

September 12, 2013

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Regular Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia on Thursday, September 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor	
Councillor Christine Blair	District #1
Deputy Mayor Bill Masters, Chair	District #2
Councillor Geoff Stewart	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District #5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor Michael Gregory	District #7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #8
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Wade Parker	District #11

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the agenda for September 12, 2013 be approved with the following additions:

- add Item #11, New Library Project Update: move to fall under Information Items as Item #12b
- add Item #11b: Innovation Drive/Farnham Brook
- add Item #12c: Rath-Eastlink Community Centre Financial Update
- Reverse order of Item #'s 7 (Award of Tender - Compost Facility Civic and Site Works) and Item #9 (Review of Wind Turbine Development By-law)
- add Item #12d: Strategic Planning and Council Training Sessions
- add Item #11c: Lancaster Drive and Home Hardware
- add Item #11d: Sean and Becky Platnauer
- add Item #12e: Burning of Fracking Waste.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the minutes of the meetings held on June 24 and August 15, 2013 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

September 12, 2013

**Business Arising
from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meetings held on June 24 and August 15, 2013.

Presentations

There were no public presentations received for this evening's meeting.

Closed Session

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the meeting go into closed session at 7:10 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 8:32 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS**Review of Wind
Turbine
Development By-law**

Councillor Gibbs asked Council's permission to speak on this item prior to staff's presentation on the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) review of the Wind Turbine Development By-law.

Councillor Gibbs made reference to a study being conducted by Health Canada. It was his desire to continue with the current moratorium on applications for licenced wind turbines until the results of this study are publicized. Councillor Gibbs put a motion on the floor to this effect, seconded by Councillor MacKenzie; however, both Councillors withdrew the motion as, during discussion on this item, Councillors' preference was to hear the report from the Planning Advisory Committee before considering any motion.

Through a powerpoint presentation, Ms. Pam Macintosh, County Planner, provided a briefing on the review process that was undertaken to consider amendments to the existing Wind Turbine Development By-law. The PAC was asked by Council to review the By-law and provide recommendations to Council. Along with review of reference material, PAC meetings and public consultation, the Committee is recommending the following changes to the By-law:

- increase minimum setback requirement to 1000 meters from 700 meters (from existing dwelling on neighbouring property) for large scale turbines combined with meeting an established maximum sound pressure level of 36 dBA
- applicant can apply for a reduction of both to a minimum of 700

September 12, 2013

- meters and maximum of 40 dBA
- County to facilitate required information sessions and may establish a citizens' monitoring committee with Area Councillor as Chair
 - separate policy outlining terms of reference for a citizens' monitoring committee be adopted in tandem with amended By-law
 - all property owners within two km. of proposed site be notified by direct mail at specified times

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the existing moratorium for licensed wind turbines be extended until the results of the Health Canada Wind Turbine and Noise Study are publicized.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor MacInnes opposed)*

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the amended Wind Turbine Development By-law go forward for First Reading as presented.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Blair, Gibbs, MacKenzie and Parker opposed)*

**Wastewater
Collection
Maintenance
Worker - Full-Time
Position**

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council Committee recommends to Council approval of the winter and summer term positions for a Wastewater Collection Maintenance Worker being converted to one full-time position with benefits and compensation commensurate with the current collective agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Award of Tender -
Compost Facility
Civic and Site
Works**

It was noted that, at a meeting on August 29, 2013, Council authorized September Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council Committee approves the award of the Composting Facility Earthwork and Buildings Tender to Zutphen Construction in the amount of \$4,626,821.39, excluding HST; and, that an internal construction contingency of \$400,000 be carried to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

September 12, 2013

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tatamagouche Wall

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff be authorized to prepare a letter for the Village of Tatamagouche recommending acceptance of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal’s option to remove the wall and sidewalk but leave space behind the curb and re-slope the bank at 1.5:1; at a cost of \$10,000; and, that the letter indicate that the Municipality of Colchester’s maximum contribution to any selected options be \$5,000; and, that the Village bear all future responsibility for ownership and maintenance of the wall area.”

Motion Carried. *(Mayor Taylor and Councillor Parker opposed)*

Innovation Drive/Farnham Brook

Councillor Blair made reference to an email she had sent to the CAO asking that this item be added to tonight’s agenda. In her email, Councillor Blair indicated that Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) is replacing the Innovation Drive Bridge between Pictou Road and Perennia. Her question to Council was whether there was a possibility of the County and/or the Village of Bible Hill working with TIR, when this bridge projects gets underway, to look at ways to alleviate flooding along the Farnham Brook near the bridge site. Councillor Blair noted that she had made contact with TIR and they had no problem with the County carrying out this work at the same time as the bridge project.

Councillor Cavanaugh reported that Farnham Brook is not on the Flood Advisory Committee’s priority list at this time.

The CAO reported that he would get in touch with the Village of Bible Hill to see if they have any plans to do work on the Farnham Brook.

Lancaster Drive

Councillor MacInnes indicated that as the result of a meeting he had with the General Manager of Home Hardware, he would like to bring forward a couple of issues to Council.

The first issue is Home Hardware would like to see TIR widen their entrance off of Plains Road and possibly pave a portion of it to allow the tractor trailers to get around easier. Mayor Taylor agreed to raise the issue at the next quarterly meeting with TIR.

The second issue concerns the fire reservoir. For insurance purposes on their new building, Home Hardware is required to fill their reservoir. In order to do this, they would have to take it from the County’s water

September 12, 2013

system in Debert. Councillor MacInnes asked if there was any way that Home Hardware could obtain this water from the County without being charged the full price.

The County Solicitor advised that the rates for the Debert Water Utility are set by the provincial Utility and Review Board and cannot be changed.

**Sean and Becky
Platnauer**

Councillor Taggart spoke on the issue recently reported in the paper regarding the possible deportation of residents of Bass River, Sean and Becky Platnauer. He asked Council to consider having a letter written to the federal Department of Immigration in support of the Platnauers being able to remain in Canada. Councillor Taggart also asked Council to think about possibly going to FCM on giving a better weight to immigrants coming into Canada. Mayor Taylor agreed to talk to his FCM contact on this matter.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That a letter be written to Citizenship and Immigration Canada in support of Sean and Becky Platnauer remaining in Canada.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**INFORMATION
ITEMS**

**Strategic Planning
and Council Training
Sessions**

The CAO advised that he is looking at possible sessions for Council on strategic planning and governance training. Council’s preference for the strategic planning session is January 2014. The governance session is proposed for sometime in April 2014.

**Nova Scotia Music
Week**

At its meeting on August 29, 2013, Council passed a motion approving a donation of \$750 in support of the Nova Scotia Music Week sponsorship event being held in Sydney in November 2013. The motion is conditional on confirmation of funding from the Colchester Regional Development Agency in support of this evening being hosted in Colchester region in 2014. The Sydney funding is required to help promote the Nova Scotia Music Week event in 2014. Regarding CoRDA, staff have confirmed via email that CoRDA has allocated \$12,000 in support of the 2014 Music Week.

**New Library Project
Update**

The CAO reported that the situation with this project remains unchanged. He received an email from the Town of Truro requesting another meeting of the Joint Committee. At this point, no decision has been reached on the location of the new library.

**Rath-Eastlink
Community Centre**

At the request of Council, Mayor Taylor reported on the operating finances of the Rath-Eastlink Community Centre (RECC). The RECC is required to provide quarterly financial statements of operating revenues

September 12, 2013

and expenses to Council. However, due to communication issues between two of the financial software packages, the financial information could not be processed into presentable statements. These issues have continued until recently when one of the software packages was upgraded to remove the bug that caused the initial problem.

The RECC has recently hired a new finance manager who is of the view that full financial statements for the second quarter ending September 30th will be available in the month of October for Council to review.

**Burning of Fracking
Waste**

Councillor Stewart reported that he had received a number of calls last week regarding LaFarge burning fracking waste received from Atlantic Industrial Services and that a public meeting had taken place. Staff were directed to contact the Nova Scotia Environment to determine if an application had been received and approved from either AIS or LaFarge allowing them to do this.

Director's Report

A report from the Director of Community Development was circulated in the package for this evening's meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That the meeting be adjourned at 12:10 a.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary