

November 26, 2009

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The Regular Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Courthouse, Truro, N.S. on Thursday, November 26, 2009 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 Gerald 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	District #8
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the agenda for November 26, 2009 be approved with the following additions:

- add Item #8b: Fire Brigades
- add Item #8c: Crosswalk on Highway 289
- add Item #8d: Stormwater Management under Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law
- add to Item #11, In-Camera: Property Matter”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the minutes of the meeting held on October 29, 2009 be approved with one amendment:

- Page 2009-66, Baptist Point Lane and Cottage Lane Collection Pilot, third line of motion should read civic address 537, not civic address 507.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising

In response to an inquiry from Councillor Cooper, staff advised that a

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from Minutes

letter had been written to the Premier and Minister of Natural Resources concerning control of the coyote population in the province.

In response to an inquiry from Councillor Blair, Councillor Taggart provided an update on a recent public meeting he attended involving Seaside Communications. The meeting was held in Economy where residents were advised that Seaside Communications will not be meeting their target of high speed internet being available to everyone in this area by the end of 2009. They have asked the Province for some flexibility in their contract but were refused. Therefore, Seaside has indicated that they are going to turn on three towers and Eastlink one tower just before Christmas but interference is expected.

Presentations

**S/Sgt. Jay McInnis, District Commander,
Colchester County RCMP District**

S/Sgt. McInnis introduced himself and provided a brief background on his career since joining the RCMP 27 years ago. S/Sgt. McInnis took over as District Commander for the Colchester County RCMP District in August of this year.

In his presentation, S/Sgt. McInnis made reference to his letter dated October 8, 2009 which contained a synopsis of RCMP activities relative to the priorities identified in the annual performance plan process for 2009-10. A copy of this letter was circulated in the Council package for this evening's meeting.

S/Sgt. McInnis indicated that he would like to return to Council at some point in the future to talk about resources.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the presentation from the Colchester County RCMP District be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Standing Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on November 12, 2009:

**Scotia Pool Funding
Request**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Blair

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“That Council approves a commitment to Scotia Pool of \$100,000 be confirmed, plus a commitment to fund 50% of annual operating deficits to a maximum of an additional \$25,000 for fiscal years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillors Cooper and Edwards opposed)*

County Wellness Program

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves the adoption of the Municipality of Colchester Wellness Program for full-time and term employees as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

County Orientation Program Policy

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council approves the amended County Orientation Program Policy as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Funding Request - Truro Amateur Boxing Club

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council approves a donation of \$800 to the Truro Amateur Boxing Club in support of the Provincial Boxing Card event being held in December 2009 in Bible Hill, source of funds to be Economic Development Grants.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Extension of Sewer Service Boundary - Upper Onslow

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves a revision to the sewer serviced area boundary on property located at 219 Meeting House Road in Upper Onslow, as presented in an Action Item dated November 12, 2009; and,

That the cost of the extension of sewer service to the new boundary be borne by the property owner.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Municipal
Operations Energy
Audit**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council authorizes staff to proceed with preparation of a Municipal Energy Audit grant and commence the audit process upon approval of funding. Budget for the energy audit is \$15,000 with \$10,000 to be from the EcoNova Scotia Program and \$5,000 from the Municipality of Colchester’s Gas Tax Fund; and,

That Council commits to reducing greenhouse gas/air pollutant emissions in both the short and long terms and will commit to:

- a) completing the inventory and audit component, including financial contributions; and,
- b) incorporating a greenhouse gas/pollution emissions reduction strategy as part of the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP).”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

**Regional Civic
Centre Project
Funding**

Mr. Dan McDougall, Chief Administrative Officer, provided a powerpoint presentation on this Action Item.

Mr. McDougall indicated that for the \$50 million civic centre project, the Municipality of Colchester is being requested to make a \$14.4 million contribution and the Town of Truro a \$9.6 contribution. Other sources of funding include the federal and provincial governments and through community fundraising. Mr. McDougall provided Council with various options to fund the \$14.4 million based on assumptions of a six percent interest rate over a 20-year amortization period, 15 years for recoverable (lease payments) and a tax base growth of three percent.

Mr. McDougall explained that Council’s decision on the amount of capital funding and preferred financing option could take place at the December 10th Committee meeting by authorizing Council Committee to make a final decision on that date, or Council could refer this matter to the December 10th Committee meeting with a final decision to be made at the December 17th Council meeting. Mr. McDougall reminded Council that their decision could be subject to a \$10 million commitment being received from the federal government, subject to a cost sharing ratio with the Town of 60 percent County and 40 percent from the Town, and subject to new funding sources offsetting the County/Town contributions. It is expected that the Truro Town Council will be considering their contribution at a meeting on December 7th.

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Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council recommends to the December 10, 2009 meeting of Council Committee, with authority given to make a final decision, that the maximum capital contribution to the Central Nova Scotia Regional Civic Centre Project is \$14.4 million, conditional on the federal government confirming a \$10 million contribution, a capital cost sharing ratio of 60% from the County of Colchester and 40% from the Town of Truro; and, with the condition that any new capital grants received from government or government agencies be used to offset the County and Town contributions.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**First Reading -
Revisions to County
of Colchester
Subdivision By-law**

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council hereby approves by way of First Reading, the proposed revised Municipality of Colchester Subdivision By-law as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Fire Brigades

Councillor White expressed his concern over being approached by a constituent who questioned him about the County taking over the rural fire brigades. Councillor White assured the constituent that the County has no such plans in this regard. It was also suggested to Councillor White that this constituent be advised that such concerns should be put into a letter to the County.

**Crosswalk on
Highway 289**

Councillor Buott indicated that because Highway 289 is an extremely busy road where children use the sidewalk, that the County consider putting in an additional crosswalk either by Densmore Lane or Hamilton Avenue.

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the request for an additional crosswalk on Highway 289 be referred to staff for identification of options.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Stormwater
Management under
Municipal Planning
Strategy and
Land-Use By-law**

Councillor Blair made reference to a letter under the ‘Correspondence’ item on the agenda from the Village of Bible Hill in which a request is made that the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law be amended to further regulate storm water management in the urban area of Colchester County. Councillor

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Blair indicated that storm water management issues have been ongoing for sometime in Bible Hill and appear to be escalating. Back properties on streets such as Johnson Avenue, Hillcrest Avenue, Wright Avenue and College Court have become water soaked to the point where residents cannot mow their lawns. Councillor Blair requested that this matter go forward to the Planning Advisory Committee to determine when the next plan review is going to take place.

Correspondence

ACTION

**Michele Charlton,
Manager,
Communications &
Media Relations,
Alzheimer Society of N.S.**

A letter to Mayor Taylor received November 18, 2009 from **Michele Charlton, Manager, Communications and Media Relations, Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia**, requesting that January 2010 be proclaimed Alzheimer Awareness Month.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That January 2010 be proclaimed Alzheimer Awareness Month in Colchester County.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Tom Harrison, Events
Planner, Northern Aids
Connection Society**

An email dated November 19, 2009 from **Tom Harrison, Events Planner, Northern Aids Connection Society**, requesting that November 24-December 1, 2009 be proclaimed Aids Awareness Week.

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the week of November 24-December 1, 2009 be proclaimed Aids Awareness Week in Colchester County.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Sharon McLean,
Chairwoman, Village of
Bible Hill**

A letter to Mayor Taylor dated November 17, 2009 from **Sharon McLean, Chairwoman, Village of Bible Hill**, requesting an amendment to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law to enact additional regulations to protect and enhance stormwater management in the urban area of Colchester County.

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the letter from the Village of Bible Hill requesting an

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amendment to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law with respect to stormwater management be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Residents of Broderick Lane & North River Lane, Five Islands

A letter to the Mayor and Council dated November 21, 2009 from the **residents of Broderick Lane and North River Lane, Five Islands**, requesting that the Municipality take over and maintain Broderick Lane and make improvements to North River Lane in Five Islands.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the letter from residents of Broderick Lane and North River Lane, Five Islands, requesting that the Municipality take over and maintain Broderick Lane and make improvements to North River Lane, be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics Report received from the **Building Inspector** for the month of October 2009. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the **Development Officer** for the month of October 2009. Council agreed to receive this report for information purposes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Reports from Councillors Appointed to Outside Boards and Agencies

Councillor Blair advised that the next Police Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for November 30th; and, that she and Councillor McKenna continue to attend the Village Commission meetings. At the last meeting, the Village received approved funding for the sewer pumping station that needs to be replaced, a \$1.8 million project. A public ratepayers’ meeting will be held on Monday, December 7th, regarding approval for borrowing of funds to cover the municipal share of this money.

Councillor Masters reported that he and Mayor Taylor attended the mid-year review by the Province of regional development agencies in Halifax; and, that he was unable to attend the last CoRDA Board meeting.

Councillor Buott reported that he had attended a meeting last Tuesday

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of the Hilden Citizens' Association at which time a discussion took place on the need for another sidewalk. He also attended a meeting of the Library Board where deficiencies of the library building in Truro were discussed.

Councillor Cooper reported that he was not able to attend the last meeting of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission. He did attend the last Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee meeting held on November 16th, as well as Remembrance Day services in his district.

Councillor Edwards reported on activities from the Central Nova Tourist Association. The County Parks and Trails Coordinator, Hilary Paquet, will be doing a presentation on trails at the Association's January 21st meeting.

Councillor MacKenzie reported that she had attended the last meeting of the Library Board where the main issue discussed was the condition of the building in Truro.

Councillor LeFresne reported on a recent award received by the Willow Lodge Home for Special Care in Tatamagouche as a result of their entry in a Kraft Hockeyville Contest. The award was received in recognition of the Lodge decorating their facility's dining room with a Kraft Dinner and hockey-inspired theme. The Lodge was awarded a top prize of \$1,000 which was donated to the Tatamagouche and Area Minor Hockey Association.

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh reported on the UNSM Fall Conference which he attended in Halifax, November 4-7, 2009. He also represented Council at the Remembrance Day service in Truro. The Flood Advisory Committee has a couple of projects underway in Debert behind Elm River Park and another on Farnham Road.

Councillor White reported that he had attended the Remembrance Day service in Debert and the last CoRDA Board meeting. He reminded Council of CoRDA's open house on Friday, November 27th from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Councillor Taggart reported that he had also attended the UNSM Fall Conference in Halifax. He also attended Remembrance Day services in Londonderry, Great Village and Bass River. Councillor Taggart indicated that he and Mayor Taylor did a site visit to Broderick Lane in Five Islands to address some issues in that area.

Councillor McKenna reported that there has still been no meeting of the Lawn Bowling Committee. He also attended the UNSM Fall Conference in Halifax and was very disappointed with the resolutions process. At Councillor McKenna's request, Council agreed to have

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his name go forward to the UNSM as a potential representative on the Resolutions Committee for next year.

Recess

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That Council recess to an in-camera session at 10:55 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council reconvene in open session at 11:20 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 11:21 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary