

SPECIAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Special Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor, Chair	
Councillor Christine Blair	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 Doug MacInnes	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Wade Parker	District #11

Regrets:

Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #8
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Purpose

The purpose of the meeting was to receive presentations from staff regarding the draft “maintenance” budget. This is part of the budget process for 2014-15.

Staff Presentation

Mr. Scott Fraser, Director of Corporate Services (incoming), made a presentation concerning budget impacts and initiatives, the tax base and related calculations, and future issues. A copy of this presentation was circulated on table.

During the presentation, Council raised questions with respect to assessment cap and tax rate comparisons to Cumberland and Pictou Counties.

Mr. Bruce Purchase, Director of Corporate Services (outgoing) made a presentation on the budget process, 2013-14 projections (including expected surplus), 2014-15 maintenance budget, items of interest by responsibility, etc. A copy of this presentation was also circulated on table.

Questions and Answers/Information Request

Council questions and comments included:

- Increase in Education Costs
- Accounting Software
- Salmon River School Reserve
- Total Revenue Change in Budget since 2008
- Decrease in Diversion Credits
- Value of Reserves
- Cost of Sludge Removal
- Economic Development (CoRDA)

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by Councillor Gregory

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:10 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Donna Campbell
Finance Manager