

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Regular Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Christine Blair	
Councillor Eric Boutilier	District 1
Deputy Mayor Bill Masters, Chair	District 2
Councillor Geoff Stewart	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District 5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10

Regrets

Councillor Wade Parker	District 11
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Others Present

Mr. Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer
 Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Mr. Mark Austin, Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer
 Ms. Tracey Venno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item #12b, FCM Support for Flooding in Quebec;
- Add two Legal Matters in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
 Seconded by Mayor Blair

“That the minutes from the meetings held on February 28 & March 1, April 11, 12, and 18 & 20 be approved with the following amendment:

- Record the outcome of the vote on the Debert Archaeology Program on page 1699 of the minutes of April 12, 2017.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

Referring to the item on the 2019 UNSM Spring Conference on page 1702, Councillor Stewart inquired as to whether there have been discussions with the Town of Truro on their interest in hosting the Conference with the Municipality. The CAO advised that discussions have not taken place yet.

ACTION ITEMS

Proclamation - VON

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council Committee proclaims May 14-19 as VON Week.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Colchester Historical Society Request for Letter of Support

Moved Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves writing a letter of support for the Colchester Historical Society for their funding application to the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, and Heritage through the Strategic Development Initiative.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Debert Airfield – Infrastructure Upgrades

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, advised that Council had previously directed staff to investigate upgrades for the Debert Airport including the GPS approach for aircraft; automated weather station; and, repaving and updates to the runway.

The upgrades to the GPS approach for aircraft was brought forward to Council in February 2017. At that time, Council approved the proposal as provided by Jetpro, at a total cost in year one of \$23,000.

Regarding the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS), the cost would range from approximately \$100,000 for the base system (AWOS I) to approximately \$300,000 for the full system (AWOS III PZT). This could be done in components and built up based on needs.

Mr. Macpherson indicated that staff retained EXP Services and Tetratex Canada Inc. to assist with the investigation on upgrades to airport runways, aprons and taxiways. The investigation resulted in recommendations for upgrades to two of the three runways, one of the taxiways and a portion of the main apron. Costs for runway upgrades would be in the range of \$6.1 million.

Additional costs would be for fencing at approximately \$375,000; new LED lighting at \$100,000; and the Airport Master Plan at an estimated cost of \$60,000. It was noted however, that the LED lighting was not seen as being critical at this time. Staff will be making an application to ACOA for the project.

Discussion was held on requirements for completion of the project pending successful funding from ACOA, the need for a complete analysis/business case for the project, and staff pursuing other funding opportunities.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff make applications to ACOA, Transport Canada, and any other identified funding agencies for the AWOS System, Runway Upgrades, Fencing, and Master Plan for the Debert Airport.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

During discussion, Council also expressed interest in receiving presentations from business people having knowledge and expertise in airports. It was suggested that a separate time be set aside, outside of regular presentation meetings, specifically for such presentations.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That invitations be extended to various business people having knowledge and expertise in airports, to come to Council for discussion on the Debert Airport.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Proposed Amendments –
Dangerous and Unsightly
Procedures**

Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor, provided a brief overview of the Dangerous and Unsightly Procedures amendments, indicating that the changes relate to the time frames in which Dangerous or Unsightly hearings are held, as well as minor housekeeping changes.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Mayor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the proposed amendments to the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Procedures be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Robie Street Trail / Hwy 236
Tender Award**

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that the Robie Street/Hwy 236 Trail was tendered last fall, however, at that time, pricing exceeded budget and Council directed staff to modify the design and retender the project.

Tenders for the re-designed construction project were advertised in March 2017 and a total of three tenders were received. Ian Sinclair Contracting was the lowest bidder, was deemed to be complete and within budget.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the tender for the construction of the Highway 236/Robie Street Trail be awarded to Ian Sinclair Contracting for a total contract value of \$495,260 excluding taxes; and

That an internal contingency of \$50,000 be carried, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Hub Centre Drive Paving and Street Lights

Ms. Newell provided Council with an overview of this item indicating that in 2013 the Municipality took ownership of Hub Centre Drive in Onslow. At that time, the area was not sewer serviced however, at the request of local businesses, Council agreed to install sewer servicing in the Spring of 2016.

In December 2016, correspondence was received from some of the property owners requesting paving, and street lights. The correspondence was signed by four property owners and indicated that they were willing to pay for the cost of paving over an extended period via an area rate. There are currently 12 property owners on the 16 properties fronting on Hub Centre Drive. The correspondence, as submitted to the Mayor and Council, does not represent the majority of the property owners.

Ms. Newell reviewed the options available for Council consideration, as outlined in the Action Item, as well as the financial implications for both paving and street lights on Hub Centre Drive.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
 Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a letter be sent to all property owners fronting on Hub Centre Drive outlining the costs of paving and street lights, including cost recovery mechanism, and that the property owners be advised that Council would consider the project pending the submission of written support from the majority of the property owners.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Request from Bayhead Community Association

This item relates to a presentation received at the May Presentation meeting from the Bayhead Property Owners Association requesting the Municipality give consideration of collecting monies from property owners on behalf of the Association for the maintenance of the common land within their subdivision.

Mr. Crawford Macpherson advised that Council had dealt with a matter of this nature in 2015/16. The main purpose of having a by-law for the maintenance on private roads would provide a means to collect from those property owners who do not pay for the maintenance and upkeep of the private roads.

Staff had researched by-laws of other municipalities and created a draft by-law for Council consideration. During discussions at that time, there was concern that a by-law of this nature would potentially put the Municipality in the middle of private matters. Another area of concern if Council were to move forward with this would be having liens on properties if the property owners do not pay.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the Municipality not proceed with entering into agreements with any Associations for the maintenance on private roads.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillors Gregory and Taggart opposed)

Sidewalks – Dickson Drive to Molly’s Dairy Bar, North River

Councillor Cavanaugh raised the issue of sidewalks in North River along Highway 311 from Dickson Drive to Molly’s Dairy Bar. Many years ago, sewer was extended from Mountain Lee Road to Dickson Drive. At that time, street lights and sidewalk for the area was also discussed. With the number of children in the area and safety being an issue, many residents are once again requesting sidewalks.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That a sidewalk along Highway 311 in North River, from the gravel pit to Molly’s Dairy Bar, be added to the capital plan for consideration.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

FCM - Support for Flooding in Quebec

Councillor Taggart indicated that he is seeking input from Council on their interest in contributing to the relief efforts through the FCM for recent flooding in Quebec.

Discussion was held on the Cape Breton flooding last fall/winter and what relief efforts were done to assist those residents. Given that similar support efforts were not provided to Cape Breton, Councillor Taggart indicated that he would not be in favour of supporting Quebec.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Director’s Report

A report from the Director of Public Works was circulated in the package for this evening’s meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mayor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the meeting go into closed session at 8:40 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:22 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Debert Airport Agreement –
Truro Flying Club**

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality enter into an Agreement with the Truro Flying Club, as presented, with provisions to negotiate terms and conditions based on the comprehensive review of airport operating procedures; and

“That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to execute the Agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting adjourn at 10:25 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary