

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MAY 9, 2022

Location: Council Chambers

Present: Councillor Shawn Samson, Warden Amanda Mombourquette (via telephone and videoconference), Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson, Councillor Brent Sampson, Councillor Michael Diggdon, Don Marchand, CAO

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Items Added to the Agenda

Councillor Shawn Samson requested and received unanimous consent to add cell phone use in Council Chambers policy to the agenda.

Review of Minutes: April 11, 2022

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the minutes of the April 11, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Presentations re:

a) Université Sainte-Anne, Marine Centre (Michelle Theriault) re: Update

The Chair welcomed Michelle Theriault to the meeting.

Ms. Theriault provided a power point presentation, followed by a question and answer period.

Councillor Mike Diggdon declared a conflict of interest regarding the Code of Conduct Report and removed himself from discussion at 7:29 a.m.

Code of Conduct Report

Following investigation and discussion regarding a potential breach to the Code of Conduct by Councillor Mike Diggdon it was determined that no breach of the Code of Conduct had occurred.

Councillor Mike Diggdon returned to the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Moved by Warden Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Code of Conduct Policy be referred to the By-Law/Policy Committee. Motion carried. (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson).

Moved by Warden Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council that a letter be written to the Minister of the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing encouraging the department to take an active role on making a determination on reported breaches and whatever new standards are developed and to develop training material related to it. Motion carried.

Warden Mombourquette re:

a) Happy Communities Program;

It was the consensus of the Committee that the Happy Communities Project proposal in the amount of \$45,000 over 3 years be referred to budget deliberations.

b) Non-Resident Property Tax Update

Moved by Warden Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the Committee recommend to Council that the motion previously adopted at the April 25, 2022 Council meeting which read:

Moved by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written by Warden Mombourquette to the Honourable Tim Houston, with a copy to the Minister of Finance, Allan MacMaster, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, John Lohr, MLA, Trevor Boudreau and the President of the NSFAM, Amanda McDougall regarding the proposed non-resident Provincial property tax and the proposed non-residential deed transfer tax announced as part of the Province's 22/23 budget indicating the Municipality of Richmond County's opposition to this initiative. Motion carried.

BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Moved by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written by Warden Mombourquette to the Honourable Tim Houston, with a copy to the Minister of Finance, Allan MacMaster, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, John Lohr, MLA, Trevor Boudreau and the President of the NSFAM, Amanda McDougall regarding the proposed non-resident Provincial property tax and the proposed non-residential deed transfer tax announced as part of the Province's 22/23 budget indicating that Municipal Council is thankful for the removal of the proposed non-resident Provincial property tax and their willingness to listen to the feedback received on the issue. Motion carried.

Councillor Michael Diggdon re: Member Statement to Council

For information purposes.

Community Acknowledgements

For information purposes.

Correspondence

a) Chief Financial Officer, Jason Martell re: Grant Requests

- **Type 4 – Regional/Health/General Grant Request - River Bourgeois Community Services Society (\$10,000);**

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Warden Amanda Mombourquette that the Committee recommend to Council that the grant request from the River Bourgeois Community Services Society be approved in the amount of \$9,000 with the following allocation:

- Regional /Health/General \$5,000
- District #4 \$2,500
- District #1, 2 and 4 \$ 500 each

Motion carried.

- **Type 1 – Infrastructure Grant Request – St. Peter’s RCL Branch 47 (\$3,924.44);**

Moved by Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council that the grant request from the St. Peter’s RCL Branch 47 be approved in the amount of \$3,924.44 and be allocated as follows:

- Regional /Health/General \$3,000
- District # 3 and 4 \$ 462.22 each

Motion carried.

- **Type 1 – Infrastructure Grant Request – South Mountain Arm of Gold Community Association (\$5,000).**

Moved by Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Committee recommend to Council that the grant request from the South Mountain Arm of Gold Community Association in the amount of \$5,000 be approved from the Regional /Health/General Fund contingent on securing other sources of funding. Motion carried.

Review of Cheques Issued: April 2022

For information purposes

Review of Action Items from April 11, 2022 (Committee of the Whole Meeting)

For information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the possibility of the creation of Cell Phone Use in Council Chambers Policy be referred to the By-Law/Policy Committee meeting for discussion. Motion carried.

15 Minute Question Period 902-226-9885 (Not Restricted to Items on the Agenda)

Celeste Gotell approached Council with questions.

“In Camera” Session (Personnel)

Moved by Warden Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 8:40 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the meeting revert back to “Regular Session” at 9:25 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Motion carried.

CHAIRPERSON:

CLERK:
