

SPECIAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE

A Special Session of Council Committee of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia, on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 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
Deputy Mayor Ron Cavanaugh, Chair	District #8
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Regrets:

Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
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Purpose

The purpose of the meeting was to receive presentations from staff regarding the draft “maintenance” budget. This is part of the budget process for 2011-12.

CAO Presentation

Mr. Dan McDougall, CAO, made a presentation concerning budget impacts and initiatives, the tax base and related calculations, and future issues. A copy of this presentation was circulated on table.

During the presentation, Council raised questions with respect to enforcement position for the Wastewater Treatment Plant; ground search and rescue costs and whether or not the Town of Truro contributes; electricity costs and the reasons for increase; small flood reduction projects funding; battery collection and disposal costs; archaeological costs in Debert; revenue growth due to wind farm project; impact area rates in urban area has on reducing the commercial/residential tax rate differential, etc.

Director of Corporate Services Presentation

Mr. Bruce Purchase, Director of Corporate Services, made a presentation on the budget process, 2010-11 projections, 2011-12 maintenance budget, items of interest by responsibility area, etc. A copy of this presentation was circulated on table.

During the presentation, Council raised questions on education costs and how rate is set by the Province; recouping unsightly premises costs, etc.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that \$500,000 be transferred from general operations in 2010/11 to the Operating Reserve Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Questions and
Answers/
Information
Requests**

Council questions/comments included how the balance of the 2010-11 surplus could be used; how the deed transfer tax revenue projection is developed; the orthophoto mapping initiative; concern that the Province does not contribute to flood mitigation costs; the use of the derelict vehicle program; sludge disposal costs; funding for the illegal dumping program; the value of the landfill host community program; Scotia Pool funding, the payment to the regional library board; fire insurance reserve, etc.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Dan McDougall
Recording Secretary