

October 30, 2008

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The Inaugural Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, N.S. on Thursday, October 30, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Mr. Dan McDougall.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Elect Bob Taylor, Chair	
Councillor-Elect Bill Masters	District #2
Councillor-Elect Gerald Buott	District #3
Councillor-Elect Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor-Elect Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor-Elect Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor-Elect Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor-Elect Ron Cavanaugh	District #8
Councillor-Elect Bob White	District #9
Councillor-Elect Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor-Elect Earl McKenna	District #11

Absent:

Councillor-Elect Christine Blair	District #1
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Recap of 2008 Municipal Election

Referring to his memorandum to Council dated October 23, 2008, the CAO presented a recap of the results of the municipal election held on October 18, 2008.

Swearing in of Mayor

The CAO administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to Mayor Elect Bob Taylor.

Swearing in of Councillors

Mayor Taylor administered the Oath of Allegiance and Office to each of the Councillors.

Election of Deputy Mayor

Mayor Taylor called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Masters moved and Councillor White seconded the nomination of Councillor Cavanaugh.

Councillor McKenna moved and Councillor Edwards seconded the nomination of Councillor LeFresne.

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Mayor Taylor called three times for further nominations and, on hearing none, the nominations ceased.

To verify the vote, the CAO requested that Council appoint the Municipal Solicitor, Dennis James, as Scrutineer.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council appoint the Municipal Solicitor, Dennis James, as Scrutineer to verify the vote and to assist the CAO in connection with the vote.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Following the counting of the ballots, Councillor Cavanaugh was declared Deputy Mayor for a two-year term.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council authorizes the CAO to destroy the ballots used in the election of the Deputy Mayor.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Election of Alternate
Council Committee
Chair**

Mayor Taylor called for nominations for the position of Alternate Council Committee Chair.

Councillor McKenna moved and Councillor Masters seconded the nomination of Councillor LeFresne. Councillor LeFresne declined the nomination.

Councillor Edwards moved and Councillor Buott seconded the nomination of Councillor McKenna.

Councillor Masters moved and Councillor White seconded the nomination of Councillor Cooper.

Mayor Taylor called three times for further nominations and on hearing none, the nominations ceased.

To verify the vote, the CAO requested that Council appoint the Municipal Solicitor, Dennis James, as Scrutineer.

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Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council appoint the Municipal Solicitor, Dennis James, as Scrutineer to verify the vote and to assist the CAO in connection with the vote.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Following the counting of the ballots, Councillor Cooper was declared Alternate Council Committee Chair for a one-year term.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council authorizes the CAO to destroy the ballots used in the election of the Alternate Council Committee Chair.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the agenda for October 30, 2008 be approved with the following additions:

- add 14b: Canada Post
- add 14c: Questions
- add 14d: Election Issues”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Special Council Meeting - November 13, 2008

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council authorizes a Special Council meeting on November 13, 2008, prior to the regularly scheduled Council Committee meeting, for the purpose of swearing in Councillor-Elect Christine Blair.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Appointment of
Nominating
Committee**

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Mayor Taylor, Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh, Councillor Cooper and Councillor Masters be appointed to the Nominating Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Council Orientation
Session**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That staff canvas Council members with proposed dates for the Orientation Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

During discussion on this item, it was noted that to accommodate those members working during the week, that the session be held either in the evening or on a Saturday. Councillors Masters, Buott and Cooper indicated that they would not be available on Saturday, November 15th.

**Provincial Orientation
Session**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council authorize the attendance of the Mayor, the five newly elected Councillors and the CAO at the Provincial Orientation Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Employee Computer
Purchase Plan -
Resolution**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign a new banking resolution, as presented, for a maximum of \$30,000 for the purpose of the Employee Computer Purchase Plan.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Position Vacancy -
Courthouse Cleaner**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council authorizes staff to open the competition for the vacant cleaner position in the County Courthouse.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Land Purchase for
Cobequid Trail
Extension - Valley**

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Edwards declared a conflict of interest on this item and removed himself from the table.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves the executed Agreement of Purchase and Sale for the MacCoul property along Farnham Brook Road at a purchase price of \$6,270 per acre for approximately 5.5 acres, plus related expenses; and, authorizes the Mayor and CAO to complete the terms of the Agreement; and, that the source of funds be the Open Space Recreation Fund Reserve.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Councillor Edwards returned to the table.

**Art Selection
Committee**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves the appointment of Councillor Edwards to serve on the Art Selection Committee for the Municipality of Colchester’s Art Selection Program for 2008.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the appointment of Councillor LeFresne to serve on the Art Selection Committee for the Municipality of Colchester’s Art Selection Program for 2008.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Canada Post

Councillor White indicated that this past Saturday, his neighbourhood was filled with community mailboxes. It was his understanding that Canada Post would advise Councillors in advance the areas to be affected by community mailboxes. This has not been done. Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh made reference to a recent letter from Canada Post which stated that the project was being put on hold until after the federal election. After the election, Routes 2 and 5 would be done and, as of yesterday, Canada Post was looking at Route 6.

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Following a brief debate on this matter, it was recommended that a letter be sent to the Minister Responsible for Canada Post with an indication of what has taken place and point out that Canada Post has not honoured its commitment to Colchester County Council.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That a letter be sent to the federal Minister Responsible for Canada Post, with a copy to the local MLA’s and MP, indicating what has taken place in Colchester County with respect to the installation of community mailboxes; and, to point out that Canada Post has not honoured its commitment to inform the Municipality of Colchester, in advance, the areas to be affected by the installation of community mailboxes; and, that Canada Post be invited to Council to make a presentation on this issue.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Questions

Councillor McKenna tabled a series of questions that he would like answered by staff at some time in the future or at the orientation session.

Election Issues

Councillor Masters expressed his frustration with the provincial voters’ list used for the recently held municipal election. The poor quality of the list put a lot of extra stress and strain on staff in addition to their day-to-day duties. He would like to see for the next election that money be spent on obtaining a proper voters’ list.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That staff be directed to conduct a review of the election process and bring back to Council at a future date.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence

ACTION

**Larry Anthony, Chair,
Truro Sport Heritage
Society**

A letter dated October 14, 2008 from **Larry Anthony, Chair, Truro Sport Heritage Society**, requesting a contribution for Black History Month.

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Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the letter from the Truro Sport Heritage Society requesting a contribution for Black History Month be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Warden Lloyd Hines,
President, UNSM**

A memorandum to the CAO dated October 27, 2008 from **Warden Lloyd Hines, President, Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities**, requesting Council consider committing to the UNSM Code of Conduct.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the memorandum from the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities requesting Council consider committing to the UNSM Code of Conduct be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

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

Development Officer

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

Recess

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council recess to an In-Camera session at 8:45 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council reconvene in open session at 9:15 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Minimum Bids - Tax
Sale Properties**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That Council accepts the minimum bids property list as amended.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the meeting be adjourned at 9:20 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary