

1. Council Convenes - O Canada - The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call - The roll was called by Shelley Davis, Recording Secretary. All Councillors were present.
3. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions) - The agenda was approved with the following additions: 10.8-Emergency Medical Grant, 12.1-Fire Protection Services
Deletions: 14.2-Federal Properties
4. Approval of Minutes
 - 4.1 November 23, 2005 - **IT WAS MOVED** by Councillor Redmond, seconded by Councillor J. Reid that the minutes of the November 23, 2005 Council meeting be approved as circulated.

On discussion, clarification was requested as to the reason that the committee report did not include Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee members. CAO Rennie Bugley explained that there was some confusion regarding Council's approval of the Nominations Committee Report. Mr. Bugley indicated that immediately prior to the vote at the November 23, 2005 Council meeting, that Councillor K. Langille had stated, in regards to the acceptance of the committee membership report "with the exception of the Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee".

Mr. Bugley also explained that, at the November 23, 2005 Council meeting, Council agreed to request that Mr. Jim Coughlin, Planner, provide a report to Council regarding the Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee mandate, membership, area, and citizen appointments.

It was indicated that the motion of Council was included in the minutes as stated, and if the majority of Councillors agreed that the Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee be comprised of Councillors K. Langille, K. Redmond, and G. Langille, then the minutes were correct and that the report would be revised accordingly.

The majority of Council indicated agreement with these three Councillors being named to the Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED #06-01

5. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - 5.1 Action List - November 23, 2005 Council Meeting - Circulated as information.
Action List - November 23, 2005 Nominations Meeting - Circulated as information.
6. Delegations and Presentations
 - 6.1 Jim Milner re Windmill Farms - Mr. Milner's presentation dealt with the negative impacts of Windmill Farms on Cumberland County. Mr. Milner explained to Council that he would like research done on wind energy by professional people who are not Government funded or have any affiliation with Government. As the Municipality currently has no by-laws regarding windmills Mr. Milner would like to see a 2 km setback from any windmill to any residence included as part of a by-law. Mr. Milner feels that noise will be a huge issue. He feels residents will no longer have quiet enjoyment of their properties due to the noise from the windmill farm. Mr. Milner was also concerned with danger to birds and humans and feels that tidal power is a safer route to go.

Councillor G. Read read a letter from a resident supporting Windmill Farms. There

was also a resident who lives near the existing windmill located at the Cumberland RCMP Detachment who advised Council that he does not have concerns with a windmill farm.

Warden Hunter thanked Mr. Milner for his presentation.

- 6.2 Stealth Ventures - Mr. Bob MacDonald and Mr. Arden Thompson of Stealth Ventures were on hand to present to council. Mr. MacDonald explained that Stealth has acquired the coal bed methane rights in Nova Scotia. He also showed areas in Nova Scotia where permits have either been issued or are pending. An overview of the Stealth Team was given. Stealth Ventures has 177,000 acres in the permit for Cumberland. Mr. MacDonald explained that due to new techniques in drilling, more methane gas is being made accessible. Stealth has raised in excess of \$10,000,000 for this next phase of drilling and are hoping to begin in Cumberland next Friday with a well in Springhill (Cumberland Basin). Stealth Ventures is planning to drill 7 wells in first quarter of this year. At this point in the presentation, Mr. MacDonald opened the floor to questions. Mr. MacDonald informed Council that there will be public meetings as well as a web site for residents to get further information on the project. The Town of Springhill and it's residents have given the project very strong support.

Warden Hunter thanked the gentlemen for their presentation and wished them all the best of luck with their endeavour, at which time they left Council.

- 6.3 Diamond Overall Excellence Award - CAO, Rennie Bugley, presented Leonard MacDonald, Manager of Information Systems, with the Diamond Overall Excellence Award. This award is in recognition to the Municipality of Cumberland's extraordinary efforts that have allowed us to excel in all areas of technology, innovation, customizations, and improvement.
- 6.4 Years of Service Awards - Councillors K. Langille and Councillor J. Kellegrew were presented with 10 year service awards. Rennie Bugley and Shelley Davis received their 10 year service awards with Andrew MacDonald, Leonard MacDonald, Sandy Huntley and Connie Scott all receiving 15 year service awards. These presentations were all made by Warden Keith Hunter. Councillor K. Langille thanked Councillors, staff, media and electors of District 4 for her years on Council.

7. Public Hearings

- 7.1 Demolition Order, 83 Main Street, Joggins, PID 25061797 - Mr. Cottingham informed Council that staff have been dealing with this property for approximately 2.5 years. Staff initially had the windows and doors boarded up due to safety reasons. This house has flammable materials inside and it is felt that this property is a hazard. There have been 3 quotes received for the demolition of buildings and the price runs between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor John Reid seconded by Deputy Warden Kellegrew that this property be demolished and the site restored.

MOTION CARRIED #06-02

- 7.2 Demolition Order, Highway 242, Strathcona, PID 252057340 - Council was informed that the building was secured by our staff over 1 year ago and now it is felt that this property is a continuous hazard.

It was moved by Councillor J. Reid, seconded by Councillor Redmond to demolish, clean up debris on property and restore it to an acceptable condition.

MOTION CARRIED #06-03

- 7.3 Demolition Order, Highway 6, Linden, PID 25097247 - Mr. Steve Ferguson, Dangerous and Unightly Property Administrator, received a voice mail that the owner has begun demolition work of the property.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Warden Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor K. Langille that if the property is not demolished by the owner by the end of January, 2006, staff are to demolish the structure(s) and restore the property to an acceptable condition.

MOTION CARRIED #06-04

- 7.4 Demolition Order, 619 Mines Road, PID 25069303 - The owner of the property is deceased and the family has no interest in the property.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor G. Langille seconded by Councillor K. Langille to demolish the structure and have the property cleaned up and have site restored to an acceptable condition.

MOTION CARRIED #06-05

8. Correspondence

Various Grant Recipient Letters Of Appreciation

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Cumberland Early Intervention | \$ 500 |
| International Women's Day Committee | 100 |
| Cumberland County Black Artisans Society | |
| Maritime Beef Testing Society | 2,000 |
| Healthy Parrsboro Committee | 500 |
| Oxford RCMP | |

Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County

1. Board of Directors, inviting a representative to attend the New Name Launch, Thursday, February 9, 2006, 4:30 p.m., 12 LaPlanche Street, RSVP by January 31, 2006. *This was referred to the Warden.*

William D. Casey, M.P.

1. Expressing appreciation on behalf of constituents for the exceptional job in repairing the boat launch and ramp at Spencer's Island.

Department of Canadian Heritage

1. Colleen Hunt, Program Officer, regarding National Flag of Canada Day - February 15, 2006, requesting special recognition to the flag, by hosting a flag-raising ceremony and/or issuing a Proclamation. *This item will be referred to staff.*

Amherst Curling Club

1. Lee Black, President, suggesting that if the Town and County are contemplating a new "rink/winter sports facility/sports & meeting complex", curling should be considered in the mix. Detailed background information is included. *Council referred this item to the long range planning process.*

Dalhousie University

1. Public Sector Programs, advising of a Municipal Law Symposium, February 9, 10, 2006 in Halifax. *This item will be distributed. Councillor Reid will replace Ralph Welton. Councillor Redmond would also like to be registered for this symposium.*

Office of the Premier

1. Pat Lunn, Correspondence Coordinator, in response to Council's correspondence regarding the availability of facilities to supply and measure air for vehicle tires; indicating a response can be expected shortly.

Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

1. Elaine Wagner, Appeals Officer/Clerk, in response to Council's correspondence regarding gasoline and fuel oil licensing (air facilities) indicating that the Board has

no authority and that licensing is now dealt with by the Department of Environment and Labour.

Doug Heffel, Resident

1. Requesting Council's opinion on whether they favour spending Cumberland County's taxpayer's money on supporting events in Halifax.

Municipality of the County of Richmond

1. Louis Digout, CAO, expressing appreciation for information regarding fire protection services, indicating that the initiatives are ambitious and are probably the best demonstration encountered, in a rural area, of municipal support for fire departments.

Nova Scotia Assessment Management Board

1. John R. Cameron, Q.C., Interim Chair, advising that Cabinet has given SNSMR approval to research and make recommendations relative to moving Assessment Services from a division of a government department to a municipally controlled agency.

Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities

1. Detailing 2005-2006 UNSM Policy and Research Priorities

Order of Nova Scotia

1. Encouraging nominations for the Order of Nova Scotia

Department of Canadian Heritage

1. Gabrielle Verri, Provincial Director, advising of activities during the Celebrate Canada campaign, enclosing funding applications. *Staff to circulate to various Councillors so that they may be circulated to constituents.*

Chignecto Central Regional School Board

1. Gary Clarke, Supervisor, Chignecto Family of Schools, acknowledging Council's motions at its November 9, 2005 meeting, recommending that Council write directly to the Board regarding the location of the meeting re: the closure decision.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Redmond, seconded by Councillor J. Reid that correspondence be forwarded to the Chignecto Central Regional School Board to request future meetings of the Board at which decisions regarding school closures may be made, be held in the communities affected by potential closures.

MOTION CARRIED #06-06

Statistics Canada

1. Doug McLellan, Assistant Director, Eastern Region, advising that Stats Canada has set up 2 temporary local census offices in Dartmouth and Saint John; Cumberland County has been included under Saint John to balance workloads; all reporting is to Halifax; there will be no jobs lost in Cumberland County or Nova Scotia.
2. Guy Oddo, Director, Eastern Region, requesting support and cooperation to increase public awareness for the May 16, 2006 Census. **(ACTION - REFER TO STAFF)**

Cumberland Joint Services Management Authority

1. Tanya MacKenzie, Solid Waste Manager, advising that the Board accepted the CAO Advisory Committee recommendation that municipal concerns be submitted to the Board, 10 days in advance of the scheduled CJSMA meeting.

Federation of Canadian Municipalities

1. Michael Coleman, President, advising of the 2006 Sustainable Community Awards, enclosing the Awards Information and Application Booklet. **(ACTION)**

N.B. Department of Transportation and Public Works

1. Pat Estabrooks, E.A. for Minister Mesheau, advising that Minister Mesheau and Minister Fage have been working on this issue; Minister Mesheau made a request on August 8, 2005 that the bridge be repaired immediately; cost estimates indicate that the costs are between \$300,000 and \$1,000,000; the respective Ministers will be meeting in January, 2006. Amherst Fire Department, Honorary Firefighters Memory Club

9. Planning Issues

- 9.1 Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee - Planner, Jim Coughlin addressed Council on the processes of appointing a committee for a Planning Advisory Committee, requesting that the boundaries of the village determine the area covered in the plan and adopt the mandate he included in his report and follow the normal manner to appointing members to the committee.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Langille, seconded by Councillor G. Read to accept the recommendations of Municipal Planner Jim Coughlin regarding the scope and membership in establishing a Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED #06-07

It was agreed that correspondence will be forwarded within a week to the Pugwash Village Commission.

10. Financial Reports/Issues

- 10.1 Recreation Grant Requests -

Cumberland Spartans Swim Club - This item will be deferred pending additional information.

Pugwash District High School

Stop Program

Sr. High English Class Trip to Neptune Theatre

Student Exchange

\$1,000 from District 4, District 5 - \$300 and District 6 - Stop Program - \$500, Class Trip - \$500 and Student Exchange - \$1,000

Canadian Red Cross - will be included in Grants To Organizations deliberations for 2006 budget.

Pugwash Girls Sr. High Basketball Team - District 4 - \$200, District 5 - \$300, District 6 - \$200

Amherst & Area Drug Awareness Committee - District 1 - \$100, District 2 - \$50 and District 3 - \$100

Oxford & Area Skating Club - District 4 - \$150, District 6 - \$330, District 7 - \$120, District 8 - \$30

Cumberland Bordertown Bantam AAA - \$500 - \$50 from each district

Pugwash Harbourfest 2006 - District 4 - \$2,000 and will also be deferred to 2006 budget deliberations.

Nappan/Maccan United Church - staff to request additional information.

King Edward Masonic Lodge - River Hebert - \$500 from District 9

Northumberland Curling Club Committee \$2,500 from District 4 and also be considered in budget deliberations for 2006. This will be approved pending budgetary information being provided by Councillor K. Langille.

Cyrus Eaton Elementary Playground - District 4 - \$1,000

Amherst Curling Club - \$2,000 from Districts 1,2,and 3 equally.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Langille seconded by Councillor G. Read that the above recreation grants be approved.

MOTION CARRIED #06-08

- 10.2 Grants to Organizations -
Pugwash Capsite - \$500

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Langille, seconded by Councillor G. Read that the Pugwash capsite receive \$500.

MOTION CARRIED #06-09

Amherst Curling Club - Requesting \$10,000 This will be deferred to budget deliberations.

- 10.3 Business Occupancy Tax - Mr. Andrew MacDonald updated Council on the passing of this legislation and it's timelines. This legislation will force Council to adjust the commercial tax rate or other cost saving measures.
- 10.4 I.T. Services Upgrade - This is provided for information purposes. They are required updates that will be considered during budget deliberations.
- 10.5 Community Investment Support Program - We have received a request from CREDA to write a letter of support for their application to the CISP. Further information will be provided by CREDA staff who will make a presentation to Council.
- 10.6 Remittal - **IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Redmond, seconded by Councillor G. Read that acc 07424329 in the amount of \$1643.18 be approved for remittal, as presented.**

MOTION CARRIED #06-10

- 10.6 Medical Grant - **It was moved by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor G. Read that a medical emergency grant in the amount of \$500 be made to a resident of District 10.**

MOTION CARRIED #06-11

- 10.7 Canada - NS Infrastructure Fund - details in package.

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor Gilbert, seconded by Councillor Reid that Council has approved the Joggins Pollution Abatement project as its priority for funding pursuant to the Canada - Nova Scotia Rural Infrastructure program and re-submit its application for this project.

MOTION CARRIED #06-12

11. Operational Services/Reports Issues

- 11.1 Cape D'Or Lease - Council was informed by our Development Officer, Stephen Ferguson that our lease is now up and divestiture has not come to fruition. DNR would like to renew the lease.

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor Kellegrew seconded by Councillor Welton that Council approve that the lease for the Cape D'Or property be renewed for another 5 year term.

MOTION CARRIED #06-13

- 11.2 Joggins Fossil Cliffs Land Acquisition - Following discussion
IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Warden Kellegrew and seconded by Councillor G. Read to Notify the Department of Natural Resources that Council is interested in acquiring two parcels of crown land located in Joggins, N.S. and that the Province consider favorable consideration regarding the purchase price of such lands.

MOTION CARRIED #06-14

- 11.3 Dangerous/Unsightly Premises - This was circulated as an information item.
- 11.4 Sewer Extension - West Pugwash - This item was deferred to staff, to the long range plan process and Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee strategic plan. Council's response will be provided to the Pugwash Village Commission.
- 11.5 Solid Waste Management Petition - Councillor Gilbert presented a petition from the residents of Southampton wanting a C&D site in Southampton. The Transfer Station initially had a C&D site but it was closed a number of years ago.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Redmond, seconded by Councillor G. Langille to accept the petition of the residents of Southampton.

MOTION CARRIED #06-15

This item was deferred to a long range planning meeting being held next Wednesday.

- 11.6 Surplus Schools - There is no further information at this time.
- 11.7 Public Water Fountain - There will be an official opening on Thursday, January 19 at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend.
- 11.8 Surplus Provincial Properties -

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Redmond, seconded by Councillor G. Langille that Staff were directed to contacted the government and express that we have no interest in these properties.

MOTION CARRIED #06-16

- 11.9 REMO Concept - **IT WAS MOVED** by Councillor Redmond, seconded by Deputy Warden Kellegrew that Council approve, in principle, the REMO concept, subject to final negotiation of an inter-municipal agreement, approval of individual by-laws, appropriate cost-sharing arrangements, and a commitment from participating municipal units to provide municipal specific resources and training for staff of their respective municipalities.

MOTION CARRIED #06-17

12. Committee/Other Reports

- 12.1 CAC Minutes - Circulated for Information
- 12.2 CREDA Minutes - Circulated for Information
- 12.3 UNSM Policy and Research Priorities - Circulated for information
- 12.4 Cumberland Tourism - Councillor K. Langille informed Council that the Committee met on October 20th, 2005. Each unit is being requested to compile a calendar of events for the upcoming tourism season for their Municipality. Councillor K.

Langille says the Committee will meet again in a few weeks and minutes of all meetings will be circulated to Council. Councillor K. Langille will provide the criteria for "Award of Excellence" to staff and Council.

- 12.5 By-Law and Policy Committee - The Committee is recommending that the current swimming pool by-law be repealed. This item will be deferred until such time as a legal opinion is received.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Langille, seconded by Deputy Warden Kellegrew that no action be taken on the issue of Communications Towers.

MOTION CARRIED #06-18

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Langille, seconded by Councillor Redmond that safety lights for dry hydrants come from the fire services budget.

MOTION CARRIED #06-19

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Langille, seconded by Councillor Redmond not to develop a policy on sidewalks as this is not a municipal responsibility.

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Notice of Motion was given by Councillor K. Langille that at the next Council meeting, the revised Building Service Connection Standards and Specifications will be considered.

Notice of Motion was Given by Councillor K. Langille that at the next Council meeting a revision to the Building Service Connection Standards and Specifications, to set the re-inspect fee at \$100.00, will be considered.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Langille, seconded by Deputy Warden John Kellegrew that the By-Law and Policy Committee report be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED #06-20

- 12.6 Student Conveyance - There was discussion on the hardships residents are facing due to the strike of Laidlaw's Employees.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor K. Redmond, seconded by Deputy Warden Kellegrew that:

WHEREAS the parents of students in Cumberland County are expressing concerns and experiencing difficulties in transporting students to and from Cumberland Schools;

WHEREAS there is a high risk that an extended strike will have a negative impact on the progress and achievement of students;

WHEREAS the School Board has included the following objective in its 2005/2006 Business Plan:

"Coordination of a safe, daily bus transportation of students to and from school (including appropriate arrangements for special needs students)"

WHEREAS Laidlaw prides itself on the safe, daily transportation of students and efficient, reliable service; and the employees of Laidlaw's support this philosophy;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Chignecto Central School Board provide leadership

in resolving this labour dispute and/or assess alternate methods of student transportation.

MOTION CARRIED #06-21

IT WAS MOVED by John Reid, seconded by Councillor Gilbert that correspondence be forwarded to the Chignecto Central Regional School Board requesting that the Board consider and implement a program to reimburse Cumberland County parents for the costs incurred in the transportation of their children to and from school, such amount equal in total to that which the Board would have paid for student transportation costs.

MOTION CARRIED #06-22

12.7 Fire Protection Services - The FPS long range strategic plan document will be deferred to the meeting of next Wednesday.

13. Old Business

13.1 School Study - Councillor K. Redmond advised of a public meeting being held Tuesday, January 24th, at 7:00 p.m. at Wentworth Elementary school. All are welcome to attend.

Mr. Bugley informed Council that a proposal for the school closure study has been accepted and will be distributed.

13.2 Vested Property - Springhill Junction - deferred

13.3 Bill No. 275 - Off Highway Vehicle Act - redundant

14. New Business

14.1 FCM Sustainable Community Awards - Information Item.

14.2 Federal Properties - This agenda item was deleted.

14.3 Letter of Support - Pugwash Curling Club - Councillor K. Langille gave background on the Northumberland Curling Club Committee. They are looking at building a new curling centre in or around Pugwash and are trying to raise 2/3 of the funding of the new facility.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kathy Langille and seconded by Councillor Redmond that the Municipality support, in principle, the endeavours of the Northumberland Curling Club to establish a curling club and construct a new facility.

MOTION CARRIED #06-23

14.4 Wallace Bay Road -

15. Information Items

15.1 UNSM re: NSPI Rate Increase - Deferred to a future meeting

15.2 Conceptual Development Plan for Fort Lawrence/Beaubassin - Deferred to a future meeting

15.3 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - Deferred to a future meeting

15.4 Blasting Regulations - Deferred to a future meeting

15.5 Ride for the Cure - Deferred to a future meeting

- 15.6 Maccan Recreation Committee - Deferred to a future meeting
- 15.7 Women in Local Government Report - Deferred to a future meeting
- 15.8 County Web Site PIN Numbers - Deferred to a future meeting
- 15.9 Uniform Assessment - Deferred to a future meeting
- 15.10 Police Act Regulations - Deferred to a future meeting
- 15.11 UNSM Rural Caucus - IT WAS MOVED by Councillor J. Reid, seconded by councillor K. Redmond that:

WHEREAS Rural Municipalities in the Province of Nova Scotia represent a significant percentage of the population of Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS Rural Municipalities in the Province of Nova Scotia represent a significant percentage of voters in the Province; and

WHEREAS the residents of Rural Municipalities in the Province provide a significant contribution to education funding, via income taxes and municipal property taxes; and

WHEREAS all three levels of government are supporting the concept of rural community sustainability and are investing funding to achieve this sustainability; and

WHEREAS the continued existence of rural schools is essential to rural community infrastructure and sustainability; and

WHEREAS implementation of the report entitled "Nova Scotia Regional School Boards - Financial Implications of the Funding Formula Framework" is under consideration by the Province and acceptance of the recommendations in this report would result in a positive impact for funding square footage and declining enrolment; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UNSM Rural Caucus request the Province of Nova Scotia place a moratorium on 2006 school closures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UNSM Rural Caucus request the Province of Nova Scotia amend the funding formulae for school boards, in as far as practical, to maintain rural schools; the result being to enhance the sustainability of rural communities.

MOTION CARRIED #06-24

- 15.12 2006 Priority Issues - Deferred
- 16. Adjournment - There being no further business, on motion by Councillor G. Langille, the meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.
- 17. God Save The Queen

Warden

Chief Administrative Officer



Recording Secretary