

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT
FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2011

The Committee has met twice since the last Council Meeting.

The Committee reviewed a request from Cape Breton Partnership for support of the integrated strategic framework for economic prosperity in principle to the advancement of the framework.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Municipal Council agree in principle to the advancement of the integrated strategic framework for economic prosperity; provide senior level staff to be engaged and active in the advancement of the framework and with a commitment to partner on the implementation of the framework.

The Committee reviewed the dangerous and unsightly premise of Doreen MacKay, West Arichat.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsightly Premises and of the Committee of the Whole and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to the property of Doreen MacKay, 1563 Highway 206, West Arichat, Richmond County (PID #75020743; AAN #03780759) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes.

The Committee reviewed the \$2.00 parking fee being proposed by GASHA for parking at the Strait Richmond Hospital.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter be written to GASHA, with copies to the Minister of Health and Mr. Michel Samson, MLA expressing Municipal Council's displeasure and concerns with the proposed \$2.00 parking fee for every visit, due to the undue hardship that this fee would pose on the local residents.

The Committee reviewed grant requests from La Picasse Centre Communautaire, Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation, St. Louis Catholic Women's League, River Bourgeois Community Services Society, L'Ardoise Adult Recreation Club, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, West Bay Pastoral Charge, St. John the Baptist CWL, Bonnie Brae Seniors Club and the Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following grant requests be approved:

- \$2,500 to La Picasse Centre Communautaire, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #2;
- \$100 to Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #2;
- \$500 to St. Louis Catholic Women's League, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #6;
- \$1,000 to River Bourgeois Community Services Society, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #7 (\$1,000);
- \$700 to L'Ardoise Adult Recreation Club, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #9;
- \$150, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #2;

- \$663, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Association, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #3;
- \$500, West Bay Pastoral Charge, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #5;
- \$500, St. John the Baptist CWL, Municipal District Activity Fund, District #7;
- \$979.67, Bonnie Brae Seniors Club, Municipal District Infrastructure Fund, District #8;
- \$1,350, Richmond County Early Childhood Education Centre, Municipal District Activity Fund, Multiple Districts;
- \$900, Strait Richmond Health Care Foundation, Municipal District Activity Fund, Municipal Districts

The Committee reviewed the tendering process for a three year contract effective January 1, 2012 for solid waste curbside collection in three zones in Richmond.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the following solid waste curbside collection contracts be awarded in three zones of Richmond County, effective January 1, 2012 as follows:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Annual Price For Regular Collection</u>	<u>Estimated Annual Price for Heavy Collection</u>	<u>Total Estimated Annual Price</u>
1 (Isle Madame)	Rene Levandier	\$62,580.00	\$27,208.00	\$89,788.00
2 (West of Canal)	Gary J. Burke	\$74,823.00	\$24,487.00	\$99,310.00
3 (East of Canal)	Russell Mombourquette	\$75,730.00	\$47,978.00	\$123,708.00

The Committee received an update from the Director of Public Works regarding the Richmond Environmental Management Project.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Director of Public Works and proceed with the next steps for the Alternative Water and Sewer Measures Committee and apply for grants and/or loans for selected project features.

The Committee received a presentation from the Director of Economic Development/Tourism regarding Tourism 2012.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Director of Economic Development and Tourism and support municipal staff in executing the 2012 tourism plan with specific attention to developing community-based tourism, developing Richmond County as an outdoor destination and building our shoulder season.

The Committee reviewed the Christmas holiday office hours.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the CAO and close the office at noon on December 23, 2011 and re-open for regular business hours at 8:30 a.m., Monday, January 2, 2012.

The Committee reviewed the request from the Bras D'Or Lakes CEPI Management Committee for a municipal representative to serve on their Board of Directors.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Councillor Shirley McNamara be appointed as the municipal representative to serve on the Board of Directors of the Bras D'Or Lakes CEPI Management Committee.

The Committee reviewed a funding request from the Eastern District Planning Commission to help offset their expected \$51,000 deficit.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the funding request put forth by the Eastern District Planning Commission to cover a portion of the operating deficit be paid for with monies from the current fiscal budget and further moved that staff prepare a report comparing the options of continuing with services through the Eastern District Planning Commission or providing the services "in-house".

The Committee reviewed the dangerous and unsightly premises of Carol MacInnis, River Bourgeois; Owner Unknown, Cannes and Ruth Riccitelli, Marilyn Skatzes, Deborah Ann Harris, David Harris and Edward Allan Harris of River Bourgeois.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsightly Premises and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to Carol MacInnis, 8262 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75044867; AAN #01555804), and Owner Unknown, No. 4 Highway Cannes (PID #75121590); and property of Ruth Riccitelli, Marilyn Skatzes, Deborah Ann Harris, David Harris, Edward Allan Harris, 97 Riverview Drive, River Bourgeois (PID #75136911; AAN #01904582) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes.

The Committee also reviewed the dangerous and unsightly property of Kenneth and Lola Pettipas, River Bourgeois.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and of the Municipality's Administrator for Dangerous and Unsightly Premises and that an "Order to Remedy Condition" be issued to Kenneth and Lola Pettipas, 7758 Highway 4, River Bourgeois (PID #75046854; AAN #02958147) and that the Order be a Demolition Order issued from Council, instructing that the buildings be demolished and all debris be removed from the property within thirty (30) days or the Municipality will complete the same and recover the costs through property taxes.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Strait Area Transit requesting the appointment of a Council representative on their Board of Directors.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and appoint Councillor Shirley McNamara as the Council representative on the Board of Directors of the Strait Area Transit.

The Committee reviewed a financial request from Heritage Cape Breton Connection for the "Engaging Youth in Heritage" Award.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and approve the financial request put forth by Heritage Cape Breton Connection, in the amount of \$150 for the Heritage Cape Breton Connection's Engaging Youth in Heritage Award.

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Strait Area District Labour Council requesting municipal support for enhancements with the Canada's Retirement Security System, to ensure that seniors have adequate income upon retirement.

I move that WHEREAS the Canadian economy is in its deepest downturn since the 1930's putting the retirement security of many workers at risk;

AND WHEREAS cities are key providers of social services and support programs for older workers and retirees;

AND WHEREAS the financial meltdown and a wave of employer bankruptcies have resulted in under-funded pension plans and the actual and potential loss of promised pension benefits;

AND WHEREAS only one in four private sector workers belong to an employer pension plan, the remaining 3 out of 4 workers must rely on their own personal savings to try to provide for their retirement;

AND WHEREAS our public pension system, Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) plus the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is safe but falls well short of replacing the 50% to 70% of pre-retirement income needed to maintain decent living standards;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Richmond support expansion of our public pension system

1. By increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) by 15% so no senior lives in poverty;

2. By phasing in a doubling of the proportion of average earnings replaced by Canada Pension Plan (CPP) from 25% to 50%, financed by a modest increase in premiums;
3. By protecting Canadian pensions through a federal system of pension insurance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Municipality support the call on the federal government to hold a national summit on the issue of pensions and support the expansion of the Canada Pension Plan (CPP).

The Committee reviewed a report from the CAO indicating that advertisements and interviews had been carried out for the position of Chief Executive Officer for the Richmond Villa, with no success of a suitable candidate, and given the time constraints, it was recommended that a consultant be hired to search for a replacement for the CEO position.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality provide funding for the consultant fees in search of a replacement for the Richmond Villa Chief Executive Officer position.

The Committee reviewed the contract for the Recycling and Compost Educator, which expires December 31, 2011.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the contract for the Recycling and Compost Educator be renewed for a one year term, effective January 1, 2012.

The Committee reviewed a request from the Village of St. Peter's requesting funding from the Federal Gas Tax Distribution Program.

I move that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that funding in the amount of \$50,500 be awarded to the Village of St. Peter's, from the Gas Tax Fund, for their wastewater project, subject to all gas tax regulations.

This concludes the monthly report of the Committee of the Whole, and I move its adoption.