

Bill Casey to Retire

Bill Casey MP Cumberland Colchester will try retirement for the second time. On September 13th the

veteran MP announced he will not seek re-election in the 2019 federal election. He cited age as a factor. "My energy is good and

we're making great progress on many fronts," said Casey, "but I will be 74 at the time of the 2019 election." For constituents of

Cumberland-Colchester, there will be no change, as both the Truro and Amherst offices continue to be staffed 5 days a week, 8:30-4:30. Casey says he is anxious to get all that he can done in his remaining year in office. "I continue to focus on demographic and economic issues in Cumberland-

Colchester. Sixteen of Nova Scotia's 18 counties are experiencing population decline, including Cumberland Colchester. The answers lie in attracting more people to our rural areas, but that takes jobs, and good infrastructure, including high-speed internet." Casey was first elected in 1988 as a Progressive Conservative. He was defeated in 1993 by a Liberal sweep, but was returned in 1997, 2000, 2004, 2006 and 2008 before retiring for health reasons in 2009.



Bill Casey

He is the only Member of Parliament ever to be elected under 3 different party banners and as an independent.

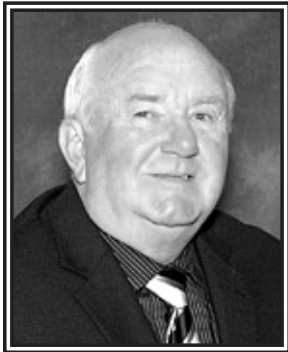
MacKenzie Park Watermain to be Replaced

By Don Fletcher

Let me begin this week with a shout out to Kevin Mills, flat brook for the great vegetables I received for my hodge podge. (inside joke) He told me not to tell anyone what they were for.

We began council September 5th at 5:15 with an in-camera session covering two items. Public council began at 6PM with a presentation of Chief Scout and Queen Venturer awards to four local citizens. Great job and good news as scouts are expanding throughout the municipality.

Next we were introduced to Craig Learning the new Staff Sgt in charge of the local RCMP. Welcome Craig! A presentation followed from Pugwash Fire Department regarding purchase of a rescue boat for their area. At present it takes approximately 1 hour to get on the water and



Donald Fletcher

they feel they can cut that in half with their own boat. They are looking for help for half the purchase. Decision to follow.

Three dangerous and unsightly premises were next. All approved for demolition. A special council will be held on Wednesday, September 26 to deal with our financial audit and other financial issues. Our finance department has made

great strides in the past year and are on top of all issues. Great job staff.

A motion was approved to send a letter to Minister of Education on a site for the new Springhill School. The vision made sense to us so we will see. Notice of intent to consider our new flag policy was approved. Sexual harassment, safety light, streetlight, work clothing policies and fees were all approved. The second hand smoke bylaw first reading was approved. Wentworth youth hostel was added to our tax exemption list. Three grants were approved.

Approval was given by motion to replace the Mackenzie Park water main in Parrsboro with work to begin immediately. An overview on the Cumberland task force on the health care was given by the deputy warden. Council feels we need a voice on the task

force as they have the ear of the minister and would represent the whole county. We as a council approved a letter to be sent to the Premier as well as the Minister of Health stating our concerns for citizens and seeking results.

A welcome package for new arrivals in each area is being considered. Information items on the agenda included: casual crossing guard position in Springhill; Cliffs of Fundy Geopark update; grant summary to be published; four level government presentation and the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) board report.

A joint council meeting will be held on September 25 at the Joggins Fossil Institute beginning at 5:30. Question: Did you attend a rally regarding health care? Call your councillor.

Donald Fletcher is Cumberland Municipal Councillor for District 10.

Cumberland to Discuss Hydraulic Fracturing

By Don Fletcher

Two items were included in council's in-camera session on September 19th. First on the agenda in the public session, which began at 6:00 pm, was discussion on two dangerous and unsightly premises. One was approved for demolition, while the second was given four weeks to do repairs.

A motion for streetlight LED replacement to be done in one year instead of two was approved. Replacements are to begin very soon giving the municipality significant savings. Next, we approved a motion to discuss hydraulic fracturing based on the 2014 Nova Scotia independent review process. Discussion will be conducted over the next several months so council can make informed decisions.

The flag policy went back to staff for further discussion on number of poles required and who pays for the flags. A motion was approved to accept a small parcel of land from the friends of the Margaret King school

society property with the understanding the municipality would not be responsible for upkeep.

A proclamation - Right to Know Week was approved for week of September 24-30. A further motion was approved for tax sale write-offs. This included 80 accounts for a total write off amount of \$1,258,366.84. We are finally seeing some light when dealing with delinquent tax accounts. Good work staff.

Information items in our package included tax collection report for July and August, a develop NS update, door knob hangers for water disconnection. Taylor Redmond, project coordinator, presented a great report for July and August.

Question: Have you paid your taxes? Call your councillor!
Don Fletcher is Cumberland Municipal Councillor for District 10

Maurice.....I'm very sorry, Tory sends his apologies. He is so very busy with the legislature. AS you know, he is getting his feet wet for the first time. The time just didn't permit to get the column done this month. However, he now has it in his monthly schedule to start it on the 15th of each month so it will be done in lots of time; Again, sorry for the inconvenience.
Karen for Tory Rushton

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