

COUNCIL COMMITTEE – PRESENTATION MEETING

The Council Committee/Presentations Meeting of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was conducted virtually via Zoom Webinars and in person, on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

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:

Mayor Christine Blair	(virtual)
Councillor Laurie Sandeson	District 2
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart, Chair	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Tim Johnson	District 5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Lisa Patton	District 8
Councillor Marie Benoit	District 9
Councillor Victoria Lomond	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Eric Boutilier District 1

Others Present

Dan Troke, CAO
 Suzanne Graham, Recording Secretary
 Tim Smith, Manager of Information Systems (for Technical Support)

Presentations

Portapique Community Build Up + Alana Hirtle

Ms. Hirtle appeared before Council to provide an update on the progress of the Portapique Community Hall project and to request additional funding.

Included in the presentation was

- An explanation of the original plan; to expand the existing hall that was already on site, with a budget of \$582,000.
- The reason why the original plan was expanded; the hall was technically on the roadway and only 5 feet from the property line, it was also in worse shape than originally thought.
- The new plan and the reasons for the price increase; the building is now being fully replaced and expanded with a budget of \$1 million. Reasons for the price increase include pandemic pricing and the additional items added to support various community groups.
- Partners and community supporters; including Maggie's Place, MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning, United Way of Colchester, Along the Shore Community Health Board, Cliffs of Fundy Geopark, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colchester, Cobequid Supper Club.

Discussion was held on

- If the hall would be self-sufficient or if they will be looking for yearly grants from the Municipality.

- Some of the financial choices that were made, such as restoring the timbers from the original hall.
- The current status of the build and when they plan to finish the project.

Moved by Councillor Benoit
Seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the presentation be received”.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That the presentation be referred to staff”.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Basic Income Guarantee
Elizabeth Kay-Raining Bird**

Ms. Kay-Raining Bird appeared before Council to write letters to both the Provincial and Federal governments in support of a Basic Income Guarantee (BIG).

Included in the presentation was

- What is a livable BIG.
- Why municipalities should support a BIG.
- Potential funding scenarios.

Discussion was held on

- The government’s ability to fund a program like this.
- Defining who would be eligible for a program like this.
- Fears that more people would stay home/not work if there was a BIG in Nova Scotia.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That the presentation be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sandeson
Seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the matter be referred to staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting adjourn at 7:52 pm”.

Suzanne Graham
Recording Secretary