

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, March 10, 2016.

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 Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10

Regrets

Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Staff Present

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Interim CAO
 Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
 Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Ms. Tracey Veno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following addition:

- Item 12b, FCM Report.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Stewart
 Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the minutes from the meeting held on February 11, 2016, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on February 11, 2016.

PRESENTATIONS**Bernie DeCoste and Steve Payne – McCallum/Hillridge/Hillvale Paving**

Mr. DeCoste and Mr. Payne indicated that the purpose of the presentation is to present a proposal to Council regarding the potential 2016 paving/upgrades on McCallum/Hillridge/Hillvale Drives.

In their presentation, Mr. Decoste provided an overview of resident concerns including lack of road maintenance, safety, ineffective ditches, overgrown bushes and trees, snowplowing and sanding issues and devaluation of properties. The presentation included a recap of information from the meetings held on November 12, 2015 and February 18, 2016. Key issues at these meetings included the lack of provincial representation at the first meeting; the paving costs to the residents at \$46.84 per foot of frontage; and the costs for the portion of County frontage, approximately 1/3, being the responsibility of the property owners.

Overall paving costs to the residents would be in the range of \$936.80 to \$40,562.03. Mr. DeCoste indicated that the residents maintain their homes and take pride in their properties, which is reflected in the property assessments of approximately \$300,000. The residents are not asking for sidewalks and curbs, but would like the streets brought to standard, paved and have the ditches maintained. Market values have diminished because of the road conditions and residents feel they should not have to pay monies over and above their annual property taxes to have the street paved and maintained.

Additionally, Mr. DeCoste indicated that there is potential for further development in the subdivision, which would be increased property tax revenue for the County. In 10 years, with 50 new properties on the street, estimated tax revenues would be around \$1,000,000. If the County invested in the paving of the McCallum/Hillridge/Hillvale Drive at a cost of \$188,825, the projected return would be 429%.

In conclusion, the residents of McCallum/Hillvale/Hillridge Drives requested that they be exempt of any and all charges applicable to the upgrading of streets, culverts and ditches and to have each of the roads paved to current regulatory standard within the 2016 calendar year subject to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) availability of funds in 2016.

March 10, 2016

Discussion was held regarding the Council policies that have been in place for a number of years and other roads that have been paved in past years under these policies. Council was concerned that it would not be fair to exempt the residents of McCallum/Hillridge/Hillvale Drives from paying when other property owners would have previously paid under this policy. It was agreed that the condition of these roads is deplorable but it is the responsibility of TIR to bring the roads up to standard. When asked if the residents have met with their local MLA, Mr. DeCoste indicated that many letters have been written but no response received.

The CAO advised that the request before Council is to pay the entire costs for paving, however, an Action Item had been prepared to deal with paying the portion of County frontage and inquired if this would be an option for residents. Mr. DeCoste indicated that he would have to confer with others before making a decision on this.

Other discussions included bringing the road back to the original gravel standards but residents were not in favour of this; Council reviewing the presentation and having it brought back at the March 31st Council meeting for further consideration; a review of the current policy to determine if changes are required; and time constraints to meet TIR's March 31st deadline for this year's paving list.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That the presentation from Mr. DeCoste and Mr. Payne on McCallum/Hillridge/Hillvale paving be received."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Paving Project – McCallum/ Hillridge/ Hillvale

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, CAO, reminded Council that as previously mentioned, the Action Item before Council was prepared to address the portion of County frontage on the McCallum/Hillridge/Hillvale paving project, and the request of the residents in their presentation is for the County to cover the entire cost of the paving.

Councillor MacKenzie advised that costs for the County frontage is in the range of \$46,800. If the County were to pay their frontage portion, the costs would drop significantly for the residents, from \$46 per foot of frontage down to \$26. The Province has indicated that they will not bring the road to standard and that the residents are trying to be proactive. She would be in support of paying the County frontage portion pending a successful petition.

Concern was expressed with residents being expected to pay for the County frontage portion. Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor, advised that it is a policy issue. The property is not assessable but Council does have the discretion to contribute. The policy doesn't have to be changed to allow for making a contribution. Council briefly discussed the petition process and if the County owned three lots, would they have three votes in the process. Mr. James indicated that Council should not get into voting in the petition process.

Discussion was held regarding other roads throughout the County that may be affected similarly by the County frontage issue. Council requested information on the number of roads in the County and the frontage portions.

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie
Seconded by Councillor Blair

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality contribute \$46,800 to the paving project for the provincially owned sections of McCallum, Hillridge and Hillvale Drives, pending a successful petition process, with source of funds to be determined."

Motion Defeated.
(Councillors Stewart, Cooper, Gibbs, Taggart, MacInnes and Gregory opposed)

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

"That staff investigate roads having properties with County frontage that may be affected by the Local Improvement By-law and report back to Council at their March 31st meeting."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

The CAO advised that this information can be provided at the March meeting, however, the window of opportunity will be lost for the issue currently before Council.

**Brookfield Fire
Commission Debenture**

Councillor Stewart advised that the Debenture for the Brookfield Fire Commission fire station is up for renewal. Authority was given at the February Council meeting for March Committee to give final approval on this item.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves that the Municipality of Colchester renew Debenture borrowing through the Municipal Finance Corporation, for the construction of the Brookfield Fire Station, as requested by the Brookfield Fire Commission.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Temporary Borrowing Resolution

Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, advised that part of this item was addressed through the previous item dealing with the Debenture for the Brookfield Fire Commission. The second part of the Temporary Borrowing Resolution (TBR) and Debenture deal with capital projects. The total amount for the TBR is \$3,148,505 and all documentation is properly before Council.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of Colchester request a Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$3,148,505; and,

That the Pre-Approval Debenture Issuance, as presented, be approved, and that staff be authorized to proceed with a debenture borrowing, subject to the terms within the Pre-Approval Debenture Issuance; and,

That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the Temporary Borrowing Resolution and Pre-Approval Debenture, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Pumping Station 3 – Award of Tender

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that February Council authorized March Council Committee to award the construction tender for Pumping Station 3 in North River. Five bids were received for the tender which closed on March 2, 2016 with the lowest bid being from Harbour Construction at \$285,500 excluding HST. The submission from Harbour Construction was reviewed and deemed to be complete.

An inquiry was made about whether the Municipality has used Harbour Construction in the past. Ms. Newell indicated that we have not but reference checks were done and were favourable.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Blair

March 10, 2016

“That Council Committee awards the construction tender for the replacement of Pumping Station 3 in North River, to Harbour Construction for a total contract value of \$285,500 excluding taxes; and,

That an internal contingency of \$30,000 be carried, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Truro Heights Multi Use Trail – Award of Tender

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that February Council authorized March Council Committee to award the construction tender for Truro Heights Multi Use Trail.

Ten bids were received for the tender which closed on March 9, 2016 with the lowest bid being from Brycon Construction at \$819,900 excluding HST. Staff are recommending that the tender be awarded to Brycon Construction.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council Committee award the construction tender for the Truro Heights Multi Use Trail to Brycon Construction for a total contract value of \$819,900 excluding taxes; and,

That an internal contingency of \$85,000 be carried, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

FCM’s Partnership in Climate Protection Program

The CAO gave a brief overview of a presentation at the FCM Sustainable Community’s Conference on the Partnership for Climate Protection Program. The program creates a framework and tools to help identify community carbon emissions. The program has a series of milestones with tools and guides to help achieve the milestones.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of Colchester participate in the FCM Partnership in Climate Protection Program, subject to a detailed review by staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Activities at the Palliser

Councillor Taggart indicated that he recently attended the FCM Board Meeting in Sherbrooke, Quebec. The Winter Carnival was

March 10, 2016

taking place while in Quebec and it was an outstanding event. The Municipality should be considering future events at the Palliser property. A well planned event would help to raise the profile of the Palliser property and would be tremendous for the community.

Mayor Taylor suggested that something could be planned in conjunction with the Beach Boys concert being held at the RECC on July 1st.

Councillor Stewart provided a brief update on the progress of Project Steering Committee for the Palliser property. The Committee received a total of 13 proposals in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Fundy Gateway Design Master Plan. After extensive review, the RFP was awarded to Upland Consulting. A meeting is scheduled to take place with Upland Consulting this coming Monday.

FCM Report

Councillor Taggart provided a brief report on the FCM Board meeting recently held in Sherbrooke, Quebec where he attended sessions on Residential Flood Insurance Market, Static Committee for Environmental Issues, and Upcoming RCMP Cost Increases to Municipalities.

Additionally, Councillor Taggart indicated that he is seeking Council support to stand for election to the FCM Board of Directors at the upcoming FCM Conference in June. Due to regulations, the Board Members have to be re-elected annually. Council support would include a financial commitment covering FCM Board related expenses.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the following resolution be approved:

FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES - ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) represents the interests of municipalities on policy and program matters that fall within federal jurisdiction;

WHEREAS FCM’s Board of Directors is comprised of elected municipal officials from all regions and sizes of communities to form a broad base of support and provide FCM with the prestige required to carry the municipal message to the federal government; and

March 10, 2016

WHEREAS FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show will take place from June 3 to 5, 2016, during which time the Annual General Meeting will be held and followed by the election of FCM's Board of Directors;

BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester endorse Councillor Tom Taggart to stand for election of FCM's Board of Directors for the period starting in June 2016 and ending June 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council assumes all costs associated with Councillor Tom Taggart attending FCM's Board of Directors meetings."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Building Security

As a follow up from discussions at the February 25th Council meeting, this item provides an update on measures taken to help address the issue of building security. These measures include:

- Installation of security cameras in common areas of the building;
- A protective glass barrier has been ordered for the Tax Office;
- Commissionaires have been retained to provide onsite security for scheduled Council related meetings; and,
- Discussions with a Security Company regarding possibilities for alarming the building.

Mosswood Lane and Second Court Trails

Previously, Council had requested staff to investigate costs and logistics to maintain trails that extend from Mosswood Lane and Second Court to Teviot Place.

Based on the current condition of the trails, staff would be unable to provide winter maintenance using existing plowing equipment and many upgrades would be required including widening of the trail; removal and/trimming of several mature trees and shrubs along the trail on privately owned property; new gravel base; and relocating a number of utility poles. Transferring ownership of the trail would have to be done before proceeding with any work. Total upgrade costs, which include the transfer of ownership would be in the range of \$85,000 to \$105,000.

Given that the upgrades would involve tree trimming and removal on private properties, discussion was held regarding receiving public input prior to any decisions being made. The catchment area for the public input should be from the whole subdivision.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That staff investigate hosting a public meeting to receive input from the residents on trail maintenance and upgrades.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Directors Report

A report from the Director of Public Works was circulated prior to this evening’s meeting.

Recess

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:24 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:00 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Addition of Textiles in the Fibre Recycling Stream

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that textiles be added to the list of acceptable products in the fibre recycling bag; and,

That approval for the hiring of two (2) full time MRF Sorters to process this additional material; and,

That the Materials Recovery Facility Manager be authorized to prepare marketing agreements, with the assistance of the Municipal Solicitor, and that the agreements be brought back to Council for approval.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting adjourn at 10:04 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary