

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, October 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor, Chair	
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 Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10

Regrets

Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Deputy Mayor Ron Cavanaugh	District #8
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Agenda/Purpose of Meeting

Mr. Dan McDougall, CAO, outlined the agenda for this evening's meeting as follows:

- current five-year capital budget;
- capacity to fund capital projects;
- existing infrastructure and new infrastructure opportunities; and,
- Council direction.

Mr. McDougall went on to explain that this is a working meeting where any recommendations will be forwarded to Council for either the October or November meeting. For some projects, staff will come back to Council with an Action Item that provides project details and costs.

Update/Review of Five-Year Capital Budget Plan

Mr. Bruce Purchase, Director of Corporate Services, circulated and reviewed Schedule 'A1', the current five-year capital budget plan, 2011-12 to 2015-16, including project costs and sources of funding; Schedule 'B', the five-year capital budget plan for equipment and minor capital projects under the Capital Reserve

Funds; and, Schedule 'C', a priority list of projects not listed in Schedules 'A' or 'B'. A number of projects in Debert have been pushed back due to archeological issues or environmental assessment requirements, including the STP-2 Elimination project in Debert which has been pushed back to 2013-14.

Opportunities for Existing and New Infrastructure/Programs

Mr. McDougall continued the presentation by outlining the following:

- capacity to finance the five-year capital plan through the gas tax, reserve funds and borrowing;
- funding for new hospital and the civic centre for next five years;
- opportunities for existing infrastructure/programs such as renovations to County office building, new regional library, public transit system, Bible Hill stormwater (funding request received from Village of Bible Hill for \$120,000)
- opportunities for new projects/programs such as growth strategy, Bible Hill Village Centre Plan, Debert projects (road and active transportation network, water and wastewater), septage treatment facility, Hilden Interchange, wind energy, Tidal Bore Park/Pedestrian Bridge, etc.

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development, provided a presentation on long-range planning for Central Colchester by providing development trends in Central Colchester; and, a planning perspective to help Council with deliberations concerning the servicing of Granville Drive. Granville Drive is a subdivision of 24 homes, originally created by the Veterans' Land Act, each with a septic tank which is connected to a communal disposal line. Over the past couple of years, Council has received concerns about sewer backup and malfunction from residents living on this road.

Mr. Macpherson outlined the following options, including pros and cons, for Council to consider with respect to Granville Drive:

- 1) Extend a conventional sewer line from the sewage lift station at Farnham Road to Granville Drive;
- 2) Create one communal sewage disposal bed to serve the existing collection line.

Council Direction

Discussion was held on the two options and Council agreed that a third option should be considered before any decisions are made, that being the estimated cost to extend a conventional sewer line from Granville Drive to Mingo's Corner.

Council agreed that Granville Drive should be included in the five-year capital project plan.

For November Committee meeting, staff will bring forward an Action Item on Granville Drive, including the third option. Staff will also be looking to Council to make any additions or deletions to the capital budget.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary