

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 October 16, 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	
	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
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Paul Smith, Director of Community Development
 Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Jenn Mantin, Economic Development Officer
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Mollie MacBurnie-Haas, IT Support

Approval of Agenda Moved by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- #8b Insurance for the RECC; and
- #14 Legal Matter in Closed Session.” Carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Weatherby

“That the minutes of the meetings held on September 2 and 11, be approved as presented.” Carried unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes None.

ACTION ITEMS**J Class Paving Candidates, 2026/27 Submissions**

The Director of Public Works provided a brief overview of the J Class Paving Program and advised that this item relates to Council submission of roads to the Province for the 2026/27 construction year. From the list of roads put forward by Council members, staff reviewed the surface conditions and recommended the following roads for paving (worst listed first): Basswood Court, Spruce Court, Ice Pond Drive, Highland View Court, Basin View Court, and a portion of Clover Drive (Armstrong to Brite). Should Council agree to

submit these roads to the Province for consideration, staff will prepare cost estimate information to bring back to Council at end of month for final consideration. The deadline for submissions to the Province is October 31st.

Councillor Johnson suggested a change in the order of the roads and, with the approval of Council, shared a brief slideshow presentation/drone videos of each of the roads as recommended by staff, to provide a visual of conditions of each and showing the reason for the proposed order change. Also included in his presentation were statistics on usage/number of residences as well as correspondence from the province concerning the condition of Ice Pond Drive.

Discussion was held on having a strategy to do all 110km of J Class Roads, putting forth all roads for consideration, provincial maximum ceiling annually, provincial budget for J Class paving, and the Province having the discretion regarding all lists being put forward.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Patton

“That Council Committee directs staff to prepare cost estimates for the repaving of Ice Pond Drive, Basswood Court, Spruce Court, Highland View Court, Basin View Court, and Clover Drive (Armstrong to Brite), and that estimates be presented to October Council for further consideration.”

amending motion

Moved by Mayor Blair, seconded by Councillor Martell

“That Basswood Court and Spruce Court be grouped together as one submission and Highland View Court and Basin View Court be grouped together as one submission.” Motion carried (*Councillor Cooper opposed*).

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

Sewer Service Boundary Extension, North River

The Director of Public Works presented details on a request for an extension of the sewer service Boundary in North River. In 2024, Council approved a request from a developer for a 10-acre extension in North River. The developer is now requesting a further extension of the sewer service boundary to create 16 new lots. Further staff analysis would be required to evaluate the requested extension.

Responding to a query on when additional information would be brought back for consideration, the Director advised that information would be forthcoming at the October Council session.

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Martell

“That Council Committee refer the request for a sewer service boundary extension in North River to staff for review.” Carried unanimously.

Operating Costs, Flow Monitoring Stations, Joint Flood Advisory Committee

The Director of Public Works indicated that this item relates to three-year funding of a river flow monitoring station, as recommended by the Joint Flood Advisory Committee. Included was background information on the previously

approved flow monitoring station project, provincial agreement which expired in March 2025, and annual operating costs shared between the Municipality of Colchester, Town of Truro and Millbrook First Nation.

Moved by Mayor Blair, seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council Committee recommends that Council approve the funding of a river flow station, at a cost of \$17,250 per year for three years.” Carried unanimously.

**Debert Source Water
Protection Advisory Committee
Terms of Reference**

The Director of Public Works reported on the proposed amendments to the existing Debert Source Water Protection Advisory Committee Terms of Reference. The proposed changes are mainly housekeeping in nature including wording around appointment of Chair, terms of Committee members, clarification on Conflict of Interest and options for virtual meetings.

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the proposed changes to the Debert Source Water Protection Committee Terms of Reference be accepted as presented.” Carried unanimously.

Insurance for RECC

Councillor Leggett brought forward the issue of insurance for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC), which was discussed at the October 7th Joint Council session. The RECC would be one of the largest insurable assets in the County and concern was expressed that the insurance is being held by a volunteer Board of Directors. Being owners of the RECC, it was felt that the Town and County would want to hold the primary policy on that building.

Moved by Councillor Leggett, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

“That insurance for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre be referred to staff to investigate and come back to Council.” Carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

**Community Park Funding
Program – Fall 2025
Application**

The Community Park Funding Program provides support to community organizations making capital improvements to public outdoor recreation facilities by providing grants of up to 50% of total project costs. One application was received under the Community Park Funding Program for the September 2025 deadline: the North Shore Recreation Centre (NSRC) requested \$1,750.00 - 50% of the estimated project cost, for supply and placement of gravel to upgrade the ballfield driveway at the John K MacDonald Sportsfield. Staff have approved the grant in the requested amount.

**Central NS Tourism
Development Society –
Response to Major Event
Request**

Council previously referred a request for funding from the Central Nova Scotia Civic Centre Society for the 2025 Nova Scotia Stampede and the U17 World Hockey Challenge to the Central Nova Scotia Tourism Development Society (CNSTDS) for consideration. This item provided an update on the decision of the CNSTDS.

Following review and discussion by the CSNTDS Board, the decision was not to fund the request from marketing levy funds for this year due to insufficient

information provided, such as event budgets, organizations financial summaries and economic impact data to support the request.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Richardson

“That exploring opportunities for youth attendance at the upcoming U17 World Hockey Challenge, with an amount of up to \$20K, be referred to staff to investigate and work with municipal partners.” Carried unanimously.

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 Benoit, seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting go into closed session at 6:49 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Martell

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 8:52 pm.” Carried unanimously.

**Negotiations - Residential
Curbside Collection Contract
Extension**

Moved by Councillor Leggett, seconded by Councillor Richardson

“That Council Committee recommends to Council to opt in for the one-year extension option of the Residential Solid Waste, Recycling and Organics curbside collection contract.” Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councillor Martell, the meeting adjourned at 9:54 pm.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary