

## Committee of the Whole Meeting

November 12, 2025

- Location: Council Chambers
- Present: Warden Lois Landry, Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette (Virtual), Councillor Brian Marchand, Councillor Brent Sampson, 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, Director of Finance

1. Call to Order

Warden Lois Landry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Opening Acknowledgement

The Warden 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.

3. Items Added to the Agenda (Approval of Agenda)

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

Motion carried.

4. Review of Minutes – October 14, 2025

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson, that the minutes of the October 14, 2025, Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.



5. Presentation of Food Bank Cheques

For information only.

6. Presentation

- a) Laura Emery (Virtual), Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Counties Regional Library – Re: Eastern Counties Regional Library Funding Overview

Laura Emery presented the Eastern Counties Regional Library Funding Overview presentation.

- b) Cameron Martin (Virtual), Economic Consulting & Advisory, AECOM, and Martin Thomsen, Manager of Energy Sector Development, Municipality of the County of Richmond/Town of Port Hawkesbury – Re: Business Case and Options Appraisal for Establishing an Offshore Wind Centre of Excellence

Cameron Martin and Martin Thomsen presented the Business Case and Options Appraisal for Establishing an Offshore Wind Centre of Excellence presentation.

7. New Business

- a) Increases in fire protection rates for the St. Peter's - Samsonville & Area Water Utility as approved by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

Moved by Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that to enable Council to enter into budget deliberations with a full picture of our current relationship with the Village of St. Peter's, and to help us build a path forward on a solid and informed foundation, and in keeping with our Strategic Plan goal on leading and engaging stakeholders to strengthen our relationship with other local governments, including the Village Commission, the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that a subcommittee be struck consisting of Richmond County staff and Council, and that Village staff and Commissioners be invited to participate for the purpose of reviewing the full scope of the County/Village relationship, and to provide an update to Council prior to budget deliberations.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that the main motion be amended to remove elected officials from the creation of a report, and that it be a staff-led initiative.



Motion defeated with two (2) in favour and three (3) opposed. (Nay: Warden Lois Landry, Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, Councillor Shawn Samson)

The main motion carried with three (3) in favour and two (2) opposed. (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson, Councillor Brian Marchand)

- b) Grant request from the Friends of St. John's Arichat for the Tier 1 Community Grant Funds in the amount of \$800

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to approve the Friends of St. John's Arichat grant request for the Tier 1 Community Grant Funds in the amount of \$800 and be allocated as follows: \$400 from the District 1 Fund and \$400 from the District 2 Fund.

Motion carried.

- c) Allocation of surplus funds and transfers from the Municipality's Operating Reserve

Moved by Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to approve the transfer of \$909,500 from the Operating Reserve as follows:

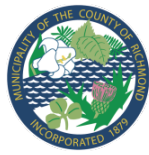
- \$500,000 for landfill closure
- \$200,000 for strategic priorities of Council
- \$189,500 for the solar PV system, and
- \$20,000 for the ECRL Hub Project

Motion carried.

- d) Write off of inactive accounts

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to approve the Finance Department's request to write off the principal and interest associated with the attached inactive accounts in the total amount of \$33,137.34.

Motion carried.



8. Warden, Re:

- a) Review of Warden's Council Report – October 2025
- b) Volunteer Recognition

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that staff, with advice from the Recreation Advisory Committee, explore the opportunities and costs associated with a Volunteer Appreciation/Recognition Event to be considered at budget deliberations.

Moved by Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the main motion be amended by adding “and checking in with volunteer organizations” after the Recreation Advisory Committee, and removing “Event.”

Motion carried with four (4) in favour, and one (1) opposed. (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson)

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that staff, with advice from the Recreation Advisory Committee and checking in with volunteer organizations, explore the opportunities and costs associated with a Volunteer Appreciation/Recognition to be considered at budget deliberations.

Motion carried with four (4) in favour, and one (1) opposed. (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson)

9. CAO, Re:

- a) Administration Operations Report  
For information only.

10. Community Acknowledgements

For information only.

11. Correspondence

- a) Action Required
  - i. Letter from Andree Sampson, L'Ardoise Christmas Parade, Re:  
Invitation to participate in the Parade of Floats & Lights  
For information only.



- ii. Letter from Jim Mustard, Founder/Board Chair, Raising the Villages, Re: Request for support for the Regional Well-Being Conference and the Richmond County Intergenerational Health Fair

Moved by Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to support the March 26<sup>th</sup> Wagmatcook Regional Well-Being Conference at \$500 and the Richmond County Intergenerational Health Fair to be held in Richmond County in early 2026 at \$1,000 to be allocated from the Sponsorship Budget.

Moved by Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the main motion be amended to include “contingent on both events taking place.”

Motion carried with four (4) in favour and one (1) opposed. (Nay: Councillor Brian Marchand)

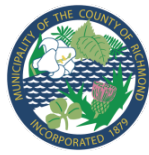
Moved by Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to support the March 26<sup>th</sup> Wagmatcook Regional Well-Being Conference at \$500 and the Richmond County Intergenerational Health Fair to be held in Richmond County in early 2026 at \$1,000 to be allocated from the Sponsorship Budget, contingent on both events taking place.

Motion carried with three (3) in favour and two (2) opposed. (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson, Councillor Brian Marchand)

- iii. The Nova U15 Major Hockey Team Annual Media Guide Fundraiser  
For information only.

b) For Information Only

- i. Letter from the Honourable John A. MacDonald, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Re: New role as Minister of Municipal Affairs
- ii. Letter from Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC), Re: Property Assessment and the Municipal Modernization Act (Bill No.141)



Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that staff contact PVSC to invite them to do a presentation.

Motion carried.

- iii. Eastern Counties Regional Library Board, Re: Announcement of new Board Chair
- iv. Letter from Marie Burkey, Volunteer Co-ordinator, Adult Drop-In Centre, Re: MOCR Donation
- v. MOCR letter to the Honourable John MacDonald, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Re: Code of Conduct for Municipal Elected Officials
- vi. MOCR letter to St. Anne's Community Nursing Care Centre Board of Directors, Re: Board of Directors
- vii. Letter from the Municipality of East Hants to the Honourable John A. MacDonald, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Re: Bill 141

12. Review of Action Items

a) Action Items

For information only.

13. Items Added to the Agenda

n/a

14. 15 Minute Question Period - (902) 226-9885

Linus Mury approached Council.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Municipal Clerk