

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, February 22, 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
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Bob Pash	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
--------------------------	------------

Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer
 Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Mark Austin, Acting Economic Development Officer
 Tracey Venno, Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gregory
 Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the agenda for February 22, 2018 be approved with the following additions:

- Item #6b, Resolution for Plebiscite;
- Item #6c, First Reading, Amendment to the Tatamagouche Land Use By-law;
- Item #6d, Special Olympics Cobequid Funding Request;
- Item #6e, Remembering Canadian Heroes;
- Item #6f, Saint John Cannabis Conference;
- Item #11b, Legal Matter in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
 Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That the minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2018 be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2018.

**Standing Committee Reports
and Recommendations**

Council Committee Report from Meeting Held on February 8, 2018

Deputy Mayor Masters, Chair, presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on February 8, 2018:

Funding Application – FCM Asset Management Program

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves the following resolution:

Council Resolution - Application to FCM MAMP

Be it resolved that Council directs staff to apply for a grant opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ Municipal Asset Management Program for Asset Management Training and Data Collection.

Be it therefore resolved that the Municipality commits to conducting the following activities in its proposed project submitted to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ Municipal Asset Management Program to advance our asset management program:

- Training and Organizational Development
- Data Collection and Reporting

Be it further resolved that the Municipality commits \$11,020 from its budget toward the costs of this initiative.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Truro Horsemen’s Club – Request for Reduced Commercial Tax Rate

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the request from the Truro Horsemen’s Club for a reduced commercial tax rate be denied.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Maritime Firefighter Association Curling Bonspiel – Request for Funding

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves funding in the amount of \$500 to the Bible Hill Fire Brigade for the Maritime Firefighter Association Curling Bonspiel being held March 22-25, 2018, and

That source of funds be Community Events Grants.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Personnel Policy Amendments

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves that existing Personnel Policies 6.05, 6.06, and 6.21 be repealed; and,

That amended Policies 6.05, 6.06, and 6.21, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sustainable Northern Nova Scotia Request – Mining in the Tatamagouche Watershed

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Stewart

“That Council not support the request from Sustainable Northern Nova Scotia (SuNNS) to write a letter to the Nova Scotia Minister of Natural Resources requesting a delay in the issuing of a Cobequid Highlands Project Mining and Exploration Request for Proposals.”

Motion **DEFEATED**.
(all opposed)

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council approves that a letter be written to the Minister of Natural Resources requesting a delay in the Request for Proposals for gold exploration rights to the Warwick Mountain area of Colchester and Cumberland Counties until such time that a policy is in place on Best Management Practices; and,

That this letter be copied to the MLA Karen Casey and the Minister of Environment.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC)

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council authorizes the modifications to the Colchester East Hants Health Authority offices at the RECC, at no cost to the Municipality.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council approves that the cost of a new wet/dry sauna unit be investigated and it be recommended to the Board to proceed with a new unit and necessary ceiling repairs up to a maximum of \$15,000; and,

That the Town of Truro be approached to contribute to these costs; and,
Should the Town of Truro not agree to contribute, that this be funded by the Municipality.”

Motion Carried.
(Mayor Blair, Councillors Boutilier and Gibbs opposed)

ACTION ITEMS

2018-19 Operating Budget Meeting Dates

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That Council approves 7:00 pm on April 9, 2018 for the Maintenance Budget meeting and 5:30 pm on April 16, 2018 for the Additions/Deletions meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Resolution for Plebiscite

At the January Council meeting, Council passed a motion to request a plebiscite be held related to changing the community of North River from a ‘dry’ to a ‘wet’ community. Since that time, it was brought to staff’s attention that a more formal resolution is required.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Colchester requests the Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation to conduct a Plebiscite on the question of the Raging Crow Distillery Inc., to be located in North River in District 8 of the Municipality, for the sale of liquor in the area as provided for in Section 43 of the Liquor Control Act in order that all residents of the area who are eligible to vote are given an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

First Reading – Amendment to the Tatamagouche Land Use By-law

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That Council approves at First Reading, the amended Tatamagouche Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law, as presented, for purposes of forwarding this document to a Public Hearing reserving consideration of the amendment until Second Reading following the Public Hearing.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Special Olympic Cobequid Funding Request

Council received a presentation on February 21st from Special Olympic Cobequid regarding a Community Event Grant request. At that time, it was determined that the event is taking place in the current fiscal year and thus, was referred to Council Committee for consideration. Staff

February 22, 2018

confirmed there are sufficient funds remaining in the Community Events Grants Budget to fund this request.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the Municipality provide a grant to Special Olympic Cobequid.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the Special Olympic Cobequid receive a grant in the amount of \$5,000.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Remembering Canadian Heroes

Referring to a copy of a letter received during the Grant Presentation, written by the Municipality of Pictou to the former Minister of Education, Councillor Cooper indicated that it is important to have local history in school curriculum.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That a letter be written to the Minister of Education stressing the importance of having local history in the school curriculum.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Saint John Cannabis Conference

Councillor Parker advised Council of Cannabis Conferences coming up in the near future in Saint John, New Brunswick and Victoria, British Columbia. It would be beneficial to attend one or both of these conferences to explore potential economic development opportunities for Colchester, specifically in Debert. Councillor Parker expressed interest in attending and, suggested sending Mark Austin, Acting Economic Development Officer and Brennan Gillis, CEO for Truro and Colchester Partnership for Economic Development. The purpose of attending would be to set up a booth and explore opportunities for Colchester.

Brief discussion was held on staff looking into this further with the intent to bring back information for March Committee.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the matter relating to upcoming Cannabis Conferences be referred to staff for investigation; and,

That Council grants authority for March Council Committee to approve delegates attending such conferences.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence - ACTION

**Dr. David Gray, Dean of
Faculty, Dalhousie
Agricultural Campus**

A letter to the Mayor requesting Council consideration for a contribution towards the costs of the Bicentennial Botanical Garden Launch.

Moved by Councillor Parker
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the letter requesting a contribution towards the costs of the Bicentennial Botanical Garden Launch be referred to staff to investigate.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Bill Adshade

A letter dated February 14, 2018 requesting consideration for funding support to travel to El Salvador as an Election Observer in March.

Brief discussion was held on this request not meeting the Municipality’s granting criteria.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That the letter requesting support for travel to El Salvador as an Election Observer in March be received for information purposes.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Pam Macintosh, Planner

A memo to the Mayor and Council concerning an application from Donna Creelman for consideration to enter into a development agreement for two (2) six-unit apartment buildings.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the matter concerning an application from Donna Creelman for consideration to enter into a development agreement for two (2) six-unit apartment buildings be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Pam Macintosh, Planner

A memo to the Mayor and Council regarding an application from the St. James Church of Great Village Preservation Society requesting the Elizabeth Bishop House be considered for designation as a Municipal Heritage Property.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Masters

“That the matter concerning an application from the St. James Church of Great Village Preservation Society requesting the Elizabeth Bishop House be considered for designation as a Municipal Heritage Property be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

Phyllis Wright-Roberts

A letter dated February 19, 2018 to Councillor Cooper requesting street lights in the area of the Upper Stewiacke sign on Highway 289 through the Village to the Otterbrook Road.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the matter concerning the request for street lights in the area of the Upper Stewiacke sign on Highway 289 through the Village to the Otterbrook Road be referred to staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence - INFORMATION

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity report received from the Development Officer for the month of January 2018. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the Building Inspector for the month of January 2018. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

Strategic Priorities Report

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

Community Trail Funding Program – Winter 2018 Applications

Six applications were received for the Winter deadline of the Community Trail Funding Program. Total funding approved was \$40,535 for the following groups: Tatamagouche Area Trails Association - \$5,046 for capital work and \$16,600 for maintenance; North Shore ATV Club - \$13,097 for capital work; Colchester–Five Islands ATV Club - \$3,293 for capital work; and the North Shore Snowmobile Club - \$931.00 for maintenance work and \$1,568.00 for capital work. A detailed report was distributed in the package for this evening’s meeting.

Sustainable Communities Conference Report – Director of Community Development

A copy of the report from the Director of Community Development on the 2018 Sustainable Communities Conference held in Ottawa from February 6-8, 2018, was included in the package for this evenings meeting.

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 Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:40 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:45 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Appointment – Economic
Development Officer**

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council grant authority to the CAO to forgo an open competition for the position of Economic Development Officer and that the current Interim Economic Development Officer be appointed to the position effective Monday, February 26, 2018; and,

The incumbent be placed at Range 10, Step 7 on the salary scale; and,

The position of Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer be left to the discretion of the CAO.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting adjourn at 10:52 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary