

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 10, 2015.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor	
Councillor Christine Blair	District 1
Councillor Geoff Stewart	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper, Chair	District 4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District 5
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District 9
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Deputy Mayor Bill Masters	District 2
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10

Also Present

Mr. Ramesh Ummat, Chief Administrative Officer
 Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director or Solid Waste
 Mr. Paul Smith, Senior Planner
 Ms. Tracey Veno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add item A-1b, Council Proceedings and Committees Policy;
- Add item A-3b, Call Before You Dig Signs;
- Add item I-1b, Canada Post Community Boxes;
- Remove item C-1, Negotiations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
 Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the minutes from the meeting held on August 13, 2015 be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

Referring to page 1564 regarding Nova Scotia Environment making a presentation on the problem with Mattatall Lake, Mayor Taylor inquired as to the necessity of this presentation. Councillor Parker confirmed that Nova Scotia Environment has been out in the area doing testing. Also, referring to the Special Hazards Response Unit Capital Replacement item on page 1568, staff were requested to follow up on a presentation by Colchester Fire Fighters Association.

ACTION ITEMS

Public Presentations to Council Policy

Mr. Ramesh Ummat, CAO, advised that amendments to this Policy have been made to reflect the change of the additional Council Committee meeting night for the purpose of presentations.

Discussion was held regarding the number of presentations being incorporated into the Policy. It was decided that this be left to the discretion of staff.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the existing Public Presentations to Council Policy be repealed; and,

That the amended Public Presentations to Council Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Council Proceedings and Committees Policy

The CAO advised that the proposed amendments to this Policy are linked to the addition of the Presentation Meeting night. Additionally, the amendments include a couple of housekeeping items. Amendments include:

- The inclusion of the Council Portal as a method of providing Council information;
- Removal of presentations from the order of agendas; and,
- Adding a clause addressing a separate meeting night for Presentations.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the existing Council Proceedings and Committees Policy be repealed; and,

September 10, 2015

That the amended Council Proceedings and Committees Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Referring to the Council Portal being used as a method of providing information to Council, concern was raised that until such time that the Portal is improved, this not be the only mechanism used to provide updates to Council. The CAO advised that this would be used in addition to distribution by email and/or in Councillor mailboxes in the Administration Office.

**Land Lease for Debert
Military Museum –
Authority to Sign
Agreement**

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, advised that Council previously agreed to enter into a lease agreement with the Debert Military Museum, for the use of a portion of County owned land for a monument. The agreement, as presented, has been vetted through legal and staff is seeking authority for the Mayor and CAO to sign the Lease Agreement.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the lease agreement with the Debert Military Society, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Palliser Property
Redevelopment Project:
Masterplan Funding
Proposal**

Mr. Paul Smith, Senior Planner provided an overview of the Bay of Fundy Gateway Masterplan Funding Proposal which was distributed in the package for this evenings meeting.

Potential funding opportunities for the development of the Palliser site include the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) and the Nova Scotia Tourism Agency (NSTA) both of which are keenly interested in partnering with the Municipality.

Emphasis was put on the need to develop a strategic/masterplan for the project with input from major stakeholders and the public. Staff feel that given the significance of the project, the use of professional consulting services are essential to move forward with the development plans.

Other components of the project would be developing Terms of Reference for the masterplan process and the establishment of a Project Steering Committee (PSC), who would oversee the project and implement recommendations. The PSC would be comprised of

September 10, 2015

project funding partners; stakeholder groups such as the Central Nova Tourist Association, the Chamber, and the Business and Economic Development Committee; Council members from Town and County; as well as citizen representation.

The Masterplan Funding Proposal for the Bay of Fundy Gateway Project proposes a budget of \$150,000, a three way cost sharing arrangement with \$50,000 from ACOA's Innovative Community Fund; \$50,000 from NSTA's Tourism Development Investment Competitive Edge Program; and a \$50,000 local share. The local share would be a commitment from Colchester but with intent to seek contributions from both Truro and Millbrook.

A wide range of topics were touched on during discussion including:

- advantages of hiring consultants for the project;
- importance of public consultation and engagement;
- importance of input from the business community;
- timing of the public consultation process;
- the need for branding; and,
- the development of a website for the project.

Moved by Mayor Taylor

Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That Council Committee recommends to Council approving a \$50,000 commitment (one third of the total anticipated cost) towards the completion of a masterplan for the Bay of Fundy Gateway Project which shall be contingent on securing adequate additional funding from other sources as outlined in the Masterplan Funding Proposal dated August 2015; and,

That source of funds be the Municipal Infrastructure and Development Reserve; and,

That Council directs staff to make funding applications to ACOA and the Nova Scotia Tourism Agency as well as explore local funding partnerships with Truro and Millbrook as a means of supplementing Colchester's share of such costs."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Mayor Taylor

Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

"That staff proceed with developing Terms of Reference for the Palliser Property Redevelopment Project Steering Committee."

September 10, 2015

Motion Carried Unanimously.

During discussion on the Palliser Property, it was agreed that during the process of redevelopment of the property, it should have a strong presence in the County Newsletter.

Call Before You Dig Signs

Councillor MacInnes expressed concern regarding the potential risks and dangers of digs taking place by contractors without knowing the area and suggested that "Call Before You Dig Signs" be placed in the Debert Park area. The Director of Public Works indicated that the Public Works Department does receive calls on this and to date, there have not been a lot of issues.

A suggestion was made to have Call Before You Dig articles in the County Newsletter periodically.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Truro Heights Connector Trail

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, provided a brief update on the Truro Heights Connector Trail project indicating that the project is being postponed until the pedestrian bridge is completed, likely in the Spring of 2016. Deputy Mayor Masters, Councillor for the area was made aware of this delay.

Canada Post Community Boxes

Due to a recent situation of a large sink hole around a Canada Post Community Box located on Blainedale Drive, concern was raised regarding who is responsible for the maintenance of these Group Mailboxes. With the winter season quickly approaching, additional concerns were raised with regards to winter maintenance and accessibility. The CAO advised that there is a meeting with Canada Post scheduled for this coming Tuesday and the matter would be addressed at this meeting.

Directors Report

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

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting go into closed session at 8:50 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting reconvene in open session at 9:10 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Remuneration for
Councillor MacKenzie**

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the remuneration for Councillor MacKenzie cease, effective September 2, 2015, for the duration of the leave of absence, as approved by Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting adjourn at 9:11 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary