

December 9, 2010

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 9, 2010 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 (arrived at 8:00 p.m.)
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Moment of Silence

Council observed a moment of silence for Mr. Keith Baas. Mr. Baas had been a County Councillor for the Debert/Lower Onslow area for 10 years. Mayor Taylor noted that the flags in front of the County building were flown at half mast in recognition of the passing of Mr. Baas.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the agenda for December 9, 2010 be approved with the following amendments:

- add Item #8b: Signage on #2 Highway, Brookfield
- staff presentation for Item #7, Truro Branch Library and Library Headquarters, be moved to take place just before Item #10, Closed Session
- add Item #8c: Chain of Office
- add Item #9b: Elizabeth Bishop Society Centenary Festival. ”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

December 9, 2010

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the minutes of the meeting held on November 9, 2010 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 9, 2010.

Presentations

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

ACTION ITEMS**Request for Funding - 2011 Annual Heritage Conference**

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the request for funding in the amount of \$1,500 for an Annual Heritage Conference in June 2011 be approved, source of funds to be 2011-12 Economic Development Grants.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Signage #2 Highway, Brookfield

Councillor Buott indicated that the Old Truro Road and Highway #2 signage have not been reinstalled after the paving project was completed and are currently laying in the ditch. Mayor Taylor agreed to contact Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to request that these signs be reinstalled.

Sidewalk Strategy

Mr. Crawford Macpherson provided a powerpoint presentation to Council on the Sidewalk Network Strategy as part of a draft policy for the Implementation Plan for Colchester’s Active Transportation Network. This Strategy is intended to provide a framework for the creation of a comprehensive sidewalk network to support the urbanization of our communities and the increasing demand for alternative, active transportation options. For the purpose of this Strategy, sidewalk network includes all forms of non-motorized transportation infrastructure contained within a public road corridor, including sidewalks, multi-purpose trails, bike lanes and paved shoulders.

In identifying a list of potential projects, staff evaluated projects using weighted criteria based on four categories: safety, linking communities, as

December 9, 2010

part of the recreation network, and the extension of the existing network. The list of projects will change as development occurs and new projects can be scored and added to the list at any time.

Mr. Macpherson then went on to explain the implementation considerations for the strategy and outlined the existing sidewalks/paved shoulders as well as the potential short and long term plans for both in various areas of the County.

Mr. Macpherson circulated a copy of the Strategy and asked that Council read it in preparation for the January Committee meeting.

At this point, 8:00 p.m., Councillor White arrived at the meeting.

Chain of Office

Councillor Edwards indicated that he felt it was time that the Mayor had a Chain of Office.

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That staff be directed to look into a Chain of Office for the Mayor and bring back to Council with information on cost and design.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Staff were also requested to find out how many other municipalities have a Chain of Office and if so, how often are they used and for what purpose.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Elizabeth Bishop Society Centenary Festival

Councillor Taggart indicated that he would be forwarding to Councillors a copy of the itinerary for the Elizabeth Bishop Society Centenary Festival which is being held during the summer of 2011. The itinerary will give Councillors an idea of what the festival is all about for when the organizers come to Council looking for an economic development grant.

Directors' Reports

A Director's Report from the Director of Corporate Services was circulated to Council in the Committee package for this evening's meeting.

December 9, 2010

ACTION ITEMS
(cont'd)

Truro Branch
Library and Library
Headquarters

In addition to the Action Item on the Truro Branch Library and Library Headquarters, staff provided two presentations, one in open session and one in closed session.

Ms. Kim Paterson provided a summary of the Action Item by way of a powerpoint presentation, including the municipal and Library Board responsibilities for existing libraries in the Colchester-East Hants region, funding that the Board received in 2010-11, and a breakdown of card usage by municipal unit. She also outlined the following options/recommendations for the proposed new library building:

Library Options

1. Town to own/operate building with no County contribution
2. Town to own/operate building with capital grant from County
3. Town to own/operate building with capital grant from County and share operations
4. Town/County to own/operate building through cost sharing formula
5. County to participate in P-3 partnership under consideration by Town

Recommendations to Council

- Contribute financially to new library
- Create a committee to explore possibility of partnering with Town on design, construction and/or operation of new library

Councillor Blair requested that staff look into whether the County had any involvement in the design of the building for the existing library when it was built in 1968.

The CAO, Mr. Dan McDougall, indicated that he would be providing the second presentation on this item in closed session.

Recess

Moved by Councillor White
 Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:05 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

December 9, 2010

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:25 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Truro Branch Library
and Library
Headquarters (cont'd)**

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

“That the Colchester-East Hants Library Board be invited to make a presentation before Council makes a decision on what the Municipality of Colchester’s role will be in the new library building project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:26 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary