

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

A Special Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was conducted virtually via Zoom Meetings, on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, at 6:00 pm

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 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

Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer
 Scott Fraser, Director of Corp. Services/Acting Director of Solid Waste
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary

Due to a directive by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing pursuant to the provincial State of Emergency related to COVID-19, all Colchester Council meetings must be held remotely by teleconference or on a virtual platform. In order to ensure transparency and honour the commitment for Colchester Council to conduct its business in public, these draft minutes are being posted within twenty-four hours of the meeting. They will not be reviewed and approved until the next regularly scheduled meeting of Colchester Council on October 29, 2020. Until these minutes are formally approved by Colchester Council, they cannot be relied on as an official record of the October 6, 2020, Special Council meeting.

The purpose of this Special Session of Council is for Council to receive and approve the 2019/20 Consolidated Financial Statements.

At the request of Councillor Parker, Council agreed to the addition of a time sensitive item to the agenda following the presentation of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Moved by Councillor Parker
 Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the agenda be approved with one addition, Item #2b, Ice Cream Parlour, College Road.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Presentation – Audited Financial Statements

Kim Livingston and Alisha Mombourquette, Grant Thornton

Ms. Kim Livingston began the presentation advising that the Consolidated Financial Statements includes all fund of the Municipality and Water Utilities.

The statements include General Operations and Capital, Water Utilities Operations and Capital, and various reserve funds, as well as a consolidation of 50% of results of the Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC) and 33% of the Regional Enterprise Network (REN). A meeting on September 30, 2020, with the Audit Committee and Management took place where the consolidated financial statements and audit report were presented and reviewed in detail.

Included in the presentation to Council was a high-level overview of the 2019/2020 Consolidated Financial Statements, focusing on the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Operations, and the Cash Flow Statement. Ms. Livingston indicated that overall it was a positive year and noted the following highlights for 2019/20:

- cash balance being increased over last year;
- debt being paid down by approximately \$2 million;
- no new debt acquired during the fiscal year;
- Municipality's improved net debt position;
- significant investment in new infrastructure and capital enhancements; and,
- maintaining a healthy, accumulated surplus.

In the opinion of the Auditor, it is a clean audit report. The financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Municipality.

Brief discussion was held on the deficit relating to land and archaeology in Debert. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services/Acting Director of Solid Waste, advised that on the recommendation of the Auditors from the previous year, land was tested for impairment, and an appraisal determined the need of a write down, resulting in a variance.

Referring to the 50% consolidation of RECC results, clarification was sought on allocations for the RECC Solar Panel Project. Ms. Livingston and Mr. Fraser confirmed that this is fully capitalized in the Municipality and all cheques related to this project come directly to Colchester.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Stewart
Seconded by Councillor Gibbs

"That Council accepts and adopts the 2019/20 Consolidated Financial Statements as presented by Grant Thornton; and,

That the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign the necessary documentation relative to the 2019/20 Consolidated Financial Statements."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Ice Cream Parlour, College Road

Councillor Parker advised that he was speaking with a resident who has received a cease and desist order from the Municipality for his ice cream business on College Road. The original permit for the business was to package and distribute ice cream and cakes but did not permit selling from the location on College Road. The existing by-law is somewhat unclear as to whether this would be permitted. The cease and desist order only gives the owner until the end of the month. In the absence of Council meetings between now and the expiration date of the cease and desist order, Councillor

Parker indicated that he would like to delay the order until such time that Council has opportunity to meet again and consider what options, if any, are available.

With the Development Officer having statutory authority to issue orders, Rob Simonds, CAO, advised that should Council wish to make a motion extending the order expiration date, a provision indicating that it would be subject to Council authority, should be included in the language of the motion. Staff would verify if this is within authority of Council and advise accordingly via email.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Parker

“That Council approves an extension of 45 days to the cease and desist order related to the Ice Cream Parlour on College Road, subject to the provisions of Council authority.”

Motion Carried Unanimously. *(Councillor Taggart was not available at time of voting).*

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the meeting adjourn at 6:49 pm.”

Motion Carried Unanimously. *(Councillor Taggart was not available at time of voting).*

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary