

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 Thursday, January 11, 2018.

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 Bob Pash	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

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. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
 Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Mr. Mark Austin, Acting Economic Development Officer
 Ms. Tracey Venno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary
 Mr. Devin Trefry, Acting Research, Policy and Comm. Engagement Officer
 Mr. David Westlake, GIS Tech./Protective Services Coordinator

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item 9b, Truro Horsemen’s Club;
- Add Item 11b, Defibrillators;
- Add Item 11c, Health Care;
- Remove One Legal Matter in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
 Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the minutes of December 14, 2017 be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on December 14, 2017.

ACTION ITEMS**Subscription to Everbridge
Mass Notification Software**

Mr. Dave Westlake, GIS Technician/Protective Services Coordinator, introduced this item indicating that the Everbridge Mass Notification Software has been discussed by the Colchester Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee as an effective option for public notifications. The Software allows for emergency notifications to individuals or groups and would also be beneficial for non-emergency notifications such as Public Works and Water Utility notices.

The Everbridge Mass Notifications Software would be partnered with the Town of Truro, but the Municipality would have full administrative control over its own component. It would be subscribed by the Town with the Municipality being billed their portion by the Town. The annual cost is \$12,600 USD. However, with the Town's Software renewal date of May 2018, there would be an additional monthly cost of \$1,050 USD until May 2018, should Council decide to proceed immediately.

Brief discussion was held on the Software requiring self-enrollment by the public, the need to educate the public about the software and existing enrollment statistics with other subscriptions.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the immediate subscription of the Everbridge Mass Notification Software be approved."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Purchase of Replacement
Fire Repeater**

Mr. Westlake advised that this item relates to the replacement of aging infrastructure. The Municipality currently has nine Fire Repeaters located at seven sites throughout the County that are in need of being replaced. Staff is recommending the purchase of two Fire Repeaters per year over the next four to five years. Fire repeaters are an essential requirement for fire services.

Nova Communications in Dartmouth, NS is the only Motorola dealer in the province and has been providing our Fire Repeater site repairs since 2003. They also provide maintenance and installations to all of the provincial communication tower sites.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Mayor Blair

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that Nova Communications be awarded the purchase and installation of two new fire repeaters at a cost of \$17,359.03, including rebated tax."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Cell/Internet Reimbursement
Policy Amendment**

Mr. Devin Trefry, Acting Research, Policy and Comm. Engagement Officer advised that the Council Cellphone and Internet Reimbursement Policy was originally approved in October 2017. An amendment is being

recommended to better align the monthly flat rate for reimbursement with the actual cost of purchasing and maintaining a cell phone and for a portion of the cost of retaining internet connectivity for Council related business.

Brief discussion was held regarding issuing an expense claim versus processing the reimbursement through payroll. Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, advised that he has confirmed with the Canada Revenue Agency that it must be processed through payroll as it is a taxable benefit. A second opinion from Grant Thornton indicated the same.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the amended Council Cellphone and Internet Reimbursement Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried.
(Deputy Mayor Masters and Councillor Gibbs opposed)

Revised Municipal Active Transportation Strategy

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, provided Council with a presentation on the updated Active Transportation (AT) Strategy which was originally approved in 2011. The presentation included information on the changes since the original AT Plan; projects completed since its implementation; the addition of a guiding principles section; sidewalk projects; cycling network; paved shoulder priorities; NS Blue Route; and, recommendations going forward. A copy of the revised AT Strategy was distributed in the Council package for this evenings meeting.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Mayor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the revised Active Transportations Strategy be adopted, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

CIBC Credit Renewals

Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services indicated that two credit renewals are required by CIBC. The first one relates to the overdraft limit for the County’s operating bank. The second one is for the Letter of Credit related to flood mitigation work required by the Department of Fisheries.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Borrowing Resolutions relative to Credit Renewal and the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Line of Credit be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Truro Horsemen’s Club

Mr. Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that Council recently received a presentation from the Truro Horsemen’s Club which was subsequently referred to Council Committee for discussion and directive to staff. The

Club is requesting to have the County's commercial rate on their tax bill aligned with the Village of Bible Hill commercial rate.

Discussion was held on the Truro Horsemen's Club being a private club; the need for clarification on whether the Club is Not-for-Profit; whether the Club qualifies for exemption or reduction; what the Club would have to do in order to qualify for exemption; and the requirement to obtain financial statements from the Club. It was agreed that staff investigate this and report back to Council accordingly.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Half Ton Truck Purchase – Debert Water Utility

This item relates to a change to the recent award of the Debert Water Utility truck tender to Pye Chevrolet, approved in December 2017.

Staff were recently advised that the vehicle cannot be provided in blue as outlined in the original tender submission and Pye Chevrolet sought permission to supply the vehicle in a different colour. Staff reviewed options and since the mechanical requirement of the tender would still be met, staff decided to proceed with the order through Pye Chevrolet for a white vehicle.

Debert Airport Snow Removal

The purpose of this Information Items is to inform Council of staff's decision to retain contractor services for snow removal at the Debert Airport.

Ian Sinclair Contracting has been providing snow removal services at the Debert Airport since 1994, first through the province, then through CoRDA and continued with the Municipality since it took over the Airport in 2014. Based on Sinclair's extensive experience with the Airport, staff felt the best approach would be to continue with Ian Sinclair Contracting and in December 2017, Public Works staff entered into a contract with Ian Sinclair Contracting for snow removal services for 2018.

Defibrillators

Councillor Boutilier inquired about a registry for defibrillators, if there was public access to such registry and whether the County's defibrillators were registered.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That staff be directed to look into a registry for defibrillators."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Health Care

Referring to a recent experience which required ambulance services, Councillor Parker raised concern about a number of issues: the number of ambulances available on weekdays/weekends; lack of proper equipment on ambulances; inefficiencies with training; and paramedics having to wait at hospital with patients until admitted. Each of these issues required additional ambulances to be dispatched, causing extensive delays in treatment to the patient and leaving limited services available for other emergencies. Additionally, Councillor Parker advised that the Village of Bible Hill Fire Department does not provide lift assist, which also contributed to the delays. He requested that a letter be drafted to Health Care addressing these issues.

Discussion was held on whether this experience was an anomaly. Referring to various Fire Brigades throughout the County, a number of Council members praised firefighters for being well trained in responding to medical assist calls.

It was agreed that a letter be drafted regarding the aforementioned issues relating to ambulance services and emergency health care services for Council review and consideration.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting go into closed session at 8:50 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 9:40 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Amended and Restated Operating Agreement

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Amended and Restated Operating Agreement for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC) be approved as presented; and,

That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting adjourn at 9:42 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary