

- Add new Item I-4, UNSM Regional Meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the minutes from the meeting on January 29, 2015, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on January 29, 2015.

Presentations

SPCA – Elizabeth Murphy, CEO Nova Scotia SPCA

Ms. Murphy began her presentation by thanking Council for the \$5,000 annual grant provided to the SPCA. She indicated that the money may not specifically be put towards spay/neuter but does go towards the feral cats.

The SPCA is an independent corporate entity, which has recently merged under one umbrella and provides the same level of service across the province. The Nova Scotia SPCA promotes leadership to improve the welfare of all animals and upholds a no kill mandate. She reported on statistics on Colchester cats for 2014 including: total number of cats through their intake; adoption rate of those cats; percentage of cats in shelter that are not spayed or neutered; and, approximate costs per animal. She also provided information on the behavior, lifecycle and reproduction rates of feral cats.

Ms. Murphy’s presentation included an overview of the strategic plan for the SPCA which includes initiatives such as:

- Increasing partnerships with veterinary and rescue groups;
- Explore grant opportunities;
- Develop partnerships with municipality; and,
- Cat sanctuaries.

Brief discussion was held on financials with questions being raised on the branches being financially independent as well as the SPCA’s association with Affinity Renewables and a shareholder agreement. Ms. Murphy advised that branches do maintain control of their finances, with proper controls in place. She also indicated that Affinity Renewables do not have anything to do with operations.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the presentation from Ms. Murphy on the SPCA be received.”

A copy of Ms. Murphy’s presentation, as well as SPCA financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2013, were distributed to Council for this evening’s meeting.

**Standing Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Masters presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on November 18, 2014:

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade – Request for Funding

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves funding in the amount of \$1,000 for the Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade in support of their hosting the 2015 Maritime Fire Fighters Curling Championships being held at the Truro Curling Club from February 28-March 1, 2015; and

That the source of funds be the 2014/15 Economic Development Grants budget.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves that Colchester County become a member of the Nova Scotia Association of Policy Governance through its Police Advisory Board.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Pictou Road/Village Court Drainage Improvement Project

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves that the County cost share 50% of the costs of the Pictou Road/Village Court Drainage Improvement Project with the Village of Bible Hill, up to a maximum contribution of \$40,000; and

That this project and cost be included in the Stormwater Project budget for Public Works for the 2015/16 fiscal year.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

It was noted water retention ponds would be a part of the Pictou Road/Village Court Drainage Improvement Project.

2015 Spring Debenture – Temporary Borrowing Resolution

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters

Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that the Municipality of Colchester request a Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$5.2 million; and,

That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the temporary borrowing resolution, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Solid Waste Tipping Fee Rate Review

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters

Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves the adoption of tipping rates as prescribed in the attached Three Year Proposed Tipping Fee Schedule.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Taxi By-law Second Reading

Mr. Ramesh Ummat, CAO, noted the following minor amendments in the By-law as distributed on table: In each of Sections 7, 9.2, 10 and 15, reference is made to Section 7. In each instance, reference should be to section 6 instead of section 7.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters

Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council hereby adopts, by way of Second Reading, Chapter 20: Taxi By-law, as amended.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point in the meeting, 7:50 pm, Councillor MacInnes arrived.

Taxi Business Fees, Metered Fare Tares and Surcharges Policy and Joint Services Contract with the Town of Truro

The CAO advised that the Policy follows a recommendation by the Taxi Committee. The Policy establishes fees, fare rates and allowable surcharges applicable to taxis operating in the Municipality. For consistency purposes, the fares are harmonized with the Town of Truro's fares. The Joint Services Contract allows a designate from the Town of Truro serve as the taxi authority and it is requested that Council authorize staff to begin negotiations with the Town for entering into the agreement. Both the Policy and the Joint Services Contract have been vetted through the Municipal Solicitor.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

"That Council approves the Taxi Business Fees, Metered Fare Rates, and Surcharges Policy, as presented; and,

That Council approves the draft Services Contract Agreement with the Town of Truro as presented and authorizes staff to negotiate the terms of the agreement with the Town of Truro."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Building By-law First Reading

It was noted that section 3.2 and 3.21 are repetitive and should be combined.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

"That Council hereby approves, by way of First Reading, amendments to Chapter 30: Building By-law, as amended."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Regional Emergency Management By-law First Reading

The CAO noted that this By-law was approved in March of 2014 however, when filing the By-law with the Province, two typographical errors were found. The Municipal Solicitor advised that although these typos, as noted in red in the attached By-law, do not alter the intent of the By-law, First and Second Reading would be required to in order to correct.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That Council hereby approves, by way of First Reading, amendments to Chapter 42: Regional Emergency Management By-law, as presented."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Plowing of Spring
Parking Area in
Lower Truro**

Deputy Mayor Masters advised that the parking area for the spring located in Lower Truro is full of snow. This is normally plowed by Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, but is not being done quickly and is becoming a concern with the cars parking along the road. Deputy Mayor Masters requested that the County's Public Works snowplowing crew tend to snowplowing this area. The Director of Public advised that she would advise her staff to maintain snow removal in the parking area.

Presentations

Referring to the separate meeting nights designated for presentations Councillor Taggart suggested that, on evenings when there may be only one or two presenters, that invitations be extended to organizations on topics that may be of interest to Council, such as the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, Tree Planting in newer subdivisions; Storm Management; Energy; and Extended Producers Responsibilities, to name a few.

Staff requested that members of Council notify staff of topics of interest for presentations.

**Correspondence
ACTION**

**Devin Trefry, Acting
Executive Director,
Central Nova Tourist
Association**

A letter dated February 9, 2015 to Mayor Taylor and Council from Central Nova Tourist Association (CNTA) requesting an increase in per capita funding; funding for cooperative marketing efforts and visitor servicing initiatives; and additional funding for the Roger Brooks International Destination Assessment Initiative.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Blair

"That, before Council can make an informed decision on supporting their request for funding, Central Nova Tourist Association be invited to Council to make a presentation."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Jeff Bishop,
Executive Director,
Forest Products
Association of Nova
Scotia**

An email dated February 17, 2015 with a copy of letter dated November 10, 2014 regarding support for no Sunday hunting.

Discussion was held with some members of Council in favour of Sunday hunting; some were not in support of it; while others indicated that Sunday hunting is not Municipal jurisdiction. Councillors wishing to

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endorse Sunday hunting could do so on an individual basis but it should not be endorsed by Council as a whole.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council write a letter to the Forest Products Association of Nova Scotia in support of no Sunday hunting.”

Motion Defeated.

(Mayor Taylor, Deputy Mayor Masters, Councillors Stewart, Parker, Taggart and MacInnes opposed)

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the letter from the Forest Products Association of Nova Scotia requesting support for no Sunday hunting be received for information purposes.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Warren and Sherri
Benoit, Residents, 51
Hillridge Drive**

A letter to Councillors dated February 8, 2015 regarding the condition of Hillridge, McCallum and Hillvale Drives.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That since Hillridge, McCallum and Hillvale Drives are provincially owned roads, the letter from Warren and Sherri Benoit be forwarded to the local MLA.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

It was noted that a response letter should also be written to Warren and Sherri Benoit advising that their letter has been forwarded to the MLA.

**Ellen Marshall, 2015
NS Summer Games
Coordinator, Nova
Scotia Mi'kmaw
Summer Games 2015**

A letter from Ellen Marshall, 2015 NS Summer Games Coordinator, requesting sponsorship for the 2015 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the letter from Ellen Marshall requesting sponsorship for the 2015 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games be referred to Recreation Staff

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and that an invitation be extended to make a presentation to Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Chris Boudreau, P.
Eng., Manager Civil
Engineering, Strum**

A letter to the Senior Planner dated February 25, 2015 regarding development application of PID 20000303 (Sunrise Court).

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That the letter from Chris Boudreau, Strum, regarding development application of PID 20000303 (Sunrise Court) be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

Correspondence INFORMATION

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the Building Inspector for the month of January 2015. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the Development Officer for the month of January 2015. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Crosswalks on Provincially Owned Streets

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works provided an overview on the process for requesting and having crosswalks on provincial streets approved. The process involves submitting an application form for Council review and approval; a formal request by Council to Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR); and, a review of traffic and pedestrian counts for the area. If the counts support the request for installation of a crosswalk, the County would be responsible for the necessary sidewalk, lighting and signage infrastructure. In the event that traffic counts do not warrant the installation of the crosswalk, the County could not proceed with the installation of crosswalk infrastructure, unless the location is within a provincially designated school zone.

Crosswalks in provincially designated school zones requires that the County agree to provide necessary signage, sidewalk infrastructure as well as a paid crossing guard. Crossing guards are typically provided through an area rate to the residents benefiting from the crossing guard service. A public meeting with affected residents is required prior to the approval of an area rate.

Discussion was held regarding crosswalks, specifically in the Harmony Heights area, as well as Burris Drive. No formal requests made for a crossing guard in the Harmony Heights area has been received as yet. County staff will pursue the matter if a formal request is received. Councillor Parker indicated that regarding Burris Drive, both the school and the RCMP have expressed concern with this area and he will seek a formal letter from both.

Road Maintenance

As many members of Council have been receiving a number of calls regarding snowplowing and road maintenance, Mayor Taylor provided an update on recent communications with Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) regarding this issue.

TIR abides by the plowing timeframes as outlined in the December issue of the County Newsletter as much as possible. In cases of emergencies such as fire and ambulance, TIR is contacted and a plow would be dispatched to the location enabling the emergency vehicle access.

Also during the conversation with TIR, the issue of possibly taking over roads was discussed. This was in the Provincial/Municipal review for comments from municipal units. The CAO advised that the County could take over responsibility of more roads under the TIR road swap agreement but the County would have nothing to revert to the Province, resulting in the County incurring the additional cost.

Approval to Discharge Treated Fracking Wastewater, Atlantic Industrial Services, Debert – Extension of Effective Date

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that at the County's Sewer Use Appeals Committee on February 24, 2015, the Committee extended the date of the approval to discharge from April 30th, 2015 to May 31, 2015. This extension is to allow staff of properly plan and coordinate the public hearing.

UNSM Regional Meeting

Mayor Taylor advised that the date of the UNSM Regional Meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2015 and is being held at the Cumberland County Council Chambers. Staff were requested to send a copy of the agenda for this meeting when it becomes available.

Reports from Councillors appointed to Outside Boards and Agencies

Copies of reports from the Mayor and Councillors were circulated with the package or placed on table for this evening's meeting.

RECESS

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:50 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:25 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Funding Agreement
for the Purchase of
Trees Along the
McClures Connector
Sidewalk**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council authorizes the Director of Public Works to execute the funding agreement for the purchase of trees along the McClures Mills Collector Sidewalk.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Palliser Property

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council authorizes Council Committee to accept/confirm the Agreement of Purchase and Sale of the property.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary