



Regular Meeting of Council

May 29, 2024

PRESENT Warden Eleanor Roulston
Deputy Warden Wayne Greene

Councillors: Sandra Garden-Cole Tom Isenor
Eldon Hebb Carl MacPhee
Elie Moussa Norval Mitchell
Keith Rhyno Walter Tingley
Michael Perry

STAFF Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wade Tattrie, Director of Finance
Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services
Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Mr. Scott Preston, Manager of Recreation & Aquatics
Mr. Tom Gignac, Manager of Information Services
Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
Ms. Jessica van den Hof, Business & Legislative Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Roulston called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Warden Roulston respectfully acknowledged that East Hants is in Mi'kma'ki and the District of Sipekne'katik, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. East Hants further acknowledges the 50 African Nova Scotian communities whose 400-year history have contributed to the provinces culture, history and legacies. We are all Treaty people.

MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

A moment of silent contemplation was observed.

Warden Roulston welcomed Jason Haughn, Municipal Advisor from the Province of Nova Scotia and thanked him for attending the proceedings.

APPROVAL OF OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

C24(148) On the motion of Deputy Warden Greene and Councillor Mitchell:

Moved that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C24(149) On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Mitchell:

Moved that the minutes of the April 16, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council (Policy and In-Camera), and April 24, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

A complete copy of “Correspondence for Information” is attached to and forms part of the agenda.

ITEM #56 - SITE PLAN APPROVAL INFO SHEET - 429 HWY 2, ENFIELD

Councillor Garden-Cole requested additional information on the application at 429 Hwy 2, Enfield, with respect to the height of the building (inclusive of the underground parking). She was concerned that approval for a 15m building that had a 4m foundation to accommodate underground parking would be 19m tall, if the developer backfilled around the foundation. [2:00]

Staff advised that the height of the building should be measured from grade, but they would need to pull the specifics of the application and will provide more details via email.

ITEM #66 - CURBSIDE COLLECTION CHANGES & NS REGULATIONS: ELECTRONICS

Councillor Mitchell asked how the information regarding the NS regulation changes regarding electronics recycling was disseminated to the public, given that for many of them it will begin for their next garbage day.

Staff advised that the Municipality had posted the information on our website and social media, and that the information was posted as an alert for those with the Solid Waste Wizard app.

ITEM #11 - LETTER TO PATRICK LEMAL, AREA MANAGER, HANTS, PUBLIC WORKS, REGARDING A REVIEW OF THE CROSS CULVERT BETWEEN CHARLES DRIVE AND MACKENZIE LANE AND THE BRIDGE AT SOUTH UNIACKE ROAD

Councillor Moussa asked for an update, and for Powell Drive to be included in future correspondence. [7:00]

Staff advised that the Municipality had received a confirmation of receipt from the Province but no substantive response to date. There is currently work being done on those roads and staff will follow up.

ITEM 29 - EAST HANTS SERVICING CAPACITY STUDY REPORT BY R.V .ANDERSON ASSOCIATES LTD. (RVA) - TO BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL IN SPETEMBER 2024

Councillor Tingley asked staff if this information/report has been made available to NS Public Works and CN Rail. [9:00]

CAO advised that Council commissioned this report, but it has not yet been presented to Council; it is not staff's prerogative to share reports with external agencies without direction from council. A full presentation of the report to Council is planned for September 2024.

ITEM #11 - LETTER TO PATRICK LEMAL, AREA MANAGER, HANTS, PUBLIC WORKS, REGARDING A REVIEW OF THE CROSS CULVERT BETWEEN CHARLES DRIVE AND MACKENZIE LANE AND THE BRIDGE AT SOUTH UNIACKE ROAD

Councillor Perry supported Councillor Moussa's comments and stated it is an appropriate time to expand the scope of work in the area.

ITEM #57 - SITE PLAN APPROVAL INFO SHEET - LOT 1A HWY 1 MOUNT UNIACKE

Councillor Perry stated that the drawing shown in this info sheet is not the same one that appeared at the public information meeting.

Staff advised that they are looking into the difference.

ITEM #58 - SITE PLAN APPROVAL INFO SHEET - 2322 SOUTH RAWDON ROAD

Councillor Perry asked staff to confirm the location of the campground on the map. Staff confirmed the site is north of Ashdale Road on the right.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION

A complete copy of "Correspondence for Decision" is attached to and forms part of the agenda.

ITEM #72 - GIC INVESTMENTS

Director of Finance presented a report titled "*Investment of Reserves in GIC Products*" dated May 29, 2024. The report was attached to the agenda and available to all council members. [15:00]

In response to an inquiry regarding timing of the request, the CAO explained that this report did not come through Executive Committee because it recently came to Staff's attention and it was too time sensitive to wait until June's Executive Committee. Discussion ensued.

C24(150) On motion of Councillors Perry and Mitchell:

Tattrie

Moved that Council authorize the CAO to invest up to \$20,000,000 million of reserves cash in one or more of the largest five Canadian Schedule 1 Bank Guaranteed Investment Certificates having a term of no longer than two years.

MOTION CARRIED

Ten (10) voting in favour and one (1) voting against, Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

ITEM #70 - LIBERAL CAUCUS OF NOVA SCOTIA WILL BE IN THE AREA ON JUNE 12TH AND WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE A MEETING TO DISCUSS LOCAL ISSUES

Warden Roulston provided the request and advised that Council's practice has always been that Council does not do anything with just one political party.

Discussion ensued, with suggestions that either all major parties should be invited to the meeting, or all major parties should be given the opportunity for a similar meeting at some point in the future.

C24(151) On motion of Councillors Rhyno and Tingley: [21:00]
CAO

Moved that Council authorize staff to advise that we do not meet political parties on an individual basis.

MOTION CARRIED

Six (6) voting in favour and five (5) voting against; Councillors MacPhee, Hebb, Perry, Mitchell, and Isenor voting nay.

The Warden noted that Council can consider arranging a meeting in the future, should any member of Council wish to raise the issue again.

ITEM #23 - EMAIL FROM DUSAN SOUDEK, CANOE KAYAK NOVASCOTIA (CKNS) DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT REGARDING DAMAGE OF THE MEEK ROAD CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH SITE AS A RESULT OF THE JULY 2023 FLOOD EVENT. ESTIMATE REPAIR IS \$4000-\$5000. THERE IS ALSO CONCERN REGARDING INADEQUATE CULVERT SIZING UNDER MEEK ROAD (PROVINCIALY OWNED)

The Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture explained the historical context and reviewed the request.

Discussion ensued.

C24(152) On motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Greene: [30:00]
Tapper

Moved that Council authorizes staff to project manage with the group funding up to \$6000 from District 11 District Recreation Fund (funding sources later changed by Motion C24(153)).

Discussion continued.

MOTION CARRIED

Ten (10) voting in favour and one (1) voting against; Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

C24(153) On motion of Councillors Moussa and Hebb: [40:00]
Tapper

Moved that Council approves up to \$6000, with a \$3000 contribution from District 11 DRF and a \$3000 contribution from District 9 DFR and seek external funding sources, if available (in support of Motion C24(152) changing the funding source).

MOTION CARRIED

CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Councillor Perry as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee from the meeting held on May 21, 2024. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting.

SUSTAINABLE SERVICES GROWTH FUND

C24(154) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Greene: Clarkson

Moved that Council approve the revised allocation of the \$1,123,778 SSGF Grant toward the follow projects as follows:

- *Medical Centre Lift Station \$454,651*
- *Waste Management Loader \$286,557*
- *Lantz Water Tower Renewal \$424,348*
- *Waste Management Centre Green Bin Storage Structure \$10,220*

Discussion ensued respecting a desire to find projects that benefit the entire Municipality.

MOTION CARRIED

DONATION FUND AND ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS POLICY

C24(155) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Greene: Tattrie

Moved that Council approve the creation of an East Hants Youth Links Donation Fund.

And that annually a grant will be provided to East Hants Youth Links in the amount of funds collected from outside parties.

MOTION CARRIED

FIRE SELF-INSURANCE

C24(156) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: Clarkson
[46:00]

Moved that Council direct Staff to advise the Fire Service to prepare or obtain a written business case which lays out the ways they may consider self-insurance going forward (lines of insurance affected, levels of SIR,

administrative support), the sources of funding they would use for the self-insurance retention (if any), the administrative costs (if any), and the savings they anticipate can be made by self-insuring.

Council authorizes payment up to \$2500 from the Fire Expense Budget for the business case.

Councillor Tingley abstained from the vote on the basis of a conflict; he signed the Book of Disclosure and abstained from the vote.

MOTION CARRIED

Eight (8) voting in favour and two (2) voting against; Councillor Rhyno and Warden Roulston voting nay.

UNIACKE BUSINESS PARK - BUSINESS OWNER MEETING REPORT - CRIME & INFRASTRUCTURE

C24(157) On motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: Clarkson

Moved that crime prevention and proactive patrols continue to be a priority for the RCMP, and that crime statistics specific to the three Business Parks be included in the RCMP quarterly Report to Council.

MOTION CARRIED

C24(158) On motion of Councillors Perry and Deputy Warden Greene:

Moved the adoption of the Report.

MOTION CARRIED

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee, presented the report from the Planning Advisory Committee from the meeting held on May 21, 2024. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

PRESENTATION UPDATE: ABO ENERGY (FORMERLY ABO WIND) - MELVIN LAKE PROJECT

C24(159) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Moussa: Woodford

Moved Council authorize staff to prepare a letter of support for ABO Energy with respect to the Melvin Lake Project.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION C24(89): LOT GRADING AND DRAINAGE UNSERVICED AREAS

C24(160) On the motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Greene: Woodford
[50:00]

Moved that Council make no changes to Bylaw P1200, Lot Grading and Drainage.

Discussion ensued regarding the balance between protecting homeowners and not increasing development costs. Deputy Warden Greene assumed the chair and Warden Roulston entered the discussion.

MOTION DEFEATED

Eight (8) voting against, and three (3) voting in favour, with Deputy Warden Greene and Councillors MacPhee and Rhyno voting in favour.

Warden Roulston resumed the chair.

C24(161) On motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: Woodford

Moved that staff prepare another report on lot grading issues in the un-serviced areas including a jurisdictional scan of neighbouring or like-sized municipalities to review their policies.

MOTION CARRIED

Ten (10) voting in favour and one (1) voting against; Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

MAPLE TREE HOLDINGS - MPS AND LUB MAPPING AMENDMENTS

C24(162) On the motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Greene: Woodford

Moved that Council give first reading and authorize staff to schedule a public hearing to consider a proposal from Maple Tree Holdings to change the designation and zone of a portion of property identified PID 45426301 from Regional Commercial (RC) to Business Park (BP).

Councillor Perry noted that, per his earlier comment, the original map from the public information meeting is not reflective of the one in this approval. Staff advised that the difference should not impact the current motion. The public hearing will not be scheduled until issues are resolved.

MOTION CARRIED

UNIACKE SECONDARY PLANNING STRATEGY - ENVIRONMENT

C24(163) On motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Greene: Woodford

Moved that Council authorize staff to include the recommendations outlined in the Uniacke SPS Environment report in the draft Uniacke Secondary Planning Strategy Report.

MOTION CARRIED

[UNIACKE SECONDARY PLANNING STRATEGY - PARKS AND TRAILS BACKGROUND REPORT](#)

C24(164) On motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Greene: Woodford

Moved that Council authorize staff to include the recommendations outlined in the Uniacke SPS Parks and Trails Report in the draft Uniacke Secondary Planning Strategy Report.

MOTION CARRIED

[SELECTION OF DATES FOR COUNCIL WORKSHOP WITH FBM REGARDING LANTZ SECONDARY PLANNING STRATEGY](#)

C24(165) On motion of Councillors Mitchell and Hebb: Woodford

Moved that the (FBM - Lantz Secondary Planning) Workshop be scheduled for July 15th.

MOTION CARRIED

C24(166) On motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Greene:

Moved the adoption of the Report.

MOTION CARRIED

[INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT: COUNCILLOR GARDEN-COLE, CHAIRPERSON](#)

Councillor Garden-Cole, as Chairperson of the Infrastructure & Operations Committee, presented the report on the Infrastructure & Operations Committee from the meeting held on May 21, 2024. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

[PROVINCIAL CAPITAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM \(PCAP\) FUNDING APPLICATION](#)

C24(167) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Mitchell: Hulsman
[60:00]

Moved that Council prioritize project 24-026, the “Backwash Storage - Shubenacadie Water Treatment Plant”, as the Municipality’s first priority for funding applications through the Provincial Capital Assistance Program for 2024.

Deputy Warden Greene stepped out and was not present for the vote.

MOTION CARRIED

C24(168) On the motion of Councillor Garden-Cole and Hebb: Hulsman

Moved that Council prioritize project 24-025, the “Spill Boom - Regional Water Treatment Plant”, as the Municipality’s second priority for funding applications through the Provincial Capital Assistance Program for 2024.

Deputy Warden Greene was not present for the vote.

MOTION CARRIED

[FLOOD RISK INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM \(FRIIP\) - 2024 FUNDING PRIORITIES](#)

C24(169) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Tingley: Hulsman

Moved that Council prioritize “Flood Risk Mitigation Study - Paley Brook”, as the Municipality’s priority for a funding application through the Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program for 2024.

Deputy Warden Greene was not present for the vote.

MOTION CARRIED

[CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM](#)

C24(170) On motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Mitchell: Hulsman

Deputy Warden Greene returned to Chambers.

Moved that Council request a Staff report on options and cost impacts for the expansion of the current Cross Connection Control Program.

MOTION CARRIED

C24(171) On motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Mitchell:

Moved the adoption of the Report.

MOTION CARRIED

[POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE](#)

Councillor Rhyno, as Chairperson of the Police Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Police Advisory Committee from the meeting held on May 21, 2024.

The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. No motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TRAINING FOR ALL MEMBERS

Training has been postponed until the public members have all been appointed, which is expected this fall.

NEW MEMBER OATHS - NICOLR CLUETT & GREG DENSMORE

Nicole Cluett and Greg Densmore were sworn in as public members of the Police Advisory Committee.

RCMP QUARTERLY REPORT

The RCMP presented their quarterly report which included a follow-up to the previous meeting, HR update, Operations update, Calls for Service, Road Safety, School Resource, and Community Policing.

C24(172) On motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb:

Moved the adoption of the Report.

MOTION CARRIED

WARDEN'S REPORT

Deputy Warden Greene assumed the Chair. [68:00]

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities. No motions resulted from her report.

The Warden sought Council support that she provides a letter of support for the ABO Energy project as a member of the Community Liaison Committee. Councillors were supportive.

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillors provided verbal reports on their recent activities. Staff addressed questions from Councillors. The following motions resulted from their reports.

Deputy Warden Greene assumed the chair. [78:00]

Councillor Moussa stepped out briefly at 8:18 p.m. and returned at 8:19 p.m.

GARBAGE CANS AT DAWSON DOWELL PARK

In response to a concern, Staff will assess the garbage can locations at Dawson Tapper Dowell Park and install more if needed.

Warden Roulston resumed the chair.

BUS STOP - DOUGLASWOOD DRIVE, LAKELANDS

C24(173) On motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: [102:00]
CAO

Moved that staff be directed to send a letter to CCRCE noting the lack of notice and safety concerns regarding moving the bus stop from Douglaswood Drive to South Rawdon Road where there are no road shoulders; and for the letter to be cc'd to the Premier, MLA's, and Minister of Education.

MOTION CARRIED

CCRCE ISSUES

C24(174) On motion of Councillor Rhyno and Deputy Warden Greene: [106:00]
CAO

Moved that staff be directed to prepare a letter to the Province/Premier, MLA's and Department of Education asking that consideration be given to reinstating school boards in the Province of Nova Scotia.

MOTION CARRIED

MUNICIPAL FLOOD RISK CHECK-UP

C24(175) On motion of Councillors Tingley and Hebb: [116:00]

Moved (later defeated) that the CAO instruct staff to complete the 50-question Municipal Flood Risk Check-Up self-assessment questionnaire designed by Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation to assess potential flood hazards (flood exposure), and implementation of actions to reduce flood risks (flood preparedness) in MEH - within 6 months.

Discussion ensued. Concerns were raised regarding the significant work this may require and it was noted that staff is already working on this subject in a manageable way.

Deputy Warden Greene assumed the chair, and Warden Roulston entered the discussion.

MOTION DEFEATED

Eight (8) voting against and three (3) voting in favour, Councillors MacPhee, Isenor, and Tingley voting in favour.

Warden Roulston resumed the chair.

FCM - BOARD NOMINATION

[125:00]

The Warden asked if Councillor Mitchell was interested in being nominated again to the Board of FCM. He declined.

DR JT SNOW BURSARY

Warden Roulston is scheduled to present the bursary at Hants North Regional High on June 26th; which is a conflict as this is also Council night. Deputy Warden Greene will present on her behalf. [128:00]

NSFM MEETING REQUEST

NSFM has requested a meeting with Council, as they are trying to meet with Councils to get more feedback from municipalities. They have proposed for the meeting to occur before the July Council meeting.

C24(176) On motion of Councillors Tingley and Mitchell: CAO

Moved that we meet with NSFM whenever it's convenient for Council (or individual councillors), with preference being for the July Council meeting, at either 6:30 or 7:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Ten (10) voting in favour and one (1) voting against; Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

Note: The meeting was later scheduled for July 24th at 6:15 p.m.

(IN CAMERA) LAND AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

C24(177) On the motion of Deputy Warden Greene and Councillor Moussa:

Moved that Council go in camera at 9:15 p.m. to discuss land, contractual and legal issues.

MOTION CARRIED

Council returned to open meeting at 10:37 p.m. Warden Roulston noted that Council met in-camera to discuss some land, legal and contractual issues, direction was given to staff in-camera and the following motion is coming forward.

SPORTSPLEX CAPITAL FUNDING

C24(178) On motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb: Tapper

Moved that Council terminate Capital Project 21-012 and that Council approves Capital Project 24-043 (Sportsplex Revitalization) totaling \$835,332, funding to be provided via \$435,332 from Special Reserves (C010 Sportsplex Excess Debenture), \$50,000 external funding (Rink Revitalization Grant) and \$350,000 from 2023-2024 Year End Surplus;

And, that Council resolves to apply for applicable grant funding as available;

And, that the Mount Uniacke Recreation and Rural Fire Departments capital funds will receive \$119,000 and \$80,000 from the 2023-2024 Year End Surplus, respectfully.

MOTION CARRIED

RATIFICATION - EAST HANTS ARENA ASSOCIATION (EHAA) - FUNDING REQUEST

C24(179) On motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb: CAO

Moved that the CAO was given authority to act on the letter dated March 26, 2024 that was received from the East Hants Arena Association Board to fund contractual obligations.

MOTION CARRIED

SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

C24(180) On the motion of Deputy Warden Greene and Councillor Moussa:

Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy & In Camera) be held on June 18, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council (Policy & In-Camera) and June 26, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

C24(181) On motion of Councillors Mitchell and Moussa:

Moved that Council adjourn at 10:40 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED



Approved By: Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
Date: June 4, 2024



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden
Date: June 26, 2024

/Jv