

## 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, November 29, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Mayor Mike Smith, Chair    |              |
| Councillor Bob Taylor      | District #1  |
| 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 |

### Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- 11a: Placement of ‘Correspondence’ on Council Agenda
- 13b: County Website
- 14a: Add new in-camera item, Property Matter”

Motion Carried.

### Placement of ‘Correspondence’ on Council Agenda

Council chose to deal with this item immediately after approval of the agenda. As a trial run at this evening’s session, Correspondence was placed on the agenda following Action Items.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That this item be referred to Council Committee for further discussion.

Motion Carried.

### Minutes

Moved by Councillor Elliott  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the minutes of meetings held on October 9 and 25, 2001 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried.

**Business Arising  
from Minutes**

In response to an inquiry from Councillor LeFresne concerning Douglas Cunningham’s request for a sewer tax exemption at 20 Main Street, Mr. MacIsaac, the CAO, indicated that property owners in this same area have been advised that similar requests will be addressed at the December Committee meeting.

**Presentations**

Joyce MacLean, Executive Director, Central Nova Tourist Association

Joyce MacLean, Executive Director, Central Nova Tourist Association (CNTA), provided the following update on CNTA and its activities:

- S region encompasses three municipalities; namely, Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants
- S CNTA has a membership of 240 - over half in Colchester County
- S \$1.2 billion in tourism revenue generated this year - \$70 million in Colchester
- S 30,000 tourists visited Central Nova Scotia
- S four visitor information centres - Truro, Stewiacke, Masstown and Tatamagouche - 4 summer students employed
- S becoming a destination marketing organization
- S developing a marketing strategy, hiring a marketing coordinator
- S two provincial strategy elements - one is getting more money from existing customers and second is extending tourism season
- S hosting Rendez-Vous Canada in May 2002

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the presentation from Joyce MacLean be received.”

Motion Carried.

Jim Armstrong, Chair, Colchester Trails Association

Mr. Jim Armstrong, Chair of the Colchester Trails Association made a presentation to Council regarding the position of the Trails Coordinator for Colchester County. The present funding for this position from Human Resources Development Canada will end on March 31, 2002. A key role of the Trails Coordinator is liaison with various community groups, exploring sources of funding and obtaining formal agreements

for access over Crown and large industrial lands. The Board of Directors for the Trails Association is asking that the Municipality consider the creation of a Trails Coordinator position within Leisure Services.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the presentation from Mr. Jim Armstrong be received.”

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the letter from Mr. Jim Armstrong dated October 30, 2001 in support of this presentation be referred to Council Committee and possible referral to budget deliberations.”

Motion Carried.

**Council Committee  
Reports and  
Recommendations**

**Council Committee  
Report**

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

**North River Ballfield**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves the Agreement between the Municipality and the North River Recreation Association, subject to resolution of the issues associated with the right-of-way and parking area to the satisfaction of the Chief Administrative Officer and Municipal Solicitor.”

Motion Carried.

Councillor Cavanaugh requested a copy of a map of the area showing property lines and owners.

**St. Andrews’  
Watershed**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That the Municipality agrees to the arrangement with the Town of Stewiacke for the St. Andrews’ Watershed as set out in the letter from

the Chief Administrative Officer dated September 18, 2001.”

Motion Carried.

**Howard Jordan  
Property**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council authorizes the inclusion of property (P.I.D. #20035044) in the designated sewer area and be subject to the urban service rate.”

Motion Carried.

**Grants to Non-Profit  
Organizations**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That Council authorizes that the Grants to Non-Profit Organizations’ Policy remain as is.”

Motion Carried.

**Rural Sidewalk  
Application - Debert**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Baas

“That Council authorizes that this project proceed to the petition phase, subject to the ‘supporters’ on the application being adjusted to meet the policy definition of one vote for each taxable property in the designated area.”

Motion Carried.

**Tax Arrears  
Allowance Policy**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council approves the Tax Arrears Allowance Policy as presented to Council Committee on November 8, 2001.”

Motion Carried.

**Assignment of Lease  
of Property held for  
the Boy Scouts of  
Canada at Stewiacke  
River Park**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and the Chief Administrative Officer, on behalf of Municipal Council, to sign the assignment of lease of property held for the Boy Scouts of Canada at Stewiacke River Park.”

Motion Carried.

**Executive Committee**

Councillor LeFresne asked for further clarification on costs associated with the rezoning appeal at 258 Pictou Road. Mr. MacIsaac advised that the \$5,000 for the planning consultant will be a charge to the County in addition to our legal fees. Mr. Peter Rogers, the Municipal Solicitor, advised that the Village of Bible Hill would incur legal costs.

Concerning the South Colchester School Enhancement Payment Schedule, Deputy Mayor Matheson advised that the CAO should be receiving a phone call or letter in connection with this matter. Mr. MacIsaac advised that, to date, he has received no communication from the Province in this regard.

In response to Councillor Taylor's inquiry regarding distribution of quarterly financial statements to Council, the CAO advised that, to his knowledge, this had already been done.

**Planning Advisory Committee**

Councillor Masters advised that work is still continuing on the Municipal Planning Strategy Review - expected completion by the end of January 2002.

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

**Truro and District Chamber of Commerce**

Councillor LeFresne reported on the latest activities of the Truro and District Chamber of Commerce:

- S next meeting will be a workshop focused on ways to encourage and increase local shopping;
- S concern over turnout at the 2001 Tulip Festival;
- S in good financial condition and hope to start directing funds toward capital projects
- S do not see the Normal College as an asset
- S NSAC enrolment down
- S amalgamation/integration continues to be an important agenda item - will meet with Pictou County Chamber of Commerce as they are also actively addressing this issue

**Colchester Park Development Society**

Councillor Baas indicated that CPDS is interested in making a presentation at a future Council meeting.

First meeting held with County staff on infrastructure - CPDS is looking at divesting themselves of the houses located in the Park.

**Brookfield Sewage Treatment Plant - Request for Proposals**

Using an overhead presentation, Susheel Arora, Director of Public Works and Stuart Grue, Finance Manager, provided the results of the technical evaluations, including cost comparisons, for this project.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the Municipality issue a letter of award to Three “C” Contractors Limited for design/build of the Sequence Batch Reactor Plant, subject to funding approval being obtained from the Canada-Nova Scotia Infrastructure Program and subject to negotiations satisfactory to the Evaluation Committee; and,

That the Evaluation Committee be authorized to complete negotiations with Three “C” Contractors for the final design of the Sequence Batch Reactor Plant.”

Motion Carried.

**UNSM Annual Meeting - 2004**

Moved by Councillor Baas  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the UNSM Annual Meeting for 2004 be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried.

**Truro Park Marshland - Boundary Adjustment**

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council direct staff to initiate the amendment process for the Robie Street Marsh as presented.”

Motion Carried.

**Correspondence**

Council requested the following ‘Correspondence’ item be moved from Information to Action:

No. 7: copy of memorandum dated October 30, 2001 regarding wrongly accused youth institution workers

**ACTION**

**Jim Armstrong, Chair,  
Colchester Trails  
Association**

A letter to Mayor and Council dated October 30, 2001 from **Jim Armstrong, Chair, Colchester Trails Association**, regarding funding for the position of Trails Coordinator for Colchester County.

This issue was dealt with earlier in the meeting under ‘Presentations’.

**Clair Peers, C. Peers  
Property Consulting**

A letter to Council dated October 15, 2001 from **Clair Peers, C. Peers Property Consulting**, requesting an exemption from taxation of property owned by Hope Farm, 360 Johnson Road.

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That the letter from C. Peers Property Consulting requesting an exemption from taxation of property owned by Hope Farm, 360 Johnson Road, be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried.

**Councillor Jerry  
Blumenthal, President,  
UNSM**

A copy of a letter to Mayors/Wardens dated November 19, 2001 from **Councillor Jerry Blumenthal, President, UNSM**, regarding UNSM’s Roles and Responsibilities proposal.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That a letter be sent to the President of the UNSM advising him of Council’s concerns regarding the Province’s response to the UNSM proposal; specifically referring to items 5a, 6, and 11a.”

Motion Carried.

**Duane Rath,  
President, Truro and  
District Chamber of  
Commerce**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated November 8, 2001 from **Duane Rath, President, Truro and District Chamber of Commerce**, concerning suitable ‘Welcome to Colchester County’ signage on Highways 102 and 104.

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the letter from the Truro and District Chamber of Commerce concerning suitable ‘Welcome’ signage on Highways 102 and 104 be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried.

**Kathy Richard,  
Director/Owner, Little  
Wonders Child Care  
Centre, 815 College  
Road**

A letter to Colchester Development Office dated November 28, 2001 from **Kathy Richard, Director/Owner, Little Wonders Child Care Centre, 815 College Road**, requesting rezoning to local commercial at 815 College Road.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the letter from the Little Wonders Child Care Centre concerning rezoning be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

Motion Carried.

**Warden Patricia Nickerson, Municipality of Shelburne**

A copy of a memorandum dated October 30, 2001 from **Warden Patricia Nickerson, Municipality of Shelburne**, regarding wrongly accused youth institution workers.

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Baas

“That the memorandum from the Municipality of Shelburne regarding wrongly accused youth institution workers be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried.

#### INFORMATION

**Brian Stonehouse, Deputy Minister, Service N.S. & Municipal Relations**

A copy of a letter to CAO's dated October 4, 2001 from **Brian Stonehouse, Deputy Minister, Service N.S. and Municipal Relations**, regarding the Municipal Indicators Report (report on file in Clerk's office). Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Aldric d'Entremont, Warden, Municipality of Argyle**

A copy of a letter to CRTC dated October 24, 2001 from **Aldric d'Entremont, Warden, Municipality of Argyle**, concerning the increase in rural telephone rates. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Federation of Canadian Municipalities**

A program update from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities** on project funding with Infrastructure Canada and Green Municipal Funds financing. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

**Jack Layton, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities**

A Member Advisory dated October 29, 2001 from **Jack Layton, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, concerning the FCM federal budget submission: Investing in Communities Makes Sense. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

**Angus MacIsaac, Minister of Service N.S. and Municipal Relations**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated October 29, 2001 from **Angus MacIsaac, Minister of Service N.S. and Municipal Relations** in response to the Mayor's letter dated September 13<sup>th</sup> regarding the Regional Emergency Measures Bylaw. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

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|--|---|
| <b>Canadian Oil Heat Association</b>   | A copy of the October 2001 newsletter from the <b>Canadian Oil Heat Association</b> . <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this newsletter for information purposes.  |
| <b>David Darrow, Provincial Director of Planning, Service N.S. and Municipal Relations</b> | A letter to the CAO dated October 30, 2001 from <b>David Darrow, Provincial Director of Planning, Service N.S. and Municipal Relations</b> , regarding the adoption of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land-Use Bylaw for the Village of Tatamagouche. <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this letter for information purposes. |
| <b>Michael Baker, Minister of Justice and Attorney General</b>                             | A letter to Mayor Smith dated October 31, 2001 from <b>Michael Baker, Minister of Justice and Attorney General</b> , regarding our request to have the August civic holiday declared a public Family Day. <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this letter for information purposes.  |
| <b>Ronald Russell, Minister of Transportation and Public Works</b>                         | A letter to Mayor Smith dated November 2, 2001 from <b>Ronald Russell, Minister of Transportation and Public Works</b> , in response to the Mayor's letter of September 5 <sup>th</sup> concerning amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act. <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this letter for information purposes.                     |
| <b>Building Inspector</b>  | A copy of the Building Permit Statistics Report received from the <b>Building Inspector</b> for the month of October 2001. <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this report for information purposes.   |
| <b>Development Officer</b>   | A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the Development Officer for the month of October 2001. <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this report for information purposes.   |
| <b>Government of Nova Scotia</b>   | A copy of the Red Tape Reduction Task Force Progress Report dated October 2001 received from the <b>Government of Nova Scotia</b> (full report on file in Clerk's office). <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this report for information purposes.   |
| <b>Deputy Mayor Jerry Blumenthal, President, UNSM</b>                                      | A copy of a letter to Mayors/Wardens dated November 5, 2001 from <b>Deputy Mayor Jerry Blumenthal, President, UNSM</b> , regarding the future of the Roles and Responsibilities exercise. <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this letter for information purposes.  |
| <b>Elaine Wagner, Appeals Officer/Clerk, N.S. Utility and Review Board</b>                 | A copy of a letter dated November 14, 2001 from <b>Elaine Wagner, Appeals Officer/Clerk, N.S. Utility and Review Board</b> , confirming dates of appeal hearing for amendment to the Central Colchester Land-Use Bylaw. <u>Council agreed</u> to receive this letter for information purposes.                                    |
| <b>Denis Burgess, NDP Caucus</b>   | A copy of questions raised in the House of Assembly from <b>Denis Burgess, NDP Caucus</b> , concerning elimination of municipal taxation  |

exemption for N.S. Power Inc. and the Province's February equalization proposal. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.

**Federation of  
Canadian  
Municipalities**

A copy of an information bulletin from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, regarding the National Guide to Sustainable Municipal Infrastructure: Innovations and Best Practices. Council agreed to receive this bulletin for information purposes.

**Bernie MacDonald,  
Vice-Principal,  
Administration, N.S.  
Agricultural College**

A letter to the CAO dated November 15, 2001 from **Bernie MacDonald, Vice-Principal, Administration, N.S. Agricultural College**, enclosing a copy of the NSAC's interim report entitled 'An Evaluation of Nitrate-Nitrogen in the Groundwater of Bible Hill' (copy of report on file in Clerk's office). Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Federation of  
Canadian  
Municipalities**

A copy of a news release dated November 21, 2001 from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, regarding a student-run energy awareness initiative in six Canadian cities. Council agreed to receive this news release for information purposes.

**Federation of  
Canadian  
Municipalities**

A copy of a news release dated November 26, 2001 from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities** regarding green municipal funds investments to improve municipal infrastructure and the environment. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**County Website**

Deputy Mayor Matheson reported that he had received a telephone call earlier this evening concerning the County website. The caller indicated that the site did not have an up-to-date Council on it. Mr. MacIsaac to have staff investigate.

**Recess**

Council agreed to recess to an In-Camera meeting at 9:30 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 9:40 p.m.

**Gasper Cross Tender**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

"That Council re-advertise the tendered sale of the surplus property owned by the Municipality located on Gasper Cross, Salmon River, stating a minimum bid of \$5,500.00."

Motion Carried.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:00 p.m.”

Motion Carried.

Sheila Arsenault  
Deputy Clerk