

January 15, 2009

**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, January 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor	
Councillor Christine Blair	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Councillor Gerald Buott	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Deputy Mayor Ron Cavanaugh, Chair	District #8
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Absent:

Councillor Bob White	District #9
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**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the agenda for January 15, 2009 be approved with the following additions:

- add 17b: Bible Hill Volunteer Fire Brigade (on table)
- add 17c: Communities in Bloom

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the minutes of meeting held on December 11, 2008 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

With respect to Page 1080, Water Tower in Bible Hill, Councillor Blair requested that this be placed on a future Council agenda for further discussion.

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Moved by Councillor Blair  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the Water Tower Project in Bible Hill be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

### **Presentations**

#### *Conflict of Interest*

*Mayor Taylor declared a conflict of interest on the following presentation and removed himself from the table.*

#### N.S. Provincial Exhibition Antique Farm Equipment Museum

Representing the Antique Farm Equipment Museum were Don Cox, Stuart Allaby and Page Baird.

In their presentation, the group indicated that they had appeared before Council four years ago looking for funding to construct a new building to properly house and display the increasing number of artifacts that the Museum has collected. This location is now becoming quite crowded due to the many donations of artifacts coming in. In order to maintain the quality of the artifacts, the Museum is looking to replace an older building due to its age and deteriorating condition and replace it with a new and larger building which will enable the Museum to display and protect the valuable artifacts now housed in the aging facility.

The group requested a contribution from County Council in the amount of \$25,000 toward the new building. They have also met with the Town of Truro, the Province and made contact with the federal government concerning funding for this project.

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the presentation from the N.S. Provincial Exhibition Antique Farm Equipment Museum be received and their request for funding be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

*At this point, Mayor Taylor returned to the table.*

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Scotia Pool

Representing the Scotia Pool Management Team were Marg Rovers and Al Hanlon.

In their presentation, Ms. Rovers and Mr. Hanlon made reference to Scotia Pool's request to Council last year where they had requested funding support in the amount of \$160,000. At that time, Council approved an amount of \$100,000. This amount was not sufficient to meet their needs and the Pool is now asking Council to reconsider that amount for this year and to increase funding for next year. More specifically, they are requesting \$60,000 for 2008-09, \$189,000 for 2009-10 and continued support beyond 2009-10 until the new Civic Centre is built.

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the presentation from Scotia Pool be received and their request for funding be referred to budget deliberations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

2009 Nova Scotia Regional Acadian Games Committee

Representing the 2009 Nova Scotia Regional Acadian Games Committee were Roger Bastarache and Ryan Glazier.

Mr. Bastarache indicated that he was the Co-Chair of the Games Committee. The Games will be coming to Colchester County, May 15-17, 2009. The Committee expects that some 750 youth (ages 10 to 16 years old) from 11 French regions in the province will gather in Colchester County to participate in this event. Three hundred volunteers, including coaches, chaperones and parents, will also attend. Mr. Bastarache explained that the Games will be an opportunity for youth to get together to compete in sports such as basketball, volleyball, etc. Last year, 43 students from Truro participated in the 2008 regional Acadian games.

Mr. Bastarache indicated that to host the Games in this area, \$56,000 in funding is required. The provincial Organizing Committee has committed \$22,000. The request to Colchester County Council would be in the area of \$7,000.

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Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the presentation from the 2009 Nova Scotia Regional Acadian Games Committee be received and their request for funding be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Directors’ Reports**

In response to a request from the CAO, Council agreed to allow the presentation of Directors’ Reports from the RCMP and CoRDA moved forward on the agenda.

Representing the RCMP were S/Sgt. Jeff Christie, Supt. Ted Upshaw and LaVonne Bilby, Manager, Operational Communication Centre.

S/Sgt. Christie briefed Council on the RCMP Report which was circulated to members in their meeting package.

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the report presented by the RCMP be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Representing the Colchester Regional Development Agency was the Executive Director, Jo Ann Fewer.

Ms. Fewer briefed Council on the CoRDA Report which was circulated to members on table for this evening’s meeting.

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the presentation from the Colchester Regional Development Agency be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Former Salmon  
River Elementary  
School**

*At this point, Councillor Masters excused himself from the meeting due to illness.*

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Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality be authorized to accept the Salmon River Elementary School and property from the Chignecto Central Regional School Board.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Salmon River Elementary School and property is not required for a municipal purpose; therefore, staff should proceed to administer the disposal process pursuant to policy.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

It was noted that if this recommendation to Council is approved at the end of the month, staff will proceed to have an appraisal done and consider looking at options to reduce vandalism on the school.

**Former East  
Stewiacke  
Elementary School**

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality be authorized to conduct an appraisal of the East Stewiacke Elementary School and property before being considered for acceptance from the Chignecto Central Regional School Board.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Flood Advisory  
Committee**

Moved by Councillor Buott  
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council Committee recommends to Council approval of the Flood Advisory Committee work program of approximately \$40,858.08 (less HST rebate).”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Councillor McKenna indicated that he felt it may be more appropriate for the District 1 Councillor to sit on the Flood Advisory Committee rather than the District 11 Councillor.

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The CAO suggested that Council may wish to look at drafting a terms of reference for the Flood Advisory Committee which would cover such items as membership, project eligibility, advertising, cost sharing, formal release process, etc.

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That the development of a draft terms of reference for the Flood Advisory Committee be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Colchester  
Historical Society**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the funding request from the Colchester Historical Society Museum and Archives be referred to budget deliberations.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Request for Tax  
Exemption - Dorje  
Denma Ling  
Meditation Centre,  
Tatamagouche**

\_\_\_\_\_ Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council Committee approves, in principle, the addition of the Dorje Denma Ling Meditation and Retreat Centre to Chapter 37 - Tax Exemption By-law, subject to final approval of the By-law in early 2009.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Taggart opposed)*

**Request for Tax  
Exemption -  
Tatamagouche  
Centre**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee approves, in principle, the addition of the Tatamagouche Centre to Chapter 37 - Tax Exemption By-law, subject to final approval of the By-law in early 2009.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Request for Tax  
Exemption - Truro  
Rugby Club**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That Council Committee approves, in principle, the addition of the Truro Rugby Club to Chapter 37 - Tax Exemption By-law, subject to final approval of the By-law in early 2009.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Request for Tax Exemption - Bass River Fire Brigade**

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee approves, in principle, the addition of the Bass River Fire Brigade to Chapter 37 - Tax Exemption By-law, subject to final approval of the By-law in early 2009.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Position Vacancy - Traffic Controller/Utility Worker**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council Committee authorizes staff to commence recruitment for the Union position of Traffic Controller/Utility Worker in accordance with the County’s Personnel Policy and the Collective Agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Flag Flying Policy**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that Flag Flying Policy Draft ‘B’ be approved with the following amendments:

- No. 1 under ‘Policy’ - should read: .....other than a Canadian flag, a Nova Scotia flag, or a Municipality of the County of Colchester flag .....
- Add under ‘Policy’ the following clause: Flags shall be flown in a manner consistent with flag etiquette of the federal Department of Canadian Heritage.
- Under ‘Other Circumstances’ - should read .....at the direction of the Executive and Audit Committee .....

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**2009 FCM Annual Conference - Whistler, B.C.**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that all Councillors have the opportunity to attend two FCM annual conferences during the four-year term of Council.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor McKenna opposed)*

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Conflict of Interest

*For the following motion, Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh declared a conflict of interest and removed himself from the table. Councillor Cooper assumed the position of Chair.*

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Deputy Mayor has the opportunity to attend all FCM annual conferences.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Buott, Blair and McKenna opposed)*

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

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that five Councillors have the opportunity to attend the FCM annual conference each year.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Buott, Blair and McKenna opposed)*

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that, in addition to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, the five Councillors authorized to attend the 2009 FCM annual conference be Councillors Edwards, Blair, Masters, Cooper and LeFresne, with the first alternate being Councillor White and the second alternate being Councillor Buott; and,

That the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to attend the 2009 CAMA annual conference and the 2009 FCM annual conference.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Long-Term  
Planning/Priority  
Setting**

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That staff be directed to arrange a long-term planning session as soon as possible and a suitable date or dates be established based on availability of Councillors and senior staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Bible Hill Volunteer  
Fire Brigade**

Referring to a letter on table, Mayor Taylor indicated that the Bible Hill Volunteer Fire Brigade is looking for a contribution from the County to help cover banquet costs when they host the Nova Scotia Firefighters Curling Association competition, February 5-8, 2009.

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a donation of \$200 to the Bible Hill Volunteer Fire Brigade to help cover banquet costs at the Nova Scotia Firefighters Curling Competition be approved, source of funds to be the Economic Development Grant Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Communities in  
Bloom**

Councillor LeFresne asked for the Municipality’s assistance in helping the community of Tatamagouche achieve their goal of competing in the national Communities in Bloom event in 2009.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That staff be directed to review the criteria for the Communities in Bloom Award Program to determine if the Municipality can assist the community of Tatamagouche in achieving their goal of competing in the national Communities in Bloom event in 2009.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Recess**

Council agreed to recess to an in-camera session at 11:04 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 12:03 a.m.

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**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the meeting be adjourned at 12:05 a.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault  
Recording Secretary