

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Regular Session of the Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was conducted virtually, via Zoom Webinars and in-person on Thursday, June 9, 2022, beginning at 6:00 pm.

In peace and friendship, and in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, Deputy Mayor Stewart acknowledged that the Municipality of Colchester is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Christine Blair	(virtually)
Councillor Laurie Sandeson	District 2
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart, Chair	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Tim Johnson	District 5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6 (virtually – arrived at 6:59 pm)
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7 (virtually)
Councillor Lisa Patton	District 8
Councillor Marie Benoit	District 9
Councillor Victoria Lomond	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Eric Boutilier District 1

Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corp. Services/Acting Director of Solid Waste
 Paul Smith, Director of Community Development
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Jenn Mantin, Economic Development Officer
 Joanna Burris, Sustainability Planner (for Item # 10 in Closed Session)
 Dave Westlake, Emergency Mgmt./Protective Services Coordinator (for item # 5)
 Tim Smith, IT Manager

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Benoit and seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the agenda be approved as presented.” Carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Johnson and seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That the minutes of the meeting held on May 12, 2022, be approved as presented.” Carried unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

None

ACTION ITEMS

Civic Addressing By-law

Council previously directed staff to develop a by-law to address a civic addressing program inclusive of standardized signage provisions. Dave

Westlake, Emergency Management/Protective Services Coordinator, provided a brief introduction of the draft Civic Addressing By-law. Highlights of the draft By-law included definitions; civic addressing and numbering information; standardized signage and placement provisions; and compliance/enforcement.

Council discussion included feedback from the Colchester Fire Fighters Association; cost to administer; implications if By-law not adhered to; enforcement concerns; process for acquiring and availability of signage; and applicable fees.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and seconded by Councillor Benoit

“That staff be directed to bring forward the draft Civic Addressing By-law, as presented, for First Reading at the end of the month.” Carried unanimously.

Council Virtual Meetings Policy

Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that this item is to consider amendments to the Council Virtual Meetings Policy. Currently this Policy allows for unlimited virtual meetings to the end of June. Two alternatives are provided for consideration, both allowing options for unlimited virtual meetings for those attending while away on municipal business; for inclement weather; and, for personal or health concerns. Other considerations include limiting the number of time members of Council to attend virtually to six times in a 12 month period or allowing up to a maximum of two while away on vacation.

Discussion took place regarding defining 12-month period, whether it be calendar, fiscal, or Council cycle from October to September. Clarification was also sought on if the Policy was just for Council meetings or Council and Committee meetings.

Moved by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Johnson

“That Council Committee recommends that Council adopt the amended Council Virtual Meetings Policy as presented in alternative #2, with clarification on defining 12-month period, and that meetings include both Council and Council Committee.” Carried unanimously.

Award of Tender – Hilden Sidewalk Phase 2

Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works, provided a brief overview for the award of tender for the Hilden Sidewalk Phase 2 project, which was included in Council’s approved capital budget for 2022/23. The tender was posted on the Provincial and Municipal websites and a total of four submissions were received by the deadline of June 1, 2022. The low bidder was Cumberland Paving and their tender was deemed complete. Ms. Boudreau noted that the cost for Phase 2 is approximately 30% higher than Phase 1, mainly due to current inflation and fuel costs. It was also noted that at their meeting on May 26, 2022, Council granted authority to June Committee to award the tender for the Hilden Sidewalk, Phase 2.

Discussion was held on holding off on the project until next year when costs may be back to normal. Mayor Blair advised that a small section of the sidewalk extends to Millbrook First Nations (MFN). An offer was extended to MFN to extend the sidewalk approximately 80 metres, however, the offer was declined as it was cost prohibitive this year.

Moved by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Mayor Blair

“That the tender for the construction of the Hilden Sidewalk Phase 2 be awarded to Cumberland Paving for a total contract amount of \$595,534 excluding HST; and,

That an internal contingency of \$50,000 be approved, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.” Carried unanimously.

**Lighting of Municipal Building,
Pride Week**

Councillor Sandeson advised on discussions at the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee meeting regarding Pride Month, including participation in the Pride Parade, and seeking Council approval to light up the Municipal Building for Pride Week, from June 24-30.

Moved by Councillor Sandeson and seconded by Councillor Benoit

“That the Municipal Building be lit for Pride Week from June 24-30.” Carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Director’s Report

A report from the Acting Director of Solid Waste was circulated in the package for tonight’s meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Patton and seconded by Councillor Lomond

“That the meeting go into closed session at 6:45 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Councillor MacKenzie arrived during discussion on the first Closed Session item.

Moved by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 8:41 pm.” Carried unanimously.

**Negotiations – Funding for
Electric Vehicle Charging
Stations**

Moved by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Lomond

“That Council Committee recommend that Council approve a maximum of \$65,000 toward the installation of EV charging stations, sourced from the Special Operating Reserve, to match the contribution from the funding program discussed in closed session; and,

That Council grant authority to the Mayor and/or CAO to sign a contribution agreement with the funder.” Carried unanimously.

It was noted that staff would look at modifying locations for the charging stations as discussed in Closed Session.

Negotiations – Air Show

Moved by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that requested repairs, sweeping and 15 acre tree clearing be completed; and

That the Municipality receive an increase of \$.50 from the sale of each ticket, with no maximum cap.” Motion carried (*Mayor Blair and Councillor Johnson opposed*).

Other

Referring to recent communications regarding a meeting with the RCMP on June 28 and a number of Council members being unavailable, due to the importance of this meeting, Deputy Mayor Stewart suggested that it would be advantageous to hold off until a later date when all Council is available. Council agreed and staff will work with the RCMP to come up with a couple date options for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Patton and seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting adjourn at 8:52 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary