

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING

MARCH 28, 2022

Location: Videoconference

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

Call to order

The Warden called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call of Councillors

The CAO took Roll Call of Councillors

Proclamation re: World Autism Acceptance Month – April 2022

Moved by Councillor Mike Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Sampson that the following proclamation be adopted:

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 1 in 66 people across the country are on the autism spectrum, and 1 in 34 people—approximately 30,000 individuals—in Nova Scotia are on the autism spectrum; and

WHEREAS, many dedicated Autistic individuals/people with autism, parents, teachers, researchers, and professionals, including those at Autism Nova Scotia and other community-based organizations, work tirelessly throughout our province to make the communities where we live accessible and inclusive for Autistics/individuals with autism, and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, with 11 locations throughout the province and with the support of the autism community, Autism Nova Scotia builds understanding, acceptance, and inclusion for Autistics/individuals on the autism spectrum and their families through leadership, advocacy, education, training, and programming across their lifespan; and

WHEREAS, this month of April marks Autism Acceptance Month, and Saturday, April 2ND, marks World Autism Acceptance Day, when people across the globe will come together as a community to celebrate autism and promote acceptance and inclusion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, Warden Amanda Mombourquette, on behalf of Richmond Municipal Council do hereby proclaim April 2022 as Autism Acceptance Month

throughout the County of Richmond and encourage all of our citizens to recognize the Autistic individuals/people with autism, family members, caregivers, educators, and other professionals who strive to make Nova Scotia an inclusive and accessible place for us all to call home.

Motion carried.

In Camera (Personnel)

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Mike Diggdon that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 7:14 p.m. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that the meeting revert back to Regular Session at 7:33 p.m. Motion carried.

Councillor Mike Diggdon left the meeting.

Moved by Deputy Warden Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that

WHEREAS an allegation of a breach of the Municipal’s Code of Conduct by Councillor Michael Diggdon was made by a member of the public;

WHEREAS the alleged breach was investigated by Council as stipulated by the Municipal Code of Conduct;

WHEREAS it was determined by Council that Councillor Michael Diggdon did breach the Code of Conduct by failing to observe a high standard of morality in his conduct of his official duties, failing to observe a high standard of professionalism in his dealings with members of the broader community, and failing to perform the functions of his office with integrity;

BE IT RESOLVED that Councillor Michael Diggdon shall be subject to the following corrective action which is commensurate with the nature and severity of the breach:

- a) Councillor Diggdon shall write an apology to the member of the public and such apology shall be delivered by the Warden.
- b) Councillor Diggdon shall undergo sensitivity training, as agreed upon by Council, which shall be completed no later than September 30, 2022 at the expense of the Councillor.
- c) Councillor Diggdon shall be restricted from attending regular council meetings and committees of Council meetings for the month of April 2022.

Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

MINUTES RECORDED BY:

CHAIRPERSON