

June 12, 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 June 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

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 Bob White	District #9
Councillor Doug Cooke	District #10
Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11

Absent:

Mayor Mike Smith	
Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Councillor Soley Lynds	District #8

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the agenda for June 12, 2008 be approved with the following additions:

- add 11b: Garbage on Maple Avenue
- add 11c: Water Service Connection in Tatamagouche
- add 11d: Antenna Siting Procedure Policy - Rural Broadband Initiative.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the minutes of meeting held on May 13, 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 May 13, 2008.

Presentations

There were no public presentations received for this meeting.

June 12, 2008

ACTION ITEMS**Sponsorship Request
- 2008 Maritime Fire
Fighters Memorial
Service**

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality make a donation in the amount of \$500 for the 2008 Maritime Fire Fighters Memorial Service, funded through Economic Development Grants.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Loan Guarantee -
Cobequid District
Fire Brigade**

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“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 \$200,000 for the Cobequid District Fire Brigade for the purchase of a new rescue truck; 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.

**Loan Guarantee -
Great Village Fire
Brigade**

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“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 \$200,000 for the Great Village Fire Brigade for the purchase of a new fire truck; 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.

**Request for
Donation - Fallen
Peace Officer’s
Memorial**

Moved by Councillor Cooke
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the request for funding for a Fallen Peace Officers’ Memorial be denied.”

Motion Carried.

*(Councillors Cooper and Cavanaugh
opposed.)*

June 12, 2008

Moved by Councillor Cooke
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality absorb the cost of the clean up of the remaining waste material located at 62 Maple Avenue in Bass River.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Edwards opposed)*

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

“That the Garbage By-law be brought back for review at a future meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Water Service
Connection in
Tatamagouche**

Councillor LeFresne indicated that there has been a request for water service connection in Tatamagouche.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the request for Water Service Connection in Tatamagouche be referred to June 26, 2008 Council session or the next Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee meeting, whichever is appropriate as determined by staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Antenna Siting
Procedure Policy -
Rural Broadband
Initiative**

The CAO provided a brief introduction on this issue indicating that the Province is working towards the Nova Scotia Rural Broadband Initiative which will enable access to high speed internet services to all areas by December of 2009. Contracts have been awarded to Bragg Communications and Seaside Communications who will develop necessary infrastructure. In Colchester, approximately 40 antennas need to be installed by Seaside Communications to service residents and businesses who currently do not have high speed internet access.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That Council Committee recommends that staff undertake a legal review of the draft “Municipal Antenna Site Procedure Policy” and

submit a proposed policy for Council consideration at the June 26,

June 12, 2008

2008 regular Council session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Memorandum of Understanding - Service NS & Municipal Relations / UNSM

In the fall of 2007, the Province announced the release of a Memorandum of Understanding between Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations and the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities. In this announcement, there were three main expenditure items that would be capped or phased out for municipalities including Education, Corrections and Public Housing.

An interest was expressed from Council on the impact of these changes. A draft of Bill # 157 was recently released by the Province summarizing the changes.

For Corrections, the proposed legislation is based on the total contribution for all municipalities to be phased out between 2008/09 through 2014/15. Individual municipal contribution may change annually based on changes in Uniform Assessment and Dwelling units.

For Education, the proposed legislation is for the periods between 2008/09 through 2014/15 and caps the total contribution for municipalities tied into the CPI increase for Nova Scotia for the preceding year. For 2008/09, the municipality budgeted a 2.6% increase, however, as the Uniform Assessment increased higher than average, the actual increase was 3% leaving a deficit of approximately \$35,000.

For Public Housing, the Municipality's payment for 2007/08 was \$67,972. The budgeted amount for 2008/09 is \$69,331 and this amount is expected to be approximately the same in 2009/10. This is supposed to be phased out over two years beginning in 2010. Proposed legislation indicates that the Municipality will enter into an agreement with the Minister of Community Services on this.

Cell Towers in Brookfield

At a previous Council meeting, staff were asked to review an information package about a new cell tower being proposed in the Brookfield/Shortts Lake area and report back to Council on controls the Municipality has concerning cell towers.

Providing coverage through the entire Province is a challenge due to the undulating landscape of the province. The Municipality has little control over communication towers. Colchester's Land Use Bylaws treat communications towers as one of the essential services and in 2004, the Tatamagouche Land Use Bylaw was amended to enable

June 12, 2008

construction of a tower by development permit.

Since the proposed location in Brookfield is not in an area with a Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw, and the Municipality does not currently have any regulatory role in the siting of towers, there is no formal administrative role for the Municipality on this issue.

Recess

Council agreed to recess to an in-camera meeting at 8:35 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 9:10 p.m.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 9:11 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary