

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING - VIDEOCONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

Location: Council Chambers

Present: Councillor Shawn Samson, Deputy Warden Michael Diggdon,
Councillor Melanie Sampson, Warden Amanda Mombourquette
Councillor Brent Sampson, Don Marchand, CAO

Warden Mombourquette called the meeting to order at 7:02 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

Councillor Shawn Samson requested and received unanimous consent to add a Community Acknowledgement to the agenda.

Warden Mombourquette requested and received unanimous consent to add Destination Cape Breton Board of Directors Representative Appointment and an In Camera Item regarding Contract Negotiations.

Deputy Warden Diggdon requested and received unanimous consent to add Flags to the agenda.

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

Review of Minutes:

a) June 28, 2021 (Regular Council)

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the minutes of the June 28, 2021 Regular Council meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

b) June 30, 2021 (Special Council)

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Diggdon that the minutes of the June 30, 2021 Special Council Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Question Period (Restricted to Items on the Committee of the Whole Report) (PHONE IN-1 647 558 0588 see Question Period Details Below)

There were no questions.

Committee Reports:

a) Committee of the Whole

- **Request for a letter of support Bear Head Energy**
- **Truth and Reconciliation Day.**
- **Hours of Operation Policy**
- **Flag Raising Ceremony.**
- **Strategic Planning.**
- **Fire Departments Levy Payment Schedule.**
- **Water/Sewer Bill Notices.**
- **Grant Requests.**

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that a letter of support be provided to Bear Head Energy regarding support for the Project and Industrial Development in the Point Tupper Area. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that September 30, 2021 be recognized as Truth and Reconciliation Day in the Municipality of Richmond and be included as a municipal holiday. 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 the addition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation as a statutory holiday be referred to the By-Law/Policy Committee in order to amend the “Hours of Operation” Policy to reflect the addition. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Municipality conduct a flag raising ceremony, on a date to be determined, in honor and recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Staff prepare a draft RFP for an external source to aide in the creation of a strategic plan and that Councillors review the draft prior to the September 27, 2021 Regular Council meeting. 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 the creation of a Fire Department Levy Payment Schedule Policy be referred to a By-Law/Policy Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Notices/letters regarding significant changes to water and sewer billing be referred to the By-Law/Policy Committee for review. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the request for funding from the Lennox Passage Yacht Club in the amount of \$500 be approved from the District #2 Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the funding request from Raising the Villages Cooperative Ltd., Type 4 Regional/Health/General Grant Funds, be approved in the amount of \$2,500 with \$250 being distributed from each of the 5 District Funds and the remaining \$1,250 being distributed from the General Grant Fund. *There was no seconder.*

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the request for funding from the River Bourgeois Mariners Society, Type 4 - Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$1,000 be approved with \$500 distributed from District #4 fund and \$500 distributed from the General Grant Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the request for funding from the Arichat Community Development Association, Type 4 Regional/Health/General Grant Funds be approved in the amount of \$7,500 with \$1250 distributed from each of the District #1 and District #2 Funds and the remaining \$5,000 to be distributed from the General Grant Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the request for funding from the Pan Cape Breton Food Hub Coop, Type 4 - Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$15,000 be denied due to \$2,000 previously allocated in the budget. Motion carried.

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

First Reading Approval – to Amend By-Law # 50, Municipal Emergency Management By-Law in order to make the following changes:

- **Amend “repeal and replace” provision (section 12) to read All Emergency Measures By-Laws passed previously by the Municipality of the County of Richmond or a predecessor municipal unit are hereby repealed.**
- **add “for approval” to section 4(3) (b) and to 5.3(b).**
- **4 (2) changed to a majority of Council.**
- **5, typographical error, Section 5**
- **5(c) Changed to EMC advises the CAO/Clerk on the duties required by employees, servants and agents during emergency events.**
- **Step 2, 1st reference to section 5. Letter switched under subsection 5(3) and**
- **Reference changed to s.5 (3) (c)**
- **S.2 changed definition to the “municipal emergency management advisory committee”.**
- **Definitions list re-ordered alphabetically.**
- **Clause 2(N) changed to “State of Emergency Forms Regulations” and citation is Order in Council 2008-211, N.S. Regulation 225/2008 (effective April 22, 2008). References to the old regulation name changed throughout the by-law.**

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that First Reading Approval to Amend By-Law # 50, Municipal Emergency Management By-Law in order to make the following changes:

- Amend “repeal and replace” provision (section 12) to read All Emergency Measures By-Laws passed previously by the Municipality of the County of Richmond or a predecessor municipal unit are hereby repealed.
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Motion carried.

Councillor Brent Sampson re: Coastal Riders OHV Letter of Support Request;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that a letter for the Coastal Riders ATV Association be written by Councillor Brent Sampson and Warden Mombourquette in support of the Association’s application to the NS Lands and Forestry OHV Infrastructure Fund-Trails to construct a trail using the old #4 road bed. Motion carried.

Warden Mombourquette re:

a) Proclamation re: Right to Know Week 2021;

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the following proclamation be approved:

RIGHT TO KNOW WEEK

September 27 to October 3, 2021

WHEREAS the Municipality of the County of Richmond has adopted the principles of openness, transparency and accountability; and

WHEREAS Part XX of the Municipal Government Act gives citizens a right of access to information in the custody or under the control of the Municipality of the County of Richmond; and

WHEREAS access to information ensures citizens of Nova Scotia have the opportunity for meaningful participation in the democratic process; and

WHEREAS a celebration of the right of citizens to access information will facilitate informed public participation in policy formulation, ensure fairness in government decision-making and permit the airing and reconciliation of divergent views; and

WHEREAS Municipality of the County of Richmond joins all other Canadian jurisdictions and democracies world-wide in acknowledging international Right to Know Week;

THEREFORE be it resolved that I, Warden Amanda Mombourquette, Municipality of the County of Richmond, do hereby proclaim September 27 to October 3, 2021 to be Right to Know Week in the Municipality of the County of Richmond.

Motion carried.

b) Coastal Protection Act;

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that a letter be written by Warden Mombourquette regarding the Proposed Coastal Protection Act Consultations with a copy being sent to the Richmond County MLA. Motion carried.

c) J-Class Road Investment;

It was the consensus of Council that a Special Council Meeting be scheduled for Monday, October 4th at 7 PM to address the issue of J-Class Roads.

d) Cadet Week;

It was the consensus of Council that Cadet Week be advertised on the Richmond County Facebook Page and that Warden Mombourquette draft a reply to the correspondence received from Lieutenant Navy Cassandra David.

e) Accessibility Advisory re: County Approval of New Members;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Jessica Gibson be approved as the new member of the Richmond County Accessibility Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

f) Seniors' Week: Oct. 1-7, 2021;

It was the consensus of Council that Warden Mombourquette reach out to Recreation Manager, Laurier Samson, regarding Social Media Posts for Seniors' Week.

g) Strait of Canso Gateway Project

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Staff investigate funding options, in the amount of \$5,000, for the preparation of a development strategy in regards to the Strait of Canso Gateway Project. Motion carried.

Items Added to the Agenda

Councillor Shawn Samson acknowledged a young group of entrepreneurs, Friends Apparel.

Warden Mombourquette re: Destination Cape Breton Board Representative

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that a short term advertisement be placed in the Reporter, on Telile and St. Peter's Cable, Richmond County Website and Facebook page advertising a vacancy for a Board Member to sit on the Destination Cape Breton Board of Directors. Motion carried.

In Camera Item regarding Contract Negotiations (To be discussed In Camera)

Deputy Warden Diggdon requested and received unanimous consent to add Flags to the agenda.

It was the consensus of Council that the Flag Discussion regarding the Irish Flag be referred to a By Law/Policy Committee meeting for review under the Flag Policy.

Question Period (Restricted to the remainder of the Agenda following the COW Report)
(PHONE IN 1 647 558 0588 – see Question Period Details Below)

“In Camera” Session (Contract Negotiations)

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Diggdon that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the meeting revert back to Regular Session at 9:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON
