

**RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING – VIDEOCONFERENCE**  
**DECEMBER 20, 2021**

**Location:** Videoconference

**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 7:03 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 Community Acknowledgements to the agenda.

Warden Mombourquette requested and received unanimous consent to add Seniors Take Action newsletter to the agenda.

Deputy Warden Sampson requested and received unanimous consent to add an update to two In Camera issues to the agenda.

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

**Review of Minutes:**

**a) November 22, 2021 (Regular Council)**

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the minutes of the November 22, 2021 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

**Question Period (Restricted to Items on the Committee of the Whole/PAC Reports)**

There were no questions.

**Committee Reports**

**a) Committee of the Whole (Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson)**

- Tax Sale by Tender
- Tax Sale Properties 2022 re: Minimum Bids
- Information from surrounding Municipalities regarding single rate model administration.
- Performance Management Plan
- In Camera Matter Investigation

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that the Treasurer be given consent to hold the February 11, 2022 tax sale by sealed tender rather than public auction. 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 approval be given for the Treasurer to sell properties brought to Tax Sale in 2021 that have not sold due to taxes to attempt to be sold for the starting minimum bid of principle amount owing. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Staff gather information from the Municipality of the County of Pictou concerning fire rates in regards to the administration of a single rate model. 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 Warden Mombourquette engage the solicitor, as discussed in camera, in order to create a Performance Management Plan. Motion carried. (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson)

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Warden Mombourquette and Councillor Shawn Samson move forward and investigate the matter, as discussed in camera. Motion carried. (“4 in favour, 1 opposed.”)

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

b) Planning Advisory Committee

- Application by SRD International Ltd to amend the Isle Madame Municipal Land Use By-Law
- Request for a St. Peter’s Land Use By-Law map amendment

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee and give first reading to approve the Isle Madame Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law amendments to add policy to allow for the consideration of multiple unit dwellings and/or grouped dwellings, with the proviso that the development agreement provision only be open to developments to be serviced by central municipal water and sewer services and according to the development

agreements provisions of the Municipal Government Act; and that Municipal Council give First Reading and schedule a Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Councillor Brent Sampson declared a conflict on the following motion/discussion and removed himself from discussion.

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee and give first reading to approve the St. Peter's Land Use By-Law map amendment (rezoning) for the rear portion of the lot at 9959 Grenville Street, St. Peter's (PID 75053397) from Residential Village (R-1) to Downtown Commercial (C-1); and that Municipal Council give First Reading and schedule a Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the Planning Advisory Committee Report for the month of December 2021 be adopted. Motion carried.

**First Reading regarding the St. Peter's Land Use By-Law map amendment (rezoning) for the rear portion of the lot at 9959 Grenville Street, St. Peter's (PID 75053397) from Residential Village (R-1) to Downtown Commercial (C-1).**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Council give First Reading regarding the St. Peter's Land Use By-Law map amendment (rezoning) for the rear portion of the lot at 9959 Grenville Street, St. Peter's (PID 75053397) from Residential Village (R-1) to Downtown Commercial (C-1). Motion carried.

**First Reading regarding the Isle Madame Municipal Planning Strategy and land Use By-Law amendments to add policy to allow for the consideration of multiple unit dwellings and/or grouped dwellings, if the properties are able to get access to municipal water and sewer services, and according to the development agreement provisions of the Municipal Government Act.**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council give First Reading regarding the Isle Madame Municipal Planning Strategy and land Use By-Law amendments to add policy to allow for the consideration of multiple unit dwellings and/or grouped dwellings, if the properties are able to get access to municipal water and sewer services, and according to the development agreement provisions of the Municipal Government Act. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson that Notice be Given to Adopt the Vaccination Policy as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond. (Nay: Councillor Shawn Samson)

**Notice of Motion to Adopt the Dry Hydrant Policy as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond**

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Notice be given to Adopt the Dry Hydrant Policy as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond. Motion carried.

**Correspondence – Action Required**

**a) NSUARB re: 2022 Municipal Boundary Review;**

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that correspondence regarding the 2022 Municipal Boundary Review be referred to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

**b) Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Surplus Land Notification – 1602 St. Peter’s Fourchu Road, Grand River;**

Moved by Deputy Warden Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Staff respond to the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding surplus land notification indicating that Council has no interest in the property. Motion carried.

**Correspondence – For Information Purposes**

**a) Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society re: Donation**

For information purposes.

**Warden Mombourquette re:**

**a) Former West Richmond Education Center;**

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson that information regarding the former West Richmond Education Center be forwarded to the Planning Advisory Committee and EDPC for further investigation and feedback specific to housing opportunities. Motion carried. (Nay: Councillor Brent Sampson)

**b) Raising the Villages Letter of Support**

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that a letter of support be provided to Raising the Villages indicating Council’s support of their funding application “For the Good of our Community Fund”. Motion carried.

**c) Long Term Care Data**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the Warden reach out to the area MLA to inquire about data availability regarding long term care homes. Motion carried.

**d) Community of Care Awards**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Community of Care Award recipients be shared on the Municipal Website and Facebook page with a congratulations message. Motion carried.

**e) Council Christmas Greeting**

Moved by Councillor Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson that the Council Christmas Greeting 2021 be shared on the Municipality's Facebook page. Motion carried.

**f) Return to Service, Healthcare Professionals**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Staff investigate Return to Service Arrangements in place in other municipalities across the province. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson that Staff reach out to the Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health Navigator Gina MacDonald to inquire about the supports needed for Return to Service Arrangements. Motion carried.

**Review of Action Items**

**a) November 22, 2021 (Regular Council)**

It was noted that the Municipal Clerk would follow up with Telile Community Television regarding better quality display for presentations for the viewing public during meeting.

**Councillor Brent Sampson re: 2021 Christmas Message**

For information purposes.

**Councillor Michael Diggdon re: PVSC Detailed Report**

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Staff follow-up with Property Valuation Services regarding the possibility of receiving a more detailed report in addition to the previous report presented to Council. Motion carried.

**Items Added to the Agenda**

Community Acknowledgement – For information purposes.

Seniors Take Action Newsletter

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson that the Seniors Take Action Coalition quarterly newsletter be shared on the Richmond County Facebook page. Motion carried.

**Question Period (Restricted to the remainder of the agenda following the COW/PAC Reports)**

There were no questions.

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

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Diggdon that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the meeting revert back to Regular Session at 10:16 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Municipality release the corrected statement on our FB page, website, and the Reporter with regards to the legal matter as discussed in camera. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Deputy Warden Sampson seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Collective Bargaining Agreement be approved, as discussed in camera. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_