

**RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING – COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

**Location:** Council Chambers

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

Warden Mombourquette called the meeting to order at 7:07 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 Radar Speed Signs and a Community Acknowledgement to the agenda.

Warden Mombourquette requested and received unanimous consent to add Acting Collectively and Plan Richmond Sessions to the agenda.

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the agenda be approved with the items added. Motion carried.

**Review of Minutes:**

**a) October 25, 2021 (Regular Council)**

Moved by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the minutes of the October 25, 2021 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

**b) November 1, 2021 (Special Council)**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the minutes of the November 1, 2021 Special Council Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

**Question Period (Restricted to Items on the Committee of the Whole Report) (PHONE IN–902-226-9885 see Question Period Details Below)**

There were no questions.

## **Committee Reports**

### **a) Committee of the Whole**

- Recommendation #39 from Fire Services Report
- Grant Requests – L’Ardoise Men’s Club (\$500)/Pitu’paq Partnership Society (\$2,000)
- Letter of Support – Strait of Canso Working Group re: Offshore Wind Energy

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Staff gather information from surrounding municipalities concerning fire rates in regards to the administration of a single rate model. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the grant request from L’Ardoise Men’s Club, Type 3-C3 – Sponsorships Grant Funds in the amount of \$500 be approved from the District #5 Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the grant request from Pitu’paq Partnership Society, Type 4 – Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$2,000 be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, 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 The Strait of Canso Working Group regarding Council’s support for the Strait of Canso Offshore Wind Energy Project. Motion carried.

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

### **b) Audit Committee Report**

- Approval of Financial statements of the Municipality for the year ended March 31, 2021 be accepted as presented by the Auditors and the Chief Financial Officer.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Audit Committee and that the financial statements of the Municipality for the year ended March 31, 2021 be accepted as presented by the Auditors and the Chief Financial Officer. Motion carried.

## **Motion to Amend the following policies:**

**a) Hours of Operation in order to include National Day of Truth and Reconciliation in the list of holidays which the Municipal Office will be closed on.**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Hours of Operation Policy be amended in order to include National Day of Truth and Reconciliation in the list of holidays which the Municipal Office will be closed on. Motion carried.

**b) Grants Policy as per amendments made at the November 3, 2021 By-Law/Policy Committee Meeting.**

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Grants Policy be amended as per amendments made at the November 3, 2021 By-Law/Policy Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

**Motion to Adopt the Flag Policy as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond**

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Flag Policy be adopted as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond. Motion carried.

**Warden Mombourquette re:**

**a) Presentations on Live Stream**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Staff investigate a better quality display for presentations for the viewing public during meetings. Motion carried.

**b) Provincial Day of Action - LTC Nov 30**

For information purposes.

**c) Housing Survey**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the Warden reach out to the Cape Breton Partnership and request their help/support regarding housing and something specific to our county. Motion carried.

**d) Congrats to Trudie's Nutrition**

For information purposes.

**e) Upcoming Notable Dates**

For information purposes.

**f) RCMP Costs**

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the following resolution be adopted:

**WHEREAS** the recent collective agreement between the RCMP and National Police Federation includes significant retroactive pay going back to 2017 as well as pay increases going forward; and

**WHEREAS** Our municipality and others that depend on RCMP contract policing are facing significant, unbudgeted costs that may force us to make very difficult choices at a time when our primary focus needs to be on economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS** Municipalities were not consulted at any stage of the negotiations process, despite the outcome of these negotiations having a direct and significant impact on municipal operations; and

**WHEREAS** RCMP cost increases will disproportionately impact rural communities; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities are eager to work more closely with other orders of government and the RCMP on contract policing issues to ensure the financial sustainability of contract policing and to maintain the service levels necessary for community safety; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipality of the County of Richmond joins the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in calling on the federal government to absorb all retroactive costs associated with the implementation of the new RCMP labour relations regime; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal government should commit to ensuring municipalities are properly consulted prior to implementation of measures that impact local fiscal sustainability and ability to maintain effective levels of police services in communities. Motion carried.

#### **g) Strategic Plan**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Staff proceed with issuing the RFP for Strategic Plan Consulting Services on December 1, 2021 if Councillors have no issues with the RFP by the deadline of November 30, 2021. Motion carried.

#### **Review of Action Items**

##### **a) November 1, 2021**

For information purposes.

#### **Items Added to the Agenda**

##### **Radar Speed Signs**

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Diggdon that Staff inquire with the Village of St. Peter's regarding the possibility of Radar Speed Sign rental for use in other areas of Richmond County. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of Council that Radar Speed Signs be referred to Budget Deliberations.

**Community Acknowledgement**

For information purposes.

**Acting Collectively**

For information purposes

**Plan Richmond Sessions**

It was noted that an additional session has been added in L'Ardoise on November 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and also an online session on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Additional information can be found on the [www.planrichmond.ca](http://www.planrichmond.ca) website.

**Question Period (Restricted to the remainder of the Agenda following the COW Report)  
(PHONE IN 902-226-9885 – see Question Period Details Below)**

There were no questions.

**“In Camera” Session (Personnel /Contract Negotiations)**

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 8:04 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the meeting revert back to Regular Session at 9:28 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Warden move forward as discussed in camera (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson). Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON

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