

September 25, 2008

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, September 25, 2008 at 7:00 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 Bob White	District #9
Councillor Doug Cooke	District #10
Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11

Absent:

Councillor Soley Lynds	District #8
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Employee Service Recognition Awards

The following employees were presented with awards by Council in recognition of their years of service with the Municipality:

- Maureen Smith (30 years)
- Bruce Purchase (15 years)
- Darrell Mingo (15 years)

Ms. Smith was unable to attend the ceremony due to illness. Her award will be presented to her at a later date.

Public Hearing - Dangerous or Unsafely Premises

Kevin Ritchie, 18 Granville Drive, Onslow

Mr. Mannie Withrow, Building Inspector, indicated that the dwelling located at 18 Granville Drive, Onslow, had received extensive damage from a fire in May 2007. On June 11th of this year, he received a written complaint from concerned neighbours that the dwelling was unsafe in its present condition. Mr. Withrow followed up this complaint with an inspection and found the dwelling to be extensively damaged throughout. He then wrote a letter to the property owner advising him to board up the building immediately or demolish it.

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Having not received any response from the property owner and still receiving complaints from concerned neighbours, Mr. Withrow had a contractor board up the dwelling to prevent access to it.

Mr. Withrow noted that the letter sent to Mr. Ritchie was returned to the Municipality unopened. He therefore provided the mortgage holder, TD Bank, with a copy of the letter to which he did not receive a reply. On September 3rd, Mr. Withrow posted the property with a notice advising the owner to appear before Council Committee this evening.

Mr. Withrow recommended that Council Committee issue an order giving the owner 30 days to remedy the dangerous and unsightly condition of the property as presented in items 1 through 3 on the posting.

There were no representatives in the audience who came forward to speak on behalf of the owner of the property.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That an order be issued to the property owner, as specified in the Notice, and 30 days be given to remedy the condition of the property by:

1. Demolishing the existing dilapidated dwelling damaged by fire;
2. Removing the foundation and levelling the lot; and
3. Disposing of all debris in a lawful manner.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That the agenda for September 25, 2008 be approved with the following additions:

- add 13b: Election Information
- add 15b: Enumeration
- add 15c: Fencing Requirements for New Pools”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the minutes of meeting held on August 28, 2008 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

Referring to the minutes of August 28th and the item on a ‘leave of absence’, Councillor Edwards indicated that Councillor Lynds had asked him to pass along his thanks to Council.

Presentations

There were no presentations received for this evening’s meeting.

Standing Committee Reports and Recommendations

Deputy Mayor Matheson presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on September 11, 2008:

Policy for Municipal Funding for Insurance for Not-for-Profits

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the Policy for Municipal Funding for Insurance for Not-for-Profits as amended.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Promotional Material Policy

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves the Promotional Material Policy as amended.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Salmon River Hockey Society - Funding Request

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council approves that the Municipality donate \$2,000 to the Salmon River Hockey Society in support of a Community Day of Appreciation to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Deuville’s Rink in Salmon River, source of funds to be economic development grants.”

Motion Carried.

(Councillor Mingo opposed)

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**Project Manager for
Civic Centre Project**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That Council authorizes the staff secondment of Mr. Paul Smith to the Civic Centre Project; and,

That Council authorizes staff to backfill the Senior Planner position for up to two years at a pay range not exceeding pay range eight (8).”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Planning Advisory
Committee**

There was no business arising from the report to Council from the Planning Advisory Committee meeting held on September 4, 2008.

ACTION ITEMS

Civic Centre Project

Conflict of Interest

Deputy Mayor Matheson declared a conflict of interest on this item and removed himself from the table.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council appoints the following individuals to the Project Steering Committee, subject to Truro Town Council’s acceptance of the same:

Design & Construction	Rob MacEachern
Public Relations	Shelly Borden
Fundraising	Jon Stanfield
User Group/Space Programming	Terry Hunt”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Deputy Mayor Matheson returned to the table.

Five Islands Lighthouse

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That Council approves that the Five Islands Lighthouse relocation from the Sand Point Campground to Broderick Lane be funded through the Fundy Shore Reserve Fund.”

Motion **Defeated**. *(Mayor Smith, Councillors Taylor, Masters, Cooper, Edwards, Cavanaugh, White and Mingo opposed)*

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Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That Council instruct staff to seek funding sources for the Five Islands Lighthouse Park project; and,

That the Municipality take the lead, in partnership with the Five Islands Lighthouse Society, in relocating the lighthouse this fall from the Sand Point Campground to Broderick Lane, source of funds to be the Park Maintenance Budget.”

Motion Carried. *(Mayor Smith opposed)*

**Debert Water Utility -
Request for Rate Review
to Provincial Utility and
Review Board**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves the submission of the Water Rate Study to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for the Debert Water Utility as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Replacement of Sewage
Force-Main on Highway
#2, Hilden**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council authorizes the CAO to award the tender for Replacement of the Sewage Force-Main on Highway #2 in Hilden at a net cost not to exceed \$300,000, source of funds to be 50% Gas Tax and 50% Sewer Capital Area Rate.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Construction of
Sidewalk on Harmony
Road from Intersection
of Harmony Road &
East Prince Street to
Entrance to Deuville’s
Rink**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council approves the rescinding of the design/building partnership with the Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal Department for the construction of the sidewalk on Harmony Road; and,

That the Director of Public Works be directed to write to the Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal Department advising them of Council’s decision in this regard; and,

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That the Public Works Department be directed to proceed with the design of the sidewalk on Harmony Road.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

During discussion on this item, the possibility was raised of using part of the Old Stewiacke Road for trails that the children could use until the sidewalk has been completed. Staff indicated that they had checked out the site today and there is a possibility that some trails could be put in place. However, first they need to check into how much of the Old Stewiacke Road has been transferred to the Province before going any further with a trails project.

Election Information

Councillor Taylor raised concern about residents’ confusion with the 2008 municipal election due to the new district boundaries. In response to his inquiry, staff indicated that there would not be another newsletter coming out before ordinary polling day on October 18th but Councillor Taylor’s concerns would be reported to the Returning Officer.

Correspondence

ACTION

Don Head, Correctional Service Canada

A letter received September 10, 2008 from **Don Head, Correctional Service Canada**, requesting that November 16-23, 2008 be proclaimed Restorative Justice Week 2008.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the week of November 16-23, 2008 be proclaimed Restorative Justice Week in Colchester County.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor LeFresne opposed)*

INFORMATION

Jim Karygiannis, Scarborough-Agincourt Riding Office

A letter to Mayor Smith dated August 2008 from **Jim Karygiannis, Scarborough-Agincourt Riding Office**, regarding a bill to amend the Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics for the month of August 2008 received from the **Building Inspector**. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

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Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Report for the month of August 2008 received from the **Development Officer**. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

**INFORMATION
ITEMS**

Enumeration

Councillor Cooke commented on the provincial Voters' list used for the 2008 municipal election. In his opinion, it was one of the worst lists that he has seen in his 20 years as a Councillor. He indicated that he would like to see an enumeration carried out for the next election.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That a letter be sent to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities asking whether other municipalities using the provincial Voters' list for the 2008 municipal election have similar concerns to those of Colchester County.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the issue of Council conducting an enumeration of voters for the 2012 municipal election be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Fencing Requirements
for New Pools**

At a meeting in August, Council referred a letter from the Village of Bible Hill to the Planning Advisory Committee requesting an amendment to the land-use bylaw on fencing around new types of swimming pools. Before going to the Planning Advisory Committee, staff confirmed that the current bylaw provisions cover the new style of pools as it is based on depth of water.

**Reports from
Councillors Appointed
to Outside Boards and
Agencies**

Councillor Cavanaugh reported that the Flood Advisory Committee had started its river work projects this week.

Councillor Cavanaugh reported that he has had to cancel the ratepayers' meeting on September 30th as Canada Post had informed him that the rural mail delivery project has been put on hold until after the federal election is held.

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Deputy Mayor Matheson reported that he had attended the recent UNSM Fall Conference in Yarmouth. The new UNSM Chair is Warden Lloyd Hines and the new Rural Caucus Chair is Warden Keith Hunter.

Councillor Edwards reported that he had attended a meeting of the Central Nova Tourist Association. The Association is still crunching the numbers to Visitor Information Centres this year.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the meeting be adjourned at 9:40 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary