

June 11, 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, June 11, 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 Mike Cooper, Chair	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Absent:

Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Councillor Gerry Buott	District #3
Deputy Mayor Ron Cavanaugh	District #8

**Public Hearings -
Dangerous or
Unsightly Premises**

Earl Weatherbee and Tracey Lynds, 937 Belmont Road, Belmont

Mr. Mannie Withrow, Manager of Inspection Services, indicated that he had received a number of complaints during the month of April on the property owned by Earl Weatherbee and Tracey Lynds at 937 Belmont Road, Belmont. The house on the lot had been destroyed by fire some time ago. An inspection on April 9th deemed the property to be unsightly. The owners were sent a letter giving them 30 days to clean up the property. A re-inspection on May 15th showed no change; therefore, a notice was posted on the property advising the owners to appear before Council Committee this evening.

Mr. Withrow recommended that Council Committee issue an order giving the owner 30 days to remedy the unsightly condition of the property, as presented in items 1 and 2 on the posting.

There was no one in the audience to represent the property owner on this matter.

Moved by Mayor Taylor

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Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That an order be issued to the property owners, as specified in the Notice, and 30 days be given to remedy the condition of the property by:

- (1) Removing all miscellaneous junk and debris remaining from the fire which destroyed the house; and,
- (2) Filling in the foundation and levelling the ground.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Edmond and Sabah Kanaan

Mr. Withrow indicated that he had received a complaint from the Hilden Community Association on the property owned by Edmond and Sabah Kanaan at 1402 Highway 2, Hilden. An inspection on April 20th showed that a fire had completely gutted the blue building on the lot and had gone through the store as well. A letter was sent to the owners giving them 30 days to demolish the building so that the property was no longer unsightly. A re-inspection on May 25th showed no change; therefore, a notice was posted on the property advising the owners to appear before Council Committee this evening.

Mr. Withrow noted that a demolition permit was issued by his Department on June 10th to JBD Contracting on behalf of the property owners.

Mr. Withrow recommended that Council Committee issue an order giving the owner 30 days to remedy the unsightly condition of the property, as presented in items 1 to 3 on the posting.

There was no one in the audience to represent the property owner on this matter.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That an order be issued to the property owners, as specified in the Notice, and 30 days be given to remedy the condition of the property by:

- (1) Demolishing the existing dilapidated building that was damaged by fire;
- (2) Infilling the foundation and levelling off the lot to a satisfactory standard; and,
- (3) Disposing of all debris in a lawful manner.”

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Motion Carried Unanimously.

Carl and Marina Darlene Creelman

Mr. Withrow indicated that he had received a complaint on this property back in September 2008. The property is located at 69 Jameson Road, Cloverdale and owned by Carl and Marina Creelman. An inspection on September 24, 2008 deemed the property to be unsightly. A letter was sent to the owners giving them 60 days to clean up the property.

Mr. Creelman, a long-haul truck driver, requested and was given an extension giving him until April 30, 2009 to clean up the property.

Mr. Creelman also applied for and received a permit to restore the two onsite mobile homes as accessory buildings for storing hay. A re-inspection on May 12th showed little change; therefore, a notice was posted on the property advising the owners to appear before Council Committee this evening.

Mr. Withrow recommended that Council Committee issue an order giving the owner 60 days to remedy the unsightly condition of the property, as presented in items 1 through 5 on the posting.

Mr. Carl Creelman, the owner, stated that as he is a long-haul truck driver, he would like to have 90 days to clean up the property to Council's satisfaction.

During Council debate on the matter, it was recommended that item No. 2 on the posting be removed as a permit had been issued to Mr. Creelman to restore the two mobile homes for storage purposes.

Moved by Councillor White

Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That an order be issued to the property owners and 90 days be given to remedy the condition of the property by:

- (1) Removing all derelict vehicles, old tractor, dump body, old farm parts, auto parts, motors, transmissions, wheels, tires, etc. from the property and disposing of them in a lawful manner;
- (2) Repairing all necessary buildings, i.e. barns, sheds or demolishing the buildings;
- (3) Piling all firewood and wood products neatly in one area; and,

- (4) Removing all miscellaneous junk, garbage and debris from the property, including but not limited to, old oil barrels, barbeques,

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scrap metal appliances, etc., and disposing of same in a lawful manner.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the agenda for June 11, 2009 be approved with the following amendments:

- add Item #12b: Fall and Spring Cleanup
- add Item #13b: By-laws
- add Item #12c: Construction of Sidewalk - Debert Elementary School
- add Item #13c: Human Resource Specialist Position”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That the minutes of meeting held on May 19, 2009 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Taylor, staff advised that the Municipality has not as yet received an answer to a letter written to the School Board regarding reimbursement of election expenses.

Presentations

Mr. Michael Taylor and Mr. Robert Fielding
Debert Military History Society

At the request of Council, the Debert Military History Society was asked to make a presentation regarding their funding request to the Municipality of \$50,000 to assist with renovations to their museum building.

In his presentation, Mr. Taylor indicated that the Museum has been in operation for ten years. Revenue is generated from fundraising, membership fees, donations and a gift shop. The Society has already invested \$23,000 into their building, of which the Province provided a grant of \$10,000. The request for \$50,000 is to complete the renovations.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor White

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“That the presentation from the Debert Military History Society be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Debert Military History Society

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that funding assistance in the amount of \$50,000 be provided to the Debert Military History Society for renovations to the Debert Military Museum, source of funds to be the Debert House Sales Reserve.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

County Flag

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff be authorized to maintain 55 County flags for municipal buildings; to offer for sale the remaining 100 flags in stock at a price of \$25.00 each; to place a notice on the website and in the newsletter on a regular basis that flags are available for sale and available at no cost to organizations such as fire departments, post offices, schools and libraries.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Brookfield Community Assembly

Staff noted that at the May 28, 2009 meeting, Council referred a request for funding from the Brookfield Community Assembly to June Committee and gave Committee the authority to make a decision.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee approves a contribution of \$1,500 to the Brookfield Community Assembly to assist with the recognition luncheon being held on July 18, 2009 for the Lieutenant Governor’s visit to Brookfield to present the Community Spirit Award, source of funds to be the Economic Development Grant Fund.”

Motion Carried.

*(Mayor Taylor and Councillor Taggart
opposed)*

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Association

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that funding assistance be approved to the Creamery Square Association in the amount of \$36,002, in support of Phase 3(a) of the Creamery Square Development Project, source of funds to be the Operating Reserve.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Appointment of
Citizen
Representatives to
CoRDA Board**

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee approves the re-appointment Mark Wood and Laurie Sandeson, and the appointment of Anne Marie Beals as County citizen representatives on the Colchester Regional Development Agency Board of Directors for a three-year term.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Open Burning
By-law for Bible Hill**

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That staff be directed to prepare an open burning by-law for the fire district of Bible Hill for Council consideration.”

Motion Carried. *(Mayor Taylor, Councillors White and Edwards opposed)*

**Fall and Spring
Cleanup**

Mayor Taylor indicated that he had received a call this past week from a resident in District 4 about being over the limit of what was allowed for the spring cleanup. Mayor Taylor recommended that Council review the spring and fall cleanup process with regard to the allowable limit per household.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor White

“That staff be directed to look at the spring and fall cleanup process with respect to the allowable limit per household and report back to Council.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Construction of
Sidewalk - Debert
Elementary School**

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the tender for the construction of a sidewalk on Plains Road in Debert from the post office

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to the entrance of the Debert Elementary School be awarded to S.W. Weeks Construction Services Limited at a cost of \$235,261.50, plus applicable taxes; and,

That the carrying of an internal contingency amount of \$23,526, plus applicable taxes, towards this project be approved.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Five Islands Lighthouse Preservation Society

On April 30, 2009, a letter from the Five Islands Lighthouse Preservation Society concerning a canteen building at a local ballfield was referred to Council Committee. After an inspection of the canteen by County staff, it was decided that it would not be a suitable building and fit for the current Broderick Lane location. The Recreation Department has a plan for the Broderick Lane site which includes a structure in place that will fit in with the surroundings of the land and with the theme of the park.

By-laws

Mayor Taylor referred to correspondence he received from a resident on Ryland Avenue in Bible Hill last week concerning early morning noise on a construction site and a request from the Village of Bible Hill asking that the Municipality consider looking at a noise by-law. Mayor Taylor felt that dealing with the contractor directly would be a better way to go than looking at a County by-law.

Councillor Blair indicated that the reason for the noise so early in the morning was because the contractor had been moving equipment. She obtained a copy of their work schedule, which begins later in the morning on a normal basis, and passed this along to the complainant. She also spoke to Chairwoman McLean about the Village's request for a noise by-law.

Human Resource Specialist Position

Ninety-nine applications were received for this position which was short-listed to six. Following interviews and reference checks, an offer was made and accepted by Kelly Gratto. Ms. Gratto will commence duties on July 13, 2009.

Directors' Reports

A Director's report was presented from Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna

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Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:15 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary