

## 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, June 14, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

### 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 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 Bill Masters	District #2
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### Moment of Silence

Council observed a moment of silence for Mr. Gordon Creelman, who passed away on June 10, 2007. Mr. Creelman was a Councillor for the Municipality from 1964 to 1970 and Municipal Clerk from 1970-1987.

### Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Cooke  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the agenda for June 14, 2007 be approved with the following additions:

- add 9b: Brookfield Sewer Extension - Highway 2 North

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the minutes of meeting held on May 14, 2007 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### Business Arising

In response to an inquiry from Councillor Taylor regarding the

from Minutes

School Board meeting held on May 23, 2007, Deputy Mayor Matheson reported that there was good attendance and that people attending the meeting had an opportunity to speak.

Presentations

Mr. Eric MacKeen, Treasurer; Mr. Jim Forbes, Chief; and Mr. Colin Cunningham, President, Tatamagouche Fire Department

In his presentation, Mr. MacKeen provided some background information and history of the Tatamagouche Fire Department. Information included financial data, services provided by the Fire Department, funding sources, and the role of the Village Commission.

Concern was expressed with the existing grant revenues received from the Tatamagouche Village Commission which translates to an area rate the equivalent of approximately 1.23 cents per hundred of assessment. The point was made that rural ratepayers in District 7 pay a rate of 8 cents per hundred compared to Village ratepayers who pay at a rate equivalent to 1.23 cents per hundred. Mr. MacKeen indicated that the Fire Department had only become aware of this information in the last two years, since the phasing out of the Business Occupancy Tax.

Information was provided on benefits of the services provided to the Village including fast response times, use of facility to non-profit organizations at no charge and insurance savings to the residents of the Village as of result of living close to a fire department and hydrants.

In closing, Mr. MacKeen stated that residents of the Village should pay the same or similar rate as other residents of the County and with the support of the County would like to work towards having a Ratepayers' meeting in the fall looking to the creation of a new area rate for the Village. Any changes would be effective for the 2008-2009 tax year.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the presentation from the Tatamagouche Fire Department be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Councillor LeFresne advised Council that the fire department made the same presentation to the Village Commission last month. The Village plans to hold a meeting in the fall and that the process has already been started.

Moved by Mayor Smith  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That this matter be referred to a future Committee meeting for discussion as a policy issue.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Don Harvey - Brookfield Sewer Extension, Highway # 2 North

Before beginning his presentation, Mr. Harvey provided Council with copies of the presentation and photos were passed around to Councillors showing four failed systems at Highway #2 North. He stated that he was disappointed in Council’s decision to turn down the sewer extension on Highway #2 North at the May Council meeting.

Concern was expressed about the change of plans for the sewer extension which had originally included Highway #2 North. He talked about the length of the extension to this area being approximately 4/5 of a kilometre and by servicing this area, it would take care of the failed systems and ones that would fail in the future. He also indicated that it is his understanding that the project has gone under budget and that more funding is now available.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That the presentation from Mr. Harvey be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Fierce and  
Dangerous Dog  
Legislation**

The CAO provided a brief history on this issue and indicated that the UNSM is seeking feedback on the Discussion Paper on Fierce and Dangerous Dog Legislation.

A copy of the Discussion Paper was given to local Veterinary Clinics and the NSAC for their input. All of the Veterinary Clinics responded by letter and the NSAC by email. Both the email and letters support the general direction set out in the Discussion Paper with the focus being on behaviour of the dog instead of breed.

Moved by Councillor Mingo  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council Committee direct that correspondence be sent to the UNSM supporting the direction set out in the Discussion Paper and in

particular, the approach to regulate dog behaviour as opposed to breed.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**RCMP Advisory  
Board**

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Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a five-member board be created; and,

That the CAO appoint a non-voting member to act as secretary; and,

That the Nominating Committee as well as the chief officer of the local RCMP detachment or his designate be the selection committee; and,

That staff advertise for the two citizen members so that they may be appointed at the August Council meeting; and,

That the term of appointment coincide with the term of Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Sponsorship Request  
- NSPE Truro  
Strongman  
Competition**

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Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality provide funding support to the N.S. Provincial Exhibition Truro Strongman Competition in the amount of \$750, source of funds to be the Economic Development Grants budget.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Mingo opposed)*

**Clear Garbage Bags**

The CAO provided a brief introduction of this issue and called upon Ms. Darlyne Proctor to address the issue further.

Ms. Proctor stated that she had recently attended a workshop in Yarmouth and advised Council that there are now 22 out of the 55 municipalities in Nova Scotia that have switched to clear bags. It is recommended that the Municipality of Colchester implement the same program, having all residents and businesses switch to the use of clear bags for garbage with allowance for one black bag for privacy items. There would still be a six (6) bag limit per bi-weekly garbage collection. Using the clear bag program would be easy for enforcement, and cost efficient.

Discussion was held and concerns raised were about industrial, commercial and institutional garbage. Some of the other key concerns include enforcement issues, green cart expansion throughout the County, expanding collection to include four (4) unit apartment buildings.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

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“That the issue of clear garbage bags be referred to August Committee for further discussion, and that staff report back with information on green cart expansion throughout the County, four-unit apartment building collection, enforcement issue, and the options of using all clear bags with allowance for one kitchen bag inside each clear bag versus using clear bags with allowance for one black garbage bag per waste collection.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Brookfield Sewer  
Extension - Highway  
2 North**

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*Councillor LeFresne assumed position of Chair while Deputy Mayor Matheson addressed Council on this matter.*

Deputy Mayor Matheson raised the previous decision of Council to not proceed with sewer installation along a section of Highway 2 North. He advised that a letter has now been received confirming a grant from the Province in the amount of \$633,000.

Discussion was held on this issue and concerns were raised about the cost of over \$400,000 to service 13 homes with sewer extension on Highway 2 North. John Bell Road and Carter Road were previously indicated as priorities for sewer extensions and these roads are going to be serviced. It was stated that to spend \$400,000 on a project that Council has already turned down twice is unacceptable and citizens would question Council's judgement.

A question was raised on how many of the 13 homes on Highway 2 North are experiencing problems. Deputy Mayor Matheson advised that he is aware of four homes having problems with sewers.

Deputy Mayor Matheson indicated that the people on Highway 2 North are experiencing the same problems as those on Carter Road and John Bell Road and should be provided with the same service. With the grant from the Province, the Municipality is well within budget and Council would not be condemned for putting sewer systems in place on Highway 2 North.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Matheson  
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the sewer be extended on Highway #2 North.”

Motion **Defeated.**

*(Mayor Smith, Councillors Taylor, Cooper, Edwards, White, Cooke and Mingo opposed)*

*At this point, Deputy Mayor Matheson resumed his position of Chair.*

**ITEMS****Canada Summer  
Jobs Program**

The CAO advised that the Municipality had applied for funding for ten (10) summer students under the federal Canada Summers Jobs Program.

Originally, notice was received that the Municipality would not receive funding under this program. However, at the end of May, the Municipality received a call advising that funding was being approved for four (4) positions.

**New Tatamagouche  
Water Treatment  
Plant - Award of  
Tender**

Council was advised that due to time constraints, the tender for this project was awarded through Executive Committee. It was awarded to L & R Construction Limited at a cost of \$2,050,000, plus HST. The total cost of this project exceeds the approved budget. Staff will be preparing an Action Item on this matter for further discussion at the June Council session.

**Recess**

**Council agreed** to recess to an in-camera session at 9:30 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 9:35 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Gary MacIsaac  
Chief Administrative Officer