

## **SPECIAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE**

A Special Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Michael Smith, Chair	
Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Deputy Mayor Hugh Matheson	District #3
Councillor Michael 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
Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the meeting was to review the 2007-08 “maintenance” budget.

### **2007-08 “Maintenance” Budget**

The Committee was provided with a suggested agenda for reviewing the budget.

There were a number of items identified at the February 8th Executive and Audit Committee meeting. The following directives from Executive were highlighted:

- Council consider transferring \$500,000 from the expected operating surplus in 2006/07 to the Operating Reserve Fund for capital improvements for the three Rural Arenas as recommended in the life cycle analysis.

*At the start of debate on the three rural arenas, Deputy Mayor Matheson declared a conflict and removed himself from the table. At the end of the debate, he returned to the table.*

- Council consider “maintenance” rates of 71 cents residential and \$2.00 commercial as basis for discussion for additions/deletions.
- If approvals at additions/deletions are in excess of the “maintenance” budget bottom line (\$36,000), Council consider use of operating surplus to balance, in lieu of increasing “maintenance” rates

Bruce Purchase, Director of Corporate Services, provided an overview of the projected surplus on the 2006/07 operating budget.

On the 2007/08 “maintenance” budget, Mr. Purchase reviewed assessment increases from the previous year and related this to the impact on both residential and commercial rates. Items that had changed in the proposed budget were discussed. Two questions raised during this discussion were referred to staff for a response. They were:

- Under Road Transportation, could we have a breakdown of the snow plowing maintenance costs and labour costs?
- Under the Balefill Facility, could we have an update on the increase in projected and budget costs for vehicles and equipment maintenance?

Committee received information on potential area rate budget changes and an overview of items for discussion at additions/deletions.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“ That the “maintenance” budget be approved as presented and that consideration be given at the Additions/Deletions Meeting to using the operating reserve, instead of adjusting the residential rate, to balance the budget.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Cooke  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

B.E. Purchase  
Director of Corporate Services