

The Chair calls the meeting to order

Review and Approval of Minutes of December 20, 2006.

Review and Approval of the Agenda, Call for New or Other Business

Miscellaneous Business Including Delegations

Business Arising out of Minutes

Report Commission Committee Meeting January 10, 2006

Update Fuel Tax Discussions

Survey Results in reference to election of Village Chair (polled other NS Villages)

Cost of hanging baskets

By-law amendment advance polls

Review of Correspondence

Honourable Jamie Muir, MLA – paving Avon Street

Information Bulletin Business Occupancy Tax Elimination

Reports of Commissioners, and Clerk and Treasurer

The Accounts

New Business

Corporate Credit Card

Usage of meeting room new office building

Applications for membership to the Bible Hill Parks and Recreation Committee

Purchase of Bunker Suits Bible Hill Fire Brigade

Vendor	Price for 4 bunker suits including tax
Cuming's Fire & Safety	\$6,318.84
Cardinal Fire & Safety	\$6,360.88

In Camera Committee of the Whole – Personnel Issue

Adjournment

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Bible Hill was held on January 17, 2006 at 7:00pm; in the Village Hall, 69 Pictou Road.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Chair Hilliard, Deputy Chair Burke, Commissioner Blair, Commissioner McKenna and Commissioner McLean.

Staff: Mr. Christianson, Clerk and Treasurer; Ms. Miller, Solicitor and Mrs. Ogden, Recording Secretary.

In attendance: Councillor Robert Taylor, Fire Chief Jeff Hoare, Bill Cook and Dale McLeod.

Review and Approval of minutes of December 20th, 2005.

On motion of McKenna and seconded by McLean that the minutes of December 20th be accepted as presented.

Motion carried.

Review and approval of agenda, call for new or other business

On motion of McLean and seconded by Blair that the agenda be approved with the following additions: Business at Corner of East Court Road and Pictou Road, Village of Bible Hill Policy Update and Negotiations under the In-Camera Session.

Motion carried.

Miscellaneous business including delegations

Councillor Taylor outlined the County of Colchester's position that they were waiting for a letter from the village stating that the village will not compete with Colchester by making applications to the Canada Nova Scotia Infrastructure Program (without the consent of Colchester). The extension of the water distribution project has also been approved and placed on the County of Colchester's capital program list (#2 after Tatamagouche Water Treatment Plant). Colchester support for both the municipal infrastructure program and the fuel tax program is contingent on Bible Hill's letter of non-competition regarding the Canada/Nova Scotia Infrastructure Program.

Business Arising out of the Minutes

- Report Commission Committee Meeting January 10, 2006

On motion of Burke and seconded by Blair that staff be given authority to hire a summer office assistant/programmer and four summer maintenance/programmers at the rate of \$8.00 per hour for the summer of 2006.

Motion carried.

On motion of Burke and seconded by McLean that the Village purchase bleachers for the Bible Hill Recreation Park from Atlantic Gym and Sports for \$2,534.

Motion carried.

On motion of Burke and seconded by Blair that an amendment be made to the Bible Hill Parks and Recreation Committee Policy to read "5 (five) Bible Hill citizens appointed by the Village of Bible Hill; of the five citizen appointments the Village may appoint a maximum of two people that reside outside of the Village of Bible Hill".

Motion carried.

On motion of Burke and seconded by McLean that an appraisal be completed on the Murdock Park property to ascertain its value, that the neighbouring property owners be informed of the intention of the Village of Bible Hill to dispose of the property and that those property owners be invited to meet with the Village Commission to discuss the proposed disposal.

Motion carried.

On motion of Burke and seconded by McKenna that Adagio Accounts Payable be purchased at a cost of \$1,380 from HBM Integrated Technology and that installation and training on the GL and AP be contracted to HBM Integrated Technology in the amount of \$1,610.

Motion carried.

On motion of Burke and seconded by McLean that Ms. Dawson be engaged as Returning Officer for the spring 2006 election.

Motion carried.

- Installation of netting at Bible Hill Recreation Park

The Clerk reviewed the recommendations from W.N. Horner & Associates regarding the installation of netting.

On motion of McKenna and seconded by Burke that the Village proceed with obtaining quotes for netting at the Bible Hill Recreation Park.

Motion carried.

- Update Fuel Tax Discussions

The Clerk and the Director of Corporate Services at the County reviewed the formula adopted by the Province of Nova Scotia. The formula is made up of three components, 50% based on operating expenditures made by the Municipality over the past 5 years, 25% on population of the municipality and 25% of the number of dwelling units in the Municipality. The Clerk and the County will confirm and update population and number of dwelling units for the Village, the calculation is approximately \$45,600.

- Survey Results in reference to election of Village Chair (polled other NS Villages)

A discussion was held concerning the current system used for a tie vote in the Village. The Municipal Government Act requires Municipalities to vote the 1st meeting following an election. No change was suggested for Meeting and Procedures By-law.

- Cost of hanging baskets

The Commission reviewed the cost associated with hanging baskets for the Downtown Truro Partnership. The Clerk was instructed to investigate further by contacting Stewiacke regarding their program and the number of baskets required for Main Street to Ryland Ave and Pictou Rd to the Village Line.

- By-law amendment advance polls

Our solicitor distributed the amended by-law for advance polls. Our Solicitor was instructed to amend each section that contained Clerk and Treasurer and replace it with Returning Officer.

On motion of McLean and seconded by Blair that the advance poll hours be set from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Motion carried.

On motion of Blair and seconded by McKenna that the solicitor proceed with changes as outlined and forward the by-law to the Solicitor for Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations for review.

Motion carried.

Review of Correspondence

- Honourable Jamie Muir, MLA – paving Avon Street

The commission reviewed correspondence sent by the Honourable Jamie Muir regarding paving Avon Street.

- Information Bulletin Business Occupancy Tax Elimination

The Bulletin received was from Service Nova Scotia concerning the Business Occupancy Tax. The commission will review the Business Occupancy Tax elimination during budget meetings.

Reports of Commissioners, and Clerk and Treasurer

- Deputy Chair Burke

Deputy Chair Burke reported that he attended the New Year's Levee and chaired the committee meeting on Jan 10th. He also reported that the Village has received three applications for the P&R Committee vacant position. Plans are underway for the Volunteer Banquet and Canada Day.

- Commissioner McLean

Commissioner McLean reported that the overhead crosswalk on Pictou Rd/Hazel Drive should be completed on January 19th. The overhead crosswalk at Pictou Rd/Jennifer Drive will be completed in the spring of 2006.

- Commissioner McKenna

Commissioner McKenna reviewed the Fire Chief's Report. He reported that certificates have been distributed to members taking their Level 1 training. The brigade has their 2006 committees in place.

- Commissioner Blair

Commissioner Blair reported that she attended the New Years Levee. She did not have a report for Environment Services. The Association of Nova Scotia Villages will be having a meeting on January 20th by conference call.

- Chair Hilliard

Chair Hilliard attended the New Years Levee and the Farewell Dinner for Premier John Hamm. He will be attending an event for the Scottish Society on Jan 21st and the Kinsmen Founders Night on February 11th.

The Accounts

On motion of Burke and seconded by McLean that the accounts be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

New Business

- Corporate Credit Card

On motion of Burke and seconded by McLean that the Clerk proceed with the process to apply for a corporate credit card with the restrictions of a maximum limit of \$5,000, a maximum purchasing limit of \$1,000, no cash advances restriction and the limit of the corporate card cannot be increased without prior approval of the Village Commission.

Motion carried.

- Group Insurance Changes

The Clerk outlined the suggested change in our current group insurance plan from 100% prescription drug reimbursement to 80%; there will be cost savings to both the commission and the Village Staff. The five staff on the group plan supports this change.

On motion of McKenna and seconded by Blair that the Village proceed to change our group insurance to the 80% prescription drug reimbursement with the Chamber of Commerce plan.

Motion carried.

- Usage of meeting room new office building

The commission agreed that the meeting room in the new office building will be used for Village Commission, or committees of the Village Commission meetings plus staff usage. Community groups would use the hall or upstairs meeting room. The Clerk was instructed to draft a policy for use of the meeting room.

- Applications for membership to the Bible Hill Parks and Recreation Committee

The commission will review the applications and bring their recommendation for the vacant position to the next commission meeting.

- Purchase of Bunker Suits for Bible Hill Fire Brigade

The Fire Chief requested two bunker suits be purchased from Cuming's Fire & Safety and two bunker suits be purchased from Cardinal Fire & Safety.

On motion of McKenna and seconded by Blair that the Village purchase two bunker suits from Cuming's Fire & Safety for \$1,579.71 each and two bunker suits from Cardinal Fire & Safety for \$1,590.22 each.

Motion carried.

- Village of Bible Hill Policy Update

Commissioner Blair reported that the Village should periodically review Village of Bible Hill Policies. Commissioner Blair has received concerns that alcohol is being used at events at the Village Hall that do not have a liquor license; this is a concern for liability with the Village. The Clerk was instructed to circulate the current Village Hall Policies and for this to be placed on the next agenda.

In Camera Committee of the Whole

On motion of McKenna and seconded by McLean that the Village enter an in camera meeting regarding a personnel issue and negotiations at 9:11 pm.

Motion carried.

The commission discussed negotiations and personnel issues during the in-camera session.

The commission reconvened to open session of commission at 10:26 pm. The commission agreed that the Chair would discuss the personnel issues with staff members involved.

On motion of Blair and seconded by McKenna that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 pm.

A. Ogden
Recording Secretary

Richard Hilliard
Chair