

August 30, 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, August 30, 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 Bob White	District #9
Councillor Tom Taggart	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

- add Item #8b: Public Beaches
- add Item #8c: Balefill Scales, Scalehouse and Public Drop-Off Facility (on table)
- add under Item #12, Closed Session: one additional 'Negotiations' item for a total of (3)."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

"That the minutes of the meeting held on June 28, 2012 be approved as circulated."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on June 28, 2012.

Presentations

Sarah Gatti-Yorke - Five Islands Athletic Association

In her presentation, Ms. Gatti-Yorke provided an overview of the Five Islands Athletic Association. The purpose of the Association and its

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14 volunteers is to encourage physical activity in both the summer and winter seasons.

The Association is currently involved in a project to construct a 12.136 square foot concrete pad for the outdoor ice rink and to replace the outer perimeter boards. This project would allow the Association to make ice on a uniform surface and give Five Islands and surrounding communities use of an outdoor space year round for spring, summer and fall activities for the children in the area.

Ms. Gatti-Yorke explained that the project was estimated to cost \$87,760 of which the Association was able to obtain \$69,000 - \$40,000 from the Municipality's Community Park Funding Program and another \$29,000 from the Province's Department of Health and Wellness. However, due to an increased cost in concrete work since last winter, the Association requires an additional \$16,000 to complete the project.

In a letter to Council dated August 7, 2012, the Association asked Council to consider a contribution to the project in the amount of \$5,000 from the Bass River House Fund. A copy of this letter was included in the package for this evening's meeting.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

"That the presentation from the Five Islands Athletic Association be received and the request for a contribution towards the Five Islands outdoor ice rink project be referred to September Council Committee with authority to make a final decision."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

David Stevenson - Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field Inc.

In his presentation, Mr. Stevenson provided an update on the Spiddle Hill project since the company's first presentation to Council in 2011. In July 2011, Colchester-Cumberland Wind Inc. commissioned an 800 kw wind turbine on Spiddle Hill which provides electricity to over 300 homes and businesses in North Colchester. Construction continues in 2012 utilizing local companies and services with three 50 kw turbines and one 800 kw to be installed by 2013. The company has received municipal operating licenses for all turbines installed to date.

Mr. Stevenson also indicated that Halifax to Moncton is proposed as the first Maritime Electric Vehicle Corridor. The first long-range charge station for electric motor vehicles is proposed for the Truro Power Centre in Millbrook.

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Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor Buott

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Wayne Edgar and Peter Lavell - Spiddle Hill Residents' Group

In their presentation, Mr. Edgar and Mr. Lavell provided an overview of the Spiddle Hill Residents Group's involvement with Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field Inc. and the Spiddle Hill wind turbine project since it began operation in 2011. In addition to consultations with the company, the Group also made a presentation to Council in 2011 regarding their concerns with the wind turbine project and a request that the Municipality's Wind Turbine By-law be revisited.

The Group was before Council this evening to provide an update on their further experience living near a wind turbine, including the results of almost a year's worth of research, relations with Colchester-Cumberland Wind Field Inc. and to once again request changes to the Wind Turbine By-law.

The group asked Council to consider the following changes to the By-law:

- setback distance from a dwelling be increased to 2,000 meters
- definition of dwelling be broadened and updated to include consideration of the use of the dwelling
- notification of application for wind farms and of public meetings to residents/property owners within 3 km of proposed project
- consideration of intended use of adjacent vacant properties
- developers to post financial bonds to cover cost of decommissioning wind turbines no longer in use
- establishment of regulatory framework for continued monitoring of wind turbine installations to ensure compliance relative to noise and environmental issues

A copy of the Group's presentation was circulated to Council.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That the presentation from the Spiddle Hill Residents' Group be received.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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At this point in the meeting, Mayor Taylor noted that at the August 16th Council Committee meeting, the request to revisit the Municipality's Wind Turbine By-law was referred to the Planning Advisory Committee. Council has received two presentations from the Friends of Harmony-Camden on this issue, one at June Council and one at August Council Committee.

Mayor Taylor explained that the Friends of Harmony-Camden have indicated their wish to make another presentation; therefore, he asked Council to allow this presentation but that it be no longer than ten minutes duration for both the presentation and questions.

On behalf of the Friends of Harmony-Camden, Deborah Smith stepped forward and stated that the group will not be making a presentation this evening as a show of support for the Spiddle Hill Residents' Group.

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor Blair

"That the statement received from the Friends of Harmony-Camden to not make a presentation be received."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Standing Committee
Reports and
Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh presented reports from Council Committee meetings held on September 15 and November 15, 2011 and August 16, 2012:

**Active
Transportation
Strategy**

At the August 16, 2012 Council Committee meeting, there were a number of recommendations noted in the Action Item concerning the Municipal Infrastructure Program Policy that were made to Council Committee last fall that require final approval from Council:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

"That Council approves the sidewalk portion of the Urban Service Rate being changed to an Active Transportation Rate; and,

That the general rate not be used to contribute funds toward Active Transportation Strategy projects; and,

That any decisions on the creation of taxation boundaries for paved shoulder projects, outside of the boundaries for the Urban, Brookfield and Debert areas, be deferred until such time as a paved shoulder project has been identified."

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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**RCMP Request for
Funding - Speed
Reader Board**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Blair

“That Council approves a contribution to Colchester County RCMP in the amount of \$11,000 for the purchase of a Speed Reader Board, source of funds to be general operations as an unbudgeted item; and,

That Colchester County RCMP be asked to withdraw a similar request to the Village of Bible Hill for a contribution of \$5,500.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Temporary
Borrowing
Resolution Renewal
- Regional Civic
Centre**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign a temporary borrowing resolution for the Regional Civic Centre, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Temporary
Borrowing
Resolution - Central
Colchester
Wastewater
Treatment Facility**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council authorizes the Municipality of Colchester to request a temporary borrowing resolution for the upgrades to the Central Colchester Wastewater Treatment Facility under the Waste Management Master Plan in the amount of \$4 million, subject to an agreement with the Town of Truro that the full borrowing costs, including principal, interest and debenture discount, are Truro’s responsibility.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Municipal
Infrastructure
Program Policy -
Amendment**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That Council approves an amendment to the Municipal Infrastructure Program Policy, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Habitat
Compensation
Policy**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Taggart

“That Council approves the adoption of the municipal Bird and Wetland Habitat Compensation Policy, as presented.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor Cooper opposed)*

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**Operating Reserve
Fund Policy**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Masters

“That Council approves the adoption of the Operating Reserve Fund Policy, as presented.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**County Personnel
Policies**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves amendments to Personnel Policies 3.01 and 5.08, as presented; and,

That Council approves the adoption of Personnel Policy 4.10, Temporary Staffing - Use of Retired Employees, as presented.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor MacKenzie opposed)*

**Executive and Audit
Committee**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting held on July 19, 2012.

ACTION ITEMS

**Towns’ Task Force
Report**

At staff’s suggestion, Council agreed to send the draft letter in the meeting package to the UNSM with one additional comment to the recommendation for Goal #3 - Council does not agree with the binding arbitration process. It was also agreed that Council will review the recommendations appendix at the September Council meeting.

**Fall Debenture
Funding**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor LeFresne

“That Council authorizes the Mayor and CAO to sign a Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance subject to interest Rate Resolution, as presented for Phase 3A of the Central Nova Regional Civic Centre, with borrowing by blended debenture for a period of 15 years.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Public Beaches

Councillor Taggart indicated that he had received several complaints of recreational vehicles parking on public beaches in his district between the high water mark and adjacent land, some of them being there all summer long. Discussion with the Department of Natural Resources has indicated that they only control up to the high water mark.

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Moved by Councillor Taggart
Seconded by Councillor Cooper

“That a letter be written to the Department of Natural Resources to determine what government agency is responsible for public beaches in Nova Scotia and what, if any, legislation is available on this subject matter.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Balefill Scales, Scale House and Public Drop-Off Facility

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council authorizes September Council Committee to award the project of construction of scales, scale house and public drop-off facility subsequent to a review of the options brought forward by staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Correspondence

ACTION

**Dulcie McCallum,
FOIPOP Review
Officer, Province of
NS**

An email dated August 23, 2012 from **Dulcie McCallum, FOIPOP Review Officer, Province of Nova Scotia**, requesting that the week of September 24-28, 2012 be proclaimed Right to Know Week.

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the week of September 24-28, 2012 be proclaimed Right to Know Week in Colchester County.”

Motion Carried. *(Councillor LeFresne opposed)*

INFORMATION

Building Inspector

Copies of the Building Permit Statistics received from the **Building Inspector** for the months of June and July 2012. Council agreed to receive these reports for information.

Development Officer

A copy of the Development Activity Reports received from the **Development Officer** for the months of June and July 2012. Council agreed to receive these reports for information.

INFORMATION

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ITEMS

**Community Trails
Funding Program -
Application Update**

Since the last round of applications reported to Council in February 2012, staff have approved an additional capital grant of \$10,285 to the Tatamagouche Area Trails Association for improvements to the Butter Trail. In February 2012, staff approved a capital grant of \$16,085 for this same project for a total of \$26,370 or 43% of the project.

**Reports from
Councillors
Appointed to
Outside Boards and
Agencies**

Councillor Blair presented her written report of activities and events she had attended in the past month.

Councillor Masters reported that he had attended a meeting of the Project Steering Committee for the civic centre as well as participating in two tours of the facility.

Councillor Buott reported that he had attended the Peacekeepers' Day service at the Veterans Memorial Park in Bass River, July 1st celebrations in Brookfield, a meeting with the Friends of Harmony/Camden, a County meeting on the new Truro library and a meeting on the new Stewiacke library.

Councillor Cooper reported that he had met with the Friends of Harmony/Camden, attended a meeting of the Flood Advisory Committee, and the Executive and Audit Committee.

Councillor Edwards reported that he had met with the Friends of Harmony/Camden and represented Council at a barbeque event for Feed Nova Scotia.

Councillor MacKenzie reported that she had attended a County meeting on the new Truro library.

Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh reported that he had participated in a tour of the new civic centre, the official opening of the Bantam Girls Ball Tournament and chaired a meeting of the Flood Advisory Committee.

Councillor Taggart reported that he had attended the Lighthouse Days event in Five Islands and the Peacekeepers' Day service in Bass River on July 1st.

Councillor McKenna reported that he met with the Friends of Harmony/Camden, the Peacekeepers' Day service in Bass River on July 1st. Councillor McKenna also provided an update on the lawn bowling facility.

Mayor Taylor presented his written report of activities and events he had attended during the months of July and August. A copy of both reports were circulated.

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Closed Session

Moved by Councillor White
Seconded by Councillor McKenna

“That the meeting go into closed session at 10:10 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 11:15 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Materials Recovery
Facility Contracts**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Cavanaugh
Seconded by Councillor Buott

“That Council authorize September Council Committee to make a final decision on the recyclable contracts for the Materials Recovery Facility; and, that the Mayor and CAO be authorized to sign these contracts on behalf of the Municipality of Colchester.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Annual Expenditure
Return - Gas Tax**

Moved by Councillor Masters
Seconded by Councillor White

“That Council approves that the cost overrun of \$144,649 for Phase 4 of the Bible Hill Water Extension project be funded through the Operating Reserve Fund; and, that the funding originally allocated to this project in the amount of \$144,649 be returned to the Gas Tax Fund.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McKenna
Seconded by Councillor White

“That the meeting be adjourned at 11:20 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault
Recording Secretary