

February 14, 2008

**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, February 14, 2008 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
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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**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the agenda for February 14, 2008 be approved with the following additions:

- add 12b: Canada Post
- Information Item #13 becomes 12c - Icy Road Conditions and Garbage Collection
- add 12d: 2008/09 Operating Budget - Meetings for Grants to Non-Profit Organizations (on table)
- add 12e: 2008/09 Operating Budget - Non-Profit Grant/Economic Grant Applications
- add 12f: Ocean Links Development, Brule Shore - Letter of Support
- add 14b: Tatamagouche Water Treatment Plant”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

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Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the minutes of meeting held on January 17, 2008 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising  
from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on January 17, 2008.

**Presentations**

**S/Sgt. Jeff Christie, RCMP, Colchester District**

S/Sgt. Christie introduced the other RCMP members in attendance:

- Sgt. Dave Darrah
- Constable Krista Myers
- Constable Bob Baillie

In his presentation, S/Sgt. Christie covered the following areas:

- RCMP organization in Colchester County
- changing nature of police work
- current demands on policing in this district
- strategic prospects for RCMP in Colchester County

Sgt. Darrah explained that Colchester District has a total of 28 RCMP members of which the County pays for 27, Stewiacke for one. There is also a member on the Street Team which is paid for by the Province as part of the provincial Safe Street Program. Of the 28 members, 24 are on shift in the County with four shifts of six. The other four consists of one plain clothes officer, one crime prevention constable in uniform, plus the District Commander and Operations Officer.

In summarizing his presentation, S/Sgt. Christie explained the three priorities facing the RCMP in Colchester County and a recommended solution:

1. Public Service Demand - 1 full-time position - new funding from County
2. Court Liaison - 1 full-time position - new funding from County (temporarily filled by Constable Baillie)
3. Shift Demands per Operational Constable and Corporal - 4 full-time positions (would reduce files per member from 462 to 396 and move toward 24-hour policing)

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At staff's request, S/Sgt. Christie indicated that he would provide a copy of his presentation at a later date for circulation to members of Council.

At the end of the presentation, Sgt. Darrah announced his intentions to retire in the spring of this year.

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

"That the presentation from the RCMP, Colchester District, be received."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Loan Guarantee - Hilden Fire Brigade**

Moved by Mayor Smith  
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of the County of Colchester provide a "letter of intent" in support of a loan of \$220,000 for the Hilden Fire Brigade for the purchase of a new Pumper Tanker and, in the event that this is not satisfactory to the lending institution, that the Municipality provide a loan guarantee for this amount."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

#### **Truro Rugby Club**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor White

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of the County of Colchester provide a letter of support for the Truro Rugby Club in their efforts to obtain financial assistance from the Province of Nova Scotia."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

#### **Irving Challenge Cup Tournament**

Moved by Councillor Taylor  
Seconded by Mayor Smith

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that a donation in the amount of \$500 to the Truro and Area Minor Hockey Association be approved in support of the Irving Oil Challenge

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Cup Tournament being held April 3-6, 2008, source of funds to be the 2007-08 Economic Development Grant Fund.”

motion amended.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

“That the amount of the donation to the Truro and Area Minor Hockey Association be increased to \$1,000.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

The motion to amend having carried, the main motion was voted on and carried unanimously.

**Property Tax  
Write-Offs**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Mayor Smith

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that property taxes and interest totalling \$20,030.22, as presented in an Action Item dated February 14, 2008 be written off.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Compost Screener**

Following a brief discussion on this item on whether it was necessary to purchase a new compost screener at this time, Council agreed that the Municipality continue with the existing screener.

**High School  
Scholarship Program**

Moved by Mayor Smith  
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of the County of Colchester continue to support a High School Scholarship Program under the same five recommendations as originally approved, specifically:

- (1) That North Colchester and South Colchester High Schools receive one scholarship each and that the Cobequid Educational Centre receive two scholarships based on student population in the amount of \$1,000.00 each, totalling \$4,000.00 annually.
- (2) That the criteria be left to the schools to determine with the one proviso that the students must be from the Municipality of Colchester.
- (3) That the amount of \$20,000 be transferred to a Scholarship

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Reserve Fund from the Special Operating Reserve Fund.

- (4) That the award winners be chosen by the Scholarship and Awards Committee for each school using the criteria outlined in Point #2.
- (5) That in the fifth year of the Scholarship Program, 2012-13, County staff review continuation of the Program and funding resources as part of the annual budgeting process.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Fund for Minor Improvements to County Owned Maintenance Parkland**

Following a brief policy discussion on this item and whether a fund should be set up for minor improvements to County-owned parkland, Council agreed to receive this item for information only at this time. Any upgrades to Broderick Lane or other parkland sites will be charged to the operating budget under general park maintenance.

**Canada Post**

Councillor Cavanaugh indicated that the residents in North River received a letter today from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers regarding the move by Canada Post to change the way mail is delivered in their community by replacing the home mailbox delivery to community mailboxes. Councillor Cavanaugh requested that Canada Post be invited to Council for a presentation on this issue.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Mayor Smith

“That Ms. Avril Vollenhoven, Regional Communications Manager for Canada Post, be invited to make a presentation to Council on the changes in mail delivery in rural Colchester County.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Icy Road Conditions and Garbage Collection**

Councillor Cooper initiated this discussion due to the number of calls he has received regarding icy road conditions hindering garbage collection services. Staff indicated that due to the number of complaints received, a meeting has been arranged with the Contractor for next week. Council requested that the following points be raised at this meeting:

- if collection does not take place, an alternate date should be set up other than the next regularly scheduled day
- if a small number of roads (side roads) do not receive collection, should an alternate date be scheduled
- Contractor should assume responsibility to see that collection



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**Community Trail  
Funding Program -  
Winter 2008  
Applications**

One application was received for the January 31, 2008 deadline. The North Shore ATV Club applied for a capital project to purchase and install two sets of trail gates and associated signs and boulders along an ATV/snowmobile trail. The total project cost is \$7,944, of which 50% is recommended - \$3,972.

**New Tatamagouche  
Water Treatment Plant**

Councillor LeFresne advised that the taps had been turned on today from the new Tatamagouche Water Treatment Plant.

**Recess**

Council agreed to recess to an in-camera meeting at 9:15 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 9:23 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the meeting be adjourned at 9:25 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault  
Recording Secretary