

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 25, 2018.

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 (arrived 7:35 pm)
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Bob Pash	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, Acting Economic Development Officer
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
 Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the agenda for January 25, 2018 be approved with the following amendments:

- Add Item #10b, Tender Award – Headworks Upgrade;
- Add Item #12b, Fundy Discovery Site Washroom Facility;
- Two additional pieces of Correspondence - Action.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the minutes of the meetings held on November 30, December 14, 2017, and January 9, 2018, 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 30 and December 14, 2017, and January 9, 2018.

**Standing Committee Reports
and Recommendations**

**Council Committee Report from Meetings Held on December 14,
2017 and January 11, 2018**

Deputy Mayor Masters, Chair, presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on December 14, 2017:

**Dissolution of Business and Economic Development Advisory Committee
(BEDAC)**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves that the Business and Economic Development Advisory Committee be dissolved.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

C&D/Glass Waste Disposal Agreement

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves that the Director of Solid Waste identify a suitable portion of land at the Kemptown Solid Waste Facility for the storage of glass food containers and begin the storage of this material in that designated area until a suitable market is developed.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Street Light

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves an additional street light be placed on an existing pole on Homestead Drive adjacent to Cambridge Drive.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Masters, Chair, presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on January 11, 2018:

Subscription to Everbridge Mass Notification Software

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves the immediate subscription of the Everbridge Mass Notification Software.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Purchase of Replacement Fire Repeaters

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that Nova Communications be awarded the purchase and installation of two new fire repeaters at a cost of \$17,359.03, including rebated tax.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Cell Phone and Data Use Policy Amendment

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves the amended Council Cellphone and Internet Reimbursement Policy, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Revised Municipal Active Transportation Strategy

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council adopts the Revised Active Transportation Strategy, with the following amendment:

- Removal of the Great Village sidewalk along Highway #2.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

CIBC Credit Renewals

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the Borrowing Resolutions relative to Credit Renewal and the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Line of Credit, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Amended and Restated Operating Agreement, RECC

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves the Amended and Restated Operating Agreement for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC), as presented; and

That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Executive and Audit Committee Meetings Held on November 3, 2017 and January 11, 2018

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the minutes from the Executive and Audit Committee meetings held on November 3, 2017, and January 11, 2018 be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

2018-19 Schedule of Meetings

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves the Schedule of Presentations, Council Committee and Council meetings for fiscal year 2018-19 as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Date for Capital Budget Meeting

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That Council approves 6:00 pm on February 26, 2018, as the date and time for the Capital Budget meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tender Award – MRF ¾ Ton Truck Replacement

Mr. Wayne Wamboldt provided an overview of this item indicating that the existing ¾ ton truck at the MRF was due to be replaced next fiscal year, however, it has become un-roadworthy and too costly to repair. Staff proceeded with a tender in December of 2017, posted on the Provincial and Municipal websites. Two compliant bids were received with the lowest bid being from Pye Chevrolet, at a price of \$31,308.00 plus HST. This price reflects acceptance of two units as trade-ins, a 2004 and a 2006 Chevrolet ¾ ton trucks.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council authorizes staff to award the tender for the purchase of a ¾ ton truck for the Colchester Materials Recovery Facility to Pye Chevrolet in the amount of \$31,308.00 excluding HST, with source of funds being the MRF Equipment Reserve.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Potential Mineral Exploration, French River Watershed – Best Management Practices

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, advised that on a recommendation from the Tatamagouche Source Water Protection Advisory Committee, Council previously approved staff begin work on the development of Best Management Practices for Exploration

and Mining activities within the French River Watershed. Since that time, staff have determined that the work required to develop these Best Management Practices exceed both the expertise and staff time available to prepare the draft Best Management Practices.

Concern was expressed with mining causing water contaminations and even though staff may not be involved in the development of the Best Management Practices, it is important that the Municipality still be kept informed on this matter. Mr. Macpherson indicated that the Department of Natural Resources is requesting another meeting so there is opportunity for the Municipality to bring forward any concerns. There are provincial regulations under the Environment Act which would control exploration activities. Additionally, staff and the Municipal Solicitor are looking into the possibility of municipalities having authority to regulate mining activities under water supply designation.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council recommends that staff be instructed to discontinue the research and development of Best Management Practices for mineral exploration in the French River drinking water supply.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point in the meeting, 7:35 pm, Councillor MacKenzie arrived.

Single Use Plastics

Councillor Taggart, Chair of the Northern Region Committee, advised that there has been discussion between the Regional Chairs Committee and the Minister of Environment on a province wide ban on single use plastic bags. Before moving forward on this, the Minister of Environment would like to see a consensus. Members of the Regional Chairs Committee were asked to go back to their respective Councils regarding support on the ban of single use plastics. The Retail Council of Canada will support this if it is province wide.

Discussion was held regarding volumes and how to manage single use plastics, affects a ban would have on the industry as well as on customers, and what are other possible alternatives/options. Council felt that before a decision either in support or to not support a province wide ban, more information would be required.

The CAO advised that a Working Committee has recently been formed to deal with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). The first meeting of this Committee was held and the topic of film plastics and single use plastics was discussed. Mayor Blair advised that this Committee will be investigating issues relating to plastics.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the Northern Region Committee be informed, through Councillor Taggart as Chair of the Committee, that the Municipality is waiting on a report from our Working Committee before making a decision on the banning of plastic bags.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tender Award – Headworks Upgrade – Variable Frequency Drives, Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Facility

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that \$225,000 was included in the approved Capital budget for upgrades to the Headworks Pumping Station for replacement of Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs). Staff issued a request for quotations for the installation of four new VFDs, with advertisements on the Provincial Procurement and County websites. Four bids were received with the lowest bid of \$62,600 excluding taxes, by Jeff Deuille Electric. This bid was deemed to be complete.

Additional expenses relating to the Headworks Pumping Station upgrade totalling \$74,500 include electrical engineer support; programming services; and new rotating assemblies on two pumps for a total project cost of \$137,100 excluding taxes. The Town of Truro will fund 50% of these costs.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council approves the award of the tender for the replacement of four (4) Variable Frequency Drives at the Headworks Pumping Station of the Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Facility, to Jeff Deuille Electric for a contract amount of \$62,600 excluding taxes.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence - ACTION

Rachel Pring, Crowland Drive, East Mountain

Letter to the Mayor requesting funding assistance for costs associated with attending the Forum for Young Canadians.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That the letter from Rachel Pring requesting funding assistance for costs associated with attending the Forum for Young Canadians be received for information purposes.”

Motion **DEFEATED.**

(Mayor Blair, Deputy Mayor Masters, Councillors Boutilier, Gibbs, MacKenzie, Gregory, Pash, Taggart, and Parker opposed)

Discussion was held on past policy where Council has supported groups, however, concern was expressed about setting a precedent if Council starts to support requests such as this, from individuals. Further discussion was held in support of youth participating in civic/governmental training and development with a suggestion of setting aside a small amount in the budget annually.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council consider establishing an amount of \$500 in the budget annually for young persons participating in civics/governmental training and development; and,

Any monies approved this year be an unbudgeted expense.”

Motion Carried.

(Councillors Cooper, Stewart and Pash opposed)

Moved by Councillor Gregory

Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That support in the amount of \$200 be approved for Rachel Pring for attending the Forum for Young Canadians.”

Motion Carried.

(Councillors Cooper, Stewart and Pash opposed)

Pam Macintosh, Planner

A memo to the Mayor and Council regarding a rezoning application for a property located at 115 Main Street, Tatamagouche.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters

Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the memo from Pam Macintosh concerning a rezoning application for a property located at 115 Main Street, Tatamagouche, be referred to the Tatamagouche Planning Advisory Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Karen Ewing

A letter to Mayor Blair concerning reinstatement of a Noise By-law.

Council agreed to accept this letter for information purposes and that a response be sent advising that staff is currently researching the pros and cons on the possibility of reinstating a Noise By-law for Council consideration.

**Lisa Patton, President,
Colchester County 4-H
Council**

A letter to Mayor Blair requesting the 4-H Council be considered to receive annual operational funding.

Concern of supporting funding requests for operational purposes was discussed. Mr. Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that requests of this nature are usually referred to Council’s annual budget deliberations and suggested that the group be encouraged to apply through the Grants to Non-Profit application process.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters

Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the Colchester County 4-H Council be advised to make an application under the Grants to Non-Profits process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Susan McCallum, Operations
Manager, Colchester
Community Workshop**

A letter from Susan McCallum, Operations Manager, Colchester Community Workshop, requesting Council consideration in waiving tipping fees for the Colchester Community Workshop.

Councillor Gibbs declared a conflict of interest on this matter and removed himself from the table.

Discussion was held on the volume of unacceptable items being dropped off for the Thrift Store with concern being expressed about the possibility of this becoming out of control. Mr. Wamboldt indicated staff are working with the Workshop on this and will continue to do so.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council approves that the tipping fee relative to goods not acceptable for the Colchester Community Workshop Thrift Shop be waived, effective January 26, 2018.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Councillor Gibbs returned to the table.

In her letter, Ms. McCallum extended an invitation to Council members to tour the Colchester Community Workshop. Council expressed interest in the possibility of a tour after the annual budget deliberation process.

**Kris Pruski, Vice President,
Raging Crow Distillery Inc.**

A letter to the Mayor requesting the County hold a plebiscite to change the community of North River from a ‘dry’ to a ‘wet’ community.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council request that a plebiscite be held related to changing the community of North River from a ‘dry’ to a ‘wet’ community.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Sylvester Atkinson, Mayor,
Town of Middleton**

A copy of a letter to Councillor Stewart concerning the proposed name change for the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities.

Brief discussion was held on the possible name change which would remove the word ‘Union’ from the name.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council agrees to leave the changing of the UNSM name to the discretion of the UNSM Board.”

Motion Carried.
(Councillor MacKenzie opposed)

**Tiffany Russell, Epilepsy
Association**

An email to the Mayor inviting municipalities to participate in the 10th Anniversary of Purple Day on March 26, 2018.

Council agreed to participate in the 10th Anniversary of Purple Day by wearing ribbons at the March Council meeting.

**Correspondence -
INFORMATION**

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the Building Inspector for the months of November and December 2017. 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 2017. Council agreed to receive the reports for information purposes.

Strategic Priorities

A copy of the Strategic Priorities Report from January to December 2017. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

UNSM

A copy of the UNSM Board Report from December 1, 2017. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

Scott Whitelaw and Quita Gray

Letter to the Mayor and Councillors concerning a Noise By-law as well as a copy of Mayor Blair's response. Council agreed to receive the letter for information purposes.

Mayor Karen Mattatall, Town of Shelburne

Letter to Council concerning Rural Nova Scotia Health Care Crisis. Council agreed to receive the letter for information purposes.

Richard J Huggard, Farm Equipment Museum

Letter of thanks to Mayor and Council and extending an invitation to visit the Farm Equipment Museum. Council agreed to receive the letter for information purposes and were receptive to a tour of the Farm Equipment Museum sometime in the future.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Solid Waste Tax Recovery

This item relates to a previous decision of Council to secure True North to do a review of HST claims for the Solid Waste Facilities. The review resulted in a rebate for the Municipality in the amount of \$244,188.85 for the period of 2013-2017. The fee for this review was \$73,838. Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, advised that on a go forward basis, this can be handled internally by staff.

Fundy Discovery Site Washroom Facility Update

Council previously approved that staff be authorized to self-contract the public washroom facility at the Fundy Discovery Site. A brief update was provided on the process staff are undertaking for the project.

A question was raised on the design for the public washroom facility. It was confirmed that some components of the project have changed but not the design of the building. Brief discussion was held on security of the building as well as the grounds of the Fundy Discovery Site.

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.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:53 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That the meeting adjourn at 11:06 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary