

Committee of the Whole Meeting

April 8, 2025

Location: Council Chambers

Present: Warden Lois Landry, Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, Councillor Brian Marchand, Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, Councillor Shawn Samson

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

Regrets: Kathleen Jeffrey, Interim Director of Finance

Call to Order

Warden Lois Landry called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

In Camera Session

Moved Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the meeting move to an "In Camera" session at 5:04 p.m.

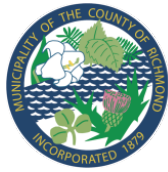
Motion carried.

Councillor Brian Marchand arrived at the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

a) Personnel

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that the meeting revert to "Regular" session at 5:25 p.m. and FURTHER MOVE that the Committee break for recess from 6-7:00 p.m.

Motion carried.



Opening Acknowledgement

The Warden reconvened the “Regular” session at 7:01 p.m. and read the following acknowledgment:

We are proud to acknowledge that we are gathered today on Unama'ki, the Land of Fog, a part of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people since time immemorial. We honour and thank the Mi'kmaq for sharing their land and home with us.

Recommendation from In Camera Session

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to refer the CAO Success Plan to the By-Law/Policy Committee for review.

Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda (Approval of Agenda)

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried.

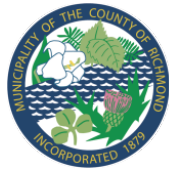
Review of Minutes – March 11, 2025

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that the minutes of the March 11, 2025, Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

Presentations

- a) Nichole Briand, General Manager, Strait Area Transit, Re: Connecting Communities
Nicole Briand presented the *Strait Area Transit Connecting Communities* presentation virtually.
- b) Celeste Gotell, Community Outreach Coordinator, Dorothy Barnard, Chair, Senior Take Action Coalition, Re: *Senior Take Action Coalition: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words*



Celeste Gotell presented the *Senior Take Action Coalition: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words* presentation. Dorothy Banard provided an overview of the operating funding request, which was submitted to Council in a letter accompanying the presentation.

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to defer the financial request for support from the Senior Take Action Coalition to our budgeting process.

Motion carried.

New Business

a) Nova Scotia Community Solar Program

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to send a letter of support to the Minister of Energy for the proposed Community Solar Projects in Richmond County.

Motion carried.

b) Motion to Rescind, Re: Surplus Property PID 75178905

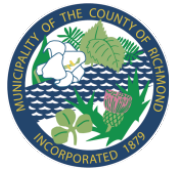
Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to rescind the motion made at the March 25, 2025, Regular Council meeting to deem property PID 75178905 as surplus property.

Motion carried.

c) Acting Collectively Project - Richmond County Community Profile Report

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to accept the Acting Collectively Project-Richmond County Community Profile Report as presented.

Motion carried.



d) Eastern District Planning Commission (EDPC) - Staff Appointments

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to accept the list of appointments for staff positions at EDPC, as proposed by the Director, John Bain; effective immediately.

- Building Inspectors: André Samson and Sean Donovan
Assistant Building Inspector: Todd Samson
Alternates: David MacKenzie, Jonathan Martin and Luke Ross
- Development Officer: Andrew Jones
Alternates: John Bain; Brendan MacDonald; Kristen Scanlan and Mikayla Tait
Assistant Development Officers: Todd Samson; Heike Bruckner and André Samson
- Fire Inspectors: André Samson and Todd Samson
Alternates: S. Donovan; D. MacKenzie; J. Martin and L. Ross
- Dangerous or Unsightly Premises
Administrators: Sean Donovan and John Bain
Alternates: Todd Samson, Luke Ross and André Samson
- Special Constables: Building/Fire Codes, Dangerous or Unsightly Premises, Land Use By-laws
Sean Donovan and Jonathan Martin

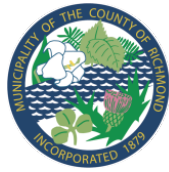
These appointments stay in place so long as they are employees of the Commission or until they are replaced by new appointments.

Motion carried.

e) Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) Funding Applications

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to support the applications to the Province's Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) for the Arichat Water Systems Upgrade Project and the Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill Expansion Engineering Project.

Motion carried.



f) Grant Applications:

- i. Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia grant request for the Community Grant - Tier 2 Funds in the amount of \$5,000.
- ii. Raising the Village Cooperative Limited grant request for the Community Grant - Tier 2 Funds in the amount of \$3,000.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to defer both grant applications until after the budget process has been completed.

Motion carried.

Warden, Re:

- a) Review of Warden's Council Report
For information only.

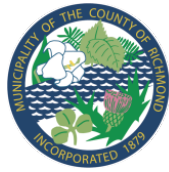
Members of Council Items:

- a) Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, Re: Government of Nova Scotia Non-resident Deed Transfer Tax Increase

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to send a letter to Premier Tim Houston outlining these concerns and to encourage a reconsideration of the policy change and/or to consider at least making the change apply only to properties with existing dwellings, not land that could be developed into homes.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that the main motion be amended to include 'out-of-country' rather than 'out-of-province'.

Motion carried with four (4) in favour and one (1) opposed. (Nay: Warden Lois Landry)



Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the amended motion be further amended to include that family transactions involving land and/or transfers be included in the list of exemptions.

Motion carried with four (4) in favour and one (1) opposed. (Nay: Warden Lois Landry)

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to send a letter to Premier Tim Houston outlining these concerns and to encourage a reconsideration of the policy change and/or to consider at least making the change apply only to properties with existing dwellings, not land that could be developed into homes, and include 'out-of-country' rather than 'out-of-province,' and that family transactions involving land and/or transfers be included in the list of exemptions.

Motion carried with four (4) in favour and one (1) opposed. (Nay: Warden Lois Landry)

b) Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, Re: The Spike Fund

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to direct staff to investigate whether such a program could be feasible in Richmond County.

Motion carried.

CAO, Re:

a) Administration Operations Report

For information only.

Community Acknowledgements

For information only.



Correspondence

a) Action Required

- i. Letter from the Strait Richmond Hospital Foundation regarding the purchase of a CT Scanner for the Strait Richmond Hospital.

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council write a letter of support to the Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation for the purchase of a CT Scanner for the Strait Richmond Hospital.

Motion carried.

b) For Information Only

- i. MOCR letter to Honourable Michelle Thompson regarding the request for a CT Scanner for Strait Richmond Hospital.
- ii. MOCR letter to the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities regarding the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation.
- iii. Letter from Minister Dave Ritcey regarding the application for a Letter of Authority from the East Richmond ATV Riders for the abandoned rail trail in St. Peter's.

Unfinished Business

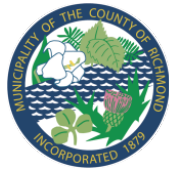
- a) St. Peter's - Grand River - Loch Lomond Pastoral Charge grant request for the Type 4 - Regional/Health/General Funds in the amount of \$2,645.00 - Verbal Update
Troy MacCulloch, CAO, provided an update regarding the grant application; no further action is required.

Review of Cheques Issued Re:

- a) March 2025
For information only.

Review of Action Items

- a) Action Items
For information only.



15 Minute Question Period - (902) 226-9885

There were no questions.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Municipal Clerk

Chairperson