

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

A Special Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Monday, February 26, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

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| Mayor Christine Blair | |
| Councillor Eric Boutilier | 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 Bob Pash | District 9 |
| Councillor Tom Taggart | District 10 |
| Councillor Wade Parker | District 11 |

Regrets

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| Councillor Ron Cavanaugh | District 8 |
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Also Present

Mr. Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Ms. Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Mr. Tim Smith, Manager of Information Services

Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was to review the Five Year Capital Budget.

Five Year Capital Budget

Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, delivered the presentation on the Five Year Capital Budget. Highlights of the presentation included an overview on capital versus operating budgets; how capital projects are funded; basic criteria for decision making process for both new and replacement capital assets; debt ratios; and status of reserves. A brief review of the draft five year plan was given noting Schedule A lists large capital projects and Schedule B lists equipment. Mr. Fraser indicated that the Municipality is well under the Province's debt ratio threshold of 15%.

Discussion was held on a number of items including timeframe of the hospital and civic centre debt; Active Transportation area rate; business plan for the Debert Airport; sidewalks; sewer capital and maintenance; Asset Management program; and reserves. Further discussion was held regarding specific projects and equipment such as the Teakwood drainage study, and the sidewalks along Highway 311 to Molly's Dairy Bar and Deuville's Rink to Blainedale Drive.

Council expressed concern regarding the purpose of this meeting as it was understood that it would be opportunity to review and prioritize projects as opposed to a process overview. The CAO advised that Council has the discretion to change, add, and prioritize items at any time by bringing them forward to Council for approval. Next steps for the

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Five Year Capital Budget are to bring forward at March Committee and then to Council at the end of March for final approval.

Due to a number of Council members being away in March, it was noted that there would not be quorum at the regularly scheduled Committee meeting. Council agreed to reschedule the March meeting from the 15th to March 8th to address this issue. It was also agreed to delay the Five Year Capital Budget until April.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary