

March 8, 2007

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE***(D R A F T - to be approved on April 12/07)*

The Regular Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia on Thursday, March 8, 2007.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Mike Smith	
Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
Deputy Mayor Hughie Matheson (Chair)	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
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 Bill Masters	District #2
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #6

**Public Hearing -  
Dangerous or  
Unsightly Premises**

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

The CAO advised that at an appeal hearing in January 2007, additional information was received concerning an oil spill on this property and the condition of the dwelling. Instructions were given for the Building Inspector to contact the Department of Environment and Labour regarding the oil spill and to further investigate the dwelling to determine whether it is structurally sound. Tonight is a reconvening of this January appeal hearing to allow the Building Inspector to report on his findings.

Following Council's instructions, Mr. Mannie Withrow, Building Inspector, advised that he had conducted another inspection of the building, both inside and out. The pictures he provided gave Council a better appreciation of the deterioration of the building. Mr. Withrow indicated he would not allow anyone to live there without first having it looked at by a structural engineer.

Notification of this meeting had been provided earlier to the property owner. The Deputy Mayor called for Mr. Kenneth Bouchie or a representative to address Council Committee and neither were present. The Deputy Mayor also invited presentations from the public.

Moved by Councillor Cooke

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Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the appeal be allowed that deems the property at 8790 Highway 2, Great Village, to be dangerous or unsightly; and,

That an order be issued giving the property owner until April 30, 2007 to remedy the condition of the property by:

- Providing to the Municipality of Colchester a written assessment from a certified Structural Engineer on the condition of the dwelling, including a detailed set of plans for remedial work to the dwelling. The structure will also require all new plumbing, wiring and heating.

That the Building Inspector be directed to enter the property and demolish and remove the structure if the owner fails to provide the written assessment by April 30, 2007.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Carl and Juanita Legere, 16 Salmon River Branch Road

Mr. Withrow indicated that he received a written complaint on November 13, 2006 from a neighbour concerning property owned by Carl and Juanita Legere at 16 Salmon River Branch Road. An inspection carried out on November 17<sup>th</sup> found the property to be unsightly. A letter was written to the owners advising them of the unsightly condition of the property and giving them 30 days to clean it up. A re-inspection on January 2, 2007 showed that the property had been cleaned up to some extent; therefore, the owners were given a 30-day extension to complete the work. Another inspection on February 9<sup>th</sup> showed no noticeable improvement; therefore, the property was posted with a notice advising the owners to appear before Council Committee this evening.

Mr. Withrow recommended that Council Committee issue an order giving the owners 30 days to remedy the unsightly condition of the property.

Mr. Carl Legere indicated that he was unable to clean up his property completely because he works six out of seven days a week so there is not a lot of time to do it. He stated that last fall, he had put most of the stuff out during cleanup week but Truro Sanitation did not take it. He will try to clean it up before the summer if he has the time.

Mr. Legere's daughter came forward and re-affirmed her father's statement that their stuff was not taken by Truro Sanitation during

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fall cleanup.

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
 Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That an order be issued to the property owners and 30 days be given to remedy the condition of the property by:

- removing the miscellaneous appliances from the property and disposing of them in a lawful manner.
- removing the miscellaneous junk, garbage, auto parts, garage door, bicycles, and old oil tank from the property and disposing of them in a lawful manner.
- lining up the cars in an orderly fashion and placing the wood and old lumber in neat piles.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
 Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the agenda for March 8, 2007 be approved as circulated with one amendment:

- No. 9, the In-Camera portion of the agenda, will take place following the completion of the Additions/Deletions meeting which recessed earlier in the evening in order to hold the dangerous or unsightly premises public hearings which were scheduled for 7:00 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
 Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the minutes of meeting held on February 8, 2007 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### **Business Arising from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of meeting held on February 8, 2007.

### **Presentations**

Peter MacKinnon, CEO, Colchester East Hants Health Authority

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Mr. MacKinnon indicated that the purpose for his presentation to Council Committee was to provide an update on the Colchester East Hants Health Authority Hospital Replacement Project and the renovations at the Lillian Fraser Hospital in Tatamagouche. Mr. MacKinnon advised that he did not have sketches available for this evening's meeting but hopes to be back with them in April.

Highlights of his presentation include the following with respect to the new hospital project:

- provincial Order-in-Council in September 2005 approved \$104 million for the hospital project which translates into a building that provides 30% more useful space than the current facility
- \$22.5 million collected in cash and pledges
- new facility will have 140 beds and designed to create a healthy environment for patients and staff
- original project cost of \$104 million based on 2005 dollars
- construction costs increased dramatically over last couple of years
- increase in budget will require another provincial Order-in-Council
- tender out for construction management firm which closes in March and awarded a month later
- construction and tendering phases of work should start this Spring with preliminary clearing of land, construction in the Fall
- occupancy date is now early 2011

Mr. MacKinnon indicated that the Health Authority is also in the process of getting renovations underway at the Lillian Fraser Hospital. There are six phases to this project and in the next three weeks or so, the mechanical and electrical work should begin.

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the presentation from the Colchester East Hants Health Authority be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Colchester Arenas Audit**

*Deputy Mayor Matheson declared a conflict of interest on this matter and removed himself from the table. Councillor LeFresne assumed the position of Chair.*

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

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“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality move forward with the issues identified in the three audit studies; engage engineering advice to provide options to achieve this; complete the North Shore Recreation Centre and Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex and the West Colchester United Arena safety items currently included in the Arenas’ budget; and instruct staff to report back not later than May 2007 with engineering advice on setting out a process for dealing with all other safety issues by January 1, 2008.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Utility and Review Board Hearing - Boundary Review**

The Utility and Review Board has scheduled a hearing to review the Municipality’s application to amend the number and boundaries of polling districts and the number of Councillors in Colchester County. The hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 27, 2007 in the Council Chamber. The Board will advertise the hearing and there will be an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board.

### **Recess**

Council Committee agreed to recess to a Special Council session, the balance of the Additions/Deletions meeting and an in-camera session at 8:55 p.m. Council Committee reconvened in open session at 10:40 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:42 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault  
Recording Secretary