

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, June 29, 2017.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Christine Blair, Chair	
Councillor Eric Boutilier	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 Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Doug MacInnes	District 9
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Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer
 Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
 Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Mark Austin, Acting Economic Development Officer
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Tracey Venno, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary
 Paul Smith, Municipal Planner
 Colin Forsyth, Development Officer (Item # 3)

Public Hearing – Rezoning Application , Robert Stewart, Old Salmon River Road

Mayor Blair called the Public Hearing to order respecting an amendment to the 2002 Central Colchester Land Use By-law, to Schedule 3, Salmon River Area Zoning Map of the Land Use By-law to rezone lands of Stephen Parks on the Old Salmon River Road, from Residential (R-2) to Rural General (RG), to establish a mix of rural uses, including a boarding stable for horses and a small beef operation. The text for the proposed amendment and a related staff report has been circulated to Council members and has been made available to the public.

Mr. Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that the guidelines of the Municipal Government Act regarding advertising of the Public Hearing process have been followed.

Mayor Blair reminded Councillors that only those present throughout the Public Hearing process can vote on the amendments when it is eventually considered by Council. The Public Hearing is Council's opportunity to hear the amendments and any concerns of residents. Individual Councillors will have an opportunity to debate the merits of the amendment when the motion is presented to Council. Staff are present to

answer any technical questions that may arise as a result of the public's input.

Mr. Paul Smith, Senior Planner, provided a brief overview of the rezoning application as well as the Planners Report and Recommendation. The property is approximately 37 acres with about 1000ft of frontage along the Old Salmon River Road in Salmon River. The applicant, Mr. Robert Stewart, plans to purchase the property pending successful rezoning. Mr. Stewart's proposal consists of establishing two rural agricultural uses on the property: a 20 stall horse boarding stable; and a small beef herd. Plans include construction of two barns and another building for use as an indoor riding arena and hay storage. Additional plans include an outdoor riding ring near the barn. It is also the intent to eventually build a home on the property. These uses are currently not permitted as it is zoned R-2 Residential and as such, a rezoning to Rural General is necessary. The proposal satisfies all site development criteria in the Municipal Planning Strategy and staff feel that the application adequately addresses current policy considerations and recommends approval of this request to rezone from R-2 Residential to RG Rural General.

Mr. Robert Stewart was in attendance to speak on the application indicating that he was willing to answer any questions. He also indicated a willingness to working with the neighbours to address any concerns including tree lines and snow removal.

Councillor Taggart, Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) indicated there was a report from the PAC meeting held on June 8, 2017.

Mr. Simonds advised that one written submission was received from Mr. David Crowell, owner of a neighbouring property, which was read into the record. Mr. Crowell's submission was in support of the rezoning application.

There were no members from the public in attendance to address Council concerning this proposal.

With no further discussion on the matter from the applicants or questions from members of Council, as Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee, Councillor Taggart placed the following motion on the floor:

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

"That Council approve, by way of Second Reading, the rezoning request from Residential R-2 to Rural General, by Robert Stewart, for lands on the Old Salon River Road in Salmon River, which would allow the establishment of a horse boarding stable and a small beef operation."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Blair advised that Council's decision on this application is appealable to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. Any appeal of

Council's decision must be made within 14 days of the advertising of same in the local newspaper.

With no further discussion on the rezoning application, Mayor Blair declared the Public Hearing closed.

**Variance Hearing – Lands of
Bank of Montreal , 976
College Road, Valley**

Mayor Blair called the Variance Hearing to order respecting a variance granted by the Municipal Development Officer. The variance application was made by Annex Investments Limited/Bridgeway Academy for a property located on College Road, Valley. A resident has appealed the decision of the Development Officer, so Council becomes the decision making body and will decide to either uphold or overturn the decision.

Councillors were reminded that this Variance Hearing is Council's opportunity to hear the variance decision and concerns of residents so notified.

Mr. Colin Forsyth advised that the variance granted is to permit a private school to use the existing building and lot on the property located at 976 College Road. Under the Central Colchester Land Use By-law, the lot must have a 6m (19.7 ft) setback from adjacent residential properties. The previous daycare use did not have this requirement.

The foundation of the existing building is 14.7ft from the left side property, however there is a portion of the roof that extends out from the foundation. The request for a reduction of the minimum side yard setback is from 6m (19.7ft) to 2m (6.6ft).

The applicant is proposing use of the existing structure as is. Bridgeway Academy will have approximately 20 students, with the potential to grow. As the requested use is similar to the previous use, Mr. Forsyth indicated that he felt this was a good use for the property.

All properties owners within a 30 metres of the variance were notified of the variance granted, and one appeal received in response to the notice.

Speaking on behalf of the applicant, Ms. Angela Rudderham indicated that Bridgeway Academy has been around for 30 years and teaches individuals with mild learning disabilities. They have five staff members with a five to one class ratio. The children, mostly in the junior high age range, do not get bused in to the school and the playtime would be less noisy than when it was a daycare with younger children. Additionally, Bridgeway Academy has always maintained excellent relations with neighbours.

Responding to a call for residents who may wish to comment on the variance, Councillor Parker advised that he received correspondence from Ann Rutledge, a neighbour most impacted by this variance, who indicated her support for this variance.

Councillor Gibbs questioned if parking would be an issue. Mr. Forsyth advised that there is ample parking for the intended use.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the decision of the Development Officer be upheld and the variance be granted.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

As there was no further business regarding this variance, Mayor Blair declared the hearing closed.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item #24b, 4-H;
- Add Item #24c, 211 Letter; and,
- Add one additional negotiations item in Closed Session”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the minutes of the meeting held on May 25, 2017, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on May 25, 2017.

Presentations

Audited Financial Statements – Ms. Kim Livingstone, Grant Thornton

Ms. Livingston presented the 2016/17 Consolidated Financial Statements and a brief report on the audit of the Municipality. A detailed briefing was provided to the Executive and Audit Committee at a meeting on June 26th. In the opinion of the auditor, with the exception of the donations from the public for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre, which could not be satisfactorily verified during the audit, the consolidated financial statements, present fairly in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Municipality of Colchester.

Copies of the statements were circulated to Council prior to this evenings meeting. Council members were encouraged to review the statements and direct any questions to Kim Livingstone or Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council receives and adopts the consolidated financial statements as presented by Grant Thornton.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to execute the necessary documentation associated with the 2016/17 financial report.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Standing Committee Reports
and Recommendations**

Council Committee Report from Meeting Held on June 15, 2017

Deputy Mayor Masters, Chair, presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on June 15, 2017:

Property Tax Exemption Request - Forest Glen Bible Camp

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves that Forest Glen Bible Camp Society, property # 09866019, be added to the Tax Exemption By-law Property List for fiscal year 2017/18 and beyond.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Maintenance Service for Fire Repeater Sites

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that Nova Communications be awarded the Maintenance Service for the Fire Repeater Sites at a cost of \$20,723., including taxes, for fiscal 2017/18 and 2018/19.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

United Way of Colchester Vital Signs Project – Request for Funding

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves funding in the amount of \$2,500 for the United Way of Colchester County’s Vital Signs Project, with source of funds being Planning Studies Budget; and,

That the Municipality participate in the Steering Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Colchester Internet Improvement Feasibility Study and Plan

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves that staff undertake the work necessary to produce a *Colchester Internet Improvement Feasibility Study and Plan*; and,

That staff source external funds or allocate funds from the existing Economic Development and Community Development operating budgets to a maximum of \$9,000 to cover the expenses and consultant fees associated with the *Colchester Internet Improvement Feasibility Study and Plan* project; and,

That staff report back to Council to present the draft completed *Colchester Internet Improvement Feasibility Study and Plan* by or before November 2017.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Saltmarsh Restoration, Onslow North River Marsh Body NS 067

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that support be provided to the Department of Agriculture for the Marsh Restoration Project and authorize staff to represent the Municipality at the Onslow North River Marsh Body NS 067 meeting to cast a vote in favour of the project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Rural Vitality Projects

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves that staff embark on the Rural Vitality projects: *PlaceSpeak Colchester* and *Connect Colchester*; and,

That staff allocate funds in the amount \$14,000, sourced from the departmental budgets of Economic Development, Community Development, and Administration as contained in the 2017/18 Municipality of Colchester Operating Budget; and,

That staff accept the grants offered by the Community Foundation of Canada to undertake these projects; and,

That staff inform Council on the activities of the two projects periodically and at their completion.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Rotary Request

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves placing a 1/3 page ad, using the existing Council group photo, at a cost of \$690, tax inclusive, in the Rotary Club’s annual yearbook 2018.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Truro/Colchester Regional Enterprise Network (REN) Agreements

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves that the Inter-Municipal Agreement, Participation Agreement, and Contribution Agreement be approved, as amended; and,

That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the said agreements on behalf of County Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

RECC Request – Capital Reserve

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council approves allocating the operational surplus of \$132,778, to the RECC Capital Reserve Fund, pending approval of same from the Town of Truro.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Executive and Audit Committee Minutes of Meeting held on May 25, 2017

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That the minutes of the Executive and Audit Committee meeting held on May 25, 2017 be accepted.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Truro Heights Central Water Project

Council previously directed staff to do a follow up survey with property owners in Truro Heights regarding the level of interest in a central water system for Truro Heights based on costing information as provided by the County’s Public Works Department. The survey also provided cost

recovery options. There was a 44 percent response rate with 70 percent not interested in central water; 12 percent interested if 75 percent funding was available; 10 percent interested with 50 percent funding available; and, only 7 percent were prepared to pay the full cost.

Many owners experience water quality issues and a smaller portion report quantity issues. The results showing only 7 percent willing to pay full costs may be indicative of the severity of the water problem.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council not proceed with a central water project for Truro Heights.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Fundy Gateway Project – Proposed Capital Budget

Mr. Paul Smith briefly introduced this item indicating that staff is seeking approval on a capital budget for the Fundy Gateway Project for a number of improvements to the property. These improvements, which include washrooms, trail extensions, playground and improved access for viewing the bore, could be implemented within the first few years.

Anticipating that Council may wish to proceed with some small improvements to the property, staff applied to the Province for funding under the Recreation Facility Grant Program. Based on components identified in Phase 1A, the Province will contribute up to one third of the costs, to a maximum of \$75,000, in addition to previously approved allocations by the Municipal Recreation Department for trails and playground. A summary of costs and funding for Phase 1A was provided.

The estimated amount needed to finance the proposed site improvements is \$290,000. At this point, the Town of Truro has declined participation in this initial phase.

Staff recommend that Council allocate \$290,000 in the current fiscal year, in addition to existing funding sources for the completion of Phase 1A of the Fundy Gateway Project.

Moved by Councillor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council approves a capital budget in the amount of \$290,000 for Phase 1A of the Fundy Gateway Project, recognizing that future capital allocations will be subject to future approvals and financial partnerships with other stakeholders.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Village Line Avenue Sidewalk – Survey

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works advised that the Village of Bible Hill is willing to cost share 50/50 on the construction of a sidewalk on Village Line Avenue from Pictou Road to College Road. This sidewalk is in the Municipality’s Active Transportation Strategy as a short term priority and will be included as part of the upcoming capital budget

discussions. A topographical survey of the sidewalk is required and the estimated cost is \$12,000. Cost shared with the Village of Bible Hill, the cost to the Municipality is \$6,000.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council authorize staff commit \$6,000 to a topographical survey along Village Line Avenue from Pictou Road to College Road in preparation for future sidewalk construction, with source of funds being the Active Transportation Area Rate.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Proposed Quarry Expansion Little Dyke

Further to discussions at the June Council Committee meeting, Mayor Blair advised that a submission from residents concerning the gravel pit in Little Dyke was received and copied in Councillor mailboxes. Additionally, Mr. Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that a briefing note from the Municipal Solicitor was distributed on table for this evenings meeting. The briefing note suggests that a letter to the Minister of Environment should identify key concerns about the impact of the development on the quality of life of the residents including things such as noise issues and hours of operation.

Discussion was held in support of the resident’s environmental concerns including ground water and other quality of life issues.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves writing a letter to the Minister of Environment with respect to the quarry expansion in Little Dyke requesting that they be cognizant of hours of operation, noise, dust, and other quality of life issues as it affects neighbouring residents.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Hub Centre Drive Paving – Funding Options

At the June Council Committee meeting, Council directed staff to look at possible funding options for the paving of Hub Centre Drive and report back to Council. These funding options were included in the Action Item as presented. Staff noted that property owners were provided with information based on original estimates of \$230,000 for the paving of Hub Centre Drive. However, a new estimate for the 2017 construction season reduced the cost to \$120,000, thus significantly reducing the costs to the property owners.

Based on the new lower cost estimate for paving, concern was expressed that the thickness of the asphalt would not be sufficient for Hub Centre Drive. Also, discussion was held on reissuing letters to the property owners with the updated costing information to determine level of interest based on the new information.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That letters with updated costing information be reissued to the property owners of Hub Centre Drive, requesting a response by August 15, 2017. on their willingness to cost share on the paving of the road.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillors Gibbs, Cooper, Stewart, Taggart and Parker opposed.)

**J Class Roads – 2017-18
Paving Program Submission**

Ms. Newell advised that this item relates to the submissions for road paving under the Provincial Cost shared Paving Program for J-Class roads.

The Municipality put forth nine roads for paving under this program by the October 31, 2016 deadline: Susan Court, Foxhill Drive, Sillery Drive, Vernon Street, McCabe Street, Burris Drive, MacCallum Drive, Hillridge Drive, and Hillvale Drive. In April 2017, the Province advised that Susan Court, Foxhill Drive, Sillery Drive, Vernon Street, McCabe Street, Burris Drive were approved for paving in fiscal 2017/18.

Based on past practice, Municipal staff proceeded with petitions for the six approved roads, with successful petitions requiring 2/3 of the property owners to be in favour. The result of the petitions were 25% in favour of Susan Court; 0% in favour of Foxhill Drive; and 0% in favour for Vernon Street, Burris Drive, Sillery Drive and McCabe Drive. Therefore, staff recommends that the Province be notified that the Municipality will not be proceeding with the paving of any J-Class Roads under the Cost Shared Paving Program for fiscal 2017/18.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council directs staff to advise the Province that the County will not be proceeding with the paving of Susan Court, Foxhill Drive, Sillery Drive, Vernon Street, McCabe Street, and Burris Drive under the Cost Shared Paving Program for fiscal 2017/18.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Upcoming Tenders –
Authority to Award**

Ms. Newell advised that three projects will be out to tender in July and staff is seeking authority from Council for the CAO to award the tenders, providing the tender amount falls within the approved capital budget for the project. Additionally, staff is requesting that if the tendered amount exceeds the approved capital budget, that authority be granted to Council Committee at their meeting on August 17, 2017 to award the tender. It was noted that any tenders awarded by the CAO, would be presented to Council as Information Items at the regular Council Session in August for information purposes.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council authorizes the CAO to award the tenders for the Debert Roundabout, Carter Road Sidewalk and Debert Water Tower, provided that the tender amounts are within the approved capital budget; and,

That Council authorizes August Council Committee to award the tenders for the Debert Roundabout, Carter Road Sidewalk and Debert Water Tower if the tender amounts exceed the approved capital budget.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Cliffs of Fundy Geoparks

Council recently received a presentation from a member of the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Steering Committee, Dr. John Calder, on the opportunity of a Global Geopark for Colchester County. During the presentation, a request was made to have representatives from the Municipality on the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Steering Committee.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council approves two Council members, Mayor Blair and Councillor Taggart, and one staff member be appointed to participate in the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Steering Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Small Flood Project – Teakwood Court/New Development College Road

Councillor Parker advised that Teakwood Court drainage issues have been previously before Council. The property owner has indicated a willingness to pay for opening the blockage however there is concern with the blockage at the bottom to the drainage course.

Ms. Newell advised the Teakwood drainage course is not freely flowing and discussions have been ongoing with the Village of Bible Hill concerning this drainage issue. Maintenance work to the ditches and culverts is also an issue. Councillor Parker indicated that NS Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal is willing to do the necessary maintenance.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of this falling under the mandate of the Flood Advisory Committee (FAC). Council agreed that the matter be referred to FAC to investigate and report back to Council.

Offsite Council Meetings

Councillor Boutilier inquired as to whether offsite Council meetings, such as at the Colchester Historical Museum, or other possible locations in the various districts, were ever considered.

Mayor Blair advised that offsite meetings have been done on occasion, however, there are many challenges with doing this including, seating/chairs, location size and equipment.

Canada 150 Items for Courthouse

Councillor Boutilier suggested that Council consider getting some Canada 150 items for display at the Courthouse, such as the bench that was at the UNSM Conference. The CAO advised that staff have sourced the

bench and the supplier is from Bass River, with the cost being \$1,400 plus taxes.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves expending \$1,400 plus taxes, to acquire a Canada 150 bench, to be placed in front of the Courthouse.

Motion Carried.
(Councillors Cooper and Gregory opposed)

Correspondence - ACTION

Pam Macintosh, Planner

A memo to the Mayor and Council concerning a Development Agreement Application by Cullip Holding Ltd.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the Development Agreement Application by Cullip Holdings Ltd. be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Margaret Traverse, Guest Drive

A letter dated June 1, 2017 regarding drainage issues from clearcutting.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That a letter be written to Ms. Traverse advising that staff is looking at the drainage issues in the area.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Karen Casey, MLA, Colchester North

A letter dated May 29, 2017 to the Mayor and Council concerning the Cost Shared Agreement with the Province and McCallum, Hillridge and Hillvale Drives.

Council expressed concern regarding the misinformation in the letter from MLA Karen Casey and that a response be sent as a point of clarification.

Moved by Councillor Mackenzie
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That a response letter be sent to MLA Karen Casey to clarify the misinformation as detailed in her letter of May 29th.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Thomas Dunn

A letter to the Mayor and Council dated May 31, 2017 expressing interest in recreation lands behind 97 Peppard Drive.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the letter from Mr. Thomas Dunn expressing interest in recreation lands behind 97 Peppard Drive be referred to staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Rick Elliot, Shriners

An email requesting Council consideration for placing an ad in the Shriner’s Christmas magazine.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the letter from Mr. Rick Elliot requesting Council consideration for placing an ad in the Shriner’s Christmas magazine be received for information.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Pam Macintosh, Planner

A memo to the Mayor and Council concerning a rezoning application by MacLeod Group Health Services Limited for a property at 2037 and 2043 Irwin Lake Road, Hilden.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the rezoning application made by MacLeod Group Health Services Limited for a property at 2037 and 2043 Irwin Lake Road, Hilden, be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Albert McNutt

An email dated June 28, 2017 requesting consideration for flying the Rainbow Flag for the week of July 24-29, 2017.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the request for flying the Rainbow Flag for the week of July 24-29 be denied and that a response be sent to Mr. Albert McNutt quoting the Municipality’s Flag Policy.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Correspondence -
INFORMATION**

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the Building Inspector for the month May 2017. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

Development Officer A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the Development Officer for the month May 2017. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

David Hill, Bayhead Property Owners Association A letter to the Mayor received June 22, 2017 concerning their recent tax proposal and Council's subsequent decision.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

"That a response be sent to Mr. Hill advising that Council upholds their original decision concerning the Bayhead Property Owners Association tax proposal."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Fairway Avenue Street Light Petition It was noted that a revised Action Item was placed on table for this evening's meeting.

Council had previously directed staff to initiate a petition process for the installation of street lights on Fairway Avenue in Stewiacke. In accordance with the Local Improvement By-law, staff initiated the petition process with a public meeting on May 17th. A total of eight out of 31 property owners attended. Petitions were given out at the meeting and a copy was mailed the following day to those property owners not in attendance. A total of 21 petitions were returned with three against the improvement and 18 in favour.

In order for the petition to be successful, more than 50% of the properties must be in favour and over 50% of the overall taxable assessment base must also be in favour. In this case, 58% of the owners were in favour, however, only 38% of the total taxable assessment were in favour, resulting in an unsuccessful petition.

Community Trail Funding Program – Summer 2017 Applications Under the Community Trail Funding Program, two applications were received for the Summer 2017 deadline. Total amount requested was \$10,677.

The Cobequid Eco Trails Society requested \$8,147 to replace a 140 foot boardwalk on Sandy Cope Trail in Gully Lake Wilderness Area; and to install a 100 foot boardwalk and replace the directional and historical signs on Rogart Mountain Trail. The Cumberland Snowmobile Club requested \$2,530 for brush cutting and clearing of sightlines on 7 km of designated snowmobile trail #1 within Economy River Wilderness Area and trail #7, both of which are in Colchester County.

Staff has approved both of the amounts requested, totalling \$10,677.

Canada 150 Celebrations Council had approved funding in this year's operating budget for the Truro-Colchester Event Attraction Committee (TCEAC). A portion of this funding was designated for Regional Canada 150 Celebrations. County

staff participate on the TCEAC and also provide in-kind support to event organizers.

This item provides information about Canada 150 events supported by Council through the TCEAC, including:

- July 1st activities and Ria Mae concert in Truro's Civic Square;
- Familiar annual festivals embracing a Canada 150 theme (Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition, Wild Blueberry Festival, the Blues Festival)
- The Colchester Highland Games & Gathering;
- A Canadian Country Music Concert in October; and,
- The World Junior A Hockey Challenge in December.

Endurance Wind

Mr. Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste provided a brief summary of this item indicating that Endurance Wind filed for bankruptcy in December 2016. This has a financial impact on the Municipality since there was a prepayment for a five year annual maintenance program. Staff have identified a Halifax area company, Molen, who have experience in the maintenance of both large and small wind turbines, to carry out the appropriate annual maintenance at a cost of \$5,000 per turbine.

4-H

Councillor Cavanaugh provided a brief update on 4-H and the progress with the barn. Lisa Patton hopes to make a presentation to Council in the near future on the progress to date.

Deputy Mayor Masters suggested that this group would be well served with Councillor Cavanaugh continuing in his role with the group.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

"That Councillor Cavanaugh continue serving in his role with the Colchester 4-H group."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

211 Letter

Council Cavanaugh reported on a letter from NS 211 relating to a person in the Kemptown area in dire need of assistance. The person is an elderly gentleman with health issues, and poor housing location and conditions.

Discussion was held on possible avenues for assistance including NS Health, NS Housing and Adult Protection Services.

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 evening's meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting go into closed session at 11:37 pm."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 12:22 am.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting adjourn at 12:23 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary