscal responsibility of the Commission.

Following the discussion the following motion was put forward:

Motion:

THAT the Commission instruct administration to inform Valley Roots Housing Corporation that the request to waive village taxes is declined.

M/ Q. Hill

S/ J. Redmond

Motion Carried

c. Timeline, Event and process for Volunteer Appreciation Selections

J. Lawrence indicated that he was looking for direction from the Commission regarding the Volunteer Appreciation Selection timeline, the events for which the Commission wished to nominate and the process to select the volunteer so that decisions are made in a timely manner.

After a discussion, consensus was that the Recreation and Community Development Department should bring a briefing to the Commission in a timely manner to allow for Commission consideration in time to participate in the municipal and provincial events. Further, there was consensus that the Commission would make the final selection and will have an opportunity to submit names for consideration.

12. Correspondence:

13. General Public Input:

- **Councillor Christina Sappington**
Councillor Sappington provided budget highlights from the Municipality of the County of Kings and reminded the Commission of the upcoming Council/ Commissions meeting.
- **MLA Julie Vanexan**
MLA Vanexan requested information referencing whom with DNR the Village had reached out to regarding the coyote communication and committed to follow up with the Minister of the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding municipal taxation of Village water assets.

14. Closed Session:

Dave Chaulk indicated that there was a need for an in-camera session to deal with personnel matters.

At 8:31pm, the Commission adjourned to move into a closed session.

Motion:

THAT the Commission adjourn to move into closed session.

M/J. Redmond

S/ Q. Hill

Motion Carried

Motion:

THAT the Commission adjourn from the closed session.

M/ Q. Hill

S/ D. Windle-Smith

Motion Carried

At 9:17pm the Commission reconvened the open session of the meeting.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, James Redmond called for a motion to adjourn at 9:18pm.

Motion:

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

M/ Q. Hill

S/ J. Redmond

Motion Carried



Village of New Minas
Commission Meeting
May 8, 2026@ 7:00 PM
Commission Room, LMCC
New Minas, Nova Scotia
AGENDA

9. Committee Reports



Village of New Minas
Inclusion and Access Working Group
March 5th, 2026 @ 9:30 AM
Commission Room, LMCC
New Minas, Nova Scotia

Agenda

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:56 AM.

2. Approval of Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved as circulated.

Moved by John

Seconded by Katie

3. Approval of Minutes

a. January 22nd, 2026

The minutes from January 22nd, 2026 were approved as circulated.

Moved by Katie

Seconded by John

4. New Business

No new business was added to the agenda.

5. Ongoing Business

a. 5- Year Plan Discussion

Katie advised that work is underway to develop new standards for wayfinding signage and will share relevant resources with the committee. The group discussed potential upgrades to signage and whether implementation should be deferred pending a broader branding overhaul.

As an interim measure, John proposed producing temporary laminated signage until a comprehensive wayfinding strategy is developed. **John will lead this initiative.**

Katie suggested "Eye Candy" (Halifax) as a potential consulting firm for future work.

Natalie outlined potential smaller-scale accessibility improvements that could be incorporated into the paved pathway project, including visual alarm systems and accessible washroom upgrades.



It was agreed that the next meeting will focus on development of the formal 5-year plan, including budget requirements on a year-by-year basis. Katie also emphasized the importance of considering non-physical accessibility improvements, such as programming and website accessibility.

b. Accessibility Project Updates/Grant Updates

Katie provided an update on accessibility-related grants, noting anticipated reductions in available funding due to budget cuts. As a result, the working group's role in identifying and prioritizing key projects will be increasingly important.

Katie highlighted an Association of Municipal Administrators of Nova Scotia grant opportunity for accessible programming in the amount of \$1,500. Natalie will apply for this funding to support her work with the SHIFT partnership.

Katie also noted that the Enabling Accessibility Fund is expected to reopen next year and should be considered as part of the 5-year planning process.

6. Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 9:30 AM**.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.



Draft Village of New Minas
New Minas Water Commission
April 28, 2026 @ 3:00 PM
Commission Room, LMCC
New Minas, Nova Scotia
DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present:

- Mary Munroe, Commission Member
- Bruce MacArthur, Citizen Member
- Dave Chaulk, Commission Member & Vice Chair
- James Redmond, Commission Member & Chair

Members Absent:

- Maynard Stevens, Citizen Member

Staff Present:

- Jeff Lawrence, Clerk Treasurer/CAO
- Cory Palmer, Director of Public Works

Others Present:

- None

1. Call to Order:

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 3:03pm, welcoming those in attendance.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion:

THAT the Agenda for the April 28, 2026, Water Commission Meeting be approved as circulated

M/ D. Chaulk
S/ M. Munroe
Motion Carried

3. Approval of Minutes:

- a. March 24, 2026, Water Commission Meeting

Motion:

THAT the Minutes for the March 24, 2026, Water Commission Meeting be approved as circulated.

M/ D. Chaulk
S/ B. MacArthur
Motion Carried

4. Business Arising from Minutes:

a. Water Infrastructure study

C. Palmer updated the Commission regarding the status of the study.

C. Palmer spoke to the following regarding the water study:

- The study is complete
- There are no issues with the domestic water supply but there are concerns with fire fighting capacity.
- Areas of concern related to development and infilling include Prospect Road and behind Kent.
- The Canaan Heights area was never designed to provide fire fighting capacity.
- There are also areas of concern around dead streets.
- The company is now evaluating potential solutions.

5. Comments from the Chair:

The Chair indicated that he had no additional comments.

6. Staff Reports:

a. Water Operations Report

C. Palmer presented an overview of the key points from the water operator's report. There was a discussion around water pressure, pressure reducer valves and potentially training existing staff to work on these valves.

Motion:

THAT the Water Operations Report be received as circulated prior to the April 28, 2026, Water Commission meeting and as verbally summarized by the Director of Public Works.

M/ D. Chaulk.

S/ B. MacArthur

Motion Carried

7. New Business

a. **Source Water Protection Committee Meeting Date**

The Committee discussed possible dates for a Source Water Protection Committee meeting. The consensus was for J. Lawrence to meet with J. Redmond to set a date.

8. Correspondence:

There was no correspondence

9. Other Business

10. Public Input:

There was no public input.

11. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the Chair called for a motion to adjourn at 3:31pm.

Motion:

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

M/ D. Chaulk

S/ B. MacArthur

Motion Carried

**THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS
REGIONAL SEWER COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 12, 2026
MINUTES**

Meeting Date and Time

A meeting of the Regional Sewer Committee was held on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Municipal Complex in Coldbrook, Nova Scotia.

1. Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order Councillor Harding called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and took roll call.

In Attendance:

*Municipality of the
County of Kings:*

Tim Harding, Councillor (**Chair/ voting member**)
Dave Corkum, Mayor (ex-officio)
Brad Carrigan, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Mike Livingstone, Director of Finance
Andy Pulsifer, Manager of Environmental Services
Jeremy Sharpe, Manager of Public Works
Jordan Matheson, Manager of Engineering
Tyler Honeywood, Manager of Financial Reporting
Emely Guzman, Engineering Technician
Chris Ritchie, Funding Analyst
Stephanie Elliott, Recording Secretary

Town of Kentville:

Cathy Maxwell, Councillor (**voting member**)
Dave Bell, Director of Engineering & Public Works

Village of New Minds:

James Redmond, Commissioner (**voting member**)
Jeff Lawrence, CAO

PepsiCo Foods Limited:

Rachel Hirtle, Site Manager (**voting member**)
Shannon Macaskill, EHS Coordinator, Environmental Health & Safety

Regrets: None

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Land Acknowledgement.

8. Financial Update

- a. Regional Sewer 2026/27 Operating and Capital Budget Update

- a. Presentation by Tyler Honeywood regarding the Regional Sewer 2026/27 Operating and Capital Budget.

On motion Commissioner Redmond and Councillor Harding, that the Regional Sewer Committee recommend the 2026/27 Operating and Capital Budgets as attached to March 12, 2026, Request for Decision to Partner Councils, Commission, and Senior Management, as applicable, for approval; and further

That the Partner Councils confirm their willingness to mitigate the high reliance on debt to finance capital projects by collectively prioritizing a joint application(s) under applicable Provincial and Federal cost-sharing (grant) programs.

Motion Carried

9. Partner Updates

None

10. Other Business

None

11. Next Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

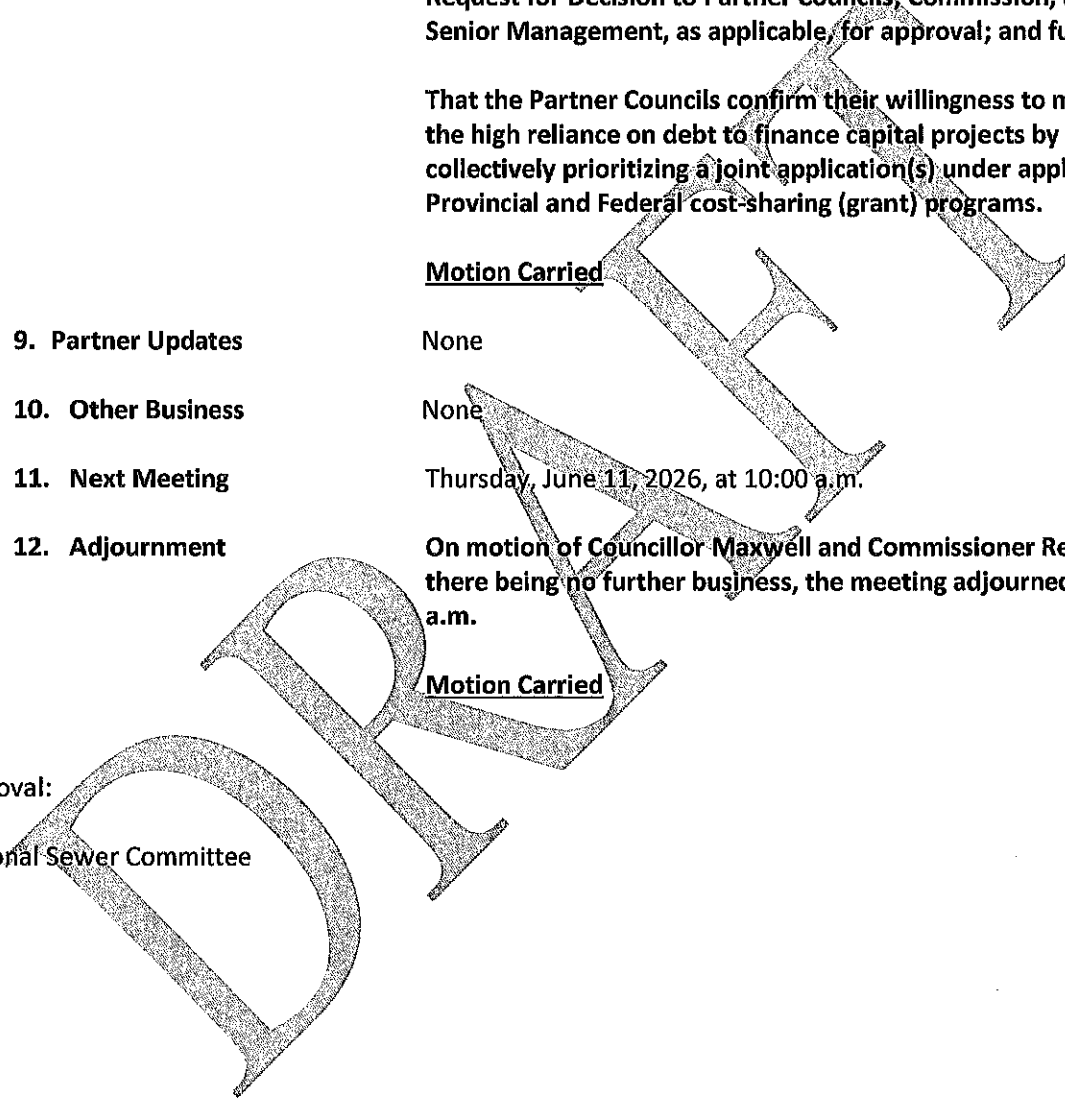
12. Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Maxwell and Commissioner Redmond, there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Motion Carried

Approval:

Regional Sewer Committee





Village of New Minas
Commission Meeting
May 8, 2026@ 7:00 PM
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New Minas, Nova Scotia
AGENDA

10. Staff Reports

Information Report

To: Village Commission

By: Jeff Lawrence, Clerk Treasurer/CAO

Meeting Date: May 11, 2026

Subject: Monthly Report — Clerk Treasurer/CAO



Monthly Report — Clerk Treasurer/CAO

Highlights of the Past Month:

- Reformatted the water and general operating budget to include the 3 most recent years' actual revenues and expenditures.
- Worked with the Manager of Finance to finalize year end transactions in preparation for the budget and audit.
- Updated the election calendar and advertised for nominations for the two commission positions coming up for election in June

Regularly Scheduled Meetings:

In the past month, I attended the following regularly scheduled meetings:

- Individual meetings with Department Heads
- Water Commission
- Health and Safety

Other Notable Meetings:

- Met on with multiple occasions with department heads and staff in preparing the budget
- Held discussions with solicitors and met with staff regarding ongoing HR issues
- Met with CAOs/ Clerk Treasurers of Port Williams and Kingston on areas of common concern.
- Attended Labour/ Management quarterly meeting

Professional Development:

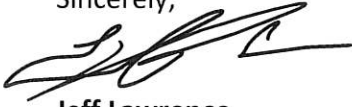
- N/A

Outlook for Next Month:

The planned focus for the next month will be as follows:

- Finalizing the budget
- Ensuring that the staff have the resources to implement the budget
- Continuing with the preparation work for an election
- Ensuring year end reporting requirements are completed and, where required submitted
- Working with the finance team and the auditor to complete the audit
- Attending Commission and Committee meetings
- Attending Department Head meetings (collective and individual)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Lawrence', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeff Lawrence

Clerk Treasurer/Chief Administrative Officer

902-681-0430 | cao@newminas.com

Village of New Minas

9489 Commercial Street

New Minas, NS B4N 3G3

newminas.com

Information Report

To: Village Commission

By: Cory Palmer

Meeting Date: April 13, 2025

Subject: Monthly Report — Director of Public Works



Monthly Report — Director of Public Works

Staff Update:

- Timothy Keddy, new foreperson, started on April 27 and is fitting in well. His education and past experiences have already proven to be valuable.
- The water position was finally posted after discussions with the union.
- Nelson Coleman has resigned from his laborer position as of May 15. He job will be posted the week of May 11.

Current Projects/Work:

- Park maintenance:
 - All parks have been cleaned of debris and tidied up.
 - Picnic tables were placed in all the parks.
 - Most parks have had the bark mulch laid in the flower beds. Crescent West has not been completed as we have some tree maintenance to complete in this park.
 - Audits have been completed on the parks and repair work will need to be completed in the coming weeks.
- Lockhart Ryan Park:
 - Activities have started on the baseball diamonds. EMS uses the small diamond for practices and the large diamond for games. The softball leagues will be starting on May 17.
 - All the fields have been aerated. Soccer fields 1 and 2 have been top-dressed as well to try and fill in the bare spots.
 - Sprinkler system has been tested and some repairs were required. We had one valve and control system broke on field 3. There were 6 sprinkler heads that needed to be replaced.
 - Soccer field 2 developed a slight sink hole in the middle of the field. We had to dig out the sod and fill the hole, and we will be laying sod to ensure the field is ready for the opening tournament on June 12. Having the fields open to the schools last fall and the late start to spring have hindered the maintenance of the soccer fields this year.
 - The tennis courts and basketball courts have been pressure washed. All nets are installed and ready for use.
 - We are currently working on the splash pad as it needs cleaning, and the water system needs some repairs.
 - Disc golf course was cleaned up and ready for the first tournament on April 17.
- Sidewalk audit has been completed and will prioritize work that needs to be completed.

Information Report

To: Village Commission

By: Cory Palmer

Meeting Date: April 13, 2025

Subject: Monthly Report — Director of Public Works



Long-Term Projects:

- The water and sewer studies were completed, and the results illustrate that upgrades will be required on both systems for the growth moving forward. The areas of concern are provided below:
 - The water transmission line from deep hollow to Busch Lane tank is too small for the capacity that is required.
 - There is not enough line capacity on Prospect Road to meet the fire fighting requirements of the new developments.
 - The sewer capacity on Prospect Road will not be able to handle all the growth in this area. Multiple lines from Prospect Road to the regional pump station will also have capacity issues when some of the developments are complete.
- Dillon and AtkinsRealis are looking at providing pricing to review options to alleviate the capacity issues.

Professional Development:

- The new foreperson and water operator will require several training courses over the next few months.
- Some employees require the following courses to stay up-to-date on their training:
 - First Aid – 2
 - Fall Protection – 2
 - Confined Space Generic – 1
 - Lift Training – 3
 - Traffic Signer – 1
 - Traffic Control – 3
 - Trenching and Excavation – 1
 - Transportation of Dangerous Goods - 3

Outlook for Upcoming Months:

- Get water and laborer position filled.
- Ensure parks and sports fields are ready for use.
- Hydrant Flushing.
- Training for new and existing employees.
- Preparation for Apple Blossom activities
 - Paint sidewalk lines
 - LMCC parking lot lines
 - Food truck event and parade preparation
- Transition to spring/summer activities (mowing and trimming).
- Schedule repairs on parks and sidewalks.

Information Report (Agenda Item 9.c.)
To: Village Commission
By: Shelly Palmer, Manager of Finance
Meeting Date: May 11, 2026
Subject: Monthly Report — Manager of Finance



Monthly Report — Manager of Finance

Summary:

The Finance Department has been busy these last few weeks preparing for the 2025/26 Audit which will start next week. The PST claims will be uploaded to Service Nova Scotia sometime this week for rebates and, HST Offset report gets sent to Municipal Affairs and Housing in a few weeks for their rebate.

Assuming the budget is passed in May, the 2026/27 Tax Levy will be run around the end of May; tax notices will go out the first week of June.

Current Tasks/Projects:

- All the 2025/26 bank reconciliations are complete; April's will be completed this week in preparation of the 2025/26 Audit.
- Fourth Quarterly Due to/from and HST, are complete, just waiting on the refund.

Budget Update:

Property Taxes	Unapproved Budgeted	Collected Year to Date April 30
• Residential	\$1,444,101	\$12607.42
• Commercial	\$938,067	\$1513.75
• Resource	\$8,570	\$0.61

Sewer	Unapproved Budgeted	Collected Year to Date March 31
• Usage Charges	\$776,000	\$185,773.77

Water	Unapproved Budgeted	Collected Year to Date March 31
• Metered Sales	\$857,000	\$183,615.86
• Sprinkler Service	\$4,999	\$1,118.55

Professional Development Summary:

Outlook for Next Month:

- Bank reconciliations
- Accounts payable
- Invoicing and receivables
- Payroll (bi-weekly)
- CRA remittance, Union fees and Pension
- RBC Pension
- PAD, tax and water

Information Report (Agenda Item 9.d.)

To: Village Commission

By: John Ansara, Director of Recreation & Community Development

Meeting Date: May 11, 2026

Subject: Monthly Report — Director of Recreation & Community Development



Monthly Report — Director of Recreation & Community Development

Summary:

- Sophie Messom finished her placement with dept
- Finished draft of operating budget
- Continued drafting of Recreation Master Plan, in alignment with Village's strategic plan

Current Tasks/Projects:

- Spring Program delivery
- Summer day camp planning
- Bike repair events

Long-Term Projects:

- Recreation Dept Strategic Planning, including capital forecast

Meetings:

- No Inclusion and Access meeting. Next meeting May 14, 9:30 AM
- Valley soccer – met to discuss logistic around June 14 "Valley Kickoff" event
- Valley/South Shore Conference
- Natalie – Bike training
- Annapolis Valley Trail Coalition
 - Met to discuss dissolution of coalition
 - Trails to become individual unit's responsibility

Professional Development Summary:

- Natalie and John Attended Valley/South Shore rec conference
 - Topics include incorporating culture into recreation/recreation spaces

Outlook for Next Month:

- Summer staff training
- Summer programming and events (Canada Day)



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11. New Business

Village of New Minas

Briefing



To: Village of New Minas Commission

From: Jeff Lawrence, Clerk Treasurer/ CAO; John Ansara, Director of Recreation and Community Development

Date: May 11, 2026

Subject: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) Divestiture of Ravine Easement – Initial Notifications & Process Overview

1. Purpose

To update the Commission on recent correspondence from the Town of Kentville regarding AAFC planned divestiture of the Ravine easement located within the Kentville Research Station, portions of which fall within the Village of New Minas.

2. Background

The Ravine easement is federally owned land within the Kentville Research Station. The property is currently designated as conservation land and spans two municipal jurisdictions:

- Town of Kentville
- Village of New Minas

AAFC has initiated a multi-stage divestiture process for underutilized federal lands. The Village was notified through two communications from Craig Langille (Town of Kentville).

3. Chronology of Correspondence

Early FYI Notice (Email to Jeff Lawrence – Date prior to April 13, 2026)

Craig Langille provided an informal early notification that:

- AAFC issued notice of intent to divest the Ravine easement.
- Part of the property falls within New Minas.
- He requested a meeting with AAFC to gather more information.
- The message was framed as a courtesy update.

Formal Update (Email to John Ansara – April 13, 2026, 8:57 AM)

Craig Langille provided a structured update following a discussion with AAFC:

- Divestiture process began one year ago.
- Current activities:
 - ✓ Surveying
 - ✓ Environmental testing
 - ✓ Indigenous consultations
- Land valuation and circulation expected to begin June/July 2026.
- Circulation sequence:
 - ✓ Federal departments
 - ✓ Provincial government
 - ✓ Municipalities & Indigenous communities
- AAFC intends to move quickly but cannot confirm a full timeline.
- Land remains designated as conservation property.
- Craig advised AAFC that the parcel spans two municipalities.

4. Key Considerations for New Minas

4.1 Jurisdictional & Boundary Implications

- The property's location across two municipalities may require coordinated responses.
- Boundary confirmation may be necessary to determine:
 - ✓ Planning authority
 - ✓ Zoning implications
 - ✓ Potential acquisition responsibilities

4.2 Conservation Status

- Current designation as conservation land may limit development potential.

4.3 Intergovernmental Relations

- AAFC's circulation process gives municipalities an opportunity to express interest.
- Coordination with Kentville is advisable to avoid conflicting positions.

4.4 Timing & Process Uncertainty

- AAFC's timeline is not fixed.
- The Village may need to prepare for rapid decision-making once circulation begins.

5. Recommended Next Steps

- ✓ **Initiate contact with AAFC to request:**
 - Details on conservation restrictions
 - Expected timelines and requirements for municipal responses
- ✓ **Coordinate with the Town of Kentville to align positions and share information.**
- ✓ **Prepare an assessment of potential municipal interest in the property, including:**
 - Strategic value
 - Environmental considerations
 - Cost implications
- ✓ **Return to the Commission with a follow-up briefing once AAFC provides additional details.**

Jeff Lawrence

From: Craig Langille <clangille@kentville.ca>
Sent: April 1, 2026 9:31 AM
To: Jeff Lawrence
Subject: Ravine Property

Hi Jeff

I hope all is well!

I just wanted to provide with you an FYI, which may not impact New Minas, but thought I would pass along just in case.

The AAFC (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada) provided notice of the divestiture of the Ravine easement within the Research Station. This means they will be selling off the underutilized property, which I believe part of the property falls within New Minas. I have asked for a meeting next week with them to determine next steps and gather more information.

Again, I hope all is well with the family and that you enjoy the upcoming Holidays.

Craig



Craig Langille
Director of Parks and Recreation

t:902-679-2541 | f:902-679-2122
e: clangille@kentville.ca | w: www.kentville.ca
a: 354 Main Street, Kentville, B4N 1K6



Grateful to live, learn and play in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional and un-surrendered territory of the Mi'kmaq People. I recognize we are all treaty people governed by the Peace and Friendship Treaties, first signed in 1726. I acknowledge the responsibility to deeply engage and move forward the work of truth, reconciliation, equity, diversity, I accept that without action, an acknowledgement is empty; it merely marks the beginning of the work ahead of us, not

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Jeff Lawrence

From: John Ansara
Sent: April 13, 2026 9:09 AM
To: Craig Langille
Cc: Jeff Lawrence
Subject: RE: Ravine

Hi Craig,
Thanks for the info, I'll share it accordingly.
John

John Ansara
Director of Recreation & Community Development
Village of New Minas
Text/Cell: 902-698-2048



From: Craig Langille <clangille@kentville.ca>
Sent: April 13, 2026 8:57 AM
To: John Ansara <johna@newminas.com>
Subject: Ravine

Hi John

Just sending a formal update.

I spoke with AAFC last week, below are the notes:

- AAFC started the divestiture process a year ago
- They are currently completing surveying and environmental testing
- Then concluding with indigenous consultations
- Land value and circulation process to start in June/July
- Circulation method:
 - 1st - Other Federal Departments
 - 2nd - Provincial
 - 3rd - Municipal and Indigenous Communities
- Sounds like they would like to move it along quickly, but still unsure of the timeline start to finish
- Land is currently conservation property

I did inform them that the property is within two different municipalities.

Craig