

ACTION ITEMS

Plains Road Sidewalk *It was noted that, at a meeting held on November 27, 2014, Council authorized December Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.*

Subsequent to discussion at the November Council meeting regarding the paving of Plains Road in Debert by Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) and the possible advancement of the Plains Road sidewalk project from the Post Office to Ventura Drive, it was suggested that a public open house be held to receive input from the community.

The open house, which was held on December 10, 2014, resulted in a great turnout, with 51 residents in attendance. Although the sidewalk is still wanted, the majority of residents in attendance were not in favour of the sidewalk on Plains Road, primarily due to the increased taxes.

Staff are recommending that, should Council decide to remove the Plains Road sidewalk project from the capital budget, the sidewalk at the McClures Mills Connector be moved forward.

Discussion was held regarding the potential increase in taxes for such projects and it was suggested that Council look at other possible ways to fund these type of projects in the future.

Mayor Taylor advised that this sidewalk may alleviate some of the problems with water settling on the road in this area. However, if the project does not proceed, this issue will be taken to the quarterly meeting with TIR.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves that the Plains Road Sidewalk project be removed from the approved capital budget, and that the construction of the McClures Mills Connector Sidewalk, which is already in the approved capital budget, be advanced from 2016/17 to 2015/16.”

The Municipal Solicitor advised that at its meeting on November 27, 2014, Council gave authority to Council Committee to make a decision only on the Plains Road sidewalk. Advancing the McClures Mills Connector sidewalk would require the motion as a recommendation to Council.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the original motion be rescinded.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves that the Plains Road Sidewalk project be removed from the approved capital budget.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the construction of the McClures Mills Connector Sidewalk, which is already in the approved capital budget, be advanced from 2016/17 to 2015/16.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Colchester Legion
Pipes & Drums –
Grant Request**

It was noted that, at a meeting held on November 27, 2014, Council authorized December Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves that the Municipality provide funding in the amount of \$5,000 to the Colchester Legion Pipes and Drums for a trip to the Netherlands on May 10, 2015, for the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

It was suggested that this group be invited to make a presentation to Council at a future meeting.

**Maintenance and
Operations – Salmon
River School**

It was noted that, at a meeting held on November 27, 2014, Council authorized December Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.

Mr. Ramesh Ummat, CAO, advised that this matter was discussed at the November 27, 2014 Council meeting. With the RCMP recently vacating the premises, and given the poor condition of the building, staff sought direction from Council on how to proceed with the maintenance and operations of the Salmon River School. Since that meeting, the RCMP have signed a release and will no longer be

utilizing the building.

Discussion was held on the condition of the building, costs associated with demolition, and the possibility of going to RFP on the sale of the school prior to going to demolition.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves that the heating system be shut down at the Salmon River School, located at 2084 East Prince Street.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

In addition to this motion, Council directed staff to seek quotes for the possible demolition of the school in preparation to sell the property.

**Accounting Software
– Award of RFP**

It was noted that, at a meeting held on November 27, 2014, Council authorized December Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.

Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, advised that eight responses to the Municipality’s request for proposals for accounting software were received.

Of the eight proposals, only four had municipal experience. Diamond Municipal scored highest during evaluation and were brought in for a demonstration to staff earlier this month. Some of the benefits of Diamond Municipal include:

- They have a 40% share of the Nova Scotia Municipal ERP software market;
- They have never had a failed implementation process; and,
- Local support can be provided.

Costs with Diamond Municipal were close to amounts budgeted at \$317,110. Costs for year one were budgeted at \$50,000, however, total costs for year one will be approximately \$150,000 with the balance in the second year. This balance could be covered through the special operating reserve.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves proceeding with Diamond Municipal Solutions Enterprise Resource Planning Software at a cost of \$317,110; and

That a 10% contingency be approved, to be spent only on the authority

of the Director of Corporate Services; and

That source of funds be from the Special Operating Reserve.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Investment and
Internet Banking
Policy**

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the current Investment and Internet Banking Policy be repealed; and,

That the amended Investment and Internet Banking Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Boundary Review
Final Report
Approval**

It was noted that, at a meeting held on November 27, 2014, Council authorized December Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.

The CAO reported that the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board deadline for submission of the Boundary Review application is December 31, 2014. Based on the results of the survey, research, analysis and Council directive, staff are recommending in the Boundary Review Study Report to retain the current size of Council as well as retain the electoral boundaries of polling districts with the exception of a minor adjustment, as agreed by Council, at the request of a resident bordering districts 7 and 8; and, one additional change to correct a variation along the communities bordering Nuttby and Earltown. This would have the physical boundaries adjusted to conform to the community boundaries.

Concern was expressed that the additional change was not as requested by Council. The CAO advised that the change, as originally requested by Council, would result in three residents being affected. Council agreed that the Report be modified to the original electoral boundaries with the exception of the minor modification along the district 7 and 8 boundaries, subject to the approval of the three residents.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves the “Boundary Review Study Report (2014)” for submission to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, as amended, with the modifications to electoral boundaries of polling districts 7 and 8, subject to the approval of the three property owners affected.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Communications
Company
Presentation**

Councillor Taggart advised that he was approached by Mr. Dan MacDonald of North Nova Cable Limited, seeking support for an application for funding to the federal government for the Connecting Canada Program.

Given that a letter of support cannot be provided without the approval of Council and there is no scheduled Council meeting in December, discussion was held regarding a Special Council meeting in December to receive a presentation from the company. It was noted that a similar request from another company was also received and that in fairness to both companies, each should have the opportunity to make a presentation.

Council agreed that a Special Council meeting be held on Thursday, December 18, 2014, at 6 pm, to receive presentations from North Nova Cable Limited and Seaside Wireless Communications.

**Rath Eastlink
Community Centre
(RECC) Operating
Financials/Quarterly
Report**

Councillor Parker brought this item forward requesting that a quarterly update on operating financials be provided by the RECC at the January 20, 2015, Council meeting for presentations. Staff advised that they would contact RECC to arrange.

**FCM Sustainable
Communities
Conference in
London, Ontario**

Councillor Taggart advised that he is seeking support of Council to attend the FCM Sustainable Communities Conference being hosted in London, Ontario in February 2015. The CAO expressed interest in attending this conference as well.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the CAO and Councillor Taggart attend the FCM Sustainable Conference in London, Ontario, in February 2015.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**UNSM Rural Caucus
Update**

Council agreed to bring forward agenda item I-1 UNSM Rural Caucus Update, as it directly relates to the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Review Recommendations.

Mayor Taylor advised that at the Rural Caucus meeting, the Chair was challenged to write a letter in support of villages. A conference call, consisting of nine participants, was held on November 26, 2014, to discuss the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Review, specifically the

December 11, 2014

recommendations dealing with villages, numbers 13 and 14. During the conference call, for discussion purposes and voting, recommendations 13 and 14 were dealt with separately. The majority were in support of recommendation 13. Kings County did not support recommendation 14 and was the only one in favour of writing a letter of support. Mayor Taylor advised that the Rural Caucus would not be writing the letter of support.

**Provincial Municipal
Fiscal Review
Recommendations**

It was noted that, at a meeting held on November 27, 2014, Council authorized December Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.

The CAO reported that based on discussions and the wishes of Council at the November 20, 2014 session held to review recommendations of the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Review, a comprehensive response to the recommendations and questions was developed, as attached to the Action Item, for submission by the December 15, 2014 deadline.

Councillor Blair expressed her concerns regarding fairness to villages and the lack of consultative process regarding the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Review. Even though villages requested to be included in the consultation, they were not permitted. Councillor Blair indicated that this is an undemocratic and unfair report and that recommendations 13 and 14 should be struck from the report.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council approves that recommendations numbered 13 and 14 be deleted from the list of recommendations and that all remaining recommendations be retained.”

Motion **Defeated.**
(Mayor Taylor, Deputy Mayor Masters, Councillors Stewart, Cooper, Gibbs, MacKenzie, Cavanaugh, MacInnes, Taggart and Parker opposed)

Discussion was held regarding recommendations 13 and 14. Referring specifically to 14, the CAO indicated that the recommendation being put forth is that an additional option for a village to remain status quo if financially viable be included.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council approves that the suggestions/comments to each of the recommendations made in the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Review

Report, and the answers to questions raised by the review committee, as contained in the two attached documents, be forwarded to the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Review Committee with one amendment to R-14 which would remove the wording “linked with a phase-out time frame” from the recommendation.”

Motion Carried.
(*Councillor Blair opposed*)

INFORMATION ITEMS

Community Economic Development Initiative-Friendship Accord with Millbrook First Nation

The CAO indicated this item provides detailed background information on the Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI)-Friendship Accord (FA). It also reviews the timeline of actions taken since this initiative was introduced in June 2014.

FCM is developing a CEDI toolkit that was originally set to be available in January 2015, however, this release date has been postponed to April 2015. Staff have contacted FCM requesting that Colchester receive a copy of the toolkit when it is released.

Councillor MacInnes stated that in order to move forward with economic development, it is important that trust and respect is established with neighbouring First Nation communities.

Update on Current AIS Application

The purpose of this item is to provide an update to Council on the AIS application of January 2014 to discharge reverse-osmosis treated flowback water into the County’s sewer system in Debert. A detailed review of timelines was provided at the November Council meeting.

The CAO advised that based on the data presented by AIS, test results show that requirements of the Sewer Use By-law are being met and an approval was issued on December 10, 2014 to AIS for the discharge of Reverse Osmosis treated flowback water into the Debert Sewer System. Advertisements will be placed in the local newspaper and on the County website notifying the public of such. There is a 60 day waiting period from the date of issuance to the date the flowback water can be released into the system, and is subject to a 15 day public appeal process.

Discussion was held about the testing of the flowback water and that steps need to be put in place to ensure that it is meeting the criteria. Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that every batch going out is treated and tested.

A question was raised about whether the matter came back to Council for final decision. It was clarified that the final decision is made by the

Sewer Use Appeals Committee.

Directors Report

A report from Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, was circulated in the package for this evening's meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That the meeting be adjourned at 9:15 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary