

Harbour Construction Awarded Tender

By Maurice Rees

Harbour Construction was awarded a tender to replace an aging and compromised pumping station PS3 on Highway 311 in North River. Eight companies purchased plans with five submitting bids at the closing on March 2nd. Harbour's was the lowest at \$285,000.00. The tender was awarded at the March 10th Council Committee meeting.

Other costs associated with the project include: materials testing, \$5000; staff time, \$12,000; rebated tax, \$12,236. An additional \$10,000 has been spent on design fees and staff time. Source of funds for the project are 50% Gas Tax and 50% the Sewer Capital Reserve.

Other bids were Higgins Construction, \$325,000; L&R Construction, \$327,259; Dexter Construction, \$440,150 and Atlantic Road Construction, \$476,700.

Truro Heights Multi-Use Trail moved closer to completion with council committee awarding a \$819,000 tender to Brycon Construction. Ten firms of the total of 15, who purchased plans, submitted tenders at closing time on March 9th. The trail will extend from the Rath Eastlink Community Centre parking lot connect to the new pedestrian overpass at Highway 102, then run along the McClure's Mills Connector to Truro Heights Road.

Other costs associated with the project include: materials testing, \$10,000; staff time, \$15,000; rebated tax, \$35,141, plus \$15,000 has been spent for project design fees, survey and staff time. The tender price also includes \$62,000 for re-alignment of the highway ramps east of Highway 102, which will be covered by Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.

Bid results for the 10 submissions ranged from Brycon's award winning tender of \$819,000 to Atlantic Road Construction and Paving, \$1,395,610.

In other business at the March 10th council committee, council approved the Municipality renew Debenture borrowing through the Municipal Finance Corporation for the construction of the Brookfield Fire Station as requested by the Brookfield Fire Commission.

Council committee will recommend to council that the Municipality request a Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$3,148,505 through a spring debenture with the Municipal Finance Corporation securing low cost debt financing for capital projects completed.

Council will ask staff to undertake an inter-department review of the FCM Partnership for Climate Protection Program with the intention of establishing a municipal program. If additional resources are required staff will seek direction from council.

Councillor Geoff Stewart, chair of the Palliser Re-development Committee reported the committee had chosen Upland Consulting and the first meeting would be held Monday, March 13th. Council will also look at what can be held at the property this year, while the consulting firm is meeting with the public and developing the master plan.

In an information item council asked staff to organize a public meeting with residents to discuss what improvements are possible in the Mosswood Lane and Second Court Trails. In recent years a number of requests have been made for winter maintenance.

Security is being improved at the municipal building with cameras installed in common areas; a break proof glass barrier soon to be installed at the tax wicket and Commissionaires of Nova Scotia retained to provide onsite securing for scheduled council, committee and presentation nights. Discussions are ongoing about alarming the building.

Notes from our National Capital

Bill Casey's monthly column was not available at press time.
Bill Casey is MP for Cumberland-Colchester



Bill Casey

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Notes from our Provincial Capital

After the Bell Programs

The importance of physical activity in youth 12 -15 years of age has been recognized by the Liberal Government and we are investing \$282 000 in projects throughout the province. After the Bell Programs that are supported through this investment, focus on youth who are participating in hockey, swimming, rock climbing, skating, outdoor trails and other recreational sport activities.

We continue to be made aware of the importance of healthy lifestyle and these activities are designed to begin the formation of this healthy lifestyle early on. Research shows that only 21% of girls meet the daily standard of 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity. After the Bell provides youth, especially girls, with the opportunity to stay active close to home. The Department of Health and Wellness has announced support for such projects in 67 communities across the province. Several of these are in Colchester County.

More than \$15 000 of funding for after school activities was announced for outdoor trails in Bible Hill, rock climbing, yoga and other physical activities for girls at Rath Eastlink Community Centre, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and hiking on Gully Lake Trail, 'come out and try program' for Grade 7-9 girls at Bass River School, learning to play ringette at the outdoor rink in Five Islands and the basics of hockey to young women at the North Shore Recreation Centre - Babes on Blades.

With the introduction of these activities and the enjoyment and skill development for young girls, we will spark a new interest and life-long involvement in physical activity. I want to congratulate the community based organizations for their interest in supporting After the Bell Programs and for the leadership they



Karen Casey

continued on page 6

Hello from District 10.

I hope everyone has enjoyed a great Easter, with good food and family. I am writing this on the first day of spring, the sun is shining, we have had a reasonable winter and I for one am looking so forward to the green grass and the freshness of spring.

This month I want to touch on Regional Cooperation. Over the past year or two there has been much debate and discussion around amalgamation and you can be sure that as the Municipal elections draw nearer there will be more.

Most certainly there have been some significant changes in Cumberland County with the Amalgamation of Springhill and pending amalgamation of Parrsboro. Also last week at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, they indicated that Municipal Governance was one of their top priorities. It is my understanding that they have indicated they would like to see more cooperation between the Town and the County.

In this I totally agree, however I would like to suggest if they

were to check for example with the Dept of Municipal Affairs or maybe the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities they would find that actually the central region could be held out as a model of cooperation. Some examples would be: Wastewater Treatment, our Municipality owns and operates the plant, but share costs and treat wastewater from Truro and Millbrook. Truro provides drinking water to parts of our Municipality, Bible Hill and I believe parts of Millbrook.

Solid Waste Management, Colchester operates a Bale fill, Materials Recycling and Compost facility that provides the service to Truro, Millbrook, and Stewiacke. Water, waste water and municipal solid waste are CORE municipal responsibilities! These core services are modern, efficient and meet all environmental regulations. It is my opinion that without regional cooperation,



Tom Taggart

continued on page 6

News from our Municipal Council - District 9

Biosolids: organic materials from wastewater treatment

As a County Councillor, spring is definitely our busiest time of the year with budget deliberations, Non-profit grant applications (there are 39 this year) and Annual meetings of several local organizations. It always seems like interaction with constituents picks up in the spring as well. Believe me I'm not complaining, actually just the opposite I enjoy every minute of it.

What I enjoy most about being a Councillor is the same things I enjoy doing in my full time job at Wilsons Home Heating- I encounter new challenges, meet new people and more than likely learn something new every day.

The most recent educational encounter I faced lately is the application of biosolids on agricultural forage lands. The web's definition is as follows: "Biosolids are nutrient-rich organic materials obtained from wastewater treatment and used beneficially, as for fertilizer".

With hundreds of tons of this product being stored to eventu-

ally be applied to newly cleared lands on the Back Rd in Crowes Mills, there have been some concerns from local residents, in the area, about the safety of this practice. Through a motion I presented to council on February 11th I was able to arrange a tour of the N-Viro facility in the Aerotech Park in Halifax.

N-Viro is a biosolids processing facility where all the biosolids being applied in Nova Scotia at this time, originates from. On March 15th several councillors, I, Mayor Taylor and several residents from Crowes Mills, Lower Truro and the Old Barns area along with the editor of this paper, Maurice Rees, toured this facility and later attended a presentation session held by Lise LeBlanc of LP Consulting Ltd. We learned that in order to apply biosolids to your land in Nova Scotia you must have an Agriculture land management plan in



Doug MacInnes

continued on page 6

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November 2016	October 25	November 2
December 2016	November 22	November 30
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