

## **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, December 15, 2016.

### **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
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

### **Staff Present**

Mr. Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer  
 Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development  
 Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works  
 Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste  
 Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services  
 Mr. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor  
 Mr. Mark Austin, Research, Policy and Community Engagement  
 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 amendments:

- Add Item #9b, Snow Removal;
- Add Item #10b, Regional Enterprise Network;
- Add Item #10c, Regional Emergency Management Organization;
- Add Item #10d, New Legislation Recognizing Municipal Level of Government; and,
- Add Item #12b, Legal Matter in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
 Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That the minutes from the meeting held on November 10, 2016, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising from  
Minutes**

Referring to Commemorative Medals for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation noted on page 1666, Councillor Stewart requested an update on this matter. Mr. Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that an inquiry was made to the Chancellery Office in Ottawa requesting information regarding reasons for not having Commemorative Medals for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation. The response received was a referral to another office. However, the link that was provided in the response was a dead link. Staff will continue to pursue with an update by the end of January.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Nominating Committee  
Citizen Appointments**

*At their meeting on November 24, 2016, Council granted authority to December Council Committee to approve the Citizen Appointments to the various boards and committees as recommended by the Nominating Committee.*

Mayor Blair advised that the Nominating Committee met on December 5<sup>th</sup> to review the applications received for the various committees. There were some committees in which no applications were received so applications/letters of interest will continue to be accepted until vacancies are filled.

Deputy Mayor Masters indicated that the Nominating Committee discussed appointments to the Business and Economic Development Advisory Committee (BEDAC). With developments underway for the new Regional Enterprise Network (REN) Board and Liaison and Oversight Committee, it was recommended that appointments to BEDAC be held in abeyance until more information on the REN Board is received.

It was noted that when Council appointments were made to the various committees, appointing the Chair of the Livestock Control Advisory Committee was inadvertently missed. The Nominating Committee is recommending Councillor Gibbs be appointed Chair of this Committee.

Moved by Mayor Blair  
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves the Nominating Committee Report and Recommendation from the meeting held on December 5, 2016, as presented; and,

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That Council approves appointments to the Business and Economic Development Advisory Committee (BEDAC) be held in abeyance until such time that the Regional Enterprise Network Board has been given ministerial approval. Once this take place, an item be brought forward to Council as to the viability of the BEDAC; and,

That Councillor Gibbs be appointed Chair of the Livestock Control Advisory Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Request for Letter of Support – Colchester Highland Games & Gathering**

Moved by Councillor MacInnes  
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council Committee approves that a letter of support be provided to the Colchester Highland Games and Gathering Society for an event being held in Bible Hill, as part of the Canada 150 Celebrations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**School Crosswalk & Crossing Guard Policies**

After considerable discussion regarding a crosswalk at Burriss Drive and College Road at the August Council meeting, staff were directed to bring forward recommended changes to the Municipality’s current Crosswalk Installation and Crosswalk Supervision Policies.

The new Crosswalk Policy, as presented, is intended to replace both the Crosswalk Installation Policy and the Crosswalk Supervision Policy. The new Policy includes:

- a process whereby residents can request pedestrian or school crosswalks on County or provincially owned roads;
- a procedure whereby requests are evaluated; and,
- funding mechanisms for new crosswalks and crossing guards.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes  
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the existing Crosswalk Installation Policy and Crosswalk Supervision Policy be repealed; and,

That the new Crosswalk Policy, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Municipal Alcohol & Sponsorship Policy**

The CAO advised that this matter was previously before Council on a couple of occasions with Council being in support, in principle, of

having a Municipal Alcohol Policy. Staff is seeking further direction from Council on naming rights and sponsorship opportunities with regards to a Municipal Alcohol Policy.

Discussion was held regarding value of brand, market rate relative to sponsorship, what is the norm across the province and region. Additionally, it was suggested that it may be beneficial to have the sponsorship component be separate from the Municipal Alcohol Policy. Staff were directed to investigate this and develop a draft policy in the best interest of Council, to be brought back for consideration.

### **Debert Airport Funding Application**

Referring to the report entitled Strategic Opportunities – Debert Industrial Airport, Councillor MacInnes indicated that there is a lot of great information in this report.

There is approximately \$186 million available in infrastructure funding that the Municipality should be making applications for. However, in order to access this funding, a comprehensive business plan is required.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That staff be requested to obtain quotes on navigation systems, weather stations and runway paving/upgrades for the Debert Airport and report back to Council in a 90 day timeline.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the opportunities and potential of the Debert Airport as well as the need of having an analysis done. It was suggested that contacts from the Halifax Airport be invited to do an assessment of the Debert Airport. The possibility of having a special night set aside to deal with the Debert Airport was also suggested. It was also noted that it would be beneficial for Council members to take a tour of the Airport. Anyone interested in doing so should contact staff.

### **Snow Removal**

In light of the recent heavy snowfall, Councillor Stewart raised the issue of snow removal. He has had several calls, specifically about sidewalks not being cleared and children having to walk on road. Other members of Council indicated that they have also received calls on this issue.

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, indicated that the Public Works crews are working over three shifts, providing coverage from 5:30 am to 12 am. Currently roads are priority and then

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sidewalks. The County has three sidewalk plows covering Truro Heights, Hilden, Brookfield, Valley and Salmon River.

Understanding that the County has limited staff, Councillor Stewart inquired about the possibility of having a list of spare workers that could be called upon on an as needed basis.

Discussion was held on the possibility of cutting back the level of service provided on subdivision roads, and increasing service to sidewalks. Contracting work out to private operators was also discussed.

The Director of Public Works indicated a preference in making some adjustments internally, putting extra manpower in the school zones to try to rectify the issue.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Great Village Sewer (Trunk 2 and Station Road)**

As per the request of the Great Village Community Association, information was provided on extending the existing sewer system along Station Road. Staff looked into two possible extensions: along Lornevale Road to Spencer Cross Road; and, extended east along Highway 2, across the bridge and then up Station Road, as outlined in the Information Item as distributed.

Councillor Taggart indicated that this issue has been before Council on a number of occasions. He was approached by the Great Village Community Association to bring forward this issue and as with any requests, it deserves fair consideration. This is great information, including the number of homes that would be serviced and the numbers regarding return on investment. However, it requires further review as the request was to have the sewer extended up the hill through the Village and to the area by the school. Councillor Taggart indicated that he would follow up with the Director of Public Works to clarify the request for sewer extension.

### **Regional Enterprise Network**

Councillor MacInnes advised that he attended the first meeting of the Regional Enterprise Network's (REN) Liaison and Oversight Committee meeting. This meeting discussed membership composition with Duane Rath as Chair and Councillor MacInnes being appointed Vice Chair. The Nominating Committee includes the Chair, the Vice Chair and Mayor Mills. Mayors can attend meetings as Ex-Officio.

The first Nominating Committee meeting is scheduled to take place Monday morning and it is the intent to have everything up and running by April. CAO's are also at the table and are working on a press release.

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A letter was sent to the Province in November regarding the REN and potential funding. No response has been received as yet but it is hoped that a response will be received in the near future.

**Regional Emergency  
Management Organization**

The CAO advised that Councils are required to take Regional Emergency Management training every two years. Information regarding possible dates will be forthcoming sometime in the month of January along with additional information regarding the training.

Time for the training sessions was discussed with preference being evening sessions or possibly even a Saturday.

**New Legislation  
Recognizing Municipal  
Level of Government**

Councillor Gibbs advised of a news item from about a week ago dealing with new legislation prepared to go the Province which would recognize municipalities as a level of government. The legislation has been accepted by other provinces and he indicated this is something we should be looking at.

**Director's Report**

A report from the Director of Solid Waste was circulated on table for this evening's meeting.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting go into closed session at 8:45 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That the meeting reconvene in open session at 9:10 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

"That the meeting adjourn at 9:12 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno  
Recording Secretary