

April 26, 2012

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, April 26, 2012, 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 Tom Taggart	District #10 (arrived at 7:15 p.m.)
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Regrets:

Councillor Bob White	District #9
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Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the agenda for April 26, 2012 be approved with the following additions/deletions:

- add under #5, Presentations: Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission and Colchester Next
- add #7b: Wind Energy Workshop
- delete under #10, Closed Session: Negotiations
- add under #10, Closed Session: one additional Property Matter
- add #9b: CAMA Announcement
- add #7c: Climate Change
- add #7d: Sidewalk in Hilden
- add #7e: Letter from Tatamagouche Legion.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the minutes of the meetings held on March 15 and 29, 2012 be approved as circulated.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meetings held on March 15 and 29, 2012.

Presentations

Northumberland Arts Council (NAC)

At the Additions/Deletions meeting in March, the NAC had requested \$10,000 under the Grants to Non-Profit Organizations Program for renovations to the Fraser Cultural Centre where the organization is located. At that time, Council had denied the request and recommended that the NAC come back to Council after the organization had completed its strategic planning exercise.

Representing the NAC were Sharron Byers, Murray Pridham and Suzanne Elain Bastow. Ms. Byers indicated that the purpose of the presentation this evening was to submit a copy of the NAC Strategic Plan and to answer any questions that Council may have. Mr. Pridham addressed Council’s concern regarding sustainability by stating that the building has been sustainable for 30 years and that he is confident that it will continue to be so.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That the funding request from the Northumberland Arts Council be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the presentation from the Northumberland Arts Council be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission (NSPEC)

Representing the NSPEC were Mr. Joel Henderson and Mr. John Douglas. Mr. Henderson made reference to recently drafted

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terms of reference that were developed by a working committee consisting of representatives from the NSPEC, CoRDA, the N.S. Department of Agriculture, the Municipality of Colchester, the Village of Bible Hill and the Town of Truro. The terms of reference is recommending that a consultant be hired to complete an extensive review of all aspects of the NSPEC's business operations as well as a strategic and business plan for the organization. Mr. Henderson indicated that he was not sure that a \$90,000 consultant study is the way to go.

Mr. Henderson indicated that the purpose of the presentation this evening was to offer to Council a seat on the NSPEC Board of Directors. A similar request will be made to the Province, the Village of Bible Hill and the Town of Truro.

The NSPEC agreed to provide a copy of their most recent financial statements in preparation for this request being considered by Council Committee.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the request from the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission for a Council representative on the Board of Directors be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the presentation from the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Colchester Next

Mr. Quinn McCarthy, the Chair of Colchester Next introduced all the members of the group that were in attendance. By way of email, the group had requested an opportunity to present to Council. A letter dated April 24, 2012 was also sent from the group to all members of Council, a copy of which was circulated on table for this evening's meeting. Colchester Next is a volunteer group comprised of local residents mostly under the age of 40 who want to make the community a better place to live, work and raise families. The group's goal is to try and find a way to increase voter turnout for elections.

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The purpose of the presentation was to follow up on a story in the Chronicle Herald regarding a recent survey conducted by Dalhousie University. The survey was circulated to Councils across the province and the paper reported a 82% response rate. Colchester Next were surprised and disappointed to read that Colchester County Council had not responded to the survey.

Council's response to this presentation:

- appreciation to group for wanting to increase voter turnout at elections
- no response to survey - general feeling was that survey was too invasive
- invitation to meet with Council or members of Council anytime

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Blair

"That the presentation from Colchester Next be received."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Standing Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh presented a report from the Council Committee meeting held on April 12, 2012:

Transfer of Funds

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

"That Council approves the transfer of \$101,500 from general operations in 2011-12 to the Operating Reserve Fund."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Disposition of Assets
- Star Screener**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

"That Council authorizes staff to advise the Pictou County Planning Commission in writing that the Municipality of the County of Colchester does not object to disposing of the Erin Star Screener by sale in keeping with the provisions of the Pictou/Colchester Agreement, in particular Section #5 of that agreement; and,

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That Council further authorizes staff to proceed to tender for the purchase of a new Trommel Screener for the Colchester Compost Facility.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Civic Centre -
Construction
Management &
General Contracting
Services Contract
with PCL**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to execute the contract for Construction Management and General Contracting Services between PCL Constructors Canada, the Municipality of the County of Colchester and the Town of Truro.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Executive and Audit
Committee**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meetings held on March 29 and April 12, 2012.

ACTION ITEMS

**Former Maple Leaf
School**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council authorizes the Municipality of Colchester to accept the former Maple Leaf School and property from the Chignecto Central Regional School Board.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Wind Energy
Workshop**

Councillor Taggart reported that he had attended a Sustainable Practices meeting on Monday where it was mentioned that a wind energy workshop is being developed by the UNSM and the Department of Environment. The workshop will be directed towards elected officials and staff, not industry people. The workshop will take place sometime in June. Councillor Taggart would like to see participation at this workshop by both Councillors and staff.

Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That the Municipality of Colchester participates in the wind energy workshop being organized for June 2012.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**Climate Change
Adaptation Fund**

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh made reference to a recent email received from the UNSM advising that the Climate Change Adaptation Fund is now receiving applications. If approved, the Fund will cover 100% of project costs. Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh would like to see the Municipality look at this program for possible funding opportunities.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That the Climate Change Adaptation Fund be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sidewalks in Hilden

Councillor Buott reported on the poor condition of the asphalt surface of the sidewalk in front of the school on the Truro Road. It was recommended that Councillor Buott refer the matter to the Director of Public Works.

**Letter from
Tatamagouche
Legion**

Councillor LeFresne made reference to a letter from the Tatamagouche Legion regarding the old library property. The Legion is interested in using the property for a parking lot. Councillor LeFresne requested that this request be added to a future Council agenda.

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

“That the letter from the Tatamagouche Legion regarding the old library property be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence

ACTION

**NS International
Ferry Partnership**

A letter dated March 21, 2012 from the **Nova Scotia International Ferry Partnership** requesting a financial contribution to the NS-USA ferry service campaign.

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

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“That Council approves a contribution of \$1,000 to the NS-USA ferry service campaign, source of funds to be general operations as an unbudgeted item.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor LeFresne opposed)*

Town of Stewiacke

A letter dated April 12, 2012 from the **Town of Stewiacke** regarding funding for a new library in Stewiacke.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That the letter from the Town of Stewiacke regarding funding for a new library be referred to Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Cheryl Ewing, 1172
College Road**

An email dated March 21, 2012 from **Cheryl Ewing** to Councillor MacKenzie regarding feeding of nuisance animals and a request to the County for a by-law.

Councillor MacKenzie indicated that this is one of several emails she has received from this resident. The resident reports that the neighbours are throwing food out their back door to feed the birds some of which is being dropped on her property. It is also attracting mice and rats. Councillor MacKenzie called Natural Resources for any educational material they might have but was told there wasn't any.

Councillor MacKenzie brought this issue before Council to see if there was any interest in developing a feeding of wild birds and animals by-law similar to that of the Town of Truro.

It was recommended that Councillor MacKenzie advise the resident to contact the Department of Health regarding the rodent issue. It was also mentioned that the Town of Truro had such a by-law in place because of the ducks at the Kiwanis Pond.

**Linda Swan, 12
Second Court**

An email from **Linda Swan** to Councillor MacKenzie requesting that the County's Outdoor Fire By-law be extended to included the Valley area.

Councillor MacKenzie indicated that this is one of several emails she has received regarding smoke from outdoor fires. The resident is asking that Valley be included in the County's Outdoor Fire By-law.

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Moved by Councillor MacKenzie
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

“That staff be directed to contact the Valley-Kemptown Fire Brigade regarding the inclusion of Valley in the Municipality of Colchester’s Outdoor Fire By-law.”

Motion Carried. *(Council Cooper opposed)*

**Raymond Rieksts,
Harmony Grove
Home Sales Inc.**

A letter dated April 25, 2012 to the Mayor and Council from **Raymond Rieksts, Harmony Grove Home Sales Inc.** regarding an extension of the sewer line on Granville Drive.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the letter from Harmony Grove Home Sales Inc. regarding an extension of the sewer line on Granville Drive be referred to May Council Committee.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Margaret Mauger,
Colchester Sexual
Assault Centre**

A letter received April 23, 2012 to the Mayor requesting that Council proclaim May as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Moved by Councillor Buott
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That Council proclaims the month of May as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Colchester County.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

A copy of the Building Permit Statistics received from the **Building Inspector** for the month of March 2012. 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 March 2012. Council agreed to receive this report for information.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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CAMA
Announcement

Mayor Taylor read into the record a letter received from the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators. The letter indicated that the County's CAO, Mr. Dan McDougall, had received a pin in recognition of ten years of municipal service in a management capacity.

Reports from
Councillors
Appointed to
Outside Boards and
Agencies

Councillor Blair presented her written report of activities and events she attended in the past month. The next meeting of the Police Advisory Board is scheduled for July 16th. The October 15th meeting has been cancelled.

Councillor Masters reported that he had attended the official opening of the new Tatamagouche library, the Cobequid Salmon Association annual banquet and a meeting of the Civic Centre Operating Board.

Councillor Buott reported that he had attended a ratepayers' meeting in Brookfield, an RRFB recycling contest, the official opening of the new Tatamagouche library, an RRFB meeting, and the County's Volunteer Awards event.

Councillor Cooper reported that he had attended a ratepayers' meeting in Brookfield and Upper Stewiacke, a meeting of the School Advisory Council, an Executive and Audit Committee meeting, a REMAC meeting, and the Upper Stewiacke Fire Brigade's annual banquet.

Councillor Edwards reported that he had attended the Civic Centre's meet and greet for the new Operating Board as well as the official opening of the new Tatamagouche library.

At this point, Councillor Edwards left the meeting due to illness.

Councillor LeFresne reported that he had participated in the official opening of the new Tatamagouche library.

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh reported that he had attended the official opening of the new Tatamagouche library, the provincial Volunteer Awards event in Halifax, the Regional UNSM meeting in Truro, and the funding announcement for the new compost facility in Kemptown.

Councillor Taggart reported that he had attended a Holocaust service in Bass River, the Economy Fire Brigade's awards banquet, a community meeting with the RCMP in Five Islands, a sustainable practices meeting in Halifax and the Regional UNSM meeting in Truro.

Councillor McKenna reported that he had attended a meeting of the Police Advisory Board, a sod turning event for the new lawn bowling

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facility, the Volunteer Awards event in Bible Hill, the Bible Hill Fire Brigade's awards banquet, and the official opening of the new Tatamagouche library.

Mayor Taylor presented his written report of activities and events he had attended during the month of April. A copy of his report was circulated on table for this evening's meeting.

Closed Session

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting go into closed session at 10:35 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh

"That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:55 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor LeFresne
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

"That the meeting be adjourned at 10:55 p.m."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary