

March 31, 2011

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, March 31, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Bob Taylor, Chair	
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
Deputy Mayor Ron Cavanaugh	District #8
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Regrets:

Councillor Christine Blair	District #1
Councillor Karen MacKenzie	District #6
Councillor Bob White	District #9

Special Presentation

Mayor Taylor welcomed Jared Goad to the meeting. On behalf of Council, Mayor Taylor presented Jared with a certificate of congratulations in recognition of his winning the first gold medal for Nova Scotia in the recently held Canada Games. Jared is a resident of Bible Hill and won the gold medal in the ‘Artistic Gymnastics - Floor Exercise - Male’ category.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That the agenda for March 31, 2011 be approved with the following additions:

- add Item #12b: Crosswalks in Brookfield
- add to Item #17, Closed Session: Negotiations
- add Item #15b: Seaside Communications.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Cooper

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Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the minutes of the meeting held on February 24, 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 February 24, 2011.

Presentations

Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field (CCWF) Inc.

Representing Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field Inc. were David Stevenson and David Swan. In a powerpoint presentation, Mr. Stevenson indicated that the CCWF is an active community-based business that has been pursuing wind power in Colchester and Cumberland Counties since 2006. They are meeting with the various municipal Councils across the two counties and will be looking for municipal partnerships when appropriate. The company is open to all investors which currently stands at 170 of which over 50% are from Colchester County. The cost per share in the company is \$1.60 with a \$3,000 minimum investment. The electricity being produced by the company will be sold to Nova Scotia Power Inc.

In his part of the presentation, Mr. Swan indicated that the 170 investors represent a total of \$1.4 million in shares, most of which comes from the Tatamagouche area. The company has debt financing in place and construction began in the summer of 2010. The project at Spiddle Hill, estimated to cost \$2.3 million, has space for three turbines.

A copy of the CCWF presentation was circulated on table for this evening's meeting.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the presentation from Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field Inc. be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Central Nova Tourist Association

Mr. Devon Trefry provided an update on the Central Nova Tourist Association, including the following:

- CNTA has been a not-for-profit organization for over 25 years

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- Development of unique partnerships to maintain sustainability
- Amalgamation of Central Nova, Pictou County, Antigonish County and Eastern Shore organizations did not take place
- Development of three-shores website - North Shore, Fundy Shore and Eastern Shore
- Development of tourism guides specific to each shore - 2011 editions coming out in next week or so
- Development and benefits of new stakeholder model - no membership fees

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That the presentation from the Central Nova Tourist Association be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Marigold Cultural Centre

Representing the Marigold Culture Centre were Al Bégin and Donald Ferguson. In the presentation, Mr. Bégin provided an overview of the organization. The Cobequid Arts Council (CAC) is a not-for-profit volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life within the community by developing widespread appreciation of support for and involvement in the arts. The CAC has been in existence since 1978. The CAC educates, encourages, promotes and supports a diverse range of arts and culture.

The CAC operates the Marigold Cultural Centre and leases the building from Truro Investment Cooperative Ltd. (TICL). The TICL is a group of local community-minded shareholders who have invested over \$1 million to establish the Marigold Cultural Centre building.

Mr. Bégin suggested that Council may wish to consider a funding partnership with the CAC for development and promotion of cultural activities within Colchester County.

A copy of the Marigold Cultural Centre’s annual report was circulated around the table.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

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“That the presentation from the Marigold Cultural Centre be received and the request for a funding partnership with the Cobequid Arts Council be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Standing Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh presented reports from the Council Committee meetings held on March 8, 10, and 22, 2011:

**Transfer to
Operating Reserve**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council approves the transfer of \$500,000 from general operations in 2010/11 to the Operating Reserve Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Loan Guarantee -
Great Village &
District Fire
Commission**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves that the Municipality of the County of Colchester provide a letter of intent in support of a loan of \$128,000 for the Great Village and District Fire Commission for the purchase and outfitting of a new rescue truck; and,

In the event that this is not satisfactory to the lending institution, that the Municipality provide a loan guarantee for this amount.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**UNSM Resolution -
Bursary Program**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council approves that a resolution in support of the development of an inclusive bursary program open to all municipal employees be forwarded to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities for consideration at the 2011 Fall Conference.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**County Personnel
Policies**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

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“That Council approves that the current Personnel Policies numbered 6.11 and 6.23 be repealed; and that revised Personnel Policies numbered 6.11 and 6.23 be approved, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Londonderry Station
Community Church
Association**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves a contribution of \$5,000 to the Londonderry Station Community Church Association, source of funds to be the Bass River House Fund; and,

That the Bass River House Fund not be used toward any additional funding requests from the Londonderry Station Community Church Association.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Colchester
Transportation
Cooperative Ltd.**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council approves a contribution of \$5,000 to the Colchester Transportation Cooperative Ltd., source of funds to be monies received from the provincial Public Transit Incentive Program.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Elizabeth Bishop
Society Festival**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves a contribution of \$6,150 to the Elizabeth Bishop Society Festival, a one-time event being held August 19-20, 2011, source of funds to be the 2011-12 Economic Development Grants Fund for \$3,150 and the Bass River House Fund for \$3,000.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Budget
Approval/Tax Rate
Resolution**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That Council approves the 2011-12 Operating Budget with the additions/deletions as set out on March 22, 2011; and,

That the following tax resolution be approved:

WHEREAS the Municipal Council of the County of Colchester is

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required to levy rates which it deems sufficient to raise the sum required to defray the expenditure of the Municipality of the County of Colchester for the current twelve month fiscal period;

RESOLVED that pursuant to **Section 72 of the Municipal Government Act**, the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester estimates that sums amounting to **\$19,798,015** are required for the lawful purpose of the Municipality for the year ending **March 31, 2012**, after crediting the probable revenue from all sources other than rates for the abatement and losses which occur in the collection of the taxes for the said year which may not be collected or collectible;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council authorize the levying and collection of a rate of **eighty-three cents (\$0.83)** on each \$100.00 of the assessed value of the residential and resource property assessed in the **2011** Assessment Roll;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council authorize the levying and collection of a rate of **two dollars twenty-five cents (\$2.25)** on each \$100.00 on the assessed value of Commercial Property and Business Occupancy assessed in the **2011** Assessment Roll;

FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to **Section 78 of the Municipal Government Act** in lieu of all rates and taxes of the Municipality, an owner of forest property to which the said section applies shall pay tax equal to twenty-five (25) cents per acre on holdings of 50,000 or less and forty (40) cents per acre on holdings greater than 50,000 acres and where an area, village or commission rate is levied for fire protection, the owner shall pay an additional tax of one (1) cent per acre;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Council hereby requires payment of said rates to be made to the Tax Collector or Treasurer of the said Municipality on or before the 11th day of August, 2011;

FURTHER RESOLVED that said Council hereby imposes an additional percentage charge of 15% per annum on all rates and taxes remaining unpaid after the 11th day of August, 2011.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Provincial

The CAO, Dan McDougall, provided a brief summary of the possible

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**Dismantling of
Memorandum of
Understanding**

financial impact on the municipalities from the recently announced decision by the Province of Nova Scotia to dismantle the Memorandum of Understanding between the two levels of government. The biggest immediate impact will be felt in 2012-13 when the Municipality finances the civic centre as the MOU savings had been factored into the long-range plan.

Following a brief discussion on this issue, Council agreed to the Mayor and CAO sending a letter to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities with Council's concerns.

**Second Reading -
Garbage Collection
& Disposal By-law**

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

"That Council hereby approves by way of Second Reading, Chapter 33 - Garbage Collection and Disposal By-law, as presented."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Taxi By-law

Referring to a letter from the Town of Truro that was included in this evening's meeting package, Mayor Taylor indicated that the County may wish to consider looking at a taxi by-law that would complement that of the Town of Truro. He suggested that staff from both the Town of Truro and the County work together on the development of this by-law and invite the Town of Truro in to make a presentation to Council if appropriate.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That the issue of a proposed County taxi by-law be referred to Council Committee."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Waste Management
Master Plan -
Component 1
Construction Tender**

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Masters

"That Council authorizes April Council Committee to award the tender for the Construction of the Waste Management Master Plan Component 1, Upgrades to the Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Facility."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. McDougall made reference to a letter from the Town of Truro that was included with the Action Item on this issue. He suggested that before Council considers the request that the Municipality borrow the Town's share of funding for the Waste Management

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Master Plan project, that staff look into what, if any, consequences this borrowing will have on the Municipality.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That Council directs staff to look into the Town of Truro’s request to borrow \$2.9 million from the Municipal Finance Corporation for their share of the Waste Management Master Plan project and report back to Council with any consequences and options to consider.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Council and Council
Committee 2011-12
Meeting Dates**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That Council approves the schedule of Council and Council Committee regular meeting sessions for the 2011-12 fiscal year as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Crosswalks in
Brookfield**

Councillor Buott reported that at a previous Council meeting, he was directed to contact Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) about having crosswalks painted at the Highway 289 intersection of Densmore Lane, Elm Street and Carter Road. When he approached the provincial department, he was told that TIR requires a motion from County Council before they can start the process on this request.

At this point, Councillor Taggart left the meeting and returned after the following motion was voted on.

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the issue of painting crosswalks in Brookfield at the Highway 289 intersection at Densmore Lane, Elm Street and Carter Road be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence

ACTION

Pam Macintosh,

A memorandum to Council dated March 4, 2011 from **Pam**

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County Planner

Macintosh, County Planner, concerning an expansion of a land lease community by a development agreement at Lexington Park, Bible Hill.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the letter from the County Planner concerning an expansion of a land lease community at Lexington Park, Bible Hill, be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Scott Annand,
Project Coordinator,
Cougar Dome**

An email to the CAO dated March 4, 2011 from **Scott Annand, Project Coordinator, Cougar Dome**, requesting a presentation to Council on the Cougar Dome project.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the email from the Coordinator of the Cougar Dome project requesting a presentation to Council be received for information.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Brian Sharpe,
Eastern Region
Provincial Show
Committee**

A letter to Council received on March 11, 2011 from **Brian Sharpe, Eastern Region Provincial Show Committee**, requesting funding support for the 4-H Provincial Show.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the letter from the Eastern Region Provincial Show Committee requesting funding support for the 4-H Provincial Show be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Colin Fowlie,
Creamery Square
Development Project**

An email to the Mayor dated March 28, 2011 from **Colin Fowlie, Creamery Square Development Project**, requesting a letter of support for Phase 3b of the Creamery Square project.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the request from the Creamery Square Development Project requesting a letter of support for Phase 3b of the project be denied.”

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Motion Carried. *(Councillors Masters and LeFresne opposed)*

**Randy O'Connell,
Upper Stewiacke
Volunteer Fire Dept.**

A letter to the Mayor dated March 28, 2011 from **Randy O'Connell, Upper Stewiacke Volunteer Fire Department**, requesting a property tax exemption.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the letter from the Upper Stewiacke Volunteer Fire Department requesting a property tax exemption be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the **Building Inspector** for the month of February 2011. Council agreed to receive this report for information.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Report received from the **Development Officer** for the month of February 2011. Council agreed to receive this report for information.

INFORMATION
ITEMS

**Use of Biosolids in
Colchester County**

The Director of Public Works, Ramesh Ummat, provided a powerpoint presentation on an environmentally responsible method for disposal of biosolids at the municipal Balefill in Kempton. A copy of Mr. Ummat's presentation was circulated around the table.

This presentation was provided to Council in order to bring members up to date on the municipal application to the Department of Environment for a six-month trial run to use biosolids produced at the Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Plant as daily coverage on Colchester's Balefill Facility. The application was rejected by the

Department of Environment citing production of greenhouse gases and loss of useful nutrients as one of the reasons. The other reason cited was the contravention of a policy of the Department on a procedure for the land application of biosolids clarification.

Insurance for Not-

The winter application deadline for the Not-for-Profit Insurance

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**for-Profit
Organizations -
Grant Applications**

Program was February 28, 2011. The County received and approved 14 applications for a total of \$5,486.

**Seaside
Communications**

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh indicated that in the area of McCallum Settlement, there are eight or so homes that are still trying to get high speed internet hookup from Seaside Communications. The residents as well as the Deputy Mayor are having difficulty finding out why the hookup has been delayed in this area. No other members of Council indicated any such experiences with Seaside.

**Reports from
Councillors
Appointed to
Outside Agencies**

Councillor Masters reported that the Civic Centre project is moving along and during the next couple of weeks, about 80% of the projects will have been tendered.

Councillor Buott reported that he had attended an RRFB meeting in East Hants.

Councillor Cooper reported that he had attended the REMAC meeting on March 21st and the meeting with the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations on March 25th.

Councillor Edwards reported that he had participated in the tour of the Wastewater Treatment Facility in Lower Truro on February 25th.

Councillor LeFresne reported that he expected that the hydraulic fracturing issue will be coming to Council at some point.

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh reported that he had attended the meeting with the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, served dinner with the Mayor at an event sponsored by the North River Fire Brigade, and visited District 7 on March 18th regarding a flood issue.

Councillor Taggart reported that he had attended the meeting with the Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

Closed Session

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting go into closed session at 11:40 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 12:01 a.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Property Appraisal -
Kemptown**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That Council authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer to accept compensation top-up offers for property located at 1296 Riversdale Road, Kemptown.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**New Tatamagouche
Library**

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council authorizes April Council Committee to make a final decision on the tender award of the new Tatamagouche Library.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the meeting be adjourned at 12:02 a.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary