

February 22, 2001

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

A Regular Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Court House, Truro, N.S. on Thursday, February 22, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Mike Smith, Chair	
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Deputy Mayor Hugh Matheson	District #3
Councillor Richard Elliott	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #6
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor Soley Lynds	District #8
Councillor Keith Baas	District #9
Councillor Doug Cooke	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Absent:

Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
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**Variance Appeal  
Hearing - 65 Dickson  
Drive, North River**

Ms. Pam MacIntosh, Development Officer, provided background to Council on a Notice of Variance Appeal Hearing issued on February 9, 2001 to David and Duanna Wheatley in connection with an appeal that had been filed in respect to the variance granted on the Wheatley property at 65 Dickson Drive, North River. The variance request was made on January 4<sup>th</sup> by the Wheatleys for the construction of a residential garage. A copy of this notice and the Development Officer's Report were circulated to Council prior to this hearing.

Mr. Peter Blair, the appellant in this case, indicated that he felt the construction of this garage would obstruct the view from his property and therefore, reduce its value were he to sell it. Mr. Blair circulated photographs to better illustrate his concerns.

Mr. and Mrs. Wheatley's presentation included the viewing of a video which showed why the garage would have to be built on the west side of their corner property, i.e. insufficient space on the east side to allow for the construction of an adequately-sized garage.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the appeal be denied and the variance for the construction of the garage be approved.”

Motion carried.

**Agenda**

Moved by Councillor Cooke  
Seconded by Councillor Baas

“That the Agenda be approved with the following additions:

- 10b. Deer Jacking
- 10c. Truro Bantam “AAA” Bearcats Provincial Hockey Tournament, March 15-18, 2001”

Motion carried.

**Minutes**

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That the minutes of meetings held on October 16, 2000, January 4, 11 and 25, 2001 be approved as circulated.”

Motion carried.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of October 16, 2000, January 4, 11 and 25, 2001.

**Presentations**

Representatives of the Nelson Park Committee, Mr. Greg Forbes, Ms. Theda Boyce and Ms. Jane Rethy gave a presentation on **Nelson Memorial Park and Campground**. The Committee is asking that Council consider a budget proposal in fiscal year 2001-02 to upgrade facilities and services at the Park. Park officials have been told by the Department of Tourism that, without this upgrade, the Park will have to close the campground within two years. This upgrade is one phase of a \$750,000 Business Plan. Funding requested includes a one-time contribution of \$39,000 for capital costs and an increase in operating budget to \$10,850 for a total of \$50,000. Funding is also being sought from ACOA, fund raising activities, revenue, bank loan and donations.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That this funding proposal, as presented by the Nelson Park Committee, be referred to the budget process for review under Additions/Deletions.”

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the report be received for information as presented.”

Motion carried.

**Sgt. Dave Darrah, R.C.M.P.**, provided Council with an overview of the reorganization of R.C.M.P. detachment boundaries. In the case of Colchester County, Bible Hill Detachment will become the central policing authority and have sub-offices in Tatamagouche and Stewiacke. The R.C.M.P. is asking Council to consider an increase of one-half of a position to its current contract with the County, an increase in the 2001-02 budget of \$42,000 per year. This increase would help improve policing services from Glenholme west to the County line. At present, the County pays for a total of 28.6 positions: 19 officers in Bible Hill, 3 in Tatamagouche, 4 in Enfield (to be relocated to Stewiacke), one-half of a position in Parrsboro, and 2.08 for administrative and telecommunications staff.

Moved by Councillor Baas  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That this funding request, as presented by the R.C.M.P., be referred to the budget process for review under Additions/Deletions.”

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Elliott  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the presentation be received for information.”

Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

Council recommended the following “Correspondence’ item be moved from Information to Action:

- S** No. 5: Letter from Mayor Bill Mills on Town of Truro’s support for regional approach to industrial development.

Mayor Smith requested that a letter from the Colchester Park Development Society dated February 22, 2001 be added to the ‘Action’ correspondence.

**ACTION**

**Mark A. Brennan,  
Pictou Co.  
Naturalists**

A letter dated January 21, 2001 from **Mark A. Brennan, Pictou County Naturalists**, requesting municipal support to have the land known as Gully Lake become protected under the Wilderness Areas Protection Act.

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the Municipality send a letter to Premier Hamm, copy to Brooke Taylor, MLA, Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley, requesting an update on the progress of protecting Gully Lake and to reaffirm the County’s support of this issue.”

Motion carried.

**Co-Chairs,  
Municipal-Provincial  
Roles &  
Responsibilities  
Review Coordinating  
Committee**

Letters dated January 23 and February 1, 2001 (discussion paper) from the **Co-Chairs, Provincial Roles and Responsibilities Review Coordinating Committee**, concerning consultation on a proposal that business occupancy assessment and taxation be eliminated.

Mr. MacIsaac provided Council with an overhead presentation on this issue and what impact (pros and cons) the elimination of business occupancy assessment and taxation would have on the Municipality. As comments on this proposal are required from the municipalities by no later than March 16<sup>th</sup>, Mr. MacIsaac is asking that Council refer this issue to the March 8<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting for final decision.

Moved by Councillor Lynds  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That authorization be given to March Council Committee to make a final decision on this matter.”

Motion carried

**Bruce Lohnes,  
Mayor, Town of  
Stewiacke**

A letter dated January 26, 2001 from **Bruce Lohnes, Mayor, Town of Stewiacke**, requesting the Municipality appoint two positions to the St. Andrews River Watershed Stewardship Committee.”

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Councillor Richard Elliott, District 4 and Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, be appointed County representatives on the St. Andrews River Watershed Stewardship Committee.”

Motion carried.

**Raymond Ross,  
Treasurer, Liberty  
Lodge, IOOF**

A letter dated February 5, 2001 from **Raymond Ross, Treasurer, Liberty Lodge, IOOF**, requesting a tax exemption from the fire hydrant rate.

Moved by Councillor Elliott  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the letter from Liberty Lodge, IOOF, requesting a tax exemption from the fire hydrant rate be referred to Council Committee for consideration.”

Motion carried.

**Raymond Ross,  
Treasurer, Sunrise  
Trail Museum**

A letter dated February 5, 2001 from **Raymond Ross, Treasurer, Sunrise Trail Museum**, requesting a tax exemption from the fire hydrant rate.

Moved by Councillor Baas  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the letter from the Sunrise Trail Museum requesting a tax exemption from the fire hydrant rate be referred to Council Committee for consideration.”

Motion carried.

**Chin Yap, Chair,  
North Shore  
Community  
Development  
Association**

A letter dated February 8, 2001 from **Chin Yap, North Shore Community Development Association**, requesting support for cellular phone service in the North Shore area of Colchester County.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That a letter from the Municipality be sent to MTT and other service providers, copy to Premier Hamm and Bill Langille, MLA for Colchester North, as a show of support for cellular phone service in the North Shore area of Colchester County.”

Motion carried.

**Elizabeth  
MacKinnon, Royal  
Canadian Legion**

Letters dated February 8, 2001 from **Elizabeth MacKinnon, Royal Canadian Legion**, requesting funding assistance for the Ladies Provincial Dart Championships being held in Tatamagouche, May 25-27 and the Provincial Dart Championships, also being held in Tatamagouche, April 6-8

Moved by Councillor Baas  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That both letters requesting funding assistance for the Ladies Provincial Dart Championships and the Provincial Dart Championships be referred to Council Committee for consideration.”

Motion carried.

**Mayor Anna Allen,  
President, UNSM**

A letter dated February 15, 2001 from **Mayor Anna Allen, President, UNSM**, concerning municipal mandatory contributions to education.

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Baas

“That a letter from the Municipality be sent to the Minister of Education, copy to UNSM, urging the Province to maintain the cap on municipal mandatory contributions to education.”

Motion carried.

**Deborah Cameron,  
Corresponding  
Secretary, Fraser  
Cultural Centre**

A letter from **Deborah Cameron, Corresponding Secretary, Fraser Cultural Centre**, requesting a tax exemption from the fire protection rate for the Northumberland Arts Council.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the letter from the Fraser Cultural Centre requesting a tax exemption from the fire protection rate for the Northumberland Arts Council be referred to Council Committee for consideration.”

Motion carried.

**Deborah Cameron,  
Corresponding  
Secretary, Fraser  
Cultural Centre**

A letter from **Deborah Cameron, Corresponding Secretary, Fraser Cultural Centre**, requesting funding assistance to facilitate continued operation of the Tatamagouche Tourist Bureau.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That the letter from the Fraser Cultural Centre requesting funding assistance to facilitate continued operation of the Tatamagouche Tourist Bureau be referred to Council Committee for review under Additions/Deletions.”

Motion carried.

**Lesley Dunn,  
Executive Director,  
Volunteer Resource  
Centre**

A letter dated February 8, 2001 from **Lesley Dunn, Executive Director, Volunteer Resource Centre**, requesting funding support for International Year of Volunteer 2001 activities.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the letter from the Volunteer Resource Centre requesting funding support for International Year of Volunteer 2001 activities be referred to Council Committee for consideration.”

Motion carried.

**Mayor Bill Mills,  
Town of Truro**

A letter dated January 30, 2001 from **Mayor Bill Mills, Town of Truro**, indicating the Town’s support of a regional approach to industrial development.

**Mr. Bob Winters,  
Chair, CPDS**

A letter dated February 22, 2001 from **Bob Winters, Chair, CPDS**, indicating its support of a regional approach to industrial development.

Mayor Smith updated Committee on responses he has received to date on this issue. In addition to its support to this approach, the Town of Truro has also agreed to commit an amount of up to \$5,000 to support the activities of the committee. Written support has also been received from the Colchester Park Development Society along with agreement to a cost sharing arrangement for this process, subject to approval of the final plan. No response has been received as yet from the Town of Stewiacke. Millbrook First Nations have declined to participate. Mayor Smith advised the first meeting is scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup>. It was recommended that, at least for now, the committee consist of those parties who responded positively to Mayor Smith's invitation.

## **INFORMATION**

**District Health  
Authority 4**

A copy of Board meeting highlights from **District Health Authority 4**, of its meeting held on January 16, 2001. Council agreed to receive these minutes for information purposes.

**Fred Whalen,  
Warden,  
Municipality of the  
County of Kings**

A copy of a letter dated January 22, 2001 from **Fred Whalen, Warden, Municipality of the County of Kings**, concerning agreement between the Province and RRFB on 10% net revenues from recycling fees. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**John F. Hamm,  
Premier of N.S.**

A copy of a letter dated January 25, 2001 from **John Hamm, Premier of Nova Scotia**, indicating the Province's support for cellular phone service in the Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley area. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**A.D. Darrah, RCMP,  
Bible Hill  
Detachment**

A letter dated January 26, 2001 from **A.D. Darrah, RCMP, Bible Hill Detachment**, on the realignment of RCMP detachment boundaries. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**David Morse,  
Minister, Dept. of  
Environment &  
Labour**

A letter dated January 31, 2001 from **David Morse, Minister, Department of Environment and Labour**, concerning Department of Environment and Labour initiatives. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Bruce Lohnes,  
Mayor, Town of  
Stewiacke**

A copy of a letter dated February 1, 2001 from **Bruce Lohnes, Mayor, Town of Stewiacke**, re proposed agreement with RRFB. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Kevin Caines, Area  
Manager-Colchester,  
Dept. of  
Transportation &  
Public Works**

A letter dated February 2, 2001 from **Kevin Caines, Area Manager-Colchester, Department of Transportation and Public Works**, concerning signage discrepancies received from Bible Hill and Salmon River Fire Brigades. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Kevin Caines, Area  
Manager-Colchester,  
Dept. of  
Transportation &  
Public Works**

A letter dated February 2, 2001 from **Kevin Caines, Area Manager-Colchester, Department of Transportation and Public Works**, concerning road name change of John Lepper Road. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Building Inspector**

The Building Permit Statistics Report received from the **Building Inspector** for the month of January 2001. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

**Development Officer**

The Development Activity Report received from the **Development Officer** for the month of January 2001. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

**Federation of  
Municipalities**

A copy of press release dated February 12, 2001 from the **Federation of Municipalities** concerning mixed CRTC decision on rights-of-way lands by federally regulated communications carriers. Council agreed to receive this press release for information purposes.

**Linda Harvie and  
John Chester, Co-  
Chairs, Debert  
Military Family  
Resource Centre**

A letter dated February 8, 2001 from **Linda Harvie and John Chester, Co-Chairs, Debert Military Family Resource Centre**, on the launch of the documentary film "Military Wives-Celebrating the Life" (copy of video available in Clerk's office). Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Joyce MacLean,  
Executive Director,  
Central Nova Tourist  
Association**

A letter dated January 31, 2001 from **Joyce MacLean, Executive Director, Central Nova Tourist Association**, concerning CNTA's Destination Marketing Funds. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Canadian Oil Heat  
Association**

A copy of newsletter received from the **Canadian Oil Heat Association** for the month of January 2001. Council agreed to receive this newsletter for information purposes.

**Federation of  
Canadian  
Municipalities**

A copy of press release from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities** concerning FCM's disappointment on lack of specifics in Throne Speech. Council agreed to receive this press release for information purposes.

**Brooke Taylor,  
MLA, Colchester-  
Musquodoboit Valley**

A copy of a letter dated February 14, 2001 from **Brooke Taylor, MLA, Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley**, concerning ambulance service to Coldstream Road. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Joanne Monaghan,  
President, Federation  
of Canadian  
Municipalities**

A copy of a letter dated February 19, 2001 from **Joanne Monaghan, President, FCM**, on the establishment of guidelines and best practices for municipal infrastructure development and renewal. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Jo Ann Fewer,  
CoRDA**

A memorandum dated February 21, 2001 from **Jo Ann Fewer, CoRDA**, indicating CoRDA's withdrawal for additional funding of \$45,000. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Robert Thibault,  
Minister of State,  
ACOA**

A letter dated February 16, 2001 from **Robert Thibault, Minister of State, ACOA**, regarding ACOA's Performance Report to March 31, 2000. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Peter Kinnear,  
Director,  
Government  
Relations, N.S.  
Power**

A letter dated February 16, 2001 from **Peter Kinnear, Director, Government Relations, N.S. Power**, regarding the Good Neighbour Energy Fund. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Standing Committee  
Reports and  
Recommendations**

**Council Committee  
Report**

Deputy Mayor Matheson presented the report from a Council Committee meeting held on February 8, 2001 which consisted of the following motion:

**International Tulip  
Festival - Funding  
Request**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

"That Council Committee recommend to Council that a \$1,000.00 donation be made to the International Tulip Festival in support of this event scheduled for May 11-13, 2001, source of funds to be the Economic Development Grant Fund."

Motion carried.

**Executive Committee Meetings**

Director of Public Works

At the request of Council, Mr. Bruce Purchase, Director of Corporate Services, provided an update on the staffing of the Director of Public Works' position. Interviews and pre-screening have been completed. It is anticipated that successful candidate will be in place by early to mid April.

**Planning Advisory Committee**

Councillor Masters circulated minutes from a joint meeting held on February 13, 2001 of the Planning Advisory Committee and the Area Planning Advisory Committee. Councillor Lynds requested that in future, a list of attendees be included as part of the minutes.

**Reports from Councillors Appointed to Outside Boards and Agencies**

Library Board

Councillor Cooke reported on a meeting he attended of the Library Board on February 10, 2001. The Board is looking at a new strategic plan.

Central Nova Tourist Association (CNTA)

Councillor Edwards reported CNTA will have a display booth at a trade show in Toronto in May, "Rendezvous Canada". This trade show attracts some 350 buyers from around the world who have authority to purchase tour packages.

**Tax Exemption By-law Amendment - Second Reading**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matheson

"That Council hereby approves by way of Second Reading the Tax Exemption By-law as presented."

Motion carried.

Councillor Cooke requested staff look into the entry on Schedule "A" for Masonic Hall (c/o Robert Amon) as Mr. Amon is deceased.

**Deer Jacking**

Moved by Councillor Baas  
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

"That a letter be sent from the Municipality to the Province in support of its position to appeal the Nova Scotia Supreme Court's ruling which permits natives to jack deer."

Motion carried.

**Truro Bantam “AAA”  
Bearcats Provincial  
Tournament**

Councillor Cavanaugh presented a letter he received from the **Truro and Area Minor Hockey Association** requesting funding assistance for the Truro Bantam “AAA” Bearcats who have been selected to host the Bantam Provincial Tournament being held in Truro, March 15-18, 2001.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the letter from the Truro and Area Minor Hockey Association requesting funding assistance for the Bantam Provincial Tournament being held March 15-18, 2001 be referred to Council Committee for consideration.”

Motion carried.

Due to the increasing number of requests being received for funding assistance of sporting events, Council requested staff prepare a list of those organizations who have received support in the last year.

**Recess**

Council agreed to recess to an In-Camera meeting at 10:25 p.m. Following the In-Camera meeting, Council reconvened in open session.

**Balefill Management  
Contract**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the Municipality enters into the contract with MacMillan and Associates for management services at the Balefill for a one-year term at a price of \$55,000 plus HST and that the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the contract.”

Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Elliott  
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the meeting be adjourned at 11:24 p.m.”

Motion carried.

Sheila Arsenault  
Deputy Clerk