

November 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, November 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 Gerry 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 White  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the agenda for November 12, 2009 be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- add Item #15b: Five Islands Fire Brigade
- add Item #15c: Monitoring Well in Valley
- add Item #16b: Harmony Road Sidewalk
- delete Item #15, Alarm By-law
- add to Item #17, In-Camera: Property Matter
- add Item #15d: Congratulations to New MP”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

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

November 12, 2009

**Presentations**

There were no public presentations received for this evening's meeting.

**Staff Presentations**

Ms. Hilary Paquet, Parks and Trails Coordinator

Ms. Paquet provided a powerpoint presentation on the Active Transportation and Colchester-Truro Bikeways Plan. She defined Active Transportation as being any form of human-powered transportation with or without some form of wheels or travel support, i.e. primarily walking and cycling. The vision for the Bikeways Plan is a sustainable, visible and connected bikeways network and on-road and off-road facilities that are safe and accessible for all ages and types of users. A Steering Committee for this initiative, formed in 2008, includes representatives from the Municipality of Colchester, the Town of Truro and the Village of Bible Hill. Recommended projects include: share the road signs, bike racks, shoulder paving and key connections such as a board landing bridge.

A budget for this initiative for 2009-10 includes \$25,000 for the Bikeways Plan and \$200,000 for trails. Implementation of the Plan will also be part of budget deliberations for 2010-11. Funding sources and partnerships are being explored with the provincial and federal governments, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund as well as the private sector.

A copy of Ms. Paquet's presentation was circulated to Council.

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

"That the staff presentation on the Active Transportation and Colchester-Truro Bikeways Plan be received."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS****Scotia Pool Funding Request**

Moved by Councillor Blair  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that a commitment to Scotia Pool of \$100,000 be confirmed, plus a commitment to fund 50% of annual operating deficits to a maximum of an additional \$25,000 for fiscal years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12."

Motion Carried.

*(Councillors Cooper, Edwards and LeFresne opposed)*

November 12, 2009

**Colchester County  
Wellness Program**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Municipality of Colchester Wellness Program be adopted for full-time and term employees with one amendment, that being to include a Smoke Cessation Program.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cooper opposed)*

**County Personnel  
Policy - Orientation  
Program Policy**

Moved by Councillor Taggart  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the amended County Orientation Program Policy be approved as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Funding Request -  
Truro Amateur  
Boxing Club**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council the approval of a donation of \$800 to the Truro Amateur Boxing Club in support of the Provincial Boxing Card event being held in December 2009 in Bible Hill, source of funds to be Economic Development Grants.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Extension of Sewer  
Service Boundary -  
Upper Onslow**

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a revision to the sewer serviced area boundary on property located at 219 Meeting House Road in Upper Onslow be approved as presented; and,

That the cost of the extension of sewer service to the new boundary be borne by the property owner.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**December Council  
Meetings**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the date of Thursday, December 17, 2009 be approved for a Council meeting.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

November 12, 2009

**Amendments to  
County of  
Colchester  
Subdivision By-law**

Moved by Mayor Taylor  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council Committee instructs staff to add the following text to the Subdivision By-law and prepare it for First Reading at the end of the month:

**4.6.1.2**

*For the purposes of this section, applications for subdivision approval filed prior to January 1, 2010 may be assessed according to minimum lot area and lot frontage sizes as required by this By-law as amended to November 29, 1995, subject to Department of Environment approval for on-site sewage disposal.”*

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Municipal Operations  
Energy Audit**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff proceed with preparation of a Municipal Energy Audit grant and commence the audit process upon approval of funding. Budget for the energy audit is \$15,000, with \$10,000 to be from the EcoNova Scotia Program and \$5,000 from the Municipality of Colchester’s Gas Tax Fund; and,

That Council commits to reducing greenhouse gas/air pollutant emissions in both the short and long terms and will commit to:

- a) completing the inventory and audit component, including financial contributions;
- b) incorporating a greenhouse gas/air pollution emissions reduction strategy as part of the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP).”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Five Islands Fire  
Brigade**

Councillor Taggart made reference to a letter on table dated November 11, 2009 from the Five Islands Fire Brigade. In the letter, the Brigade is requesting that the County assist them with a cash flow problem. Councillor Taggart asked that Council consider helping the Brigade in the short term and work toward a long-term solution to enable them to maintain a minimum standard of fire service for the residents of Five Islands.

November 12, 2009

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That staff be authorized to provide funding assistance to the Five Islands Fire Brigade and investigate ways of helping the Brigade maintain long-term financial stability and report back to Council with recommendations to be considered.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Monitoring Well in  
Valley**

Councillor Taggart made reference to Kevin Quinlan’s presentation to Council on October 29<sup>th</sup> concerning drinking water resources. Councillor Taggart would like to see staff investigate the cost and effectiveness of a monitoring well in Valley, specifically what is needed to monitor the aquifer.

Following a brief discussion on this matter, it was recommended that Council invite the Department of Environment in to make a presentation on what they are doing with respect to monitoring aquifers.

Moved by Councillor Buott  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That an invitation be extended to the Department of Environment to make a presentation to Council on what their role is or what regulations are in place with respect to monitoring aquifers.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Congratulations to  
New MP**

Moved by Councillor White  
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council send a letter of congratulations to Scott Armstrong on his recent win in the November 9<sup>th</sup> election to fill the seat of MP for Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Joint Meeting on Civic  
Centre Project**

Moved by Councillor Buott  
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the date of Thursday, November 19, 2009 be approved for a joint meeting of the Colchester County Council and the Town of Truro Council on the Central Nova Scotia Regional Civic Centre Project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

November 12, 2009

**Harmony Road Sidewalk**

Councillor Edwards expressed his disgust over the recent vandalism of the Harmony Road sidewalk construction project. He asked staff to provide an update to Council.

The Director of Public Works, Ramesh Ummat, reported that since the project began, there have been two acts of vandalism targeted at the fresh construction of the sidewalk on Harmony Road. Mr. Ummat circulated photos showing the damage in both cases. The first act, which took place in the evening, involved damage to the curb and gutter section of the sidewalk which resulted in it being laid again. The second act, which took place early this morning, involved damage to a 50-metre portion of fresh sidewalk that was laid near Deuville's rink which resulted in having to remove and recast this portion of the sidewalk. Mr. Ummat indicated that he had reported the incidents to the RCMP.

The CAO indicated that staff will coordinate a story with the media to possibly help solve the incident.

**Recess**

Moved by Councillor McKenna  
Seconded by Councillor White

"That Council Committee recess to an in-camera session at 10:09 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne  
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

"That Council Committee reconvene in open session at 10:45 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Masters  
Seconded by Councillor Buott

"That the meeting be adjourned at 10:46 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault  
Recording Secretary