

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Regular Session of the Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was conducted virtually, via Zoom Webinars and in-person on June 8, 2023, beginning at 6:00 pm.

In peace and friendship, and in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, Deputy Mayor Stewart acknowledged that the Municipality of Colchester is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

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| Mayor Christine Blair | |
| Cllr. Eric Boutilier | District 1 |
| Cllr. Laurie Sandeson | District 2 |
| Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart, Chair | District 3 |
| Cllr. Mike Cooper | District 4 |
| Cllr. Tim Johnson | District 5 |
| Cllr. Karen MacKenzie | District 6 (<i>regrets</i>) |
| Cllr. Michael Gregory | District 7 |
| Cllr. Lisa Patton | District 8 |
| Cllr. Marie Benoit | District 9 |
| Cllr. Victoria Lomond | District 10 |
| Cllr. Wade Parker | District 11 |

Staff Present

Paul Smith, Director of Community Development
 Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works
 Phillip Redden, Director of Solid Waste
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Jenn Mantin, Economic Development Officer
 Jeanette Himmelman, Systems Analyst
 Dave Westlake, Emergency Mgmt./Protective Services Coordinator

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Benoit and seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That the agenda be approved as presented.” Carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Benoit

“That the minutes of the meetings held on February 7, March 7 and May 11, 2023, be approved with a date correction and the spelling of Ms. Gabbani’s name in the February 7th Presentation minutes.” Carried unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

None

ACTION ITEMS**Fire and Emergency Services Policies**

Dave Westlake, Emergency Management/Protective Services Coordinator, provided a brief overview of the proposed amendments to the Fire and Emergency Protection Policy and Registration of Fire and Emergency Services Provider Policy which resulted from discussion at the February Council meeting. Proposed amendments included changing the date for requirement to receive financial statements from March 31 to April 30 annually, and updating the policies with current language and practices, as these policies have not been updated since 1999.

Brief discussion was held on the Fire and Emergency Protection Policy with a suggestion being made to change wording of section 6.4 to read that 'a ratepayers meeting *shall* be called' rather than may be called.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier and seconded by Mayor Blair

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Fire and Emergency Protection Policy and Registration of Fire and Emergency Services Provider Policy be approved with the noted wording change to section 6.4."

Clarification was sought on voting eligibility for changes to area rates at ratepayers meetings. Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor, indicated that anyone listed on the assessment roll would be eligible to vote.

Amending Motion

Moved by Councillor Johnson and seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That appropriate language around voting eligibility for area rate changes at ratepayer meetings be incorporated into the Fire and Emergency Protection Policy." Carried unanimously.

The amending motion having carried, the original motion was voted on and carried unanimously.

Award of Tender – Brookfield Sidewalk

Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works, advised that this item relates to the construction of a new sidewalk on Highway 2 in Brookfield from the existing sidewalk at Highway 289 to Whidden Road. The tender was issued publicly on the Provincial Procurement and County websites. Three submissions were received by the closing date with Cumberland Paving being the lowest bid and their submission was deemed complete. It was noted that at the meeting on May 23rd, Council granted authority for June Committee to make a decision on the Brookfield Sidewalk tender.

Moved by Councillor Sandeson and seconded by Councillor Patton

"That the tender for the construction of the Brookfield Sidewalk, Highway 2 from Highway 289 to Whidden Road, be awarded to Cumberland Paving for a total contract amount of \$2,003,661 excluding HST; and,

That an internal contingency of \$150,000 be approved, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works." Carried unanimously.

PCAP Funding Application – Infrastructure Capacity Study

The Director of Public Works advised that staff is seeking a motion of Council to support an application to the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) to assist with funding of water and sewer capacity studies for serviced areas of the County.

Moved by Mayor Blair and seconded by Councillor Patton

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff be authorized to make an application to the Provincial Capital Assistance Program for the completion of water and sewer capacity studies for serviced communities

within the County, with a total anticipated project cost of \$200,000.” Carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Debert Housing Project

This item provided Council with an update on the Debert Housing Project. Highlights included information on Expressions of Interest for the development of residential housing and submissions received; evaluation process and results; proposed development through ‘Pocket Communities’, hybrid homes and modular duplexes; ownership options; and sustainable development plans. Staff have requested more information including development of a master plan from the preferred proponent and once this is complete, will be brought back to Council for discussion and consideration.

CCMPS Amendment Request, Lands on Kent Road, Lower Truro

An application was previously received from the planning consulting company Brighter Community, seeking consideration of higher density residential development on a 14-acre property on Kent Road, for a mix of semi-detached, multi-unit townhouses and apartments totalling 358 units. This item provides an update on a revised application recently received, proposing a smaller scale development with a total of 240 units.

Director’s Report

A report from the Director of Corporate Services was circulated in the package for tonight’s meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gregory and seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting go into closed session at 6:26 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Patton and seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 7:10 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Property Matter/Negotiations

Moved by Mayor Blair and seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That Council approves providing Scotia BioChar with consent to progress with the permitting process for 4 Hawker Road; and,

That staff and legal counsel be directed to prepare a Letter of Intent to define the scope and requirements of the sale negotiations.” Motion carried *(Councillors Boutilier, Johnson, Lomond and Parker opposed)*.

The Municipal Solicitor indicated that as per Council Policy, Council Committee has authority to approve matters relative to Debert land sales.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Boutilier and seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting adjourn at 7:12 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary