

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 26, 2017.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Christine Blair, Chair	
Councillor Eric Boutilier	District 1
Councillor 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 Doug MacInnes	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10

Regrets

Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer
 Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Mark Austin, Research, Policy & Community Engagement Officer
 Tracey Veno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Retirement Presentation

Mayor Blair and Rob Simonds, CAO, presented Donna Arnold with a retirement certificate. Having worked with the Municipality for over 25 years as the Property Tax Clerk, Ms. Arnold is scheduled to retire on February 1st.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
 Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item 8b, Joint Council Meeting Date;
- Add Item 8c, Old Salmon River School Property;
- Add Item 10b, Palliser Project Update;
- Add Item 10c, Agromart Contest.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the minutes of the meetings held on November 24, 2016 and January 12, 2017 be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meetings held on November 24, 2016 and January 12, 2017.

Standing Committee Reports and Recommendations

Council Committee Report from meeting held on December 15, 2016

Deputy Mayor Masters presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on December 15, 2016:

School Crosswalk and Crossing Guard Policies

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves that the existing Crosswalk Installation Policy and Crosswalk Supervision Policy be repealed; and

That the new Crosswalk Policy be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Council Committee Report from meeting held on January 12, 2017

Deputy Mayor Masters presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on January 12, 2017:

UNSM Regional Meeting

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves that the Municipality host a UNSM Regional Meeting in March 2017.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

RECC Dehumidification Upgrade

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that the Municipality cost share the dehumidification upgrade at the RECC on a 60/40 basis with the Town of Truro, up to an amount not to exceed \$319,200 (excl. HST), contingent on the Town of Truro agreeing to fund its proportionate share.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

2017 FCM Conference - Ottawa

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor MacInnes

“That Council approves that Councillors MacInnes, Boutilier, and Cooper attend the 2017 FCM Conference, in addition to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Taggart (as FCM Board Member) and the CAO; and,

That Councillor Stewart be selected as the alternate in the event that any of the selected members cannot attend.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

2017-18 Schedule of Meetings

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves the schedule of Council and Council Committee meeting dates, including the alternate Tuesdays and Presentations, for the 2017-18 fiscal year, with the following amendments:

- April 2017 Council Committee meeting being Wednesday, April 12th;
- May 2017 Council Committee meeting being Tuesday, May 9th;
- September 2017 Presentation meeting being Tuesday, September 12th;
- January 2018 Presentation meeting being Tuesday, January 9th; and,
- March 2018 Council meeting being Wednesday, March 28th.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Discussion was held on dates for upcoming budget meetings with Council comments being favourable on the timing of last year’s meetings. The CAO advised that staff are looking to replicate dates similar to last year and items would be forthcoming at the February Committee meeting with suggested dates for Council consideration.

Mayor Blair reminded Council of the February 25th date for the EMO Training Session.

Inclusion of Runway Court in Paving Petition for Hillridge/Hillvale/ MacCallum Drive

Councillor MacKenzie provided a brief recap of the Hillridge/ Hillvale/ MacCallum paving issue and that she is once again receiving calls on this. Looking for options that may help to bring costs of paving the Hillridge/ Hillvale/ MacCallum Drive subdivision down, Councillor MacKenzie inquired about including Runway Court in the petition

process. Since driving through Hillvale/Hillridge/MacCallum Drives is necessary to access Runway Court, these residents on this road may be inclined to assist in paying a frontage portion to help lower the costs.

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that the existing By-law would have to be changed in order to do this. The residents of Runway Court could volunteer to pay a portion but under the By-law, it could not be done through the petition process.

Discussion was held on the possible ramifications of inclusion of Runway Court in the process and it was suggested that staff investigate this.

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That staff investigate options for the paving of Runway Court/Hillvale/Hillridge/MacCallum Drives and report back to Council.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillor Cooper opposed)

Joint Council Meeting Date

Rob Simonds, CAO, indicated that a date is being sought for a Joint Council Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to receive a presentation from the Events Attraction Committee and to discuss the Flood Risk Study.

The date agreed on for the Joint Council meeting was February 15th.

Old Salmon River School Property

Councillor Gibbs advised that he has had several inquiries from constituents regarding the old Salmon River school property and suggested that an appraisal be done to see what the property is worth.

Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, advised that an appraisal was done on this property, one with the building and one without. Additionally, he noted that after demolition, there is a period for the land to properly settle and once it settles, probably sometime during the Spring months, the Engineers will inspect the property before giving final approval.

Discussion was held regarding selling the land versus the possibility of keeping it.

Correspondence - ACTION

Chief Gloade, Millbrook First Nation

A letter to Mayor Blair regarding the Town Electoral Boundary/Millbrook Reserves 27, and 27 A, B and C.

Moved by Councillor MacInnes
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That the letter from Chief Gloade concerning the Electoral Boundary/Millbrook Reserves 27 and 27 A, B, and C be referred to staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Hattie Dyck

A letter to Councillor MacKenzie requesting the County take over maintenance and upkeep of the Memorial Garden off Highway 102.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That the letter requesting the County take over maintenance and upkeep of the Memorial Garden off Highway 102 be referred to staff to investigate alternatives to maintain this property and report back to Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Council agreed that a letter be sent to Hattie Dyck advising that the County is looking into options for this request.

Anne E. Baxter, Program Manager, Housing Nova Scotia

A letter to Mayor Blair regarding housing programs and means of getting information to residents about the programs.

Discussion was held regarding ways to help get information to residents such as a tagline on tax bills, posts on the County website and articles in the County’s quarterly newsletter.

Council agreed that an invitation be extended to Ms. Baxter, Program Manager with Housing Nova Scotia, to make a presentation to Council on housing programs.

Debbi Tobin, Executive Director, Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia

An email to Mayor Blair regarding Epilepsy Awareness and Purple Day 2017.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That a letter be written in support of participating in Epilepsy Awareness Month and Purple Day 2017.”

Motion Carried Unanimously

Ms. Pam Macintosh, Planner, Municipality of Colchester

A memo to the Mayor and Council dated January 24, 2017, regarding a rezoning application from Helen and Bill Craig, Easy Living Homes, Inc.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the memo regarding a rezoning application from Helen and Bill Craig, Easy Living Homes, Inc. be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

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 2016. Council agreed to receive the reports for information purposes.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Reports received from the Development Officer for the months of November and December 2016. Council agreed to receive the reports for information purposes.

Lorraine Dawson, Returning Officer, Municipal Election

A copy of the Post Election Report submitted by Lorraine Dawson, Returning Officer for the recent Municipal Election.

Brief discussion was held on the Post Election Report as there were a number of recommendations being made for consideration. The CAO advised that not taking actions on the recommendations at this time does not preclude Council from reviewing at a later date. It was agreed that the report be brought forward for discussion prior to the next municipal election.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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.

Palliser Project Update

Councillor Stewart reported that the final report on the RFP for marketing and branding for the Palliser Project is being reviewed by staff. A complete report will be provided to Council at a future meeting.

Agromart Contest

Councillor Gibbs advised Council of the ADAMA Thank-A-Retailer Community Contest which will give four outstanding retailers a chance at a grand prize of \$15,000 each, to spend on worthy causes in their communities. Colchester's Truro Agromart Ltd. has been nominated for this prize and the project chosen by Truro Agromart is the 4-H Livestock Barn at the Truro Exhibition Grounds.

Scotiabank is being asked to match the prize amount if Truro Agromart wins the contest. Councillor Gibbs encouraged Council members, as well as staff, to show their support and vote for Truro Agromart. Voting can be done once per day until February 28th.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the meeting go into Closed Session at 8:50 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 9:15 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Minimum Bids – Tax Sale
Properties**

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the minimum bids as presented by staff, be approved as amended.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting adjourn at 9:16 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary