



Date: June 26, 2024
To: Municipal Council
cc: Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Councillor Perry, Corporate and Residential Services Committee Chairperson
RE: Corporate & Residential Services Committee Report

The Committee held its regular meeting on June 18, 2024, in Council Chambers. The following motions are coming forward as a result of those meetings.

1. 2024 YEAR END MEMO

Part of the year end preparations for audit is the analysis of the Municipality of East Hants' operating and capital funds. Several year-end entries are required to prepare the financial statements - these are unpredictable and/or the exact amounts are unknown at budget time. The Year-End report listed those entries for Council information and approval. On the capital side, funding source amounts do not require adjustment for any projects. All adjustments being recommended are either unavoidable or prudent to make and can be considered by Council to be un-substantive in nature.

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council approve the year-end adjustments to the operating funds as presented in the 2023-2024 Year End Adjustments Report dated June 12, 2024, and presented on June 18, 2024 be accepted and approved.*

As Chair of the Committee, I so move....

2. SPECIAL RESERVES POLICY

As Council creates new reserves and depletes others, the appendix to the Special Reserves Policy requires updates. Staff brought forward a report to amend the Special Reserves Policy for Council consideration.

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council approves the amendments to the Special Reserves Policy as attached to the June 18th, 2024 Executive Committee Agenda*

As Chair of the Committee, I so move....

3. FIRE SERVICES FUNDING POLICY

The Policy Analyst presented a report outlining housekeeping updates for the Fire Services Funding Policy.

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends that ***Council approves the Fire Service Funding Policy as attached to the Executive Committee agenda dated June 18, 2024.***

As Chair of the Committee, I so move....

4. LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables is offering the Low Carbon Communities (LCC) grant program for community projects in Nova Scotia that support low carbon solutions in the buildings, electricity, and transportation sectors.

The application process for the LCC opened on May 22nd, 2024. An Expression of Interest is due on June 24, 2024 and requires Council's endorsement. Staff recommend submitting an application for a solar feasibility assessment on select municipal facilities and properties.

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends that ***Council support a submission to the Low Carbon Communities grant program for solar feasibility assessment on select municipal facilities, with a total project budget of up to a maximum of \$100,000 to be funded by a municipal contribution of up to a maximum of \$25,000 in the 2024/25 budget, funded by Sustainability Program Reserve, contingent on successful grant funding.***

As Chair of the Committee, I so move....

5. FIRE AREA RATES

Following review of an in-camera report and staff recommendation regarding fire area rates, the Corporate and Residential Services Committee made the following recommendation:

Move that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council ***that fire area rates negatively impacted by the 2024 fire area rate review be subsidized through the general rate (contingency reserves) with notification going to the departments affected by the adjustments.***

As Chair of the Committee, I so move....

As Chair of the Committee, I move the adoption of this report.