

RICHMOND COUNTY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
NOVEMBER 28, 2022

Location: Council Chambers

Present: Councillor Shawn Samson, Councillor Michael Diggon,
Councillor Melanie Sampson, Warden Amanda Mombourquette,
Deputy Warden Brent Sampson

Staff: Troy MacCulloch, Chief Administrative Officer, Shannon Mury,
Recreation Manager, Chris Boudreau, Director of Public Works,
Jason Martell, Chief Financial Officer

Also Present: Olivia Melnick, Early Childhood Development Intervention Services,
Sergeant Nugent, RCMP

Warden Mombourquette called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. 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)

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

Review of Minutes re:

a) October 24, 2022

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the minutes of the October 24, 2022 Regular Council meeting be approved as corrected.

Motion carried.

Presentations:

a) Olivia Melnick, Early Childhood Development Intervention Services - Strait Region

Olivia Melnick presented the Early Childhood Development Intervention Services presentation.

Council unanimously agreed to have Staff advertise/promote the Nova Scotia Early Childhood Development Intervention Services on the Municipal Website and the Richmond County Facebook page.

Police Advisory Board Report:

a) Sergeant Nugent presented the July to September (Quarter 2, 2022/2023) report.

Council unanimously agreed to have Staff advertise and promote litter prevention as well as the ability of the RCMP to issue a \$467.50 littering fine under Section 99 of the Nova Scotia Environment Act on the Municipal Website and the Richmond County Facebook page.

Council unanimously agreed to refer Sergeant Nugent's request regarding major event planning to the By-Law/Policy Committee for investigation into the development of the Municipality's Special Events by-law.

Committee Reports

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

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to accept the following applicant to be appointed to the Accessible Advisory Committee for the Municipality of the County of Richmond, Chantal Boudreau.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to have Warden Mombourquette draft a letter of concern to the Minister of Public Works regarding the Oban road washouts and FURTHER MOVE that a request be made for a time line on the scheduled repairs.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to defer the Administration Portuaire de Petit de Grat, Type 1 – Infrastructure Grant Fund request in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the next Regular Council meeting and FURTHER MOVE that Staff explore funding opportunities related to the project with the Canada Community Building Fund and report back to Council.

Motion carried.

- Warden Mombourquette declared a conflict of interest regarding the Village on the Canal Association fund request and removed herself from the meeting at 8:00 p.m.
- Deputy Warden Brent Sampson resumed the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to approve the Village on the Canal Association, Type 4 – Regional/Health/General Grant request in the amount of \$1,000.00 and allocate as follows: \$200.00 from each District Fund.

Motion carried.

- Warden Mombourquette returned and resumed the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to refer the request for financial support from Murdock MacPherson and Rodney Chaisson of Highland Village Museum to budget deliberations.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to have staff contact the Property Valuation Services Corporation to inquire if the Virtual Assessment 101 Session can be made available for an evening session, as a group in the New Year, and report back to Council at a future meeting.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to have Warden Mombourquette draft a letter to the Province in support of the following amendments to the Marketing Levy legislation proposed by Destination Cape Breton: (a) that the new legislation state that the levy will apply to all fixed-roof accommodations, as defined in the Tourism Accommodation Registration Act (which includes Airbnb and VRBO), regardless of the number of rooms, (b) that the language for usage of the funds be changed to "Funds collected will be used exclusively on activities and programs that directly support the development of the tourism industry and the marketing of destinations from which they were generated.", (c) that there is a seamless process to replace the current Cape Breton Island Marketing Levy Act with the new legislation, so there is no impact on planning or budgeting for Destination Cape Breton , and FURTHER MOVE that the letter encourage all Cape Breton Municipal units to participate.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole to have staff reach out to the Program Director at Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health to offer support in the application process.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that the Committee of the Whole report for the month of November 2022 be adopted.

Motion carried.

b) Planning Advisory/ Heritage Committee, Deputy Warden Brent Sampson

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Advisory / Heritage Committee to have Eastern District Planning Commission staff research scoring systems as a method for the evaluation of Heritage Property submissions and report back to the next Planning Advisory / Heritage Committee meeting.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation of the Planning Advisory / Heritage Committee to have Eastern District Planning Commission staff research as-of-right wind turbine zone areas and report back to the Planning Advisory / Heritage Committee at a future meeting.
Motion carried.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Council that the Chief Administrative Officer investigate if the Eastern District Planning Commission can issue summary offence tickets and/or why they don't have the authority to do so and to report back to the Planning Advisory/Heritage Committee at a future meeting.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the Planning Advisory / Heritage Committee for the month of November 2022 be adopted.
Motion carried.

c) Audit Committee Report

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Audit Committee and that the financial statements of the Municipality for the year ended March 31, 2022 be accepted as presented by the Auditors and the Chief Financial Officer.
Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that the Audit Committee report for the month of November 2022 be adopted.
Motion carried.

Motion to Adopt

a) Travel and Expense Policy, Final Draft

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the amended Travel and Expense Policy be adopted as presented.
Motion carried.

b) Awards of Recognition Policy, Final Draft

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the amended Awards of Recognition Policy be adopted as presented.
Motion carried.

Second Reading Approval:

a) Private Ways By-Law #66

To amend the Private Ways By-Law #66 to add the following clauses: In s.3.2 - Once an application is deemed complete, the Chief Administrative Officer will forward the application to the Commissioner within 30 days AND include an additional section stating: Once in receipt of the application from the County of Richmond, the Commissioner will make contact with the

applicant within 30 days of receiving the application and will communicate the process and potential timelines to the applicant (timelines will be subject to change based on workload and availability of contractors).

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson that the Second Reading approval be given to adopt the amended Private Ways By-Law #66 as a By-Law of the Municipality of the County of Richmond.

Motion carried.

Question Period (Restricted to Items on the Committee of the Whole Report and By-Law/Policy Committee Reports) (PHONE IN– (902-226-9885) (see Question Period Details Below)

There were no questions.

New Business:

a) Amendment re: By-Law/Policy Committee Terms of Reference

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that Council amend the By-Law/Policy Committee Terms of Reference to include the membership of the public who are residents of the Municipality of the County of Richmond and FURTHER MOVE that public members' terms shall be two years, and FURTHER MOVE that members may be re-appointed to the committee for a further two year term, but shall not exceed two consecutive terms.

Motion carried with 4 in favour and 1 opposed.

Council agreed to refer the Terms of Reference for council committees that have members of the public to the By-Law/Policy Committee for review. With a focus on member terms, code of conduct, and the onboarding of new members.

Warden Mombourquette re:

a) Richmond County Trails Strategy, re: Approval of Strategy

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson that the Richmond County Trails Strategy be approved as presented by Upland.

Motion carried.

b) Marine Renewable Canada Conference, re: Update

For information purposes.

c) Atlantic Biosphere Project

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that staff reach out to the proponent of the Atlantic Biosphere Project to explore resourcing options and report back to Council at the next scheduled meeting on December 12, 2022.

Motion carried.

d) Federal Boundary Review

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson that the Warden draft a letter of support to MP Mike Kelloway expressing concerns regarding the

proposed Federal boundaries in terms of geography, service and that the proposed boundary either be reconsidered or extra funds be provided to allow for more constituency offices in order to maintain the level of service and FURTHER MOVE to request that MP Kelloway forward the letter to the appropriate body.

Motion carried.

Correspondence – Action Required:

- a) **Jason Martell, CFO re: a) Jason Martell, CFO re: Louisdale Lions Club for the Type 4 – Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$2,500.**

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the grant request from the Louisdale Lions Club for the Type 4-Regional/Health/General Grant fund request in the amount of \$2,500.00 be approved and be allocated as follows: \$1,000.00 from the Type 4 - Regional/Health/General Grant Fund and \$1,500.00 from District 3 Fund.

Motion carried.

- b) **Jason Martell, CFO re: Memo, Administration Portuaire de Petit de Grat (PDG) Grant Application, Type 1 – Infrastructure Grant**

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that the Administration Portuaire de Petit De Grat Type 1 Grant Request in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase a commemorative monument in recognition of the expulsion of the Acadians be approved as an eligible project and allocated under the cultural category from the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF), and taken from the \$50,000 tagged under waterfront developments as approved on our 5 year capital investment plan for the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

Motion carried.

Correspondence – For Information Purposes:

- a) **Troy MacCulloch, re: Age Friendly Community Grant, Letter of support for the Dr. Kingston Memorial Community Health Centre application on behalf of the Seniors Take Action Coalition.**

For information purposes.

Review of Action Items

For information purposes.

Items Added to the Agenda

There were no additional agenda items added.

Question Period (Restricted to the remainder of the Agenda following the COW and By-Law/Policy Committee Reports) (PHONE IN (902) 226-9885, see Question Period Details Below)

There were no questions

“In Camera” Session (Personnel, Contract Negotiation)

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson that the meeting move to an “In Camera” Session at 8:50 p.m.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the meeting revert to Regular Session at 9:49 p.m.

Motion carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

MUNICIPAL CLERK

CHAIRPERSON