

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – VIDEOCONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 28, 2022

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 7:08 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 (Approval of Agenda)

Councillor Brent Sampson requested and received unanimous consent to add an update “In Camera” regarding the investigation.

Councillor Brent Sampson requested and received unanimous consent to add the Councillors Payment Policy to the agenda for discussion and referral to the By-Law/Policy Committee.

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

Review of Minutes re:

a) January 24, 2022 (Regular Council)

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the minutes of the January 24, 2022 Regular Council meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

b) January 24, 2022 (Public Hearing)

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson that the minutes of the January 24, 2022 Public Hearing be approved as presented. Motion carried.

c) February 8, 2022 (Emergency)

Councillor Brent Sampson abstained from voting as he was absent from the February 8, 2022 Emergency Council meeting.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the minutes of the February 8, 2022 Emergency Council meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

d) February 16, 2022 (Special)

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the minutes of the February 16, 2022 Special meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Question Period (Restricted to Items on the Committee of the Whole Report) (PHONE IN-(204) 272-7920) (see Question Period Details Below)

There were no questions.

Committee Reports

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

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Staff investigate costs, funding opportunities and installation costs for Level 2 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations for placement at Point Michaud Beach, La Picasse and the Richmond Arena. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and that Staff reach out to the Louisdale Lions Club regarding options available and determine potential feasibility for a temporary Food Bank site to be located at the Richmond Arena. 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 Staff gather information regarding electronics disposal options and investigate potential solutions. 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 the municipality work in collaboration with the CSAP and École Beau Port Administration to investigate potential solutions for safety issues in the driveways entering and exiting École Beau Port School property. 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 Warden and Deputy Warden draft a letter to the Department of Public Works indicating safety issue concerns with erosion and flooding on Evanston Road and Langley Lane in District #3. 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 a letter of concern be drafted by the Warden and Deputy Warden in collaboration with the MLA regarding the landline issues occurring during power outages in Dundee, St. George's Channel and Grand River. 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 the recommendation from the Director of Public Works be accepted and that the municipality proceed with two applications to the ICIP funding program for the following two projects, ranked in priority:

- Arichat/Petit de Grat Sewage Treatment Plant Replacement
- Former Landfill Closure Work

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 Warden Mombourquette, in collaboration with the Cape Breton Partnership, coordinate a meeting with Develop Nova Scotia and Bell Aliant in order to gather information regarding the Broadband Expansion Project. 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 Councillor Shawn Samson be appointed as a member of the Richmond/Port Hawkesbury Joint Development Commission. 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 municipality participate in World Autism Day on April 2, 2022 with a flag raising and proclamation ceremony and that the Autism Flag be flown for a one week period. 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 Committee recommend to Council that the grant request for the River Bourgeois Mariners Society, Type 4 Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$5,000 (\$500 from District #4, \$4500 from General Grant Fund) be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of FEBRUARY 2022 be adopted. Motion carried.

b) By-Law/Policy Committee

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the By-Law/Policy Committee and that Council give notice to amend the Travel Expense Policy. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the By-Law/Policy Committee and that Council give notice to adopt the VFD Payment and Reporting Policy as a policy of the Municipality of Richmond County. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the By-Law/Policy Committee and that Council give notice to adopt the Vaccination Policy as a policy of the Municipality of Richmond County. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the By-Law/Policy Committee Report for the month of FEBRUARY 2022 be adopted. Motion carried.

Notice of Motion to adopt the VFD Payment and Reporting Policy as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Municipal Council give notice to adopt the VFD Payment and Reporting Policy as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond. Motion carried.

Notice of Motion to amend the Travel Expense Policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond in order to reduce duplication and further clarify the difference between “In County” and “Out of County” travel claim processes.

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that Municipal Council give notice to amend the Travel Expense Policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond in order to reduce duplication and further clarify the difference between “In County” and “Out of County” travel claim processes. 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 Sampson that Municipal Council give notice to adopt the Vaccination Policy as a Policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond. Motion carried.

Correspondence – Action Required

a) Bras d’Or Lakes CEPI re: Contributions;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the request from Bras d’Or Lakes CEPI be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

b) Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 150 re: The Veteran’s Banner Project;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the request from the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 150 regarding the Veteran’s Banner Project be approved. Motion carried.

c) Eastern District Planning Commission re: Revised Appointments;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the revised appointments submitted by the Eastern District Planning Commission be approved. Motion carried.

d) Isle Madame Historical Society re: Funding;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the funding request from the Isle Madame Historical Society be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

e) Nova Scotia Mi`Kmaq Summer Games re: Sponsorship;

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the sponsorship request received from Nova Scotia Mi’Kmaq Summer Games be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

It was noted that Councillor Brent Sampson would reach out to Potlotek regarding the possibility of submitting a grant request.

f) Arc of the Coast Ocean Farming Support

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson that the Warden extend an invitation to the Arc of the Coast to appear at a Committee of the Whole meeting in order to give a presentation to Council. Motion carried.

Correspondence – For Information Purposes

a) Cape Breton Partnership re: MIT REAP Team;

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson that the Warden extend an invitation to the Cape Breton Partnership to appear at a Committee of the Whole meeting in order to give a presentation to Council regarding MIT REAP Team. Motion carried.

b) Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society re: Thank you.

For information purposes.

CAO re: Staff Report: Dr. Kingston Memorial Community Health Centre re: Funding Request

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the funding request from the Dr. Kingston Memorial Community Health Centre be moved to budget deliberations. Motion carried.

Councillor Diggdon left the meeting at 8:10 p.m. and returned at 8:12 p.m.

Warden Mombourquette re:

a) Storm Reporting Form - addition to emergency plan

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the addition of a storm reporting form be referred to Emergency Management Advisory Committee and the By-Law/Policy Committee for review and discussion for potential addition to the plan or by-law. Motion carried.

It was noted that a list of comfort centers be sent out to Council.

b) Welcome EverWind

For information purposes.

c) Bilingual Signage Update

It was noted that the Warden follow up with Ms. Marchand regarding bilingual signage.

d) Community Acknowledgements

It was noted that the Warden extend an invitation to Michelle Theriault of the Marine Research Centre to attend a Committee of the Whole Meeting in order to give a presentation to Council.

Review of Action Items

a) January 24, 2022 (Regular Council)

For information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda

Added by Councillor Brent Sampson - Councillors Payment Policy:

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the Councillors Payment Policy be referred to the By-Law/Policy Committee for review. Motion carried.

Question Period (Restricted to the remainder of the Agenda following the COW & By-Law Policy Committee Reports) (PHONE IN (204) 272-7920, see Question Period Details Below)

There were no questions.

“In Camera” Session (Personnel)

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 8:39 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that the meeting revert back to “Regular Session” at 9:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Municipal Council move forward in engaging an HR Consultant to facilitate the hiring of a Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality of the County of Richmond. Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Sampson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the CAO be instructed to research CAO job descriptions from other rural municipalities in the province and provide the information to Council via email. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Warden issue a press release, on behalf of Municipal Council, to announce the retirement of the CAO, Don Marchand and the commencement of the search process for replacement. Motion carried.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

CLERK:

CHAIRPERSON
