

Regular Council Meeting

Monday, December 16, 2024
6:00 p.m.

- Location:** Richmond Room/Council Chambers
- Present:** Warden Lois Landry, Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, Councillor Brian Marchand, Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, Councillor Shawn Samson
- Staff:** Troy MacCulloch, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Shelley David, Municipal Clerk

Call to Order

Warden Lois Landry called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

In Camera Session

Moved Councillor Shawn Samon, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the meeting move to an “In-Camera” session at 6:02 p.m.

Motion carried.

- a) Legal
- b) Personnel

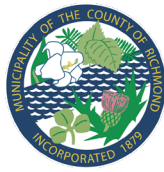
Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that the meeting revert to “Regular” session at 6:58 p.m.

Motion carried.

Opening Acknowledgement

The Warden reconvened regular session and made the following opening acknowledgment:

We are proud to acknowledge that we are gathered today on Unama'ki, the Land of Fog, a part of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people since time immemorial. We honour and thank the Mi'kmaq for sharing their land and home with us.



O'Canada

The Warden asked everyone to stand, if able, 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 Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried.

Presentation of Local Food Bank Cheques

The Warden presented the local food bank cheques.

Review of Minutes, Re:

a) Public Hearing Minutes, November 25, 2024

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that the minutes of the November 25, 2024, public hearing be approved as amended. Motion carried.

b) Regular Council Minutes, November 25, 2024

Moved by Councillor Shawn Samson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that the minutes of the November 25, 2024, Regular Council meeting be adopted as circulated.

Motion carried.

Question Period:

There were no questions.



Committee Reports

Committee of the Whole

The Committee discussed the recommendation from the in camera session.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and appoint Dorothy Booher to the IDEA Committee for a 5-year term, Robbin Cotton and Robert Wambolt to the Planning Advisory/Heritage Committee, both for 5-year terms, Stacey Morrison to the RCMP Advisory Board for a 5-year term, Cindy Walker to the Destination Cape Breton Association Board for a 3-year term; and FURTHER MOVE that Council direct staff to advertise any remaining vacancies to ABCCs.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the designation of Destination Cape Breton Association to administer the Cape Breton Island Marketing Levy.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and designate Destination Cape Breton Association as the administrator of the Marketing Levy for Richmond County.

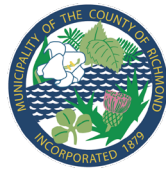
Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the request for the Destination Cape Breton Association financial statements.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and direct the CAO to request the financial statements for the past three to four years from the Destination Cape Breton Association.

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that the main motion be amended to remove the words “three to”.

Motion carried.



Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Amanda Mombourquette, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and direct the CAO to request the financial statements for the past four years from the Destination Cape Breton Association.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the deer population briefing note update.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and direct staff to select quotes for the above-noted work. (Deer population briefing note attached.)

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that the main motion be amended to replace the word “select” with “request” and to add the following words to the end of the sentence: “and to have staff speak with NSCC before looking for quotes.”

Motion carried.

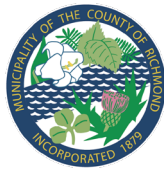
Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and direct staff to request quotes for the above-noted work and to have staff speak with NSCC before looking for quotes. (Deer population briefing note attached.)

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the approved fire equipment reallocation.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and accept the Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Funding Memo from the Emergency Services Coordinator.

Motion carried.



The Committee discussed property AAN 04127455 which was damaged by fire.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and write off the taxes for property AAN 04127455 owned by Rodney Samson, which was completely destroyed by fire, in the amount of \$400.69, which represents taxes on the dwelling only from August 7, 2024, to March 31, 2025.

Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the invitation to join the Rural Region 1 Solid Waste Committee.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, that Council accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and have the Director of Public Works and one member of Council, pending selection, attend the Rural Region 1 Solid Waste Committee meetings.

Motion carried.

This concludes the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of December 2024, and I move its adoption.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand, that Council adopt the Committee of the Whole report for the month of December 2024.

Motion carried.

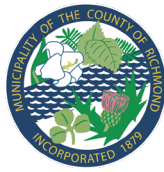
By-Law/Policy

The Committee discussed the Municipal Management Emergency Planning Committee (MEMPC) terms of reference

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that Council accept the recommendation of the By-Law/Policy Committee and adopt the MEMPC terms of reference with the changes as discussed.

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette that the main motion be amended to include the words “and replace “51” with “50” in section 3.3”.

Motion carried.



Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that Council accept the recommendation of the By-Law/Policy Committee and adopt the MEMPC terms of reference with the changes as discussed and replace “51” with “50” in section 3.3.

Motion carried with four (4) in favour and one (1) opposed.

Moved by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson, that Council adopt the By-Law/Policy Committee report for the month of December 2024.

Motion carried with four (4) in favour and one (1) opposed.

Fire Protection Services Committee

The Committee discussed advertising for the recruitment of volunteer firefighters.

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council accept the recommendation of the Fire Protection Services Committee and have municipal staff meet with the Volunteer Fire Departments to discuss advertising in the Richmond Reflection for the recruitment of volunteer firefighters in Richmond County.

Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Brian Marchand, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that Council adopt the Fire Protection Services Committee report for the month of November 2024.

Motion carried.

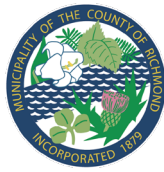
Members of Council Items:

a) Councillor Amanda Mombourquette

- i. Electric vehicles (EVs) in tendering requirements (verbal)

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson that Council refer this item to staff to investigate the feasibility of gradually integrating more EVs into our public fleet vehicles, looking at it from a perspective of both greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and saving taxpayers dollars.

Motion carried.



- ii. Exploration of a Joint Management and Planning Committee for the Point Tupper Heavy Industrial Park (verbal)

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, that Council authorize staff and Council team to work with the Province and Invest Nova Scotia on how a Joint Management and Planning Committee for the Point Tupper Heavy Industrial Park could work.

Motion carried.

Correspondence

a) Action Required

- i. Kathleen Jeffrey, Interim Director of Finance, Re: Request for Municipal Guarantee for the Village of St. Peter's Community Hub Renovation Project.

Deputy Warden Brent Sampson identified a conflict of interest and removed himself from the discussion at 7:46 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand that Council approve a loan guarantee in the amount of \$206,000 for the purpose of the Village of St. Peter's Community Hub Renovation Project.

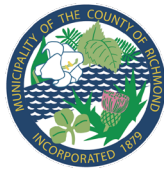
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Village of St. Peter's is a village situated within the Municipality of the County of Richmond;

WHEREAS the Village of St. Peter's has, with the approval of the electors of the Village, determined to borrow the aggregate principal amount of TWO HUNDRED AND SIX THOUSAND Dollars (\$206,000) for the purpose of the Community Hub Renovation Project;

WHEREAS the Village of St. Peter's has requested that the Municipality guarantee said borrowing;



WHEREAS Section 89 of the Municipality Government Act provides that a municipality may guarantee a loan for a village; and,

WHEREAS Section 88(3) of the Municipal Government Act provides that no guarantee of a borrowing by a municipality shall have effect unless the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved of the proposed borrowing or debenture and of the proposed guarantee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT the Municipality of the County of Richmond does hereby approve the borrowing by the Village of St. Peter's the aggregate principal amount of TWO HUNDRED AND SIX THOUSAND Dollars (\$206,000) for the purposes set out above;

THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Municipality does unconditionally guarantee repayment of the principal and interest of the borrowing so made; and,

THAT upon the issue of the debentures, the Warden and Clerk of the Municipality do sign the guarantee attached to each of the debentures and affix thereto the corporate seal of the Municipality.

Deputy Warden Brent Sampson returned to the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

- ii. Shealene Barrett, Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia, Regional Coordinator Education & Outreach Cape Breton, Re: Alzheimer Awareness Month proclamation request.

Moved by Councillor Amanda Mombourquette, seconded by Councillor Brian Marchand that Council approve the proclamation as presented.

Motion carried.



Proclamation

Alzheimer Awareness Month
January 2025

WHEREAS: There are an estimated 16,000 people living with dementia in Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS: It is projected that the number of people living with dementia in Nova Scotia will increase by 87% with nearly 30,000 people likely to be living with dementia by 2050; and

WHEREAS: The Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia is committed to alleviating the personal and social consequences of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and to promoting the search for the causes and cures.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Warden Lois Landry, on behalf of Richmond County Municipal Council, do hereby declare January as Alzheimer Awareness Month in the Municipality of the County of Richmond.

b) For Information Purposes

- i. Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health annual newsletter

Review of Action Items

- a) Action Items List
For information only.

Items Added to the Agenda

n/a

Question Period

Robbie Fougere approached Council (via telephone).

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:06 pm.

Municipal Clerk

12-16-2024 MOCR Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Chairperson

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