

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 Tuesday, December 4, 2018.

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
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart	District 3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs	District 5
Councillor Michael Gregory	District 7
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District 8
Councillor Bob Pash	District 9 (arrived at 6:24 pm)
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Councillor Karen MacKenzie District 6

Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Wayne Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Devin Trefry, Research, Policy & Comm. Engagement Officer
 Craig Burgess, Recreation Manager

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- Delete Item # 2, Public Hearing;
- Add Item # 9b, Marked Crosswalk, Hwy 236/Cobequid Trail;
- Add Item # 9c, Wood Chips/Heat;
- Add Item # 11b, Library;
- Add Items # 14b, c and d, Negotiations in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Blair noted that in the absence of the Municipal Solicitor due to the meeting being rescheduled from November 29th, Item # 14, Legal Matter in Closed Session, may also need to be removed from the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the meeting held on October 25, 2018.

Standing Committee Reports and Recommendations

Council Committee Report from Meetings Held on October 22 & 29, 2018

Deputy Mayor Stewart, Chair, presented the report from meetings held on October 22 & 29, 2018:

Strategic Priorities Review

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves that Asset Management be removed from the Strategic Priorities Chart and changed to an operational function; and,

That Internet Improvement be moved to # 1 on the Strategic Priorities Chart; and,

That Policing be added to the top five priorities on the Strategic Priorities Chart; and,

That Physician Recruitment be added under Advocacy on the Strategic Priorities Chart; and,

That the Fundy Discovery Site be moved to ‘Now’ and Debert Airport be moved to ‘Next’ on the Strategic Priorities Chart; and,

That Internet Improvement, Policing, Fundy Discovery Site, Waste to Energy, and Biosolids, be accepted as the five Corporate Strategic Priorities.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Council Committee Report from Meeting Held on November 15, 2018

Deputy Mayor Stewart, Chair, presented the report from meeting held on November 15, 2018:

Solar Colchester Proposal Review and Recommendation

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves accepting the proposal of Supernova Energy Solutions and that staff begin to design a ‘Solar Colchester’ program to encourage the installation of Solar Photovoltaic systems in Colchester.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Debert Airport Snow Plowing

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves that the snow plowing contract for the Debert Airport for the 2019 winter season be awarded to Ian Sinclair Contracting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Nominating Committee Appointment

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves that Councillor Gibbs be appointed to serve on the Nominating Committee for the balance of the 2016-2020 term of Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Energy Efficiency Project, Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Facility

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council approves that staff be authorized to sign the draft incentive offer with Efficiency Nova Scotia for the proposed energy efficiency upgrades at the Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Facility.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

4-H Funding

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves that Colchester County 4-H be granted funding in the amount of \$100,000, to be paid upfront and budgeted over four years; and,

That this funding be subject to an agreement as approved by the CAO and Municipal Solicitor.

Motion Amended

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the original motion be modified to specify funding is for the 4-H Barn Project.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Parker opposed)*

The amended motion having carried, the original motion was voted on and carried with Councillor Parker opposed.

Christmas Eve Day

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that the Municipality be closed on Christmas Eve Day 2018, where operationally permissible, and that staff required to work on that day be allotted time off in lieu, at a time as agreed upon by the employee and employer.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Parker and Taggart opposed)*

Planning Advisory Committee Report from Meeting Held on November 13, 2018

Councillor Taggart, Chair, presented the report from the meeting held on November 13, 2018:

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the report from the Planning Advisory Committee meeting held on November 13, 2018, be accepted as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Taggart commended staff on the tremendous job of the detailed information provided on the potential new commercial kennel by-law and noted that more information will be forthcoming at the January PAC meeting.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Pash arrived.

ACTION ITEMS

Award of Tender – Sidewalk Plow

Ms. Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, advised that a tender was issued for the purchase of a new sidewalk plow. This plow would replace

an aging unit and was approved in the capital budget. Tenderers were asked to submit pricing for both new and slightly used units.

Five submissions were received in response to the tender with two of these submissions being deemed incomplete. The lowest submission from Saunders Equipment for a slightly used plow was deemed complete. An inspection of the equipment was carried out by Public Works staff and was found to be in good condition.

A question on warranty for the used equipment was raised and Ms. Newell confirmed that Saunders Equipment has agreed to full warranty.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council authorizes staff to award the tender for the purchase of a sidewalk plow, including V plow and salt spreader attachments, to Saunders Equipment for a total purchase price of \$105,925 excluding HST.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Award of Furnace Oil & Diesel Fuel Tenders

Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, advised that separate tenders were issued for five-year contracts for the supply of furnace oil and diesel fuel. Three bids were received in response to each of the tenders with Maritime Fuels being the lowest submission for both tenders.

Brief discussion was held on local preference. The CAO confirmed that in checking with the Municipal Solicitor, local preference would be national.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves the tenders for the five-year contract for the Supply of Diesel Fuel and Furnace Oil be awarded to Maritime Fuels Ltd.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Saltscapes Expo

Deputy Mayor Stewart brought this item forward noting that for the last four to five years, the Municipality has not been represented at the Saltscapes Expo. Should Council want to participate in the 2019 Expo, preparation should start soon.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That staff be directed to investigate options for representation at the June 2019 Saltscapes Expo and report back to Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Marked Crosswalk, Hwy 236/
Cobequid Trail**

Ms. Newell advised that this item relates to the construction of a marked crosswalk on Highway 236 at the Cobequid Trail. As this is a high traffic area, Council and staff have been seeking authority from the province to install a crosswalk at this location.

Recent approval has been received for the crosswalk which will be marked by rectangular rapid flashing beacons. The design and installation will be completed by the province in the upcoming Spring/Summer. However, the County will be responsible for the construction costs, estimated at \$37,000 to \$42,000, as well as the ongoing maintenance costs. The province requires confirmation that the Municipality wishes to proceed and will cover associated cost.

Brief discussion was held in support of this type of crosswalk noting that more of these should be placed at locations around the County.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Stewart

“That Council authorizes staff to proceed with the project for the installation of a marked crosswalk on Highway 236 at the Cobequid Trail at an estimated cost of \$42,000, with source of funds to be identified during the 2019/20 capital budget process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Wood Chip/Heat

Councillor Taggart indicated that he heard a lengthy debate today on biomass. About a year ago, Council received a presentation from the forestry industry and staff were to follow up on this and report back to Council. The CAO advised that staff investigated this and an update would be requested from the Director of Community Development.

Mayor Blair indicated that an invitation has been received to tour the biomass facility at the Dal-AC Campus. The invitation will be forwarded to Council for those interested in a group tour.

**Request for Agenda Addition
– Recent Snow Plowing
During Last Storm**

As Councillor Pash arrived late for the meeting and missed the opportunity to have an item added to the agenda, he requested, and Council agreed to the addition of an item to the agenda at this time.

Councillor Pash indicated that he had several complaints regarding the snow plowing by Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) during the recent storm on November 29th.

Discussion was held regarding the inconsistencies of snow plowing during the recent storm. With the TIR winter program not officially starting until December 1st, it appeared that plows were not available for dispatch in some areas but other areas were more prepared. One member of Council indicated that he received a call to assist with an emergency as the West North River Road was not plowed. Additionally, some areas reported

plowing on only one side of the road with several hours passing before the other side got plowed. Overall, Council expressed their displeasure on how the plowing was handled and indicated that TIR needs to be better prepared.

Moved by Councillor Pash
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That a letter be written to Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal expressing Council’s displeasure in how snowing was handled during the storm event on November 29th.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence - ACTION

**Jim Baird, Chairperson –
Tatamagouche Village
Commission**

A letter to the CAO concerning a sidewalk along a portion of Main Street Tatamagouche.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the Directors of Community Development and Public Works be directed to set up a meeting with the Village Chair and area Councillor to discuss the sidewalk along a portion of Main Street, Tatamagouche.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Linda Legere, Executive
Director, Maggie’s Place
Colchester**

A letter to the Mayor requesting an increase in annual funding for Maggie’s Place.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the letter requesting an increase in annual funding for Maggie’s Place be referred to budget deliberations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Lech Krzywonos, Principal,
NSCC Truro Campus**

A letter to Mayor and Council formally requesting funding in the amount of \$20,000 - \$30,000 annually.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the letter requesting funding in the in the amount of \$20,000 - \$30,000 annually for the NSCC Truro Campus be referred to budget deliberations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Correspondence -
INFORMATION**

- Development Officer** A copy of the Development Activity report received from the Development Officer for the month of October 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 October 2018. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.
- NSFM** A copy of the NSFM Board Report dated November 6, 2018. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Insurance for Not-for-Profit Organizations – Grant Applications** As a result of this information being missing from the Council package for this evening's meeting, Council agreed to defer this to the December Council Committee meeting.
- Library** Referring to the issue concerning not being permitted to place poppy boxes in Libraries, Councillor Boutilier advised that he attended a meeting last week where this was discussed. A motion was made to rescind the policy which does not permit the poppy boxes in Libraries, however the motion did not pass. Reasons cited included policy against selling and soliciting in libraries; having policy that is consistent with all libraries; and Legions being no different than other charitable organizations. Tiffany Bartlett, Library CEO, agreed that a meeting would be held with the Tatamagouche Legion to see how to accommodate and promote the Legion.
- Discussion was held regarding Council's concerns and general displeasure with the decision of the Library Board with the following points being noted: this should not be an exception for Tatamagouche only, rather inclusive in the policy that this be permitted in all libraries; the Municipality's financial contributions to libraries; confirmation that libraries would not be liable for poppy trays; that a request be made to have the policy changed; and the need for immediate action versus delaying further action until the above noted meeting takes place. It was agreed that any necessary further action be deferred until after the 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

As previously noted, Item # 14 is being removed from the agenda and will be brought forward at December Committee.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That the meeting go into closed session at 7:46 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 9:21 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Insurance for Not-for-Profit
Organizations – Grant
Applications**

Due to this item being deferred to the December Committee meeting, it was suggested that authority be granted to Committee to approve any changes to staff’s recommendations.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council grants authority to December Committee to approve any changes to staff’s recommendations on the Insurance for Not-for-Profit Organizations Grant Applications.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Non-Union Employee Salary
Review**

Moved by Councillor Boutilier
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves the adoption of the amended non-union salary scales, as discussed in Closed Session; and,

That the Public Works Support Clerk be reclassified to Admin Support/Project Coordinator at Range 5 on the salary scale.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting adjourn at 9:27 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary