



Committee of the Whole Meeting

April 8th, 2024

Location: Council Chambers

Present: Warden Amanda Mombourquette, Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, Councillor Brent Sampson, Councillor Melanie Sampson

Staff: Chris Boudreau, Director of Public Works, Shannon Mury, Director of Community Development and Recreation, Troy MacCulloch, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Shelley David, Municipal Clerk

Regrets: Councillor Michael Diggdon, Jason Martell, Chief Financial Officer

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

“In Camera” Session, Richmond Room: Land/Legal

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the meeting move to an “In-Camera” session at 5:34 p.m.
Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson that the meeting revert to “Regular” session at 5:53 p.m. and FURTHER MOVE that following the recommendations to Council, the Committee will break for recess until 7:00 pm.
Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Samson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to accept the recommendation from staff to sell property PID# 142133 to the highest bidder as a result of the open tender competition.
Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to empower the CAO to engage additional professional financial services and to include such costs in the 2024/25 budget.
Motion carried.



Recess for By-law/ Policy Meeting, Council Chambers

The chair called for recess at 5:55 p.m.

Reconvene Committee of the Whole Meeting, Council Chambers

The Warden reconvened regular session at 7:00 p.m.

Items Added to the Agenda (Approval of Agenda)

The Warden requested and received unanimous consent to add the following:

- Earth Day Municipal Supports, Item #14 (a)

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the agenda be approved with the additional item.
Motion carried.

Review of Minutes, March 11th, 2024, Committee of the Whole

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson that the minutes of March 11th, 2024, Committee of the Whole be approved.
Motion carried.

Presentations

Timothy Webster, NSCC, Our Changing Coastlines (Virtual)
Timothy Webster presented 'Our Changing Coastlines' presentation virtually.

Sergeant Brad Kelly, RCMP, Richmond County
Sergeant Brad Kelly presented the Richmond County presentation in person.

New Business

- a) Presentation of Heritage Plaques
St. John's Anglican Church, Friends of St. John's Arichat Society
Marg Herdman, Jason Langdon, Cameron Frost and Phyliss Frost of the Friends of St. John's Arichat Society accepted the St. John's Anglican Church Municipal Registered Heritage Plaque.
- b) Brenda White of the Whiteside preservation society accepted the St. Patrick's Church Municipal Registered Heritage Plaque.



Warden, Re:

- a) Review of Warden's Council Report
For information only.
- b) Municipal Growth Framework

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to support the Municipal Growth Framework resolution.
Motion carried.

Municipal Growth Framework Resolution

WHEREAS, Canada is experiencing record population growth, having welcomed 1.25 million new Canadians last year alone; and

WHEREAS, According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) we need to build at least 3.5 million additional homes by 2030, and municipalities need to build or expand the infrastructure to accommodate this growth; and

WHEREAS, FCM has estimated that the cost of the municipal infrastructure required support housing development is, on average, in the range of \$107,000 per unit; and

WHEREAS, According to Statistics Canada the cost of upgrade existing municipal infrastructure so that it is in a state of good repair is in the range of \$170 billion; and

WHEREAS, Non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure project without a corresponding growth in revenue; and

WHEREAS, Unlike federal and provincial revenue, municipal tax revenue has not increased in recent years along with inflation, economic growth or population growth; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end, the Canada Community-Building Fund is being renegotiated and the Permanent Public Transit Fund is set to start in 2026;

WHEREAS, The Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), which was formerly known as the federal Gas Tax Fund, provides more than \$2.4 billion in annual capital funding directly to municipalities through a predictable allocation mechanism, and municipalities of all sizes use the CCBF to deliver direct results for Canadians by building and renewing critical core public infrastructure, including water infrastructure, local roads, public transit and community, and cultural and recreational facilities; now therefore be it



RESOLVED, That the federal government work with agreement signatories and municipalities to maintain the CCBF as a source of direct, predictable, long-term funding for local infrastructure priorities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the federal government commit, in Budget 2024, to the next generation of infrastructure programs, including a new program for water and wastewater infrastructure and an increase to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the federal government convene provinces, territories and municipalities to negotiate a “Municipal Growth Framework” to modernize the way that municipalities are funded in order to enable Canada’s long-term growth.

- c) New Provincial Department of Emergency Management
For information only.
- d) Statement on Former Warden Madeline Libbus
For information only.

CAO, Re:

- a) Administration Operations Report
For information only.
- b) Briefing Note, Re: Appointment of Returning Officer and Review of Election Tariffs of Fees and Expenses
For information only.

Community Acknowledgements

For information purposes.

Correspondence

a) Action Required

- i. Chris Boudreau, Director of Public Works, Re: Briefing Note – 2024 Heavy Collection

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to proceed with the 2024 Heavy Collection at an estimated cost of \$160,000 with the funds to be allocated in the 2024/25 budget.

Motion carried.



ii. Jim Davis, Interim CFO, Re: Guarantee for the Village of St. Peter's

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to provide a guarantee for the Village of St. Peter's for the purpose of borrowing to convert their balloon payment into a new 5-year debenture in the amount of \$497,300.00.
Motion carried.

**Municipal Council of Richmond County
Village Guarantee Resolution**

WHEREAS the Village of St. Peter's is a village situated within the Municipality of the Richmond;

WHEREAS the Village of St. Peter's has, with the approval of the electors of the Village, determined to borrow the aggregate principal amount of FOUR HUNDRED, NINETY-SEVEN THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED Dollars (\$497,300.00) for the purposes of Balloon Payment from Original Loan;

WHEREAS the Village of St. Peter's has requested that the Municipality guarantee said borrowing;

WHEREAS Section 89 of the Municipal Government Act provides that a municipality may guarantee a loan for a village; and,

WHEREAS Section 88(3) of the Municipal Government Act provides that no guarantee of a borrowing by a municipality shall have effect unless the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved of the proposed borrowing or debenture and of the proposed guarantee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT the Municipality of the County of Richmond does hereby approve the borrowing by the Village of St. Peter's the aggregate principal amount of FOUR HUNDRED, NINETY-SEVEN THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED Dollars (\$497,300.00) for the purposes set out above;

THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Municipality does unconditionally guarantee repayment of the principal and interest of the borrowing so made; and,



THAT upon the issue of the debentures, the Warden and Clerk of the Municipality do sign the guarantee attached to each of the debentures and affix thereto the corporate seal of the Municipality.

- iii. Jim Davis, Interim CFO, Re: Grant request from the River Bourgeois Community Services for the Type 3- Recreation Sponsorship Grant Fund in the amount of \$500

It was the consensus of the Committee of the Whole to table the River Bourgeois Community Services grant request for the Type 3-Recreation Sponsorship Grant Fund in the amount of \$500 to the next Council meeting following Grants and Contributions budget discussions.

- iv. Jim Davis, Interim CFO, Re: Grant request from the River Bourgeois Mariner Society for the Type 4-Regional/Health/General Grant Fund in the amount of \$10,000

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to approve the grant request from the River Bourgeois Mariner Society for the Type 4-Regional/Health/General Grant Fund in the amount of \$10,000 and be allocated from the CCBF Waterfront Development Funds, subject to assessment by staff as to the project's eligibility.
Motion Carried

- v. Troy MacCulloch, CAO, Re: Richmond County Literacy Network Type 4 – Regional/Health/General Grant request

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to amend the previously adopted motion made on March 11th, 2024 for the Richmond County Literacy Network Type 4-Regional/Health/General Grant request from the original ask to \$2600 and FURTHER MOVE that the funds be allocated from the 2023/2024 budget as follows: District 1 Funds: \$500.00, District 3 Funds: \$600.00, District 4 Funds: \$1000.00, and District 5 Funds: \$500.00.
Motion carried.



- vi. Kieran Walker, Administrator, The Gaelic Council of Nova Scotia, Re: Flag Raising and Proclamation request.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to have staff organize the Gaelic Nova Scotia Month flag raising and proclamation ceremony for a date in May and FURTHER MOVE that staff advertise an invitation to members of the public in local media.

Motion carried.

- vii. Richmond Education Center/Academy, Re: Request for monetary contributions to the graduation bursary/scholarship fund

Moved by Deput Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to defer the request to contribute to the Richmond Education Center/Academy Bursary/Scholarship fund to budget discussions.

Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the committee to have the school choose the recipient of the Richmond Education Center/Academy bursary.

- viii. Cindy Walker, Pepperell Place Inn and Chocolatea, Re: Tourism Nova Scotia Emerging Destinations Program

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to have staff connect with Cindy Walker to explore the program to see if there are opportunities to participate.

Motion carried.

b) For Information Only

- i. Honourable John A Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Re: Service Exchange Agreement
- ii. Cape Breton Regional Enterprise Network Information and Activity Report
- iii. Christina Lovitt, Provincial Director of Planning, Re: Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law

Review of Cheques Issued Re:

- a) March 2024

For information only.



Review of Action Items

- a) Action Items
- b) For information only.

Items Added to the Agenda

- a) Earth Day Municipal Supports
For information only

15 Minute Question Period - (902) 226-9885

Sherry Baccardax approached Council.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Municipal Clerk

Chairperson