

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 13, 2024, 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 (<i>regrets</i>) |
| 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

Dan Troke, Chief Administrative Officer
 Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works
 Paul Smith, Director of Community Development
 Phil Redden, Director of Solid Waste
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Jenn Mantin, Economic Development Officer
 Devin Trefry, Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer
 Tim Smith, Manager of Information Services

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Gregory

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

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Sandeson, seconded by Councillor Johnson

“That the minutes of the meetings held on May 6 and 16, 2024, be approved as circulated.” Carried unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

None

ACTION ITEMS**Land Transfer Request –
Clifton Pastoral Charge**

Councillor Sandeson declared a conflict and recused herself from discussion on this matter.

Paul Smith, Director of Community Development, provided a summary of the request for the Municipality to take ownership of land in Princeport currently owned by the Clifton Pastoral Charge. The property is the site of the former Princeport United Church, approximately .13 acres in size and is adjacent to a

parcel of land owned by the County since the 1980s. Benefits of acquiring the property would be to have a staging/rest area along the Trans Canada Trail route along Princeport Road and Riverside Road. The land would be turned over to the Municipality for a nominal fee of \$1 and there would be legal costs for deed preparation and land transfer.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier, seconded by Councillor Lomond

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality take ownership of the land currently owned by the Clifton Pastoral Charge, PID 20209441, and that staff be instructed to proceed with its acquisition.” Carried unanimously.

Atlantic Labrador Retriever Club, National/Regional Specialty, Community Event Grant Request

Craig Burgess, Recreation Manager, advised that a request has been received from the Atlantic Labrador Retriever Club for grant funding under the Community Event Grants Policy for the 2024 National/Regional Specialty Event being held on Upper Brookside Road October 18-20, 2024. This request meets the criteria within Policy and there are sufficient funds in the budget to cover the request of \$2,500.

Moved by Mayor Blair, seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the funding request from the Atlantic Labrador Retriever Club be approved in the amount of \$2,500 to assist with the 2024 National/Regional Specialty Event being held October 18-20, 2024, with source of funds being Community Event Grants.” Carried unanimously.

Award of Tender – Old Courthouse Branch Sidewalk

Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works, advised this item involves the award of tender for the Old Courthouse Branch Sidewalk. Three submissions were received in response to the tender with S.W. Weeks Construction being the lowest bidder. Their submission was deemed to be complete and staff recommends that the tender be awarded to S.W. Weeks Construction. Work is scheduled to commence on July 8, 2022, and will take approximately 15 weeks.

Brief discussion was held on NS Public Works approving a crosswalk for this location and costs being included in the pricing, and the Village of Bible Hill cost sharing on the overall cost of the project.

Moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the tender for the construction of the Old Courthouse Branch Sidewalk from College Road to Regency Point Drive be awarded to S.W. Weeks Construction for a total contract amount of \$1,084,034 excluding HST; and,

That an internal contingency of \$100,000 be approved, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

Youth Engagement with Council

Councillor Lomond brought the issue of Youth Engagement with Council forward noting that she had discussions about this at the recent NSFM Conference. With children being the future, it is important to get youth

involved and she is interested in learning about what other municipal units are doing to engage youth.

Moved by Councillor Lomond, seconded by Councillor Benoit

“That staff be requested to investigate how other jurisdictions are involving youth with municipal Councils.” Carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Capacity Study Review

Councillors Boutilier and Patton declared a conflict of interest and recused themselves from discussion on this matter.

The Director of Public Works provided a detailed presentation on the Capacity Study Review recently undertaken. The review included assessments of the Valley/Bible Hill Sewer; Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Facility and Trunk Line; Brookfield and Tatamagouche Sewer; and Tatamagouche and Debert Water. Highlights of the presentation for each section included information on inflow/infiltration issues, existing infrastructure, existing capacity and limitations, recommendations moving forward and next steps. More information is expected to come to Council during the review of the 5-year Capital Budget.

Discussion was held on capacity limitations; amount of work and costs involved for upgrades; fire flows; provincial regulations; individual connections not being permitted to main sewer lines; Town of Truro sewer agreement and lack of information on development in the Town; and tendering of required work. Ms. Boudreau indicated that the nature of the work varies and that work would be expected to be done over a ten-year plan.

Residential Curbside Collection Solid Waste Audits

This item provided Council with information on planned curbside solid waste audits that will occur across the Municipality over the summer months, June through August 2024. The audits will include visual curbside inspections of garbage, recyclables and compost with information being provided to residents via a brief report taped to the green cart advising of issues found. Following the audit period, results will be analyzed and used to generate education to residents to help promote solid waste diversion.

Director’s Report

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

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting go into closed session at 7:09 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 7:36 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Property Matter – Dieppe Housing Project

Moved by Councillor Boutilier, seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the property matter as discussed in closed session be referred to staff to come back to Council with valuations at the end of the month.” Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Lomond

“That the meeting adjourn at 7:40 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary