

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 April 16, 2026, 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
 Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works
 Paul Smith, Director of Community Development
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Jenn Mantin, Economic Development Officer
 Jeanette Himmelman, Systems Analyst (IT Support)
 Kelly MacIsaac, HR Specialist (*for item 5*)
 Dave Westlake, Emerg. Mgmt/Protective Services Coordinator (*for Item 6*)

Moment of Silence

Mayor Blair took a moment to speak on the 6th anniversary of the mass shooting of April 18 and 19, 2020, honouring and remembering the lives of the 22 victims and one unborn child, lost during the tragic event, as well as all of the families, friends and community members impacted by this tragedy. We also remember those who have been lost in the years since April 2020 who were deeply affected by these events.

Council observed a moment of silence.

Flags at Colchester municipal facilities will be flown at half-mast for one week in recognition of, and in remembrance of, the tragic event.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Cooper

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

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

“That the minutes of the meetings held on March 3 and 12, be approved as presented.” Carried unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

ACTION ITEMS**Personnel Policy 5.14 Personal Use of Social Media**

Kelly MacIsaac, HR Specialist, presented on the New Personnel Policy, Personal Use of Social Media. This new Policy is intended to introduce basic standards of respectful conduct interacting with content online. Ms. MacIsaac provided an overview of the key components of the policy and options for consideration. Staff are recommending that the Policy be adopted as presented.

Points of discussion included whether the contents of this policy could be incorporated in an existing policy rather than having a stand alone policy dealing with this matter; the process for dealing with employees in violation; if there was need for members of Council having a similar policy; and concerns of Section 10 being too restrictive, limiting the ability to share and celebrate positive information.

Moved by Councillor Weatherby, seconded by Councillor Richardson

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the new Personal Use of Social Media Personnel Policy be approved as presented.” Motion carried (*Councillors Martell, Patton and Fletcher opposed*).

lamResponding – Request from Colchester Firefighters Association

Councillor Richardson, Leggett, and Fletcher declared a conflict of interest and recused themselves from discussion on this matter.

Dave Westlake, Emergency Management/Protective Services Coordinator, provided a summary of the request from the Colchester Firefighters Association to assume the costs of the lamResponding (laR) Program subscription for Colchester Fire Services. Included in the presentation was information about laR and software app, how it is used and benefits of use by Fire Service, annual subscription fees, options for consideration, and staff’s recommendation to support the request.

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality cover the costs of three-year annual subscription of \$8,851 USD to the lamResponding software for the Municipality’s fire services.” Carried unanimously.

Streetlight Request, Tatamagouche

The Director of Public Works, provided a report on a streetlight request for the intersection of Tattrie Settlement Road and Highway 6, in Tatamagouche, which had previously been referred to staff for review. Included in the report was information on the three conditions under current policy in which streetlights are warranted; staff’s findings on whether streetlighting at the location, and the need for this Policy to be revisited and updated. Staff is recommending the installation of lighting at the intersection and that Council direct staff to do a review of the Policy.

Councillor Martell thanked staff for their thoroughness on this matter as well as the resident for taking the time to bring this issue forward. She spoke of increased development outside the core of the Village; the intersection being an access to Nelson Park and Dog Park, and the Tatamagouche Centre; the intersection being in closely proximately to one of the two main service

stations and near two new residential buildings; and streetlighting providing safety in the area.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Patton

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the installation of two streetlights at the intersection of Highway 6 with Tattrie Settlement Road/Rocklyn Road, to be funded by the General Tax Rate be approved; and;

That staff be directed to review the Street Light Policy and bring forward proposed updates for Council’s consideration.” Carried unanimously.

Amendments to Citizen Monitoring Committee Terms of Reference for Wind Power Projects

The Director of Community Development provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Citizen Monitoring Committee (CMC) for Wind Power Projects. The proposed amendments are mainly to the membership section and would allow the CMC to be assigned to more than one wind power project.

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Richardson

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the proposed Terms of Reference for the Citizen Monitoring Committee for Wind Power Projects be approved as presented.” Carried unanimously.

Council Travellers Insurance Policy

The Director of Corporate Services provided a report on the Council Travel Insurance Policy. The report included background information on the Policy, when and why it was implemented, annual renewals and costs, and frequency of use.

Brief discussion was held on the cost of insurance if purchased as required; staff coverage being covered through the medical/dental plan; and the ability of reinstating the policy in future if necessary.

Moved by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Patton

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that Policy #1RC25 Business Accident program provided by Beneva be cancelled.” Carried unanimously.

Ice Pond Drive – Request for Speed Bumps

Councillor Fletcher declared a conflict of interest and recused herself from discussion on this matter.

With the paving of Ice Pond Drive scheduled for this year, Councillor Johnson raised the issue of speed control and advised that he has received requests for speed bumps on Ice Pond Drive. He indicated that he would like to have a letter sent to the Area Manager, Nova Scotia Public Works, requesting speed bumps be considered during the upcoming paving to slow down the traffic on this road. Additionally, he did some research on traffic calming in subdivisions in HRM, including speed tables, speed humps and speed cushions, what streets qualify, how they are evaluated and request process. He would like to see traffic calming referred to staff to investigate for County owned subdivision roads.

Brief discussion took place including materials used for traffic calming measures, investigating options for County roads to address safety concerns related to speed, initial response from the Area Manager regarding the request

for speed bumps on Ice Pond Drive, and formalizing the request as a matter of record.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a letter be sent to Area Manager Chris Verge with Nova Scotia Public Works, requesting speed bumps on Ice Pond Drive during the upcoming paving this year.” Motion carried (*Councillor Martell opposed*).

Moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Benoit

“That traffic calming on County subdivision streets be referred to staff to investigate and bring back information to Council.” Carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Economic Development Report

A report from the Economic Development Officer providing an overview and update on recent Colchester Economic Development activities was included in the package for the meeting.

Responding to a query on timelines for signage completion in the Debert Business Park, Jenn Martin, Economic Development Officer, advised that signage is complete and ready to go however, there have been delays due to archeology.

Director’s Report

A report from the Director of Community Development was circulated in the meeting package.

Brief discussion was held regarding the vandalism at the Fundy Discovery Site washrooms and whether there was opportunity to recover the associated costs. The Director confirmed that cost recovery is not possible.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Benoit, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

“That the meeting go into closed session at 7:01pm.” Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Martell, seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 7:49pm.” Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councillor Martell, the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary