

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The Regular Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Thursday, September 24, 2015.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor, Chair	
Councillor Christine Blair	District 1
Deputy Mayor Bill Masters	District 2
Councillor Geoff Stewart	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District 5
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6
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Also Present

Mr. Ramesh Ummat, Chief Administrative Officer
 Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
 Ms. Tracey Venno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Moment of Silence

Council observed a moment of silence for Mr. Reid MacVicar who passed away on September 18th. Mr. MacVicar served on Council from 1979-1985.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item 4b, Flood Update Presentation;
- Move Item A-5, JFAC Projects Source of Funds to immediately follow Item 4b;
- Add Item A-6b, PHANS Sponsorship;
- Add Item A-6c, Waste Receptacles at Beaches;
- Remove Item A-7, Bay of Fundy Gateway Project Steering Committee – Terms of Reference;
- Add Item I-1b, Administrative Support Clerk-Corporate

Services;

- Add Item I-1c, Newsletter;
- Add Item I-1d, Musical Ride Tatamagouche;
- Add Item I-1e, FCM; and,
- Add Item I-1f, Great Village River.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That the minutes from the meeting held on August 27, 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 August 27, 2015.

Flood Update Presentation

At this point in the meeting, Mayor Taylor welcomed MLA Larry Harrison to the meeting. Mr. Harrison was in attendance for the discussions relating to flood remediation work.

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, provided a summary presentation on projects completed by the County’s Flood Advisory Committee (FAC) and Joint Flood Advisory Committee (JFAC) which is comprised of Colchester County, the Town of Truro and Millbrook First Nations.

Some of the FAC projects completed to date include the Carter property in Brookfield; the Fritz property in Economy; the Upham property in Murray Siding; the Murray Siding Brook; and the Great Village River.

The JFAC projects include the Avon Street Dyke; the Lorne Street Dyke; the North River Dyke; and Salmon River Training, Phases 1 & 2.

Ms. Newell’s presentation also included various photos of the completed projects. Project investment information was provided for both FAC and JFAC as well as funding contributions from the provincial and federal levels of government.

JFAC Projects – Source of Funds

Ms. Newell advised that the Joint Flood Advisory Committee (JFAC) does not have authority to approve funding for projects. This action item relates to source of funds for the previously approved project of McClures Brook Drainage Improvements.

Staff is seeking directive from Council on source of funds for this project as at the time of approval, Council reserved making a decision on source of funds to a later date.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves that the source of funds for the Joint Flood Advisory Committee’s McClures Brook Drainage Improvements Project be the Major Flood Reserve, with the deficits being covered by internal borrowing from the Special Operating Reserve, for a total project commitment of \$78,214.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**STANDING COMMITTEE
REPORTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Deputy Mayor Masters presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on September 10, 2015:

Public Presentations to Council Policy

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves that the existing Public Presentations to Council Policy be repealed; and,

That the amended Public Presentations to Council Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Discussion was held on timing of when presentation materials are received and Council requested that whenever possible, materials for Presentation meetings be distributed prior to the meetings. The CAO advised that the agenda packages are usually distributed the Friday before the meeting date.

Council Proceedings and Committees Policy

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves that the existing Council Proceeding and Committees Policy be repealed; and,

That the amended Council Proceeding and Committees Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Land Lease for Debert Military Museum – Authority to Sign

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council approves that the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the lease agreement with the Debert Military Society, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Palliser Property Redevelopment Project: Master Plan Funding Proposal

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves a \$50,000 commitment (one third of the total anticipated cost) towards the completion of a master plan for the Bay of Fundy Gateway project which shall be contingent on securing adequate additional funding from other sources as outlined in the Master Plan Funding Proposal dated August 2015; and,

That source of funds be the Municipal Infrastructure and Development Reserve; and

That Council directs staff to make funding applications to ACOA and the Nova Scotia Tourism Agency as well as explore local funding partnerships with Truro and Millbrook as a means of supplementing Colchester’s share of such costs.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Taylor advised that a letter was sent to the Town of Truro regarding a funding contribution towards the Master Plan for the Bay of Fundy Gateway project. The Town has approved a \$25,000 commitment to the project.

Conversation was held regarding the positive response that is being received on the County’s decision to purchase the Palliser property. Referring to the most recent newsletter, Mayor Taylor indicated that he has received a lot of positive feedback and that the newsletter is a great source of information. The article

specific to the Palliser property was very well received.

Remuneration for Councillor MacKenzie

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves that the remuneration for Councillor MacKenzie cease, effective September 2, 2015, for the duration of the leave of absence, as approved by Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Authority for October Committee to Approve the Tatamagouche Water Utility Three Year Operating Budget

Staff indicated that a Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee meeting is being arranged for the purpose of reviewing the Financial Statements and Three Year Operating Budget. In the event the meeting is scheduled within the next couple of weeks, staff are requesting that Council give authority to October Council Committee to approve the Three Year Operating Budget.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council authorizes October Council Committee to approve the Tatamagouche Water Utility Three Year Operating Budget.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Dakota Road Watermain Relocation – Authority for October Council Committee to Award

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council authorizes October Council Committee to award the construction tender for the Dakota Road Watermain Relocation project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

November Presentation Meeting Date

Staff advised that due to the UNSM Fall Conference taking place from November 3-6, 2015, the November Presentation Meeting scheduled for November 3rd needs to be rescheduled.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves November 10, 2015 as the rescheduled

date for the November Presentation Meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Paving of Dieppe Avenue

Staff indicated that a tender was advertised for the paving of Dieppe Avenue in Debert. Council’s approved budget for this project in 2015/16 is \$150,000. The CAO advised that the lowest bid for the project came in over the budgeted amount, at a cost of \$202,000.

To explore the economics of paving additional streets in the area, quotes were also sought for Passchendaele and Mercury Avenues, and Acadia and Clinton Drives. A budget of \$110,000 was approved for paving Passchendaele in 2016/17.

The benefits of paving all roads at once was discussed. Additionally, concern was expressed regarding insufficient funds available in the Street Repaving Reserve and not wanting to have to raise taxes to cover these projects. Concern was also expressed about other roads in the areas in need of repaving, and proceeding with the paving of these roads when other roads have been removed from the list, namely in Brookfield.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council authorizes staff to award the paving of all streets (Dieppe, Passchendaele, Mercury, Clinton and Acadia) to Dexter Construction, for a contract amount of \$466,500 excluding taxes, and that an internal contingency of \$46,650 be approved, to be used only on authority of the Director of Public Works; and

That source of funds be the Street Repaving Reserve with the remaining balance being borrowed from the Special Operating Reserve .”

Motion Carried.
(Councillors Stewart, Cooper, Gregory and Cavanaugh opposed)

Colchester Regional Economic Development Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference

The CAO advised that the Terms of Reference for the Colchester Regional Economic Development Advisory Committee have been circulated to the Towns of Stewiacke and Truro. Both have agreed to the final draft, as presented.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

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“That Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Colchester Regional Economic Development Advisory Committee, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Upstream Action for Health Equity and Social Justice (PHANS Sponsorship)

The CAO indicated that Council previously referred this item to staff for review. The Public Health Association of Nova Scotia (PHANS) is requesting sponsorship for a provincial learning event called the Upstream Action for Health Equity and Social Justice: Practices for Creating Change. There are different levels of sponsorship including silver, gold and platinum. The event is taking place on October 22nd.

Concern was expressed with regards to being unfamiliar with PHANS and it was suggested that more information would be required before giving consideration to such request.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the discussion on the request from PHANS be tabled.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillors Stewart and Cooper opposed)

Waste Receptacles on Beaches

Councillor Taggart advised that at a recent meeting in West Colchester, there was discussion on waste receptacles on beaches in the West Colchester are. Last year, receptacles were placed on the beach in Bass River. There are over 300 fishermen on the shores most weekends and there is a need to have waste receptacles at the other beaches in West Colchester.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the matter of placing waste receptacles on beaches in West Colchester be referred to staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

A question was raised about whether signage would need to be included with the receptacles. Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste advised that adequate signage is placed with the waste receptacles.

ACTION

**Wendy Cox, Secretary,
Bass River Community
Victoria Hall Committee**

Councillor Taggart reported that a letter has been received from the Bass River Community Victoria Hall Committee requesting funding to assist with repairing the roof of the community hall.

The Bass River Community Victoria Hall is the only hall in Bass River. It is very valuable to the community and well utilized. The Committee requesting the funds is committed to fundraising to assist with costs for the project and is requesting Council support in the amount of \$6,000. Councillor Taggart suggested that this be funded through the Bass River School Fund.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council approves the request for \$6,000 from the Bass River Community Victoria Hall Committee to assist with roof replacement costs for the Bass River Community Victoria Hall; and,

That source of funds be the Bass River School Fund.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillor Gregory opposed)

**Correspondence -
INFORMATION**

Building Inspector

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

**Review of Spring And Fall
Clean-up**

As requested at a previous Council meeting, Mr. Wayne Wamboldt provided a brief update on possible initiatives for improvements to Spring and Fall Clean-up programs in 2016. Staff have reviewed the program and are suggesting that Spring Clean-up proceed as scheduled. However, it is being proposed that Fall Clean-up be discontinued and, in its place from June to December, one (1) bulky item could be placed curbside with each regular collection week. The Solid Waste Department is

currently exploring the financial implications to determine if this is feasible and will report back to Council when completed.

**Administrative Support
Clerk Position –
Corporate Services**

Subsequent to the recent vacancy of the Administrative Support Clerk Position for the Corporate Services Department, an internal posting was carried out. Four applications were received for the position. Interviews were conducted and an offer was made and accepted by Suzanne Graham. Ms. Graham commenced duties on September 21, 2015.

Newsletter

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting during discussions on the Palliser property as noted above.

**Musical Ride
Tatamagouche**

Councillor Gregory provided a brief report on the recent Musical Ride event held in Tatamagouche. Proceeds from the event are being donated to the North Shore Recreation Centre and the Royal Canadian Legion, with each group receiving \$8,700. Additionally, a \$500 donation was made to the Tatamagouche Fire Department.

Council commended the group of volunteers for an amazing job and unanimously agreed that a letter of congratulations from Council be sent to Ms. Marilyn Roberts.

FCM

Councillor Taggart reported that he recently attended the FCM Board meeting in Fredericton. A copy of the full report from the Board meeting was distributed to Council members via email earlier this week.

Great Village River

Councillor Taggart acknowledged Council and staff for being instrumental in the flood remediation project in the Great Village River. A recent article in the Truro Daily News thanked everyone excluding the Municipality and Councillor Taggart advised the project would not have happened without the lead of the Municipality.

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

Copies of reports from the Mayor and Councillors were circulated in the package or placed on table for this evenings meeting.

Referring to the North Shore ATV Club Ribbon Cutting Event, Mayor Taylor raised the issue of the resolution to allow ATV's to travel on the side of the road to access trails. The resolution was passed by the UNSM but the Departments of Natural Resources and Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal would not allow this. The resolution should be brought forward again.

Mayor Taylor provided a brief overview of the Northern Waste

Management Committee meeting held on September 11, 2015. A detailed report on this meeting was circulated for this evening's meeting.

Councillor Blair provided a summary of her written report including information on the possibility of the Town of Stewiacke and the Municipality merging the two Police Advisory Boards into one.

Additionally, information was provided on the recently held Annual Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police and Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Conference (NSAPG). Police Advisory Boards are part of the NSAPG and are represented on the Board of Directors. Police Advisory Board representation is broken into zones, with Zone 2 being Cumberland, Colchester, Pictou and East Hants. Councillor Blair was named as the representative for Zone 2.

Referring to the Police Advisory Boards quarterly meeting, a question was raised about reports on RCMP staffing. Councillor Blair advised that quarterly reports are received from S/Sgt Berry. Further discussion was held regarding lack of sufficient RCMP coverage in areas of the County. Deputy Mayor Masters noted that a number of years ago there was a report on payment to the RCMP versus payment for actual members working resulting in possible reimbursement for overpayment.

Councillor Cavanaugh provided a brief report on the Flood Advisory Committee indicating that the season for flood remediation is almost done. An update on flood projects was provided and it was noted that next week, work would begin in the Brookfield area.

RECESS

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting go into closed session at 9:52 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:15 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Purchase of DNR Property
in Debert – Authority for
Mayor and CAO to Sign
Agreement**

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the DNR building located at 251 Lancaster Crescent in Debert, for a purchase price of \$240,000.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Foodservice Packaging
Institute – Funding
Contract**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council authorizes the Director of Solid Waste to sign the Agreement with the Foodservice Packaging Institute, on behalf of the Municipality, and to cooperate in publicity relating to recycling of EPS as long as there is no cost to the Municipality.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Interim Chief
Administrative Officer**

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Crawford Macpherson be appointed as Interim Chief Administrative Officer, until such time the position is filled.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:19 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary