

February 26, 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 Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Councillor Christine Blair	District #1
Deputy Mayor Bill Masters, Chair	District #2
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:

Mayor Bob Taylor	
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District #9

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the agenda for February 26, 2014 be approved with the following additions:

- add Item #8b: Feral Cats
- add Item #8c: Ryan Spencer
- add Item #8d: Stormwater Management Program
- add Item #10b: Director of Public Works Position (on table)
- add to Item #5, Presentations: Roger Miller, President, Northeastern Protection Services Inc. - Identity Theft Awareness
- Defer Item #7, Council Proceedings Policy Amendment, to follow after Item #11, Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the minutes of the meeting held on January 30, 2014 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

February 26, 2014

**Business Arising
from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on January 30, 2014.

Presentations

Cobequid Society for Athletic Excellence - The Cougar Dome

Representing the Cougar Dome were Mr. Ron Chisholm and Ms. Tanya Colburne.

Mr. Chisholm provided a brief overview of the Cobequid Society for Athletic Excellence. The non-profit society has undertaken the construction of an athletic facility, the Cougar Dome, just behind the Colchester Legion Stadium and adjacent to the Cobequid Education Centre. The purpose of the facility is to provide free access for every student within the Chignecto Central Regional School Board area between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Students can have free access to an indoor turf surface for soccer, lacrosse, football, rugby, track and field events, tennis courts, etc.

Ms. Colburne indicated that the facility has received the support of Tennis Canada, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Town of Truro. All funds acquired have been put toward the construction of the facility. The Society feels it can run the Dome with the money received for services offered by the facility. The Society has a very strong business plan and a good cash flow.

Mr. Chisholm indicated that the Society is looking to Council for a donation to the Cougar Dome project.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the funding request from the Cobequid Society for Athletic Excellence for the Cougar Dome project be received and referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Roger Miller - Northeastern Protection Services Inc.

Through the Police Advisory Board, Mr. Miller was asked to make a presentation to Council on Identify Theft Awareness.

Mr. Miller explained that identify theft is when someone illegally uses your personal information for their own gain. It claims millions of victims across North America each year. Total losses

February 26, 2014

from these crimes are in the billions. Mr. Miller explained how identify theft can happen, what to do once it has happened and ways to fight the problem.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the presentation from Mr. Roger Miller on Identity Theft Awareness be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Standing Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

As Alternate Chair, Councillor Cooper presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held February 13, 2014:

**Low Income Tax
Exemption Policy**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves the Low Income Tax Exemption Policy, as presented, to adopt the threshold and exemption amounts approved by Council on November 28, 2013.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Former Maple Leaf
School, Salmon
River**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council authorizes staff to sell the former Maple Leaf School property in Salmon River “as is” at market value through a Request for Proposals process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Temporary
Borrowing
Resolution - Central
Colchester
Wastewater
Treatment Facility**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves the Municipality of Colchester requesting a temporary borrowing resolution in the amount of \$4 million, subject to an agreement with the Town of Truro that the full borrowing costs, including principal, interest and debenture discount, are Truro’s responsibility.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

February 26, 2014

Tax Exemption By-law - Amendment to Property List

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves the addition of the Colchester Ground Search and Rescue Association located at 73 Ventura Drive, Debert, to the Tax Exemption Property List for fiscal year 2014-15 and beyond.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Property Tax Write-Offs

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves the writing off of property taxes and interest totalling \$1,652.80, as detailed on the attached listings to the Action Item dated February 13, 2014.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Maritime Broomball Tournament

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves a grant in the amount of \$2,000 in support of the 2014 Maritime Broomball Tournament, being held in Tatamagouche at the North Shore Recreation Centre on February 28, 2014, source of funds to be the Economic Development Grant Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves the draft management agreement, the purchase and the sale agreement, and the lease agreement between the Municipality of Colchester and the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition, be declared null and void.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cavanaugh opposed)*

Debert CPDS Property Sale

At the recommendation of staff, Council agreed to defer any decision on this item until after the closed session.

Executive and Audit Committee

There was no business arising from the minutes of meetings held on February 5 and 19, 2014.

February 26, 2014

**Nominating
Committee**

**Appointments to
Citizens' Monitoring
Committee for
Greenfield Wind
Farm**

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the appointment of Jol Hunter and
Claudia Leclerc to the Citizens' Monitoring Committee for the
Greenfield Wind Farm for the balance of the term of Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Appointment to
Citizens' Monitoring
Committee for
Kempton Balefill
Facility**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves the appointment of Brian Oickle to the
Citizens' Monitoring Committee for the Kempton Balefill
Facility for the balance of the term of Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

**Provincial Cost
Sharing Agreement -
Flood Risk Study**

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to execute the
provincial cost sharing agreement for the Flood Risk Study; and,
also authorizes the CAO to sign the additional terms and conditions
letter.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Feral Cats

Councillor Taggart requested that the issue of feral cats be once
again referred to staff to contact other municipalities and determine
what, if anything, is being done in their county with regard to feral
cats. He asked that staff bring forward a report to Council on some
type of proposed pilot project that would deal with the issue of feral
cats.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the issue of feral cats be referred to staff to contact other
municipalities and determine what, if anything, is being done in

February 26, 2014

their county with regard to feral cats; and, that a report be brought forward to Council on some type of proposed pilot project that may address this matter.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Ryan Spencer

Councillor Taggart requested that Council consider writing a letter to Ryan Spencer of Great Village who recently won the Chronicle Herald Nova Scotia Spelling Bee.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That a letter be written to Ryan Spencer of Great Village congratulating him on winning the Chronicle Herald Nova Scotia Spelling Bee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Stormwater
Management
Program**

Councillor Blair requested that an update be provided at the next Council meeting on the status of the stormwater management program as the last report to Council was back in November 2012.

Correspondence

ACTION

**Canadian Union of
Postal Workers**

Copies of resolutions from the **Canadian Union of Postal Workers** regarding support of two resolutions in support of revenue generation in lieu of service cuts and improvement to the Canadian Postal Service Charter.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council supports the two resolutions from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers regarding revenue generation in lieu of service cuts and improvement to the Canadian Postal Service Charter.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Jim Baird,
Chairman,
Tatamagouche
Village Commission**

A letter dated January 21, 2014 from **Jim Baird, Chairman, Tatamagouche Village Commission**, regarding the leaning wall of Tatamagouche and the CAO’s response.

February 26, 2014

Referring to a letter received from the Tatamagouche Village Commission today (on table), Councillor Gregory further clarified the Commission's position on this matter. The Commission has no issue with the earlier proposal from the Municipality to remove the block wall and sidewalk with the cost being cost shared between the Municipality and the provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal; however, they want any future responsibility for the wall to be assumed by the landowners.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council authorizes staff to prepare a letter to the Tatamagouche Village Commission, copied to Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, advising that the Municipality of Colchester agrees to the original option from Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to remove the block wall and reslope the bank at 1.5:1 leaving some space behind the curb and removing the sidewalk; and,

That the estimated project cost of \$10,000 be cost shared 50-50 with Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, with the Municipality of Colchester's maximum one-time contribution being \$5,000; and,

That all future responsibility and costs for ownership and maintenance of the wall/sidewalk area be borne by the landowners.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

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.

February 26, 2014

Director of Public Works Position

The Director of Public Works position was advertised with a closing date of January 3, 2014. Twenty-three applications were received and short-listed to four applicants, one of who did not respond to the request to be interviewed. An offer was made to and accepted by Michelle Newell, Acting Director of Public Works.

Closed Session

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:05 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 11:05 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Debert CPDS Property Sale

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves an expenditure of up to a maximum of \$8,100 to cover the cost of relocating copper and fibre cables leading to the Colchester Park Development Society property known as “The Diefenbunker” in the Debert Business Park, source of funds to be the Debert House Sales Fund.”

Motion **Defeated** Unanimously.

Council Proceedings Policy Amendment - Items Tabled at Council Meetings by Councillors

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council agrees, as a general policy and subject to exceptions listed in the Action Item dated February 26, 2014, that items added to the agenda by Councillors at Council or Council Committee meetings be referred to staff for research; and, that staff be directed to make amendments to the Council and Council Committee Proceedings Policy to include this provision.”

Motion Carried.

(Councillors Cooper, Gibbs and Taggart opposed)

February 26, 2014

**Salary Administration
Review - Non-
Unionized Employees**

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That, in accordance with Personnel Policies 6.02, Compensation Survey Policy and 6.03, Salary Administration, Council approve the market study reclassification for non-unionized employees, as presented; and,

That Council approves the Consumer Price Index increase, estimated at 1%, for a total cost estimate in the 2014-15 operating budget of \$30,000.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 11:22 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary