

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Regular Session of the Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Thursday, June 13, 2019.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Christine Blair	
Councillor Eric Boutilier	District 1
Councillor Bill Masters	District 2
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart, Chair	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District 5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Bob Pash	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
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Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Devin Trefry, Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer
 Mark Austin, Economic Development Officer
 Darlyne Proctor, Waste Reduction Manager

Council had previously agreed to a start time of 6:00 pm for the purpose of receiving a closed session presentation with the Regular Session of Council Committee commencing at 7:30 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mayor Blair
 Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the meeting go into closed session at 6:05 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
 Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 7:08 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Councillor Masters
 Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the presentation from closed session be received.”

Motion Carried.

Council agreed to take a short recess until 7:30 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- Item # 9b, Asbestos Dump Site;
- Item # 12, Legal Matter in Closed Session;
- Item # 13, 14, 15, Negotiations in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moment of Silence

Council observed a moment of silence for Mr. Earl McKenna. Mr. McKenna served as a County Councillor for the Bible Hill/Valley area for 8 years. The flags in front of the County building were flown at half mast in recognition of his passing.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That the minutes of the meetings held on May 7, 16 and June 4, 2019 be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the meetings held on May 7, 16 and June 4, 2019.

ACTION ITEMS

Preparation of Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for Debert Business Park

Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, provided a brief introduction of this item indicating that with a number of things coming together with the Debert Industrial Park, it is time to consider the implementation of a Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-law (LUB) for the area. One item for consideration is whether the former military homes should be included in the MPS and LUB.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff begin to prepare a Plan and By-law for the Debert Business Park, to include the former military homes as part of the area Plan and By-law; and,

That an Area Planning Advisory Committee be created as part of the process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Council Proceedings and
Committees Policy
Amendments**

Devin Trefry, Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer, provided a summary of the amendments for Council consideration which included less stringent requirements for the citizen representative on the Audit Committee; and, the inclusion of a clause for expenses for citizen representation on various Committees of Council, formerly included in the Council Remuneration By-law.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the amendments to the Council Proceedings and Committees Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Award of Tender – Highway
311 Sidewalk**

Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that a tender for the Highway 311 Sidewalk was advertised on the Provincial and County websites. Five bids were received by the closing date. The lowest bid by S.W. Weeks Construction was deemed complete. Staff recommend awarding the tender to S.W. Weeks Construction. It should be noted that at their meeting on May 28, 2019, Council granted authority to June Council Committee to award this tender.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the award of the tender for the construction of the Highway 311 Sidewalk to S.W. Weeks Construction for a total contract amount of \$977,725, excluding HST, and that an internal contingency of \$95,000 be approved, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Taggart opposed)*

INFORMATION ITEMS

**Crosswalk – College Road at
Homestead**

This Information Item provides an update on the request for a crosswalk on College Road at Homestead Drive.

Since College Road is a provincially owned road, staff forwarded the request for the crosswalk to Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) for consideration. TIR completed a review of the request and as per correspondence dated May 21, 2019, deemed that a crosswalk is not warranted at this location.

Asbestos Dump Site

Concerns were expressed regarding the proposed asbestos dump site in Middle Stewiacke. Rob Simonds, CAO advised that the Waste Reduction Manager prepared some background information on this matter, which was distributed on table for this evening’s meeting.

Brief discussion was held on the current application for the proposed site in Middle Stewiacke, the application to the province being open for public feedback and comment until June 15th, and, the final decision from the Minister's office being July 5th. Council agreed to move discussion on options for Council consideration relative to the issue of the asbestos dump site to Closed Session.

Director's Report

A Report from the Director of Public Works was circulated in the package for this evening's meeting.

Councillor Masters requested an update on the crosswalk at the trail in Lower Truro. Ms. Newell indicated she would look into this and advise accordingly.

Discussion was held on provincial regulations for Sewage Treatment Plants and whether other municipalities face the same issues and receive the same attention from Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) inspectors. Ms. Newell advised that she had a conversation with local NSE officials who indicated that all municipal units are treated the same. However, at a recent conference attended by the Director of Public Works, conversations with staff from other municipalities indicate that not everyone faces the same challenges.

Additional discussion was held with concerns of the challenges with regards to crosswalk approvals from Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR).

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

"That the meeting go into closed session at 8:12 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Pash
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:50 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Legal Matter – Request for Extension, Jennifer Drive

Moved by Mayor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that an amendment to the agreement to allow operations to continue on Jennifer Drive until August 15, 2019 be approved."

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Boutilier opposed)*

Rural Internet

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council Committee recommends to Council approval of the Cumberland-Colchester Internet Committee’s preferred selected respondents to the Request for Expressions of Interest for a Rural Broadband and Connected Communities Collaborations with the Municipalities of Cumberland and Colchester for the purpose of having staff enter into negotiations toward a memorandum of understanding to facilitate inclusion of the Cumberland-Colchester internet partnership in the respondent’s proposals to Develop Nova Scotia that involve Cumberland and Colchester under the competition DNS-1920-0001. “

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the CAO be authorized to sign the above noted memorandum of understanding.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That the meeting adjourn at 11:00 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary