

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 August 14, 2025, beginning at 6:00 pm.

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

Roll	Mayor Christine Blair	<i>(virtual – arrived late at 6:29pm)</i>
	Cllr. Paul Weatherby	District 1
	Deputy Mayor Laurie Sandeson, Chair	District 2
	Cllr. Sheldon Richardson	District 3
	Cllr. Mike Cooper	District 4
	Cllr. Tim Johnson	District 5
	Cllr. Nigel Leggett	District 6
	Cllr. Sherry Martell	District 7
	Cllr. Lisa Patton	District 8
	Cllr. Marie Benoit	District 9
	Cllr. Charlene Fletcher	District 10
	Cllr. Allan Kennedy	District 11

Staff Present

Dan Troke, Chief Administrative Officer
 Phil Redden, Director of Solid Waste
 Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Paul Smith, Director of Community Development
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Jenn Mantin, Economic Development Officer
 Mollie MacBurnie-Haas, IT Support

Approval of Agenda	Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Cooper
	“That the agenda be approved with the addition of 9b, NSPE 2025.” Carried unanimously.
Approval of Minutes	Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Benoit
	“That the minutes of the meetings held on June 3 and 12, 2025, be approved as amended.” Carried unanimously.
Business Arising from Minutes	None.

ACTION ITEMS

Proposed Amendments – Municipal Fees Policy	The Director of Community Development presented proposed amendments to the Municipal Fees Policy. These amendments are primarily related to the recently approved County-wide Land Use By-law (LUB), along with housekeeping changes necessary due to the implementation of the new LUB and the repeal of related by-laws. A summary of the proposed changes was included in the draft revised Policy. The amendments are administrative in nature and are intended to ensure cost recovery for services provided by the Municipality.
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Brief discussion was held on the fees for dangerous or unsightly premises offences, EV charging rates and locations for municipal EV charging stations.

Moved by Councillor Weatherby, seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the amendments to the Municipal Fees Policy be approved as presented.” Carried unanimously.

**Council Proceedings and
Committees Policy
Amendments Concerning
Planning Advisory Committees**

Mayor Blair arrived during discussion on this item and was available for voting on the motion.

The Director of Community Development reported on recommended amendments to the Council Proceedings and Committees Policy concerning Planning Advisory Committees (PAC). These changes are prompted by the adoption of the new County-wide Land Use By-law and Municipal Planning Strategy. Key proposed amendments include: rescinding the Tatamagouche PAC, as it is now redundant; renaming the Central Colchester PAC to the Colchester PAC to reflect its broader regional scope; increasing the number of appointments to include two additional positions on the Committee as well as a representative from the Village of Tatamagouche Commission, with a strong emphasis on ensuring representation from the broader region; and removing two citizen appointments related to heritage matters.

Discussion on the proposed changes included several key considerations such as cost implications of expanding the Committee, increasing the number of Council representatives, and having citizen representation from each district. Further discussion took place on the challenges with managing larger committees, as well as the existing opportunity for Council involvement, given that all matters are currently brought forward to Council as recommendations from PAC.

Moved by Councillor Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Weatherby

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

**DalTRAC Electrification of Rural
Transport Systems Project**

Council received information on Colchester’s involvement in the Community-Based Planning & Design for the Electrification of Transport Systems in Rural Municipality project, led by the DalTRAC research lab at Dalhousie University. Full project details were provided in the Information Item included in the Council package.

**Streetlight Requests, West St.
Andrews**

This Information Item provided feedback on recent streetlight requests submitted by J. Killen for the West St. Andrews area. Following staff review it was determined the requests for streetlights do not meet criteria under existing Policy, as detailed in the Information Item and as such, streetlights will not be installed.

Director’s Report

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

Discussion covered several topics including the coverage area of the newly hired Animal Control Officers under the SPCA contract, weed control efforts, follow-up on Dangerous or Unsightly Premises Orders, clarification regarding the use and enforcement of shipping containers, and the increasing need for a By-law Enforcement Officer.

Regarding weed control, staff will contact the Department of Agriculture to inquire about relevant legislation and any current initiatives. With regard to shipping containers, their increased numbers and associated concerns across the County may warrant a review of the existing by-law to consider amendments. Additionally, in response to an inquiry about the Cobequid Trail Run, the Director of Community Development advised that if there is no rainfall, the event will unfortunately be cancelled.

NSPE 2025

Referring to the Provincial Exhibition recently held in Bible Hill, Councillor Patton indicated that the event was a huge success and this is thanks to the RECC management and staff, volunteers, vendors, Colchester County 4-H, and everyone else who was involved in planning and executing this exhibition. All feedback received was very positive and it was a very successful event. Kudos to all involved.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Richardson

“That the meeting go into closed session at 6:47 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Benoit

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 8:16 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Property Matter - Lot 2 MacElmon Road, LOI

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Patton

“That Council directs staff and legal counsel to proceed with drafting a Letter of Intent for the future sale of Lot 2 MacElmon Road as outlines in closed session.” Carried unanimously.

Property Matter – 398 Dakota Road

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Fletcher

“That Council Committee approve listing 398 Dakota Road for public sale as outlined in closed session.” Carried unanimously.

Negotiations – 1677 Plains Road, Debert

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

“That Council approves the Letter of Intent for the purchase of 1677 Plains Road, as outlined in closed session.” Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councillor Martell, the meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary