

March 31, 2005

**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, March 31, 2005 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 Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #6
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor Soley Lynds	District #8
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Doug Cooke	District #10
Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11

Absent:

Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
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**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the agenda for March 31, 2005 be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- add 10b: Colchester Transportation Co-operative Ltd.
- add 12b: Colchester Legion Pipes and Drums
- Move #10, Relay for Life, from Action to Information as 12c”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the minutes of meeting held on February 24, 2005 be approved with the following amendment:

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- Page 2004-180: under report for St. Andrews Watershed Stewardship Committee, add the word 'not' to second sentence of second paragraph, 'Plans are to not to present the paper in public forum' .”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising  
from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of meeting held on February 24, 2005.

**Presentations**

S/Sgt. Hugh Walker and Sgt. Dave Darrah, RCMP - Colchester  
County Detachment

In his presentation, S/Sgt. Walker provided and handed out operational statistics for 2004-05. This included statistics on crimes dealing with robbery, assault, break and enter, theft, fraud, firearm offences, drugs, and traffic violations.

Regarding human resources, S/Sgt. Walker reported that last year the RCMP operated at a full strength of 27; however, they presently have one person off on sick leave, one person on short-term disability, one person on parental leave and three officers transferring out, two of which are or will be replaced.

S/Sgt. Walker stated that with an upcoming reorganization, some of their existing resources will be allocated to highway traffic issues. A presentation will be made to Council on this matter at some future date.

During discussion, Council requested that the RCMP provide a comparison for each category of the operational statistics for the last three years in order to identify trends.

When discussing the number of employee criminal records checks being conducted by the RCMP (1,953 in 2004-05), Council raised the issue of why no fee is charged for this service in Colchester County. The Halifax Regional Municipality charges \$25.00 per request.

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Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the issue of the Municipality charging service fees for employee criminal records checks be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Vince DeAdder, President, Colchester East Hants Seniors' Council

Mr. Vince DeAdder indicated to Council that the purpose of his presentation was to provide a brief overview of the Colchester East Hants Seniors Council and what its issues are. The Seniors' Council represents seniors' issues to governments and works with all clubs and organizations within the Colchester East Hants area. There are 131,000 seniors in Nova Scotia . Colchester and East Hants have approximately 14 to 15 percent seniors, ages 65 and older. Some of the issues that the Seniors Council deals with and offers assistance to include home care, grants, ambulance services, transportation and emergency preparedness. Handouts on the organization were distributed.

Ellery Deuille, Manager, Deuille's Rink

Mr. Deuille indicated that Deuille's rink started as an outdoor rink in 1960. In 1989, the rink was enclosed and by 1997, artificial ice was installed. He stated that the biggest issue he is up against is the cost of maintaining the rink. He expressed concern over the fact that he provides the same services as the public arenas but has no access to municipal funding because his rink is a privately owned business.

Mr. Deuille requested that the Municipality consider establishing a committee to look at ways of providing financial support to his family-owned arena.

*At this point in the presentation, Deputy Mayor Matheson declared a conflict of interest on this matter and removed himself from the table.*

Moved by Councillor Lynds  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the presentation from Mr. Ellery Deuille, Manager of Deuille's Rink, be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Moved by Councillor Lynds  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the issue of establishing a committee to investigate ways of providing financial support to Deuville’s rink be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Staff were requested to advise Mr. Deuville of when this item would be addressed at Council Committee.

*At this point, Deputy Mayor Matheson returned to the table.*

Mr. Paul Settle, Head Coach, Central Nova Volleyball Club

In his presentation, Mr. Settle requested Council’s consideration of financial support to a student in the amount of \$200.00. This would pay half of the expenses for a trip of the Central Nova Volleyball Club to Sherbrooke, Quebec for the Eastern Canadian Under 15 Championships. The total cost of the trip for each student is \$400.00 for accommodation, transportation and meals. Mr. Settle circulated a letter to Council dealing with his request.

Moved by Councillor Cooke  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the presentation from Mr. Paul Settle, Head Coach of the Central Nova Volleyball Club, be received and that members of Council provide Mr. Settle with any direction they have regarding funding resources available.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Duncan McCurdy, Colchester County Federation of Agriculture

Mr. McCurdy indicated that the purpose of his presentation was to invite Council to the upcoming agricultural tour taking place on April 16, 2005. This year, the tour will focus on the South Colchester area.

Staff were directed to contact Council members to determine availability and advise the Federation accordingly.

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**Standing Committee  
on Reports and  
Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Matheson presented reports from Council Committee meetings held on March 9 and 10, 2005 and a report from an Executive and Audit Committee meeting held on February 4, 2005:

**Budget  
Approval/Tax Rate  
Resolution**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council approves the 2005-06 Operating Budget with the additions/deletions as set out on March 9, 2005; and,

That the following Tax Resolution be approved as presented:  
WHEREAS the Municipal Council of the County of Colchester is required to levy rates which it deems sufficient to raise the sum required to defray the expenditure of the Municipality of the County of Colchester for the current twelve month fiscal period;

RESOLVED that pursuant to **Section 72 of the Municipal Government Act**, the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester estimates that sums amounting to **\$14,484,451** are required for the lawful purpose of the Municipality for the year ending **March 31, 2006**, after crediting the probable revenue from all sources other than rates for the abatement and losses which occur in the collection of the taxes for the said year which may not be collected or collectible;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council authorize the levying and collection of a rate of **seventy-seven (77) cents** on each \$100.00 of the assessed value of the residential and resource property assessed in the **2005** Assessment Roll;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council authorize the levying and collection of a rate of **one dollar eighty cents (\$1.80)** on each \$100.00 on the assessed value of Commercial Property and Business Occupancy assessed in the **2005** Assessment Roll;

FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to **Section 78 of the Municipal Government Act** in lieu of all rates and taxes of the Municipality, an owner of forest property to which the said section applies shall pay tax equal to twenty-five (25) cents per acre on holdings of 50,000 or less and forty (40) cents per acre on holdings greater than 50,000 acres and where an area, village or commission rate is levied for fire protection, the owner shall pay an additional tax of one (1) cent per acre;

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FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council hereby requires payment of said rates to be made to the Tax Collector or Treasurer of the said Municipality on or before the 11th day of August, 2005;

FURTHER RESOLVED that said Council hereby imposes an additional percentage charge of 15% per annum on all rates and taxes remaining unpaid after the 11th day of August, 2005.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**2005 Tulip Festival**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council approves a \$1,000 donation to the 2005 Tulip Festival in support of this event scheduled for May 20-23, 2005 in Truro, source of funds to be the 2004-05 Economic Development Grant Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Funding Request -  
Five Islands and  
District Fire Brigade**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That Council approves the funding request from the Five Islands and District Fire Brigade in the amount of \$4,500 towards the purchase of a small marine rescue unit.”

Motion Carried. *(Mayor Smith opposed)*

**Funding Request -  
Central Nova  
Tourist Association**

In a memorandum to Council attached to this report, staff suggest that the recommendation to Council be received for information only. This request was already approved at Council’s Additions/Deletions meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> for the 2005-06 fiscal year. As with normal practice, the CNTA funding for future years will be included in the 2006-07 maintenance budget and will be noted for Council’s attention at that time.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the current recommendation to Council to approve the funding request from the Central Nova Tourist Association for an annual sum of \$2,000 towards a Regional Marketing Initiative be withdrawn and received for information only.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Tobacco Reduction**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson

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**Strategy Municipal  
Advisory Committee**

Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That Council approves that the Municipality not appoint a representative to the Tobacco Reduction Strategy Municipal Advisory Committee under the current terms of reference.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Community School  
Walking Program**

*Councillor Terri Mingo declared a conflict of interest on the Community School Walking Program and removed herself from discussion on this matter.*

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council approves the Municipality entering into a partnership agreement with the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board for a School Walking Program and authorizes the Mayor and CAO to execute this agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

*At this point, Councillor Mingo returned to the table.*

**Funding for  
Community Access  
Program**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That Council authorizes the Mayor to write to the federal government urging reinstatement of funding to the Community Access Program.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Debenture  
Refinancing -  
Balefill Facility**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign the issuing resolution, the temporary borrowing resolution and other documentation with respect to the debenture issue of \$4,000,000 remaining on the Balefill Facility.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Welcome to  
Colchester -  
Highway Signage**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves the allocation of \$29,000 for three Colchester County ‘welcome’ signs to be created and erected along Highways 102 and 104.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Cooke, Lynds and Cavanaugh opposed)*

**Colchester Arenas  
Association**

*Deputy Mayor Matheson declared a conflict of interest on the Colchester Arenas Association and removed himself from discussion on this matter. Councillor LeFresne presented this item from the report.*

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council supports full capital funding of the compressor for the Colchester Arenas Association and authorizes the Municipality to pay in this current year the remaining 50% or \$28,250 still owing on the equipment.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

*At this point, Deputy Mayor Matheson returned to the table.*

**Transfer of Portion  
of 2004-05  
Operating Surplus  
to Reserve**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council approves the transfer of \$550,000 from the 2004-05 Operating Surplus to the Municipal Infrastructure Reserve Fund and \$150,000 from the 2004-05 Operating Surplus to the Materials Recovery Facility Equipment Reserve Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Executive and Audit  
Committee**

Staff provided an update on the following items from the minutes of the Executive and Audit Committee meeting held on February 22, 2005:

- Budget Kiosk Street Address: An agreement has been signed off with Budget giving them until July 1, 2005 to correct the violation concerning the elevation of the building. Another issue concerning access ramps has also been dealt with.
- Public Fire Protection, Debert Air Industrial Park: Staff have written to the Province seeking direction regarding

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their authority to levy a bill to the Municipality for fire protection charges at the Park; however, to date no response has been received

- Colchester Regional Business Parks Development Plan: CoRDA has been advised of Council's decision regarding the funding percentages from the sale of houses and a local Memorandum of Agreement which reflects the 80-20 split after allocation to reserves.

**Date of Capital Budget Meeting**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matheson

“That Council approves Thursday, April 21, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. as the date for the second meeting on the 2005-06 Capital Budget Process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Masters indicated that he may have a conflict with this date due to a meeting of the Clifton PAC being scheduled for that same evening. Staff will look into having the PAC meeting changed to another date.

**Truro Dog By-law**

Because this item was placed on table for this evening's meeting, staff suggested that Council may wish to refer this item to April Committee to allow more time to review the document.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the Action Item on the Truro Dog By-law be referred to April Council Committee and that authority be given to Council Committee to make a final decision.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**County Flag**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council authorizes the Municipality to purchase 201 flags of the outdoor variety at a price of \$42.43 each.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That policy regarding the use of County flags be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Colchester  
Transportation  
Funding Request**

The Colchester Transportation Co-operative Ltd. submitted an application to the Municipality under the Grants to Non-Profit Organization Program. At the March Additions/Deletions meeting, a question arose about their eligibility for the Program as they are listed as a limited company and staff were requested to investigate. To ensure Council has the correct information when they consider this request, staff recommended that the application be referred to a future Council Committee meeting.

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matheson

“That the grant application from the Colchester Transportation Co-operative Ltd. Be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

When bringing forward to Committee, staff were requested to include all information on CTCL that was supplied at the Additions/Deletions meeting held in March.

**Correspondence**

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

- Nos. 7 and 10: e-mail from David Carter concerning Fundy Compost/Inglewood Farm Wastes *and* letter from Fred Blois dated March 15, 2005 concerning Inglewood Farms’ land application and policy of N.S. Federation of Agriculture
- No. 1: letter from Minister Responsible for Emergency Measures Act dated February 17, 2005 regarding municipal emergency preparedness evaluation
- Nos. 11 and 19: letters from EMO (NS) dated March 21 and 30, 2005 regarding emergency power backup generator grant process

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ACTION

**Ellery Deuville,  
Manager, Deuville's  
Rink**

A letter to Mayor Smith and Council from **Ellery Deuville, Manager, Deuville's Rink**, requesting a tax exemption for Deuville's Rink and an acknowledgement from the CAO dated March 2, 2005.

Council agreed to receive this letter for information only as Deuville's Rink was referred to Council Committee earlier this evening during 'Presentations'.

**North Shore ATV  
Mud Runners  
Society**

A letter to the County received March 8, 2005 from the **North Shore ATV Mud Runners Society** requesting a tax exemption on property located at 637 Upper Kemptown Cross Road, Lot 97-D.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor White

"That the letter from the North Shore ATV Mud Runners Society requesting a tax exemption on property located at 637 Upper Kemptown Cross Road, Lot 97-D, be referred to Council Committee."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Morgan Hicks,  
Fundraising and  
Events Coordinator,  
Child Care  
Connections N.S.**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 14, 2005 from **Morgan Hicks, Fundraising and Events Coordinator, Child Care Connections N.S.** requesting that the month of June 2005 be proclaimed "Child Care Awareness Days."

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

"That the month of June 2005 be proclaimed Child Care Awareness Days."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Joanna Canning,  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
Colchester Fire  
Fighters Association**

A letter to Mayor and Council dated February 17, 2005 from **Joanna Canning, Secretary-Treasurer, Colchester Fire Fighters Association**, regarding the purchase of "Jaws of Life" equipment.

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Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the letter from the Colchester Fire Fighters Association regarding the purchase of Jaws of Life equipment be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**David Carter,  
Resident of Pleasant  
Valley and Fred  
Blois, Concerned  
Citizens of R.R. #1,  
Truro**

Copy of e-mails to Mayor Smith from **David Carter, Resident of Pleasant Valley**, concerning Fundy Compost/Inglewood Farms *and* copy of letter to Minister Kerry Morash, Department of Environment and Labour dated March 15, 2005 from **Fred Blois, Concerned Citizens of R.R. #1, Truro**, concerning Inglewood Farms' land application and the policy statement from the N.S. Federation of Agriculture on the use of biosolids.

Concerning the correspondence from Mr. Carter, Mayor Smith advised that he is interested in meeting with Mr. Carter but has had no response from him to his e-mail.

Councillor Masters also indicated that he has requested the release of studies which were referred to at a public meeting in Old Barns.

Council then had a brief discussion on whether the Province would allow the Municipality to handle its own sludge and decided to refer the issue to a future Council Committee meeting.

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the issue of how the Municipality would handle its own sludge be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Ernest Fage,  
Minister Responsible  
for Emergency  
Measures Act**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated February 17, 2005 from **Ernest Fage, Minister Responsible for Emergency Measures Act**, regarding the municipal emergency preparedness evaluation.

Councillor Cooper brought this letter forward to recognize Mr. Carl Shaw, the municipal Emergency Measures Coordinator, as well as all others who were responsible for this evaluation. The evaluation provided a score of 102 of a possible 115 and an “excellent” rating.

**Craig MacLaughlan,  
Executive Director,  
EMO (NS)**

A copy of letters dated March 21 and 30, 2005 from **Craig MacLaughlan, Executive Director, EMO (NS)**, concerning the emergency power backup generator grant process and funding.

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Regarding the letter dated March 21, 2005, staff reported that the Emergency Measures Coordinator (EMC) submitted an application under this new program for the purchase of three large generators for the region, one each for Town of Truro, Town of Stewiacke and the Municipality of Colchester. Six smaller generators were also purchased and will be stored at the Special Hazards Response Unit building and used throughout the County when the power goes out.

With regard to the second letter dated March 30<sup>th</sup> which indicated additional provincial funding for the program, staff reported that the Town of Stewiacke has submitted its own application through the EMC to rewire their fire hall and community centre for an emergency operations centre. The Municipality's biggest priority would be the purchase of a generator for the new emergency operations centre in Bible Hill.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council authorizes the CAO to act regarding the purchase and distribution of generators under the new provincial emergency power backup generator grant program.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

#### INFORMATION

**Jamie Muir,  
Minister of  
Education**

A copy of a letter dated February 22, 2005 from **Jamie Muir, Minister of Education**, regarding year-end funding announcement for public libraries. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Lyle Goldberg, Policy  
Analyst, UNSM**

A copy of a memorandum dated March 8, 2005 from **Lyle Goldberg, Policy Analyst, Union of N.S. Municipalities**, concerning the Women in Local Government Project. Council agreed to receive this memorandum for information purposes.

**Assistant  
Commissioner Ian  
Atkins, Commanding  
Officer, RCMP-NS**

A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 9, 2005 from **Assistant Commissioner Ian Atkins, Commanding Officer, RCMP-NS**, responding to the Mayor's column in the March 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Truro Daily News. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.

**Building Inspector**

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics Report received from the **Building Inspector** for the month of February 2005. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

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- Development Officer** A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the **Development Officer** for the month of February 2005. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.
- Jane Farquharson, Heart & Stroke Foundation of NS** A letter to Mayor Smith and Councillors from **Jane Farquharson, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia**, regarding County plans to upgrade trails (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 an announcement dated March 12, 2005 from the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**, regarding new funding for the Green Municipal Funds Program. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.
- M.R. Lester, Executive Director (Retired), EMO (NS)** A copy of a letter and report received March 17, 2005 from **M.R. Lester, Executive Director (Retired), EMO (N.S.)**, enclosing a copy of the 2004 annual report (copy of report on file in Clerk's office). Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Union of N.S. Municipalities** A copy of an e-mail dated March 17, 2005 from the **Union of N.S. Municipalities**, regarding nominations for the Award of Excellence in Public Administration. Council agreed to receive this e-mail for information purposes.
- Colchester Regional Development Agency** A copy of a press release from the **Colchester Regional Development Agency**, regarding CoRDA's registration for ISO 9001. Council agreed to receive this correspondence for information purposes.
- Murray Scott, MLA, Cumberland South** A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 22, 2005 from **Murray Scott, MLA, Cumberland South**, regarding the RCMP Northeast Nova Drug Section. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- G.R. Hilchey, HPI Coordinator, Town of Truro** A letter to the Municipality dated March 22, 2005 from **G.R. Hilchey, HPI Coordinator, Town of Truro**, concerning a website for historic properties in Truro, including 1 Church Street. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Brooke Taylor, MLA, Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley** A letter to Mayor Smith dated March 23, 2005 from **Brooke Taylor, MLA, Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley**, concerning the Municipality's letter to Premier Hamm on gasoline price increases. Council agreed to receive this letter for information purposes.
- Union of N.S. Municipalities** A copy of an e-mail dated March 29, 2005 from the **Union of N.S. Municipalities**, regarding multiculturalism in communities. Council agreed to receive this e-mail for information purposes.

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**Low Income Tax  
Exemption Policy -  
Adverse Possession**

Staff were asked to look into the term 'adverse possession' which appears in Section 3(c) of the Low Income Tax Exemption Policy. The term means that a person (not the owner) may gain title to property by using the land (apparent for all to see) for an extended period of time which varies from province to province. The inclusion of this term in the Policy is appropriate. The Statutory Declaration has been amended to make the Municipality's position on adverse possession more clear.

**Colchester Legion  
Pipes and Drums  
Grant Funding**

In January, Council approved funding support to the Colchester Legion Pipes and Drums up to a maximum of \$8,000, less any monies received by this organization from the Town of Truro and/or the Province of Nova Scotia. The band, having received a \$1,000 grant from the Town of Truro and no funding from the Province, the Municipality issued a cheque to them for \$7,000. The band then received notice that the Province would be providing a grant to them in the amount of \$5,000 on April 1<sup>st</sup>; therefore, arrangements were made for the Municipality to be reimbursed for the \$5,000. The final municipal grant contribution was \$2,000.

**Relay for Life**

Councillor White reported that the 2005 Relay for Life to raise funds for cancer will be held on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Agri-Tech Park in Bible Hill. He has volunteered to co-captain a team from the Municipality along with Sue Burley, Manager of Recreational Services. Councillors wanting further information may contact either Councillor White or Ms. Burley.

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

**Solid Waste Management Committees**

Deputy Mayor Matheson reported on meetings he attended of the Northern Region Inter-municipal Management Committee and the N.S. Solid Waste Resource Management Regional Chairs Committee. Both meetings dealt with a review of the diversion credits formula. The new formula, which was passed at the Northern Region meeting, would have a negative impact on Colchester in terms of our financial share with respect to diversion credits. It was again voted on at the Regional Chairs' meeting in Halifax where it did not receive sufficient support, therefore the status quo will remain.

**School Access Program**

Deputy Mayor Matheson reported on the initial meeting held at South Colchester Academy. Three people were appointed to the committee. Plans are underway even though the agreement has not been signed off by the Province as yet.

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St. Andrews Watershed Stewardship Committee

Councillor Cooper reported on another meeting he attended of the St. Andrews River Watershed Stewardship Committee. He expressed frustration with getting a response from the Town of Stewiacke on the process involved in preparing and getting approval of the Watershed Stewardship Committee document.

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matheson

“That a letter from Council be sent to the Town of Stewiacke requesting an explanation on the process involved in developing the Watershed Stewardship Committee document.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

North River Elementary School Steering Team

Councillor Cavanaugh referred to an item on table which reported on a meeting of the North River Elementary School Steering Team which was held on March 10, 2005.

Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee

Councillor LeFresne reported on the tour that the citizen representatives of the Committee had of the Tatamagouche Water Utility on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Following the tour, he and the Director of Public Works also had a meeting with the Tatamagouche Fire Department to discuss the recent fire and the capability of the Water Utility and the new plant.

French River Watershed Advisory Committee

Councillor LeFresne indicated that he is getting questions from members of the Committee on when the initial meeting will be.

CoRDA

Councillor White indicated that CoRDA has asked him to sit on a committee dealing with regional economic development, the first meeting to be held next week.

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**Recess**

Council agreed to recess to an in-camera session at 10:55 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 11:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the meeting be adjourned at 11:35 p.m.”

Sheila Arsenault  
Deputy Clerk