

Council Meeting, January 14, 2021
Minutes of a Meeting of the Council
of the Town of Kippens, Held via Zoom & Posted to Facebook
January 14, 2021 at 6:40 PM

Members Present	Mayor Deputy Mayor Councillors	Debbie Brake-Patten Leon Benoit (In Office) Shawn Boyd (In Office) John Dawson Wayne Howlett Heather Shears (In Office)
Absent with Regrets Also Present	Councillor Town Clerk	Tim Alexander Debbie Cormier (In Office)

Motion #1/21: Motion by Councillor Dawson, seconded by Councillor Howlett, be it hereby resolved to adopt the December 10, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes as corrected.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #2/21: Motion by Councillor Dawson, seconded by Councillor Boyd, be it hereby resolved to adopt the December 10, 2020 Privileged Council Meeting Minutes as corrected.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #3/21: Motion by Councillor Dawson, seconded by Councillor Howlett, be it hereby resolved to adopt the December 20, 2020 Privileged Council Meeting Minutes.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #4/21: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Shears, be it hereby resolved to adopt the January 14, 2021 Council Meeting Agenda.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Financial

Motion #5/21: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Dawson, be it hereby resolved to approve the accounts payable totaling \$187,600.62.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Benoit declared himself in conflict of interest and vacated the chamber as the following invoice is related to his purchase of a Christmas tree for outside decorations for the town hall.

Motion #6/21: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Dawson, be it hereby resolved to approve payment in the sum of \$50.00 to Deputy Mayor Benoit for the purchase of a Christmas tree for outside the town hall that he purchased with his own funds.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Benoit returned to the chamber.

Motion #7/21: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Deputy Mayor Benoit, be it hereby resolved to pro-rate a business tax for 2021 due to pandemic closure.

In favour: 0

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

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #8/21: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Shears be it hereby resolved to donate \$500.00 to the Southwest Coast SPCA.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

New Business

Permits

Motion #9/21: Motion by Councillor Boyd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Benoit, be it hereby resolved to approve a permit to build a shed extension at 39 Lakeview Drive, being in full compliance.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Additional Business

Motion #10/21: Motion by Councillor Howlett, seconded by Councillor Dawson, be it hereby resolved that the Town Clerk, Debbie Cormier be the Acting Town Manager with that level of compensation until such time as another Town Manager is hired retroactive to the date discussed before Christmas.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Motion #11/21: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Boyd, be it hereby resolved to accept the December 15, 2020 Planning & Development Meeting Minutes.

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

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Benoit prefaced the following motion by stating that council has been presented with a situation which calls for discretion in making a decision to follow through on a removal order for a non-compliant garage. There are a number of things to consider. Council does not want to have to make a resident tear down a building or part of one. There would be significant costs involved both to the resident and the Town. There is a risk involved in litigation. There is a risk to the workforce during the pandemic.

Motion #12/21: Motion by Deputy Mayor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Boyd, be it hereby resolved that council acknowledge that the garage located at 26 Island Pond Drive is in non-compliance and has decided that no further action will be taken as per legal advice.

Discussion held by council on enforcement of the removal order for non-compliant garage.

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

Opposed: Mayor D. Brake-Patten and Councillor H. Shears

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Committee Reports

Roads & Maintenance/ Planning & Development

Councillor Boyd reported that there has not been much need for plowing but there have been issues with the sand truck which is in getting repaired. The outfall has been completed on McCarthy's Lane.

Roads & Maintenance/ Planning & Development

Deputy Mayor Benoit reported than he is pleased to see the return to full duty for one of the operators. The Town benefits from experienced snow clearing operators. Deputy Mayor Benoit acknowledged that the Town does not have a CAO at this time and the Town Clerk has been working hard to keep the Town operational and dealing with issues as they arise.

Recreation/Fire Department

Councillor H. Shears reported that the Kippens Fire Department boot drive raised \$11,100.00 for charity.

Finance

Councillor Howlett reported that nothing has changed since last report. The new dog park seems to be stalled with nothing happening until spring.

Communications/ Beautification

Councillor Dawson wished a happy new year to residents, fellow members of council and staff. The Town received approval for the replacement of the electronic sign and Councillor Dawson is delighted as this is the best means of communicating with the residents.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brake-Patten reported that the Town is working on a resolution to the rat problem. Mayor wished everyone a happy new year and hopes 2021 will be a better year. Some families in Kippens have suffered tragic losses over the holidays and they are in our thoughts and prayers. Mayor Brake-Patten thanked the staff and the Clerk for stepping up to the plate in the absence of a town manager. The HR committee is working hard to address the situation.

Motion #13/21: 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 S. Boyd, J. Dawson, W. Howlett and H. Shears

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion Carried

Council meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next regular council meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2021.

Debbie Cormier, Town Clerk

Debbie Brake-Patten, Mayor