

December 10, 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, December 10, 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 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 Masters
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the agenda for December 10, 2009 be approved with the following amendments:

- add Item #9b: 2928 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps
- add Item #10b: Confederation of Mainland Mi’kmaaway Funding Announcement
- delete Item #11: Directors’ Reports.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the minutes of the meeting held on November 12, 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 November 12, 2009.

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Presentations

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

ACTION ITEMS**Regional Civic
Centre Project -
Report from
November Council**

Mayor Taylor presented the report from the Council meeting held on November 26, 2009 at which time, authorization was given to Council Committee to make a final decision on this Action Item:

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council Committee approves the maximum capital contribution to the Central Nova Scotia Regional Civic Centre Project is \$14.4 million, conditional on the federal government confirming a \$10 million contribution; a capital cost sharing ratio of 60% from the Municipality of Colchester and 40% from the Town of Truro; and, with the condition that any new capital grants received from government or government agencies be used to offset the County and Town contributions.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

False Alarm By-law

To introduce this Action Item, Ms. Kim Paterson, Administrative Assistant/Researcher, provided a powerpoint presentation on a proposed False Alarm By-law for the Municipality. Ms. Paterson indicated that the purpose of this By-law would be to address the financial and resource costs expended in responding to false alarms. The expectation is that alarm owners will ensure their alarms are working properly and that their alarm company calls them or their contacts prior to contacting either the RCMP or the fire department, thus reducing call-outs to false alarms. From August 2008 to August 2009, the RCMP responded to 970 false alarms.

Ms. Paterson outlined three options for Council Committee to consider:

- maintain the status quo;
- adopt the By-law in its current form; or,
- adopt the By-law with changes.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor White arrived (8:00 p.m.).

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council Committee recommends to Council the adoption of a False Alarm By-law as attached to the Action Item dated December 10, 2009; and,

That staff be directed to develop an educational campaign to inform

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property owners with alarms of their responsibilities and the consequences of false alarms.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor MacKenzie opposed)*

Prior to First Reading of the By-law at January Council, staff were directed to obtain additional information from the RCMP on a further breakdown of their ‘undetermined’ false alarm calls, i.e. residential, commercial, institutional or repeaters.

**Position Vacancy -
Manager, Computer
& Information
Systems**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council Committee authorizes Administration to open competition for the position of Manager, Computer and Information Systems in accordance with the County’s Personnel Policies.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Green Cart
Composting Expansion**

To introduce this Action Item, Ms. Darlyne Proctor, Waste Reduction Manager, provided a powerpoint presentation on why the Municipality should expand the Green Cart Composting Program and the costs associated with this expansion. Council has identified as a priority that green carts should be available to all residents of Colchester County. The estimated capital cost of implementing a green cart program for all full-time rural residents and all seasonal residents is approximately \$640,000. Approximately 5,900 carts are required for the expansion and 500 additional carts are required for new home construction and replacements.

Ms Proctor outlined three options for Council Committee to consider:

- maintain the status quo;
- provide green cart collection to full-time rural households; or,
- provide green cart collection to all full-time rural and seasonal residents.

Ms. Proctor also outlined various options of how Council may wish to pay for this green cart expansion should they choose to go forward with this initiative.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Blair

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“That staff be directed to investigate the possibility of expanding the Green Cart Composting Program to include organizations such as legions, churches, non-profit organizations and small businesses.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the Green Cart Composting Program be expanded to include full-time rural and seasonal residents.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor MacKenzie opposed)*

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the cost to expand the Green Cart Composting Program to full-time rural and seasonal residents be paid by way of a common compost flat rate currently estimated at \$41.50 per residence for the operational costs, with 100 percent of the capital cost to be funded from the Capital Reserve Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**2928 Royal Canadian
Army Cadet Corps**

Councillor Taggart made reference to an article in today’s Truro Daily News regarding the 2928 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps receiving the Lord Strathcona Cup for being the most outstanding group of Nova Scotia based army cadets in the past year. As a good number of these cadets are from Colchester County, Councillor Taggart recommended that a letter of congratulations be sent to the 2928 Cadet Corps.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That a letter of congratulations be sent to the 2928 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps in recognition of the group receiving the Lord Strathcona Cup for most outstanding group of the year.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Insurance for
Not-for-Profit
Organizations**

This Information Item provided Council with an update on the groups that have applied for and been successful in receiving grants under the Not-for-Profit Insurance Program. The intent of the Program is to support community organizations that provide opportunities and serve needs of their community. This year, the budget for the Program was \$10,000. The Fall application deadline of October 16, 2009 resulted in 12 applications being approved for a total of \$5,990.

**Confederation of
Mainland Mi'kmawey
Funding
Announcement**

Councillor White encouraged Councillors to attend the ACOA funding announcement for the Mi'kmawey Cultural Centre project in Debert on Sunday, December 13th at 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:05 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary