

December 17, 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, December 17, 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 Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Absent:

Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Deputy Mayor Ron Cavanaugh	District #8

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the agenda for December 17, 2009 be approved with the following additions:

- add Item #8b: Thirsty Church
- add Item #8c: Broderick Lane
- delete Item #8: First Reading - False Alarm By-law
- add Item #8d: Civic Centre - Schematic Design (on table)
- add to Item #8e: Faux Meeting for Laptop Implementation (on table)”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the minutes of the meeting held on November 26, 2009 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting of

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from Minutes

November 26, 2009.

Presentations

Dr. Dale Poel - dhpoel Consulting and Thomas McGuire

Dr. Poel and Thomas McGuire provided an overhead presentation on the results of the citizen and business surveys recently completed. A copy of the results of both surveys were circulated to Council prior to this evening's meeting.

During the presentation, staff were requested to follow up on:

- policing services: any improvement since last survey due to increase in number of RCMP officers;
- lack of coordination between municipalities/village commissions: was this question asked on the 2002 survey;
- services and communications in rural areas: what rural areas are dissatisfied;
- green cart expansion: further breakdown of what area is represented in the 28%.

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the presentation from Dr. Dale Poel and Thomas McGuire on the results of the 2009 Citizen and Business Surveys be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. James Webster, Area Manager, Colchester,
Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR)

At the invitation of the Municipality, Mr. Webster provided Council with a powerpoint presentation on winter road maintenance. Mr. Webster indicated that public expectations are way beyond what TIR can deliver, and as a result, they are receiving a lot of complaints. To ward off some of these calls, the Department's Communications office is trying to educate the public and MLA's by circulating information brochures and fact sheets on winter maintenance and road safety. Copies of these materials were circulated in Council's meeting packages prior to this evening's meeting.

Mr. Webster indicated that Councillors can direct residents' calls regarding winter road maintenance to either the local TIR office or the provincial government website www/gov.ns.ca/tran/winter.

Councillor Buott suggested that the information on winter road

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maintenance and road safety be included in the next County newsletter.

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the presentation from Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Staff Presentation

Update on Capital Projects
- Mr. Ramesh Ummat, Director of Public Works

In his powerpoint presentation, Mr. Ummat provided an update on the status of current and future capital projects.

Councillor Blair requested that a copy of Mr. Ummat’s presentation be forwarded to her via email.

Standing Committee Reports and Recommendations

Councillor Cooper presented the report from the Council Committee meeting held on December 10, 2009:

Green Cart Composting Program Expansion

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council approves the expansion of the Green Cart Composting Program to include full-time rural and seasonal residents; and,

That the cost to expand the green cart composting program to full-time rural and seasonal residents will be paid by way of a common compost flat rate currently estimated at \$41.50 per residence for the operational costs with 100 percent of the capital cost to be funded from the Capital Reserve Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee

Councillor LeFresne presented the report from the Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee meeting held on December 16, 2009:

Growth Strategy

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

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“That Council authorizes the development of a Water Growth Strategy for the Tatamagouche Water Utility Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Thirsty Church

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That a letter of congratulations be sent to organizer, Amanda Langille, for leading the community and County in getting the Londonderry Station Community Church into the Top 25 of the Thirsty Church Competition.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Broderick Lane

In response to an inquiry from Councillor Taggart, staff confirmed that the Broderick Lane matter will be coming forward at January Council Committee.

Civic Centre - Schematic Design Phase

Moved by Councillor Blair
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council authorizes the Municipality’s Civic Centre Project Steering Committee members to approve the schematic design phase and development of a business plan/pro forma financial statements for the operating phase of the Civic Centre.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Faux Meeting

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council approves January 19, 2010 as the date of the ‘faux’ meeting for laptop training purposes.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence

ACTION

**Chief Charlie Baird,
Cobequid District Fire
Brigade**

Councillor Masters declared a conflict of interest on this matter and removed himself from the table.

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A letter to Council dated December 1, 2009 from **Chief Charlie Baird, Cobequid District Fire Brigade**, requesting a loan guarantee for a new pumper/tanker.

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the letter from the Cobequid District Fire Brigade requesting a loan guarantee for a new pumper/tanker be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Councillor Masters returned to the table.

**Kelly Kolke, Past-Chair,
Truro Sport Heritage
Society**

A letter to the Mayor dated December 3, 2009 from **Kelly Kolke, Past-Chair, Truro Sport Heritage Society**, requesting financial sponsorship for the 2010 Annual Sports Awards.

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the letter from the Truro Sport Heritage Society requesting financial sponsorship for the 2010 Annual Sports Awards be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

In preparation for Council Committee, staff were requested to obtain financial statements from the Truro Sport Heritage Society.

**Dana MacCoul, 14
Lower Harmony Road**

Councillor Edwards declared a conflict of interest on this matter and removed himself from the table.

A letter to the County dated December 9, 2009 from **Dana MacCoul, 14 Lower Harmony Road**, requesting a zoning change for lots on Village Line Avenue.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Buott

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“That the letter from Dana MacCoul, 14 Lower Harmony Road, requesting a zoning change for lots on Village Line Avenue be referred to the Planning Advisory Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

At this point, Councillor Edwards returned to the table.

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

Reports from Councillors Appointed to Outside Boards and Agencies

Councillor Taggart reported that he is working with the School Board and the RCMP in obtaining space for an officer at the school in West Colchester.

Councillor Taggart also reported that he had attended meetings of the fire brigades in Bass River and Economy.

Councillor White reported that he had attended the Industrial Parks' meeting yesterday and will be attending the CoRDA Board meeting tomorrow morning.

Councillor LeFresne reported that he had attended a provincial tourism conference two weeks ago. Tourism is down in the province by about five percent.

Councillor Edwards reported that he had attended the monthly meeting of the Central Nova Tourist Association.

Councillor Blair reported that the Police Advisory Board met on November 30th at the Bible Hill RCMP Detachment. Topics discussed included a noise by-law, a false alarm by-law and meetings now being held on a quarterly basis.

Councillor Blair also reported that the first meeting of the Colchester East Hants Regional Advisory Board is scheduled for January 5, 2010.

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Councillor Blair indicated that the Village of Bible Hill received approval from a ratepayers' meeting to proceed with a loan of up to \$750,000 through the Municipal Finance Corporation to pay the Village's share of the replacement of a sewer pumping station.

Mayor Taylor reported that he had attended 13 events in the last two weeks, including the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce annual meeting on December 9th where Finance Minister Graham Steele was guest speaker; the funding announcement on December 13th for the Colchester Legion Stadium which received \$857,000 in federal funding and the Mi'kmaq Cultural Centre in Debert which received \$420,000 in federal funding; and a tour with Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh of the Nuttby Wind Farm earlier today.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting be adjourned at 11:31 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary