

April 26, 2007

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The Regular Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, N.S. on Thursday, April 26, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Mike Smith, Chair	
Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Deputy Mayor Hughie Matheson	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #6
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor Soley Lynds	District #8
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Doug Cooke	District #10

Absent:

Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11
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Presentations

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission and Nova Scotia Harness Racing Industry Association

Mr. Steve Morton introduced himself and other representatives from the Nova Scotia Harness Racing Industry Association.

Mr. Morton is the President of the Association. Mr. Jeff Yuill from the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission was out of town and not able to attend the meeting this evening.

Mr. Rob Batherson, Consultant

Mr. Batherson indicated that the purpose for the presentation this evening was to introduce Council to a new concept for advancing and expanding the harness racing industry. In order to do this, the industry must have a solution that will fit in with the Province's report entitled "A Better Balance - Nova Scotia's First Gambling Strategy. This Strategy is committed to being socially responsible when it comes to gambling through strict controls, enhanced security and centralized gambling programs. The Association feels that one solution to this is a proposed community entertainment centre to be located on the lands owned by the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission.

A community entertainment centre would provide a County-wide

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centralization of gambling activities. In Colchester County, there are 123 VLT's in 24 retail locations with an additional 62 VLT's located elsewhere. An entertainment centre would also provide a venue for incoming entertainment acts, create new jobs, enhance tourism and have direct and indirect economic benefits on the community.

Mr. Batherson stated that there would be no changes made without complete public support. This presentation is not a financial request of local taxpayers. The group is asking Council's endorsement for a public opinion survey to determine the public's interest and support for such an initiative.

Mr. Kent Oakes
PEI Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture

Mr. Oakes provided an overview of harness racing in the Maritimes and more specifically in Prince Edward Island. He indicated that Maritime harness racing is recognized around the world for its talent and contribution to the industry. The PEI harness racing industry has introduced a number of initiatives, including the first racino in Atlantic Canada which is located in Charlottetown.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the presentations from the Nova Scotia Harness Racing Industry Association and the PEI Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture, be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the request for endorsement of a public opinion survey concerning a community entertainment centre in Bible Hill be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Public Hearing -
Development
Agreement - 43-45
Pictou Road, Bible Hill**

Mayor Smith called this public hearing to order respecting an application for a development agreement made by Mr. Guy Roy for a 24-unit apartment building on a lot containing two existing single-unit dwellings located at 43-45 Pictou Road.

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The text for this application and a related staff report have been circulated to Council members and have been made available to the public.

The Clerk advised that the guidelines of the Municipal Government Act regarding advertising of the public hearing have been followed.

Mayor Smith reminded all Councillors that only those present throughout the public hearing can vote on the development agreement when it is eventually considered by Council. This public hearing is Council's opportunity to hear the application and every concern of area residents. Individual Councillors will have an opportunity to debate the merits of the development agreement when the motion is presented to Council. Staff are present at this hearing to answer any technical questions that may arise as a result of the public's input.

Ms. Pam Macintosh, Acting Planner, presented a brief overview of this application. An error was noted on Page 1 of the Planner's Report under "Development Proposal". The building size should read 58' x 144', not 54'. Mr. Guy Roy has made application for a development agreement that would permit the establishment of a 24-unit apartment building on a proposed new lot which would also contain two existing single unit dwellings with a parking lot in between.

These properties are located along Pictou Road in Bible Hill. Portions of properties off of Ryland Avenue would also form part of the proposed new lot configuration. The properties are situated on the north side of Pictou Road, a designated collector road in Bible Hill. The proposed new lot will be 52,709 square feet in area with 180 feet of frontage along Pictou Road. The property falls within the Bible Hill sewer district and water would be supplied by on-site wells. Two existing accessory buildings will be retained for garbage storage and two other buildings on the properties will be demolished. The storm water management plan has been approved by the Department of Transportation and Public Works who have requested that the surface water from this site be directed towards the street and not into their storm system. Staff recommend that Council approve this development agreement.

Mr. Tim MacDonald, Co-Applicant

Mr. MacDonald indicated that the property was purchased in 2005. They want to build a facility for the elderly and thought this was a great location in that it is close to the drug store and grocery store. They feel that a building of this type will raise the property values

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in the area. The facility will be a high quality, secured building with retaining wall and paved driveway. They are targeting the retired professional market as potential tenants in this new structure.

Councillor Masters presented a report on behalf of the Planning Advisory Committee. At a meeting held on April 5, 2007, the letter from the Village of Bible Hill was reviewed. The Village indicated that the fire department had concern about the length of the building and that there is no access fire lane to reach the end of the building. The Committee also discussed the driveway and the smaller than normal setbacks. The Committee is prepared to make a recommendation that Council enter into this agreement.

The Clerk advised that no written submissions had been received since the Planning Advisory Committee addressed the letter from the Village of Bible Hill.

Mr. Andrew Haight, Ryland Avenue

Mr. Haight indicated that he and his neighbours' backyards are basically wide open to this structure and they have small children. His two concerns are:

- when one of the buildings onsite is demolished, what kind of fence or barrier will be put in place during and after construction to keep the children safe?
- what kind of retaining wall will be put in place to separate him and his neighbours from what is going on?

Mr. Wayne Johnson

Mr. Johnson indicated that he owns the house that is going to be demolished. He stated that he was born and lives in Bible Hill and feels that this development will be good for the community.

Ms. Nancy Messom, Pictou Road

Ms. Messom indicated that, with being in the real estate business, she has yet to see where an apartment building has increased the value to your home. If anything, it will decrease the value up to 20%. She stated that she also has an issue with the entrance coming onto Pictou Road and the increased traffic that will result from this new development. She feels that even with fencing, she will suffer a loss of enjoyment in her backyard. She is concerned with who will live in the building if the developers do not get their targeted tenants.

Mr. Gary Fraser, Pictou Road

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Mr. Fraser indicated that he walks past this area twice a day and he is concerned with the increased traffic coming out onto the crosswalk. He is also concerned with the stormwater coming across the street and making it hazardous in the winter when it freezes.

Mr. Wayne Roode, Ryland Avenue

Mr. Roode stated that he strongly opposes this project as he bought his property for the space. He is concerned with the water runoff and the pollution this will put on Ryland Avenue. He is strongly opposed to the high density project and how it will devalue properties.

Mr. David Galloway, Ryland Avenue

Mr. Galloway stated that this development will be basically in his backyard and he has no problem with it being built. It will add problems to traffic on Pictou Road but it has been that way for years.

Mr. Phil Messom, Pictou Road

Mr. Messom indicated that he has doubts about this being a high-end apartment building. There are a lot nicer properties to build a place like this.

Patrick Cox, Ryland Avenue

Mr. Cox indicated he has concerns with people's wells being affected by the high usage of water. During demolition and construction, are there going to be ways to prevent construction runoff for downslope properties or dust that will be created that will have an environmental impact. He also had concern with no storm drainage in the parking area because the drains on Pictou Road are at their limit.

Mr. Tim MacDonald, Co-Applicant and Mr. Leo Rovers, Contractor

The applicant responded to residents' concerns as follows:

- it will be a reputable contractor demolishing the building so a fence will be erected to keep children safe.
- regarding traffic, they are only going with what the professionals have told them. Study has said it would be safe.
- he cannot attest to how much loss of enjoyment there will be
- regarding tenants, they already have six units leased to

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- seniors
- with respect to water drainage, again they can only rely on the professionals for this
 - regarding setbacks and runoff - the setbacks are an issue but you see them in other locations and we have been told they are satisfactory

As Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee, Councillor Masters placed the following motion on the floor:

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council enter into a development agreement with Mr. Guy Roy that would allow for the establishment of a 24-unit apartment building and the two existing single-unit dwellings.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Taylor opposed)*

Mayor Smith indicated that this is a development agreement application which does not require approval of the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations. Council’s decision on this application is appealable to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. Any appeal of Council’s decision must be made within 14 days of the advertising of same in the local newspaper.

As there was no further business, Mayor Smith declared this public hearing closed.

At this point, Mayor Smith left the meeting and did not return. Deputy Mayor Matheson assumed the position of Chair.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the agenda for April 26, 2007 be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- add No. 10b: Storm Drainage and Pedestrian/Vehicle Traffic in Bible Hill
- delete No. 9 - Water Utility Study - Tatamagouche Water Utility
- delete Report of Planning Advisory Committee from No. 8"

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Edwards

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Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the minutes of meeting held on March 29, 2007 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of meeting held on March 29, 2007.

Staff Presentation

Mr. Gary MacIsaac, Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. MacIsaac provided a powerpoint presentation on the Next Generation Project. This project was developed to address the issue of an aging workforce identified in 2005 as an important issue by the Executive of the Association of Municipal Administrators (AMA). The Next Generation Project was a collaborative effort of the AMA, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities and Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

The two main goals of the project are:

1. To increase awareness of the issue as there is concern that it is not fully recognized in some areas
2. To identify strategies that could help all municipal units regardless of size.

Mr. MacIsaac indicated that this report outlines strategies to identify, attract and recruit the next generation of local government officials.

Standing Committee Report and Recommendations

Councillor LeFresne presented the report from a Council Committee meeting held on April 12, 2007:

Tatamagouche Branch Library

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That Council approves that the size of the new Tatamagouche Branch Library be approximately 3,000 square feet; and,

That staff be instructed to research and report back on options to site the library in the traditional downtown core of the Village, including the property located at the site of the North Shore Recreation Centre and any other suitable options.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Request for Street Light - Saxby Lane

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

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“That Council approves the installation of a street light at the intersection of Saxby Lane, Farnham Mill Road and Vimy Road, source of funds to be general operations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Custodial Position -
Balefill Facility**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That Council approves that the custodial position at the Balefill be changed from a .5 part-time position (20 hours per week) to a .8 part-time position (32.5 hours per week).”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Executive and Audit
Committee**

There was no business arising from the minutes of a meeting held on April 16, 2007.

**Tatamagouche Water
Utility Committee**

Councillor LeFresne briefed Council on the Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee meeting held on April 20, 2007.

Mr. MacIsaac noted a memorandum on table this evening to which was attached a copy of entire revised study. The memorandum pointed out an error in one of the spreadsheets. Over the next three years, the water rates for the Water Utility will be going up but the property taxes will go down.

Councillor Masters raised concern with the depreciation used in the study of \$19,000 being too low. Staff were directed to take this issue back to the Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee for discussion at their next meeting.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council authorizes that the Water Rates as presented in the Water Rate Study and endorsed by the Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee be submitted to the provincial Utility and Review Board; and,

That Council authorizes the CAO to sign the resolution, petition and affidavit as part of the submission.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

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**First Reading -
Amendment to Tax
Exemption By-law**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council hereby approves by way of First Reading the Tax Exemption By-law as attached to the Action Item dated April 26, 2007.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Storm Drainage and
Pedestrian/Vehicle
Traffic in Bible Hill**

Councillor Taylor indicated that given the storm water management issues raised earlier at the public hearing, he would like to request that staff do a report to the Department of Transportation and Public Works to deal with this matter.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That staff be directed to look at storm water management requirements as part of the planning process and report back at a future Council meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Council briefly discussed the issue of pedestrian and vehicle traffic in Bible Hill.

Correspondence

Council requested the following ‘Correspondence’ items be moved from Information to Action:

- No. 6: copy of email dated April 5, 2007 from UNSM regarding Capped Assessment Program Legislative Review
- No. 7: letter dated April 3, 2007 from NSAC regarding waste diversion programs of local educational institutions
- No. 15: copy of letter dated April 3, 2007 from MP Inky Mark regarding Memorial Wall Act

ACTION

**Michelle Cannizzaro,
Fundraising and
Events Coordinator,
Child Care
Connections Nova
Scotia**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 1, 2007 from **Michelle Cannizzaro, Fundraising and Events Coordinator, Child Care Connections Nova Scotia**, requesting that June 2007 be declared “Child Care Awareness Days”.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor White

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“That June 2007 be proclaimed Child Care Awareness Days in Colchester County.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Mark McIntosh,
Program
Coordinator,
Hepatitis Outreach
Society**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 17, 2007 from **Mark McIntosh, Program Coordinator, Hepatitis Outreach Society**, regarding Hepatitis “C” Awareness Day/Month.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That May 1, 2007 be proclaimed Hepatitis “C” Awareness Day and May 2007 be proclaimed Hepatitis “C” Awareness Month in Colchester County.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**John O’Connor,
Chairman,
Shubenacadie Canal
Commission**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 18, 2007 from **John O’Connor, Chairman, Shubenacadie Canal Commission**, regarding the appointment of a County representative to the Board of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the letter from the Shubenacadie Canal Commission regarding the appointment of a County representative to the Board of the Commission be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Trudy Thompson,
Board Chair,
Chignecto-Central
Regional School Board**

A letter to Mayor Smith and Council dated April 19, 2007 from **Trudy Thompson, Board Chair, Chignecto-Central Regional School Board**, concerning a meeting with the School Board on May 23, 2007.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board be advised that Council has expressed an interest in attending the meeting being held on May 23, 2007; and,

That the issues of concerns which Council would like to see discussed at this meeting include the Joint-Use Agreement for the new Harmony Heights Elementary School and the installation of

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windows at the Chiganois Elementary School.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Greg Beaulieu,
Corporate Secretary,
N.S. Liquor
Commission**

A letter to the CAO dated April 23, 2007 from **Greg Beaulieu, Corporate Secretary, N.S. Liquor Commission**, concerning a plebiscite for a liquor store in Masstown and Kemptown areas.

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the letter from the N.S. Liquor Commission concerning a plebiscite for a liquor store in the Masstown and Kemptown areas be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Union of N.S.
Municipalities**

A copy of an email dated April 5, 2007 from the **Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities**, urging municipalities to contact their provincial MLA’s to discuss the Capped Assessment Program Legislative Review. Following a brief discussion, Council agreed to receive this email for information purposes.

**Philip Hicks, Nova
Scotia Agricultural
College**

A letter to the Mayor dated April 3, 2007 from **Philip Hicks, Nova Scotia Agricultural College**, regarding waste diversion programs of local educational institutions.

Staff advised Councillor Taylor that the Waste Reduction Coordinator has followed up on this letter with the College about waste diversion and agrees that they have some good programs in place.

**Inky Mark, M.P.,
Dauphin-Swan River-
Marquette**

A copy of a letter dated April 3, 2007 from **Inky Mark, M.P., Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette**, regarding the Soldiers’ & Peacekeepers’ Memorial Wall Act.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the letter from **Inky Mark, M.P., Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette**, regarding the Soldiers’ and Peacekeepers’ Memorial Wall Act, be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Margie Cameron,
Chair, South**

A letter to the Mayor and Council dated March 1, 2007 from **Margie Cameron, Chair, South Colchester Community Health**

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**Colchester
Community Health
Board**

Board, regarding a petition against rat and bird infestation in Pleasant Valley and surrounding environs (petition and attachments on file in CAO's office). Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Federation of
Canadian
Municipalities**

A copy of a Members' Advisory dated March 30, 2007 from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, regarding United States border identity document regulations. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.

**Gord Stevens,
President, FCM**

A copy of a notice dated April 11, 2007 from **Gord Stevens, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, regarding a new funding opportunity for energy and transportation projects. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.

**Union of N.S.
Municipalities**

A copy of an email to Mayor Smith dated April 2, 2007 from the **Union of N.S. Municipalities**, with attached letter from Lloyd Hines, Chair, Assessment Services Transitional Board, concerning the Property Valuation Services Corporation. Council agreed to receive this email for information purposes.

**Union of N.S.
Municipalities**

A copy of an email dated April 3, 2007 from the **Union of N.S. Municipalities**, regarding legislative reports. Council agreed to receive this email for information purposes.

**The Honourable
Carolyn Bolivar-Getson,
Minister of Emergency
Management and the
Honourable Jamie
Muir, Minister of
Service N.S. &
Municipal Relations**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 10, 2007 from the **Honourable Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, Minister of Emergency Management** and the **Honourable Jamie Muir, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations**, regarding Global Positioning System (GPS) Units. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Chris Richards,
Environment/Alternate
Fuels Manager, Lafarge
Canada Inc.**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 10, 2007 from **Chris Richards, Environment/Alternate Fuels Manager, Lafarge Canada Inc.**, regarding Lafarge Canada Inc.'s proposal to the RRFB for the collection and processing of scrap tires (additional information on file in CAO's office). Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Ann Longley, Municipal
Clerk, Municipality of**

An email dated April 12, 2007 from **Ann Longley, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of the County of Kings**, enclosing a copy of

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- Kings County** the minutes of the Rural Caucus meeting held on February 2, 2007. Council agreed to receive this email for information purposes.
- Building Inspector** A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the **Building Inspector** for the month of March 2007. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.
- Development Officer** A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the **Development Officer** for the month of March 2007. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.
- Charles Cirtwill,
President, Atlantic
Institute of Market
Studies** A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 12, 2007 from **Charles Cirtwill, President, Atlantic Institute of Market Studies**, regarding the annual report card for Atlantic Canadian high schools. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Union of N.S.
Municipalities** A copy of "The Source" newsletter with the April 17, 2007 Legislative Report received from the **Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities**. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Warden Fred Whalen,
Municipality of Kings
County** A copy of minutes of meeting held on April 21, 2007 received from **Warden Fred Whalen, Municipality of Kings County**. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Sybil Crawford,
Tatamagouche** An email to Councillor LeFresne dated April 23, 2007 from **Sybil Crawford, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this email for information purposes.
- Morag Pickard,
Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 23, 2007 from **Morag Pickard, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Shirley Swan,
Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 21, 2007 from **Shirley Swan, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Enid Campbell,
Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 22, 2007 from **Enid Campbell, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Maralyn Driver,** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 25, 2007 from

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- Tatamagouche** **Maralyn Driver, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Keith Driver, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 22, 2007 from **Keith Driver, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Marilyn Harper, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 24, 2007 from **Marilyn Harper, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Betty Campbell, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne from **Betty Campbell, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Lorraine & David White, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 22, 2007 from **Lorraine and David White, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of a new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Katie Plestid, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne from **Katie Plestid, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of a new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- David Lester, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 21, 2007 from **David Lester, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of a new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Maggie Plestid, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 23, 2007 from **Maggie Plestid, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library.
- Debra Plestid, Tatamagouche** A letter to Councillor LeFresne dated April 23, 2007 from **Debra Plestid, Tatamagouche**, regarding the location of the new Tatamagouche library. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Tracy McRae, Valley Elementary School Advisory Council** A letter to the Director of Public Works dated April 9, 2007 from **Tracy McRae, Valley Elementary School Advisory Council**, concerning the necessity for a sidewalk between Eagle Drive and the entrance to Valley Variety. Council agreed to receive this letter

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for information purposes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Community Park Funding Program - 2007 Grant

Under this program for 2007, one application was received for the February 28, 2007 deadline. The Wittenburg Recreation Association received approval for a grant in the amount of \$3,481, which is 44% of the total project cost, for a new backstop and dugout for the ballfield at their community park. There will be a second application deadline of September 7, 2007.

Community Trail Funding Program - 2007 Grant

Under this program for 2007, one application was received for the January 31, 2007 deadline. The North Shore ATV Club received approval for a grant in the amount of \$1,448, which is 40% of the project cost, for ditching and repairing a 700 meter section of ATV trail in Kempton. This grant is being withheld pending the Club obtaining a permit from the Department of Transportation and Public Works for these improvements.

Reports from Councillors Appointed to Outside Boards and Agencies

Councillor Taylor reported that he had received a thank you card from Big Brothers/Big Sisters for putting a team in their recent Bowl for Kids event.

Councillor Taylor also reported that he recently represented the County at the annual banquet of the Bible Hill Fire Brigade. The Brigade has a new Executive, including a new Chief. Councillor Taylor asked if staff would check with Mayor Smith regarding a letter being written to those newly appointed to the Executive.

Councillor Masters reported on an issue in Debert regarding the archeological protocol. The project is turning out to be more timely and costly than originally anticipated. The CAO indicated that he will follow up on this at a meeting he is attending next week in Halifax.

Councillor Cooper reported that the new school in Stewiacke is proceeding nicely and should be completed on schedule.

Councillor Edwards reported that the Central Nova Tourist Association is holding its annual general meeting on May 3-4, 2007 at the Debert Hospitality Centre. He also attended a sod-turning ceremony in Salmon River for the new school. The Salmon River Fire Hall has made a large improvement to their facility.

Councillor Cavanaugh provided an update on the renovations to the North River school. The school has a rebuilt cafeteria and a new gymnasium. He attended a meeting last evening regarding Phase 2

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of the project which will begin shortly with tenders closing on March 23rd and completed by mid August.

Councillor Lynds reported that a new street light was installed in Belmont but not to the satisfaction of residents in the area. He is also discussing the issue of potholes in his district with the Department of Transportation and Public Works.

Councillor White reported that the Chiganois Elementary School has been awarded a three-year grant from Indigo Books worth \$150,000. This is one of ten awards given out in Canada.

Councillor Cooke reported that he had attended a meeting of the Library Board in Elmsdale on Tuesday evening. He made reference to a copy of the 2007-08 budget for the Regional Library Board which he had circulated on table for this evening's meeting.

Councillor Masters reported that he had attended the Bible Hill Master Plan meeting along with Deputy Mayor Matheson.

Deputy Mayor Matheson reported that he had attended a Regional Chairs' meeting at which there was a presentation on new BSE regulations aimed at preventing mad cow disease. The CAO reported that he had attended a meeting in Kempton on this same matter. To address the issue of Mad Cow Disease, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has introduced new regulations to ban this waste and Rothsay have banned it from their rendering system as of May 1st. The CAO indicated that they are in the process of preparing a memorandum to Council regarding these new regulations and its impact on the Municipality's Kempton facility.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:20 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary