

**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 27, 2019.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Christine Blair, Chair	
Councillor Eric Boutilier	District 1
Deputy Mayor 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 Bob Pash	District 9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District 10
Councillor Wade Parker	District 11

**Regrets**

Councillor Bill Masters                      District 2

**Staff Present**

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)  
 Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works (*arrived at 8 pm*)  
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services  
 Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development  
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor  
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary  
 Devin Trefry, Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer

**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
 Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- Item # 10b, Code of Conduct;
- Item # 10c, June Council Meeting Dates;
- Item # 17, Legal Matter in Closed Session; and,
- Item # 18, Negotiations Matter in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
 Seconded by Deputy Mayor Stewart

“That the minutes of the meetings held on May 28 and June 18, 2019, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

Referring to the Public Hearing item on pages 12-14 of the May 28, 2019 minutes, Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor, advised that Council’s

decision on the Leil application has been appealed. The Hearing date for the appeal is August 19 & 20, 2019, and will be held in Council Chambers.

**Standing Committee Reports and Recommendations**

**Council Committee Report from Meeting Held on June 13, 2019**

*Deputy Mayor Stewart, Chair, presented the report from the meeting held on June 13, 2019:*

**Preparation of a Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for Debert Business Park**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart  
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves that staff begin to prepare a Plan and By-law for the Debert Business Park, including the former military homes as part of the area Plan and By-law; and,

That an Area Planning Advisory Committee be created as part of the process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Council Proceedings and Committees Policy Amendments**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves amendments to the Council Proceedings and Committees Policy, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Award of Tender – Harmony Road Sidewalk**

Rob Simonds, CAO, noted that Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works, would be arriving late for the meeting and in her absence, provided a summary of this item. The tender for the Harmony Road Sidewalk was advertised on the Provincial and County websites with a total of five submissions received by the June 18<sup>th</sup> closing. The low bidder was SW Weeks Construction and their tender was deemed to be complete.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves the award of the tender for the construction of the Harmony Road Sidewalk from Shawndale Drive to Blainedale Drive to SW Weeks Construction for a total contract amount of \$507,310, excluding HST; and,

That an internal contingency of \$50,000 be approved, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Taggart opposed)*

Brief introductions were done on agenda item number 7 and 8, however, due to some technical questions being raised, Council agreed to defer these items until the arrival of the Director of Public Works.

**2018/19 Audited Financial Statements – Authority to Award**

Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services, advised that staff will be arranging a meeting of the Audit Committee in the coming weeks with the intent of having the Audited Financial Statements ready to present at August Council Committee. Staff is requesting that Council grant authority to Council Committee to approve the Financial Statements at the August meeting.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart  
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That Council authorizes Council Committee at their meeting on August 8, 2019, to receive and approve the 2018/19 Audited Financial Statements.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Second Reading – Council Remuneration By-law**

Mr. Fraser indicated that that First Reading was carried out at the May Council meeting and advertising requirements under the Municipal Government Act were fulfilled. A brief recap of the proposed amended By-law was provided, which included adjustments to compensate for the January 2019 federal tax changes, adjustments reflecting market comparatives and changes to annual CPI increases. No changes were made at First Reading. It was noted, however, that the By-law contained a typo which requires correcting. The remuneration for the Deputy Mayor should be \$43,394.

Moved by Councillor Gibbs  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves, by way of Second Reading, the amended By-law, with the correction of the remuneration for the position of Deputy Mayor to \$43,394.”

Motion Carried. *(Deputy Mayor Stewart, Councillors MacKenzie and Taggart opposed)*

**Code of Conduct**

Brief discussion was held on a recent article in the Shoreline Journal relative to the County not implementing a Code of Conduct.

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That a chronological statement as to dates and outcomes of Council discussions on Code of Conduct be provided at the next public meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**June Council Meeting Dates** Councillor Cooper raised the issue of date conflicts with June Council meetings and local high school graduations and suggested that changing the date of June Council meetings be considered.

Brief discussion was held on when schools release dates for graduations and time requirements for the preparation of Council packages between meetings.

The CAO advised that staff would take this into consideration when preparing the schedule of meetings for the 2020/21 fiscal year.

**Correspondence - ACTION**

**Jasmine Locke, Nova Scotia Nurses Union** An email from Jasmine Locke, Nova Scotia Nurses Union, dated June 20, 2019, seeking sponsorship for their annual nurses' planner.

Moved by Councillor Boutilier  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Stewart

"That the email from Jasmin Locke dated June 20, 2019, be received for information purposes."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Stephen Johnston, Chair, RECC Board of Directors** An email to the CAO concerning a vacancy of a four-year term representative on the RECC Board.

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

"That the matter be referred to staff to follow the regular process for filling Board vacancies."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Hub Centre Drive Paving Project Supporters** Correspondence dated June 21, 2019 regarding revisiting the request for paving of Hub Centre Drive.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That Council approve that staff proceed with the petition process for the paving of Hub Centre Drive under provisions of the new cost analysis information."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Correspondence - INFORMATION**

**Development Officer** A copy of the Development Activity report received from the Development Officer for the month of May 2019. 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 May 2019. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes.

**Reuben Burge** A copy of correspondence received June 3, 2019 concerning the Truro Millbrook Community Wind Farm. Council agreed to receive the report for information purposes,

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Community Trail Funding Program – Summer 2019 Applications** Five applications were received under the Community Trail Funding Program for the summer 2019 deadline.

The total amount being requested and approved was \$79,618, broken down as follows: \$21,623, pending other funding and landowner approvals, from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colchester, for the development of an accessible path and trail related amenities; \$3,850 from the Cumberland Snowmobile Club for trail maintenance in Lynn Mountain area of Five Islands; \$1,577 from the North Shore Snowmobile Club for replacement of decking on two bridges along trails in Nuttby and Warwick Mountains; \$13,468 for the Tatamagouche Area Trails Association for regular maintenance to the Short Line Trail; and \$39,100 for the Tatamagouche Area Trails Association for capital work for the Short Line Trail including upgrading surface with crusher dust as well as upgrades to trailheads in Tatamagouche and Denmark.

Brief discussion was held on funding under this program being for maintenance and capital. Interest was expressed on having further discussions on multi-use trails.

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That staff prepare a presentation for Council discussion, on use of trails systems and moving towards multi-use trails.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, indicated that staff would also present short to medium term plans for trails.

**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.

Mayor Blair congratulated Councillor Taggart on recently being re-elected to the FCM Board of Director.

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That a letter of congratulations be sent to Halifax Councillor Bill Karsten on being elected FCM President at the FCM Conference in early June.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS** (continuation  
as noted above)

**Award of Tender –  
Demolition of Debert  
Buildings**

A tender was issued for the demolition of two buildings in Debert located at 208 Dakota Road and 20 Messina Drive, that are no longer useable. Funding for the demolition of these two buildings was originally budgeted for in 2018/29 but was pushed to fiscal 2019/20.

Five submissions were received in response to the tender with the low bidder being Asbestos Abatement. Their tender was deemed to be complete and staff recommends that the tender be awarded to Asbestos Abatement.

Discussion was held on tender expectations relative to safety. Ms. Newell confirmed that safety was addressed within the tender specifications. Further discussion was held on budget for the demolition as well as other options, such as selling, rather than demolition.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council approves the award of the tender for the demolition of 20 Messina Drive and 208 Dakota Road in Debert to Asbestos Abatement for a total contract amount of \$88,000 excluding HST; and,

That an internal contingency of \$7,500 be approved, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

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

**Award of Tender –  
Cassandra Court Paving**

A tender for the paving of Cassandra Court was issued with two options being included in the tender. Option 1 would involve the removal of the existing asphalt, compaction of the sub-base, placement/compaction of base gravel and placement/compaction of new asphalt. Option 2 would involve pulverizing existing asphalt, placement/compaction of base gravel and placement/compaction of new asphalt.

Six companies purchased the tender documents with five submissions being received by the tender closing. The lowest bidder was Dexter Construction and their tender was deemed to be complete. Staff recommends that the tender be awarded to Dexter Construction for Option 1.

Clarification was sought on whether there would be benefits of Option 2 over Option 1. Ms. Newell indicated that it is always better to use new asphalt versus pulverized. Option 1 is the better option and is a little cheaper.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the award of the tender for the re-paving of Cassandra Court to Dexter Construction, using Option 1 as presented, for a total contact amount of \$49,000 excluding HST; and,

That an internal contingency of \$5,000 be approved, to be spent only on authority of the Director of Public Works.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That the meeting go into closed session at 8:37 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:59 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting go into closed session at 11:00 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 11:10 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Animal Control Kennel  
Service Request for  
Proposals Review**

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Boutillier

“That Council accept the proposal for dog kennel and afterhours Animal Control Services, as submitted by the SPCA, and authorize the Mayor and CAO to sign a contract on behalf of the Municipality.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Gibbs opposed)*

**RECC**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council authorizes August Committee at their meeting on August 8, 2019, to approve RECC stairs and project management procurement documents.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Gregory  
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting adjourn at 11:15 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno  
Recording Secretary