

Business Arising from Minutes There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on December 11, 2014.

Presentations There were no public presentations at this evening's meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Royal Canadian Legion Request for Funding Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That Council Committee recommend to Council that a grant in the amount of \$500 be approved for the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 26 in support of the 52nd Provincial Convention being held May 15-18, 2015; and,

That source of funds be 2015-16 Economic Development Grants."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

New Position – Recreation Support Clerk

Mr. Craig Burgess, Recreation Manager, advised that since 2011, a grant in the amount of \$25,000 per year has been received from the province to aid in costs of hiring an Active Communities Coordinator. Since the County already had an Active Communities Coordinator, the funding was used to hire support staff, on a part time basis, for the department. Over the past few years, Recreation programs and services have grown to the point that this support position has become a vital role in the department with hours increased to that of a full time position.

Staff is recommending that approval be granted to establish this as a full time permanent position. There is currently money within the budget to support this and the provincial grant will continue to be received. If approved, the position would be filled in accordance with the County's Personnel Policies.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the position of Recreation Support Clerk be approved and that staff proceed with filling the position in accordance with the County's Personnel Policies."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Small Wind – Comfit Registration Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Director of

January 15, 2015

Solid Waste be authorized to submit a “Small Wind” application under the Comfit programs on behalf of the Municipality, to secure a position in the queue, should Council decided to proceed with a “Small Wind” project at a future date.”

Motion Carried.
(*Councillor Gibbs opposed*)

Scholarship Policy

The CAO advised that the scholarship program has been in place since 2003. The Scholarship Policy has been developed to provide consistency in the administration of the scholarships, including selection criteria and clarity around trade definitions.

The Policy allows for a member of Council to sit on the school’s selection committee, if he/she wishes to do so. It was suggested that any Councillor wishing to be part of the selection committee indicate this in writing to staff and the school would be advised accordingly.

Concern was expressed regarding the inclusion of highest academic standing when awarding the trade scholarship and it was agreed that this be removed from the Policy.

Discussion was held regarding the award of scholarships to students receiving no other awards. The CAO indicated the County scholarships are intended to be more of a support scholarship than one based on merit.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Scholarship Policy as presented in the Action Item dated January 15, 2015 be approved with the following amendments:

- Under Program Policy, point 5 – change to Councillor advising staff of their wishes to be part of the school’s Selection Committee and staff informing the school; and,
- Under Selection Criteria – remove point 2.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Changes to FAC Policy

The Director of Public Works advised that the Small Flood Damage Reduction Projects Policy was last updated in November 2011. Staff are recommending the following changes to the policy:

- The deadline for applications in any given year be removed, however, any application received after April 30th may not be included for completion in that year;

- Bids from contractors for projects be changed from per project basis to standard rate bids for the entire fiscal year;
- Removal of dates specific to applicants being notified that their project is proceeding and agreement from the residents of their cost share contribution;
- Payment date of November 1st in the year the project is approved to March 1st of the year the project is completed; and,
- Repayment over a 10 year period to repayment over one year period.

The Flood Advisory Committee, at its meeting on November 18, 2014, passed a motion recommending that these changes be presented to Council for approval.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

That Council Committee recommends to Council that the current Small Flood Damage Reduction Projects Policy be repealed; and,

That the Small Flood Damage Reduction Projects Policy, as presented in the action Item dated January 15, 2015, be approved with the following amendment:

- Change wording under 10a to read 'project is completed' instead of 'project is approved'."

Motion Carried.
(Councillor Cooper opposed)

RECESS

At this point, Council advised that legal advice is required before dealing with the next two agenda items.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

"That the meeting go into closed session at 8:05 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

"That the meeting reconvene in open session at 8:20 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously

Changes to Sewer

The CAO advised that the Sewer Use Appeals Committee (SUAC) met

Use Policy

on January 14, 2015 to review appeals received against the current application approval issued December 10, 2014, to receive treated fracking wastewater into the County's sewer system and to discuss next steps. From the January 14th meeting, the SUAC reached the following decisions:

1. Organize a public hearing to hear concerns related to the approved application;
2. Extend the date of receiving the treated fracking wastewater into the system from February 8, 2015 to April 30, 2015; and,
3. Amend the Sewer Use Policy to prohibit the disposal of hydraulic fracking wastewater into any County sewer or sewage treatment plant.

It was noted that point #3 would not affect the approval issued on December 10, 2014, but all future applications.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the current Sewer Use Policy be repealed; and,

That the amended Sewer Use Policy be approved, as presented."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Taxi By-law

The issue of a Taxi By-law was brought to the attention of County Council by the Truro Police to better deal with licensing and to address public safety concerns. Staff is seeking the direction of Council on their wishes in proceeding with a Taxi By-law.

The Municipal Solicitor advised that this draft Taxi By-law incorporates recent amendments of the Truro Taxi By-law.

The CAO noted that if Council wishes to proceed, prior to second reading of a Taxi By-law, staff recommend that a policy dealing with rates and fares be brought forward for Council consideration as well as a service agreement between the Town of Truro and the County to share existing Taxi Authority of the Town of Truro.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

"That the matter of the Taxi By-law be referred to staff to bring forward to Council for First Reading."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Consultant Selection – Post Construction Sound Studies, Wind Turbine Project

This Information Item provides an update on the Sound Monitoring Compliance Policy which was approved by Council in June 2014. This Policy would provide a level of assurance that wind turbine projects would not exceed the specified noise level of 36 decibels. The Policy required that an independent and qualified consultant be retained to carry out a field study within a one year period of the turbines becoming operational.

Staff issued a Request for Proposals for exclusive sound measurements consulting services which resulted in four responses from consulting firms; Strum, Stantech, Aerocostics, and WSP. An analysis was carried out by staff and the contract was awarded to Stantech.

Council had previously indicated that expenses related to the post construction wind turbine sound study would be the responsibility of the project proponent. Staff will be preparing an amendment to the Wind Turbine By-law, which will impose a licensing fee to recover costs related to the study, for Council consideration.

Wastewater Collection Staffing Changes

Council previously approved a one year term position for a Wastewater Collection Site Supervisor. This position was filled internally by Randy Currie, resulting in a vacancy in our Wastewater Collection crew. An internal and external competition was held to fill this position vacancy and the successful candidate was Mr. Wade George.

It was noted that Mr. George was advised that the position is subject to the terms of the collective agreement, which would allow Mr. Currie to return to his former position after a period of six months.

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Letter of Credit

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that this item relates to the requirements from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans which requires the Municipality provide a Letter of Credit (LOC) for carrying out remedial work due to flooding in the Murray Siding Flood Reduction Project.

The LOC would serve as financial security in the event that work is not carried out satisfactorily. Ms. Newell indicated that both provincial and federal governments are exempt from having to provide a LOC. The estimated value of the LOC for the work on Phase 2 of the Murray Siding Project is \$41,500. No LOC has been issued to date.

Council directive may be required in the future in order to proceed with a Letter of Credit before work continues on the Murray Siding Project.

Discussion was held with concerns expressed this could potentially impact future projects, especially when associated remedial costs are much higher than that of the Murray Siding Project.

Staff and members of Council have been working with MP Scott Armstrong to have the LOC requirement of Department of Fisheries and Oceans removed. Councillor Gibbs has a meeting set with Minister Shea next week in Amherst and will provide an update after the meeting.

**Insurance Coverage
for Members of
Council**

Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services indicated that our Insurance Policy protects members while serving on Council. Under Section 65 of the Municipal Government Act, Council members can be enrolled under group insurance coverage including medical and dental.

Council indicated that this was brought forward after the recent trip to India where Council members were required to secure coverage prior to the trip. It was expressed that members of Council should have coverage and the coverage should be comparable to employee coverage.

It was noted that under the current benefits provided by the County, when travelling outside of the country, employees over the age of 65 do not have the coverage that is offered to employees under the age of 65.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that insurance coverage, comparable to employee coverage, be acquired.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Directors Report

A report from Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste, was circulated in the package for this evening’s meeting.

RECESS

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:12 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:27 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:28 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary