

September 15, 2011

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, September 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor	
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

Regrets

Councillor Christine Blair	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the agenda for September 15, 2011 be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- add Item #15b: Agricultural Biomass Combustion Workshop
- delete Item #12: Debert STP-2 Elimination
- add another Property Matter to Item #16, Closed Session.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the minutes of the meeting held on August 11, 2011 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on August 11, 2011.

Presentations

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

ACTION ITEMS

September 15, 2011

**Active
Transportation
Strategy Funding
Options**

Ms. Kim Paterson, Administrative Assistant/Researcher, provided a powerpoint presentation to further explain the contents of the two Action Items contained in this evening's meeting package on funding options for the Active Transportation Strategy.

Council approved the Active Transportation Strategy in January 2011. Under the Strategy, sidewalks, paved shoulders, bike lanes and multi-use trails are planned for a number of areas within the Municipality. At the time the Strategy was approved, Council requested that staff develop some financing options for their consideration.

The funding options were separated into two parts: Part 1 - Local Financing Option; and Part 2 - Municipal Financing Option. The Local Area Financing Option is a method of paying for the local share of Active Transportation projects through an area rate. The Municipal Financing Option is a percentage of municipal dollars which will go toward Active Transportation projects through the general tax rate.

At this point in the meeting, 8:00 p.m., Councillor Edwards left the meeting due to illness.

**Active
Transportation
Strategy - Local
Financing Option**

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the sidewalk portion of the Urban Service Rate be changed to an Active Transportation Rate; and,

That this new rate be charged to all communities in the Municipality of Colchester that have Active Transportation projects identified in the Active Transportation Strategy."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Active
Transportation
Strategy - Municipal
Financing Option**

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That Council Committee recommends to Council that the general rate not be used to contribute funds toward Active Transportation Strategy projects."

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Buott and MacKenzie opposed)*

It was noted during debate on these two motions that Council's preference would be to hold public meetings prior to the start up of the 2012-13

September 15, 2011

budget process and project plans are finalized.

Taxi By-Law

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that staff prepare a draft Taxi By-law for Council’s review.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Repaving of Vimy Road and Dresden Way - Debert

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that the construction project of Repaving of Vimy Road and Dresden Way be approved at an estimated cost of \$295,000, source of funds to be the Road Repaving Reserve Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Request for Funding - Maggie’s Place

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Mayor Taylor

“That Council Committee recommends to Council that a contribution of \$1,000 to Maggie’s Place in support of the Salmon River Parent and Tot Playgroup be approved, source of funds to be general operations as an unbudgeted expenditure.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Gays River Road Spring

Councillor Cooper indicated that the spring on the Gays River Road is used extensively by residents in that area as well as residents from East Hants, Carroll’s Corner and Halifax County. The Department of Environment has recently conducted tests on the water from the spring and deemed it to be unsafe. Due to this issue upsetting communities in these areas, MLA Gary Burrill has called a public meeting for October 3, 2011. An invitation to this meeting has been extended to local MLA’s and members of Council from Colchester, East Hants and Halifax County.

Councillor Cooper asked that Council consider authorizing a staff member to accompany him to this meeting and that a report to Council be prepared subsequent to the meeting, if required.

Mr. Ramesh Ummat, Director of Public Works, provided a brief overview on the spring in Old Barns where area residents go to obtain drinking water. This spring is now maintained by the Municipality of Colchester.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Buott

September 15, 2011

“That staff be directed to accompany Councillor Cooper to a public meeting on October 3, 2011 regarding the spring on Gays River Road; and, following this meeting, that a report to Council be prepared.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor LeFresne opposed)*

**Pre-Debenture
Resolution -
Regional Civic
Centre**

Staff noted that Council had passed a motion at its August 25th meeting that Council Committee be authorized to make a final decision on this item.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council Committee authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign the Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance Subject to Interest Rate Resolution, as presented for Phase 1 of the Colchester Regional Civic Centre, with borrowing by blended debenture for a period of 15 years.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Capital Budget
Meeting Date**

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the date of Tuesday, October 18, 2011 be approved for a special session of Council Committee regarding the capital budget.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Public Transit
Feasibility Report**

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the date of Wednesday, September 28, 2011 be approved for a Joint Council session of the Town of Truro and the Municipality of Colchester for the purpose of receiving a presentation on the Public Transit Feasibility Report.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**INFORMATION
ITEMS**

Director’s Report

A report from the Director of Public Works was circulated to Council in the Committee package for this evening’s meeting.

**Agricultural
Biomass**

Mayor Taylor reported on a workshop he attended earlier in the week at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College on agricultural biomass combustion

September 15, 2011

**Combustion
Workshop**

and the use of grass pellets as an alternate source of energy.

Closed Session

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the meeting go into closed session at 9:15 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:05 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Concord Blue -
Letter of Intent and
Non-Disclosure
Agreement**

Staff noted that Council had passed a motion at its August 25th meeting that Council Committee be authorized to make a final decision on this item.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council Committee authorizes the CAO to sign the revised Letter of Intent and the Non-Disclosure Agreement between the Municipality of Colchester and Concord Blue Energy Nova Scotia, subject to review and acceptance by the Solicitor.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:07 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary