

Council Meeting, August 13, 2020
Minutes of a Meeting of the Council
of the Town of Kippens, Held via Zoom & Live Streamed to Facebook
August 13, 2020 at 6:33 PM

Members Present	Mayor	Debbie Brake-Patten
	Deputy Mayor	Leon Benoit
	Councillors	Tim Alexander
		Shawn Boyd
		John Dawson
	Wayne Howlett	Heather Shears
Also Present	CAO/Town Manager	Leonard Hann
	Town Clerk	Debbie Cormier

Motion #122/20: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Shears, be it hereby resolved to adopt the July 9, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #123/20: Motion by Councillor Dawson, seconded by Councillor Alexander, be it hereby resolved to adopt the August 13, 2020 Council Meeting Agenda as amended.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Financial

Motion #124/20: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Alexander, be it hereby resolved to approve the accounts payable totaling \$48,997.00.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #125/20: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Dawson, be it hereby resolved that council accept the \$1,400.00 signup and annual fee package for Voyent Alert.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #126/20: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Dawson, be it hereby resolved that council waive interest fees as requested for business account.

In favour: 0

Opposed: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Abstaining: 0

Motion Defeated

Councillor Boyd declared himself in conflict of interest with the following agenda item as he owns Envirogreen Septic Treatment Facility in Stephenville.

Mayor Brake-Patten reported that she was contacted by Hubert Alacoque from Enviro Septic regarding septic pumping and waste disposal. Regionalization is a current political topic. Kippens tried to get funding in the past for an Abydos system which may or may not have hooked in with the Town of Stephenville. Mr. Alacoque would like to give council an information presentation on the septic facility proposal. Council would be receptive to listening to any proposals brought forward for the betterment of the town.

Councillor Boyd returned to the meeting.

Councillor Boyd declared himself in conflict of interest on the following item as Boyd and Bungay Construction volunteered the groundwork services for the SPCA. Councillor Boyd was put in the waiting room.

Motion #127/20: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Deputy Mayor Benoit, be it hereby resolved to defer the request from Southwest Coast SPCA for \$15,000 to budgetary considerations.

Councillor Shears asked who was on the board for SPCA? She also noted that the Town needs many things at this time such as a rescue vehicle and the donation request is for a significant amount of money. Councillor Dawson indicated that this request may be questionable with regard to the town donation policy. The money comes directly from residents in many cases and the policy does not support door to door campaigns. However, a one-time donation will be considered. Deputy Mayor Benoit would consider a donation on a smaller scale. He commented that SPCA has received grants and been fund raising to secure a beautiful facility. Deputy Mayor Benoit confirmed with SPCA that if the Town picked up an animal it could be dropped off at the SPCA and they are willing to work with the Town of Kippens. Councillor Howlett acknowledged that many residents of Kippens volunteer for the SPCA and while Kippens has many things they need each donation request should be weighed on its own merit. Animal control is an issue for the Town.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten and Councillors T. Alexander, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: Deputy Mayor L. Benoit

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Councillor Boyd returned to the meeting.

New Business

Permits

Mayor Brake-Patten declared conflict of interest in the following item as it relates to her business partners' spouse, vacated the chair and was put in zoom waiting room. Deputy Mayor Benoit assumed the chair.

Motion #128/20: Motion by Councillor Boyd, seconded by Councillor Howlett, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to operate a home-based plumbing business at 4 Maple Avenue, being in full compliance. Discussion held on specifics of business and how it is operated.

In favour: Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Mayor Brake-Patten returned to the meeting and resumed the chair.

Motion #129/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Howlett, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to operate a home-based knife making business at 22 Orchard Lane, being in full compliance. Discussion held on type of business, noise concerns and parking requirements.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #130/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Alexander, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to build a fence at the following addresses, being in full compliance:

4 Cherry Street

18 Orchard Loop

39 Orchard Lane

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #131/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Boyd, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to build a shed extension at 35 Lakeview Drive, being in full compliance.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #132/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Boyd, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to build a shed at the following addresses, being in full compliance:

20 Birch Drive

24 Island Pond Drive

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #133/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Alexander, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to build a house extension at 229 Kippens Road, being in full compliance.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #134/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Howlett, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to build a deck at 84 Kippens Road, being in full compliance.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #135/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Boyd, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to build a pergola at 18 Orchard Loop, being in full compliance.

Brief discussion held on the requirement of a permit for a pergola.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Additional Business

Town Manager, Leonard Hann updated council on the recent letter from Government regarding the Stephenville proposed shooting range and training ground. Government is asking if Kippens council has any comments or concerns regarding the proposal.

Motion #136/20: Motion by Councillor Dawson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Benoit, be it hereby resolved that council indicate in a letter that they have no objections to the shooting range pending its' approval by all provincial regulatory groups.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #137/20: Motion by Councillor Boyd, seconded by Councillor Shears, be it hereby resolved to accept the July 9, 2020 Finance Meeting Minutes.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #138/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Alexander, be it hereby resolved to accept the July 28, 2020 Planning & Development Meeting Minutes.

Discussion held on the condition of the sand truck.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #139/20: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Shears, be it hereby resolved that the new salt/sand storage facility will be located next to the Town garage for safety reasons.

Discuss held on aesthetics of proposed location next to garage. Chair of Beautification is strongly opposed to this location. Consensus of council to further research building and location and meet to make a location decision at later date.

Motion Abandoned

Committee Reports

Beautification/Communication

Councillor Dawson is glad to see the item for a communication system approved. There has been some discussion about signage in areas and replacement signs. Some of the new and additional signs have already been ordered. The proposal from Tract Consulting is a guide for the new signage.

Recreation/Fire Department

Councillor H. Shears reported that a list is being compiled at the town office for volunteers interested in working on the green space on Orchard Lane. Benches and smaller flower boxes might be appropriate for that area in preparation for next spring.

Public Works/Planning & Development

Deputy Mayor L. Benoit reported that the project on Edwards Lane is coming along well. There were a few early concerns, but they were worked out and no delays in the project. Three turnarounds were looked at for areas of concern. Some fill will be removed from Edwards Lane and put in the turnarounds to provide extra space. A couple of trees need to be removed from Williams Lane to open it up and create a safe turnaround.

Public Works/Planning & Development

Councillor Boyd reported that things are going well on Edwards Lane and progress is being made around the town.

Finance

Councillor Howlett commented that he would like to make sure the area where the trees are to be removed is left aesthetically pleasing to the residents in that location. The due date for tax payments was changed to June 30, 2020 without penalty of interest. Interest has been calculated according to policy. The Town is quickly approaching the 2021 budgetary discussions which will begin in October.

Recreation/Fire Department

Councillor T. Alexander reported that the summer recreation program has concluded, and all went well. There were 80 children in the program. Hats off to Rosie Ryan and the town staff for preparing and getting everything ready for the program to continue this year even with the COVID-19 restrictions. Congratulations to Rosie Ryan and the summer staff for putting together a great program.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brake-Patten reported that she sat in on a session with Gudie Hutchings where she learned the RCMP detachment in Burgeo will be closing. This is concerning to see detachments close and others take on that responsibility. Politicians should be on board to stop the loss of essential services in this area. Regionalization was a hot topic during this session. If regionalization is imposed on the Town of Kippens we need to be ready and have a plan in place with regard to septic systems, water, fire protection, etc..

Motion #140/20: Motion by Councillor Dawson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Benoit, be it hereby resolved to adjourn the Council Meeting.

In favour: Mayor D. Brake-Patten, Deputy Mayor L. Benoit and Councillors T. Alexander, S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0
Abstaining: 0
Motion Carried

Council meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm. Next regular council meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2020.

Debbie Cormier, Town Clerk

Debbie Brake-Patten, Mayor