

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 O' Canada

Warden Hunter called the February 17, 2016 Council session of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland to Order. 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, Warden Hunter, Councillor Gillis, Councillor Welton, Councillor Baker, Councillor Gilbert, Councillor McLellan, Councillor Fletcher, Councillor Williams and Councillor Jackson.

Councillor Rector was absent due to illness.

2. **ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES**

2.1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition(s)/Deletion(s) of:

Addition(s):	4.1	CCL Group
	4.2	Anne Murray Centre Funding
	6.13	Purchase Agreement
	6.14	Request for Joint Council Minutes
	6.15	Nominations Committee Report
	6.16	Pipeline Issue
	6.17	Agriculture Update

Deletion(s): 3, 5

2.2 Approval of Minutes of February 3, 2016

The minutes of the February 3, 2016 Council session were approved as circulated.

2.3 Business Arising from the February 3, 2016 Council Session

Novice Penguins are now only requesting funding for 7 players instead of 8.

Councillor Smith would like SAP added to the Ongoing actions.

2.4 Delegations, Presentations, Petitions, Proclamations

(i) Ottawa House

This item will be rescheduled as the group were unable to attend today.

(ii) S.T.E.P. Program

Due to illness, this presentation will be rescheduled to a future meeting.

3. **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ISSUES**

This item was deleted.

4. **MAJOR ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES**

4.1 CCL Group

Council was advised by the Director of Social Capital, Steve Ferguson, that a proposal was received from CCL (Cumberland County Life) to form a new Community Economic Network (CEN) to support Economic Development in Cumberland County, based on the structure proposed for the Provincially supported REN, which is not going forward in our region.

The proposed preliminary budget for the CEN organization is \$200,000 for the first year of operation. The CEN would be an incorporated society and would have a volunteer Board made up of business operators. In order to allow this proposal to move forward CCL has requested that the municipalities in the County approve funding, in principle. Staff have had meetings with representatives from CCL and the Towns of Amherst and Oxford. Based on those meetings staff are recommending that Council approve, in principle, funding in 2016/17 up to \$80,000 cash, plus \$10,000 worth of in-kind goods or services, with conditions outlined in the motion below.

IT WAS MOVED by Deputy Warden Gilbert, seconded by Councillor Welton That

Council approve in principle, funding, in fiscal 2016/2017, up to \$80,000 cash, plus up to \$10,000 worth of in-kind goods or services, for the Community Enterprise Network (CEN) conditional on the following:

THAT the proposed Community Enterprise Network be incorporated;

THAT the Town of Amherst agrees, in principle, to match the Municipality’s contributions of up to \$80,000 cash and \$10,000 in kind;

THAT the Towns of Oxford and Parrsboro agree to contribute \$10,000 each;

THAT the By-Laws, Guiding Principles, budgets and Mandates developed for the CEN follow the proposals made; and

THAT a Funding Agreement between the 4 municipal units and the CEN, including a non-competition, competition clause that prevents the municipalities from hiring current or former employees of the CEN and prevents the CEN from hiring current or former employees of the municipalities, is entered into.

MOTION CARRIED #16-021

4.2 Anne Murray Centre Funding

A request was made for funding to assist with costs until they are ready to open for the summer season. Total amount of funding requested was \$8,000.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Jackson, seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to provide \$8000 to the Anne Murray Centre to assist with costs during the winter months.

MOTION CARRIED #16-022

5. **ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY/BY-LAW ISSUES**

This item was deleted.

6. **BUSINESS ISSUES**

6.1 Office Space Request

CANSA has requested office space located in Springhill.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Baker, seconded by Councillor Welton to advise CANSA, that at present, there is no available office space.

MOTION CARRIED #16-023

6.2 Ratification of Citizen Appointment to Sunset Board

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Baker to ratify the re-appointment of Ms. Susan Melanson as a citizen board member of the Sunset Community. The new term will end December 31, 2019.

MOTION CARRIED #16-024

6.3 CJSMA 2016/2017 Budget

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Baker seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to approve the proposed 2016/2017 budget as presented.

MOTION CARRIED #16-025

6.4 Community Development Grants

Roy Maltby Fundy Hockey School

The intent of this hockey school is for all skill levels to participate in a well-organized and structured hockey school at an affordable price. With sponsorships, the registration fees will be kept as low as possible. Each player will receive 10 hours of ice time, a jersey, and skate sharpening. 100% of profits from the hockey school go directly back to Cumberland County Minor Hockey.

- Gold Sponsor \$500
- Silver sponsor \$250
- Bronze Sponsor \$100

Last year 39 of 98 (almost 40%) participants were County youth.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Fletcher to approve a community development grant in the amount of \$500 to the Roy Maltby Fundy Hockey School with the funds coming from District 1 funds.

MOTION CARRIED #16-026

International Women's Day Committee for Amherst, Cumberland County & Area

This group has been hosting an event in support of International Women's Day for a number of years. After last year's overwhelming success, they will be hosting a luncheon once again on Friday, March 11th. Admission for this event is by free will donation with all proceeds going to support transition house services for abused women and children. There are a number of expenses involved with hosting this luncheon and they are requesting a donation to help with those costs. In the past we have funded this event for \$100.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Jackson, seconded by Councillor Baker to provide a \$100 community development grant to the International Women's Day Committee from district 12 funds.

MOTION CARRIED #16-027

The Woodland Conferences 2016

The 2016 conference will provide a series of informative speakers and networking opportunities for woodland owners and others interested in woodlands. There will be three locations for these conferences: Lunenburg County, Antigonish County and Cumberland County. It will be hosted in Oxford on April 2nd. For all contributions over \$100 sponsors receive: free registration and a free exhibitor space; logo on programs, flyers, website; verbal/written mentions wherever possible in media; identification (with logo) as an event sponsor; distribution of brochures and inclusions to delegates in registration package. Other municipalities have typically given between \$100-\$200.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis seconded by Councillor Welton to approve a community development grant to the Woodland Conference 2016 in the amount of \$500 split between district 3 and 4 funds.

MOTION CARRIED #16-028

Springhill Centennial Golf Club

This organization needs assistance in the development and construction of a new tee box at hole #7 on their course. This new tee box is necessary to improve the design of this area of the course to improve the safety of the players on the adjacent fairway.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Jackson seconded by Councillor Williams to provide a community development grant in the amount of \$2500 split between districts 7, 11 and 12.

MOTION CARRIED #16-029

6.5 Tourism Brochures in the Reception Area

Brenda Moore, Municipal Clerk/Records Manager advised Council that members of Council have expressed a desire to have a tourism brochure display rack in the lobby for the public.

Ms. Moore advised that there isn't a great deal of spare floor space in the lobby but we have identified a couple of areas that may be able to accommodate a small display.

It was suggested that if Councillors provide the brochures from their districts we will then decide what size and style rack we will need. The success of this initiative depends on the level of support from Councillors as the onus is on them to ensure attractions and destinations in their districts are represented.

If Council agrees they are willing to support this project and provide the brochures etc., staff will follow through with getting the rack installed and keeping it neat.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Baker to direct staff to proceed with the purchase of brochure displays for our Service Centres.

MOTION CARRIED #16-0306.6 Tax Collection Report

Mrs. Jennifer Moore, Revenue Officer advised that the tax collection analysis shows a total outstanding balance for property taxes of \$4,330,136 as of December 31, 2015 compared to the property tax balance of \$4,603,620 that was outstanding November 30, 2015. Property tax collections for the month of December were \$273,484.

The tax collection analysis for January 31, 2016 shows an outstanding balance of \$4,223,753 as compared to December 31, 2015 balance of \$4,330,136. A total of \$106,383 was collected during the month of January 2016.

A review of the miscellaneous accounts will be completed in the near future.

Districts 11 & 12 have been added to the 2016 Assessment Roll for Cumberland. This includes all accounts that were in the former boundaries of the Town of Springhill.

Springhill property tax accounts have been merged into SAP.

Staff are currently working on a write off list. Staff will review this listing with the Director of Finance and the Accountant prior to bringing it to council.

Staff are also working on the preliminary tax sale file to get this process moving.

6.7 Delinquent Accounts

This information was provided for the review of Council.

6.8 Remittal

Account #: 04084365
District: 06
Assessed To: Michael & David Rushton (Rep)

Mr Rushton contacted our office in May 2014 concerning a statement he received in January 2014 for properties that belonged to his father's estate. Michael and David Rushton had begun the process of migrating their father's estate in 2012. All Accounts that had been in the name of Garnet Rushton (their father) were transferred to Michael and David Rushton (Rep) at Michael's mailing address. Assessment Account Number 04084365 was for a camp that had been removed from the property ten years prior. Mr. Rushton appealed the 2014 Assessment Notice and the account became inactivated.

The prior tax billings for AAN 04084365 were mailed to Garnet Rushton C/O Dara Collins at a Maccan address. Mr. Collins chose to ignore the billings as the camp had been demolished in 2000 and our office was not advised of this.

Staff recommends that Council provide a remittal in the amount of \$4915.67 for the 2000 - 2014 tax billings and interest that has accumulated on account.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Deputy Warden Gilbert to approve a remittal in the amount of \$4915.67 for AAN 04084365.

MOTION CARRIED #16-0316.9 Outdoor Rink Lighting and Shelter Options

Mr. Scott Munroe, Facility Director, advised Council of the following:

Shelter

Shelter for outdoor rink users was not originally considered, however due to the increased usage we have seen the need for a wind break/change area. Staff have looked into moving existing municipally owned structures; however the timing and effort required to make the structures usable far exceeds the timing and cost available to have them in place for this season.

Presently there is a gazebo nearby that is used in the summer for the community garden. Staff has identified this structure as a temporary solution. Staff have purchased heavy duty Nova Scotia grade plastic to surround three walls of the structure, providing users with an area to change and be free of inclement weather. Benches have also been relocated to the structure.

Lighting

Lighting was another feature deemed to require attention. Presently there are two old flood light fixtures providing light to the outdoor rink. After consulting with NS Power it was determined that the present fixtures are the best for the area, due to their location. The existing poles are too far from the rink surface for new LED streetlight fixtures to provide sufficient lighting. It was suggested to replace the bulbs in the fixtures to temporarily increase the lighting capabilities.

A future project could involve the installation of four (4) poles and fixtures directly over the surface to provide optimal lighting.

In summary, staff have implemented temporary solutions get through the current season and will look at more permanent options to develop the area for future years.

6.10 Canine Control Report

Jaime Spicer, Canine Control Officer provided this report for the information of Council.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Jackson to forward a letter of congratulations to our Canine Control Officer to thank her for her diligent work.

MOTION CARRIED #16-032

6.11 Fire Protection Services Coordinator Update

Mike Carter, Fire Protection Services Coordinator, provided a written and verbal report to Council regarding the Fire Service and Facilities update.

Councillor Fletcher would like to have a future discussion regarding funding requirements of our fire departments. A financial update will be provided at one of the March meetings.

6.12 External Reports

These were provided for the review of Council and included a report from the Cumberland Regional Library and the L.A. Animal Shelter.

6.13 Purchase Agreement/Pugwash Water Final Design, Tender Package and Constructions Services RFP Results.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Kellegrew to authorize staff to proceed with Purchase Agreements for two parcels of land which are: Pugwash Parks Commission for Parcel G, 49.83 acres, PID No.(s) 25148651 Donald Vandenburg and David Bellefontaine for Parcel H, 10.61 acres, PID No.(s) 25148768

MOTION CARRIED #16-033

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Welton to award the contract for the final design, tender package, and construction services for the Pugwash Water project to WSP in the amount of \$710,615.

MOTION CARRIED #16-034

6.14 Request for Joint Council Minutes

Councillor Smith, requested the CAO to request the Town of Amherst to provide the joint In Camera minutes from the meeting in November.

6.15 Nominations Committee Report

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Baker to accept the recommendation of our nomination committee and the awarding of the recognition of Volunteer of the Year to Ms. Colleen Dowe.

MOTION CARRIED #16-035

6.16 Energy East Pipeline Issue

There was discussion that some Councillors would like a report regarding pro's and con's and statistics as to what is a safer way to move fuel from point A to point B.

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Fletcher to forward correspondence to our MP, Mr. Casey, to request him to express our support for the Energy East Pipeline Project as it could keep our residents working in close proximity to their families and provide gainful employment opportunities for those workers that are being laid off in other provinces and may, in fact, assist in reversing our aging demographics.

MOTION CARRIED #16-036

6.17 Agriculture Update

An update was provided by Ms. Michelle Byers, Community Development Officer, advising of her meeting with Minister Colwell, N.S. Dept. of Agriculture, conversations regarding funding for projects similar to what Cumberland is proposing and as well, she has met with the Cumberland Federation of Agriculture and discussions regarding what the CFA feels would positively impact agriculture in Cumberland County.

7. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

7.1 UNSM Upcoming Events

Provided as information.

7.2 Rural Caucus Meeting

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Kellegrew, seconded by Councillor Fletcher to approve this meeting as one that would be approved for attendance by Council and therefore expenses would be covered for any Councillors wishing to attend.

MOTION CARRIED #16-037

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

8.1 The Queen

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. and The Queen was sung.

Warden Keith Hunter

Municipal Clerk Brenda Moore