

Council Finalizes Priorities Review

By Maurice Rees

The following version of Colchester Council's committee meeting held on October 29th is extracted from council minutes, because media was not advised in advance of the special meeting. Normally, council staff send an advisory of council committee and regular month meetings. We've contacted the Mayor and recording secretary asking why, but at the time of this writing, they had not replied.

The minutes recording the following activity. The purpose of the meeting was to complete the review the Municipality's Strategic Priorities.

Before entering discussion on priorities, it was moved by Councillor Masters, Seconded by Councillor Cooper, "That a media release be issued regarding the new Deputy Mayor and Alternate Chair, as a result of the election carried out at the October 25, 2018 Council meeting".

Strategic Priorities Review

Mr. Rob Simonds, CAO, provided a brief overview of the process for this evening's meeting indicating that Council will go through a dialog process identifying topics/possibilities for consideration, with a maximum of three to five priorities in total. Discussion should include what topics are most urgent and why, and that are most realistic and why. There may be some priorities that will not be completed in this term of Council and those should be broken down into phases. At the same time, Council should identify and agree on any items on the current list that have been completed and should be removed from the list.

The following items, listed in random order, were identified by Council as potential priorities: Policing; Cannabis; Internet Improvement; Physician Recruitment; Community Engagement; County Office Infrastructure/Building; Transportation Infrastructure/Safety; Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) Review; Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR); Assessment CAP and Small Project Performance.

After considerable discussion on the listed priorities, Council decided on a number of changes, including items being removed and added to the Strategic Priorities Chart. The CAO advised that he would like to have these changes in the form of motions of Council.

It was agreed that the Service Capacity Review be removed from the list as this item is complete. Moved by Councillor Taggart, Seconded by Councillor Gregory, "That Internet Improvement be moved to #1 on the Strategic Priorities Chart." Motion Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Taggart, "That Council Committee recommend to Council that Policing be added to the top five priorities on the Strategic Priorities Chart." Motion Carried Unanimously.

Council approved "That Council Committee recommend to Council that Physician Recruitment be added under Advocacy on the Strategic Priorities Chart", on motion by Councillor Masters and Councillor Gibbs

On motions by Councillor Boutillier and Councillor Taggart council agreed "Council Committee recommend to Council that the Fundy Discovery Site be moved to 'Now'

and Debert Airport be moved to 'Next' on the Strategic Priorities Chart."

Motions by Councillor Taggart and Councillor Gibbs for Council Committee recommend to Council that Biosolids and Waste to Energy be combined as one item on the plan; and That Economic Development be moved to a 'Now' priority on the Strategic Priorities Chart was defeated with Mayor Blair, Deputy Mayor Stewart, Councillors Masters, Cooper, MacKenzie, Gregory, Cavanaugh, Pash and Parker opposed.

On motions by Councillors Boutillier and Parker Council Committee will recommend to Council the five Corporate Strategic Priorities include Internet Improvement, Policing, Fundy Discovery Site, Waste to Energy, and Biosolids. Motion passed with Councillor Gibbs opposed.

Mr. Mark Austin, Economic Development Officer, advised Council of an upcoming Anti-Poverty Luncheon and inquired about the Municipality providing a funding contribution in the amount of \$250 towards the luncheon, with funds coming from the Economic Development budget. Council agreed.

OpenHydro Turbine Saga Continues

By Maurice Rees

Even though the OpenHydro failed tidal turbine is still in the water on the FORCE site and is not rotating the unfortunate saga still continues. Time is ticking and the month leeway for the turbine to be removed from the water in December is almost over, creditors are waiting for the time they can swoop in to take possession or gain access to any remaining assets.

OpenHydro Technologies Canada Ltd has only two assets: The Scotia Tide — a barge purpose built to raise and lower the in-stream tidal turbines being developed by OpenHydro's now bankrupt Irish parent company and a \$1,020,000 bond OpenHydro posted with the province in case it turned turtle and left an environmental liability on the floor of the Minas Passage.

The Scotia Tide, which OpenHydro spent \$30 million having built at Aecon Fabco's shipyard in Pictou probably will not be available, because several marine services companies who have got paid for work performed to install OpenHydro's turbine last summer have claims against the Scotia Tide in federal

court.

Nova Scotia Supreme Court Justice Michael Wood gave OpenHydro a month's protection from creditors to get its affairs in order, he didn't have jurisdiction over the barge.

Earlier the federal court ordered sheriffs in Cumberland County to put up for sale the control tower on the turbine despite it being in 37 metres of water with no clear way to get it out. Marc Isaacs, attorney for BBC Chartering which is owed \$875,477 for transporting the control tower from Europe to Saint John, where it was installed on the turbine said he wasn't sure what the sheriff could or would do.

OpenHydro owes over \$6 million to companies from around Atlantic Canada. Some of the larger ones include: Irving Group's Atlantic Towing (\$1,470,201); Irving Equipment (\$594,679); RMI Marine of Eastern Passage (\$444,719); Seaforth Geosurveys of Dartmouth (\$422,844); and Strum Engineering (\$106,000).

The legal entanglements become complicated, because the turbine isn't owned by OpenHydro. Court docu-

ments indicate the turbine is owned by Cape Sharp Tidal, with Emera listed as a shareholder owning 20% +/- . The entire fiasco began just four days after the July 24 deployment of the two-megawatt turbine. After the turbine failed within days of installation and bankruptcy of OpenHydro's parent company, in an Irish Court, Emera severed ties with Cape Sharp and OpenHydro.

French defence company Naval Energies, which had been bankrolling the Irish parent company OpenHydro and Canadian subsidiaries (which include OpenHydro Technologies Canada and Cape Sharp) to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars, pulled the plug on July 26.

In September, a team of former OpenHydro employees brought over to Nova Scotia to connect the turbine to this province's grid discovered that it was broken beyond repair. The Department of Energy has indicated it will not be involved in removal, as it's a private sector matter.

The ongoing saga continues.

See "OpenHydro claiming tax credits", on page 22.

Water Utility Building to get New Roof

By Maurice Rees

A tech roofing Systems will install a new roof at the Debert Water Utility building, Lancaster Crescent, Debert for \$92,600, plus taxes. A report by Michelle Newell, Director Public Works, indicated council's request for new quotes to conform with the municipality's purchasing policy.

In September 2018 Council awarded a contract to PMC Roofing to replace the roof on the Debert Industrial Mall on MacElmon Road. At the same time staff asked for permission to award additional work to PMC, but council wanted it treated separately. Staff proceeded to request quotes from two other contractors, namely Fosco and A Tech Roofing.

Fosco declined to quote based on their workload. In

their quote, A Tech presented an alternate approach to conducting the repairs, which made it challenging to compare the quotes. Staff retained the services of EXP (architects) to review the proposed work on the roof. Based on their review of the building age and roof design, they recommended against installation of a membrane over the existing roof. They recommended removing the existing roof materials down to the steel deck, and installing a new 2-ply roofing system.

PMC and A-Tech revised their quotes to reflect the proposed new roofing system. Pricing was A-Tech Roofing Systems \$92,600 + tax and PMC Roofing \$101,480 + tax. It is anticipated A Tech will complete the work this fall.

Brookfield Bakery
Since 1953
(902) 673-2434

Hurricane Heidi's Cafe
(902) 673-2973



Order Your Christmas Treats Today. Shortbread Cookies a Speciality.

BROOKFIELD, NS | [facebook](#)

Follow us on [Instagram](#) | brbakery@eastlink.ca

Photo License Plates



139 Esplanade St., Truro, NS
902-895-6629 www.sidsellssigns.com

A Unique Gift For The Holiday Season



The Savvy Shopper

in Downtown Truro

The Town is decked out for the Christmas season. Be sure to take in the Midnight Madness until 11pm on December 7th as many retailers downtown stay open late. Catch the Bearcats games on Dec 2nd for the Teddy Bear Toss to help the Christmas Index program and on Dec 8th with the Food Drive to help the Food Bank. Check out the FREE horse and wagon rides provided by the Downtown Partnership in the heart of Truro until Dec. 21st. This Christmas - Shop Local!

Shop Local

Ho-Ho Wok RESTAURANT

Chinese & Canadian Food

Book Your Christmas Parties Now!
Check our Daily Specials!



Gift Certificates for Christmas!

902 893-4646
902 895-1441
23 INGLIS PLACE, TRURO
WWW.HOHOWOK.CA



ACROPOLE

PIZZA AND DONAIR

BURGERS • SUBS • SALADS • POUTINE

902-895-5050 | 148 Esplanade St. Truro, N.S.

IN A HURRY... We DELIVER!

Free within 5km



Ohealthy MARKET

EVERYONE SAVES!

Santa Shops Here For All His Stocking Stuffers!
805 Prince St, Downtown Truro
902-895-1660



AVG. CloudCare™

Is a virus driving you crazy?
Bring it to us for CPR - \$83 + HST

Need antivirus Software?
AVG Antivirus - \$50 + HST for two years

www.failSAFE-computer.com

10 Dominion Street
893-2171
askus@failSAFE-computer.com

Proudly Educating our Customers in Plain English



- COMPUTER & LAPTOP SALES
- WIRELESS/ROUTER SECURITY
- VIRUS & SPYWARE REMOVAL
- CABLES & ACCESSORIES
- OPEN: Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30
Saturday 9:00-1:00.