

March 27, 2014

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The Regular Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, N.S. on Thursday, March 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor, Chair	
Councillor Christine Blair	District #1
Councillor Geoff Stewart	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District #5
Councillor Michael Gregory	District #7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #8
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Wade Parker	District #11

Regrets:

Deputy Mayor Bill Masters	District #2
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District #9

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the agenda for March 27, 2014, be approved with the following additions:

- add Item #20b: Room Levy.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the minutes of the meeting held on February 26, 2014, be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on February 26, 2014.

Presentations

Joe Ballard, Colchester Historical Society

Mr. Ballard thanked Council for the opportunity to make a presentation and provided an update on how funding from the

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County to the Colchester Historical Society is being spent. Council had previously approved funding in the amount of \$112,000 over three years. The first portion was received last year and the next contribution of \$37,500 will be used towards the purchase of specialized equipment. The Society also receives funding from other levels of government as well as doing their own fundraising. They hope to be able to advise Council later this year that the third portion of the funding may not be required.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the presentation from Mr. Ballard, Colchester Historical Society be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Ms. Cathy Pike and Mr. Ron Smith, Hire Local Resolution

Ms. Pike advised that she is from the Atlantic Canada Regional Council of Carpenters Millwrights and Allied Workers and that they are seeking the support of Councils by way of a Hire Local Resolution.

She began this process back in 2010 when work on the Canal Bridge in Antigonish was contracted out of province and all workers were brought in from another province. Antigonish first passed a resolution and then in 2011, the Town of Truro passed a resolution, both of which were read into the record. Ms. Pike indicated that she is hoping to have 10-12 resolutions for the fall sitting of the UNSM and to be able to proceed to the next steps.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the presentation from Ms. Cathy Pike regarding a Hire Local Resolution be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the matter be referred to staff to bring back a resolution for Council consideration.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Standing Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

As Alternate Chair, Councillor Cooper presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held March 18, 2014:

**Transfer to
Operating Reserve**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves the transfer of \$350,000 from general operations in 2013/14 to the Operating Reserve Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Budget Approval /
Tax Rate Resolution**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves the 2014/15 Operating Budget with the additions/deletions as set out on March 18, 2014; and,

That the following Tax Resolution be approved, as presented.”

RESOLUTION RE TAX RATES

WHEREAS the Municipal Council of the County of Colchester is required to levy rates which it deems sufficient to raise the sum required to defray the expenditure of the Municipality of the County of Colchester for the current twelve month fiscal period;

RESOLVED that pursuant to **Section 72 of the Municipal Government Act**, the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester estimates that sums amounting to **\$22,189,541** are required for the lawful purpose of the Municipality for the year ending **March 31, 2015**, after crediting the probable revenue from all sources other than rates for the abatement and losses which occur in the collection of the taxes for the said year which may not be collected or collectible;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council authorize the levying and collection of a rate of **eighty-five cents (\$0.85)** on each \$100.00 of the assessed value of the residential and resource property assessed in the **2014** Assessment Roll;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council authorize the levying and collection of a rate of **two dollars twenty-five cents (\$2.25)** on each \$100.00 on the assessed value of Commercial Property assessed in the **2014** Assessment Roll;

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FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to **Section 78 of the Municipal Government Act** in lieu of all rates and taxes of the Municipality, an owner of forest property to which the said section applies shall pay tax equal to twenty-five (25) cents per acre on holdings of 50,000 or less and forty (40) cents per acre on holdings greater than 50,000 acres and where an area, village or commission rate is levied for fire protection, the owner shall pay an additional tax of one (1) cent per acre;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council hereby requires payment of said rates to be made to the Tax Collector or Treasurer of the said Municipality on or before the 14th day of August, 2014;

FURTHER RESOLVED that said Council hereby imposes an additional percentage charge of 15% per annum on all rates and taxes remaining unpaid after the 14th day of August, 2014.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Executive and Audit Committee

There was no business arising from the minutes of meeting held on February 26, 2014.

ACTION ITEMS

Spring Debenture Funding - Authority for Council Committee to Approve

In order to meet the deadline of April 18, 2014 for the Spring Debenture, staff are requesting that Council give authority to April Committee to proceed with the debenture borrowing pending the approved agreement with the Town of Truro.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council authorizes Council Committee, at its meeting on April 10, 2014, to proceed with a debenture borrowing, subject to an approved agreement with the Town of Truro.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Taggart opposed)*

Second Reading - Regional Emergency Management By-law

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council hereby approves Second Reading of the Regional Emergency By-law as attached to this Action Item.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Award of Landfill
Cell Liner
Construction Tender**

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that there were nine bids received and staff's recommendation is to award to S.W. Weeks Construction."

Discussion was held regarding the awarding of tenders with concerns being expressed with local preference.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Blair

"That Council approves the award of the Cell II-1 Liner Construction to S.W. Weeks Construction in the amount of \$2,715,740 excluding HST and that an internal construction contingency of \$250,000 be carried to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Award of Granville
Drive Sewer -
Authority for April
Committee to
Approve**

The tender closing for the Award of Granville Drive Sewer is April 2, 2014 and to allow for work to begin as soon a spring conditions permit, staff is seeking approval from Council to authorize April Committee to make a decision on awarding the tender.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Blair

"That Council authorizes April Council Committee, at its meeting on April 10, 2014,m to make a decision on the award of the construction tender for the Granville Drive Sewer project."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Award of Compost
Facility Mechanical
Works - Authority
for April Committee
to Approve**

The tender closing for the Award of Compost Facility Mechanical Works is April 3, 2014. With the goal of starting work as soon as possible, staff is seeking approval from Council to authorize April Committee to make a decision on awarding the tender.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That Council authorizes April Council Committee, at its meeting on April 10, 2014, to make a decision on the award of the construction tender for the Mechanical/Electrical Component of the Compost Facility project."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Regional Library -
Award of
Construction
Contract**

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves the award of the contract of construction of the new Regional Library to L&R Construction in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Colchester County and the Town of Truro.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Truro Minor
Hockey - Midget A
Provincials**

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves funding the Truro Minor Hockey - Midget A Provincials in the amount of \$1,250, with funds coming from Economic Development Grants.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Taggart opposed)*

**Council Committee
and Council Meeting
Dates for 2014-15**

Mayor Taylor advised that the Atlantic Mayors Congress is scheduled for April 23-25, 2014, which conflicts with the April 24th Council meeting date and requested that Council consider changing the date to allow him to attend the event.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the schedule of Council and Council Committee regular sessions for 2014-15, as amended, changing the date of the April Council meeting to April 29, 2014.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Cost Sharing
Agreement -
McClures Brook
(Phase 1) Flood
Mitigation Project**

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that a list of flood mitigation projects was put forth previously and the Province agreed to up to 50% funding. The Action Item before Council relates to funding McClures Brook flood mitigation, an area which affects three municipal jurisdictions. All parties have agreed to a cost sharing of the project costs not funded by the Province, representing financial commitment of \$125,543 from each of the three Councils.

In order to retain the provincial portion of the funding for this project, the infrastructure secretariat requires a decision and the signed provincial Terms and Conditions by Monday, March 31, 2014.

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Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council authorizes the Chair of the Joint Flood Advisory Committee to execute the provincial cost sharing agreement for the McClures Brook - Tributaries and Highway 2 - Flood Mitigation Project -Phase 1; and,

That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to enter into a cost sharing agreement with the Town of Truro and Millbrook First Nation for the McClures Brook - Tributaries and Highway 2 - Flood Mitigation Project Phase 1; and,

“That Council approves the funding of the McClures Brook - Tributaries and Highway 2 - Flood Mitigation Project Phase 1 from the Major Flood Reserve, for a total commitment of \$125,543, being 1/3 of the municipal portion of the cost of the project”.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence

ACTION

**Ruby McDorman,
Chair, Along the
Shore Community
Health Board**

A letter dated January 9, 2014 to the Mayor and Councillors requesting support in creating a safe walking space in Debert.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the letter requesting that a safe walking space in Debert be created be referred to staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Margaret Mauger,
Executive Director
and Counselling
Therapist,
Colchester Sexual
Assault Centre**

An email requesting the month of April be proclaimed Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the month of April be proclaimed Sexual Assault Awareness Month.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Michelle Ferris,
Organization and**

A letter to the Mayor and Council requesting a letter of support endorsing an application to Nova Scotia Economic Development

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**Outreach Director,
Tatamagouche
Centre**

for funding assistance.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That a letter of support be written endorsing the Tatamagouche Centre’s application to Nova Scotia Economic Development for funding assistance.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Elaine Wagner,
Chief Clerk, Nova
Scotia Utility and
Review Board**

A letter to the CAO dated February 14, 2014 regarding the 2014 Municipal Boundary Review.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the letter regarding the 2014 Municipal Boundary Review be referred to Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Joyce Mingo,
Executive Director,
Central Nova
Tourist Association**

An email dated March 10, 2014 requesting funding for a Tourism Destination Assessment project.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the request for funding from the Central Nova Tourist Association for a Tourism Destination Assessment project be referred to a future Committee meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**J.K. Langille, CAO,
Town of Truro**

A letter to the CAO dated March 18, 2014 requesting a meeting of the two Councils to discuss the Rath Eastlink Community Centre budget.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That a letter be written advising that Colchester County Council is not interested in meeting with Truro Town Council on this matter.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Terry Canning,
Commissioner/**

A letter to the Mayor and Council dated March 19, 2014 from the Brookfield Fire Commission requesting a loan guarantee for the

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Secretary and Hugh Matheson, Commissioner/Director

purchase of the truck.

“That the Municipality supports a loan guarantee in the amount of \$150,000 to allow the Brookfield Fire Commission to borrow funds from the Community Credit Union for the purchase of the new truck; and,

That this be referred to staff to obtain legal opinion.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the **Building Inspector** for the month of February 2014. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the **Development Officer** for the month of February 2014. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Update on Stormwater Management Program

This Information Item is being presented subsequent to the request of Council looking for an update on the Stormwater Management Program.

Mr. Ramesh Ummat, CAO, provided a brief summary of the report submitted by Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, on a number of components of this project that have been completed and/or are underway since the presentation on stormwater management in February of 2012. Some of these components/projects include:

- Municipal Climate Change Adaption Plan
- Acquisition of LiDAR Data
- Creation of Joint Flood Committee with Truro
- Preparation of a Stormwater Master Plan
- Flow Monitoring on River

Community Trail Funding Program - Winter 2014 Applications

Ten applications were received for the Community Trail Funding Program’s January 31, 2014 deadline. Nine of the ten applications were approved for a total amount of \$48,793. The application not approved was received incomplete. This organization has been encouraged to re-apply with completed information.

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Insurance for Not-for-Profit Organization - Grant Applications

The winter application deadline for the Not-for-Profit Insurance Program was February 28, 2014. 20 applications were received, one of which did not meet the criteria for funding. Total funding approved was \$6,297.00.

Room Levy

Mayor Taylor advised that he received a couple of telephone calls commending Council's recent decision to not support a levy on rooms in Colchester County.

Reports from Councillors Appointed to Outside Boards/Agencies

Copies of reports from Councillors were circulated in the package or placed on table for this evening's meeting.

Closed Session

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

"That the meeting go into closed session at 9:41 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:10 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

RECC Financials

Councillor Gregory declared a conflict of interest and removed himself from the table.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Parker

"That Council directs staff to advise the RECC Operating Board that a legal opinion on the amount that can be reasonably assured must be obtained prior to setting up the amount as a receivable; and,

That the receivable amount be carried on the accounting books of the Rath Eastlink Community."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Councillor Gregory returned to the table.

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Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:11 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary