

January 11, 2007

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Regular Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia on Thursday, January 11, 2007.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Mike Smith	
Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Deputy Mayor Hughie Matheson (Chair)	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
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

Absent:

Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11
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**Public Hearing -
Dangerous or
Unightly Premises**

Appeal Hearing -
Kenneth F. Bouchie, 8790 Highway 2, Great Village

Mr. Mannie Withrow, Building Inspector, provided a sequence of events leading up to this appeal hearing concerning property located at 8790 Highway 2 in Great Village. In June 2006, the County issued an order to demolish an accessory building located on the property. This work has been completed. In August 2006, the property changed ownership from Citi Financial to Mr. Kenneth Bouchie of Dartmouth.

Mr. Withrow indicated that a complaint was received on November 7th followed by an inspection on November 8th. At that time, the property was deemed not to be unsightly. A letter to this effect was sent to the complainant with an indication that they had the right to appeal the Building Inspector's decision. In a letter dated November 20, 2006, the complainant, Charlotte Smith, filed an appeal.

Charlotte and Ron Smith and Arthur Haskins

In their presentation, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Mr. Haskins circulated various pictures of the dwelling as well as a description

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of what they felt supported the dangerous and unsightly complaint against this property. Their concerns included the following:

- foundation unsafe to support building - a hole in foundation in front of building and three hardwood pallets holding it up on south end
- building abandoned for three years
- windows and one door covered with thin chipboard
- fire hazard - package circulated to Council included a letter from the local fire brigade to support this
- assessment on Mr. Haskins' property reduced by 15% due to this building being located next to his property (this was supported by a notice circulated to Council from the Nova Scotia Regional Assessment Appeal Court)
- oil spill under back deck

There were no representatives at the meeting to speak on behalf of the property owner.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the Municipality register a complaint with the Department of Environment and Labour regarding the oil spill on the property located at 8790 Highway 2, Great Village; and,

That the Building Inspector be instructed to investigate further to determine whether the building is structurally sound; and,

That Council defer a decision on this matter until the above information is obtained.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Lynds opposed)*

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the agenda for January 11, 2007 be approved with the following additions:

- add 13b: Street Light at Intersection of Highway 102 and Highway 2, Onslow
- add 13c: Rat Petition, Pleasant Valley
- add 14b: Canada Games Rally
- add to No. 15, In-Camera: Property Matter”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Taylor
 Seconded by Councillor White

“That the minutes of meeting held on December 11-14, 2006 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of meeting held on December 11-14, 2006.

Presentations

Before tonight’s presenters were introduced, Mr. Gary MacIsaac, Chief Administrative Officer, provided a brief overview of the issue involving the Creamery Square Association and their request for a tax exemption. By way of pictures, Mr. MacIsaac explained that as it stands now, 39 Creamery Road is exempted and the request from the Creamery Square Association is related to 31 Creamery Road. The question before Council this evening is whether the exemption should continue on 39 Creamery Road where the new Farmers’ Market building is situated as well as whether Lot No. 31 should be exempted.

Mr. Floyd Tucker, President, Creamery Square Association
Ms. Lorenda Ebbett, President, Tatamagouche Farmers’ Market

Mr. Tucker provided Council with an update on the Creamery Square project. The Association has a lease with the Farmers’ Market. The Market is responsible for the inhouse operations of the building and external costs are shared between the Market and the Association. Activities in the Creamery Square building will eventually take place in the building where the Farmers’ Market is located. This building is also used for blood donor clinics. The Creamery Square building will then be developed into a museum as part of Phase 2 of the project. Alterations to the building should begin in the next few weeks. The funding for the development of Phase 2 has all been worked out. Phase 3 of the project relates to the development concept of the performing arts building.

Ms. Ebbett indicated that the Farmers’ Market Cooperative is a positive year-round attraction to the community and is economically a good thing. The businesses within the Farmers’ Market are very small ones. The Market offers a complimentary table for use by community groups.

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Moved by Mayor Smith
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the presentations from the Creamery Square Association and the Tatamagouche Farmers’ Market Cooperative be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Request for Tax
Exemption -
Creamery Square
Association**

To accommodate those in the audience, Council agreed to move this item forward on the agenda.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That Council Committee approves in principle the addition of the Creamery Square Association located at 31 Creamery Road, to Chapter 37 - Tax Exemption By-law, subject to final approval of the By-law in early 2007.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Request for Funding -
Truro Curling Club**

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a contribution in the amount of \$5,810 be made to the Truro Curling Club to cover the replacement cost of an upgraded heating system, source of funds to be the 2006-07 general operating budget.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Repeal of Outdated
By-laws**

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Mayor Smith

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that Chapter 9 - Public Safety By-law; Chapter 10 - Health and Sanitation By-law; Chapter 12 - Municipal Property and Streets By-law; Chapter 13 - Trade and Licensing By-law; Chapter 14 -Stray Livestock By-law; Chapter 15 - County Jail By-law; Chapter 17 - Relief of Liability By-law; Chapter 19 - Boats By-law; Chapter 20 - Junk Dealers By-law; Chapter 23 - Amendment By-law; Chapter 24 - Repeal By-law; Chapter 27 - Minimum Housing and Maintenance Standards By-law and Chapter 43 - Entertainment By-law, be repealed.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Funding Request -
Legion Provincial
Convention**

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a contribution in the amount of \$500 be made to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 26, in support of a provincial convention being held May 18-23, 2007, source of funds to be the 2006-07 Economic Development Grant Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Funding Request - N.S.
Sport Hall of Fame**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a contribution in the amount of \$500 be made to the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame in support of their capital campaign for a province-wide education program, source of funds to be the 2006-07 general operating budget.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cooke opposed)*

**2007 FCM Delegates -
Conference in Calgary,
Alberta**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That Mayor Smith, Councillors Edwards, Mingo and Cooper, and the Chief Administrative Officer attend the 2007 FCM Conference in Calgary, Alberta.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tabling of Motions

Mr. MacIsaac, the Chief Administrative Officer, indicated that this was being brought forward to Committee due to Council’s frustration in the past with the tabling of motions. The current Council Proceedings By-law makes no reference to the tabling of motions or suspension of debate for motions proposing to table a particular matter.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the memorandum attached to the Action Item from the Chief Administrative Officer dated January 4, 2007 be endorsed; more specifically that the tabling of motions be dealt with in two ways:

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1. Should Council not feel they are ready to vote on an issue for various reasons such as needing more information, then they should look to Section 12 c. of the Council Proceedings By-law and defer the consideration of the motion to a specific meeting or sometime in the future. This motion needs a mover and seconder, is debatable and must be voted on.
2. In the event that Council has sufficient information to proceed and a Councillor wishes to defeat a motion, then the original motion should be debated and voted upon. In this instance, the Chair would rule a motion to table out of order and would suggest instead that the original motion be voted upon. This would ensure that Council maintains the ability to allow full debate on the matter before them.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

It was also recommended that when a motion is deferred, that a date be included as to when it is to be brought forward again to Council.

**Street Light at
Intersection of
Highway 102 and
Highway 2, Onslow**

Moved by Councillor Lynds
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the request for a street light at the intersection of Highway 102 and Highway 2 be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

In preparation for when this item goes to Committee, staff were directed to contact the Department of Transportation and Public Works to determine if the installation of this street light falls under their jurisdiction. Mayor Smith suggested that the Province should be asked to look at the intersection itself as he feels it is one of the worst in the County.

**Rat Petition, Pleasant
Valley**

Councillor Masters made reference to correspondence and petition he received from Mr. David Carter of Pleasant Valley. The petition was to stop the rat and bird infestation in Pleasant Valley. Councillor Masters recommended that the Municipality refer this petition to the Department of Environment and Labour and request that they investigate the matter to determine if there is an issue.

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Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the rat petition be forwarded to the Department of Environment and Labour as this issue falls under their jurisdiction requesting that they investigate the matter and provide a report on the results of this investigation to the Municipality.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Wastewater Collection
Position**

Six candidates were interviewed for this position. An offer was made and accepted by Mr. Dana Stewart who will commence employment on January 2, 2007.

Canada Games Rally

Mr. MacIsaac advised that there is a Canada Games Rally scheduled to take place at the Truro Legion Stadium on Thursday, January 18, 2007 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This rally has been organized to show community support for the 2011 Canada Winter Games during the national site location committee visit.

Recess

Council agreed to recess to an in-camera session at 9:30 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 10:25 p.m.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary