



**Village of New Minas**  
Commission Meeting  
February 10, 2025 @ 7:00 PM  
Commission Room, LMCC  
New Minas, Nova Scotia  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:**

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

**Commissioners Absent:**

- None

**Staff Present:**

- Tim Bouter, Clerk Treasurer/CAO

**Others Present:**

- Christina Sappington, District 8 Councillor
- Julie Vanexan, MLA for Kings-South (via Zoom)
- Maynard Stevens

**1. Call to Order:**

Dave Chaulk called the meeting to order at 7:03pm, welcoming those in attendance.

**2. Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion:

THAT the Agenda for the February 10, 2025 Commission Meeting be approved as circulated.

**M/James Redmond**

**S/Quentin Hill**

**Motion Carried**

**3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

**4. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. January 13, 2025 Village Commission Meeting

Motion:

THAT the Minutes for the January 13, 2025 Village Commission Meeting be approved as circulated.

**M/James Redmond  
S/Quentin Hill  
Motion Carried**

**5. Business Arising from Minutes:**

- a. January 13, 2025 Village Commission Meeting

There was no business arising from the January 13, 2025 minutes.

**6. Comments from the Chair:**

There were no comments from the Chair.

**7. Public Input Specific to Agenda Topics:**

There was no public input.

**8. Committee Reports:**

- a. Beautification Committee

Debra Windle-Smith provided a verbal summary of the draft minutes included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package.

Motion:

THAT the draft minutes for the Beautification Committee be received as included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package and as verbally summarized by Debra Windle-Smith.

**M/Debra Windle-Smith  
S/James Redmond  
Motion Carried**

- d. New Minas Water Commission

James Redmond provided a verbal summary of the draft minutes included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package.

Motion:

THAT the draft minutes for the New Minas Water Commission be received as included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package and as verbally summarized by James Redmond.

**M/James Redmond**

**S/Quentin Hill**

**Motion Carried**

e. Regional Sewer Committee

James Redmond provided a verbal summary of the draft minutes included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package.

Motion:

THAT the draft minutes for the Regional Sewer Committee be received as included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package and as verbally summarized by James Redmond.

**M/James Redmond**

**S/Quentin Hill**

**Motion Carried**

**9. Staff Reports:**

The Clerk Treasurer/CAO, Director of Public Works and Director of Recreation & Community Development provided a verbal summary of the following written reports included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package:

- 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 & Community Development — Report included in package

Motion #1:

THAT the Clerk Treasurer/CAO Report be received as included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package and as verbally summarized by the Clerk Treasurer/CAO.

**M/James Redmond**

**S/Quentin Hill**

**Motion Carried**

Motion #2:

THAT the Director of Public Works Report be received as included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package and as verbally summarized by the Director of Public Works.

**M/Debra Windle-Smith**  
**S/James Redmond**  
**Motion Carried**

Motion #3:

THAT the Manager of Finance Report be received as included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package.

**M/Quentin Hill**  
**S/Debra Windle-Smith**  
**Motion Carried**

Motion #4:

THAT the Director of Recreation & Community Development Report be received as included in the February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package and as verbally summarized by the Director of Recreation & Community Development.

**M/James Redmond**  
**S/Debra Windle-Smith**  
**Motion Carried**

**10. New Business:**

a. ANSV Briefing — Staff Position

The Commission initially discussed the ANSV Staff Position at the February 12, 2024 Commission meeting. At that time the Commission was not comfortable with the proposal, given the lack of financial details and proposed funding model based on taxable assessment. The Commission stated that it would support an initial one-year term funded by the Province to determine the benefits of the position to the ANSV and the Village of New Minas.

On April 11, 2024, the ANSV Board assigned a committee of board members and respective Clerk/Treasurers to review the possibility of hiring an ANSV staff person. The briefing included in the ANSV February 10, 2025 Commission agenda package (with details of the proposed position and a possible funding model) was presented at the January 16, 2025 ANSV quarterly board meeting.

The Board is now seeking the support of its members, in principle, for the development of a paid ANSV staff person to work on behalf of the organization. A positive response is not a commitment to fund the position. Consensus among the Villages that this proposal

has merit will allow the Board to move forward in the planning process. The Board is requesting Villages to respond by February 28 to permit adequate time to propose a detailed funding model before 2025-26 budgets are finalized.

The Commission reiterated its position that it would support an initial one-year term funded by the Province to determine the benefits of the position to the ANSV and the Village of New Minas, and instructed the Clerk Treasurer/CAO to communicate this back to the ANSV.

**11. Correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**12. Other Business:**

There was no other business.

**13. General Public Input:**

Comments from the public were as follows:

Christina Sappington:

- Thanked the Village for stepping up as a backup emergency shelter for the unhoused in case of a power outage during an event staffed by Open Arms.
- Advocating for the County to discuss important issues with other levels of government.
- Discussed ongoing planning files New Minas being approved by Municipal Council.
- Elected as Valley representative on NSFM.

Julie Vanexen:

- Encouraged Commissioners to attend a second Recreation Center meeting tomorrow at the Old Orchard Inn being organized through

**14. Closed Session:****a. Personnel Matters**

At 7:51pm, the Commission adjourned to move into closed session to discuss personnel matters, in accordance with Section 22 (2) (c) of the MGA.

Motion:

THAT the Commission adjourn to move into closed session.

**M/James Redmond**

**S/Quentin Hill**

**Motion Carried**

**15. Adjournment:**

The Regular Commission meeting reconvened at 8:34pm. There being no further business, Dave Chaulk called for a motion to adjourn at 8:35pm.

Motion:

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

**M/James Redmond**

**S/Quentin Hill**

**Motion Carried**