

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 Wednesday, October 30, 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
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Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services
 Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Devin Trefry, Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer

Election of Alternate Chair

Mayor Blair called for nominations for the position of Alternate Chair.

Councillor Gibbs moved and Councillor Cavanaugh seconded the nomination of Councillor Cooper, who accepted the nomination.

Councillor Boutilier moved and Councillor Taggart seconded the nomination of Councillor Parker, who accepted the nomination.

Mayor Blair called three times for further nominations and, on hearing none, the nominations ceased.

The CAO and Deputy Clerk acted as Scrutineer for Election of Alternate Chair.

Following the counting of ballots, Councillor Cooper was declared Alternate Chair by majority vote.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
 Seconded by Councillor Pash

“That the ballots for the election of Alternate Chair be destroyed.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- Item # 12b, Municipal Building in Debert;
- Item # 14b, Organizational Updates; and
- Add Item # 17b, Negotiations in Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the minutes of the meeting held on September 26, 2019, be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on September 26, 2019.

Standing Committee Reports and Recommendations

Deputy Mayor Stewart, Chair of Council Committee, presented the report from the meeting held on October 10, 2019:

Council Committee Report from Meeting Held on October 10, 2019

Council Proceedings and Committees Policy Amendments

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Brookfield Sportsplex Audit

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council not contribute funding assistance for the Brookfield Sportsplex annual financial review.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Proposed Amendments to Policies Related to Municipal Fees

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council adopts amendments to the Policy for Municipal Fees, the Livestock Control By-law Impoundment Fees Policy and the Sewer Use Policy as presented and proceed to First Reading for amendments to affected By-laws at the next regular meeting of Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Debert Airport Snowplowing 2019/20

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves that the snow plowing contract for the Debert Airport for the 2019/20 Winter season be awarded to Ian Sinclair Contracting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Five Islands Cemetery

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that tipping fees in the amount of \$2,535 for the Five Islands Cemetery be waived; and,

That, if necessary, tipping fees for any additional materials related to the clean up also be waived.”

Motion Carried Unanimously

Atlantic Mayors' Congress

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Boutillier

“That Council approves hosting the 2020 Atlantic Mayors Congress scheduled for April 16, 17, and 18.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Glenholme Property – Tax Billing Error

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves that staff determine the taxation amount for the billing error for the Glenholme property (PID# 20134490) for the two-year period; and,

That a refund be issued for this amount.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

FCM Jordan

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council supports the Chief Administrative Officer’s participation in the Jordan Mission from November 14-22, 2019.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Service Contract Matter

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves that contract services as discussed in Closed Session on October 10, 2019, be terminated, effective immediately.”

motion amended

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That the motion be amended to remove effective immediately and replace with as soon as possible.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

The amending motion having carried, the original motion was voted on and carried.

Fundy Discovery Site Security

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves:

1. Entering into a contract with Wilson’s Security for the purposes of supplying and installing security cameras at the Fundy Discovery Site;
2. Reallocating any surplus capital funds from the site security initiative which will be used to improve site lighting;
3. Investigating the costs of ongoing site surveillance services for the Fundy Discovery Site and request staff to advise Council on a recommended approach and vendor in the near future; and,
4. Maintaining washroom services at the Fundy Discovery Site until November 17, 2019.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Nominating Committee Report from Meeting Held on October 10, 2019

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council agrees to receive the letter from Elizabeth Langille and that filling the vacant position on the Tatamagouche Planning Advisory Committee be held in abeyance until after the next Municipal Election.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Flood Advisory Committee Minutes from Meeting Held on September 10, 2019

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the minutes of the Flood Advisory Committee meeting held on September 10, 2019 be accepted as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

**2019 Art Selection Committee
Representatives**

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Mayor Blair and Councillor Pash be appointed to the 2019 Art Selection Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**First Reading – Various By-laws
Related to Municipal Fees Policy**

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That Council approves, by way of First Reading, administrative amendments to the following By-laws:

Central Colchester Land Use By-law;
Subdivision By-law;
Land Lease By-law;
Adult Entertainment By-law;
Commercial Dog Care and Kennel Facility By-law;
Building Code By-law;
Solid Waste By-law;
Construction and Demolition By-law;
Solar Colchester Pace By-law; and,
Septic Waste Disposal By-law, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Remembrance Day Services

Having four Remembrance Day services in his District, Councillor Taggart advised that he cannot attend all services. He usually attends on a rotation basis and is looking to see if any members of Council can attend the services that he is unable to. Councillor Boutilier agreed to attend the one in Bass River at 11 am; and Deputy Mayor Stewart agreed to attend the one in Five Islands.

Councillor Taggart also indicated that there is a service on November 8th in Bass River at the Junior High School at 11 am, in the Memorial Park. Councillor Pash agreed to attend this service on behalf of Councillor Taggart.

Provincial Legislative Changes

Deputy Mayor Stewart advised that provincial legislation relating to running for office is being changed. The changes will require MLA's to resign from office if they want to run for another position of office. The province is leaving it up to individual municipalities to set their own policies, should they wish to do so.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That staff investigate what other municipalities and jurisdictions are doing for officials running for other positions of office and report back to Council."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Private Road Maintenance

Councillors Pash and Taggart indicated that a letter was received from a constituent requesting that consideration be given to implementing a road maintenance fee on tax bills on behalf of private road associations whereas the monies would be collected by the County and turned over to the association, for a fee. Councillor Taggart advised that similar requests have been before Council on a number of occasions, it is a growing issue and felt that it should be reviewed again.

Lengthy debate was held on the issue including: if implemented, it would eliminate friction between residents; what other municipalities currently do this; who would be responsible for arranging maintenance; what if not all residents on the private road were part of the association; if the fees collected would be a lien on taxes if unpaid; and, this being a civil matter between residents and the Municipality should not get involved.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

"That staff investigate the collection of taxes for maintenance on private roads on a County wide basis and bring back to Council for consideration."

Motion **DEFEATED**. *(opposed by Mayor Blair, Deputy Mayor Stewart, Councillors Cooper, Gibbs, MacKenzie and Cavanaugh).*

2020 Municipal Election

Deputy Mayor Stewart advised that after the last election, a number of recommendations were put forth by the Returning Officer and requested that staff bring back information to Council regarding these recommendations.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That staff be directed to bring back information to Council on the recommendations by the Returning Officer from the last Municipal Election.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Municipal Building, Debert

Referring to the Municipal Building in Debert (incubator mall), Councillor Taggart indicated that he thought the purpose of this building was to be used as an incubator for new businesses starting up. Brief discussion was held on the uses for the building as well as opportunities.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That staff carry out a review of the Municipal Building in Debert (incubator mall) including past and current uses, revenues and potential opportunities.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence - ACTION

Doug vanHemessen, Nature Conservancy

An email to Scott Fraser requesting the Municipality waive tipping fees for a restoration project.

Brief discussion was held with concern expressed regarding the lack of information being provided with the current request.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That staff request more information regarding amounts and types of materials from the restoration project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence - INFORMATION

Development Officer

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

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.

Organizational Updates

The CAO informed Council that the Recreation Manager, Craig Burgess, recently received a Recreation NS Professional Achievement Award. Additionally for Council information, Colchester is the recipient of a Climate Change Leaders Award for the Solar Colchester initiative. This award will be presented at the upcoming NSFM Conference.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting go into closed session at 8:40 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Councillor MacKenzie declared a conflict on the Personnel Matter and excused herself from the meeting at 10:00 pm.

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:08 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Negotiation Matters

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That Council grants authority to Council Committee at their Presentation meeting on November 4, 2019 to make a decision relative to the Air Show opportunity in Debert; and,

That Council grants authority to Council Committee at either their Presentation meeting on November 4, 2019 or the Regular Council Committee meeting on November 10, 2019 to make a decision on Rural Internet.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

GroundFix Remediation Agreement Renewal

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council agrees to renew the contract with GroundFix Remediation and authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign the agreement as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Collective Agreement

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Boutilier

“That Council approves the Collective Agreement for Local #4106, commencing July 1, 2018, and authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign the Agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Gregory
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary