

August 16, 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, August 16, 2007, immediately following a Special Meeting of Municipal Council.

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
Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11

**Public Hearings -
Dangerous or
Unightly Premises****Richard Ross, 8714 Highway 2, Great Village**

Staff made reference to a memorandum on table from the Building Inspector indicating that the property at 8714 Highway 2, Great Village, had been remediated to his satisfaction and was no longer considered unsightly.

Having been informed of this decision prior to tonight's meeting, Councillor Cooke requested that this matter be brought back to September Committee for further clarification and that the Building Inspector be present at this meeting. Councillor Cooke circulated pictures of the property which showed further debris on the property that was hidden by the long grass.

Moved by Councillor Cooke
Seconded by Mayor Smith

“That the unsightly complaint against property located at 8714 Highway 2, Great Village, be referred to September Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Approval of Agenda

Moved by Mayor Smith
 Seconded by Councillor White

“That the agenda for August 16, 2007 be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- add 12b: Inglewood Farms
- add 12c: Taxi Service
- add 12d: County Property off Ryland Avenue
- add 12e: Clear Garbage Bags
- add 14b: Bible Hill Joint Committee on Water Extensions
- delete under Presentations: ‘Wayne Smith - Harmony Road and East Prince Street’
- under Presentations: move ‘Colchester Firefighters Association - Paging’ to Staff Presentations”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor White
 Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the minutes be approved with the following amendment:

- Page 971, item ‘Sponsorship Request - NSPE Truro Strongman Competition’, should read (*Councillor Mingo opposed*)”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

Referring to the item on ‘Clear Garbage Bags’, Councillor Cooke inquired as to why this item was not on this evening’s agenda as indicated in the June minutes. Staff advised that it will be on the agenda for August Council.

Presentations**Mrs. Lorraine Deuville, Old Stewiacke Road**

Mrs. Deuville indicated that she would like to discuss a problem in her district about garbage collection in the summertime. Their collection day is usually on Monday. When the Monday is a holiday, the garbage is not collected until one week later which means residents have garbage sitting around for three weeks. Because of this, she has had trouble with rodents. Mrs. Deuville offered a few solutions to this problem; namely, in the summertime, garbage could be collected every week and recyclables once a month, or collect every second week regardless of a holiday, or have a dumpster where garbage can be disposed of on the weekends. Mrs. Deuville asked that Council consider doing something about this problem.

Moved by Mayor Smith

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Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the issue of holiday garbage collection in District 5 be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Dale Hyson, Brookfield

Mr. Hyson indicated that he believed the reason for the sewer extension in Brookfield not going up Highway 2 North was cost. The County could not justify spending this amount of money for 13 homes, a motel and a garage Mr. Hyson felt a calculation error had been made and that he didn't think his house and garage should miss out on the sewer extension because of this error. Mr. Hyson stated that he will be out of business if this project does not go through. He then presented Council with a petition with 236 signatures on it in support of the Highway 2 North sewer extension.

Ms. Fadia Banna, Brookfield

Ms. Banna indicated that she is the owner of the Sunrise Motel on Highway 2, Brookfield. She took over the motel in 2000 which is her main source of income. She would like to make improvements to the motel, one of which is an upgrade to her sewer system at a cost of \$20,000. She has been unable to find a funding source for this upgrade. She has arranged funding for the addition of a games room to help increase her income. Ms. Banna stated that she could be looking at closing the motel.

Moved by Councillor Edwards

Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That the presentations from Mr. Dale Hyson and Ms. Fadia Banna be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. John Greenhalgh, Brookfield

Mr. Greenhalgh stated that he is on the sewer system but asked where the money had gone for the sewer extension for Highway 2 North.

Ms. Jane MacDonald

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Ms. MacDonald asked why the sewer extension would not include a secondary road where there is potential for business.

Mr. David Bartlett, Hilden

Mr. Bartlett made reference to Mr. Hyson's presentation. He stated that there are 200-300 people who rely on him and his garage to get them back and forth to work. The Department of Environment will close both the motel and garage if something is not done.

Mr. Kevin Fisher

Mr. Fisher asked if a refund would be coming to those residents who paid taxes for sewer service over the last two years but are now not going to receive it.

Staff advised that those residents would receive or have received either a credit on their tax bill or a refund cheque.

Mr. Joe Shipley, 357 Highway 2

Mr. Shipley indicated that he had just bought a house on the assumption that he was going to get the sewer service. He stated that he had received a letter saying that the service was going up the John Bell Road.

Mayor Smith indicated to Mr. Shipley that if he could provide this letter, he would bring it back to Council.

Moved by Councillor Mingo
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

"That the presentations from Mr. John Greenhalgh, Ms. Jane MacDonald, Mr. David Bartlett, Mr. Kevin Fisher and Mr. Joe Shipley be received."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Staff Presentation

Kim Paterson, Administrative Assistant/Researcher
Terry Canning, Colchester Firefighters Association (CFFA)

On behalf of the Colchester Firefighters Association Communications Committee, Ms. Paterson and Mr. Canning made a joint presentation to Council Committee on the elimination of telephone lines for primary paging of Colchester firefighters.

In 1994, the Municipality accepted full responsibility for fire

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dispatch service through a central dispatch facility. In 2004, the CFFA requested that the Municipality conduct a review of radio communication and facilities. A survey of all departments/brigades showed that the most critical need was the elimination of phone-line reliance for paging. Twelve of the sixteen brigades currently rely on phone lines. Nova Communications was contracted to evaluate current arrangements and recommend a 'best practice' to avoid phone line reliance. All current transmitter sites were visited, assessed and documented.

The Communications Committee is recommending a proposal whereby primary pages would be over the air rather than phone lines, with the current Dial Access Paging Terminals being used a secondary means of paging. The proposed new paging system would cost approximately \$110,000 for the new equipment and reprogramming of existing equipment and possibly another \$35,000 for reprogramming of pagers.

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the proposal from the Colchester Firefighters Association Communication Committee to eliminate phone-line reliance for paging and replace with over-the-air paging be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Request for
Reimbursement of
Taxes - 164
Farnham Road**

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

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the request from Mr. Gerald Crosby for reimbursement of taxes for properties located at 164 Farnham Road, in the amount of \$17,063, plus interest, be approved, source of funds to be general operations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Dispatch Services -
Contract Extension**

Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality extend its Fire and Emergency Dispatch contract with Valley Communications Inc., in accordance with the following terms:

October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008 - \$75,485
 October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009 - \$77,738
 October 1, 2009 - September 30, 2010 - \$79,992 ”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Proposed
Reorganization -
Creation of Human
Resource Position**

Following a brief debate, staff were directed to bring this matter back to a future Council meeting. Additional information was requested on how other municipalities of similar size deal with human resource issues and salary rates for this type of position in both the public and private sector.

Moved by Mayor Smith
 Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the Action Item on the Proposed Reorganization - Creation of Human Resource Position be brought forward at a future Council meeting with additional information.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**JCI Outstanding
Young People’s
Awards**

Moved by Councillor Cooke
 Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the funding request from the Junior Chamber International Colchester for a contribution of \$1,500 in support of the Outstanding Young Person’s Awards be denied.”

Motion **Defeated**. *(Mayor Smith, Councillors Taylor, Cooper, Edwards, Cavanaugh, LeFresne and White opposed)*

Moved by Mayor Smith
 Seconded by Councillor White

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“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the funding request from the Junior Chamber International Colchester in the amount of \$1,000 be approved, source of funds to be general operations.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Masters and Cooke opposed)*

Staff were directed to suggest in the letter to recipient that any future requests should be forwarded to Council earlier in the year and to request information on how the contribution would be spent.

Presentations (cont'd)

Mr. Charles Demond, Atlantic Wind Power Corporation
Mr. Clair Peers, Cobequid Wind Power Inc.

Mr. Demond stated that the purpose for their presentation was to inform Council of the Wind Farm project and to request a letter of acknowledgement from the Municipality indicating Council's awareness of this potential development in the Nuttby area. A joint bid for this project from Atlantic Wind Power and Cobequid Wind Power to the Nova Power Inc. will be submitted by August 31, 2007. If successful, construction will begin the latter half of 2008 with completion by 2009.

Mr. Demond indicated that an open house on this project will be held in the North River Fire Hall on Monday, August 20th, starting at 4:00 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
 Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the presentation from Atlantic Wind Power Corporation and Cobequid Wind Power Inc. be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Mingo
 Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That a letter of acknowledgement be sent to Atlantic Wind Power Corporation and Cobequid Wind Power Inc., indicating that the Municipality is aware of the potential development of a Wind Farm project in the Nuttby area.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Changes in Canadian
 Radio-Television**

Moved by Councillor Cooke
 Seconded by Councillor Masters

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**Commission (CRTC)
Guidelines**

“That the letter from the Municipality of the County of Richmond expressing concerns with the new Canadian Radio-Television Commission guidelines be received for information.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Cooper, Cavanaugh and Mingo opposed)*

Street Light Request

Moved by Councillor Lynds
Seconded by Mayor Smith

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a street light be approved for the intersection of Highway 102 and Highway No. 2, source of funds to be general operations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Inglewood Farms

Councillor Masters indicated that he had been approached by Mr. Jeff Cutten, Inglewood Farms, requesting that Council consider giving him some type of relief from his property taxes. Staff advised that tax relief from municipalities is no longer permitted.

Moved by Mayor Smith
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the request from Mr. Jeff Cutten, Inglewood Farms, for property tax relief be denied and that a letter be sent to Mr. Cutten advising him of Council’s decision.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Taxi Service

Councillor Taylor indicated that he had received a telephone call from a resident in Bible Hill regarding inconsistencies in fares charged by taxi companies beyond the Town limits, specifically Bible Hill. There are two main taxi services in Truro which are regulated by the Town. Councillor Taylor requested that staff look into this matter.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That staff be directed to look into uniform rates for taxi service beyond the Town of Truro limits.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**County Property Off
Ryland Avenue**

Councillor Taylor made reference to the County property located off Ryland Avenue, behind the Special Hazards Response Unit building . There has been an expression of interest to purchase the

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property; however, the property needs to be cleaned up.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That staff be directed to look into cleaning up municipal property located off Ryland Avenue, behind the Special Hazards Response Unit building.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Clear Garbage Bags

Councillor Taylor indicated that he had received a telephone call from a resident in Bible Hill concerning an item from the June Committee minutes on clear garbage bags. The resident raised two concerns, the first being that the unavailability of clear garbage bags in the stores and the second being compliance. Councillor Taylor requested that these concerns be considered when clear garbage bags comes back to Council at the end of the month.

**Position Vacancy -
Balefill Facility -
Compost Operations
Supervisor**

An offer for this position was made to Mr. Herb Corbett who commenced duties on August 13, 2007. Mr. Corbett was previously employed as a Compost Operations Worker.

**Position Vacancy -
Balefill Facility -
Compost Positions**

Applications were received internally from Mr. Chris Spencer for the Operations Worker position and from Mr. Lester Robinson for the Utility Worker position. Approval for appointment of the two applicants to these positions has been made by the CAO. Both applicants commenced their new positions on August 13, 2007.

**Bible Hill Joint
Committee on Water
Extensions**

Councillor Taylor reported that the Committee will meet on August 22, 2007.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:40 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary