

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The Regular Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Thursday, January 28, 2016.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor, Chair	
Councillor Christine Blair	District 1
Deputy Mayor Bill Masters	District 2
Councillor Geoff Stewart	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District 5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District 6
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Doug MacInnes	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Also Present

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
Ms. Tracey Veno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item 12b, Date for Joint Council Meeting;
- Add Item 17b, Palliser Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That the minutes from the meeting held on November 26, 2015, be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on November 26, 2015.

**STANDING COMMITTEE
REPORTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Council Committee
Report from December 10,
2015**

Deputy Mayor Masters presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on December 10, 2015:

Art Purchase Policy Amendment

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves that the existing Art Purchase Policy be repealed; and,

That the amended Art Purchase Policy, which increases the amount for the annual art acquisition from \$1,000 to \$2,500, be approved as presented; and,

That any unused portion of the annual \$2,500 be put in an operating reserve for art acquisition.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillor Cavanaugh opposed)

Endorsement of Trans Canada Trail Route in the Municipality

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves the endorsement of the proposed route of the Trans Canada Trail within the geographic area of the Municipality of Colchester, as presented by staff on December 1, 2015.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Onslow Sewer Boundary

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves the new Sewer Service Boundary for Onslow, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Funding Request – NS Music Week

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves that the Municipality of Colchester partner with the Town of Truro in hosting the 2016 NS Music Week; and,

That funding be approved in the amount of \$25,000 (\$10,000 for licensing fee to Music Nova Scotia, \$5,000 for operating costs for the local host committee, plus a \$10,000 contingency fund), with the source of funds being the 2016/17 Economic Development Grants.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Council Committee
Report from January 14,
2016**

Deputy Mayor Masters presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on January 14, 2016:

2016 FCM Conference – Winnipeg, Manitoba

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that Councillors Cavanaugh, MacKenzie and Parker attend the 2016 FCM Conference, in addition to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Taggart (as FCM Board Member) and the CAO; and,

That Councillor Stewart be an alternate in the event that one of the selected members is unable to attend.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

2016 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council approves that the CAO and Councillor Blair attend the 2016 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference, being held in Ottawa, Ontario, from February 9-11, 2016.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Truro-Colchester Regional Events Committee

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves the creation of a Regional Events Committee, subject to approval of the same by the Town of Truro; and,

The Committee be directed to develop an events strategy and budget for presentation to the Councils at a later date.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sale of Land to Home Hardware

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council authorizes that the Mayor and CAO proceed with the sale of lot 230 to Home Hardware as outlined in the purchase and sale agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Executive and Audit
Committee – Minutes of
Meeting Held on January
5, 2016**

There was no business arising from the minutes of meeting held on January 5, 2016.

**Planning Advisory
Committee – Report from
Meeting Held on January
26, 2016**

Councillor Taggart, Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee, provided a report of the meeting held on January 26th. A copy of the report was distributed on table for this evening’s meeting.

Discussion was held on the regulations on vending establishments that are located on municipally owned property, specifically the Palliser Property.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the Planning Advisory Committee investigate vending permit regulations for County owned properties.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Meeting Date for Grants to Non-Profits Presentations

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council approves Thursday, March 3, 2016, as the meeting date for Grants to Non-Profit Presentations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

First Reading – Amendments to the Central Colchester Land Use By-law

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council approves at First Reading, the amended Central Colchester Land Use By-law, as presented, for the purposes of forwarding this document to a Public Hearing reserving consideration of the amendments until Second Reading following the Public Hearing.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillor Cooper opposed)

First Reading – Chapter 12 – A By-law Respecting the Maintenance and Improvements of Private Roads

Council had previously expressed an interest in a by-law that would assist property owners along private roads to collect funds for the maintenance and improvements of the road.

The proposed By-law Respecting the Maintenance and Improvements of Private Roads, if adopted, will allow a mechanism for land owners, through an Association, to generate revenue for the purpose of maintenance and improvements to their private road. The Municipality would collect funds on behalf of the Association and transfer the funds back to the Association.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council approves, by way of First Reading, Chapter 12 – A By-law Respecting the Maintenance and Improvements of Private Roads.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillors Cooper and MacKenzie opposed)

**Possible County
Ownership of Broderick
Lane, Five Islands**

In the Fall of 2015, Council agreed to continue with snow removal and summer maintenance of Broderick Lane to enable year round access to the Municipality's Five Islands Lighthouse Park. At that time, Council also directed staff to investigate taking ownership of Broderick Lane. A staff report on this matter was distributed with the Council package for this evenings meeting.

Brief discussion was held on the pros and cons of taking ownership of Broderick Lane including necessary upgrades to bring the road to public standard as well as the associated costs.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

"That Council not pursue taking ownership of Broderick Lane and upgrading it to public road standard."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Award of Design Services
– Debert Water Tower**

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, provided a brief overview of this item indicating that the Debert Water Tower project will be funded by the Building Canada Fund Program and by the Debert Sale of Homes Fund. A call for proposals from engineering firms for design work was issued with a deadline for proposals of January 15th. Five firms submitted proposals by the closing date, as outlined in the Action Item.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That Council approves the award of the Debert Water Tower Engineering Design Services to EXP Services Inc. for a total financial commitment of \$33,973, pending confirmation of Building Canada Fund, with source of funds being the Debert Sale of Homes and the new Building Canada Fund Program; and,

That a \$3,000 internal contingency be carried for the work, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Deer Feeding – Princeton
Heights**

Councillor Gibbs expressed concern regarding the number of deer in the Princeton Heights area. He has had a number of calls regarding this as it is a safety concern. It was agreed that an article be placed in the upcoming edition of the newsletter educating the public on the potential safety issues of feeding wildlife/deer.

Arena Funding

Deputy Mayor Masters indicated that Council recently received a presentation from the Arenas Association regarding their need for financial assistance in 2016/17. Staff were directed to investigate possible solutions to the problems currently being faced by the arenas. Given that the budget process is coming up quickly, concern was expressed that it may not allow staff, together with the arenas, enough time necessary to come up with a comprehensive plan to remedy the situation.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That the matter of arena funding be referred to budget deliberations with a stipulation to have funding available in the budget, until such time that a comprehensive plan can be developed.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Date for Joint Council Meeting

A date for a Joint Council meeting with the Town of Truro is required. The purpose of the Joint Council meeting is to review the RECC financials and budget.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That February 24th at 7 pm be approved as the date for the Joint Council meeting, to be held in the Millbrook Room at the RECC.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence - ACTION**Debbie Tobin, Executive Director, Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia**

A letter dated November 20, 2015 requesting support for an epilepsy awareness initiative, Purple Day, on March 26th.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council support Purple Day on March 26th, an epilepsy awareness initiative.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Council agreed that the Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia be invited to make a presentation to Council at an upcoming Presentation meeting.

**Devin Trefry, Acting
Executive Director, CNTA**

A letter to the Mayor and Council dated December 21, 2015 seeking financial support from the Municipality for 2016.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the request for funding in the amount of \$31,000 be referred to budget deliberations with a recommendation to support the request.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Craig Burgess, Recreation
Manager**

A request from the Recreation Manager that the week of April 10th to April 16th be proclaimed 2016 Volunteer Week.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council proclaims the week of April 10th to April 16th as 2016 Volunteer Week.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Correspondence -
INFORMATION**

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the Building Inspector for the months of November and December 2015. Council agreed to receive the reports for information purposes.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the Development Officer for the months of November and December 2015. Council agreed to receive the reports for information purposes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

**Great Village River Project
Costs**

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, provided a brief report on the Great Village River Project. The total costs for the project were estimated at \$110,000. Council had committed \$55,000 to the project and the remaining \$55,000, 50% of the \$110,000 total, was being provided by the province through the Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program (FRIIP). The project came in over budget at \$133,700. Staff have been working with the Department of Municipal Affairs on covering 50% of the overage amount of \$23,700 through FRIIP. At this point, no

commitment has been received from Municipal Affairs to cover the additional amount. Should Municipal Affairs decide not to cover the additional portion, the total cost to the County would be \$78,700 instead of \$55,000 as originally anticipated.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That, if necessary, the Municipality cover the overage in the amount of \$23,700 for the Great Village River Improvements Project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Asset Management

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, made a presentation to Council on Asset Management. The presentation included information on what asset management is; what infrastructure the County owns and where it is located; the condition and values of the existing infrastructure; when and how much should be invested in the infrastructure; and the amounts that are currently being invested annually. Ms. Newell also stressed the importance of proper maintenance to existing infrastructure, in addition to investing in new infrastructure.

In her presentation, Ms. Newell noted that the Municipality is a member of the new Infrastructure Asset Management Group with Municipal Affairs and that future federal funding agreements will require defined asset management programs.

UNSM Rural Caucus

Mayor Taylor advised that following the end of his term as a UNSM Board Member and Chair of the Rural Caucus, he sent a letter to UNSM suggesting some changes to the Caucus structure and UNSM Board. The letter was well received and he was invited to attend a meeting to present these suggestions. A full report on the suggested changes to UNSM Caucus Structure was distributed on table for this evenings meeting.

Alton Gas

Mayor Taylor provided a brief update on Alton Gas advising that the recent announcement by Minister Samson was released earlier than planned. The announcement was regarding the approvals for permits regarding the Alton Gas underground natural gas storage facility project. He indicated that at a breakfast meeting with Chief Gloade, a number of concerns were raised regarding this project. Mayor Taylor took these concerns back to the Community Liaison Committee formed by Alton Gas and was advised that all of the concerns have either been, or will be, addressed.

Palliser Project Steering Committee

Councillor Stewart provided a brief overview of the first meeting of the Palliser Project Steering Committee indicating that he was appointed Chair of the Committee and Cheryl Fritz was appointed Vice-Chair. Next steps and time lines of the Committee were provided including issuing a press release, issuing an RFP, and appointing citizen representatives to the Committee. This is phase one of a three phase project.

Reports from Councillors Appointed to Outside Boards and Agencies

Copies of reports from the Mayor and Councillors were circulated in the package or placed on table for this evenings meeting.

Referring to TIR Quarterly meeting held on January 26, 2016, in an effort to streamline these meetings, Mayor Taylor advised that future TIR Quarterly Meetings will be reserved for major issues which would include issues that are not being resolved to Councillors satisfaction. A memorandum outlining details of the meeting held on January 26th was distributed on table for this evenings meeting.

Councillor MacInnes reported briefly on the January 6th Colchester Regional Economic Development Advisory Committee (CREDAC) meeting. CREDAC is comprised of representatives from Millbrook, Truro and Colchester. Some topics of discussion included group business representation, potential possibilities for Truro with the replacement of the Victoria General Hospital, new ideas for young people, and the will of the business community to be more involved.

RECESS

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:25 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:35 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

RECC

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

January 28, 2016

"That Council approves funding in the amount of \$120,000 to the RECC, as requested, subject to approval of same by the Town of Truro."

Motion Carried.
(Councillors Parker and Stewart opposed)

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting be adjourned at 10:40 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary