

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, April 24, 2003 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
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:

Deputy Mayor Hugh Matheson	District #3
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Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the agenda be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- S add 9b: Fire Truck for Colchester County
- S No. 13 Information Item becomes No. 9c Action Item, Date of Special Meeting of Council on Recreation”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the minutes of meeting held on March 27, 2003 be approved with the following amendment:

- S Page 2002-135: The Seconder for Approval of Agenda should read Councillor Cooke; the Mover for Approval of Minutes should read Councillor McKenna”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising
from Minutes**

In response to an inquiry from Councillor Taylor concerning the Industrial Promotions Officer, Mr. MacIsaac, County CAO, indicated that he would provide an update at a future Council meeting on where CoRDA is with this position.

**Council Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Matheson presented a report from a Council Committee meeting held on April 10, 2003:

**Annual Bank
Resolution Renewals**

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to sign the banking documents as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Executive and Audit
Committee**

Mayor Smith reported that CPDS is having a meeting on Friday, April 25, 2003.

**Planning Advisory
Committee**

Councillor Masters reported that the Clifton District Planning Advisory Committee held a meeting on April 17th at which time, the Committee identified some landscape regions. The Committee should have information available to the public by May or June at the latest.

**Nominating
Committee**

At its meeting held on April 24th, the Nominating Committee recommended that Mr. Ray Foote be appointed as a citizen representative to the Citizens’ Monitoring Committee.

Moved by Councillor Cooke
Seconded by Councillor Baas

“That Council approves the recommendation of the Nominating Committee that Mr. Ray Foote be appointed as a Citizen Representative on the Citizens’ Monitoring Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Cavanaugh requested that a meeting of the Citizens’ Monitoring Committee be held in the near future.

**Tatamagouche Water
Utility Committee**

Following a brief presentation from staff on the proposed pilot project involving the membrane technology, Councillor LeFresne presented a report from a Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee meeting held on April 17, 2003:

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That Council approves a pilot project be undertaken of the membrane technology at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**First Reading - Local
Improvement By-law**

Mayor Smith declared a conflict of interest and removed himself from discussion on this matter. In the absence of Deputy Mayor Matheson, Councillor McKenna assumed the position of Chair.

Mr. MacIsaac walked Council through the proposed new by-law. Council’s main concern focused on clause 5c with respect to the petition process and whether or not one owner’s signature per property is sufficient to signify the consent of other owners of the same property.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council hereby approves by way of First Reading the Local Improvement By-law with one amendment to Clause 5c as follows:

- 5c) Where an Adjacent Property has more than one Owner, the signature of one Owner of an Adjacent Property shall be taken to signify the consent of other owners of the same property.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Mayor Smith returned to the table and resumed his position as Chair.

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

Moved by Councillor Cooke
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council hereby approves by way of First Reading the Tax Exemption By-law as attached to these minutes.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Public Works
(Wastewater
Collection) -
Full-Time Position**

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council authorizes the creation of a full-time position and the deletion of the term position in Wastewater Collection and that Administration proceed to fill the full-time position in accordance with the Collective Agreement and the County’s Personnel Policies.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Fire Truck for Colchester County

Councillor Cavanaugh expressed concern with the number of bridge closures in District 6 resulting in firefighting services being some 18 kms. or more away from residents. He asked that the possible procurement of an additional fire truck in Colchester County be referred to Council Committee for further consideration.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the procurement of an additional fire truck in Colchester County be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

In preparation for this meeting, staff were requested to discuss this issue with the Colchester Firefighters Association.

Date of Special Meeting of Council on Recreation

Due to a change in the date of this meeting from what was circulated, this item was moved from Information to Action on the agenda.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the date for a special meeting of Council on Recreation will be Wednesday, May 7, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence

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

- S No. 7: letter from Judy Rose dated March 24, 2003 regarding the rising cost of auto insurance
- S No. 4: letter from Town of Stewiacke dated March 28, 2003 regarding former Camp Debert assets
- S No. 8 and 18: e-mail from UNSM dated April 3, 2003 concerning provincial budget and mandatory contributions to education and memo dated March 27, 2003 regarding Priorities Document submitted to Provincial Cabinet
- S No. 14: copy of Colchester East Hants Health Authority Development Strategy Project Summary

ACTION

**Megan Lane,
Projects Assistant,
Nature Conservancy
of Canada**

A copy of an e-mail from **Megan Lane, Projects Assistant, Nature Conservancy of Canada** requesting a tax exemption for the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the e-mail from the Nature Conservancy of Canada be received for information only.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Staff were requested to advise the Nature Conservancy of Canada that their application for a tax exemption is premature and to re-submit once the property has been transferred over to their organization.

**Charles L. O’Neil,
Chair, Leave a
Legacy**

A letter to the Mayor and Council dated March 14, 2003 from **Charles L. O’Neil, Chair, Leave a Legacy**, requesting the week of May 4-11, 2003 be proclaimed Leave a Legacy Week.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Baas

“That Council not proclaim the week of May 4-11, 2003 as Leave a Legacy Week.”

Motion **Defeated**.

*(Mayor Smith, Councillors Taylor,
Masters, Elliott, Edwards,
Cavanaugh, Lynds, Cooke opposed)*

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the week of May 4-11, 2003 be proclaimed Leave a Legacy Week.”

Motion Carried.

*(Councillors McKenna, Baas and
LeFresne opposed)*

**C. Hill, Canadian
Mental Health
Association**

A copy of a facsimile dated April 7, 2003 from **C. Hill, Canadian Mental Health Association**, requesting the week of May 5-11, 2003 be proclaimed Mental Health Week and that Mayor Smith attend the signing of the proclamation.

Moved by Councillor Elliott
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the week of May 5-11, 2003 be proclaimed Mental Health Week.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Deping Chian, Falun Dafa Association of Canada, Halifax Group

An e-mail to the Mayor and Council from **Deping Chian, Falun Dafa Association of Canada, Halifax Group**, requesting that May 13, 2003 be proclaimed World Falun Dafa Day or the week of May 12-18, 2003 be proclaimed Falun Dafa Week.

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the week of May 12-18, 2003 be proclaimed Falun Dafa Week.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Stefan Hoddinott, Real Estate Advisor, Public Works and Government Services Canada

A letter to the CAO dated March 18, 2003 from **Stefan Hoddinott, Real Estate Advisor, Public Works and Government Services Canada**, concerning surplus property at 43 Lake Road, Tatamagouche.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That the Municipality advise Public Works and Government Services Canada that it does not wish to purchase the property located at 43 Lake Road in Tatamagouche.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Don Zwicker, President, UNSM

A copy of a memorandum dated April 23, 2003 from **Councillor Don Zwicker, President, UNSM**, concerning rising assessments.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That the issue of rising assessments be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Cindy Coles, Manager, Hepatitis Outreach Society

A fax dated April 8, 2003 from **Cindy Coles, Manager, Hepatitis Outreach Society**, requesting that the month of May be declared Hepatitis “C” Awareness Month.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the month of May 2003 be proclaimed Hepatitis “C” Awareness Month.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Judy Rose, 18 Forest Hill Drive, Truro

A letter dated March 24, 2003 from **Judy Rose, 18 Forest Hill Drive, Truro**, regarding the rising cost of auto insurance.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That a letter be sent to the Province of Nova Scotia, copy to the UNSM, indicating the Municipality’s concern with the rising cost of insurance and request the Province take a look at all avenues of the insurance industry.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Christopher Wright, Mayor, Town of Stewiacke

A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 28, 2003 from **Mayor Christopher Wright, Town of Stewiacke**, regarding negotiations with the Colchester Park Development Society of the former Camp Debert assets.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That a letter be sent to the Town of Stewiacke thanking them for their continued support through the negotiation process with the Colchester Park Development Society.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Kenneth Simpson, Executive Director, UNSM

A copy of an e-mail dated April 3, 2003 from **Kenneth Simpson, Executive Director, UNSM**, regarding the provincial budget and the mandatory contributions to education and a copy of a memorandum dated March 27, 2003 enclosing a copy of the UNSM’s Priorities Document submitted to the Provincial Cabinet.

AND

Councillor Don Zwicker, President, UNSM

There was a brief discussion by Council concerning the 2003-04 provincial budget recently released and its commitment to increasing the education budget by more than \$66 million. For municipalities, this is an increase of 4.8 percent over last year.

Colchester East Hants Health Authority

A copy of the Development Strategy Project Summary received from the **Colchester East Hants Health Authority**.

Mayor Smith reported on a meeting that he and the CAO had with representatives from the Colchester East Hants Health Authority on March 31, 2003. The main thrust of the meeting was to discuss the proposed replacement of the hospitals in Truro and Tatamagouche. The cost would be in the neighbourhood of \$100 million. This region’s portion would amount to \$25 million. Mayor Smith indicated that Council can expect to be approached for funding at some point in the future.

INFORMATION

Senator Consiglio Di Nino, Senate of Canada

A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 6, 2003 from **Senator Consiglio Di Nino, Senate of Canada**, concerning buying practices of products produced in China. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

Christopher Daly, Manager, Environmental Assessment

A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 21, 2003 from **Christopher Daly, Manager, Environmental Assessment**, concerning amendments to the environmental assessment regulations. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

David Hovell, Executive Director, Nova Scotia Chapter of Canadian Oil Heat Association

A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 24, 2003 from **David Hovell, Executive Director, Nova Scotia Chapter of Canadian Oil Heat Association**, concerning the Nova Scotia Market Development Fund. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

Jan Steen, Canadian Homeless Organization

A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 28, 2003 from **Jan Steen Canadian Homeless Organization**, concerning Millbrook trailer park. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

Councillor Don Zwicker, President, UNSM

A copy of a memorandum to Mayors/Wardens and Council dated April 2, 2003 from **Councillor Don Zwicker, President, UNSM**, concerning an Effective Community Decision Making Workshop. Council agreed to receive this memorandum for information purposes.

Marsha Andrews, Executive Director, Tourism Division, NS Tourism & Culture

A copy of an e-mail dated April 3, 2003 from **Marsha Andrews, Executive Director, Tourism Division, NS Tourism & Culture**, regarding tourism highlights in 2003-04 budget for tourism. Council agreed to receive this e-mail for information purposes.

Federation of Canadian Municipalities

A copy of a Members Advisory dated April 3, 2003 from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, regarding municipal-aboriginal co-operation for economic development. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.

Ron Creighton, Chair, CoRDA

A copy of a letter dated April 7, 2003 from **Ron Creighton, Chair, CoRDA**, enclosing a copy of the 2003-04 Business Plan for CoRDA. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

Union of N.S. Municipalities

A copy of the N.S. Legislation Report Spring Session dated April 10, 2003 from **Union of N.S. Municipalities**. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

**Alain Begin,
President, Truro &
District Chamber of
Commerce**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 10, 2003 from **Alain Begin,
President, Truro & District Chamber of Commerce**, requesting an update on negotiations between County and CPDS. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics for the month of March 2003 from the **Building Inspector**. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Report for the month of March 2003 from the **Development Officer**. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

**Janice Hopkins,
Director, Alternative
Strategies &
Regulatory Affairs
Division, Pest
Management
Regulatory Agency**

A letter to the CAO dated March 10, 2003 from **Janice Hopkins,
Director, Alternative Strategies & Regulatory Affairs Division,
Pest Management Regulatory Agency**, containing information on the urban use of pesticides. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**N.S. Adopt-A-
Highway Program**

A copy of a Litterature newsletter for Spring 2003 from the **N.S. Adopt- A-Highway Program**. Council agreed to receive this newsletter for information purposes.

NDP Caucus Office

A copy of a letter dated March 28, 2003 from the **NDP Caucus Office**, regarding high automobile insurance rates. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Federation of
Canadian
Municipalities**

A copy of a Member Advisory dated April 4, 2003 from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, concerning municipal governments' participation in national antenna tower policy review. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.

**Colchester East
Hants Health
Authority**

A copy of highlights from a meeting held on March 18, 2003 from the **Colchester East Hants Health Authority**. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.

**Chip Taylor, St.
Andrews River
Valley**

A copy of a letter to the Town of Stewiacke dated April 3, 2003 from **Chip Taylor, St. Andrews River Valley**, concerning the St. Andrews River Watershed. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Steve Graves,
President, Mainland
N.S. Building &
Construction Trades**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated April 4, 2003 from **Steve Graves,
President, Mainland N.S. Building & Construction Trades
Council**, concerning development of offshore energy resources. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

Library Board

Councillor Cooke reported that he had attended a meeting of the Board on Tuesday, April 22nd. At this meeting, there was discussion on the possible discontinuance of the Bookmobile. To replace the book mobile would cost approximately \$200,000. The Board may also look at setting up six satellite offices.

Recess

Council agreed to recess to an In-Camera session at 9:40 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 9:58 p.m.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Deputy Clerk