

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 O' Canada

Deputy Warden Gilbert called to Order the March 4, 2015 Council session of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland at 2:11 p.m. The meeting was held at the E. D. Fullerton Municipal Building. O'Canada was sung.

1.2 Roll Call

Executive Assistant to the CAO, Shelley Hoeg, called the roll with the following Councillors being present:
Councillor Smith, Councillor Kellegrew, Councillor Gillis, Councillor Welton, Councillor Rector, Deputy Warden Gilbert, Councillor McLellan and Councillor Fletcher.

Warden Hunter was absent as he is attending an FCM meeting and Councillor Baker was absent due to serious illness.

2. **ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES**

2.1 Approval of Agenda

Addition(s):	4.3	Addendum to Letter of Intent
	6.7	Land Covenant Removal
	6.8	Letter from Amherst Ramblers
	6.9	Leave of Absence for Councillor Baker

Deletion(s): 2.6, 2.7, and 7

2.2 Approval of Minutes of February 18, 2015

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2015 Council session, as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED #15-028

2.3 Approval of Nomination Committee Minutes of February 18, 2015

The Minutes of the February 18th, 2015 Nominations Committee meeting was approved with the addition of the names of Robert Meekins – Springhill Junction and Sharon Benjamin – Shore Drive Community Development Association.

2.4 Business Arising from the February 18, 2015 Council Session

The Director of Public Works advised that actions have been undertaken regarding the Wastewater bylaw issue. We are still awaiting for a grant request application from Parrsboro Creative. We are also still awaiting for information as well from Sunset.

2.5 Business Arising from the February 18th, 2015 Nominations Committee Meeting

There was no discussion on this item.

2.6 Delegations, Presentations, Petitions, Proclamations

There were no delegations, presentations, petitions or proclamations for today's Council session.

2.7 Public Hearings

There were no Public Hearings for today's session.

3. **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ISSUES**

3.1 Energy Strategic Plan

This item was provided as information. Councillor Fletcher advised that he feels this Committee is working well.

3.2 CED Strategy

Community Economic Development Coordinator, Jim Campbell advised he had introduced the concept of "local development areas" with a map showing potential areas, at a previous Council meeting in conjunction with another agenda item. As you know, "Community Capacity" is one of four areas of focus in our Community Economic Development Strategy. By capacity, we are referring to the capacity of a community or area to continue to be sustainable. To do that requires a critical mass in some combination, of four key elements – People, Infrastructure, Access to programs and services and Economic opportunities. We can help communities assess their "capacity" by encouraging and assisting them to think about their communities from the perspective of those four key elements.

Some communities are ready, and are already starting to talk about future ideas and visions for their community. In other areas they may focus on more day to day or possibly, year to year plans. The idea behind the concept of Local Development Areas is not to force communities into a planning process they are not ready for, but to support local initiatives at whatever level is right for them at this time. In some areas, there are already Development Associations with a mandate to develop and implement new opportunities and initiatives. In others, just keeping the local community hall open to provide a place for community activities, may be all they can handle. By recognizing Local Development Areas, we can focus our limited resources in a more strategic manor, recognizing a) we can't be all things to all people and communities and, b) CED needs to happen at the local level and not just at the County or Regional level. Most community groups and residents don't even recognize their activities as contributing to CED, but at its most basic level, "citizen engagement" as we call it, is what CED is all about.

Right now "community capacity" is just abstract jargon in a CED strategy. Recognizing and supporting local development areas in a more comprehensive and strategic manor, is putting it into action. There is not a huge incremental cost to do this. It is more about providing staff support and strengthening our relationships in the communities. We will need to provide some funding through our CED budget for local projects from time to time (e.g. tourism signage, hiring consultants for a waterfront development strategy, etc.), but for the most part, it's about harnessing the financial support we already provide through our grant programs in a more strategic manner.

3.3 Pugwash Waterfront Development

Jim Campbell, Community Economic Development Coordinator advised that some time ago, Councillor Gillis had arranged a meeting with some residents in the Pugwash area who are interested in the development and implementation of a waterfront development plan for the community. The Chair of the Village Commission was also in attendance, and continues to be part of the group. By way of background, this group has mutual interests in boating and were hoping to see a marina developed. However upon learning that funding agencies are reluctant to support "stand-alone" projects and prefer to see projects which are part of a more comprehensive strategy to support Community Economic Development, the group refocused its efforts on a broader "waterfront development" concept that could include some marina services (or even a full-service marina), as well as the proposed multi-purpose community centre and library, improvements to the Eaton Park and stage, walkways or boardwalk, retail and food outlets, increased other amenities in the community in support of residents and tourists, and possibly (depending on market analysis) accommodations.

After meeting with the group to hear about their ideas, Mr. Campbell suggested they try out their idea with potential funding partners and arranged a meeting with the local representatives from ACOA, and the NS Department of Economic & Rural Development and Tourism. Roger MacIsaac also attended. There was considerable support for the project in this more comprehensive form as a "waterfront" or "downtown" development project and to tie this project into the Pugwash Master Plan. The next steps are:

1. Formalize a steering committee to guide the project
2. Develop a terms of reference and RFP to have consultants develop a Concept Plan. The Terms of Reference may also include some preliminary market analysis for certain aspects of the project.

The representatives of the two agencies present indicated potential support for the cost of developing the concept plan. The Municipality would probably be asked to contribute as well. Until the Terms of Reference is completed, we will not have a sense of the scope, and therefore, the potential cost of the project. Mr. Campbell has been asked to help prepare the Terms of Reference and bring together a meeting of the Steering Committee and advised the Municipality may also be asked to oversee grant submissions and manage project funds.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to request staff to proceed with the development of an RFP for the development of a conceptual plan for the Pugwash Waterfront.

MOTION CARRIED #15-029

4. **MAJOR ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES**4.1 Transition Committee

A final meeting will be held on March 19th, 2015. Information will be provided to Council after that meeting. A quick update was provided on the agenda items of the last Transition Committee Meeting.

4.2 Transaction Actions

This item was distributed to Council.

4.3 Addendum to Letter of Intent

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Smith to approve the addendum to the Letter of Intent which entailed removing the amount for sewer billing for the Chignecto Central Regional School Board.

MOTION CARRIED #15-030

5. **ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY/BY-LAW ISSUES**5.1 Grants – Policy and Guidelines

Council was provided with information on this item and agreed that it should be on the March 18th, 2015 Council agenda. A brief overview was provided by our Community Economic Development Coordinator.

6. **BUSINESS ISSUES**6.1 Temporary Borrowing Resolution Renewal

Mr. MacDonald, Director of Finance, advised that a Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$5,000,000 is required to be renewed for Sunset for the completion of their renovations.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Rector to approve a borrowing resolution in the amount of \$5,000,000 for Sunset Adult Residential and Rehabilitation Services.

MOTION CARRIED #15-031

6.2 2015 Taxable Assessments

Mr. MacDonald, Director of Finance, presented a 2015 Taxable Assessment Listing, by District.

6.3 Financial Condition Indicators

Financial Condition Indicators for the Municipality of Cumberland were provided for the information of Council.

6.4 Audit Committee

Minutes of the February 10, 2015 Audit Committee were provided to Council for review.

6.5 Fire Protection Services Coordinator Update

Mike Carter, Fire Protection Services Coordinator, advised of the following:

Training

- a. Basic fire fighter program in place
- b. Fire service officer program a work in progress
- c. Some specialty training ongoing
- d. 6 new fire service instructors in the county

Recruitment, retention and staffing

- a. Mutual and automatic aid program developed for all departments including towns
- b. Automatic aid for all calls in R.H. Joggins area 24/7

Fire department emergency medical services

- a. Discussions with Fire Marshal and other coordinators on providing this service
- b. Discussions with Chiefs on their desire to provide this service
- c. Discussions with EHS Nova Scotia on training provisions

Fire Stations

- a. 2 new buildings in progress, one in conceptual stages, due to recent severe weather events Wallace is temporarily on hold.
- b. Repairs to existing buildings are being completed as required

River Hebert/ Joggins

- a. Initial meeting held to discuss amalgamation
- b. Identified numerous tasks to be completed
- c. Issues have arisen concerning amalgamation which will be dealt with by the fire departments management teams
- d. Other meetings will occur when housekeeping issues are completed

Vehicle maintenance and purchases

- a. Regular maintenance ongoing
- b. Vehicle replacement ongoing, two tankers and one rescue purchased in 2014
- c. One tanker planned for 2015 (Wentworth)
- d. Three more tankers are required to complete purchases
- e. Two replaced tankers will be kept in service for satellite stations

Springhill

- a. Meetings have been held with the Springhill management team to discuss budgets, communications, operations and honorariums.

Budgets

- a. Operational grants for departments are undergoing some proposed changes in which a purchase card system may be implemented with Councils approval. Department visits by Andrew and Mike are ongoing to explain and receive feedback. By working with the departments we are hopeful that we can develop a more responsible system for our budget process.

There was consensus to proceed with this option to increase accountability.

Accountability

- a. Emergency scene accountability system has been developed and implemented
- b. Online record keeping system now in place
- c. Training level document developed and distributed to ensure that firefighters do not operate beyond the scope of their training

Equipment replacement

- a. A bunker gear replacement program is planned to begin this year.

6.6 Community Development Grants

Council was advised by the Recreation and Physical Activities Coordinator of the following grant request:

CA-R-MA (Cat Rescue Maritimes)

This group is requesting \$500 to use towards funding their *Spay-getti Dinner and Dance Fundraiser*, which is to be held on April 11th. This fundraiser helps raise funds for their spay and neuter program for Amherst and Cumberland County. This group has done a lot of work in Cumberland County to date, and in 2014 they performed TNR (trap-neuter-return) for colony caregivers in Maccan (over 60 cats on the property with 40 cats TNR'd to date, and 20 kittens fostered or adopted); a large colony of 20+ in River Hebert; in Springhill (a large colony of 15 and some smaller colonies were all TNR'd); Lorneville; Shinimicas; Tidnish (a colony of 10 at a residence and the colony living at the general store). The \$500 that they are requesting will help cover the costs of the event, thereby increasing the possibility that revenue/profit will be realized from the event.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Smith to provide \$500 (\$250 each from Districts 1 and 10) to CA-R-MA to help defray the costs of their Spay-getti Dinner and Dance.

MOTION CARRIED #15-032

International Women's Day Luncheon

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Rector, to provide a Community Development Grant in the amount of \$100 from District 1 to the International Women's Day Luncheon to assist with the cost of hosting the luncheon.

MOTION CARRIED #15-033

6.7 Land Covenant Removal

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Fletcher, that Council direct staff to advise the Province of Nova Scotia that the Municipality does not object to the removal of covenants respecting 11 Miners Memorial Drive, Springhill, Nova Scotia, PID 25232935.

MOTION CARRIED #15-034

6.8 Letter from Amherst Ramblers

Correspondence was received from the Amherst Ramblers advising they are not requesting funding in this year due to the success of the Rambler Toonie Draw and thanking Council for their generous support.

6.9 Leave of Absence for Councillor Baker

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Fletcher to grant Councillor Baker a leave of absence due to his recent stroke.

MOTION CARRIED #15-035

7. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

There were no information items for today's meeting.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

8.1 The Queen

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m. and The Queen was sung.

Deputy Warden Gilbert

Municipal Clerk Brenda Moore