

Regular Council Meeting

October 23rd, 2023

- Location:** Council Chambers
- Present:** Warden Amanda Mombourquette, Councillor Michael Diggdon, Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, Councillor Melanie Sampson, Councillor Shawn Samson
- Staff:** Troy MacCulloch, CAO, Shelley David, Municipal Clerk

Warden Amanda Mombourquette called the meeting to order at 7:00 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)

Warden Amanda Mombourquette requested and received unanimous consent to add the following items:

- a) SERMGAR Legislation/Bill 340 – Agenda Item #15 (a)
- b) “In Camera” Session – Agenda Item #5 (a) Contract Negotiations (b) Personnel

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the agenda be approved with the additional items.

Motion carried.

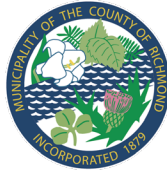
“In Camera” Session

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Shawn Samson that the meeting move to an “In-Camera” session at 7:05 pm.

Motion carried.

Deputy Warden Brent Sampson declared a conflict of interest for In-Camera item (a) and left the meeting at 7:06 pm.

- a) Contract Negotiations



Deputy Warden Brent Sampson returned to the meeting at 7:24 pm.

b) Personnel

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the meeting revert to “Regular” session at 8: 04 p.m.

Review of Minutes re:

a) September 25, 2023, Public Hearing

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that the minutes of the September 25, 2023 Public Hearing be approved.

Motion carried.

b) September 25, 2023, Regular Council Meeting

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson that the minutes of the September 25, 2023, Regular Council meeting be approved.

Motion carried.

New Business, Re:

a) Election of Deputy Warden

Warden Amanda Mombourquette called for nominations for the position of Deputy Warden for the Municipality of the County of Richmond.

Deputy Warden Brent Sampson nominated Councillor Shawn Samson for the position of Deputy Warden, Councillor Melanie Samson seconded the nomination.

Councillor Shawn Samson accepted the nomination for Deputy Warden.

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that nominations cease.

Motion carried.

Councillor Shawn Samson was declared the Deputy Warden for the Municipality of the County of Richmond.

Question Period: Restricted to Items on the Committee Reports

There were no questions.



Committee Reports:

a) Committee of the Whole (Deputy Warden Shawn Samson)

The Committee discussed the Active Living Strategy and Recreation Plan.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to have Council provide the Acting Collectively project team direction on what the best options are for presenting the Richmond County project findings.

Motion carried.

Councillor Brent Sampson declared a conflict of interest regarding the Zone 3 curbside tender and left the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

The Committee discussed the Zone 3 curbside collection tender.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to authorize staff to exceed budget in order to proceed with award of the Zone 3 curbside tender to the lowest priced bidder.

Motion carried with 3 in favor and one opposed.

Councillor Brent Sampson returned to the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

The Committee discussed the new rules for off-highway vehicles.

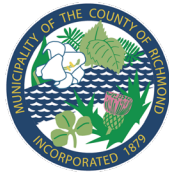
Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to have staff begin looking into the next steps for the Municipality to develop a plan of action and FURTHER MOVE that staff reach out the ATV Association of Nova Scotia, and place the New Rules for Off-Highway Vehicles on the agenda for discussion at the next Police Advisory board meeting.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the invitation for Bell Canada to Appear before Council.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to have staff invite a Bell Aliant representative to appear before Council at a future date to discuss the lack of coverage throughout many areas of the county.

Motion carried.



The Committee discussed the Nova Scotia Utility Review Board Order.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to have the Warden draft a press release regarding the Nova Scotia Utility Review Board Order, confirming the number of Councillors and polling districts.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the Wastewater Management District Funds.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Michael Diggdon that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to have staff explore the feasibility and sustainability of perusing the Wastewater Management District funding program and report back to council.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the deer population in Richmond County.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to have staff contact the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables to inquire about what program(s) are in place to manage the deer population in Richmond County and report back to council.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the recommendation from the “In-Camera” session regarding the Municipality of the County of Richmond Organizational Chart.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to adjust the organizational chart as presented including the position classifications.

Motion carried with 3 in favor and 2 opposed.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson, that the Committee of the Whole report for the month of October be adopted.

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Brent Sampson that Council refer the Purchasing and Tender policy to the By-Law and Policy committee for review.

Motion carried.



b) By-Law / Policy Advisory Committee

The Committee discussed the Travel and Expense Policy

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council accept the recommendation of the By-Law/Policy Committee to proceed with the adoption of the amendments to the Travel and Expense Policy.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the Grant Disclosure Policy

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor that Council accept the recommendation of the By-Law/Policy Committee to proceed with the adoption of the Grant Disclosure policy as presented.

Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the By-Law and Policy Committee report for the month of October be adopted.

Motion carried.

Motion to Adopt, Re:

a) Travel and Expense Policy

Moved by Councillor Melanie Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson that the amendments to the Travel and Expense Policy be adopted.

Motion carried.

b) Grant Disclosure Policy

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Brent Sampson that the Grant Disclosure Policy be adopted as a policy of the Municipality of the County of Richmond.

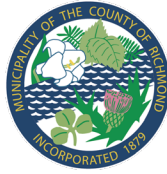
Motion carried.

Second Readings, Re:

a) Marketing Levy By-Law

Moved by Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council give second reading approval to the amendments to the Marketing Levy By-Law, By-Law #60.

Motion carried.



b) Wind Turbine Overlay Mapping Amendments to the Richmond County Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law.

Moved by Councillor Brent Sampson, seconded by Deputy Warden Shawn Samson that Council give second reading approval for the Wind Turbine Overlay Mapping Amendments to the Richmond County Municipal Planning Strategy and Land use By-Law.

Motion carried.

Correspondence

a) Action Required: n/a

b) For Information Purposes:

- i. Municipality of the District of Shelburne, Re: Letter to Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities, regarding improving rural cell phone coverage for emergency preparedness.

For information only.

Unfinished Business

a) Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI grant application for the Type 4 – Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$10,000.

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that Council approve the Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI grant application for the Type 4 – Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$5000 be allocated from the following: \$500 District 1, \$500 District 2, \$500 District 3, \$500 District 4, and \$3000 Regional Fund.

Motion carried.

Review of Action Items

For information only.

Items Added to the Agenda

a) Service Exchange Renegotiation and Municipal Government Act Review (SERMGAR) Legislation / Bill 340

Moved by Councillor Michael Diggdon, seconded by Councillor Melanie Sampson that the Warden draft a letter on behalf of Richmond Municipal Council with clear restrictions that Council supports Bill 340 as a path to achieve what was consulted on with the membership; specifically, that the Roads Stream B proposal regarding transfer of ownership of roads to municipalities be moved to Schedule A for further discussion.

Motion carried.



Question Period

Wesley Martin approached council.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Municipal Clerk

Chairperson