

February 12, 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, February 12, 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 Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the agenda for February 12, 2009 be approved with the following additions:

- No. 5, Presentation by Mr. Travis Decoste: postponed until February Council
- delete No. 16, Flood Advisory Committee Terms of Reference
- move Information Item No. 17, Traffic Authority, to Action Item No. 16
- move Item No. 10, Loan Guarantee - Valley-Kemptown & District Volunteer Fire Brigade and Item No. 15, Laptops for Council, forward on the agenda to become the first two Action Items
- add 18b: Bowl for Kids
- add 16b: Rural Volunteer Fire Brigades”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the minutes of meeting held on January 15, 2009 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

February 12, 2009

**Business Arising
from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of meeting held on January 15, 2009.

Presentations

As noted earlier in the meeting, the presentation originally scheduled for this evening has been postponed.

ACTION ITEMS

**Loan Guarantee -
Valley-Kemptown &
District Fire Brigade**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of the County of Colchester provide a ‘letter of intent’ in support of a consolidated loan of \$500,000 for the Valley-Kemptown and District Fire Brigade for the purchase of a new tanker truck and the repayment of an existing loan; 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.

**Resolution - Tax
Exemption By-law**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that an option be adopted which will permit any additions to the list of exempted properties attached to the Tax Exemption By-law to be made by way of a resolution; thereby eliminating the first and second reading process except where amendments to the text of the By-law itself are necessary.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Laptops for Council

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality purchase laptops, printers and all required accessories for Councillors; and,

That all operating costs be covered, including reimbursement of internet connection fees.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Bible Hill Water
Tower Project**

Referring to correspondence circulated for this evening’s meeting, Councillor Blair provided an overview of the Village of Bible Hill’s major

February 12, 2009

infrastructure projects, including the water tower project. The Village's strategic plan has identified Phase 3 of the water expansion project for completion in 2009-10; Phase 4 in 2010; the replacement of the sewage pumping station in 2011; and the water tower project in 2013.

Councillor Blair indicated that it should not be a problem having the water tower project on both the Village's and County's long-term strategic plans as it is part of a regional water system. She requested that Council consider a motion whereby the water tower project be located within the Village of Bible Hill and remain on the Municipality's long-term strategic plan.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

"That the water tower project be located within the Village of Bible Hill and remain on the Municipality of Colchester's long-term strategic plan."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Request for Funding
- NSPE Antique
Farm Equipment
Museum**

Conflict of Interest

Mayor Taylor declared a conflict of interest on this item and removed himself from the table.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor White

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that funding in the amount of \$25,000 be provided to the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Antique Farm Equipment Museum to assist with a building addition to the Museum."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Masters

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the source of funds for the \$25,000 contribution to the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Antique Farm Equipment Museum be 2008-09 general operations as an unbudgeted item."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Mayor Taylor returned to the table.

February 12, 2009

**Request for Funding
- 2009 Nova Scotia
Acadian Regional
Games**

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that funding in the amount of \$7,000 be provided to the Nova Scotia Regional Acadian Games Committee in support of the Games being hosted in Colchester County, May 15-19, 2009, source of funds to be a grant under an amended Economic Development Grant Policy.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cooper opposed)*

**Property Tax Write-
Offs**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that property taxes and interest totalling \$5,495.94, as presented in an Action Item dated February 12, 2009, be written off.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Consideration of a
Horse and Livestock
By-law**

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the Municipality not proceed with a horse and livestock by-law.”

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

**Meeting Date for
Grants to Non-Profit
Organizations’
Presentations**

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Tuesday, February 24, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. be set as the meeting date for presentations to be received from non-profit organizations applying for grants.”

Motion Carried. *(Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh, Councillors Blair, Cooper and Edwards opposed)*

Both Councillor Blair and Councillor Edwards offered their regrets for attendance at the February 24th meeting.

February 12, 2009

**Position Vacancy -
Scale House/Utility
Worker (Part-Time)**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee authorizes staff to commence recruitment for the Union position of Scale House/Utility Worker (Part-Time) in accordance with the County’s Personnel Policy and Collective Agreement.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Municipal Traffic
Authority -
Colchester County**

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Director of Public Works be designated the Traffic Authority for the Municipality and that the Head of Policing for Colchester County be designated as the Deputy Traffic Authority under section 86, subsections 6 and 7 of the Motor Vehicles Act; and,

That the CAO be authorized to send to the Provincial Traffic Authority, this resolution passed under subsections 6 and 7 of the Motor Vehicles Act.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Rural Volunteer
Fire Brigades**

Councillor Taggart indicated that the fire brigades are vital to the rural communities but with a very small tax base and difficulty recruiting new members, they are really struggling. Councillor Taggart requested that staff look at some kind of base support to the rural fire brigades before budget deliberations begin.

Councillor White requested a list of the County fire brigades and their area rates.

Councillor Blair requested more information on the rural fire brigades and the area rate tax process.

Directors’ Reports

Copies of reports from the Director of Corporate Services and the Director of Community Development were circulated in the Council package for this evening’s meeting.

**Big Brothers/Big
Sisters - Bowl for
Kids**

Mayor Taylor indicated that the Big Brothers/Big Sisters’ Bowl for Kids is being held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 for anyone wishing to make a donation or put in a team for the event.

February 12, 2009

Recess

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the meeting recess to an in-camera session at 10:00 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:10 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Minimum Bids - Tax
Sale Properties**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That a minimum bid amount of \$1,000 be approved for a property located at 476 Pembroke Road, Upper Stewiacke, for a tax sale on March 24, 2009.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That a minimum bid amount of \$1.00 be approved for a property located at 24 Butler Drive, Bible Hill, for a tax sale on March 24, 2009.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Former East
Stewiacke
Elementary School**

The CAO indicated that the Chignecto Central Regional School Board feels that it is mandatory that the former East Stewiacke elementary school be transferred to the Municipality. The School Board has been requested to substantiate this position. The CAO also indicated that Council may wish to table this Action Item this evening until such time as staff hear from the School Board, and, to allow time for the landowners in the area to be contacted to see if there is an expression of interest in purchasing the school building and land as is.

February 12, 2009

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the Action Item dated February 12, 2009 on the Former East Stewiacke Elementary School be tabled until further information is available, including a response from the School Board on transfer of surplus property and any expressions of interest from landowners in the area are received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:45 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary