

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2021

Location: Council Chambers

Present: Councillor S. Samson, Deputy Warden M. Diggdon,
Councillor M. Sampson, Warden A. Mombourquette
Councillor B. Sampson, Don Marchand, CAO

Warden Mombourquette called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and asked everyone to stand for the singing of O'Canada.

Roll Call of Councillors

The CAO took roll call of Councillors.

Items Added to the Agenda

Warden Mombourquette indicated that an item was previously added by the CAO regarding the Eastern District Planning Commission on the Municipal Planning Strategy Update.

Warden Mombourquette requested and received unanimous consent to add an item to the agenda regarding the Mind Body Spirit Toolkit Launch.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the agenda be approved with the items added. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes:

- a) December 21, 2021

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the minutes of the December 21, 2020 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Eastern District Planning Commission re: Property of Lester Morgan and Elizabeth Morgan, 2011 Whiteside Road, Whiteside Richmond County, PID (75026898) and AAN (03304582)

(i) EDPC re: Update on Property

Warden Mombourquette welcomed Mr. John Bain to the meeting.

Mr. Bain provided an update on the property of Lester Morgan and Elizabeth Morgan, 2011 Whiteside Road, Whiteside Richmond County, PID (75026898) and AAN (03304582). He indicated that the oil tank had not been removed and the chimney area remained open. He also indicated that Mr. Morgan should provide an engineer's report, plan, timelines and costing.

It was noted that there was only partial compliance with the order.

The recommendation of the EDPC is to issue a demolition order.

Warden Mombourquette thanked Mr. Bain for the update.

(ii) Opportunity for the Above Property Owner to Address Council

Warden Mombourquette welcomed Mr. Lester Morgan to the meeting.

Mr. Morgan provided information regarding the property. He also indicated that there was no engineer plan or other required information prepared.

The information was followed by a question and answer period.

Warden Mombourquette thanked Mr. Morgan for the information.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Eastern District Planning Commission and that a 10 day demolition order be issued on the property of Lester Morgan and Elizabeth Morgan, 2011 Whiteside Road, Whiteside Richmond County, PID (75026898) and AAN (03304582). Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the CAO obtain a legal opinion from the Municipal Solicitor regarding quarterly meetings between Richmond Municipal Council and the St. Peter's Village Commission. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter of support be provided to the Dr. Kingston Memorial Community Health Board regarding the Richmond River Roots Market Garden Proposal and that the letter indicate that Council would support in the following ways:

- Taking a leadership role in the establishment of a Food Security Coalition and Food Bank Alliance,
- Collaboration with the County's Recreation Department on education sessions (offerings to include low/no cost options and both in-person and digital delivery), and
- Designating a Councillor as a lead contact person for the proposal/project to ensure strong communications on an ongoing basis.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of JANUARY 2021 be adopted. Motion carried.

Warden Mombourquette re:

a) Sewage Testing for COVID;

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Staff write a letter to Researchers at Dalhousie University Centre for Water Resource Studies and Nova Scotia Public Health expressing interest in receiving additional information and potentially participating in the COVID-19 Sewage testing Pilot Project. Motion carried.

b) Question Period;

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Question Period placement and format on the Committee of the Whole and Regular Council agendas be amended as follows:

- Committee of the Whole Meeting – Question period would remain in its current spot, at the end of the meeting and questions would not be restricted to items on the agenda;
- Regular Council Meeting – Question period would be moved to immediately preceding the Committee of the Whole report and questions would be restricted to items on the Report. Motion carried.

c) Dry Hydrants;

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded Councillor Brent Sampson that Staff investigate and prepare a report for February Council Meeting, including a recommendation regarding the placement of dry hydrants throughout Richmond County including information such as responsibility, costing, regulations/easements, design, geographic mapping and maintenance plans. Motion carried.

d) African Heritage Month - Feb 2021;

It was the consensus of Council that the CAO consult with Recreation Staff regarding any potential plans or activities scheduled for African Heritage Month, February 2021, and report back to Council with an update.

e) Statistics Canada Census - May 2021;

It was the consensus of Council that the Statistics Canada Census resolution, be moved to the April Regular Council meeting.

f) Climate Action Plan Update;

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Deputy Warden Michael Diggdon that Staff investigate funding opportunities and take the lead on options for updating the Richmond County Climate Action Plan. Motion carried.

g) Communications Plan Refresh

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Michael Diggdon that Staff gather information regarding the creation and history of the current Communications Plan and report back to Council with additional information. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Action Required

a) Cora Leblanc, Telile re: Live Streaming;

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Michael Diggdon that Richmond Municipal Council employ the services of Telile Community TV to Live Stream Regular Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings effective February 2021. Motion carried.

b) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Inter-municipal Agreement;

For information purposes.

c) George & Gail Landry re: Property Access;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Michael Diggdon that Staff obtain additional details and report back to Council with an update regarding the request from George and Gail Landry for an easement to their land. Motion carried.

d) Letter from Minister Furey re Accessibility Act

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Staff call for applications for Members at Large to serve on an Accessibility Committee and that the advertisement include minimum criteria for the Committee. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

Eastern District Planning Commission on the Municipal Planning Strategy Update

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Municipality of the County of Richmond County supports the application of our District Planning Commission for funding under the program and agrees to participate through the planning commission in this regional planning initiative in partnership with the Cape Breton Regional Municipality to hire, on a term basis, planning services to create municipal planning documents that meet the minimum planning requirements instituted by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and where appropriate harmonize these by-laws. Motion carried.

Mind Body Spirit Toolkit Launch

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Staff gather additional information from the Department of Seniors regarding an application through the Age Friendly Communities grant funding in order to launch the Mind Body Spirit Toolkit and communicate with Council via email regarding the information gathered and the possibility of meeting the deadline date of February 1, 2021. Motion carried.

Question Period

There were no questions from the gallery.

“In Camera” Session (Legal Advice)

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 9:01 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson the meeting revert to Regular Session at 9:43 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Staff investigate the collaboration practices between municipalities and neighboring Villages. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor S. Samson, seconded by Councillor B. Sampson that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON
