

SPECIAL COUNCIL

A Special Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, Nova Scotia on Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Mike Smith, Chair	
Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Deputy Mayor Hughie Matheson	District #3
Councillor Mike Cooper	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #6
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor Soley Lynds	District #8
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Doug Cooke	District #10
Councillor Terri Mingo	District #11

Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of this meeting was to make decisions regarding the Civic Centre project, including facilities to be located in the Civic Centre and the project budget.

Correspondence

Council agreed to deal with the correspondence circulated on table before going ahead with the agenda for this evening's meeting.

For the record, the CAO read aloud the correspondence from the Town of Truro and the Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex.

Mayor Bill Mills, Town of Truro

A letter to Mayor Smith dated December 5, 2006 from **Mayor Bill Mills, Town of Truro**, concerning an offer of support for the Civic Centre and the Canada Winter Games.

Councillor Mingo declared a conflict of interest on this matter and removed herself from the table.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the letter dated December 5, 2006 from the Town of Truro be received for information.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Smith indicated that a letter would be written to the Town

of Truro to advise them of Council's response to their correspondence.

At this point, Councillor Mingo returned to the table.

**Curtis Cameron,
Chairman, Don
Henderson Memorial
Sportsplex**

An email dated December 7, 2006 from **Curtis Cameron, Chairman, Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex**, in response to the CAO's letter dated November 30, 2006 regarding support for an additional ice surface in the community and the Municipality building a multipurpose Civic Centre.

Deputy Mayor Matheson declared a conflict of interest on this matter and removed himself from the table.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor White

"That the email dated December 7, 2006 from the Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex be received for information."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Public Presentations

Mayor Smith explained that for the balance of the agenda, depending of what is being discussed, there will be times when he along with Deputy Mayor Matheson and Councillor Mingo will have to declare a conflict of interest and step away from the table.

Mayor Smith declared a conflict of interest and removed himself from the table. As Alternate Chair, Councillor LeFresne assumed the position of Chair.

Jeff Yuill, N.S. Provincial Exhibition Commission

In his presentation, Mr. Yuill provided background on the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition and pointed out the advantages of co-locating the proposed civic centre on the Exhibition property, including reference to their position paper on why co-location makes sense.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

"That the presentation from Mr. Jeff Yuill, N.S. Provincial Exhibition Commission, be received and forwarded on for future deliberations."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Bob Baxter

Mr. Baxter indicated his support for the civic centre and its co-location to the N.S. Provincial Exhibition property in Bible Hill.

Todd Sarty, Manager, Sport and Wellness Centre,
N.S. Community College

Mr. Sarty indicated his full support for the civic centre but expressed concerns about the inclusion of fitness space in the facility.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That the presentations from Mr. Bob Baxter and Mr. Todd Sarty be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Liz Thompson, Bulldog Fitness

Ms. Thompson runs Bulldog Fitness which is a youth fitness centre in Bible Hill. She indicated that she has concerns about the civic centre hurting privately owned businesses such as her own. Ms. Thompson inquired about the opportunity for private businesses to rent space in the civic centre.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the presentation from Ms. Liz Thompson, Bulldog Fitness, be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEM

This Action Item on the proposed new Civic Centre contains recommendations concerning the types of facilities to be located in the Civic Centre, budget and governance.

Civic Centre

Ice Surfaces

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor White

“That an Olympic sized ice surface be constructed in the Civic Centre.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

During part of the discussion on Recommendation No. 2, Councillor Mingo declared a conflict of interest and removed

herself from the table; however, she was able to return when the following motion was put:

Moved by Councillor Mingo
Seconded by Councillor Cavanaugh

“That the Civic Centre design include the possibility of constructing a second ice pad at a later date.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the Civic Centre be designed for 3,000 spectators with a minimum of 2,500 fixed seating. At the time of building design, consideration will be given to accommodating the additional 500 spectators by either temporary seating, standing room or additional fixed seating.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Indoor Walking Track

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That the Civic Centre contain a three-lane walking track.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Aquatics

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the Civic Centre contain a three-tank swimming pool, including a six-lane 25 meter competitive swimming pool, a leisure pool and a tot pool.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Multipurpose Space

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the Civic Centre contain a maximum of 3,000 square feet of flexible multipurpose space.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Fitness Facility

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That the Civic Centre contain a minimum of 4,500 square feet for use as a fitness centre.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cavanaugh opposed)*

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded Councillor Mingo

“That there be a provision that private businesses be consulted before the detailed design options are finalized and that staff report back to Council on the results.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cooke opposed)*

Rock Climbing Wall

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Mingo

“That the Civic Centre contain a Rock Climbing Wall.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Cooke and Cavanaugh opposed)*

Professional Space

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Lynds

“That the Civic Centre contain 4,000 square feet for professional space.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Cooke and Cavanaugh opposed)*

At this point, Mayor Smith and Deputy Mayor Matheson returned to the table. Mayor Smith resumed the position of Chair.

Financing

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matheson

“That a budget of \$30 million be approved for the Civic Centre Project.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the Municipality of Colchester commit to funding a maximum

of \$12 million towards the Civic Centre. Of this amount, \$7.5 million will be generated through borrowing and \$4.5 million will be generated through allocations from reserves; and,

That the Municipality increase the residential tax rate by 5 cents to cover the costs of borrowing.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cooke opposed)*

Governance

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the Municipality of Colchester identify that governance of the new civic centre should be through a separate Board of Directors; and,

That staff report back later on the details of this governance structure.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Operations Support

Moved by Councillor Taylor
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the Municipality initially treat the Civic Centre in accordance with the existing Arena Funding Policy; specifically, that the Municipality will fund insurance costs of the facility as well as planned capital life cycle requirements.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Recess

Council agreed to recess to an in-camera session at 9:25 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 10:45 p.m.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:48 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary