

January 17, 2013

**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 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Mayor Bob Taylor                 |              |
| Councillor Christine Blair       | 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 Mike Gregory          | District #7  |
| Councillor Ron Cavanaugh         | District #8  |
| Councillor Doug MacInnes         | District #9  |
| Councillor Tom Taggart           | District #10 |
| Councillor Wade Parker           | District #11 |

**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor MacInnes  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the agenda for January 17, 2013 be approved with the following additions:

- add Item #13b: Municipal Elected Officials (MEO) Training
- add Item #14b: Home Hardware
- add Item #14c: Emails
- add to Item 14, Closed Session: (1) Negotiation Matter and (2) Personnel Matters.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the minutes of the meeting held on December 13, 2012 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on December 13, 2012.

**Presentations**

James Doane

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In his presentation, Mr. Doane indicated that he lives on the Cobequid Bay and does not represent or is affiliated with any group or organization. Mr. Doane then provided a personal perspective on a company in Debert, Atlantic Industrial Service (AIS). In 20 years, this company has changed ownership and has gone from a transfer facility to a local containment, local treatment and local disposal facility. Mr. Doane indicated that he is concerned about nuclear material in the wastewater being disposed of by AIS into the Debert sewer system, that AIS is not properly monitored and is less than forthcoming with information. He would also like to see a citizens' monitoring committee established in the community.

Mr. Doane requested that Council not say 'yes' to the AIS application.

Moved by Councillor Blair  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

"That the presentation from James Doane be received."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Joy Laking

In her presentation, Ms. Laking clarified that she is not representing the Victims of Family Violence organization this evening; however, she has been a member of its Board for the past four years. Ms. Laking then went on to say that she has written a play entitled 'Invisible Prisons' which is the result of interviews with some 35 men and women who have experienced family violence. After the launch of the play, it will be placed on a website and freely available to all high schools, universities and community groups. It is hoped that this play will encourage people to speak out against abuse and those who are living in abusive situations will be aware that there are options available to them.

Ms. Laking indicated that the premiere of the play will take place at the Marigold Centre on March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> with another performance at the Nova Institution for Women on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Laking requested that Council give consideration to supporting production of the play in the amount of \$2,000. She is also hoping to receive funding from the Town of Truro, the Community Health Board and United Way.

Moved by Councillor Taggart

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Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the presentation from Joy Laking be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Taggart

Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the request for funding in support of the Joy Laking play, Invisible Prisons, be referred to January Council, with the amount of funding to be determined at that time.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Draft Sewer Use  
By-law**

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By way of a powerpoint presentation, the Director of Public Works, Mr. Ramesh Ummat, indicated that the new draft Sewer Use By-law has been substantially revised and redrafted compared to the existing by-law. The existing Sewer By-law was drafted in the early 1970's and the most recent version is current as of May 2001. The new draft By-law has 21 parts whereas the existing by-law has 11. The draft adopts discharge prohibitions as defined in the Municipal Government Act, addresses the emerging issue of radioactive waste and discharge of naturally occurring radioactive materials and separates issues related to County regulation and policy. Mr. Ummat went on to provide highlights of the new 50+ page draft By-law document, a copy of which was included in the package for this evening's meeting.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh

Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Draft Sewer Use By-law go forward to January Council for First Reading, as presented.”

Motion Amended.

Moved by Mayor Taylor (In Amendment)

Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That, prior to going forward for First Reading, the wording under Section 4.15 be changed to reflect that the property owner is responsible for repairs to the sewage system from the sewer lateral should a blockage occur preventing wastewater from flowing from a property into the sewer main.”

Motion Carried.

*(Councillor Blair opposed)*

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The motion to amend having carried, the main motion was voted on and carried.

**2013 FCM Annual Conference**

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council Committee recommends to Council the attendance of Councillors Cooper, Gregory and Parker at the FCM Annual Conference being held in Vancouver, May 31-June 3, 2013; and,

In the event that any one of the three Councillors is unable to attend, that Councillor Blair be approved as an alternate delegate.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the CAO be authorized to attend the FCM Annual Conference in addition to the three Councillors.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Dissolution of Civic Centre Project Steering Committee**

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That, contingent on a similar direction by the Town of Truro, Council Committee recommends to Council the dissolution of the Civic Centre Project Steering Committee; and,

That any further matters requiring decisions during the remainder of the construction phase be managed by the four Municipal Council representatives previously assigned to the project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Construction Project of Balefill Scales, Scale House and Public Drop-Off Facility**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council Committee recommends to Council the cancellation of the tender for the construction project of Balefill Scales, Scale House and Public Drop-Off Facility in the present form; and,

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That staff be directed to review the design specifications with a view to reduce costs of construction and re-tender the project in the Spring of 2013.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Joint Flood  
Advisory Committee  
of Colchester  
County and Town of  
Truro**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council Committee recommends to Council the adoption of the revised Terms of Reference for the Joint Flood Advisory Committee between the Municipality of Colchester and the Town of Truro, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

During discussion on this item, Councillor Parker made reference to a letter from the Village of Bible Hill requesting a seat on the Joint Flood Advisory Committee. Councillor Parker felt the Village should be on the Committee; however, the general consensus was that the Village along with the rest of the County would be represented by the appointees selected.

**Source Water  
Protection Advisory  
Committee - Debert  
Water Utility and  
Tatamagouche  
Water Utility**

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council the adoption of the Terms of Reference for the Source Water Protection Advisory Committee for the Debert Water Utility and the Terms of Reference for the Source Water Protection Advisory Committee for the Tatamagouche Water Utility, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Future Flooding  
Issues - Clearing of  
Land in Crowes  
Mills (Back Road)**

Councillor MacInnes reported that there is a very large farm in the Shubenacadie/Milford area that plans on moving its operation to the Back Road in Crowes Mills. The owner of the farm has purchased 2,000 acres on the Back Road for this purpose. Councillor MacInnes expressed his concern about future flooding issues in the area should the owner choose to clear the land. Once the land is cleared, water could be diverted into the small local brooks causing flooding on the highway and properties in the area.

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that Mayor Taylor and Councillor MacInnes would meet with the owner of the property regarding these flooding concerns. The County Solicitor, Dennis James, also agreed to explore the Municipal Government Act on regulatory options.

**Provincial Regional**

Mayor Taylor made reference to the UNSM meeting scheduled for

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**Enterprise Network  
(REN) Proposal**

January 30<sup>th</sup> on the provincial REN proposal and that he would like Council's input before going to this meeting. Mayor Taylor indicated that he has already met with the Mayors of the Towns of Truro and Stewiacke and the Chief of Millbrook First Nation on this matter with plans to hold another meeting next week. The general consensus received from Council was to not support the REN proposal in its present form and to look at focusing on this region only either through the existing CoRDA or through a new organization.

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the Mayor go forward to the UNSM meeting on the provincial Regional Enterprise Network (REN) with the message that the Municipality of Colchester is not in support of the REN proposal in its present form; and, to continue discussions with the Town of Stewiacke, Town of Truro and Millbrook First Nation on options for this region only either through the existing regional development agency or through a new organization.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Municipal Elected  
Officials (MEO)  
Training**

The Acting CAO, Bruce Purchase, informed Council that the local EMO office will be having a training session for elected officials on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at the Truro Fire Hall, starting at 7:00 p.m. In addition to members of Council, senior staff are also encouraged to attend the training.

**INFORMATION  
ITEMS****Home Hardware**

Mayor Taylor advised Council that the Home Hardware expansion project is now going forward in Debert. He expressed his appreciation to staff for all their hard work in dealing with the archaeological and environmental issues, in particular, the Project Engineer, Michelle Newell.

**Emails**

Mayor Taylor indicated that he will postpone this item for another meeting.

**Closed Session**

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That the meeting go into closed session at 10:55 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

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“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 11:30 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Former  
Tatamagouche  
Branch Library**

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the staff evaluation report on bids received for the sale of the former Tatamagouche Library property be accepted as presented; and,

That, based on this evaluation, the Acting CAO be authorized to sell this property to Hans Christian Jost; and,

That the Acting CAO and Solicitor be directed to draft an agreement between the Municipality of Colchester and Hans Christian Jost, outlining the conditions of sale, including what would take place should the successful bidder not meet the terms of the agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Council  
Remuneration  
Review**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That staff be directed to conduct a review of Council Remuneration and report back at a future meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**CAO Appointment**

Moved by Councillor Parker  
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council Committee recommends to Council approval of the appointment of Mr. Ramesh Ummat to the position of Chief Administrative Officer, effective April 1, 2013, and in accordance with the Employment Contract agreed to between the Municipality of Colchester and Mr. Ummat; and,

That the Acting CAO and Mayor be authorized to sign the Employment Contract.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

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“That Council Committee authorizes staff to begin the recruitment process for the Director of Public Works position.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting be adjourned at 11:35 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault  
Recording Secretary