

---

BEFORE THE  
**NOVA SCOTIA**  
**UTILITY & REVIEW BOARD**

---

IN THE MATTER OF: An application pursuant to **section 369** of the *Municipal Government Act*,

The Council of the **Municipality of the District of East Hants** makes an application to the Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board to:

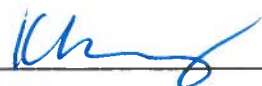
- a) Confirm the number of polling districts at eleven (11); and
- b) Alter the boundaries of polling districts as requested.

---

**BRIEF OF APPLICANT**

---

Respectfully submitted on this 26 day of April 2023.

---

**Kim Ramsay, CPA, CMA**  
Municipal Clerk & CAO

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1. Certified Motion of Council
2. Existing Polling Districts
3. Rationale for maintaining eleven (11) polling districts
4. Proposed Polling Districts & Boundaries
5. Declaration

Appendix A – Advertisements

Appendix B – Staff Reports

Appendix C – Meeting Minutes & Notes

Appendix D – Phase 1 On-line Poll Results

Appendix E – Phase 2 On-line Poll Results

Appendix F – Method of Electors Calculation

Appendix G – Large Format Map of Proposed Polling Districts

**1.0 Certified Motion of Council**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Municipality of the District of East Hants, that the following motion regarding the Municipality’s submission pursuant to s. 369 of the *Municipal Government Act*, hereto attached, was adopted by said Council.

Resolution of the East Hants Municipal Council to approve, and submit to the Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board, an application that seeks to confirm the number of polling districts at eleven (11) and to amend the district boundaries.

At the regular meeting of Council held on

**Wednesday February 22, 2023**

**C23(44)**

**On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Hebb:**

***Moved that Council authorize staff to prepare a submission to the NSUARB requesting that the size of Council be set at 11 and that district boundaries follow the preferred option (Fb).***

MOTION CARRIED

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY** that the above is a true copy of a resolution passed by majority vote by Council at its meeting held on Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 2023, in the Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, Elmsdale, Nova Scotia.

Given under the hand of the Municipal Clerk and under the corporate seal of the Municipality of the District of East Hants, this 24 day of April, 2023.

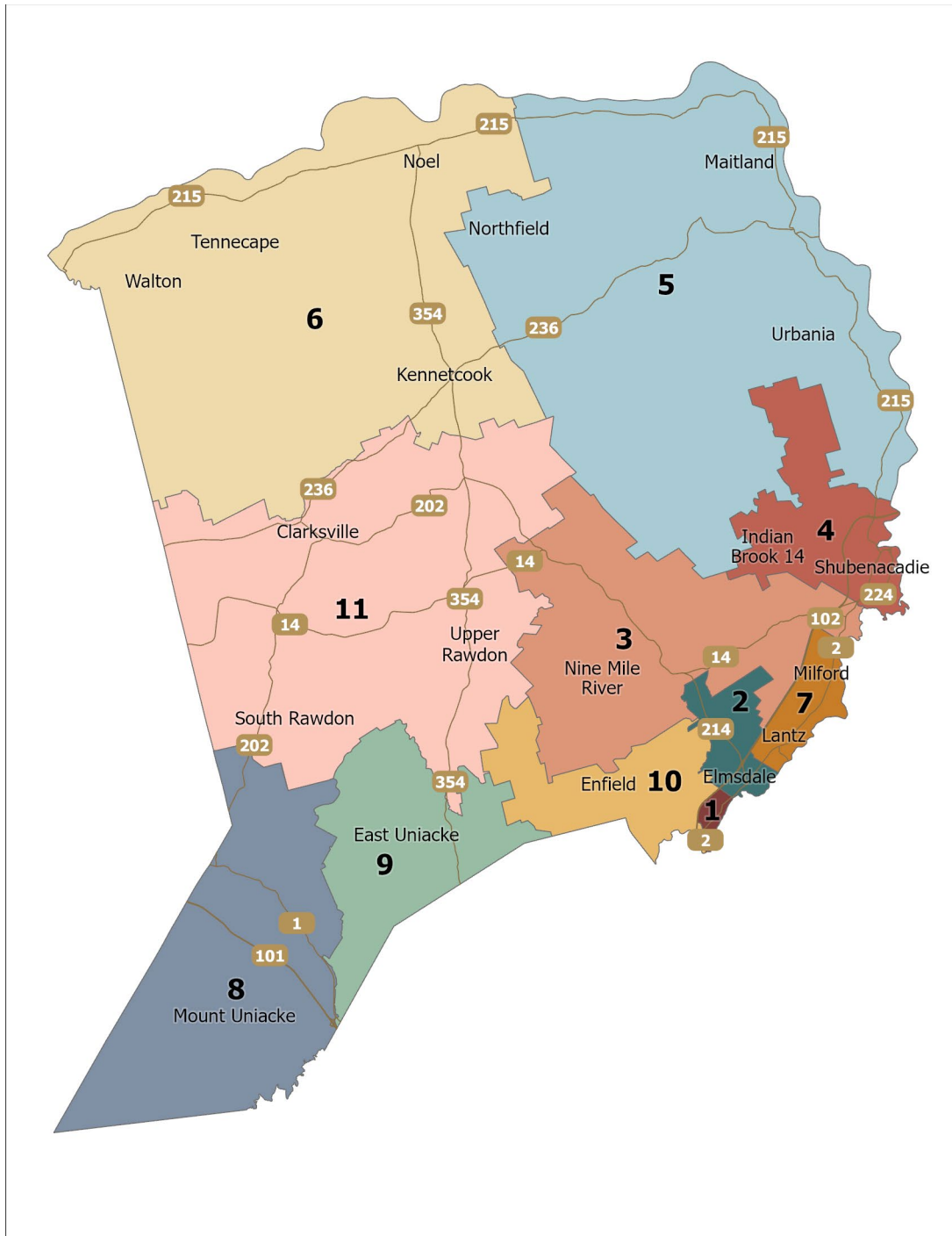
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Ramsay, CPA, CMA

Municipal Clerk & CAO



## 2.0 Existing Polling Districts

There are currently 11 polling districts within the municipality, each represented by 1 councillor.



## 2.1 Description of Current Polling Districts

### District 1:

District 1 contains the majority of the serviced area of the community of Enfield and a portion of the community of Elmsdale. District 1 is bound by District 10 to the west, Highway 102 to the north/northwest, the Shubenacadie River to the south/southeast, and District 2 to the north/northwest. All of District 1 is serviced with municipal sewer and water and the district contains a mix of residential, institutional and commercial development, the latter of which is primarily located along the Highway 2 corridor. District 1 contains two public schools (elementary), church and the Enfield Fire Department. District 1 is 3 km<sup>2</sup> in size.

### District 2:

District 2 contains a portion of the community of Elmsdale, all of which is serviced with sewer and water and the community of Belnan. District 2 is bound by District 1 to the west, District 3 to the north, and District 7 to the east/northeast and the Shubenacadie River to the south. District 2 contains the regional commercial centre of East Hants located near the intersection of Highway 102 and Route 214 and also contains the Lloyd E. Matheson Centre that houses, a library, health services and municipal offices. The East Hants Aquatic Centre is also contained in the district. District 2 is 23 km<sup>2</sup> in size.

### District 3:

District 3 contains the communities of Nine Mile River, Upper Nine Mile River, Hardwood Lands and a portion of Milford. District 3 contains a mixture of woodland, rural residential development and agricultural lands. The district also houses a junior high and high school. District 3 is 174 km<sup>2</sup> in size.

### District 4:

District 4 includes the communities of Shubenacadie, Mill Village, North Salem and Sipekne'katik (Indian Brook IR 14). District 4 contains a local service centre in Shubenacadie including a bank, pharmacy, provincial court, post office, elementary school, service station and restaurant. Sipekne'katik is a self-governing first nation community within the district. District 4 is 69 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.

### District 5:

District 5 contains the following 18 communities: Northfield, Noel Shore, Five Mile River, Latties Brook, Lower Selma, Stirling Brook, Selma, Maple Grove, Maitland, South Maitland, Upper Kennetcook, Georgefield, Barr Settlement, West Indian Road, MacPhees Corner, Urbania, Rines Creek and Admiral Rock. This district encompasses a portion of the Bay of Fundy coast. The district contains productive agricultural lands, woodlands and many historic buildings. The district contains the Maitland Heritage Conservation District. District 5 is the largest in the municipality at 460 Km<sup>2</sup>.

### District 6:

District 6 contains the following 13 communities: Pinnacle Hill, Walton, East Walton, Tennecape, Moose Brook, Minasville, Burntcoat, Gormanville, Noel, North Noel Road, Noel Road, East Noel and Kennetcook. The district contains a portion of the Bay of Fundy coast. The district contains productive agricultural lands, woodlands, Burntcoat Municipal Park, an elementary school and the rural service centre of Kennetcook containing a number of retail and service uses as well as a junior high/high school. District 6 is 429 Km<sup>2</sup>.

District 7:

District 7 consists of the the community of Lantz and the southern portion of the community of Milford. This district contains an elementary school, East Hants Sportsplex, Shaw Brick factory, a post office as well as other local services. District 7 is 21 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.

District 8:

District 8 contains the communities of Lakelands, Hillsvale and the majority of the community of Mount Uniacke. This district is heavily forested and contains several lakes. This district contains a large portion of the Pockwock watershed serving communities in HRM, a junior high school, RCMP satellite office, library, Uniacke Business Park, Bell Park and the Uniacke Estate Museum and Park. District 8 is 190 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.

District 9:

District 9 consists of the communities of East Uniacke, South Uniacke and a portion of Mount Uniacke. District 9 includes the Valley Gate Mobile Home Park, the Villages of Long Lake development and the Bull Meadows Gun Range Complex. District 9 is 96 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.

District 10:

District 10 includes the unserviced portion of Enfield, west of Highway 102 including lands fronting onto Grand Lake as well as a small portion of the serviced portion of Enfield. This district contains an RCMP Detachment, Royal Canadian Legion, historic EH Horne School and several local shops and services. District 10 is 62 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.

District 11:

District 11 contains the communities of Greenfield, Stanley, Centre Rawdon, Rawdon Gold Mines, Upper Rawdon, South Rawdon, Clarksville, Gore, West Gore, East Gore, Riverside Corner. This district contains a mixture of rural residential properties along with farms and forest lands. The district also contains an elementary school, Stanley Airport and an RCMP satellite detachment. District 11 is 335 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.

## 2.2 Voter Parity

Current voter parity was determined by using information from the Provincial Voters List maintained by Elections Nova Scotia.

Elections Nova Scotia updates the voters list using many different methods. On an ongoing basis, Elections Nova Scotia selectively receives data from several sources including the Registry of Motor Vehicles, Vital Statistics, the Nova Scotia Civic Address File, Elections Canada, municipal elections and field work done by Returning Officers and Elections Nova Scotia staff.

The municipality is of the opinion that this is the most reliable and current information available for electors in East Hants.

As can be seen in the following table, 5 of the 11 districts are beyond the +/- 10% guidance provided by the NSUARB. Districts 1, 6 and 7 are well beyond the +/- 10% variance from the average.

<b>Current Voter Parity (April 2022)</b>			
<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Electors</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Variance %</b>
<b>1 Enfield</b>	2261	+417	+22.6%
<b>2 Elmsdale-Belnan</b>	1899	+55	+3.0%
<b>3 Milford-Nine Mile River</b>	1885	+41	+2.2%
<b>4 Shubenacadie</b>	2002	+158	+8.6%
<b>5 Maitland-MacPhee's Corner</b>	1579	-265	-14.3%
<b>6 Walton-Noel-Kennetcook</b>	1417	-427	-23.2%
<b>7 Lantz-Milford</b>	2426	+582	+31.6%
<b>8 Mount Uniacke</b>	1666	-178	-9.7%
<b>9 South-East Uniacke</b>	1606	-238	-12.9%
<b>10 Enfield-Grand Lake</b>	1787	-57	-3.1%
<b>11 Rawdon-Gore</b>	1758	-86	-4.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	20286		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1844		

The table below shows that East Hants has seen increasing growth over the past several years and is anticipated that this trend will continue going forward.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b># permits</b>	<b># new dwelling units</b>	<b>Value of Const</b>
2022-23	456	343	\$140 m
2021-22	394	327	\$90 m
2020-21	318	251	\$58 m
2019-20	256	148	\$34 m
2018-19	215	132	\$42 m
2017-18	273	106	\$34 m

Given the unprecedented growth that East Hants is experiencing, it would obviously be ideal to know the number of electors in each district closer to the election in October 2024. As a result, the municipality examined current building permits, site plan approvals, subdivision applications and approved development agreements to estimate the number of additional occupied dwellings, and therefore electors, in each district by October 2024. Dwelling units were included only if they currently have a building permit or where municipal planning staff felt that there is a high probability that a building permit will be issued by December 2023 in order to have an occupied dwelling by October 2024.

The formula for the projected voters can be found in Appendix F.

The projected voter parity shows an even more dramatic variation than there is currently. This is due to the fact that the growth seen in East Hants is occurring very unevenly. The majority of growth has been occurring in Districts 1 and 7. Although District 2 is also expected to see significant growth going forward.

It is anticipated by October 2024 that 6 districts will be over +/- 10% of the average number of voters per district and 4 of them will be well over this guidance.

<b>Projected Voter Parity (October 2024)</b>			
<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Electors</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Variance %</b>
<b>1 Enfield</b>	2595	+633	+32.3%
<b>2 Elmsdale-Belnan</b>	1968	+6	+0.3%
<b>3 Milford-Nine Mile River</b>	1900	-62	-3.2%
<b>4 Shubenacadie</b>	2002	+40	+2.0%
<b>5 Maitland-MacPhee’s Corner</b>	1579	-383	-19.5%
<b>6 Walton-Noel-Kennetcook</b>	1417	-545	-27.8%
<b>7 Lantz-Milford</b>	3047	+1085	+55.3%
<b>8 Mount Uniacke</b>	1723	-239	-12.2%
<b>9 South-East Uniacke</b>	1760	-202	-10.3%
<b>10 Enfield-Grand Lake</b>	1800	-162	-8.3%
<b>11 Rawdon-Gore</b>	1793	-169	-8.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	21584		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1962		

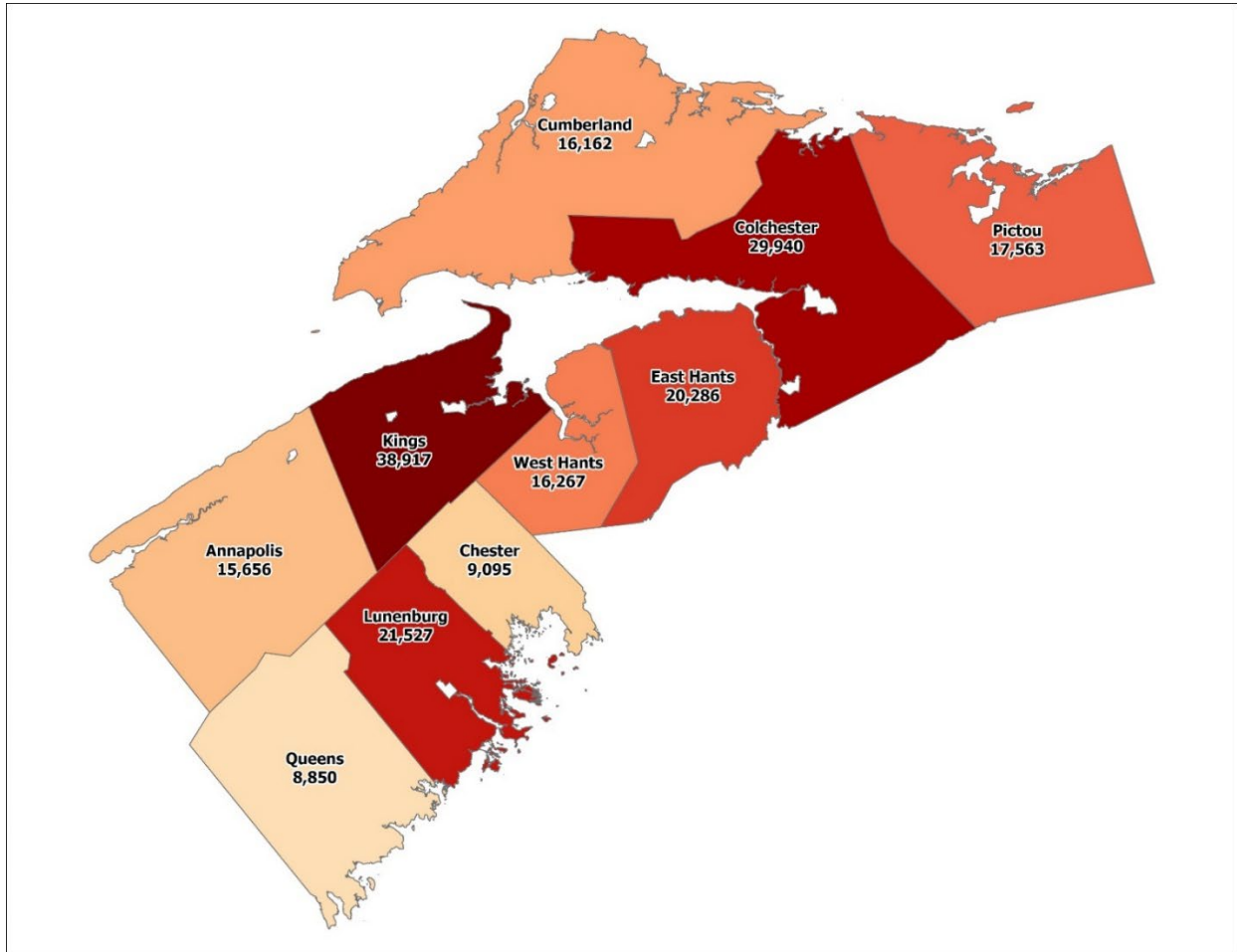


### 3.0 Rationale for maintaining 11 polling districts

In phase 1 of this review, Council considered the size of council. An on-line survey was conducted and three public meetings were held to garner public input on the size of council.

#### 3.1 Comparison to Peer Municipalities

Council considered their style of government and staff also prepared analysis on peer municipalities shown with their April 2022 voter populations below.



As can be seen in the table below, with 1844 voters per district currently or 1962 projected for October 2024, East Hants is below the average of 2077 for this peer group.

<b>Municipality</b>	<b># of Districts/Councillors</b>	<b>Style of Leadership</b>	<b>Total Voters</b>	<b>Voters per District</b>
Region of Queens	7	Mayor	8850	<b>1264</b>
District of Chester	7	Warden	9095	<b>1299</b>
Annapolis County	11	Warden	15656	<b>1423</b>
Pictou County	12	Warden	17563	<b>1464</b>
Region of West Hants	11	Mayor	16267	<b>1479</b>
<b>District of East Hants</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Warden</b>	<b>20286*</b>	<b>1844*</b>
<b>District of East Hants</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Warden</b>	<b>21584**</b>	<b>1962**</b>
Cumberland County	8	Mayor	16162	<b>2020</b>
<b>AVERAGE (not including East Hants)</b>				<b>2077</b>
District of Lunenburg	10	Mayor	21527	<b>2153</b>
Colchester County	11	Mayor	29940	<b>2722</b>
Kings County	9	Mayor	38917	<b>4324</b>

\*Current EH Voters, April 2022

\*\* Projected EH Voters in October 2024

### 3.2 Phase 1 Public Consultation

Three community meetings were arranged to garner public feedback on the size of Council in May of 2022. The meetings were held in Kennetcook, Elmsdale and Mount Uniacke.

Although advertised on the municipal website, social media and the Chronicle Herald newspaper the meetings were lightly attended as noted in the meeting notes found in Appendix C. However, there were some opinions and suggestions expressed at these meetings as follows:

- Should include an analysis of not just the voters per district from other municipalities but the geographic size of districts
- Why no public consultation on mayor vs warden decision? Issue should be revisited later.
- Council should be much smaller
- Council of 11 is difficult, should be 6 or 8

An online survey was also conducted from May 3, 2022 to June 1, 2022. In total there were 48 responses from 16 different communities across East Hants. Full results of the survey can be found in Appendix D.

When asked if the size of Council should increase, decrease or stay the same, 75% of respondents indicated that Council should stay the same, 23% indicated Council should be smaller and only 2% indicated that Council should increase in size.

For those that felt Council size should change, Question 4 asked what their preferred Council size should be. Many answered this question with a range (e.g., 7 to 9). For those that gave a specific number, 9 was the most common.

The last question invited comments. Responses included:

- Concern about diminished rural representation
- There should be a mayor
- The importance of voter parity
- Concern about splitting communities between polling districts
- These reviews happen too frequently
- The current arrangement is fine

One response commented on the federal electoral boundary review underway at the time as opposed to the municipal polling district review.

Overall, there was not a great deal of public interest in the review. For those that did participate, there is a sense that most are satisfied with the current size of Council.

### 3.3 Size of Council

The municipality requests that the board approve a council with 11 councillors as it believes that East Hants is just beginning a period of high population growth. As a result, the municipality sees it as advantageous that the number of voters per district is below the average for the peer municipalities examined, given that the polling districts typically stay in place for 8 years. As a result, the municipality believes it would be both shortsighted to decrease the size of Council based on the current number of voters and premature to increase the size of council based on projected growth over the next decade.

In making this request the municipality also notes the general public satisfaction for the size of Council and the sense among councillors themselves that the current structure is effective and does not need to change.

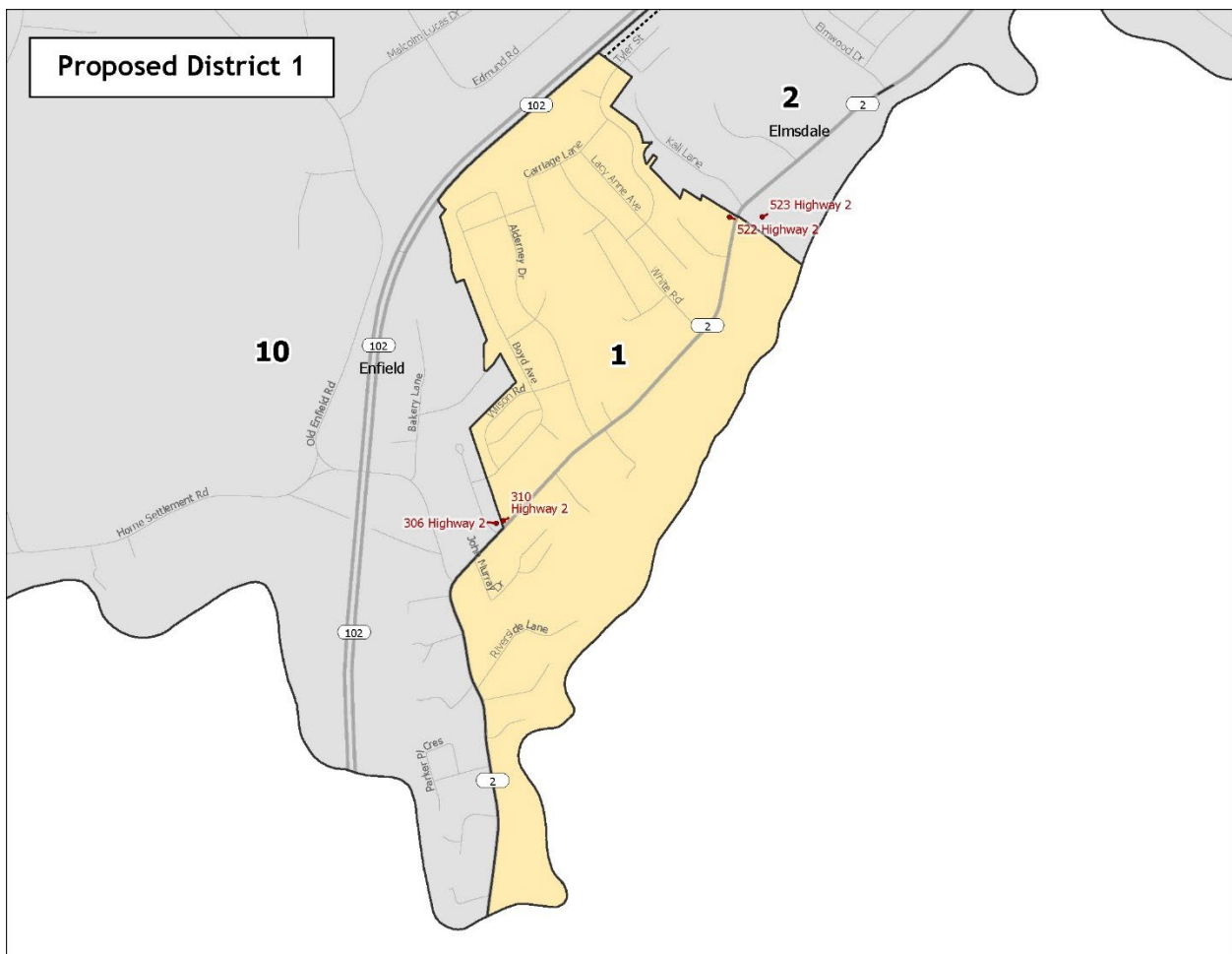
## 4.0 Proposed Polling Districts

### 4.1 Description of Polling Districts

There are 11 proposed polling districts as described here:

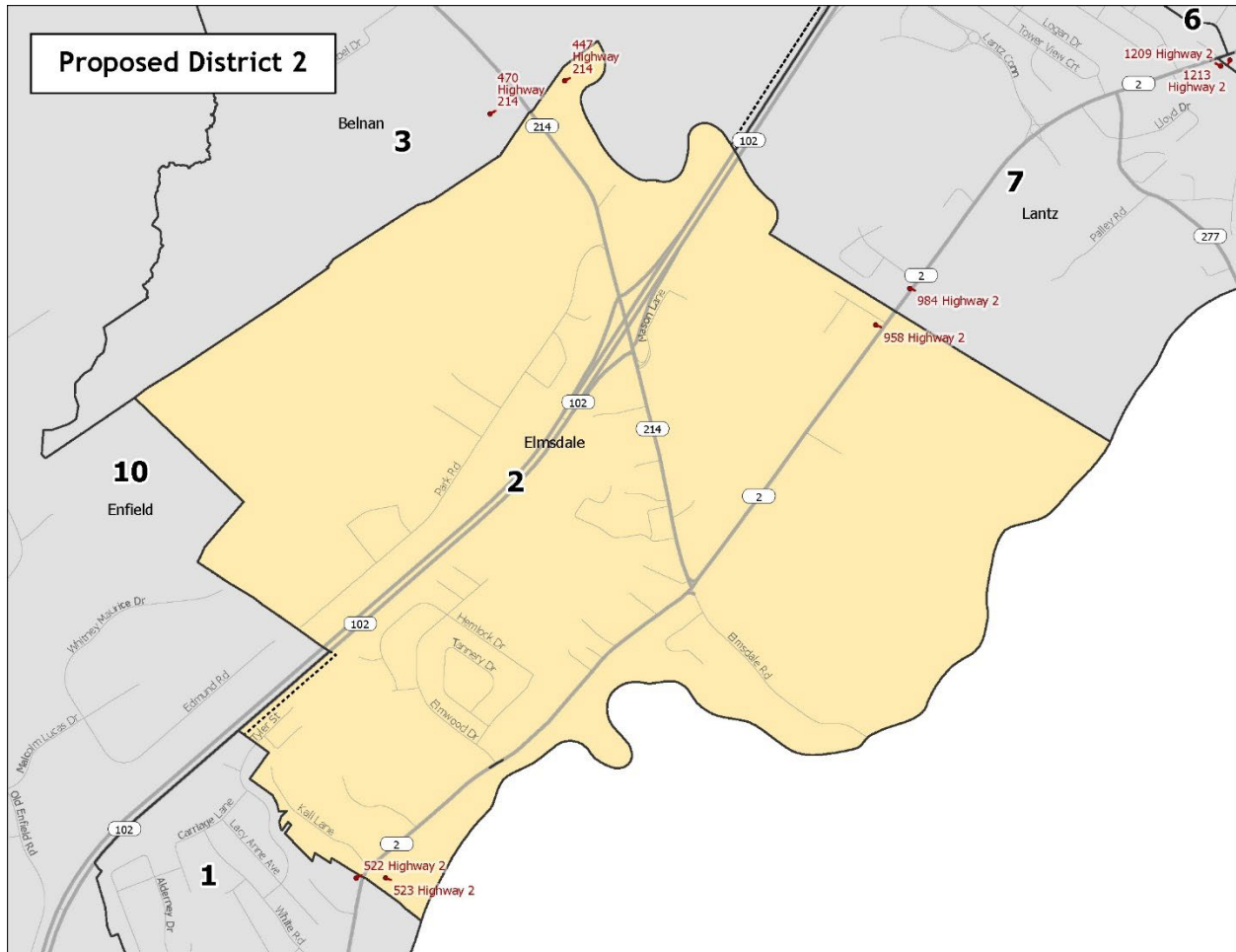
#### District 1:

District 1 contains the majority of the serviced area of the community of Enfield. District 1 is bound by District 10 to the west, Highway 102 to the north/northwest, the Shubenacadie River to the south/southeast, and District 2 to the north/northwest. All of District 1 is serviced with municipal sewer and water and the district contains a mix of residential, institutional and commercial development, the latter of which is primarily located along the Highway 2 corridor. District 1 contains one public school (elementary), church, a long-term care facility and the Enfield Fire Department. District 1 is the smallest district in the municipality at 2 km<sup>2</sup>.



District 2:

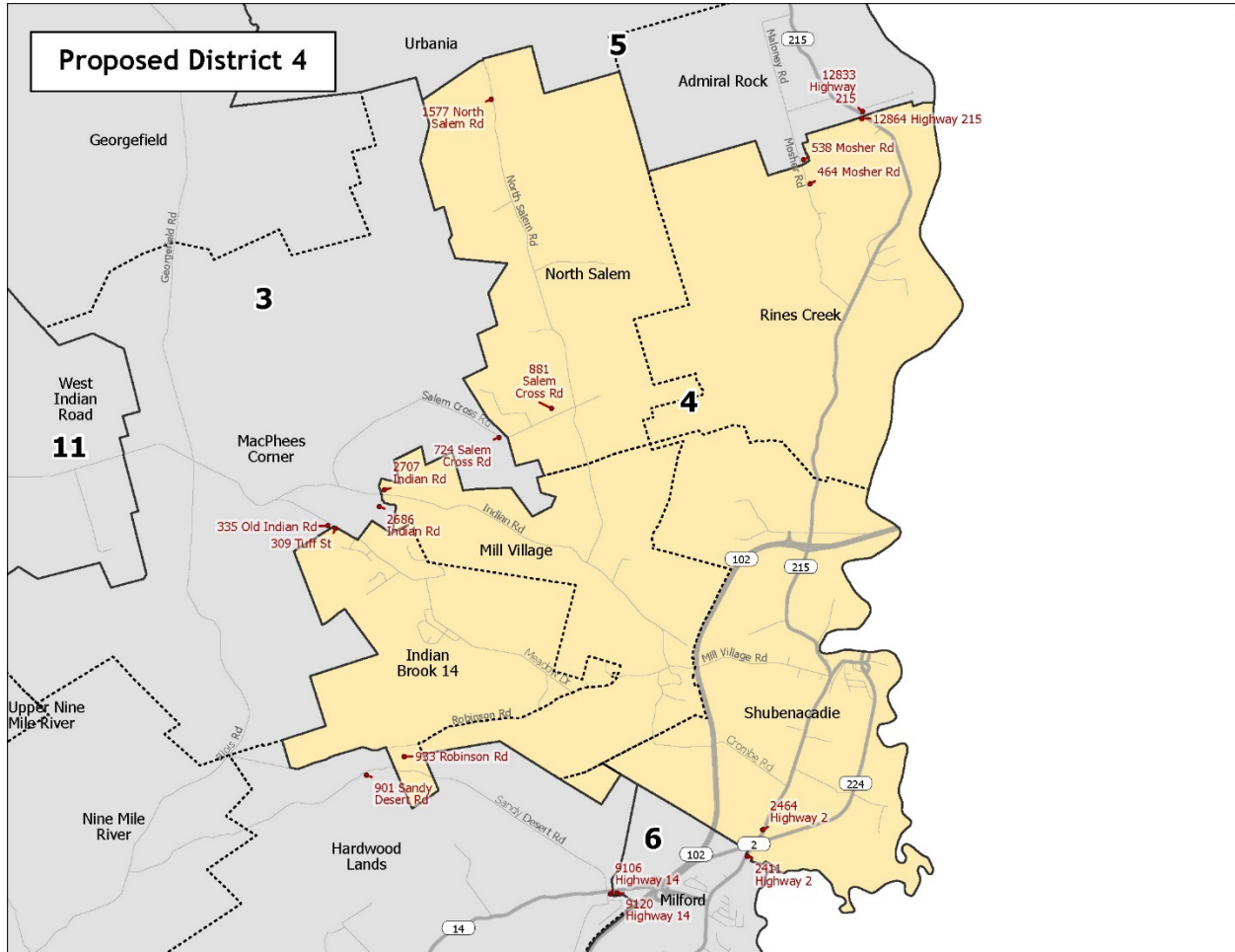
District 2 contains the community of Elmsdale, all of which is serviced with sewer and water and the Elmsdale Business Park. District 2 is bound by District 1 to the west, District 3 to the north, and District 7 to the east/northeast and the Shubenacadie River to the south. District 2 contains the regional commercial centre of East Hants located near the intersection of Highway 102 and Route 214 and also contains the Lloyd E. Matheson Centre that houses, a library, health services and municipal offices. The East Hants Aquatic Centre is also contained in the district. Approved development in this district is expected to add about 1650 residents over the next decade. District 2 is 8 km<sup>2</sup> in size.





District 4:

District 4 includes the communities of Shubenacadie, Mill Village, Rines Creek, North Salem and Sipekne'katik (Indian Brook IR 14). District 4 contains a local service centre in Shubenacadie including a bank, pharmacy, provincial court, post office, service station and restaurant. Sipekne'katik is a self-governing first nation community within the district. District 4 is 90 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.

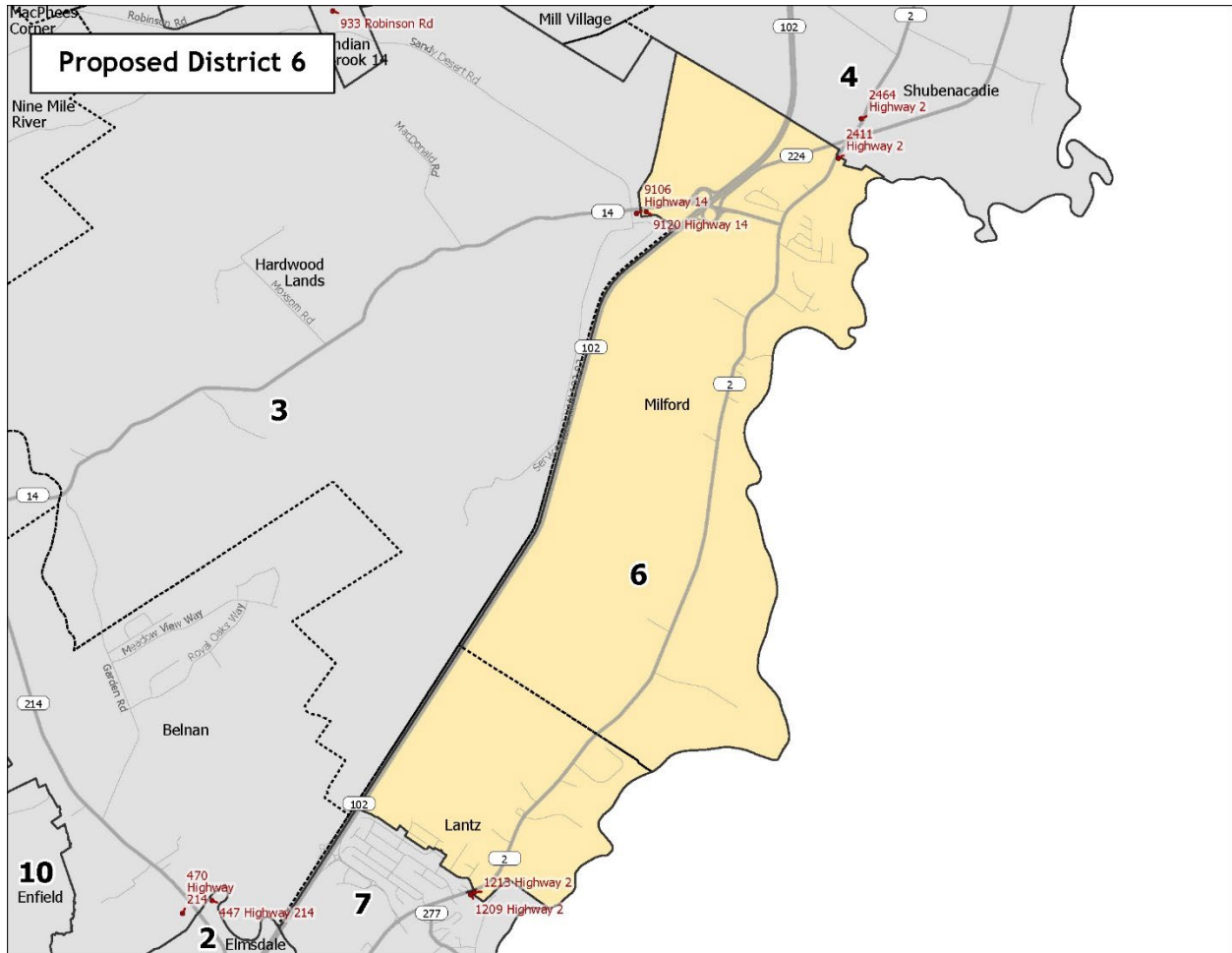






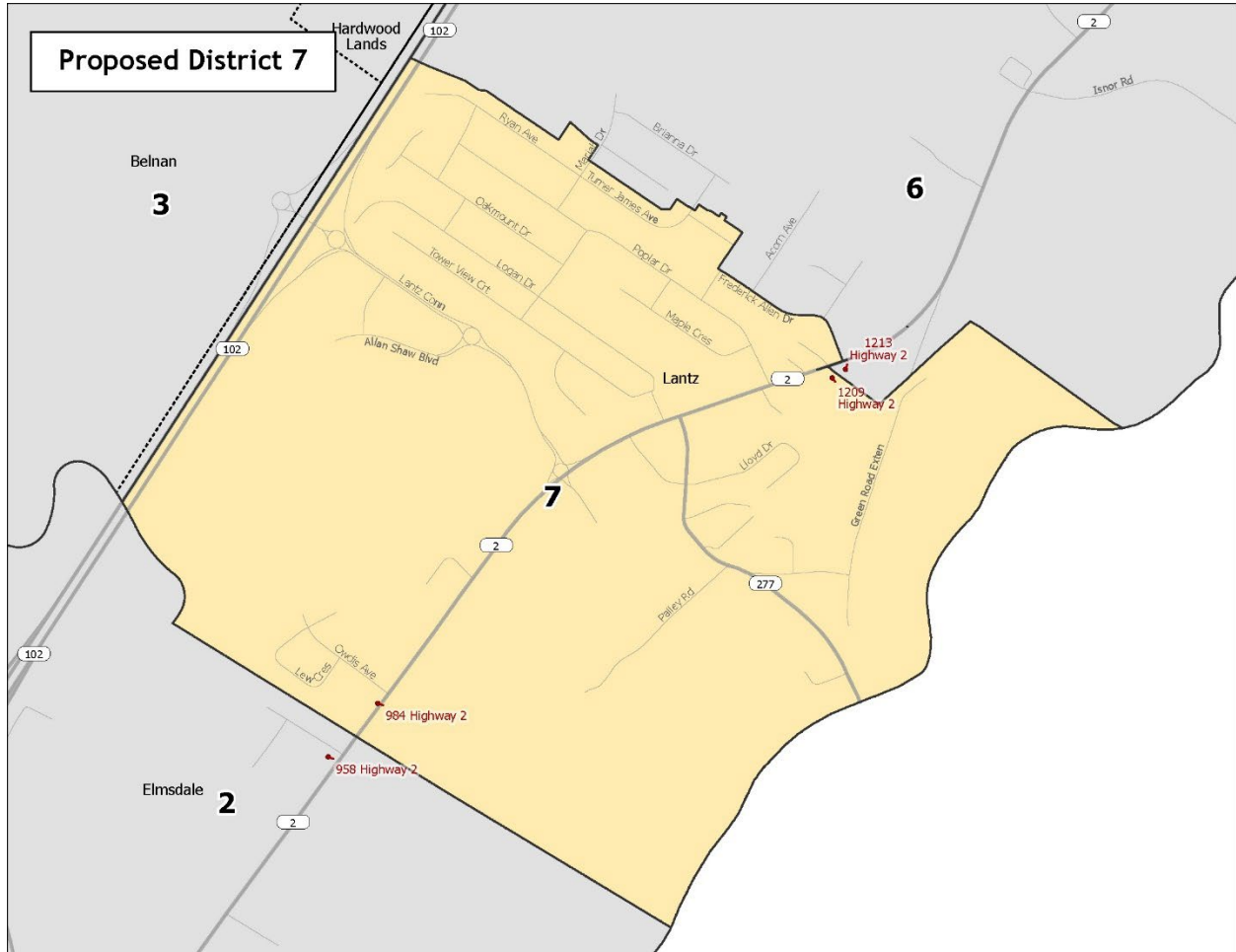
District 6:

District 6 consists of the northern portion of Lantz and all of Milford. This district contains urbanizing areas of Lantz as well as agricultural lands and the village of Milford which contains a grocery store, farm store, service station, restaurants, Milford Recreation, high school and junior high school. Approved and proposed developments, including Wickwire Station, are expected to add 9300 residents to this district over the next two decades. District 6 is 22 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.



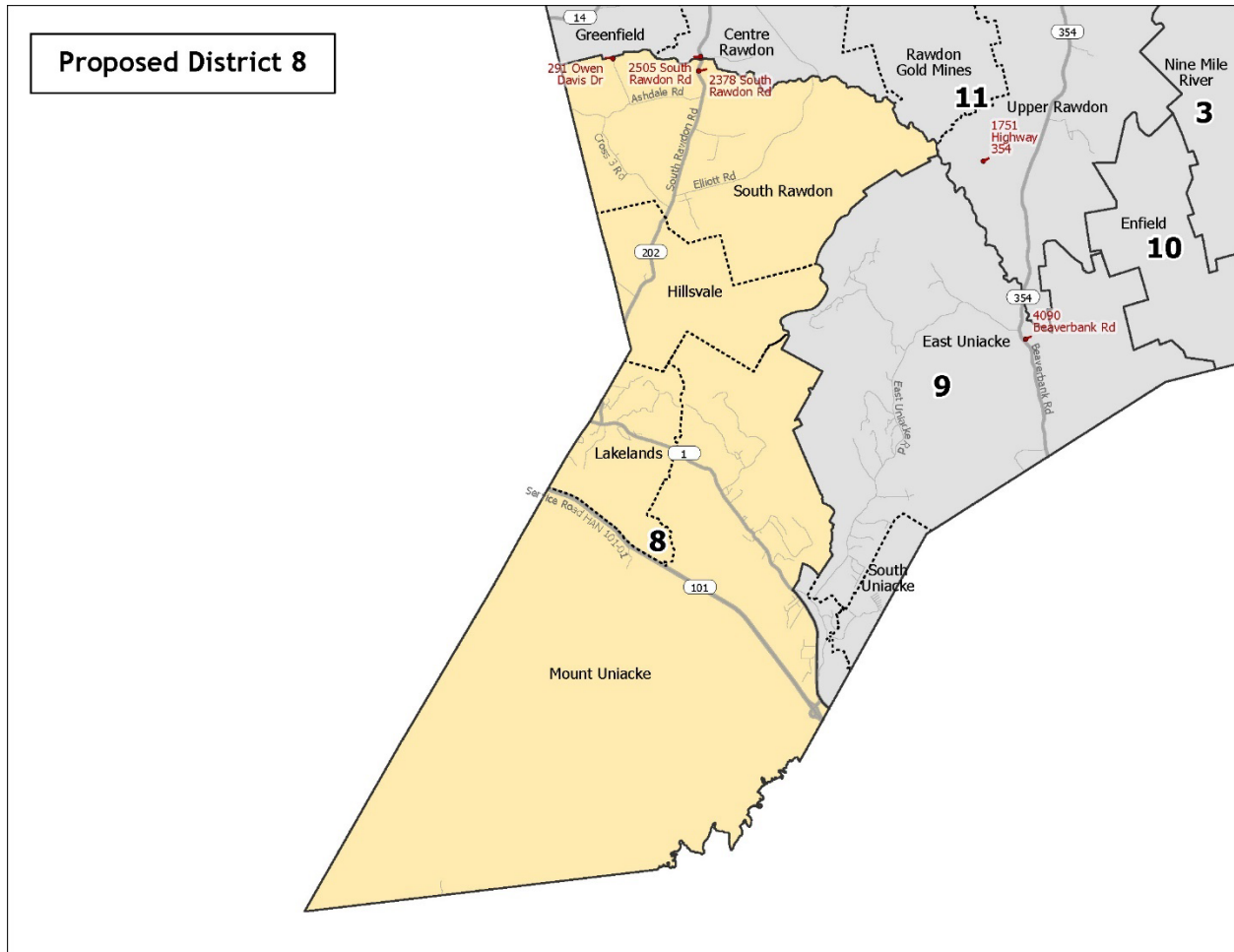
District 7:

District 7 consists of the southern portion of the community of Lantz. This district contains an elementary school, East Hants Sportsplex, Shaw Brick factory, a post office as well as other local services. This district is also home to the Kiln Creek development which will eventually house up to 3500 new residents over the next decade. District 7 is 4 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.



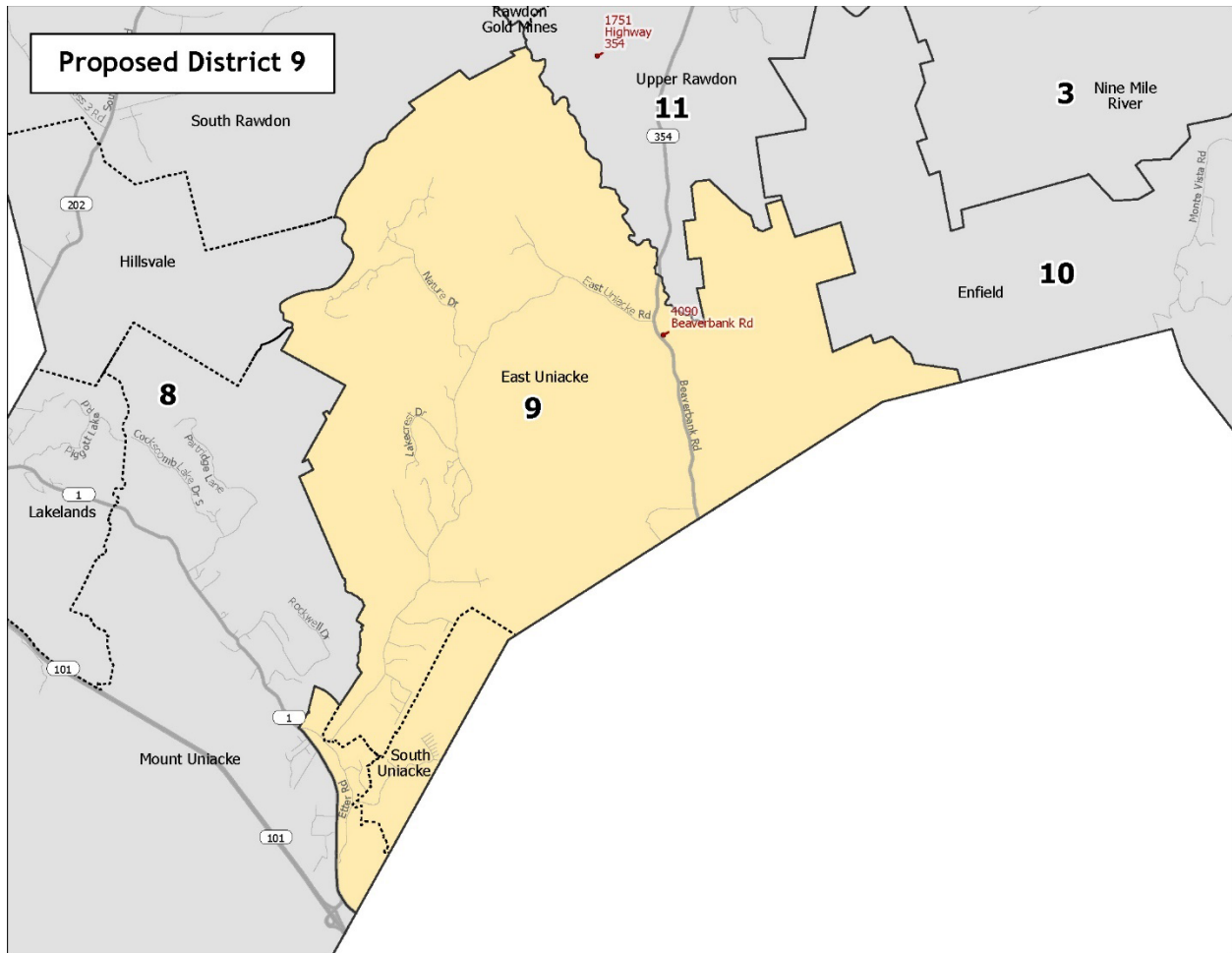
District 8:

District 8 includes the communities of South Rawdon, Hillsvale, Lakelands and most of the community of Mount Uniacke. This district is heavily forested and contains several lakes. This district contains a large portion of the Pockwock watershed serving communities in HRM, a junior high school, RCMP satellite office, library, Uniacke Business Park, Bell Park and the Uniacke Estate Museum and Park. District 8 is 241 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.



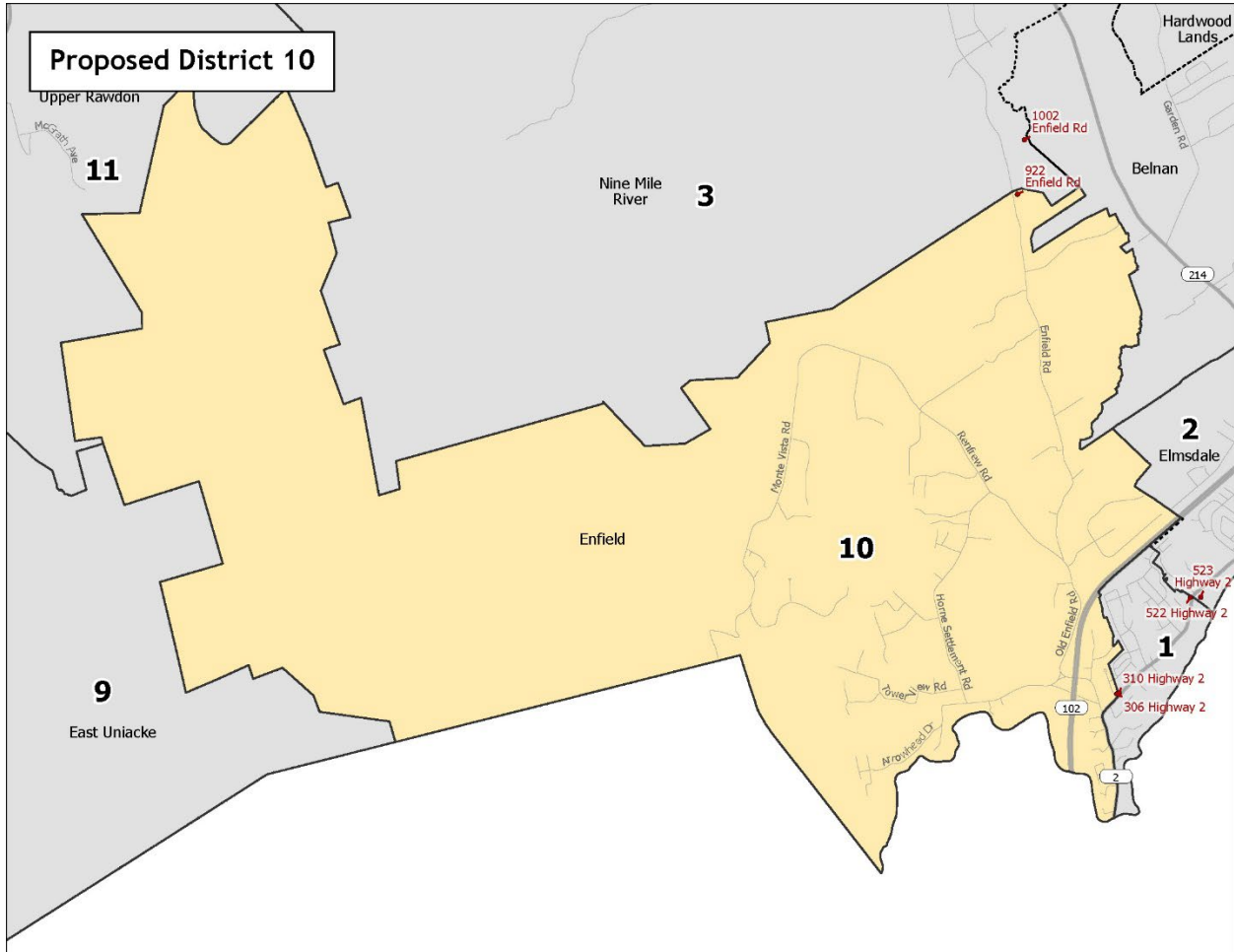
## District 9

District 9 consists of the communities of East Uniacke, South Uniacke and a small portion of Mount Uniacke. District 9 includes the Valley Gate Mobile Home Park, the Bull Meadows Gun Range Complex and the Villages of Long Lake development, which is expected to add approximately 1000 residents over the next decade. District 9 is 97 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.



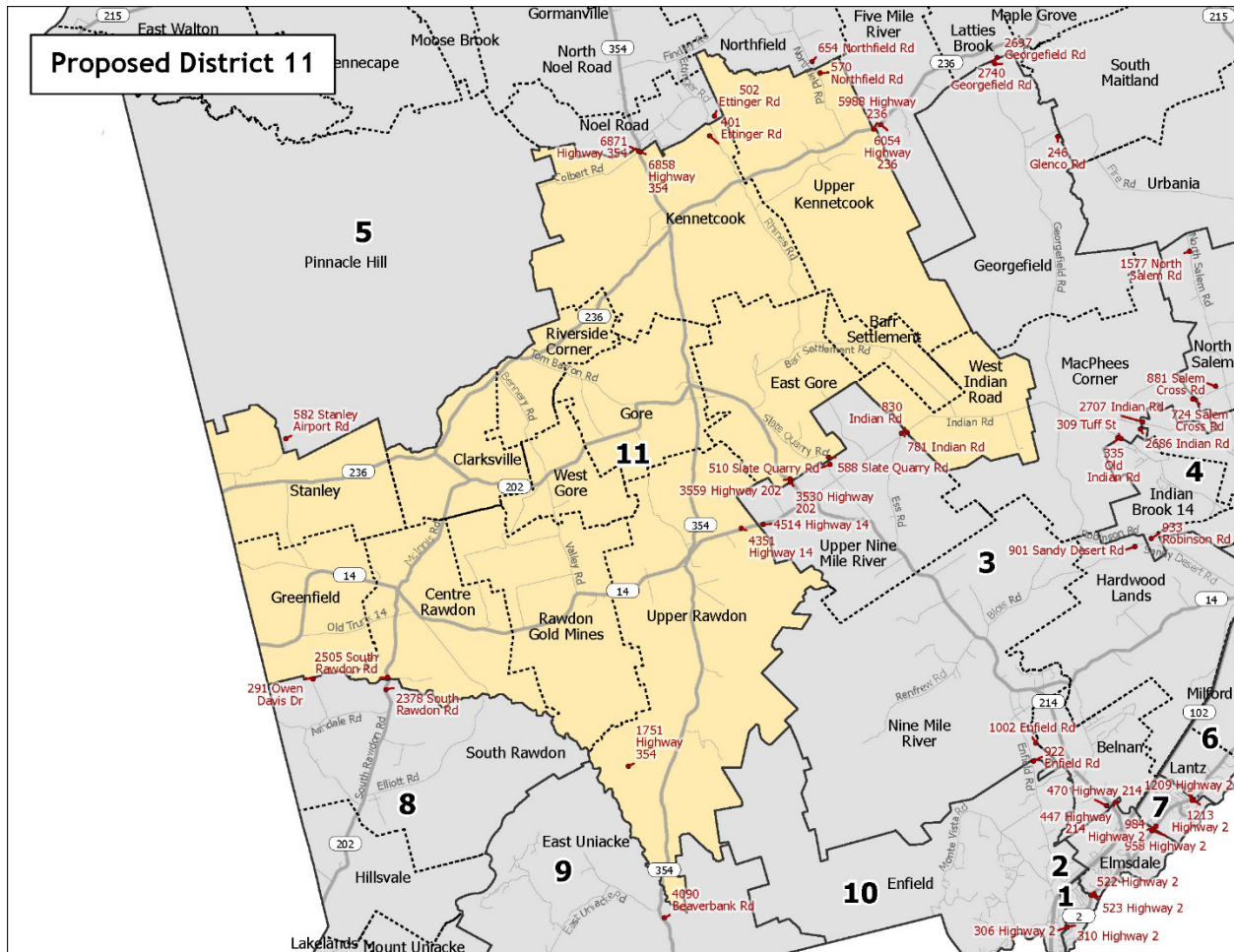
## District 10

District 10 includes the unserviced portion of Enfield, west of Highway 102 as well as a small portion of the serviced portion of Enfield. This district contains an RCMP Detachment, Royal Canadian Legion, historic EH Horne School and several local shops and services. District 10 is 63 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.



## District 11

District 11 contains the communities of Greenfield, Stanley, Centre Rawdon, Rawdon Gold Mines, Upper Rawdon, Clarksville, Gore, West Gore, East Gore, Riverside Corner, Kennetcook, Upper Kennetcook, Barr Settlement and West Indian Road. This district contains a mixture of rural residential properties along with farms and forest lands. The district also contains an elementary school, junior high/high school, Stanley Airport, a key rural service centre in Kennetcook containing a number of retail and service uses and an RCMP satellite detachment. District 11 is 412 Km<sup>2</sup> in size.



#### 4.2 Elector/District Information

The table below shows the predicted number of voters in each proposed district at the time of the October 2024 election. The number of electors was derived from the formula found in Appendix F.

Proposed Polling District	Electors*	Variance	Variance %
<b>1 Enfield Centre</b>	1962	0	0%
<b>2 Elmsdale</b>	1777	-185	-9.4%
<b>3 Nine Mile River-Belnan</b>	2026	+64	+3.3%
<b>4 Shubenacadie-Indian Brook</b>	2174	+212	+10.8%
<b>5 Maitland-Noel Shore</b>	2134	+172	+8.8%
<b>6 North Lantz-Milford</b>	1876	-86	-4.4%
<b>7 South Lantz</b>	1832	-130	-6.6%
<b>8 Mount Uniacke-South Rawdon</b>	1968	-6	-0.3%
<b>9 South Uniacke</b>	1857	-105	-5.4%
<b>10 Enfield-Grand Lake</b>	1973	-11	-0.6%
<b>11 Rawdon-Kennetcook</b>	2006	+44	+2.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	21585		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1962		

\*Projected for October 2024

All districts are predicted to be within the +/- 10% guidance with the exception of District 4. The municipality believes that the board should accept this modest exception for two reasons: Firstly, District 4 has seen very little growth over the past 20 years and high growth elsewhere is expected to bring the average number of voters per district closer to the current number in District 4. Secondly, this exception is needed to respect community of interest. Specifically, in a previous decision the board directed the municipality to keep the communities of Indian Brook and Shubenacadie together and the communities of North Salem and Shubenacadie together.

#### 4.3 Phase 2 Public Consultation

To garner public opinion on the proposed district boundaries, three community meetings were held in Kennetcook, Mt. Uniacke and Elmsdale in January 2023. The meetings were advertised in the Chronicle Herald, the municipal website and social media.

As with the Phase 1 meetings, the meetings were sparsely attended with only two residents attending the Elmsdale meeting and five attending the Mount Uniacke meeting. The meeting in Kennetcook

attracted the largest number of residents (17). Attendees at this meeting expressed a general concern regarding the loss of Hants North representation on Council and the increasing size of rural districts.

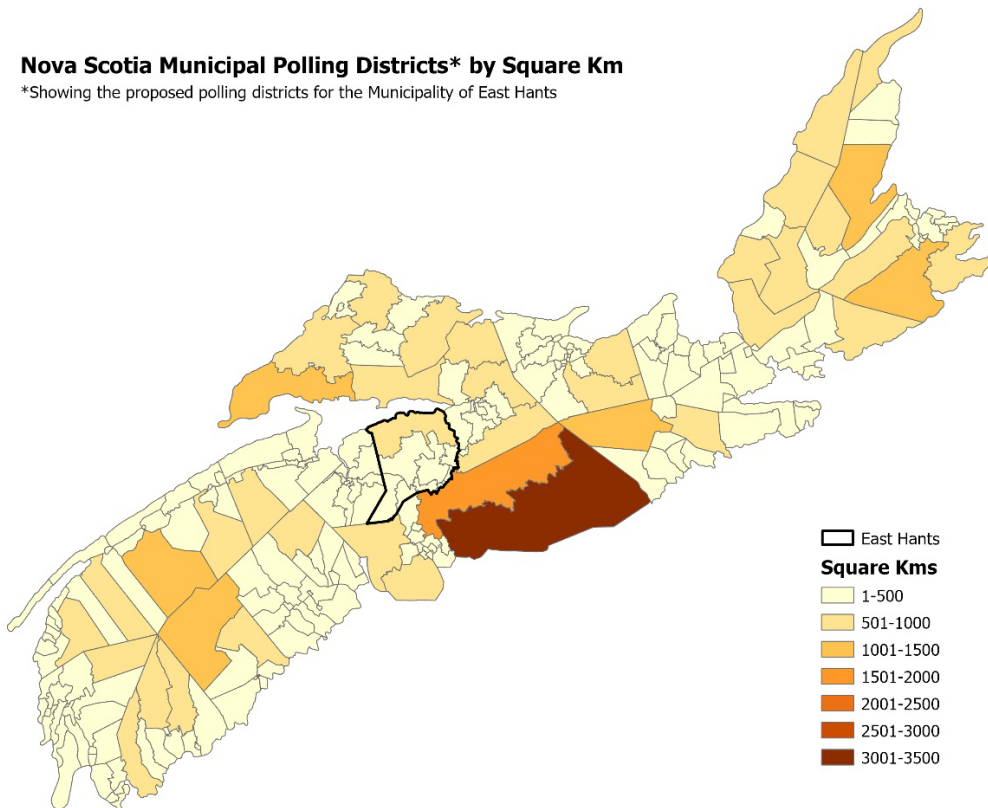
No specific boundary adjustment suggestions were made at the meetings.

Meeting notes from the three meetings are found in Appendix C.

A second on-line survey was also conducted from December 2022 to the end of January 2023. A total of 20 responses were submitted. A majority of the respondents were from the rural/Hants North area of the municipality and expressed concern with large rural districts and the loss of representation on Council. Complete survey results are found in Appendix E.

#### 4.4 Geographic Size

In one of the Phase 1 public information meetings there was concern expressed regarding the size of rural polling districts. This concern could be amplified as East Hants enters a period of high growth for the more urban areas which could require existing rural districts to increase in size. As a result, East Hants examined the size of its polling districts compared to peer municipalities.



As can be seen in the table below, the average district in East Hants, at 169 Km<sup>2</sup>, is well below the average of 300 Km<sup>2</sup> in peer municipalities.



The largest district in East Hants is proposed to increase from 460 Km<sup>2</sup> to 647 Km<sup>2</sup>. However, this is also significantly below the average of the largest district from each peer municipality at 812 Km<sup>2</sup> and well below the largest district found in a peer municipality which is 1455 Km<sup>2</sup>. As a result, it was determined that the proposed districts are within an acceptable range found in similar municipal units.

<b>Geographic Size of Polling Districts</b>			
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Number of Districts</b>	<b>Ave District in Km<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Max District in Km<sup>2</sup></b>
Region of West Hants	11	121	354
District of Lunenburg	10	233	424
<b>District of East Hants*</b>	<b>11</b>	169	647
District of Chester	7	190	554
Pictou County	12	251	644
Kings County	9	250	679
<b>Ave (not including East Hants)</b>		300	812
Colchester County	11	335	845
Cumberland County	8	582	1114
Annapolis County	11	314	1242
Region of Queens	7	419	1455

\*Proposed polling districts for East Hants

#### 4.5 Council Workshops

In October 2022, East Hants Municipal Council held two workshops to refine staff generated options which were designed primarily to improve voter parity. Paramount for councillors in these sessions was respect for community of interest. The workshops resulted in a preferred option that was shared with the public in the second round of public consultation. Following Phase 2 public consultation, the preferred option was then endorsed by Council to be submitted to the NSUARB for approval.

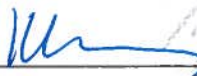
**5.0 Declaration**

The preceding information constitutes the submission of the Municipality of the District of East Hants pursuant to S. 369 of the *Municipal Government Act* to maintain the size of Council at 11 councillors and to alter the boundaries of the districts as outlined in the application.

Dated at Elmsdale

County of Hants

This 26 day of April 2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Ramsay, CPA, CMA  
Municipal Clerk & CAO



## Appendix A Advertisements

The following appeared in the Chronicle Herald newspaper on May 4 and 11, 2022. A web version of the notice also appeared on the municipal website and social media.

### Public Meeting and Survey - Polling District Review What kind of local government do you want?

East Hants is reviewing the number of municipal polling districts (size of Council) and their boundaries as required by s. 369 of the Municipal Government Act.

Prior to making decisions regarding the appropriate number of polling districts and their boundaries, we would like to hear from you, in person or on-line, as follows:

#### Public Meetings

- Monday, May 16, 7 p.m. - Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Road, Kennetcook
- Tuesday, May 17, 7 p.m. - Room 168, Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale
- Wednesday, May 18, 7 p.m. - Uniacke Fire Hall, 654 Highway 1, Mount Uniacke

At the meetings staff will provide background information on the review and provide the opportunity for questions and feedback on the size of Council.

#### Online Survey

Have your say by visiting our website [easthants.ca/pollingreview](http://easthants.ca/pollingreview) and by taking part in our online survey.

Whether at one of these meetings or online, we want to hear from you!

For further information please contact John Woodford at 902.883.6120 or toll free at 1.866.758.2299 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday or email [jwoodford@easthants.ca](mailto:jwoodford@easthants.ca).



**EAST HANTS**

The following appeared in the Chronicle Herald on December 27, 2022 and January 3, 2023. A web version of the notice also appeared on the municipal website and social media.

## **Public Meeting and Survey - Polling District Review**

East Hants is reviewing the number of municipal polling districts (size of Council) and their boundaries as required by the Municipal Government Act.

To date, Council has decided to keep the size of Council at 11. However, due to uneven population growth in the municipality, significant changes are required to district boundaries. Prior to these draft changes being finalized we would like to hear from you in person or online as follows:

### **Public Meetings**

- Monday, January 9, 2023, 7 p.m. - Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Road, Kennetcook [storm date is Jan 10th, 7pm]
- Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 7 p.m. - Uniacke Fire Hall, 654 Highway 1, Mount Uniacke [storm date is Feb 8th, 7pm]
- Thursday, January 12, 2023, 7 p.m. - Room 168, Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale [storm date is Jan 16th, 7pm]

At the meetings, staff will provide background information on the review and provide the opportunity for questions and feedback on the proposed district boundaries. Storm dates will be used if inclement weather requires the original date of each meeting to be cancelled. Please watch the municipal website at [easthants.ca](http://easthants.ca) for any changes.

### **Online Survey**

For more information and to participate in the survey please visit our website [www.easthants.ca/pollingreview](http://www.easthants.ca/pollingreview).

For further information please contact John Woodford at 902.883.6120 or toll free at 1.866.758.2299 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, or visting or email [jwoodford@easthants.ca](mailto:jwoodford@easthants.ca).



**EAST HANTS**

## **Appendix B Staff Reports**

The following Reports were presented to various Executive Committee and Council meetings.

1. Staff Report #1; Review Process & Scope, January 2022
2. Staff Report #2; Mayor vs Warden Decision, February 2022
3. Staff Report #3; Phase 1 - Background, April 2022
4. Phase 1 Public Meeting Presentation; May 2022
5. Staff Report #4; Phase 1 – Size of Council, June 2022
6. Staff Report #5; Phase 2 – Draft District Boundaries, November 2022
7. Phase 2 Public Meeting Presentation; January 2023
8. Staff Report #6 Phase 2 – Setting District Boundaries. February 2023

**Subject:** 2022 Polling District Review Report # 1  
**To:** CAO for Corporate & Residential Services Committee, January 18, 2022  
**Date Prepared:** December 20, 2021  
**Related Motions:**  
**Prepared by:** John Woodford, Director of Planning and Development  
**Approved by:** Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer

---

## Summary

The MGA requires the municipality to conduct an octennial review of its polling districts in 2022 in preparation for the 2024 election. The number of districts has to be reviewed and justified. The district boundaries also have to be reviewed to ensure that the number of electors in each district are generally within +/-10%. In addition, Council could use this review as an opportunity to explore the option of switching to a mayoral system from the warden system. Staff have outlined a process for conducting the review in this report.

## Financial Impact Statement

\$6,600 has been placed in the 2022-23 draft budget to cover direct costs associated with the polling district review (e.g., hall rentals, advertising, mileage). The key impact on the organization, however, is the approximately 100-300 hours of staff time that will be required to complete the exercise.

## Recommendation

That staff be authorized to conduct the 2022 Polling District Review using the process outlined in this report.

In addition, provide staff with direction as to whether a review of a mayor vs warden system will be part of this project.

## Recommended Motion

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council authorize staff to conduct the 2022 Polling District Review using the process outlined in the staff report “2022 Polling District Review Report # 1” attached to the Executive Committee Agenda dated January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022.***

---

## Background

The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires municipal governments to conduct a review of their respective polling district boundaries in 2022. Section 369 (1) of the MGA states that:

*In the year 1999, and in the years 2006 and every eighth year thereafter the council shall conduct a study of the number and boundaries of polling districts in the municipality, their fairness and reasonableness and the number of councilors.*

Following the completion of the polling boundary review required by section 369 (1), the MGA requires that municipalities submit an application to the NSUARB to either confirm or alter the number and boundaries of polling districts. The application must be submitted to the NSUARB before the end of 2022.

The last polling district review conducted by the municipality was in 2014 and a submission was made to the NSUARB in December 2014. The Board held a hearing in April 2015 and released a decision in June. The decision rejected the municipality's application to reduce the size of council from 13 to 12 and the Board ordered that the size of Council be set at 11. The municipality then resubmitted an application in September 2015 proposing boundaries for 11 districts. The Board rejected the boundaries for Districts 3, 4 and 5 and ordered them redrawn. The Board approved boundaries for 11 districts in February 2016. Due to a mapping error, the municipality then requested a minor amendment to the approved maps in April 2016. This application was approved in May 2016.

In that review the municipality also considered whether or not to switch to a mayoral system of leadership. After that review it was decided to stay with a warden system.

---

## Discussion

The MGA provides only limited direction for municipalities to follow when conducting polling district reviews. The extent of this direction can be found in Section 369 (1) of the MGA as follows: “...the council shall conduct a study of the number and boundaries of polling districts in the municipality, their fairness and reasonableness and the number of councilors.” The Municipal Government Act Rules provide additional and more specific direction as to the information that municipalities must include in an application to the URB (MGA Rules, S. 26 - Municipal Boundaries). This direction does not set out criteria or standards for municipalities to apply to polling district reviews and applications.

Section 368 (4) of the MGA identifies the factors that the Board will consider when reviewing an application to set the number and boundaries of polling districts within a municipality: “In determining the number and boundaries of polling districts the Board shall consider number of electors, relative parity of voting power, population density, community of interest and geographic size.” These factors are fairly straightforward and quantifiable with one exception, “community of interest”. In a decision which altered the number of polling districts in HRM prior to the 2004 election, the Board set out criteria that it considers to be ‘community of interest criteria’, which includes: history, planning areas, traffic infrastructure and patterns, fire service areas, sewer and water service districts, language, ethnic origins, tax rate areas and recreational issues.

In the 2004 HRM decision the Board also set out expectations for public consultation and the review process that it expects municipalities to follow in future boundary review applications. The Board determined that municipal councils should conduct future boundary review application processes in two phases, with each of the phases having a public consultation component.

### **Size of Council**

The Board considers that the first phase of the review/application process should involve municipal councils determining, prior to considering boundary delineations and voter parity analysis, the appropriate number of councilors for the municipality. The Board considers this decision to be extremely important and one that should be made only following consultation with senior staff and the public. The Board indicates that when determining the appropriate size of council, key considerations should be the desired style of council, the governance structure of council, and a determination of an effective and efficient number of councilors. One example of how the 'governance structure of council' varies between municipal units is that larger municipalities such as HRM may have community councils, comprised of several councilors from an area, that have discretionary decision-making powers for within that area (planning approvals, recreation, etc.), while in units such as East Hants decisions are made by council as a whole.

### **Determining District Boundaries**

Once the appropriate number of polling districts has been determined, the second phase of the process, that of distributing and delineating the polling districts, should begin. As mentioned, the Board has established a  $\pm 10\%$  variance from the average number of electors per district as the target when boundaries are proposed. The Board will consider variances in voter parity of up to  $\pm 25\%$  in special circumstances if a strong case can be made for such a variation because of factors such as community interest and geography. The greater a proposed variance is beyond  $\pm 10\%$ , the greater and more detailed the justification required will be for Board approval.

### **Voter Parity**

In its 2004 decision to HRM, the Board also set out criteria for voter parity that it expects all municipalities to adhere to and only deviate from as a result of carefully considered reasons related to the other important factors such as community of interest and geographic size. In section 124 of its decision, the Board states, "*The Board has kept these factors in mind, while endeavoring in this decision to set a higher level of parity than perhaps has generally been achieved in the past in municipal polling districts. It will expect HRM, and other councils, to likewise address themselves to this goal in future applications of this type. Specifically, the Board determines in this decision that the proper target variance for parity in municipal polling districts in Nova Scotia, both for purposes of this proceeding and for future proceedings of this type, shall be +10%, provided such issues as community of interest are generally satisfied. Any variance in excess of +10% must be justified in writing, and the greater the variance, the greater and more detailed the written justification that will be required.*" (<http://www.canlii.org/ns/cas/nsuarb/2004/2004nsuarb11.html>)

In section 123 of its 2004 HRM decision, the Board also sets out that variances in voter parity between districts of greater than  $\pm 10\%$  may be permitted in special circumstances for reasons such as overriding community interest or geography. However, in the following excerpt from its 2004 HRM decision the Board indicates that, even for exceptional circumstances, it will generally limit the variance to  $\pm 25\%$ :

*"Indeed, the Board considers that 25% has come to be regarded by some municipalities as the normal target variance. While the Board does consider that, in some exceptional instances, a variation of  $\pm 25\%$  can indeed be justified for municipal polling districts, it believes a strong case must be made before such a variance is accepted."*

Further to the  $\pm 25\%$  maximum variation between polling districts that the Board set out in the 2004 HRM decision, it has subsequently posted the following information on its website:

*"The Board expects variances for relative parity between polling districts to be within  $\pm 10\%$ , only allowing variances up to  $\pm 25\%$  in extraordinary circumstances where the Municipality, Town or School Board has provided a detailed written explanation confirming that factors such as community of interest or geography clearly justify the necessity of an increased variance in a polling district. In such cases, it is incumbent upon*



*an affected municipal unit or school board to clearly explain the reasons for such a high variation. The greater the variation, the greater the burden to justify the high variance from the average number of electors. Even with very extensive and detailed justification, the Board will approve a variation of +/-25% or more only in very extraordinary circumstances.”*

The Board indicates that it expects municipalities to utilize census data, electoral lists, property assessment information and building permit data when considering the appropriate district boundaries. Building permit data should be used to justify variations in voter parity for areas where significant growth has occurred and is expected to continue. For instance, a variance of - 20% in a proposed polling district could be deemed appropriate if significant growth is expected over the course of the next few years. A good example of this can be seen in the 2004 HRM decision where the Board deemed a -25% variance in the proposed Clayton Park West polling district as appropriate based on anticipated significant population increases from a large master planned development under construction.

Staff are in the process of completing an initial analysis of demographic data for the existing polling districts derived from the Final List of Electors from the 2020 election. The most recent census data, from 2021, is expected to be available in February 2022 and will also be incorporated. Staff will also look at specific growth areas such as Lantz through building permits and other development approvals.

Based on direction from the Board that focuses strongly on target variations and comparable voting parity between districts, the 2020 Final List of Electors should be an important tool as it identifies current voting parity among districts. In addition, elections were not held in districts 3 and 9 where councillors were acclaimed. As a result, staff will also use census data as a proxy for electors. Staff will provide additional information on this issue in a second report.

#### **Mayor vs Warden**

Section 12(8) of the MGA enables Council to switch to a mayor system of leadership from a warden system. A warden is selected by council members, from among themselves, at the first council meeting following an election. A mayor, however, is elected at large in the regular election.

In the 2006 and 2014 polling district reviews, Council reviewed its style of leadership and decided to keep the warden system. This decision can be made at least nine months prior to any election. It does make sense to consider in the scope of a polling district review given that having a mayor may alter council’s decision regarding the number of councillors. If a mayoral system is adopted for the 2024 election, the municipality cannot go back to a warden system in a future election.

---

## **Process & Public Consultation**

Staff are proposing to follow the process below in conducting the polling district review. Phase 1 of public consultation would involve gaining public input on the size of council and whether a mayor or warden system of leadership is preferred (if Council decides to review this issue).

Phase 2 of public consultation would consist of seeking public input in the setting of boundaries for the proposed number of polling districts. Both phases of consultation would consist of three community meetings (Corridor, Uniacke & North/Central) in addition to an on-line survey. Should Covid restrict in-person meetings beyond April alternative on-line events will be planned.

Following the proposed schedule should enable the municipality to submit its proposal to the NSUARB prior to the end of the year.

	Q4 2021-22			Q1 2022-23			Q2 2022-23			Q3 2022-23			Q4 2022-23		
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M
Project Initiation															
Research & analysis of current voter parity															
Phase 1 Public Consultation															
Prep & Presentation of Scenarios to Council															
Phase 2 Public Consultation															
Preparation of Final Proposal															
Council Approval															
Submission to NSUARB															
NSUARB Hearing															
NSUARB Decision															
Implement New Boundaries	<b>Election October 2024 &gt;</b>														

## Conclusion

Council is required to conduct a polling district review in 2022 and staff have outlined a process for conducting such a review in this report. Council could also use this project as an opportunity to review the merits of a mayor versus warden system of leadership and staff are seeking direction to see if this will be included.

## Recommendation

That staff be authorized to conduct the 2022 Polling District Review using the process outlined in this report.

In addition, provide staff with direction as to whether a review of a mayor vs warden system will be part of this project.

**Subject:** *2022 Polling District Review Report # 2, Mayor vs Warden*  
**To:** CAO for Corporate & Residential Services Committee, February 15, 2022  
**Date Prepared:** February 8, 2021  
**Related Motions:** CRS22(3), CRS22(4), CRS22(5)  
**Prepared by:** John Woodford, Director of Planning and Development  
**Approved by:** Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer

---

## Summary

As part of the 2022 polling district review, Council is considering whether to include a discussion on mayor vs warden. To make a decision on this element of the review, Council requested additional information from staff. This report explores the benefits and differences in a mayor vs warden system.

## Financial Impact Statement

Unknown, but should the position of mayor be a full-time position, it is likely the salary would be higher than that of the warden. However, if Council decides to move to a mayoral system, it may also decide to reduce the size of council.

## Recommendation

Provide direction to staff whether to include mayor vs warden as part of the 2022 polling district review.

## Recommended Motion

None

---

## Background

At the January 2022 meeting of Council the following motion was passed:

*CRS22(3) Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council direct staff to bring a further report back to Council (Re: Mayor vs. Warden).*

As a result, staff have included additional information on a mayoral vs warden system of leadership in this report.

In the 2006 and 2014 polling district reviews, Council reviewed its style of leadership and, after public consultation, decided to keep the warden system.

---

## Discussion

The differences between the mayoral and the warden system, as set out in the Municipal Government Act are as follows:

### Warden

- Elected by fellow councillors at the first meeting of Council, following an election.
- Term of office expires when the term of office for Council expires, unless council adopts a shorter term of office prior to the warden's election.
- Should a warden resign, a new warden shall be elected at the next meeting of Council.
- Council, by two thirds vote of the council members, and with twenty days notice, in writing, to the clerk, the warden and the councillors, may remove a warden from office, and proceed to elect a new warden.

### Mayor

- A mayor would be voted on, by all eligible voters in the Municipality, regardless of district, at the regular municipal election.
- Term of the mayor ends at the same time as the term of Council.
- A mayor cannot be removed from office by a vote of Council.
- A mayor cannot be removed from office unless she/he:
  - Ceases to be a resident of the Municipality;
  - Misses three consecutive meetings of Council;
  - Is found in violation of the NS *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.
- Should the mayor resign, or is removed, an election would have to be called, and a new mayor elected.

Commonly cited benefits of the warden system include a potentially more harmonious relationship with Council; however, the opposite can also be said when more than one councillor or faction of councillors vies for warden, and conflict is created.

Commonly cited benefits of the mayoral system include the mayor being the only elected official who is responsible to all the electors of the municipality, rather than to one district and is a more directly democratic means of selecting a municipality's chief magistrate. Potential drawbacks of the mayoral system include the mayor and Council being oppositional due to conflicting priorities.

If Council decides to switch to a mayoral system, they cannot decide to return to the warden system.

If Council so wishes, a switch to a mayoral system must be decided no less than 9 months prior to the next election in October 2024.

## Jurisdictional Scan

Municipality	Number of Districts/Councillors	Style of Leadership	Switch to Mayor occurred since 2014 Polling District Review
District of East Hants	11	Warden	
Kings County	9	Mayor	Yes
Region of West Hants	11	Mayor	Yes
Colchester County	11	Mayor	
District of Lunenburg	10	Mayor	
Cumberland County	8	Mayor	Yes
Annapolis County	11	Warden	
Region of Queens	7	Mayor	
Pictou County	12	Warden	
District of Chester	7	Warden	

---

## Options

Option 1 - Council decides not to seek public input and makes the decision to move to a mayoral system now.

Option 2 - Council decides not to seek public input and makes the decision to keep the warden system now.

Option 3 - As part of the polling district review public consultation sessions, staff conducts a public education session and consultation on the issue of “Mayor V. Warden,” that would ensure citizens are knowledgeable of the differences between the two forms of governance and would allow Council to gauge citizens’ appetite for each system prior to making a decision.

---

## Conclusion

Staff have provided additional information on a mayoral vs warden system of leadership, provided 3 options and are now looking for direction from Council on whether the issue should be included in the 2022 polling district review public consultation sessions.

---

## Recommendation

Provide direction to staff whether to include mayor vs warden as part of the 2022 polling district review.



**Subject:** *2022 Polling District Review Report # 3, Phase 1 Size of Council*  
**To:** CAO for Corporate & Residential Services Committee, April 19, 2022  
**Date Prepared:** April 12, 2022  
**Related Motions:** CRS22(3), CRS22(4), CRS22(5), CRS22(22)  
**Prepared by:** John Woodford, Director of Planning and Development  
**Approved by:** Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer

---

## Summary

This third report on the polling district review discusses proposed public consultation for Phase 1 and provides a jurisdictional scan showing voters per district within comparable municipalities.

## Financial Impact Statement

There is no financial impact as a result of adopting this report. Advertising and hall rental costs associated with this project have been provided for in the 2022-23 Operating Budget.

## Recommendation

There is no recommendation associated with the report

## Recommended Motion

none

---

## Background

This is the third report regarding the 2022 Polling District Review. Decisions made by Council to date include:

- Endorsed the project moving ahead
- Sought approval from the NS Utility & Review Board for up to a year's extension due to Covid 19. The Board granted up to a 6 month extension.
- Decided to keep the Warden system and not seek public opinion on switching to a Mayoral system of leadership.

This report discusses scheduled public consultation for Phase 1 of the review and provides a jurisdictional scan showing voters per district within comparable municipalities.

---

## Polling District Review - Phase 1

Phase 1 of the review involves deciding on the size of council. Council's earlier decision to stay with the Warden system of leadership simplifies this phase.

The Board considers that the first phase of the review/application process should involve municipal councils determining, prior to considering boundary delineations and voter parity analysis, the appropriate number of councilors for the municipality. The Board considers this decision to be extremely important and one that should be made only following consultation with senior staff and the public. The Board indicates that when determining the appropriate size of council, key considerations should be the desired style of council, the governance structure of council, and a determination of an effective and efficient number of councilors.

One example of how the 'governance structure of council' varies between municipal units is that larger municipalities such as HRM may have community councils, comprised of several councilors from an area, that have discretionary decision-making powers for within that area (planning approvals, recreation, etc.), while in units such as East Hants decisions are made by council as a whole.

Another factor would be whether Council is led by a mayor or warden. If a mayor system exists, Council may want to take that additional elected representative into consideration.

---

## Public Consultation

In the January report, staff outlined public consultation proposed to take place with each phase. In keeping with that report, the following community meetings have been arranged to garner public feedback on the size of Council:

- May 16<sup>th</sup> Kennetcook Fire Hall
- May 17<sup>th</sup> Lloyd E. Matheson Centre
- May 18<sup>th</sup> Uniacke Fire Hall

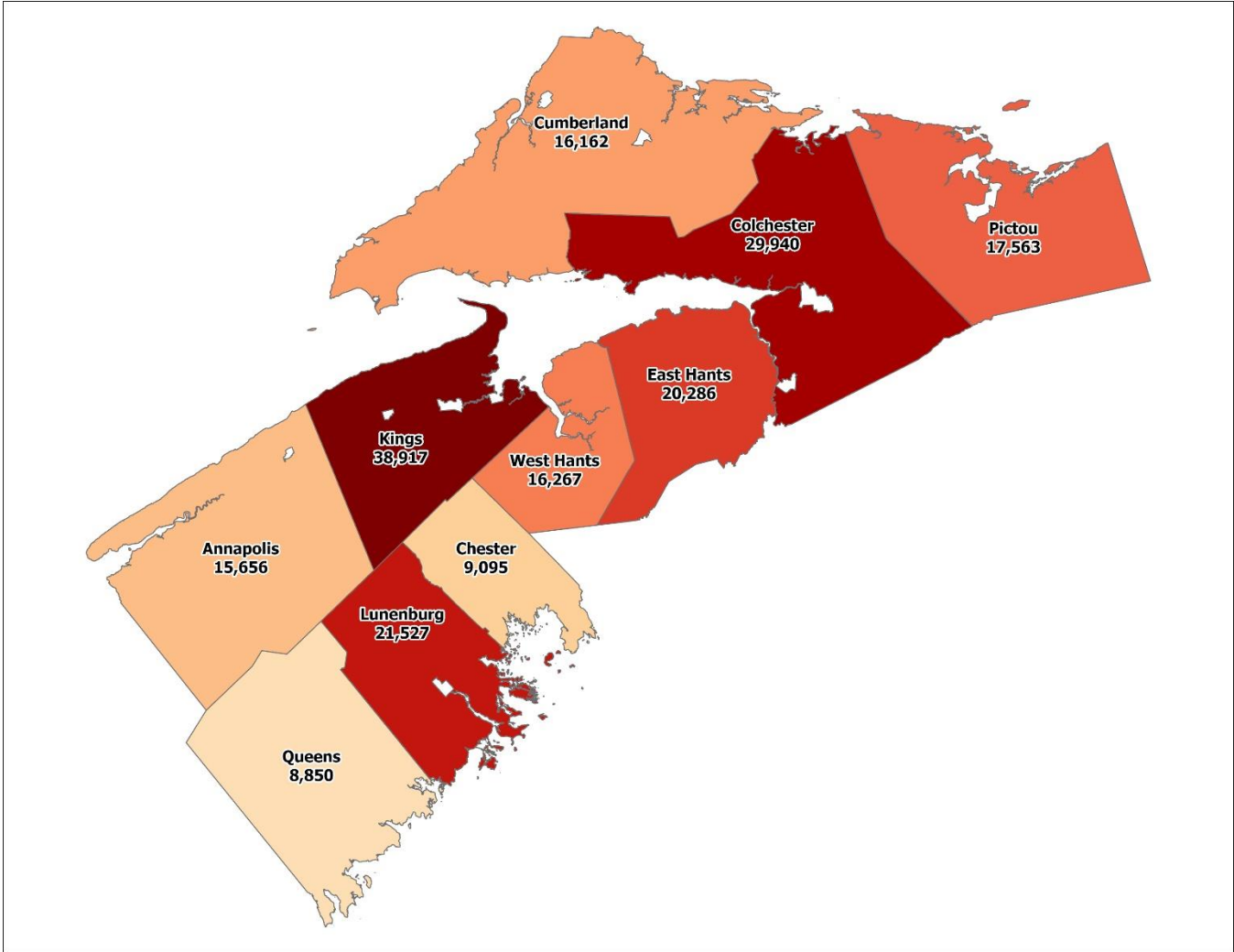
An on-line survey will also go live later this month providing another opportunity for feedback.

Once these events are complete, Staff will bring forward a report regarding the size of Council. Once a decision is made on the size of Council, Phase 2 of the project will begin.

---

## Jurisdictional Scan

The following comparable municipal units have been identified as a useful benchmark.



**Jurisdictional Scan**

Municipality	# of Districts/Councillors	Style of Leadership	Total Voters	Voters per District
Region of Queens	7	Mayor	8850	1264
District of Chester	7	Warden	9095	1299
Annapolis County	11	Warden	15656	1423
Pictou County	12	Warden	17563	1464
Region of West Hants	11	Mayor	16267	1479
District of East Hants	11	Warden	20286	1844
Cumberland County	8	Mayor	16162	2020
<b>AVERAGE (not including East Hants)</b>				<b>2016</b>
District of Lunenburg	10	Mayor	21527	2153
Colchester County	11	Mayor	29940	2722
Kings County	9	Mayor	38917	4324



## Conclusion

Staff have provided an update on Phase 1 public consultation and outlined the factors that should go into deciding the size of Council including governance structure, public input and examining comparable municipal units.

---

## Recommendation

There is no recommendation associated with this report.



## 2022 Polling District Review

May 16, 2022 – Kennetcook

May 17, 2022 – Elmsdale

May 18, 2022 – Mt. Uniacke



**EAST HANTS**



## Background

- The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires municipal governments to conduct a review of their respective polling district boundaries in 2022. Section 369 (1) of the MGA states that:

*In the year 1999, and in the years 2006 and every eighth year thereafter the council shall conduct a study of the number and boundaries of polling districts in the municipality, their fairness and reasonableness and the number of councilors.*

- Following the completion of the polling boundary review municipalities are required to submit an application to the NSUARB to either confirm or alter the number and boundaries of polling districts.
- The application must be submitted to the NSUARB before the end of 2022.
- However, the NSUARB has granted East Hants a 6 month extension if needed.



## Background

- The last polling district review conducted by the municipality was completed in December 2014.
- The Board rejected the municipality's application to reduce the size of council from 13 to 12 and the Board ordered that the size of Council be set at 11.
- The municipality then went about setting boundaries for 11 districts.
- The Board approved boundaries for 11 districts that were in place for the 2016 and 2020 elections and they remain in place today.
- Any new boundaries established through this review will come into effect with the next municipal election in October 2024.

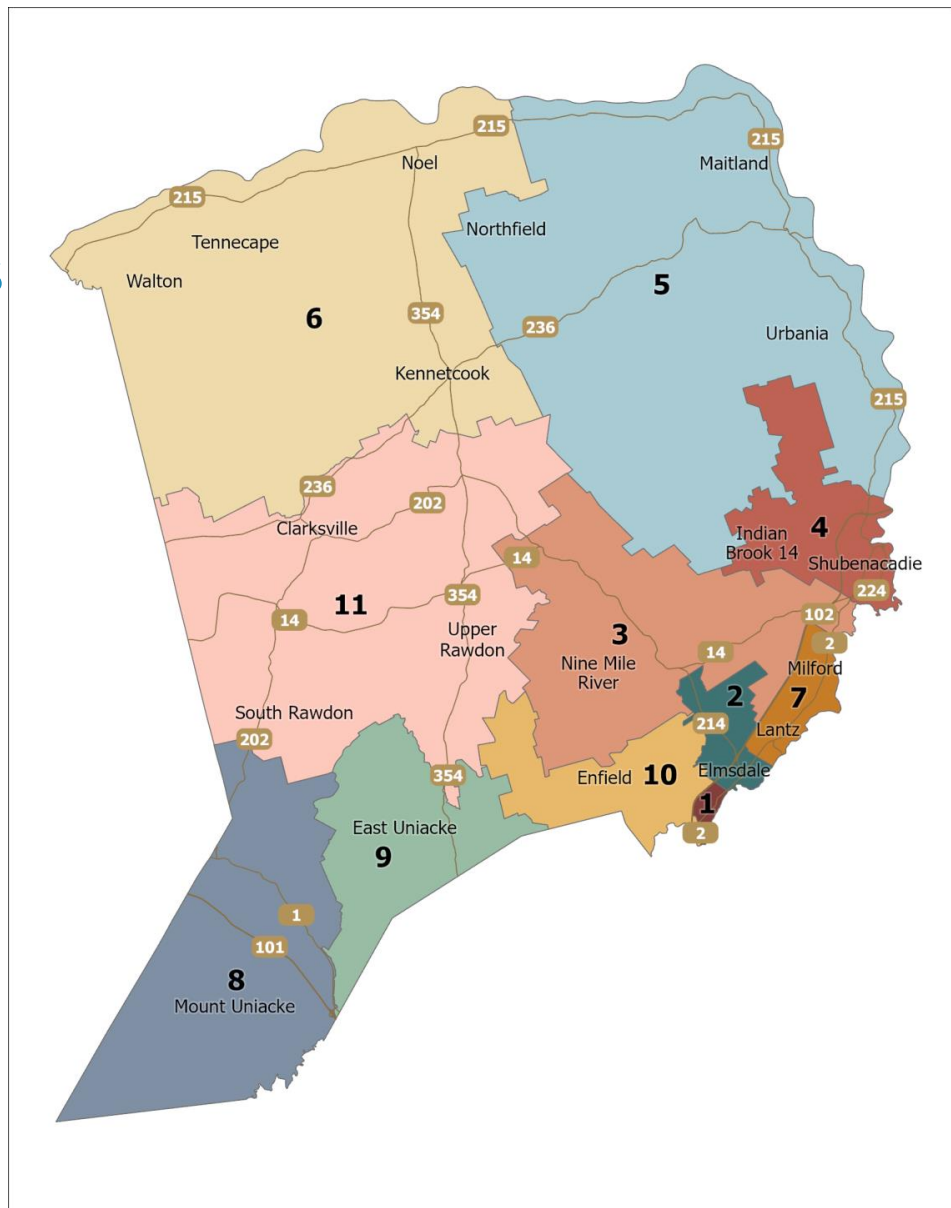


## Discussion

- The Board directs that the review should be done in two phases:
  1. Determine the number of districts/councillors.
  2. Determine the boundaries for the proposed districts.
- Both phases should incorporate public consultation.
- The three public meetings this week as well as an on-line survey form the public consultation for this first phase.
- Staff will incorporate feedback from these meetings as well as the survey into a report back to Council prior to the size of Council being set.



# Current District Boundaries





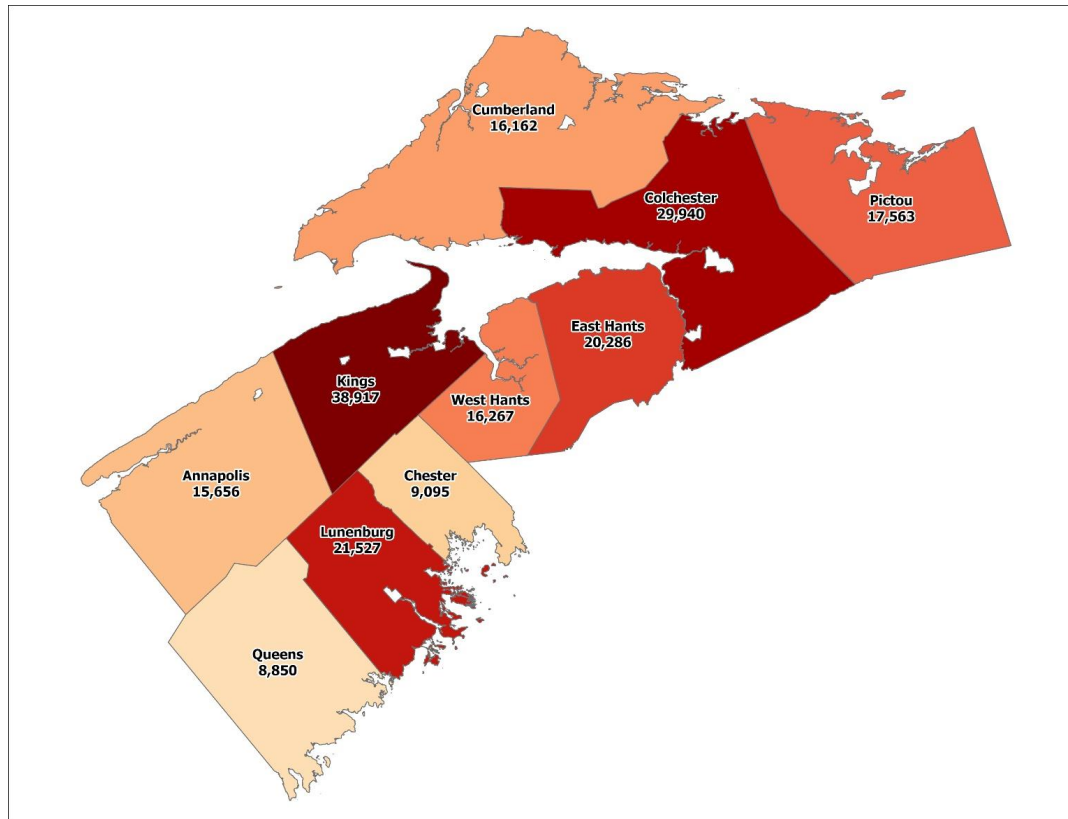
## Discussion

### Size of Council

- key considerations should be:
  - the desired style of council (full or part-time councillors, committee system, etc.)
  - the governance structure of council
  - and a determination of an effective and efficient number of councilors
- One example of how the ‘governance structure of council’ varies between municipal units is that larger municipalities such as HRM may have community councils, comprised of several councilors from an area, that have discretionary decision-making powers for within that area (planning approvals, recreation, etc.), while in units such as East Hants decisions are made by council as a whole.
- East Hants has also historically looked at comparable municipalities.



## Size of Council - Comparison to Peer Municipalities







## Size of Council - Comparison to Peer Municipalities

Municipality	# of Districts/Councillors	Style of Leadership	Total Voters *	Voters per District
Region of Queens	7	Mayor	8850	1264
District of Chester	7	Warden	9095	1299
Annapolis County	11	Warden	15656	1423
Pictou County	12	Warden	17563	1464
Region of West Hants	11	Mayor	16267	1479
District of East Hants	11	Warden	20286	1844
AVERAGE (not including East Hants)				2016
Cumberland County	8	Mayor	16162	2020
District of Lunenburg	10	Mayor	21527	2153
Colchester County	11	Mayor	29940	2722
Kings County	9	Mayor	38917	4324

\*From 2022 NS Voters List



## Discussion

### Mayor vs Warden

- Section 12(8) of the MGA enables Council to switch to a mayor system of leadership from a warden system.
- Council did consider it's leadership model and decided at the February meeting to stay with the Warden system for the 2024 election.
- This is relevant in considering the governance structure of Council and the total number of elected officials.



## Discussion

### District Boundaries

- Once the appropriate number of polling districts has been determined, the second phase of the process, that of distributing and delineating the polling districts, will begin.



# Process

	Q4 2021-22			Q1 2022-23			Q2 2022-23			Q3 2022-23			Q4 2022-23		
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M
Project Initiation	Grey														
Research & analysis of current voter parity	Grey	Grey	Grey												
Phase I Public Consultation					Red										
Prep & Presentation of Scenarios to Council						Grey	Grey								
Phase 2 Public Consultation									Grey						
Preparation of Final Proposal									Grey	Grey					
Council Approval										Grey					
Submission to NSUARB											Grey				
NSUARB Hearing													?		
NSUARB Decision															?
Implement New Boundaries													Election October 2024 >		

# Further Information & Contact

Go to:

[www.easthants.ca](http://www.easthants.ca)



On-line Survey 

John Woodford

[jwoodford@easthants.ca](mailto:jwoodford@easthants.ca)

902.883.6120

**EAST HANTS**  
Nature created this wonder. We live it!

I'm looking for...  TEXT SIZE A A A

Stay Connected: [f](#) [t](#) [y](#) [m](#)

RESIDENTS BUSINESS EXPLORE GOVERNMENT

News > 2022 Polling District Review

## 2022 Polling District Review

### Public Meeting and Survey

What kind of Local Government do you want?

The Municipality is required by s. 369 of the Municipal Government Act to conduct a review of its polling districts every 8 years. The current review is taking place this year in preparation for the next Municipal Election in 2024.

- The first phase of the review is to determine if the current 11 Council districts are still the appropriate number.
- The second part of the review will look at the proposed districts to make sure that there are about the same number of voters in each district. The target is for districts to be within +/- 10% of each other.

Prior to making decisions regarding the appropriate number of polling districts and their boundaries, we would like to hear from you in person or online as follows:

#### Public Meetings

- Monday, May 16, 7 p.m. - Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Road, Kennetcook
- Tuesday, May 17, 7 p.m. - Room 168, Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale
- Wednesday, May 18, 7 p.m. - Unlacke Fire Hall, 654 Highway 1, Mount Unlacke

At the meetings, staff will provide background information on the review and provide the opportunity for questions and feedback on the size of council.

#### Online Survey

Have your say by taking part in our Online Survey

#### Reports

Polling District Review Report #1 - January 2022  
 Polling District Review Report #2 - February 2022  
 Polling District Review Report #3 - April 2022

**Subject:** *2022 Polling District Review Report # 4, Phase 1 - Size of Council*  
**To:** CAO for Corporate & Residential Services Committee, June 21, 2022  
**Date Prepared:** June 8, 2022  
**Related Motions:** CRS22(3), CRS22(4), CRS22(5), CRS22(22)  
**Prepared by:** John Woodford, Director of Planning and Development  
**Approved by:** Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer

---

## Summary

This fourth report on the polling district review discusses results from Phase 1 public consultation, provides a jurisdictional scan of voters per district and the geographical size of districts in comparable municipalities and makes a recommendation on the size of Council.

## Financial Impact Statement

There is no financial impact as a result of adopting this report. Advertising and hall rental costs associated with this project have been provided for in the 2022-23 Operating Budget.

## Recommendation

That the size of Council be set at 11 and staff be directed prepare draft district boundaries.

## Recommended Motion

*The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council set the size of Council at 11 and direct staff to prepare draft district boundaries.*

---

## Background

This is the fourth report regarding the 2022 Polling District Review. Decisions made by Council to date include:

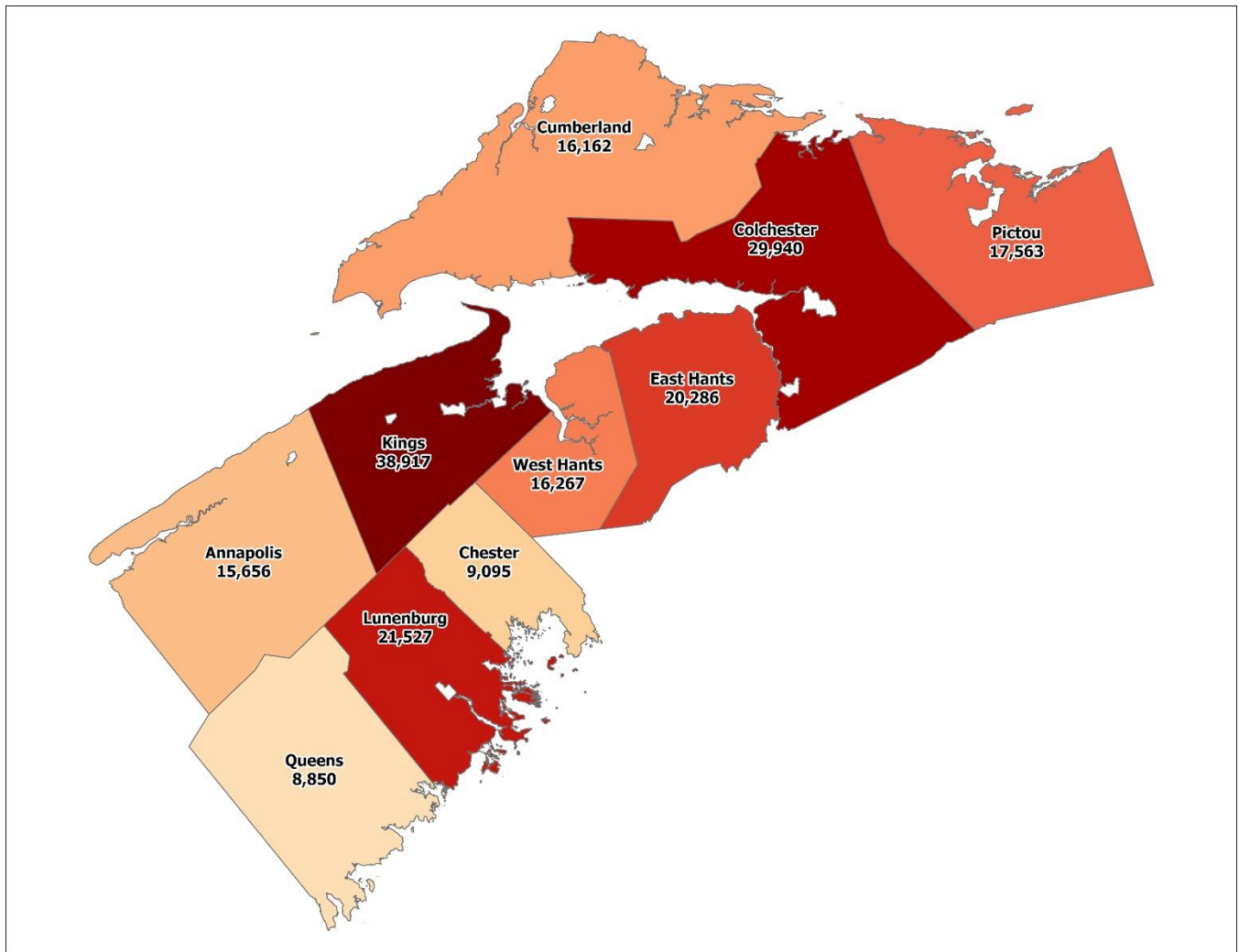
- Endorsed the project moving ahead
- Sought approval from the NS Utility & Review Board for up to a year's extension due to Covid 19. The Board granted up to a 6 month extension.
- Decided to keep the Warden system and not seek public opinion on switching to a Mayoral system of leadership.
- Approved the public consultation program conducted in Phase 1.

This report discusses the results from the public consultation conducted as part of Phase 1 of the review and provides a jurisdictional scan showing voters per district and the geographical size of districts within comparable municipalities.

---

## Voters per District

The map below shows the peer municipalities that East Hants has been compared to.



As can be seen in the table below, with 1844 voters per district, East Hants is below the average of 2077 for this peer group. As a result, East Hants could decrease the size of Council by one and still be below the average number of voters per district. However, it should be noted that 6 of the 9 comparable municipalities also have an elected mayor. In addition, staff are of the opinion that East Hants is just beginning a period of high population growth. As a result, staff see it as advantageous that the number of voters per district is below the average for these peer municipalities given that the polling districts typically stay in place for 8 years. Staff expect that by the next mandated polling review, that East Hants will have an above average number of voters per district compared to these peer municipalities.

Municipality	# of Districts/Councillors	Style of Leadership	Total Voters	Voters per District
Region of Queens	7	Mayor	8850	1264
District of Chester	7	Warden	9095	1299
Annapolis County	11	Warden	15656	1423
Pictou County	12	Warden	17563	1464
Region of West Hants	11	Mayor	16267	1479
<b>District of East Hants</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Warden</b>	<b>20286</b>	<b>1844</b>
Cumberland County	8	Mayor	16162	2020
<b>AVERAGE (not including East Hants)</b>				<b>2077</b>
District of Lunenburg	10	Mayor	21527	2153
Colchester County	11	Mayor	29940	2722
Kings County	9	Mayor	38917	4324

## Polling District Area Comparison

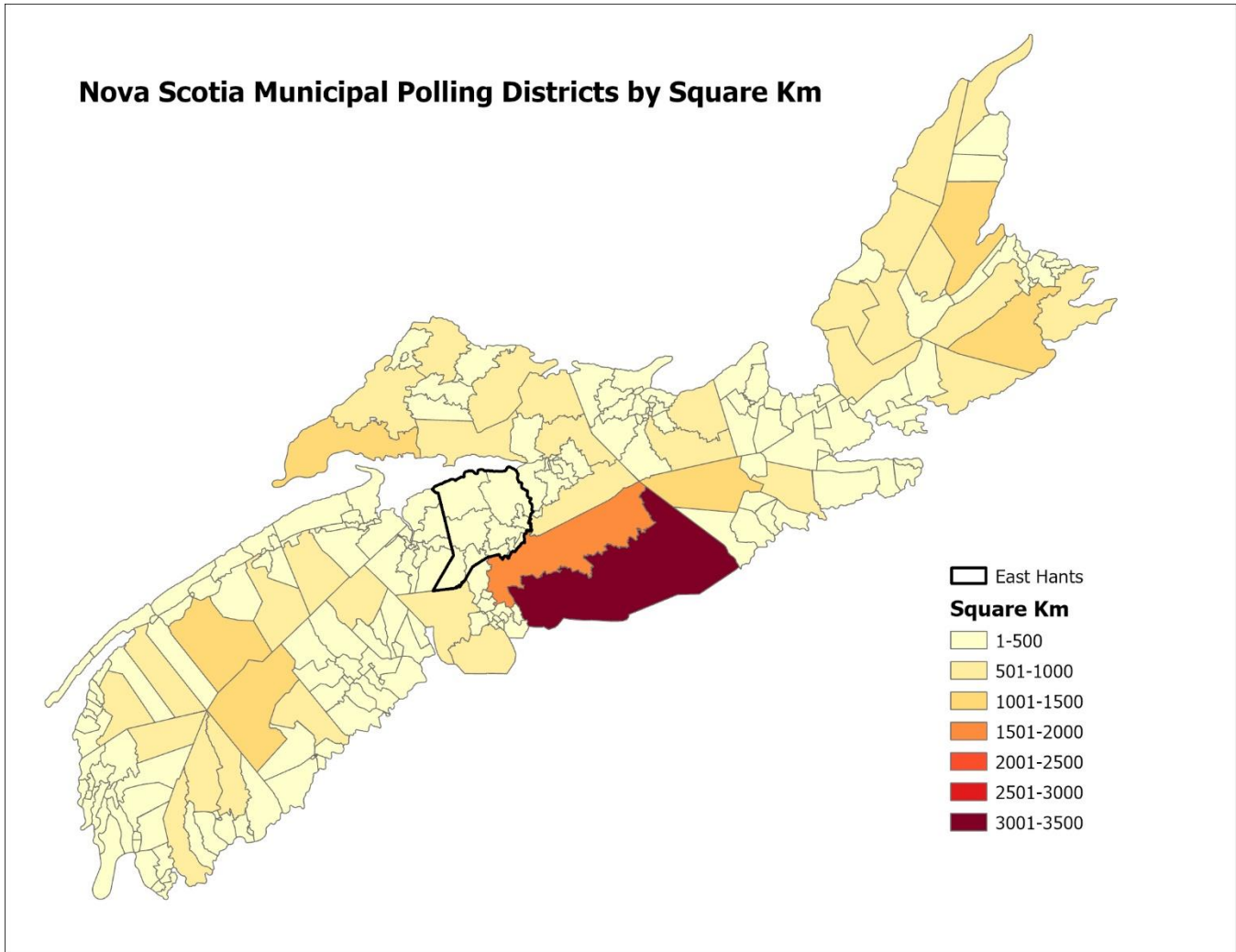
In one of the Phase 1 public information meetings there was concern expressed regarding the size of rural polling districts. This concern could be amplified as East Hants enters a period of high growth for the more urban areas. To maintain voter parity with greater population growth in urban areas, rural districts will undoubtedly increase in size or the size of Council will have to increase.

With the voters per district already below the average for the peer group of municipalities, increasing the size of Council seems unlikely. As a result, it would be appropriate to look at the current area of polling districts in East Hants and peer municipalities to see if increasing the size of rural East Hants districts could lead to concerns that they are becoming too large.

Municipality	Number of Districts	Ave District in KM <sup>2</sup>	Max District in KM <sup>2</sup>
Region of West Hants	11	121.4	353.7
District of Lunenburg	10	233.1	423.8
<b>District of East Hants</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>169.2</b>	<b>460.2</b>
District of Chester	7	190.3	553.5
Pictou County	12	251.2	643.7
Kings County	9	250.1	678.6
<b>AVE MAX (not including East Hants)</b>			<b>812</b>
Colchester County	11	334.7	844.7
Cumberland County	8	581.9	1113.7
Annapolis County	11	314.5	1241.9
Region of Queens	7	419.1	1454.9



As can be seen in the table above, the average and maximum size of polling districts in East Hants are well below the averages for the peer municipalities examined. Specifically, the average area of a polling district in East Hants is 169.2 KM<sup>2</sup> while the average of the peer group of municipalities is 299.6 KM<sup>2</sup>. More importantly, the largest polling district in East Hants is 460.2 KM<sup>2</sup> whereas the largest polling district average among the peer municipalities is 812 KM<sup>2</sup>. The largest polling district found in a peer municipality is 1454.9 KM<sup>2</sup>. As a result, staff have determined that the size of polling districts in East Hants is not currently a concern compared to peer municipalities. When draft district boundaries have been prepared, staff will again compare the size of the polling districts to determine if there is a concern in relation to our peer municipalities.



## Phase 1 Consultation

In the January report, staff outlined public consultation proposed to take place with each phase. This consultation consisted of 3 community meetings as well as an on-line survey.

### Community Meetings

The following community meetings were arranged to garner public feedback on the size of Council:

- May 16<sup>th</sup> Kennetcook Fire Hall
- May 17<sup>th</sup> Lloyd E. Matheson Centre
- May 18<sup>th</sup> Uniacke Fire Hall

The meetings were advertised on the municipal website, the May 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> editions of the Chronicle Herald newspaper and municipal social media platforms.

The meetings were lightly attended as noted in the meeting notes found in Appendix A of this report. However, there were some opinions and suggestions expressed at these meetings as follows:

- Should include an analysis of not just the voters per district from other municipalities but the geographic size of districts
- Why no public consultation on mayor vs warden decision? Issue should be revisited later.
- Council should be much smaller
- Council of 11 is difficult, should be 6 or 8

## On-line Survey

An on-line survey was active from May 3, 2022 until June 1, 2022. The complete results from the survey are found in Appendix B of this report. In total there were 48 responses from 16 different communities across East Hants.

When asked if the size of Council should increase, decrease or stay the same, 75% of respondents indicated that Council should stay the same. 23% indicated Council should be smaller and only 2% indicated that Council should increase in size.

For those that felt Council size should change, Question 4 asked what their preferred Council size should be. Many answered this question with a range (e.g., 7 to 9). For those that gave a specific number, 9 was the most common.

The last question invited comments. Responses included:

- Concern about diminished rural representation
- There should be a mayor
- The importance of voter parity
- Concern about splitting communities between polling districts
- These reviews happen too frequently
- The current arrangement is fine

At least once response commented on the federal electoral boundary review currently underway as opposed to the municipal polling district review.

Overall, staff do not see a great deal of public interest in the review. For those that have spoken up there is a sense that most are satisfied with the current size of Council.

---

## Conclusion

Staff have completed Phase I of the Polling District Review. This included examining voters per district and geographic size of districts for comparable municipalities. Public consultation involved three public meetings as well as an on-line survey. Staff have concluded that the current size of Council is appropriate, even with the expected growth over the next 8 years.

Once Council endorses the Council size Phase II of the review can begin. In this phase Staff will prepare information on current voter parity and any needed boundary adjustments.

---

## Recommendation

That the size of Council be set at 11 and staff be directed prepare draft district boundaries.

Appendix A  
Public Meeting Notes



EAST HANTS

Meeting Notes

Phase 1 Public Consultation Meeting

Polling District Review

Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Road, Kennetcook

May 16, 2022

+	
Staff in attendance:	John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
Public in attendance:	3 members of the public attended
Questions & Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How big geographically are polling districts in East Hants?</li><li>• How do East Hants districts compare to other municipalities?</li></ul>



Phase 1 Public Consultation Meeting

Polling District Review

Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale

May 17, 2022

Staff in attendance:	John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
Public in attendance:	4 members of the public attended
Questions & Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why no public consultation on mayor vs warden decision?</li> <li>• Mayor vs Warden should be revisited later.</li> <li>• Council should be much smaller: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If more than 50,000 population should be 8 councillors plus a mayor</li> <li>○ If less than 50,000 population should be 6 councillors plus a mayor</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 90% of issues are municipal wide, district shouldn't matter.</li> <li>• Growth we are experiencing will lead to greater efficiency of government with greater density.</li> <li>• Should use area advisory committees similar to community councils in HRM</li> <li>• Council of 11 is difficult, should be 6 or 8</li> </ul>



**Phase 1 Public Consultation Meeting**

**Polling District Review**

**Uniacke Fire Hall, 654 Highway No. 1, Mt. Uniacke**

May 18, 2022

Staff in attendance:	John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
Public in attendance:	0 members of the public attended
Questions & Comments:	•

## Appendix B

### On-line Survey Results

Polling District Review Online Survey

#### Q1 Which community do you live in?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	West Gore	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
2	Maple Grove	5/26/2022 9:59 PM
3	Elmsdale	5/23/2022 10:14 AM
4	Lantz	5/22/2022 11:04 PM
5	Milford	5/18/2022 8:49 PM
6	East Hants	5/18/2022 6:28 PM
7	Enfield	5/18/2022 3:45 PM
8	Maitland	5/18/2022 11:36 AM
9	Maitland	5/18/2022 8:46 AM
10	East Hants	5/18/2022 7:27 AM
11	Elmsdale	5/18/2022 6:44 AM
12	Enfield	5/17/2022 3:44 PM
13	Milford	5/17/2022 12:51 PM
14	Enfield	5/17/2022 8:29 AM
15	Enfield	5/17/2022 7:50 AM
16	rines creek	5/17/2022 6:49 AM
17	Enfield	5/16/2022 6:27 PM
18	Milford	5/16/2022 5:55 PM
19	Mill Village	5/16/2022 4:14 PM
20	selma	5/16/2022 2:53 PM
21	Nine Mile River	5/16/2022 2:19 PM
22	Maitland	5/16/2022 12:06 PM
23	Milford	5/16/2022 9:04 AM
24	Enfield	5/16/2022 8:05 AM
25	Milford	5/16/2022 7:37 AM
26	Noel Road	5/16/2022 7:17 AM
27	Nine mile river	5/15/2022 8:39 AM
28	Lantz	5/14/2022 11:09 PM
29	Enfield	5/14/2022 9:11 PM
30	Enfield	5/14/2022 9:03 AM
31	Lantz	5/13/2022 2:37 PM
32	Enfield	5/13/2022 9:04 AM
33	Shubenacadie	5/12/2022 9:39 PM

1 / 2

Polling District Review Online Survey

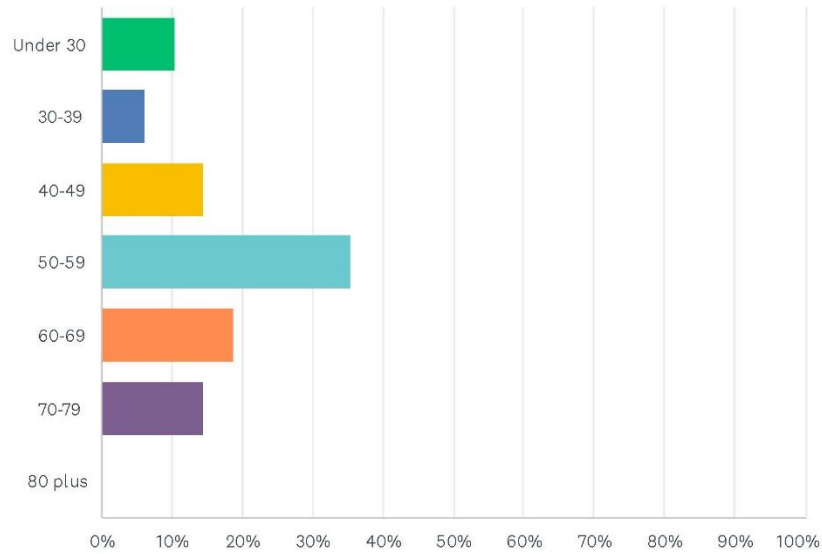
34	Mount uniacke	5/12/2022 9:33 PM
35	Lantz	5/12/2022 8:37 PM
36	Lantz	5/12/2022 8:25 PM
37	Shubenacadie	5/12/2022 6:35 PM
38	Enfield	5/12/2022 6:17 PM
39	Shubenacadie	5/12/2022 5:33 PM
40	Elmsdale	5/12/2022 5:27 PM
41	Enfield	5/11/2022 8:33 AM
42	Kennetcook	5/11/2022 8:26 AM
43	Enfield	5/6/2022 9:51 AM
44	Lakelands	5/4/2022 9:22 PM
45	Mt. Uniacke	5/4/2022 9:05 PM
46	Lantz	5/4/2022 7:22 PM
47	Nine Mile River	5/4/2022 5:03 PM
48	a	5/4/2022 9:16 AM



Polling District Review Online Survey

### Q2 What age demographic are you in?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

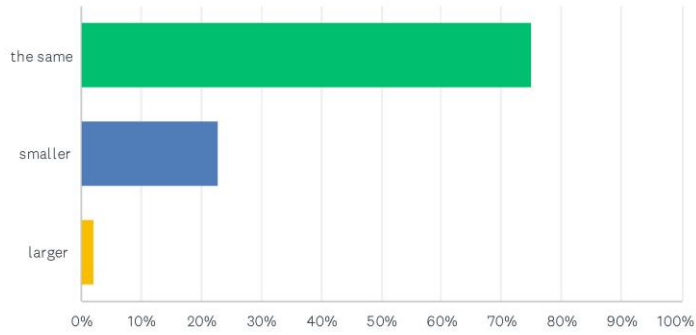


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 30	10.42%	5
30-39	6.25%	3
40-49	14.58%	7
50-59	35.42%	17
60-69	18.75%	9
70-79	14.58%	7
80 plus	0.00%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>48</b>

Polling District Review Online Survey

Q3 East Hants currently has 11 councillors, do you prefer a Council that is:

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
the same	75.00%	36
smaller	22.92%	11
larger	2.08%	1
TOTAL		48

Polling District Review Online Survey

Q4 If you feel Council should change, what is your preferred number of councillors?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 14

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Same	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
2	N/A	5/26/2022 9:59 PM
3	7 with a mayor elected at large	5/23/2022 10:14 AM
4	4	5/22/2022 11:04 PM
5	7	5/18/2022 3:45 PM
6	11	5/18/2022 8:46 AM
7	No change	5/18/2022 7:27 AM
8	N/A	5/17/2022 3:44 PM
9	Less	5/17/2022 8:29 AM
10	N/A	5/17/2022 7:50 AM
11	like current number	5/17/2022 6:49 AM
12	7 -9	5/16/2022 6:27 PM
13	NA	5/16/2022 5:55 PM
14	9	5/16/2022 4:14 PM
15	the same number as now	5/16/2022 2:53 PM
16	9	5/16/2022 12:06 PM
17	11	5/16/2022 9:04 AM
18	n/a	5/16/2022 8:05 AM
19	Proper representation for each community	5/16/2022 7:37 AM
20	8	5/14/2022 11:09 PM
21	It's fine	5/14/2022 9:11 PM
22	6	5/13/2022 9:04 AM
23	One or two less	5/12/2022 9:39 PM
24	NA	5/12/2022 9:33 PM
25	N/A	5/12/2022 8:37 PM
26	11	5/12/2022 8:25 PM
27	NA	5/12/2022 6:35 PM
28	9	5/12/2022 5:27 PM
29	N/A	5/11/2022 8:33 AM
30	8 or 9	5/6/2022 9:51 AM
31	9	5/4/2022 9:05 PM

Polling District Review Online Survey

32	8 to 9	5/4/2022 7:22 PM
33	No change	5/4/2022 5:03 PM
34	2	5/4/2022 9:16 AM

Polling District Review Online Survey

Q5 Is there anything else you would like to share with us on the size of Council?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 16

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
2	I hope that rural representation doesn't diminish. It's already lopsided	5/26/2022 9:59 PM
3	Voter parity is important, where possible, within 5-7 %. The vast majority of municipalities in Nova Scotia have a mayor elected at large. Just a few rural municipalities don't. This is a very important governance matter and should have included public input and engagement, it did not. East Hants Council is a part time civic duty with most matters/questions directed to staff for action. Council's primary role is strategic executive level oversight, budget review and approval and municipal services are the right ones, responsive and cost effective. A smaller Council can do this very effectively.	5/23/2022 10:14 AM
4	nah	5/22/2022 11:04 PM
5	Do not change electoral counties.	5/18/2022 6:28 PM
6	N/A	5/18/2022 3:45 PM
7	No	5/18/2022 8:46 AM
8	Leave it as it is	5/18/2022 7:27 AM
9	No	5/17/2022 3:44 PM
10	If it has worked this long, why does the municipality feel the need to change something that isn't broken? This is tearing apart our communities and county! Why not expand it to more council within the communities instead of separating us into counties that DO NOT even border us? This makes no sense whatsoever.	5/17/2022 12:51 PM
11	Do NOT change the boundaries	5/17/2022 8:29 AM
12	N/A	5/17/2022 7:50 AM
13	No	5/16/2022 6:27 PM
14	polling districts should remain as is! why change what works? What do we have in common with the communities in the proposed changes....NOTHING!!	5/16/2022 5:55 PM
15	No	5/16/2022 4:14 PM
16	if the council gets smaller there will be not proper representation	5/16/2022 2:53 PM
17	No	5/16/2022 12:06 PM
18	No	5/16/2022 9:04 AM
19	no - however we do not want to split up East Hants - leave it as is - whoever thought of changing the boundaries to include us is Pictou has no sense of our demographics. totally insane!	5/16/2022 8:05 AM
20	I am not a fan of half of Milford being wrapped into the Lantz district. It splits the community into two separate councillors districts.	5/16/2022 7:37 AM
21	Combine areas to reflect size	5/14/2022 11:09 PM
22	No	5/14/2022 9:11 PM
23	Good as is	5/12/2022 9:39 PM
24	No	5/12/2022 8:37 PM

## Polling District Review Online Survey

25	No	5/12/2022 8:25 PM
26	No	5/12/2022 6:35 PM
27	I think these district reviews happen too frequently. Personally I have to wonder if it wouldn't be better to have them only every decade or two.	5/12/2022 5:33 PM
28	N/A	5/11/2022 8:33 AM
29	Districts should be configured so that each councillor represents roughly the same number of residents. However, it is important to maintain strong representation for communities that aren't experiencing the same population growth as Enfield, Elmsdale, and Lantz.	5/6/2022 9:51 AM
30	A Mayor should be in place.	5/4/2022 7:22 PM
31	I am requesting no changes to East Hants boundaries - leave our communities as is!	5/4/2022 5:03 PM
32	nope	5/4/2022 9:16 AM



**Subject:** 2022 Polling District Review Report # 5, Phase 2 - District Boundaries  
**To:** CAO for Corporate & Residential Services Committee, November 15, 2022  
**Date Prepared:** November 8, 2022  
**Related Motions:** C22(11), C22(49), C22(227)  
**Prepared by:** John Woodford, Director of Planning and Development  
**Approved by:** Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer

---

## Summary

This fifth report on the polling district review discusses current voter parity issues, proposed boundary adjustments to address them and Phase 2 public consultation.

## Financial Impact Statement

There is no financial impact as a result of adopting this report. Advertising and hall rental costs associated with this project have been provided for in the 2022-23 Operating Budget.

## Recommendation

That Staff be directed to proceed with phase 2 public consultation using the preferred 11 district option.

## Recommended Motion

*The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council authorize staff to proceed with the Polling District Review Phase 2 public consultation using the preferred option (Fb)*

## Background

This is the fifth report regarding the 2022 Polling District Review. Decisions made by Council to date include:

- ❑ Endorsed the project moving ahead
- ❑ Sought approval from the NS Utility & Review Board for up to a year's extension due to Covid 19. The Board granted up to a 6 month extension.
- ❑ Decided to keep the Warden system and not seek public opinion on switching to a Mayoral system of leadership.
- ❑ Approved the public consultation program conducted in Phase 1.
- ❑ Approved a Council size of 11.
- ❑ Decided to hold 2 workshops with all councillors to review 11 district scenarios.
- ❑ Directed Staff to prepare a 12 district scenario.

This report discusses voter parity and a proposed 11 district option resulting from the Council workshops and project completion.

## Current Voter Parity

To determine current voter parity, staff obtained information from the Provincial Voters List maintained by Elections Nova Scotia.

Elections Nova Scotia updates the voters' list using many different methods. On an ongoing basis, Elections Nova Scotia selectively receives data from several sources including the Registry of Motor Vehicles, Vital Statistics, the Nova Scotia Civic Address File, Elections Canada, municipal elections and field work done by Returning Officers and Elections Nova Scotia staff.

Staff believe that this is the most reliable and current information available for electors in East Hants.

As can be seen in the following table, which is based on information obtained from the Province in April 2022, 5 of the 11 districts are beyond the +/- 10% guidance provided by the NS Utility & Review Board. As a result, significant boundary changes will be required.

Current Voter Parity (April 2022)			
Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield	2261	+417	+22.6%
2 Elmsdale-Belnan	1899	+55	+3.0%
3 Milford-Nine Mile River	1885	+41	+2.2%
4 Shubenacadie	2002	+158	+8.6%
5 Maitland-MacPhee's Corner	1579	-265	-14.3%
6 Walton-Noel-Kennetcook	1417	-427	-23.2%
7 Lantz-Milford	2426	+582	+31.6%
8 Mount Uniacke	1666	-178	-9.7%
9 South-East Uniacke	1606	-238	-12.9%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1787	-57	-3.1%



11 Rawdon-Gore	1758	-86	-4.7%
TOTAL	20286		
AVERAGE	1844		

Given the unprecedented growth East Hants is experiencing, it would obviously be ideal to know the number of electors in each district closer to the election in October 2024. As a result, staff examined current building permits, site plan approvals, subdivision applications and approved development agreements to estimate the number of additional occupied dwellings and therefore electors in each district by October 2024. Dwelling units were included only if they currently have a building permit or where there is a high probability that a building permit will be issued by December 2023.

As a result of this conservative approach, no dwelling units in the table below are accounted for from the Armco development in Lantz or the FH development in Elmsdale, although both developments have approved development agreements and are currently going through the subdivision process.

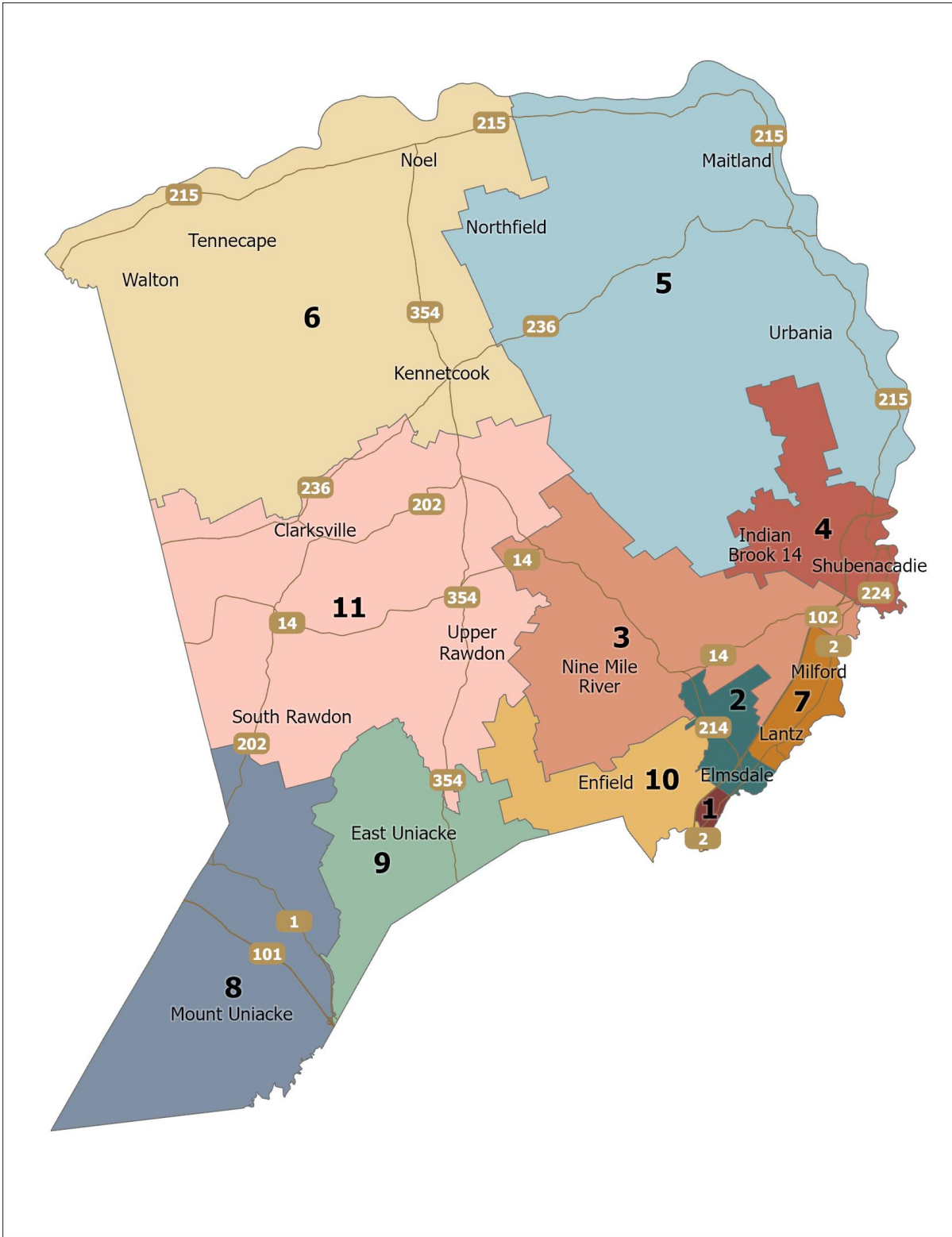
Projected Voter Parity (October 2024)			
Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield	2595	+633	+32.3%
2 Elmsdale-Belnan	1968	+6	+0.3%
3 Milford-Nine Mile River	1900	-62	-3.2%
4 Shubenacadie	2002	+40	+2.0%
5 Maitland-MacPhee's Corner	1579	-383	-19.5%
6 Walton-Noel-Kennetcook	1417	-545	-27.8%
7 Lantz-Milford	3047	+1085	+55.3%
8 Mount Uniacke	1723	-239	-12.2%
9 South-East Uniacke	1760	-202	-10.3%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1800	-162	-8.3%
11 Rawdon-Gore	1793	-169	-8.6%
TOTAL	21584		
AVERAGE	1962		

## Discussion

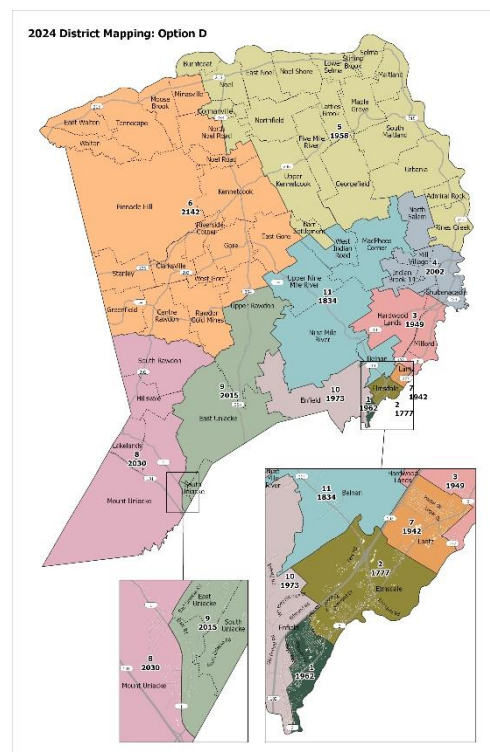
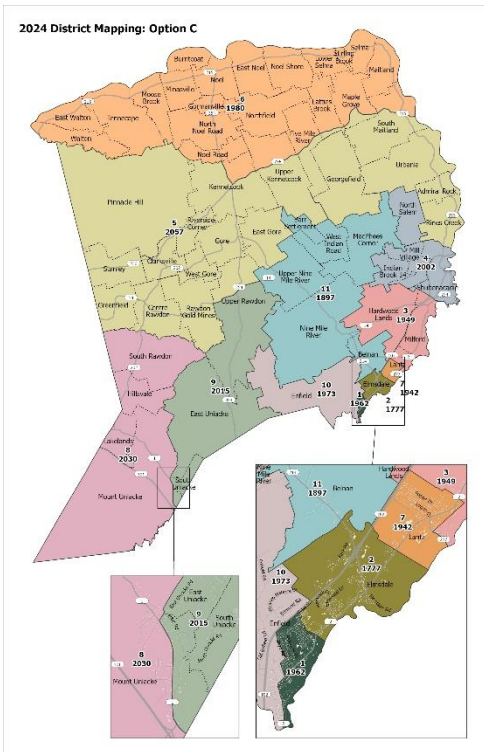
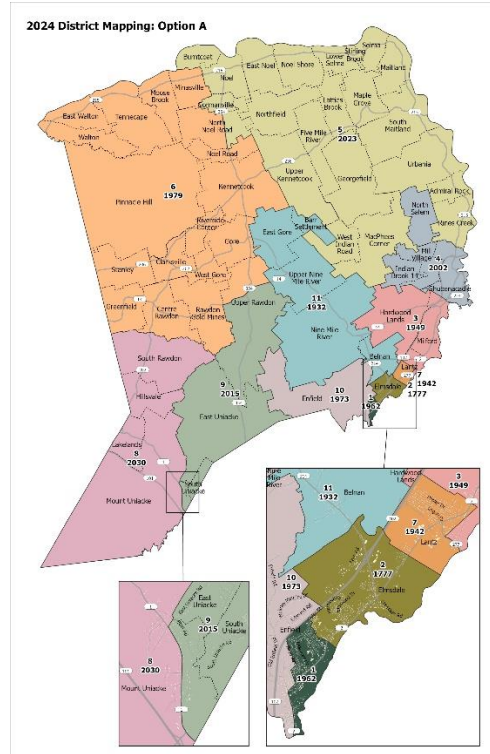
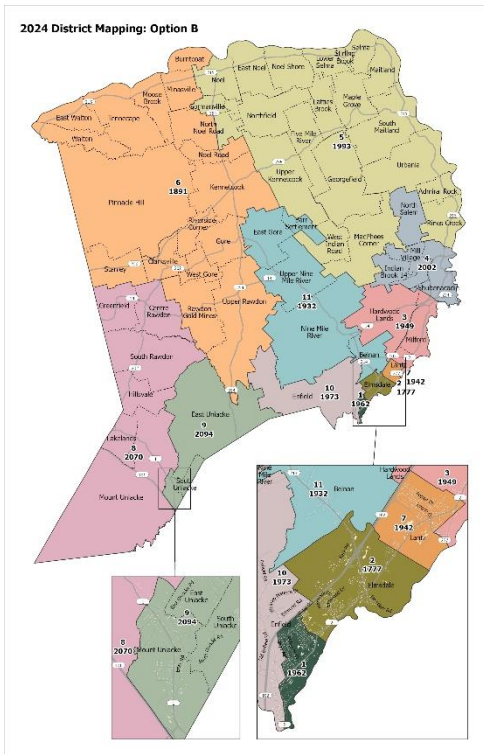
Changes to district boundaries should respect voter parity, community of interest and be logical geographical entities.

The NSUARB guidance is that each district should be within +/- 10% of the average. In extraordinary circumstances the Board may allow up to a +/- 25% variance.

# CURRENT DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

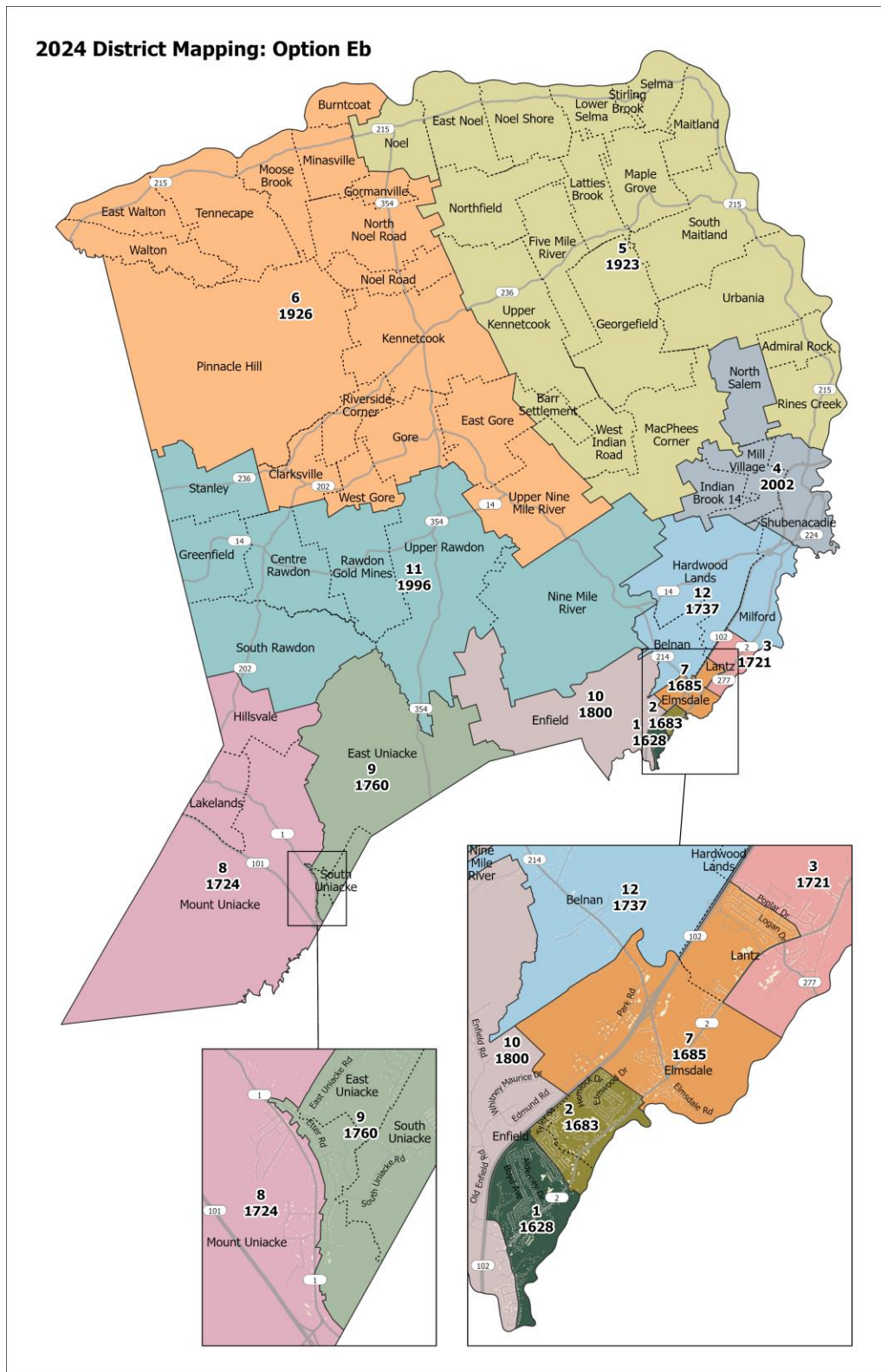


Staff prepared 4 options (shown below) that would have resulted in voter parity within the NSUARB guidance of +/-10% for all districts.



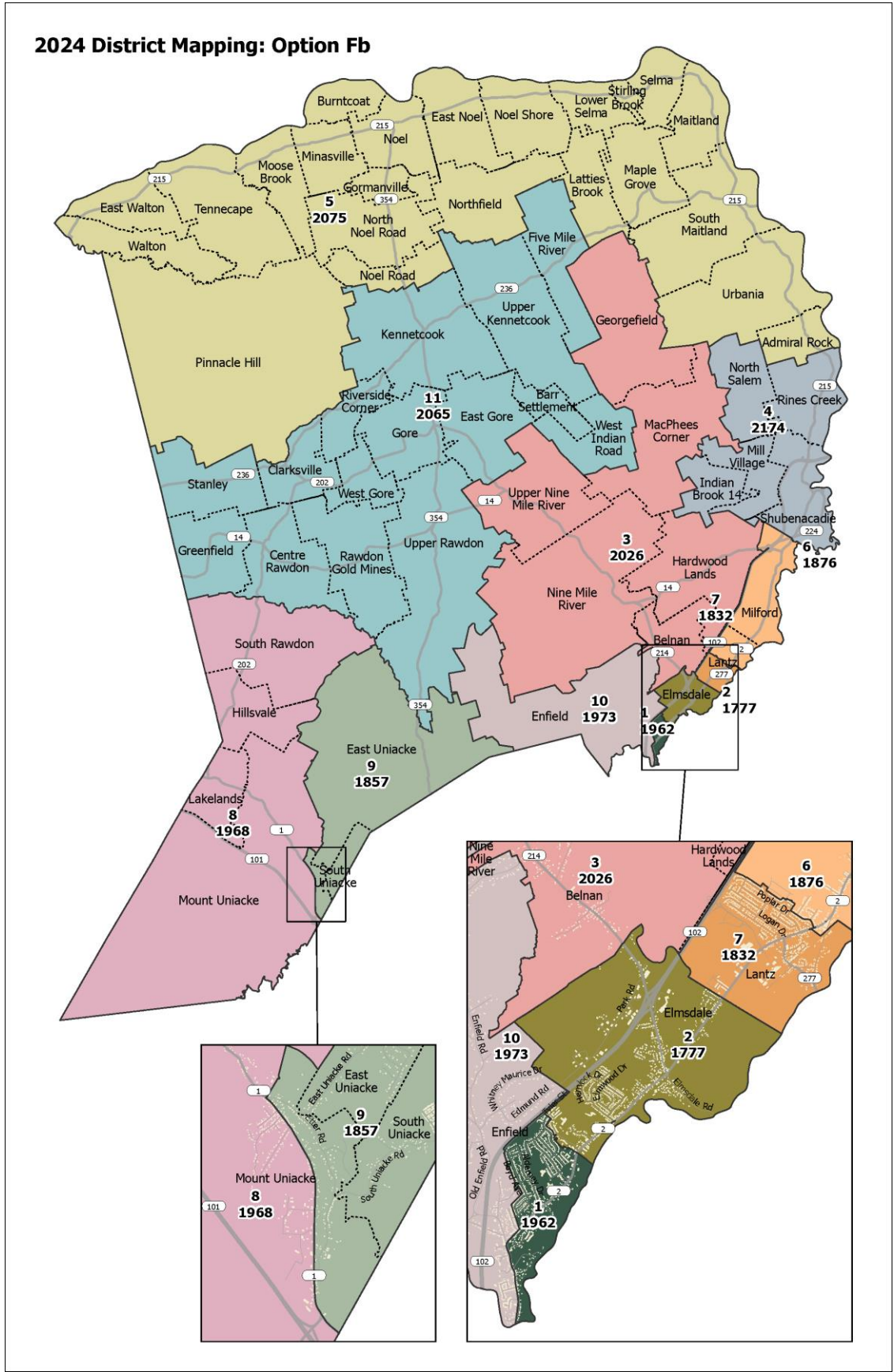
At September Executive Committee, concern was expressed with all 4 options and as a result, a decision was made to hold a workshop to refine the boundaries. A Councillor workshop was then held on October 20, 2022. A second workshop was held on October 27, 2022 to further review the 11 district options. A 12 district option (shown below) was also examined in the second council workshop.

# 12 DISTRICT OPTION BOUNDARIES



This 12 district option was deemed undesirable for the disruption caused by divisions between several communities (e.g., Enfield, Elmsdale, Lantz).

PREFERRED 11 DISTRICT OPTION



Option Fb			
Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield Centre	1962	0	0
2 Elmsdale	1777	-185	-9.4%
3 Nine Mile River-Belnan	2026	+64	+3.3%
4 Shubenacadie-Indian Brook	2174	+212	+10.8%
5 Maitland-Noel Shore	2075	+113	+5.8%
6 North Lantz-Milford	1876	-86	-4.4%
7 South Lantz	1832	-130	-6.6%
8 Mount Uniacke-South Rawdon	1968	+6	+0.3%
9 South Uniacke	2094	+53	+2.7%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1857	-105	-5.4%
11 Rawdon-Kennetcook	2065	+103	+5.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	21584		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1962		

Option Fb, the preferred option, results in 10 districts falling within the +/- 10% guidance. District 4 would fall just above the +/- 10% guidance at 10.8%. Staff believe that this variance is justifiable as:

- In previous decisions, the NSUARB has mandated that the community of Indian Brook not be divided between polling districts.
- The Board has also previously mandated that the communities of Shubenacadie, Indian Brook and North Salem be kept together in one district.

This option minimizes also the number of communities divided between districts.

Council workshop participants were generally in agreement that in Option Fb communities are grouped logically and respect community of interest.

---

## Phase 2 Public Consultation

Once Council approves a draft option, Phase 2 public consultation can begin.

To gain public feedback, Staff are proposing to hold 3 public meetings in Elmsdale, Mount Uniacke and Kennetcook. In addition, a second on-line survey will be held to garner opinions and the municipal website and social media will be used to share information regarding Phase 2 consultation.

---

## Conclusion

Existing voter parity issues require substantial boundary adjustments to stay within the NSUARB +/- 10% guidance. As a result, staff prepared 4 options for consideration containing 11 districts.

At the request of Council one option containing 12 districts was also prepared.

Two Council workshops were then held with councillors and staff to refine options. At the workshops, a preferred 11 district option emerged.

Authorization is now needed to share the preferred option with the public in phase 2. Following that consultation, Council should be in a position to approve a submission to the NSUARB.

---

## Recommendation

That Staff be directed to proceed with phase 2 public consultation using the preferred 11 district option.



## Polling District Review - Phase II

January 9, 2023 – Kennetcook  
January 11, 2023 – Mt Uniacke  
January 12, 2023 – Elmsdale



**EAST HANTS**





## Background

- The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires municipal governments to conduct a review of their respective polling district boundaries.
- Section 369 (1) of the MGA states that:

*In the year 1999, and in the years 2006 and every eighth year thereafter the council shall conduct a study of the number and boundaries of polling districts in the municipality, their fairness and reasonableness and the number of councilors.*
- Following the completion of the polling boundary review municipalities are required to submit an application to the Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board (NSUARB) to either confirm or alter the number and boundaries of polling districts.
- The application would typically need to be submitted to the NSUARB before the end of 2022.
- However, the NSUARB has granted East Hants a 6 month extension.



## Background

- The last polling district review conducted by the municipality was completed in 2014.
- The Board rejected the municipality's application to reduce the size of council from 13 to 12 and the Board ordered that the size of Council be set at 11.
- The municipality then went about setting boundaries for 11 districts.
- The Board approved boundaries for 11 districts that were in place for the 2016 and 2020 elections and they remain in place today.
- Any new boundaries established through this review will come into effect with the next municipal election in October 2024.



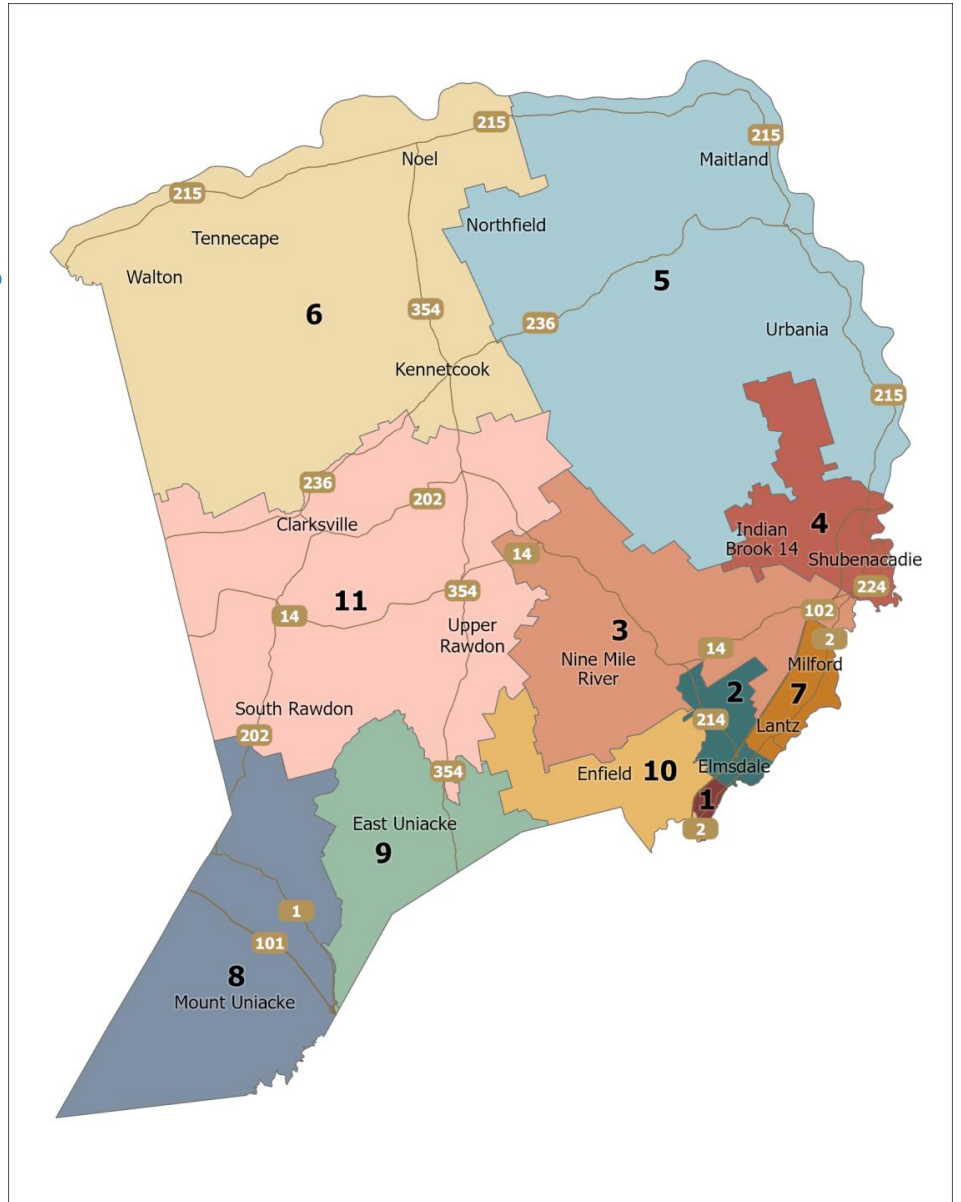
## Discussion

- The Board directs that the review should be done in two phases:
  1. Determine the number of districts/councillors.
  2. Determine the boundaries for the proposed districts.
- Both phases should incorporate public consultation.
- The three public meetings this week as well as an on-line survey form the public consultation for this second phase.
- Staff will incorporate feedback from these meetings as well as the survey into a report back to Council prior to the district boundaries being finalized.

### Mayor vs Warden

- Section 12(8) of the MGA enables Council to switch to a mayor system of leadership from a warden system.
- Council did consider it's leadership model and decided at the February 2022 meeting to stay with the Warden system for the 2024 election.
- This is relevant in considering the governance structure of Council and the total number of elected officials.

# Current District Boundaries





## Discussion

### Size of Council

- key considerations should be:
  - the desired style of council (full or part-time councillors, committee system, etc.)
  - the governance structure of council
  - and a determination of an effective and efficient number of councillors
- East Hants typically also look at comparable municipalities.
- At their June 2022 meeting Council decided to keep the size of Council at 11.



## Phase 1 Consultation

### Community Meetings

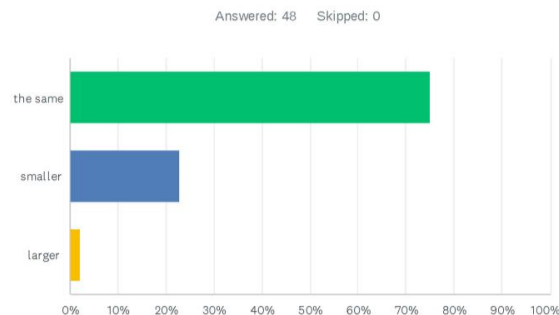
- Three community meetings were held on the size of Council in May 2022.
- The meetings were lightly attended. However, there were some opinions and suggestions expressed at these meetings as follows:
  - Should include an analysis of not just the voters per district from other municipalities but the geographic size of districts
  - Why no public consultation on mayor vs warden decision? Issue should be revisited later.
  - A few comments were also received indicating that Council should be smaller.



## Phase 1 Consultation On-line Survey

An on-line survey was active from May 3, 2022 until June 1, 2022. In total there were 48 responses from 16 different communities across East Hants.

Q3 East Hants currently has 11 councillors, do you prefer a Council that is:



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
the same	75.00%	36
smaller	22.92%	11
larger	2.08%	1
TOTAL		48

- When asked if the size of Council should increase, decrease or stay the same, 75% of respondents indicated that Council should stay the same. 23% indicated Council should be smaller and only 2% indicated that Council should increase in size.



## Current Voter Parity (April 2022)

Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield	2261	+417	+22.6%
2 Elmsdale-Belnan	1899	+55	+3.0%
3 Milford-Nine Mile River	1885	+41	+2.2%
4 Shubenacadie	2002	+158	+8.6%
5 Maitland-MacPhee's Corner	1579	-265	-14.3%
6 Walton-Noel-Kennetcook	1417	-427	-23.2%
7 Lantz-Milford	2426	+582	+31.6%
8 Mount Uniacke	1666	-178	-9.7%
9 South-East Uniacke	1606	-238	-12.9%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1787	-57	-3.1%
11 Rawdon-Gore	1758	-86	-4.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	20286		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1844		



## Projected Voter Parity (October 2024)

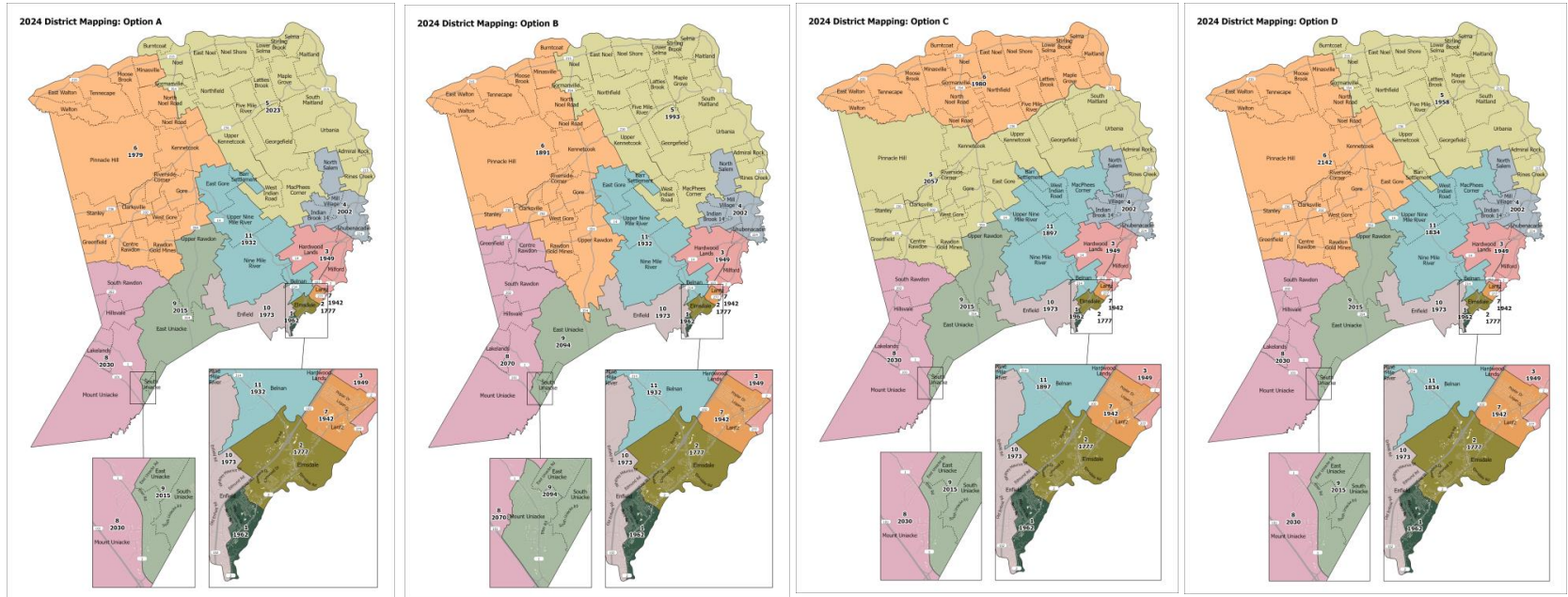
Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield	2595	+633	+32.3%
2 Elmsdale-Belnan	1968	+6	+0.3%
3 Milford-Nine Mile River	1900	-62	-3.2%
4 Shubenacadie	2002	+40	+2.0%
5 Maitland-MacPhee's Corner	1579	-383	-19.5%
6 Walton-Noel-Kennetcook	1417	-545	-27.8%
7 Lantz-Milford	3047	+1085	+55.3%
8 Mount Uniacke	1723	-239	-12.2%
9 South-East Uniacke	1760	-202	-10.3%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1800	-162	-8.3%
11 Rawdon-Gore	1793	-169	-8.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	21584		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1962		



## Considerations for Draft District Boundaries

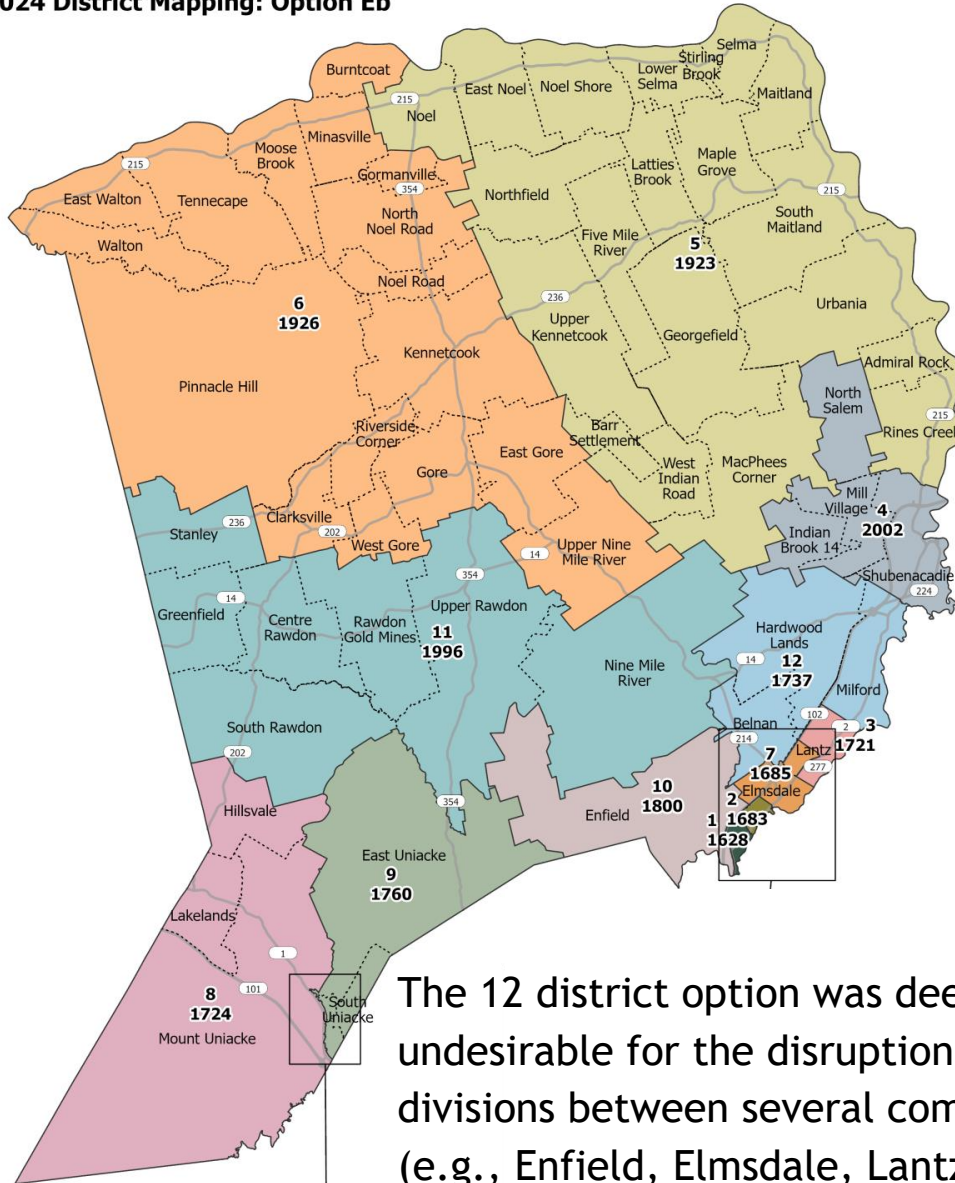
- Changes to district boundaries should respect voter parity, community of interest and be logical geographical entities.
- East Hants has also historically attempted to minimize the number of communities split between polling districts.
- The NSUARB guidance is that each district should be within +/- 10% of the average. In extraordinary circumstances the Board may allow up to a +/- 25% variance.

# Original 11 District Options



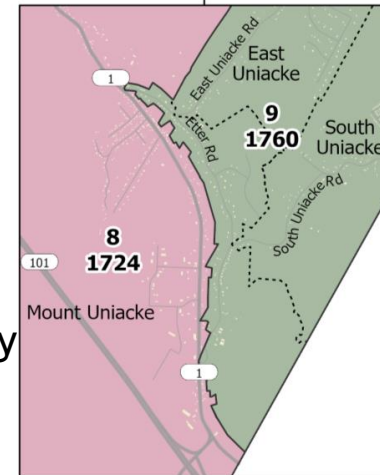
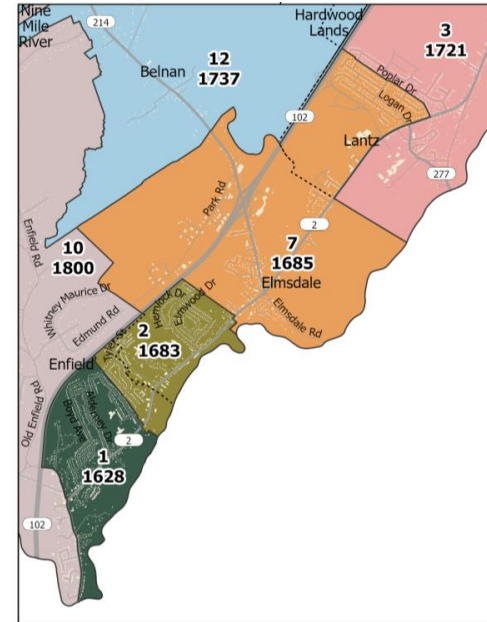
- Staff prepared 4 options that would have resulted in voter parity within the NSUARB guidance of +/-10% for all districts.
- At September CRS, concern was expressed with all 4 options and as a result, a decision was made to hold a workshop(s) to refine the boundaries.
- A 12 district option was also examined in a workshop.

## 2024 District Mapping: Option Eb



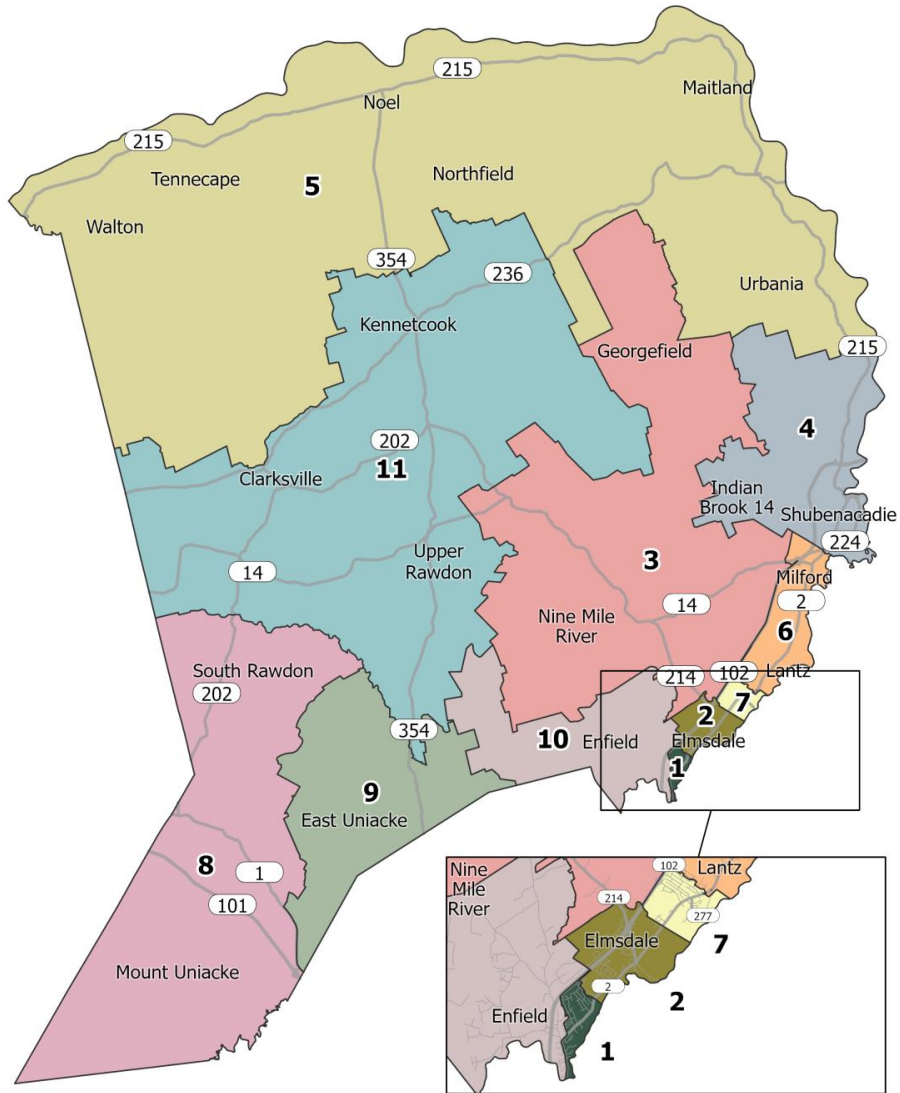
Municipality of East Hants

## 12 District Option

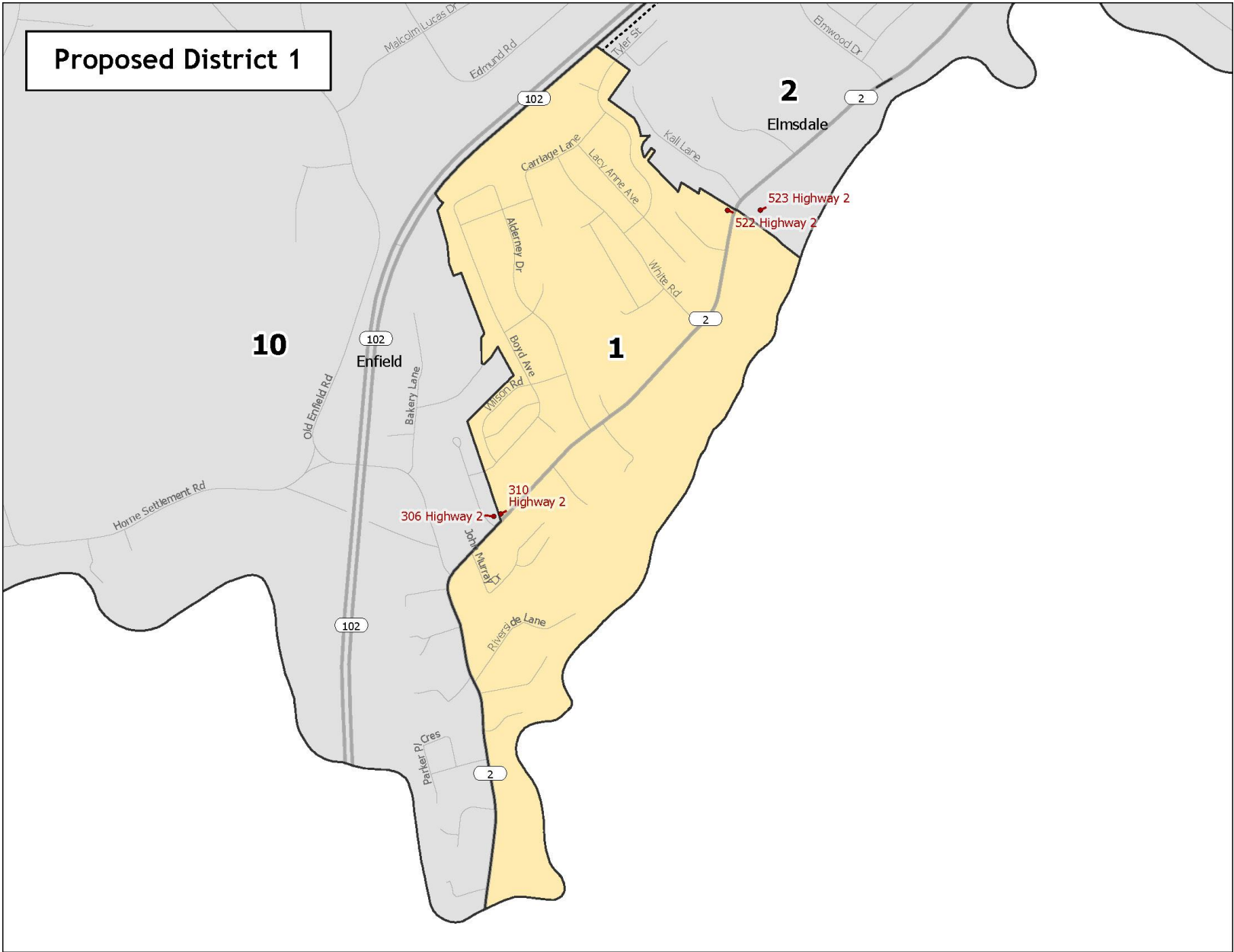


The 12 district option was deemed undesirable for the disruption caused by divisions between several communities (e.g., Enfield, Elmsdale, Lantz)

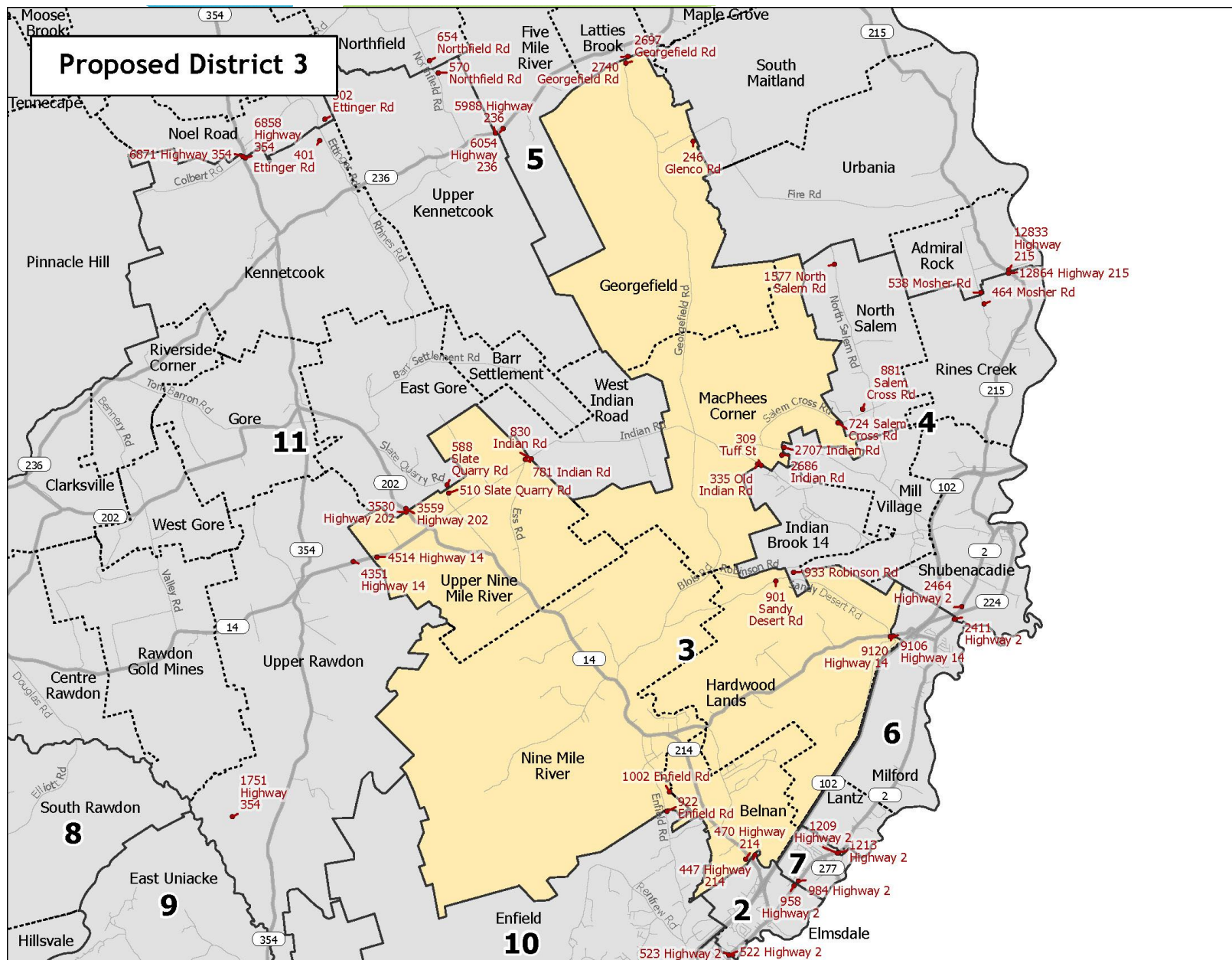
# PROPOSED POLLING DISTRICTS



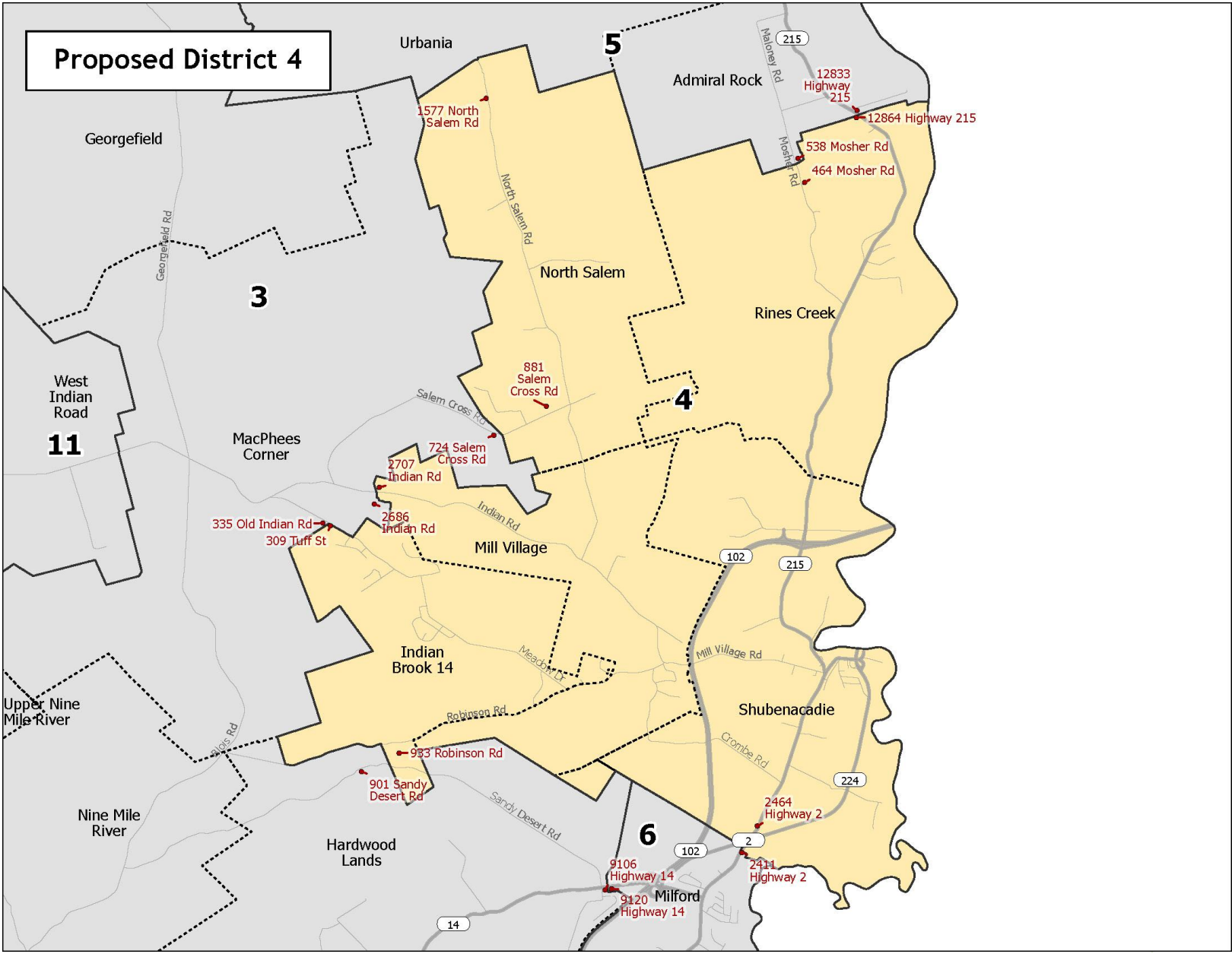
Preferred Option





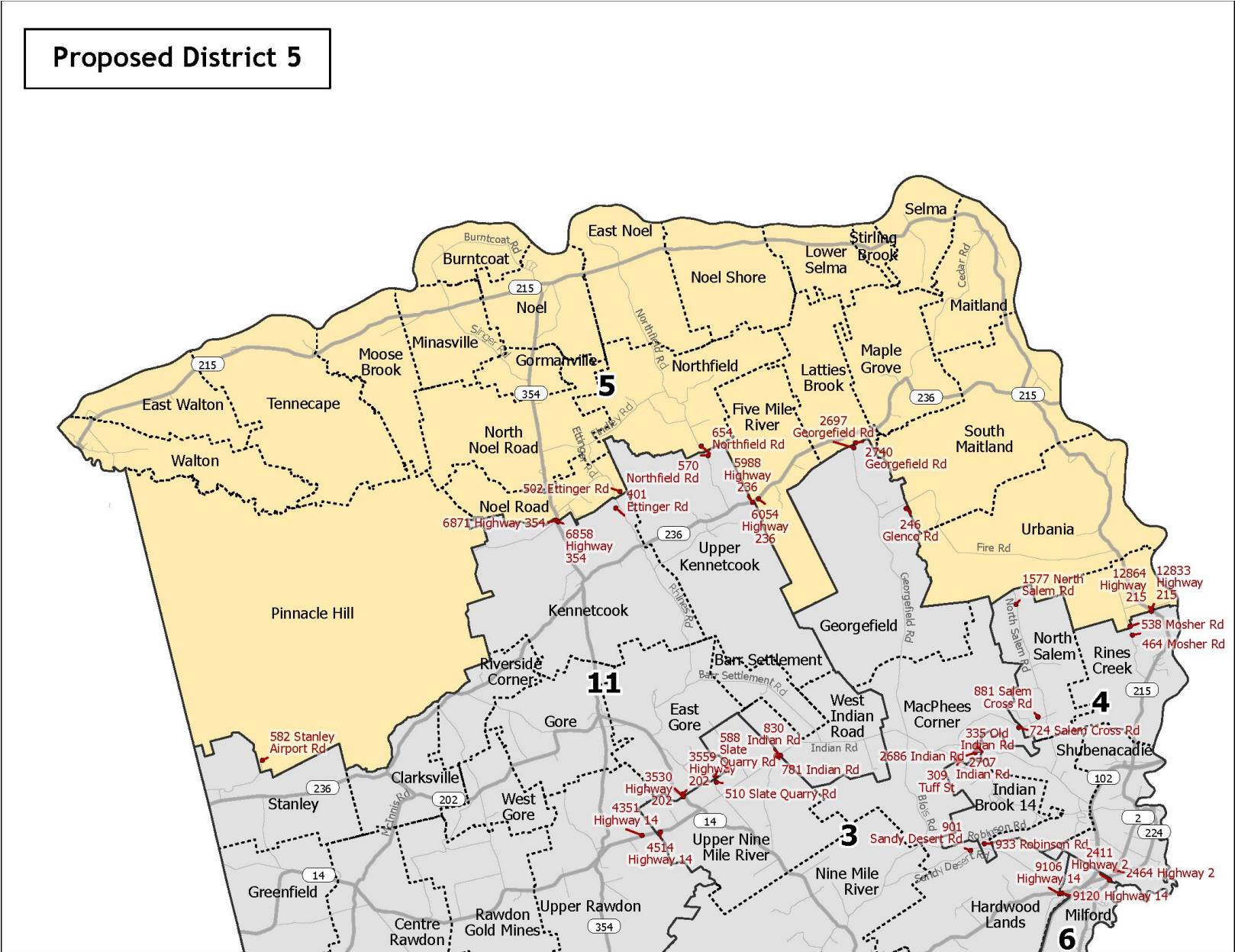


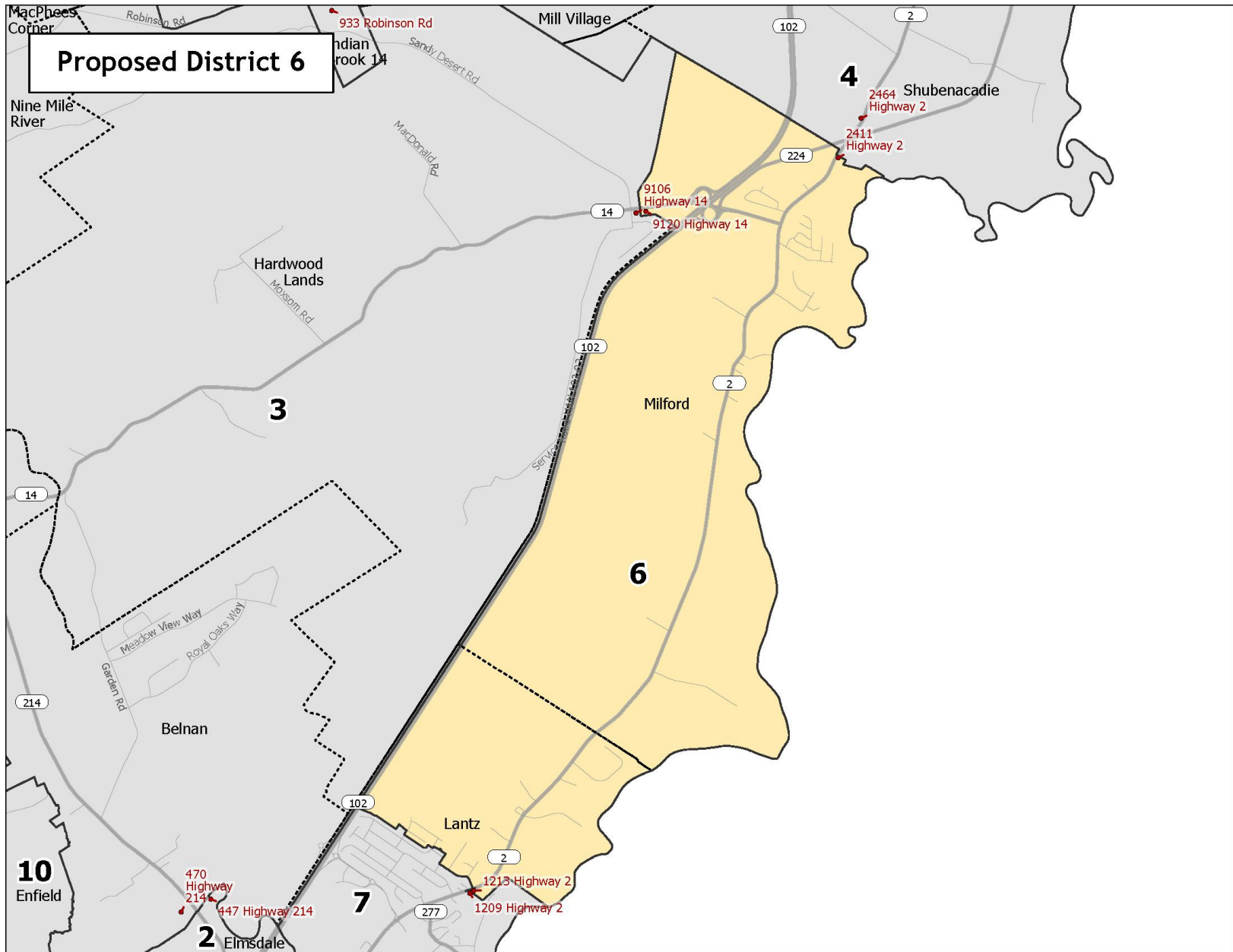


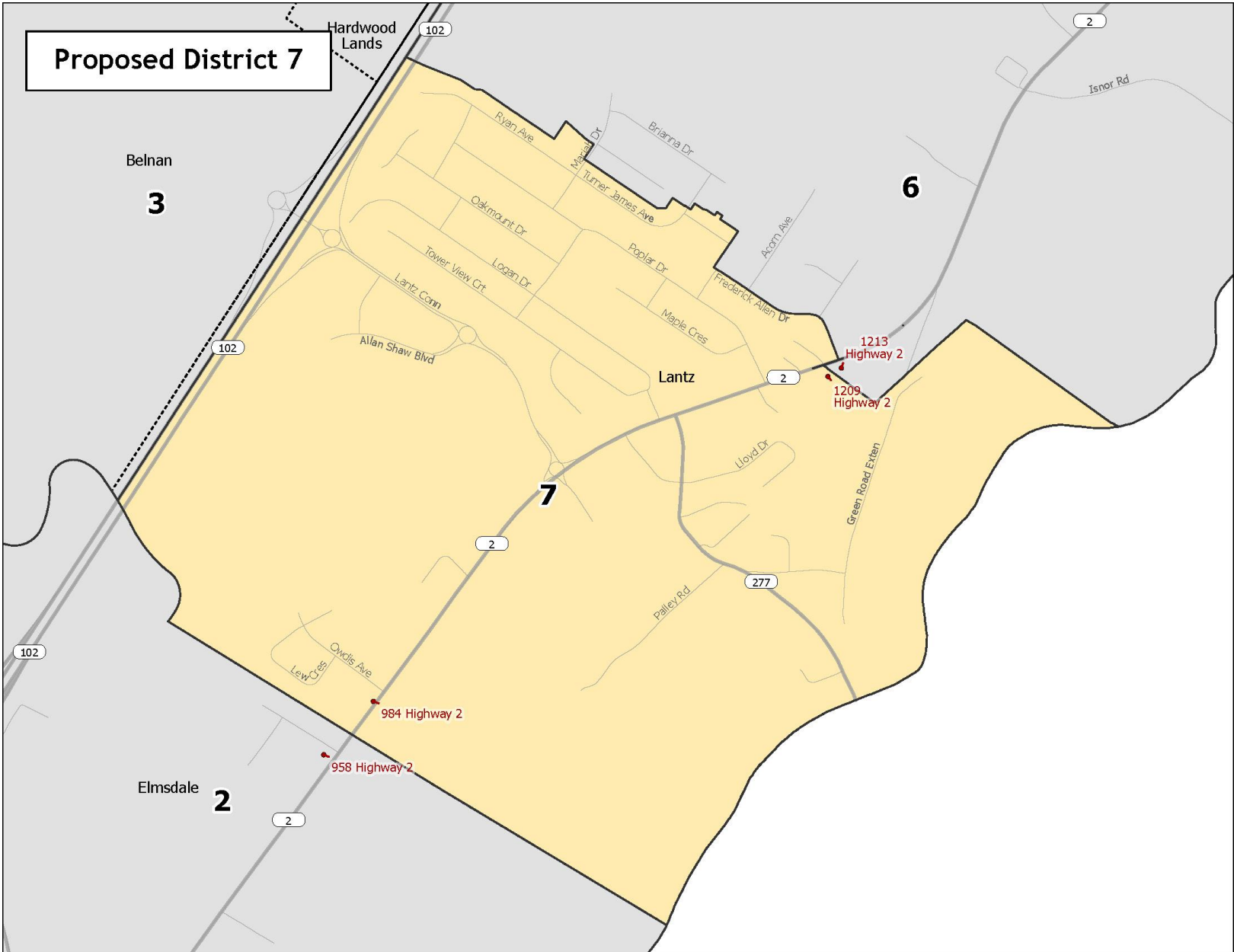


**Proposed District 4**

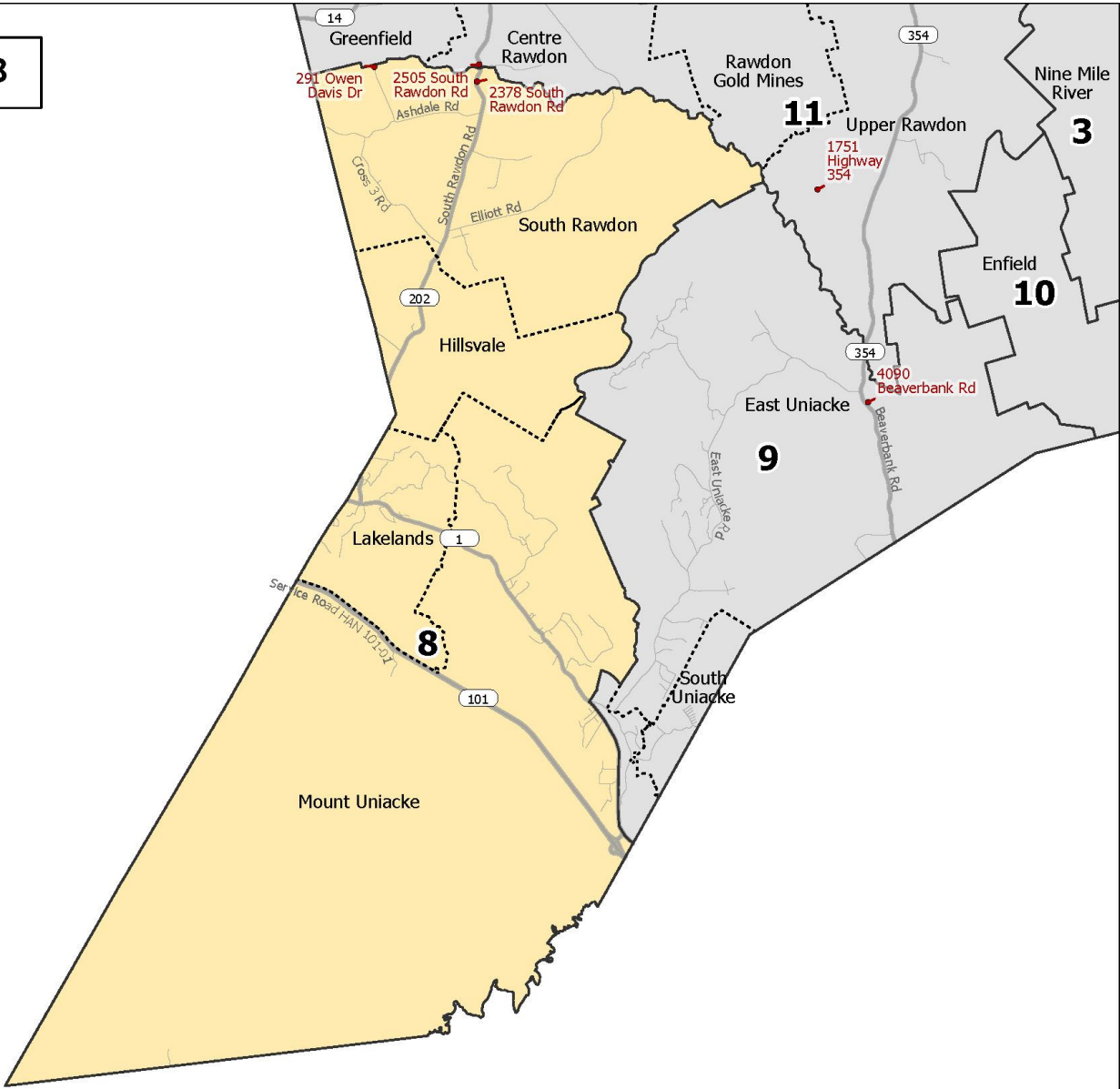
# Proposed District 5

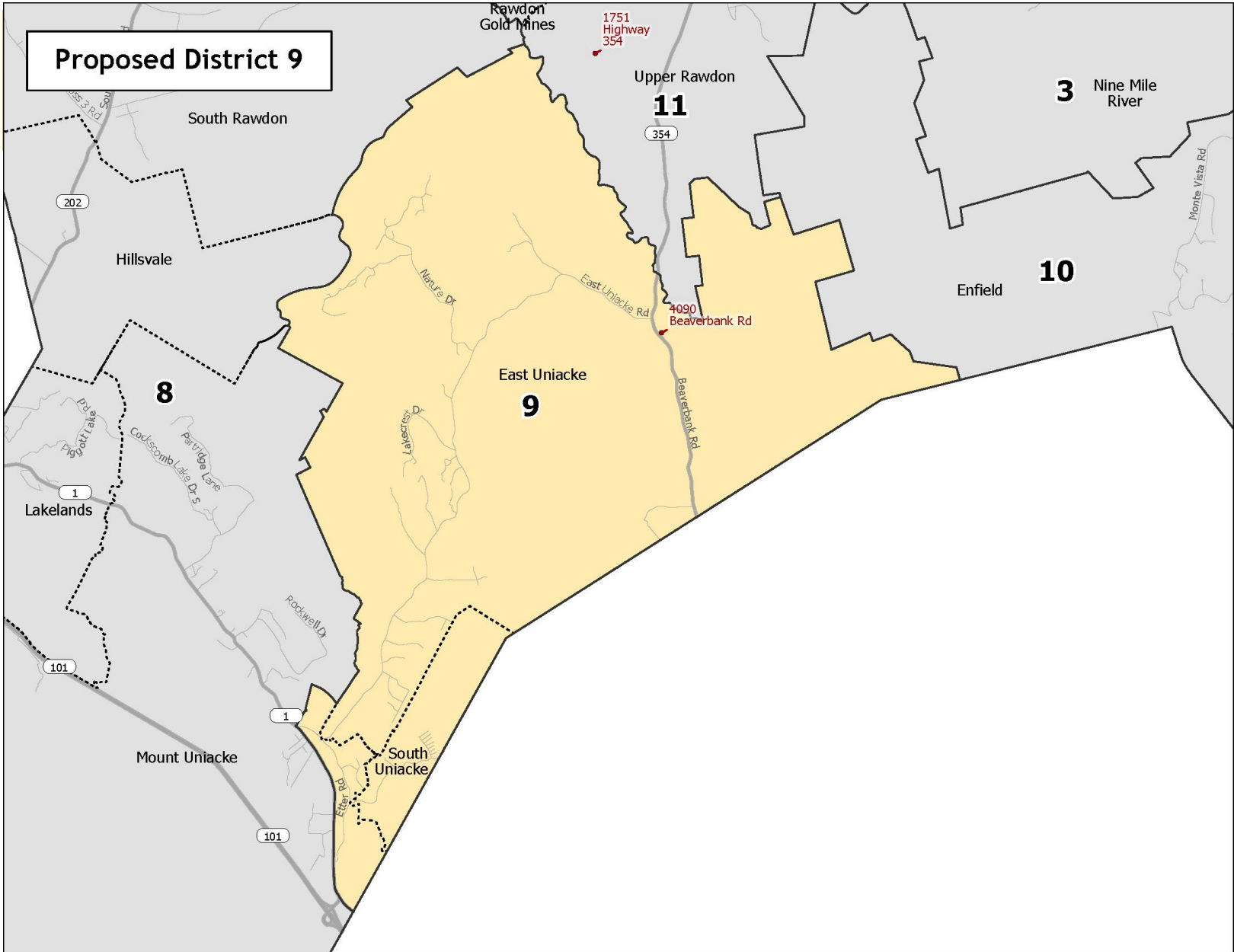




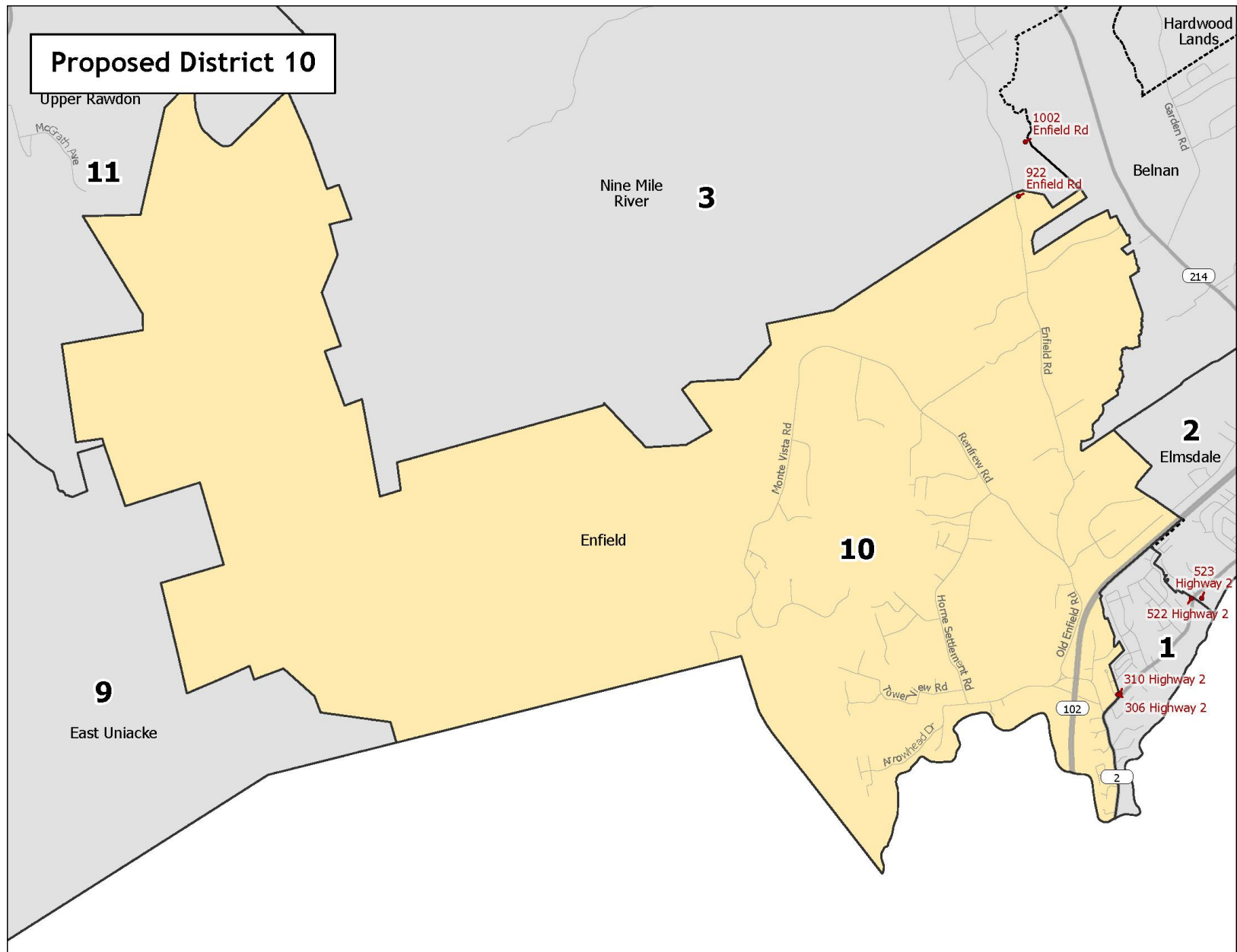


**Proposed District 8**





**Proposed District 9**



**Proposed District 10**





## Option Fb - Preferred Option

Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield Centre	1962	0	0
2 Elmsdale	1777	-185	-9.4%
3 Nine Mile River-Belnan	2026	+64	+3.3%
4 Shubenacadie-Indian Brook	2174	+212	+10.8%
5 Maitland-Noel Shore	2134	+172	+8.8%
6 North Lantz-Milford	1876	-86	-4.4%
7 South Lantz	1832	-130	-6.6%
8 Mount Uniacke-South Rawdon	1968	+6	+0.3%
9 South Uniacke	2094	+53	+2.7%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1857	-105	-5.4%
11 Rawdon-Kennetcook	2006	+44	+2.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	21584		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1962		



## Preferred Option

- The preferred option, results in 10 districts falling within the +/- 10% guidance.
- District 4 would fall just above the +/- 10% guidance at 10.8%.
- Staff believe that this variance is justifiable.
  - In previous decisions, the NSUARB has mandated that the community of Indian Brook not be divided between polling districts.
  - The Board has also previously mandated that the communities of Shubenacadie, Indian Brook and North Salem be kept together in one district.
- This option minimizes the number of communities divided between districts (Mt Uniacke, Enfield & Lantz).
- Council workshop participants were generally in agreement that communities are grouped logically and respect community of interest.



## Next Steps

- Staff will compile comments received at community meetings this week and the online survey.
- Comments will be shared with Council before final decision on district boundaries.
- Once Council endorses a final version of district boundaries, the Municipality will submit an application to the NSUARB to confirm the number of councillors and district boundaries.
- NSUARB process is public and will also invite public comment.

# Further Information & Contact

Go to:

[www.easthants.ca](http://www.easthants.ca)



On-line Survey



**EAST HANTS**  
Nature created this wonder. We live it!

I'm looking for... [Search]

TEXT SIZE [A] [A] [A]

Stay Connected: [Facebook] [Twitter] [YouTube] [LinkedIn]

RESIDENTS BUSINESS EXPLORE GOVERNMENT

News > 2022 Polling District Review

## 2022 Polling District Review

### Public Meeting and Survey

What kind of Local Government do you want?

The Municipality is required by s. 369 of the Municipal Government Act to conduct a review of its polling districts every 8 years. The current review is taking place this year in preparation for the next Municipal Election in 2024.

- The first phase of the review is to determine if the current 11 Council districts are still the appropriate number.
- The second part of the review will look at the proposed districts to make sure that there are about the same number of voters in each district. The target is for districts to be within +/-10% of each other.

Phase 1 is complete and Council has decided to stay with 11 districts. However, due to uneven population growth in the municipality, significant changes are required to district boundaries. Maps of the current and proposed district boundaries are linked below, and prior to these draft changes being finalized we would like to hear from you in person, or online as follows:

### Public Meetings

- Monday, January 9, 2023, 7 p.m.** - Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Road, Kennetcook (Storm date is Jan 10th, 7 p.m.)
- Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 7 p.m.** - Unlacek Fire Hall, 654 Highway 1, Mount Unlacek (Storm date is Feb 8th, 7 p.m.)
- Thursday, January 12, 2023, 7 p.m.** - Room 168, Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale (Storm date is Jan 16th, 7 p.m.)

At the meetings, staff will provide background information on the review and provide the opportunity for questions and feedback on the proposed new district boundaries. Storm dates will be used if inclement weather requires the original date of each meeting to be cancelled. Please watch the municipal website at [easthants.ca](http://easthants.ca) for any changes.

### Online Survey

Have your say by taking part in our Online Survey

#### Reports

- Polling District Review Report #1 - January 2022
- Polling District Review Report #2 - February 2022
- Polling District Review Report #3 - April 2022
- Polling District Review Report #4 - June 2022
- Polling District Review Report #5 - November 2022

#### Maps

- Current Polling District Boundaries
- Proposed Polling District Boundaries

**CURRENT POLLING DISTRICTS**

**PROPOSED POLLING DISTRICTS**

John Woodford

[jwoodford@easthants.ca](mailto:jwoodford@easthants.ca)

902.883.6120

**Subject:** *2022 Polling District Review Report # 6, Phase 2 - Completion*  
**To:** CAO for Corporate & Residential Services Committee, February 14, 2023  
**Date Prepared:** February 6, 2023  
**Related Motions:** C22(11), C22(49), C22(227), C22(383)  
**Prepared by:** John Woodford, Director of Planning and Development  
**Approved by:** Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer

---

## Summary

This sixth report on the polling district review discusses Phase 2 public consultation, provides a jurisdictional scan of other municipalities regarding voter parity and makes a recommendation to complete the project.

## Financial Impact Statement

There is no financial impact as a result of adopting this report. Advertising and hall rental costs associated with this project have been provided for in the 2022-23 Operating Budget.

## Recommendation

That Staff be directed to prepare a submission to the NSUARB using the preferred 11 district option

## Recommended Motion

*The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council authorize staff to prepare a submission to the NSUARB requesting that the size of Council be set at 11 and that district boundaries follow the preferred option (Fb)*

---

## Background

This is the sixth report regarding the 2022 Polling District Review. Decisions made by Council to date include:

- Endorsed the project moving ahead.
- Sought approval from the NS Utility & Review Board for up to a year's extension due to Covid 19. The Board granted up to a 4 month extension.
- Decided to keep the Warden system and not seek public opinion on switching to a Mayoral system of leadership.
- Approved the public consultation program conducted in Phase 1.
- Approved a Council size of 11.
- Decided to hold 2 workshops with all councillors to review 11 district scenarios.
- Directed Staff to prepare a 12 district scenario.
- Directed Staff to conduct Phase 2 consultation using the preferred option (Fb).

This report discusses Phase 2 public consultation, provides a jurisdictional scan of other municipalities regarding voter parity and makes a recommendation to complete the project.

---

## Current Voter Parity

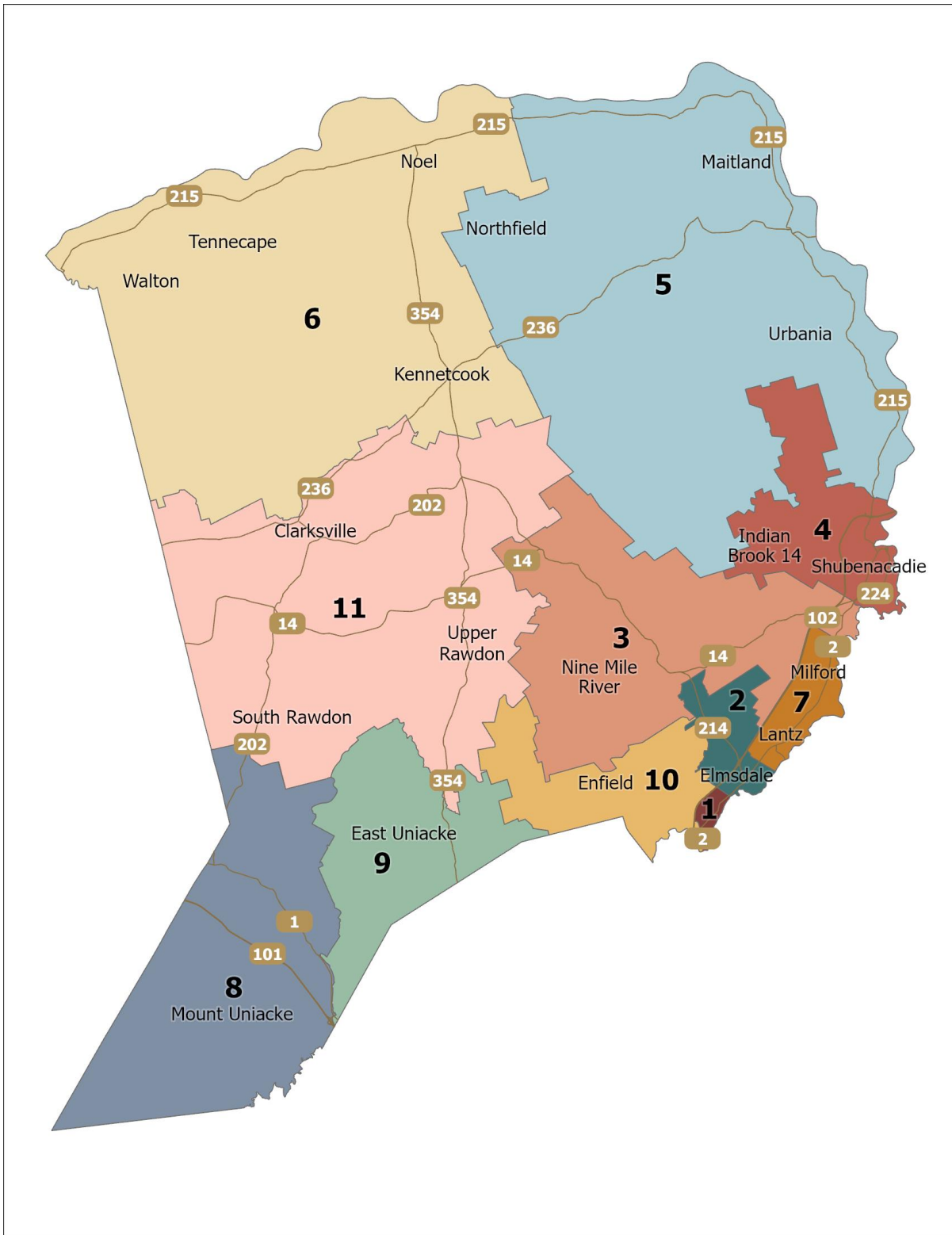
As discussed in Report #5, there are significant deviations in voter parity, requiring significant boundary changes

Projected Voter Parity (October 2024)			
Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield	2595	+633	+32.3%
2 Elmsdale-Belnan	1968	+6	+0.3%
3 Milford-Nine Mile River	1900	-62	-3.2%
4 Shubenacadie	2002	+40	+2.0%
5 Maitland-MacPhee's Corner	1579	-383	-19.5%
6 Walton-Noel-Kennetcook	1417	-545	-27.8%
7 Lantz-Milford	3047	+1085	+55.3%
8 Mount Uniacke	1723	-239	-12.2%
9 South-East Uniacke	1760	-202	-10.3%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1800	-162	-8.3%
11 Rawdon-Gore	1793	-169	-8.6%
TOTAL	21584		
AVERAGE	1962		

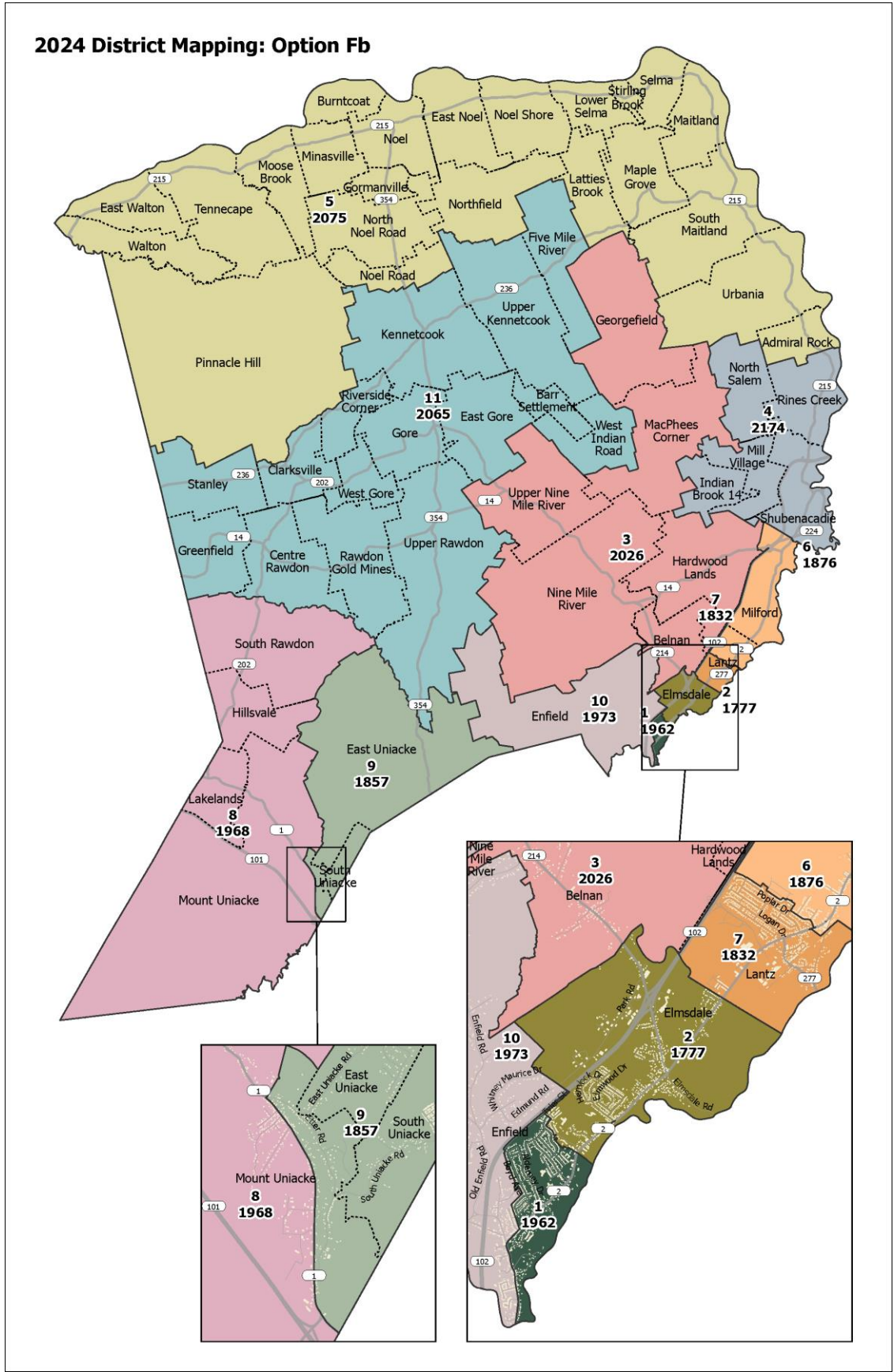
---

# District Boundaries

## CURRENT DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



PROPOSED DISTRICT BOUNDARIES





## PROPOSED DISTRICTS

Polling District	Electors	Variance	Variance %
1 Enfield Centre	1962	0	0
2 Elmsdale	1777	-185	-9.4%
3 Nine Mile River-Belnan	2026	+64	+3.3%
4 Shubenacadie-Indian Brook	2174	+212	+10.8%
5 Maitland-Noel Shore	2134	+172	+8.8%
6 North Lantz-Milford	1876	-86	-4.4%
7 South Lantz	1832	-130	-6.6%
8 Mount Uniacke-South Rawdon	1968	+6	+0.3%
9 South Uniacke	2094	+53	+2.7%
10 Enfield-Grand Lake	1973	+11	+0.6%
11 Rawdon-Kennetcook	2006	+44	+2.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	21584		
<b>AVERAGE</b>	1962		

Option Fb, the preferred option, results in 10 districts falling within the +/- 10% guidance. District 4 would fall just above the +/- 10% guidance at 10.8%. Staff believe that this variance is justifiable as:

- In previous decisions, the NSUARB has mandated that the community of Indian Brook not be divided between polling districts.
- The Board has also previously mandated that the communities of Shubenacadie, Indian Brook and North Salem be kept together in one district.

This option minimizes also the number of communities divided between districts.

Council workshop participants were generally in agreement that in Option Fb communities are grouped logically and respect community of interest.

Maps of each proposed district are shown in Appendix 1 of this report.

## Phase 2 Public Consultation

To garner public opinion on the proposed district boundaries, three community meetings were held in Kennetcook, Mt. Uniacke and Elmsdale in January 2023. The meetings were advertised in the Chronicle Herald, the municipal website and social media.

The meetings were sparsely attended with only two residents attending the Elmsdale meeting and five attending the Mount Uniacke meeting. The meeting in Kennetcook attracted the largest number of residents (17). Attendees at this meeting expressed a general concern regarding the loss of Hants North representation on Council and the increasing size of rural districts.

No specific boundary adjustment suggestions were made at the meetings.

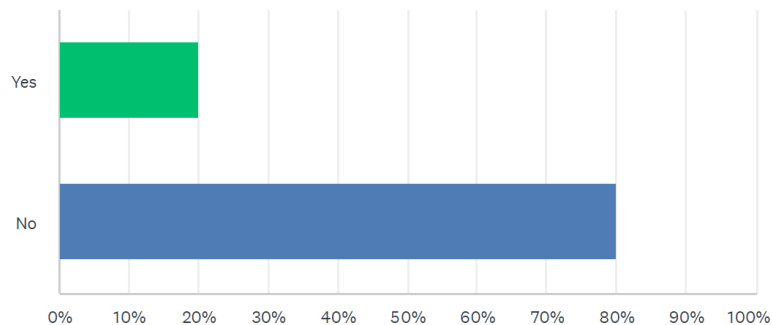
Meeting notes from the three meetings are found in Appendix 2 of this report.

A second on-line survey was also conducted from December 2022 to the end of January 2023. A total of 20 responses were submitted with the following results:

Responses from	
Corridor	4
Mt. Uniacke	1
Rural/North	15

### Q3 Looking at the existing polling districts and the proposed changes shown on the maps below, are you in favour of the changes?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



A majority of the respondents were from the rural/Hants North area of the municipality and expressed concern with large rural districts and the loss of representation on Council. Complete survey results are found in Appendix 3 of this report.

## Jurisdictional Scan

At one of the January public meetings, a question was raised regarding how rigorously other municipalities are adhering to the +/- 10% guidance. As a result, staff found the following:

Municipality	Largest variation	Rationale
Guysborough District	+12.8% (one district with a historic African Nova Scotian Community was left out of the avg as the board allowed it to have a -57.1% variation)	To better represent former Town of Canso
Queens RM	+20.89% (not yet approved)	Realigning districts to provide more cohesive representation for former Town of Liverpool
Colchester County	Within +/- 10% (review not yet completed)	
Halifax RM	-23.9% (not yet approved)	Community of interest, very large rural district (1829 km <sup>2</sup> vs 647 km <sup>2</sup> in EH) and Fall River expected to grow to add voters
Pictou County	-13.25% (not yet approved)	None provided
Chester District	+13.2% (not yet approved)	Did not want to divide community of Simms Settlement
Kings County	+5.8% (not yet approved)	
West Hants District	-12.5%	Approved as part of 2019 amalgamation decision

## Conclusion

Phase I consultation was completed in May regarding the size of Council. Following that phase, it was decided to keep the size of Council at 11. Council then held two workshops in October to work through various 11 district scenarios and emerged with a preferred option.

Phase II public consultation, regarding the district boundaries, was completed in January. The feedback largely reflects dissatisfaction in the rural/north part of the municipality with losing representation. This dissatisfaction appears to be amplified by concerns about the current plan update project underway. However, the actual number of citizens who participated in the 3 meetings and on-line poll was very low.

CRS should now be in a position to make a recommendation to Council.

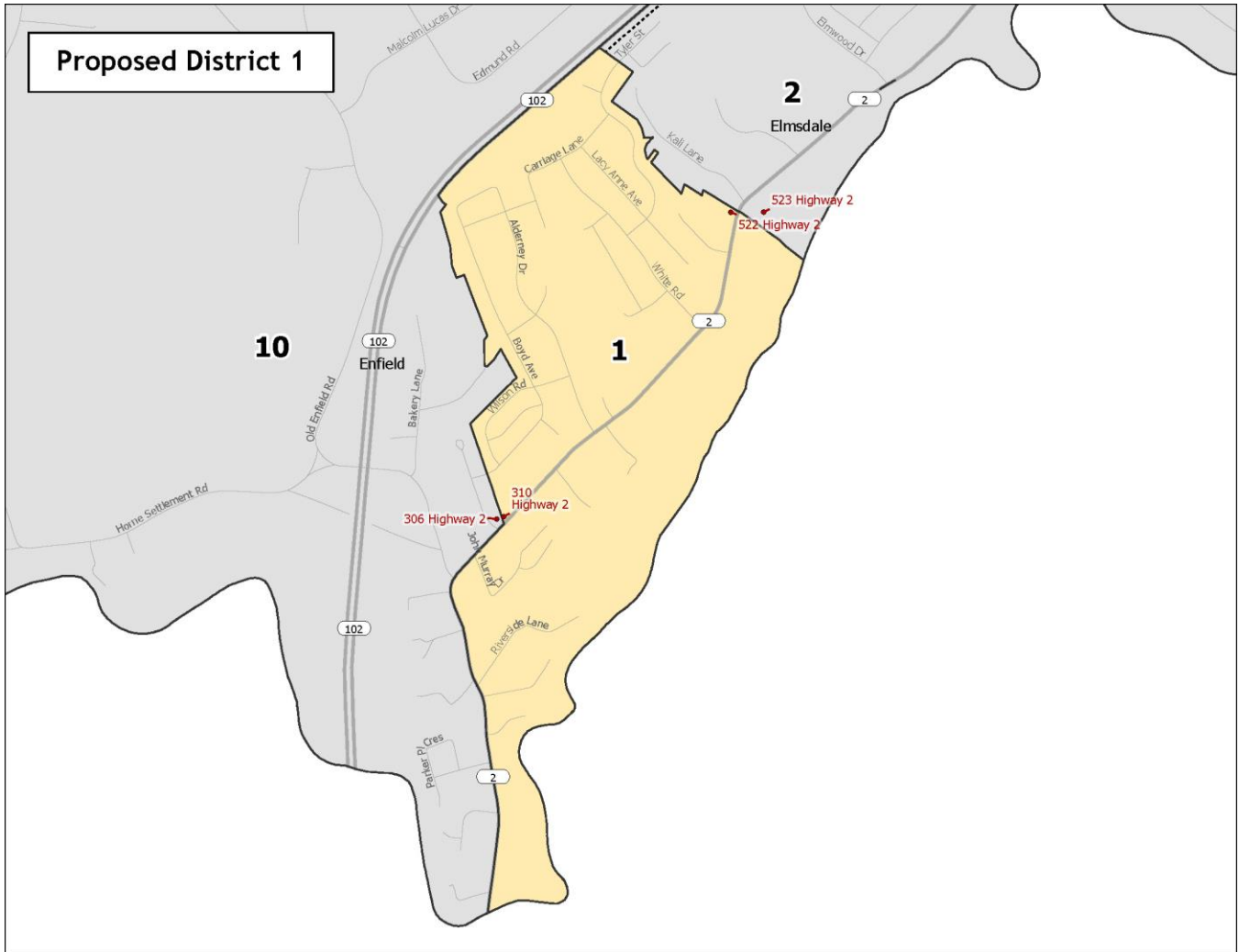
Following a Council decision, Staff will prepare a submission to the NSUARB, which is due by the end of April 2023.

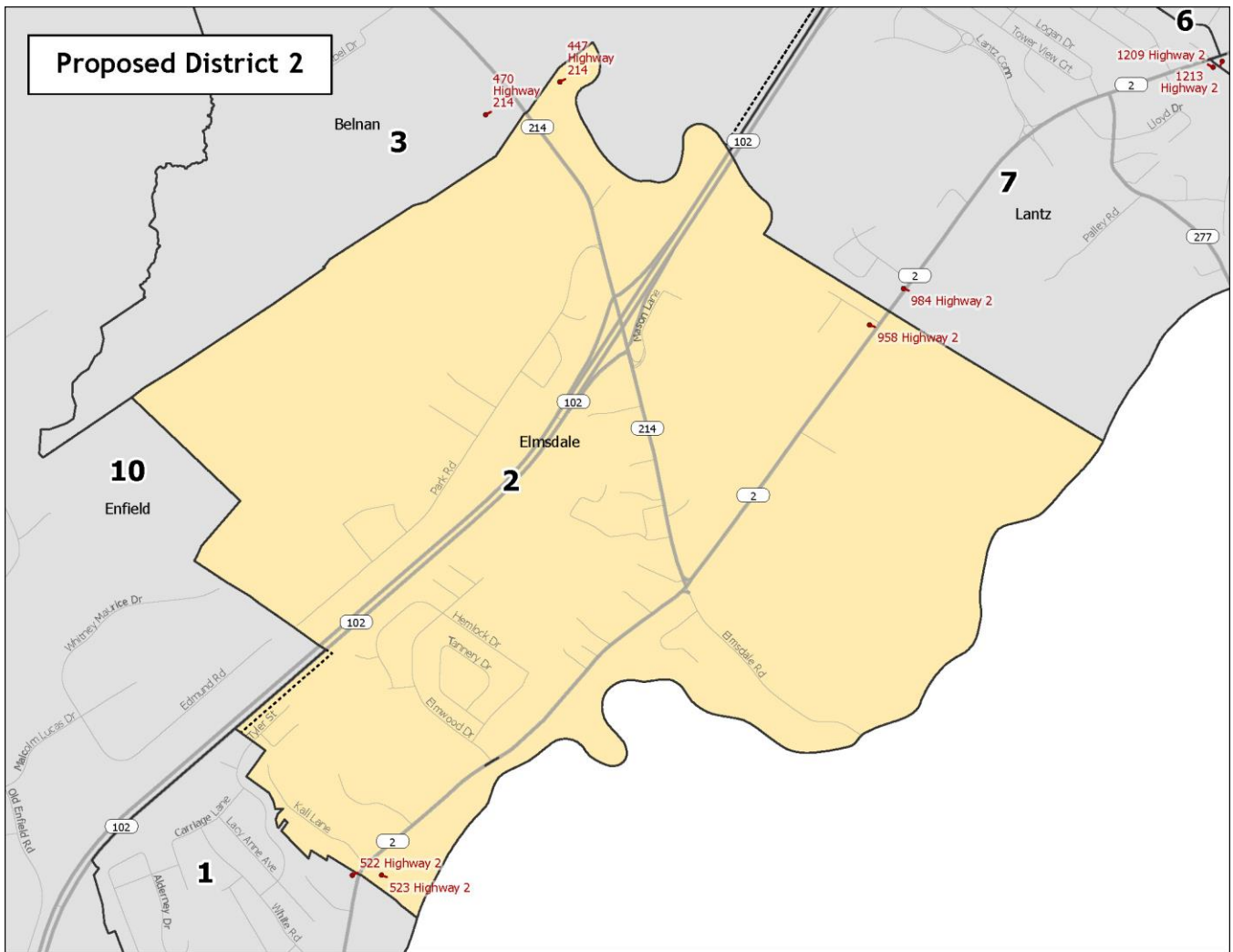
---

## Recommendation

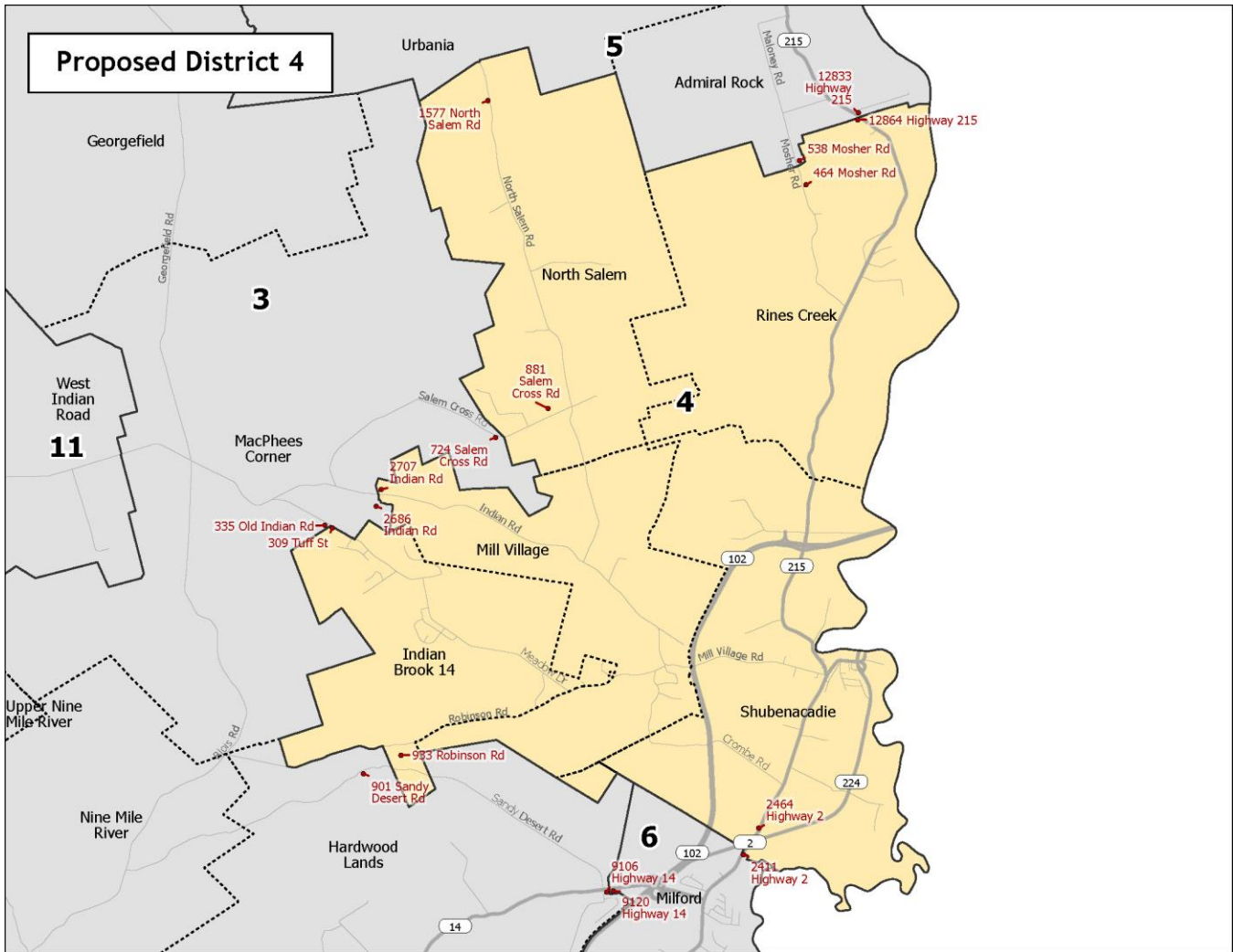
That Staff be directed to prepare a submission to the NSUARB using the preferred 11 district option.

Appendix 1  
District Maps



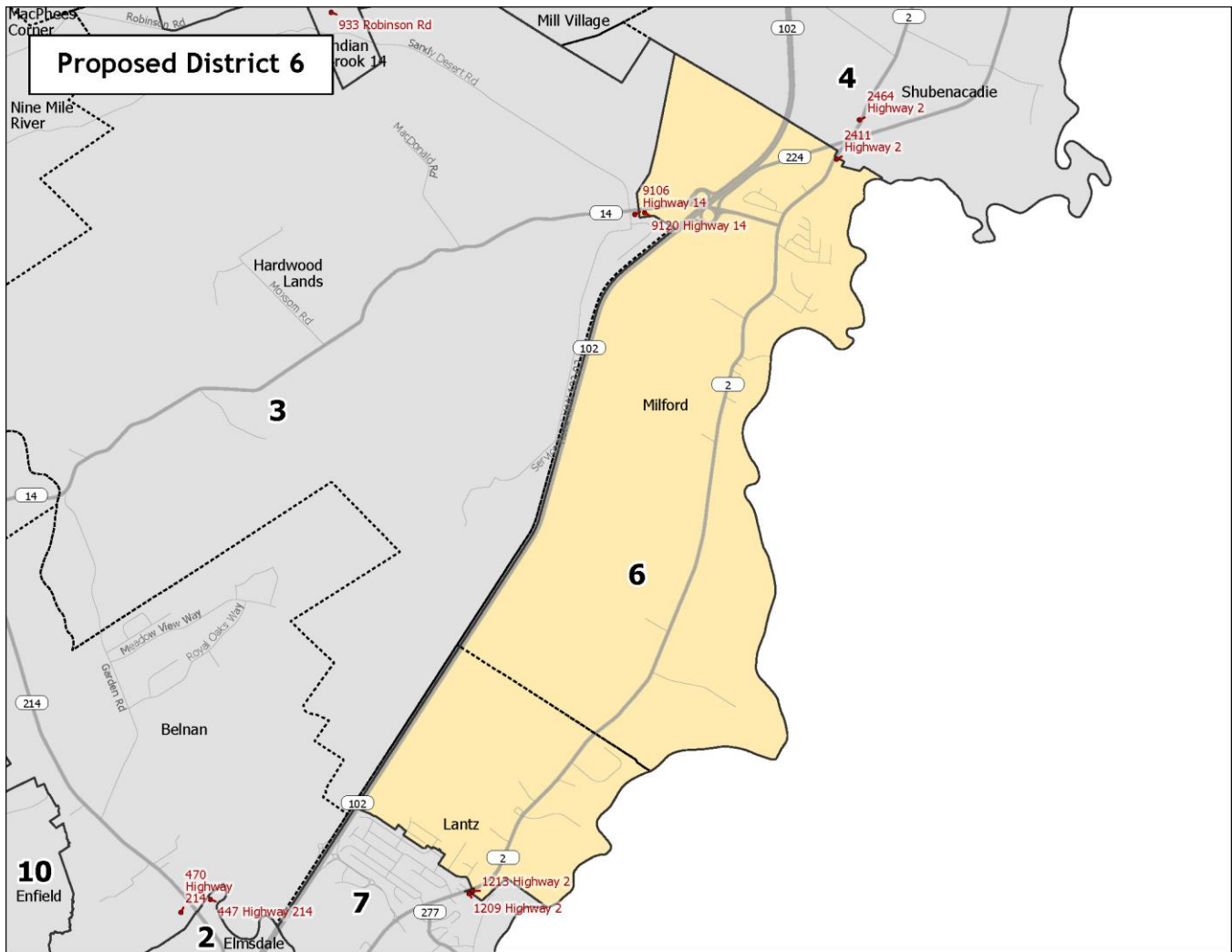


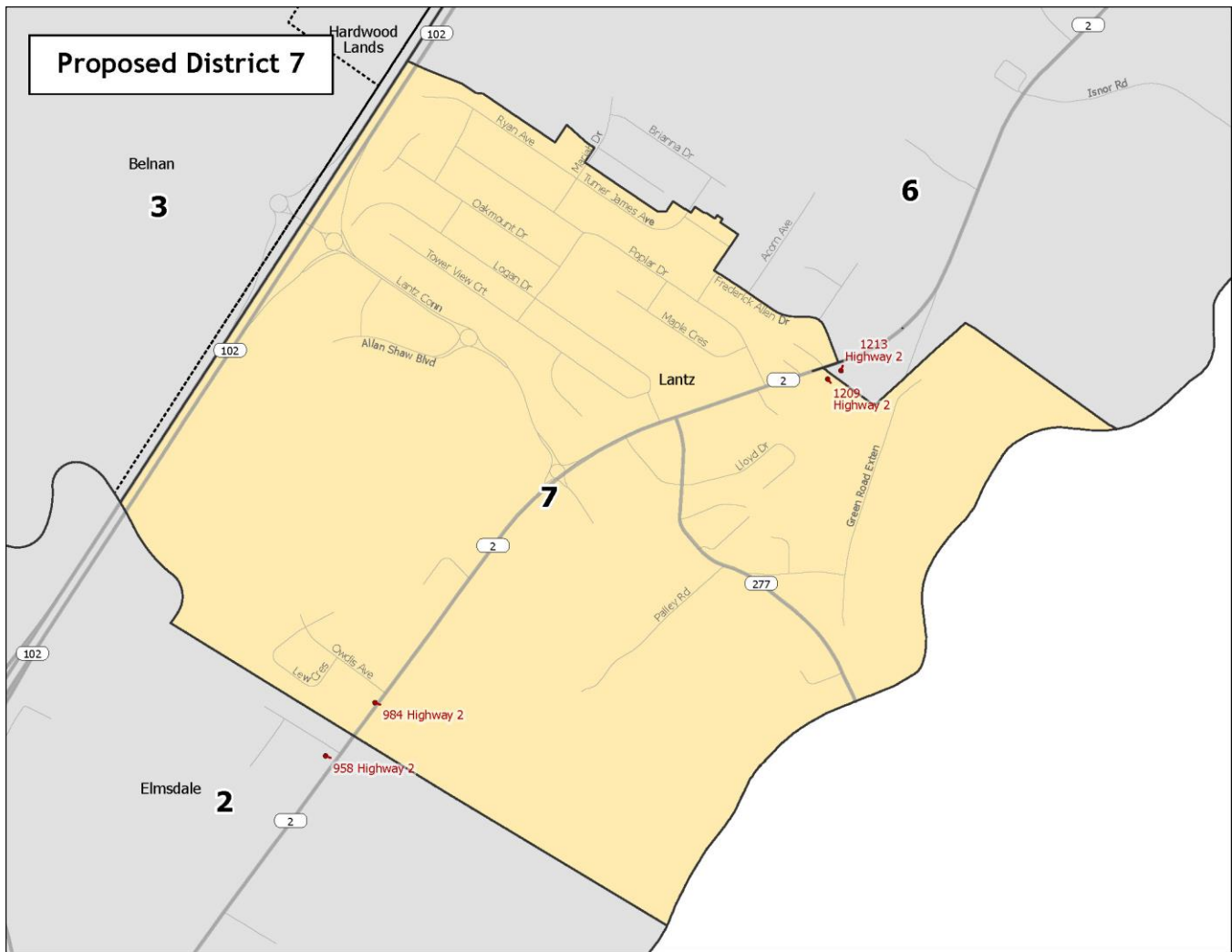




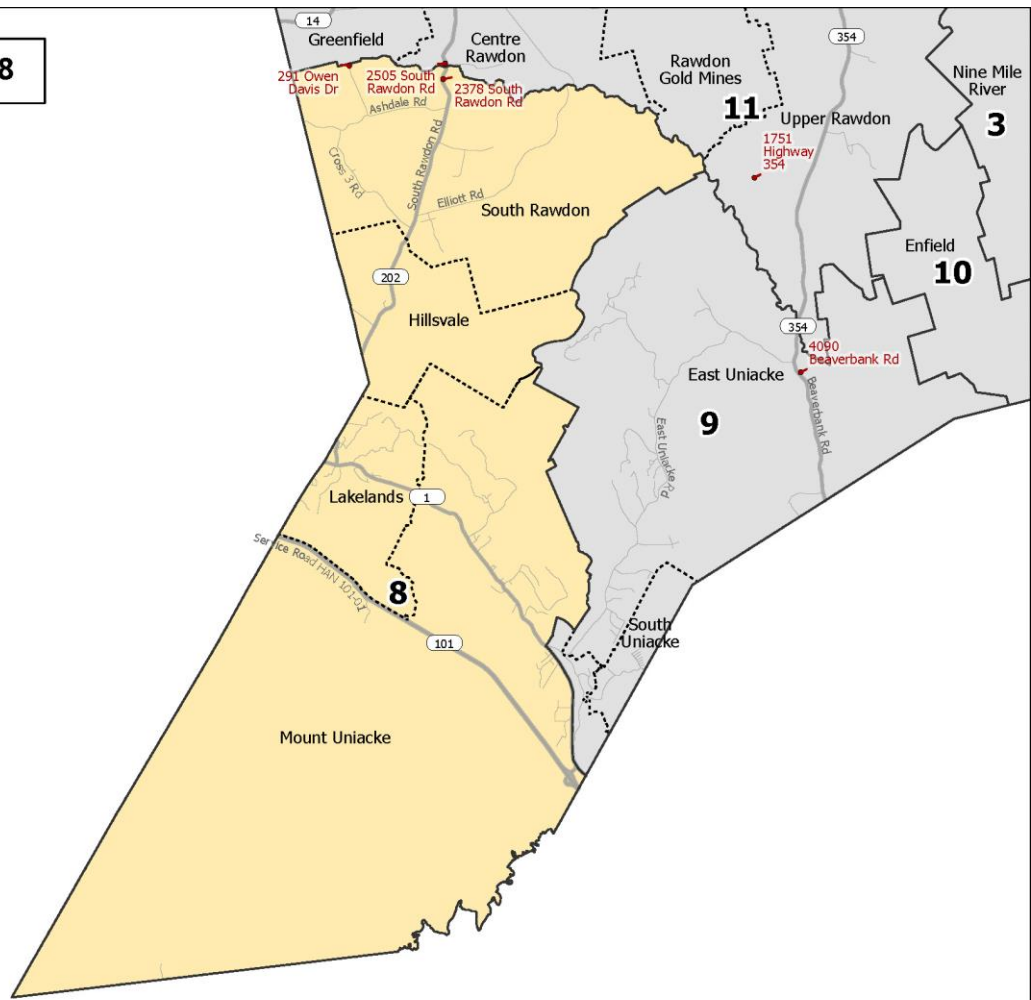


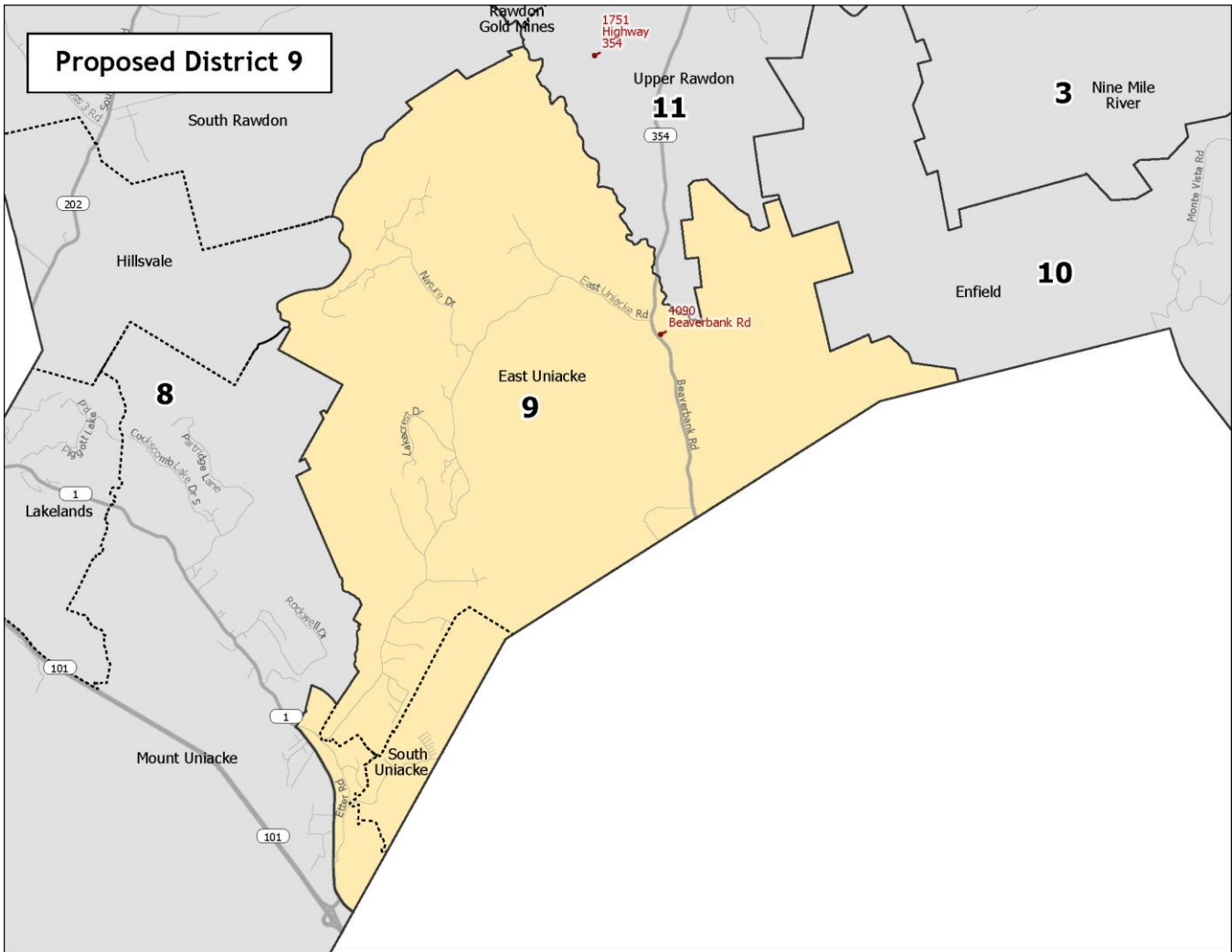


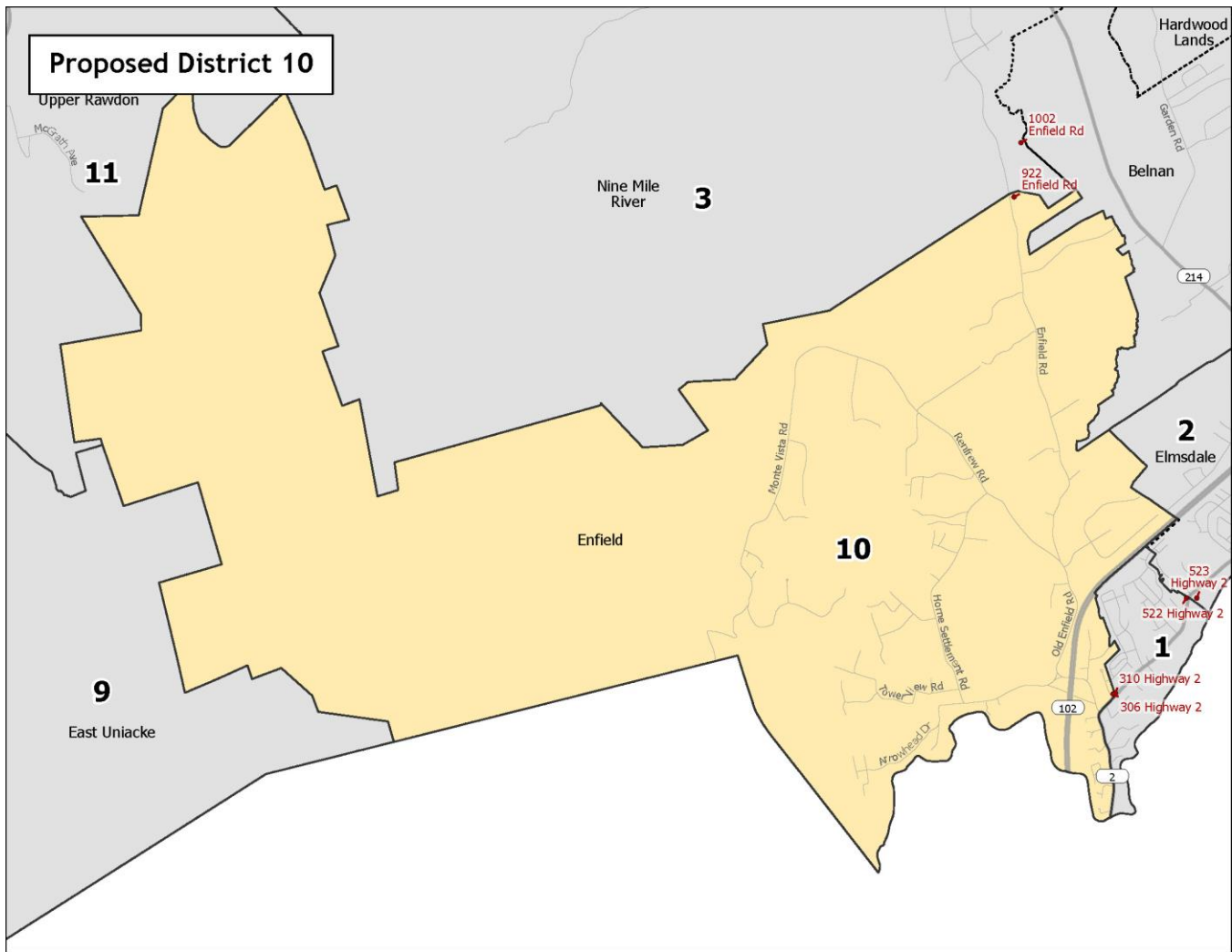




**Proposed District 8**









Appendix 2  
Phase 2 Public Meeting Notes



**Phase 2 Public Consultation Meeting**

**Polling District Review**

**Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Rd, Kennetcook**

January 9, 2023

Staff in attendance:	John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development Tippy Scott, Geomatics Coordinator	
Public in attendance:	17 members of the public attended 5 Councilors (Warden Roulston, C. Rhyno, C. Garden-Cole, C. <del>Maphe</del> , C. Hebb)	
Questions & Comments:	<p><b>General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our taxes out here (rural area) aren't going to drop - why should we lose a Councilor?</li> <li>• When you get rid of rural Councilors, we lose our voice.</li> <li>• Every community has different needs - there is no benefit to what you're doing.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We're making the best of a difficult situation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• What was the problem with the 12 District option?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It split more communities and areas of interest both in the rural areas and the corridor.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sometimes the borders of communities on a map aren't necessarily how they are on the ground.</li> <li>• What is the benefit of fewer Councilors?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Some people actually want fewer Councilors/smaller government. Compared with other municipalities with respect to number of Councilors and district size, there is no argument to increase the number of Councilors in East Hants.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There may be no geographic argument when comparing with other municipalities, but have there been any studies done to see how that has impacted those larger districts?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There have not; we only looked at similar municipalities to compare the size of their districts.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How will the proposed polling districts benefit the shore area? It looks like it's only benefitting the urban communities.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This isn't benefitting Enfield; it is being split (C. Garden-Cole).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• If we lose a Councilor, we basically have no vote because the Warden can't vote.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I vote on everything (W. Roulston)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



### Population Growth

- Districts 5 / 6 have been relatively unchanged in population over the last number of years. It makes no sense to lose a Councilor in this area.
  - Population is actually declining in some rural areas, and increasing significantly in the corridor.
- There has been a lot of people moving into NS recently, was that taken into consideration?
  - Not many of those people moving here have ended up in the rural areas of East Hants.
- District 5 will be losing more population due to zoning regulations that are coming. If you can't build houses, you're not going to have people here.
- How will we entice more population with the zoning regulations coming into place?
- The incentive isn't there for the rural area (for population growth?). Tourism stops at ~~Burntcoat~~. If East Hants doesn't want to put more stuff into the area, how do you expect things to go? The advertising isn't there for Walton tourism. Maybe the growth could be better.
- I don't think we want to put all of our money into Tourism. ~~Burntcoat~~ has not done one thing for the community of ~~Burntcoat~~.
- The growth in the Corridor is frightening for what it means for the rural area. This is going to negatively affect the rural area's representation.
- The Planning regulations you're bringing are only going to hinder population growth further.
  - The area of the municipality where population is booming is the area that has had planning regulations implemented for years.

### Process and the UARB

- When was the last application to the Board?
  - 8 years ago
- When did you collect the elector numbers data?
  - April 2022
- Has there been a request to the UARB for adding more Councilors?
  - No, but based on the previous application 8 years ago when we were told to drop to 11, we know they would not likely approve a 12 District option.
- Why do you wait 8 years? Why not do an assessment every year?
  - We could do it every 4 years, and are mandated to do it every 8. Staff/Council/Public time.
- Was the 12 District Option brought to the UARB?
  - No, it was reviewed by Council and ultimately, they decided not to move ahead because the districts unreasonably split communities in both the rural and corridor areas.
- Who is the UARB and how many people are involved?
  - Explanation of the UARB; a few people; lawyers.
- Have the UARB had a tour of the rural areas?
  - The UARB will do site visits for Planning Applications under appeal, and certain other cases, but we are not aware of them touring East Hants for the Polling District review. They are sent a very comprehensive package including detailed maps of the areas.



Title of Minutes - Date

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• When is the last time that the Polling Districts were changed? Were communities of interest taken into consideration then?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 8 years ago; yes.</li></ul></li><li>• If we did try to go to 12 Districts, and the UARB didn't want that, we would just go back to the 11 district options?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Yes.</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shouldn't this meeting have had a registered mail out?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The meeting was advertised online, on social, and in the Chronicle Herald.</li></ul></li><li>• Many people don't have internet/social media, or subscribe to the paper.</li><li>• There should be advertising for these meetings much more in advance.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Sometimes when meetings are advertised too early, people forget about them.</li></ul></li><li>• Put signs up in small town stores.</li><li>• I thought the presentation was well prepared - good speaker.</li></ul>	
--	---	--



**Phase 2 Public Consultation Meeting**

**Polling District Review**

**Mount Uniacke Fire Hall, 654 Highway 1, Mount Uniacke**

January 11, 2023

Staff in attendance:	John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development Tippy Scott, Geomatics Coordinator	
Public in attendance:	5 members of the public attended 5 Councilors (Warden Roulston, C. Rhyno, C. Moussa, C. MacPhee, C. Perry)	
Questions & Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was one question unrelated to the polling district review regarding blasting in the area.</li> <li>• How do I access the online survey?</li> </ul>	



Phase 2 Public Consultation Meeting

Polling District Review

Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale

January 12, 2023

Staff in attendance:	John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development Tippy Scott, Geomatics Coordinator Kim Ramsay, CAO	
Public in attendance:	2 members of the public attended 8 Councilors (Warden Roulston, C. Rhyno, C. Garden-Cole, C. MacPhee, C. Perry, C. Mitchell, C. Tingley)	
Questions & Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it 11 or 12 Districts? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 11</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Satisfied the 10% rule for voter parity</li> <li>• Don't want to large of a Council</li> <li>• Noticed in the last few years, when there are issues in the Corridor, the size of Council made for better discussions and decision. I usually fight for a smaller Council size, but you get more input with this size of Council.</li> <li>• Last time there was a recommendation that the Council of the day really look at reducing the size of Council even more (from the UARB). On the flip side, we've seen incredible growth in certain areas.</li> <li>• Should the UARB come back and say 9 or 10 Councilors only, are there options prepared? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o No. This seemed to fit when comparing similar municipalities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Just came to see what was happening</li> <li>• How is the decision made to have a mayor or Warden? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Council decides through a process outside of this review.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Many similar municipalities have mayors.</li> <li>• When comparing to similar municipalities, does the UARB tend to make allowances for rural areas to have fewer people, given the size of the area.</li> <li>• Would like to see the variances in similar rural boundaries (from other municipalities), what are their percentages?</li> <li>• We've taken a Councilor from Noel, and put it in Milford. There will now be less rural representation. We're different communities out in the rural areas.</li> <li>• When Warden/C. Rhyno first started they remember there was more weight for community of interest; now it is dependent on what the member of the UARB decides.</li> <li>• I (Warden) think the UARB has too much power</li> <li>• How many other places are pushing the envelope (re: 10% variance)</li> </ul>	

Title of Minutes - Date

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The bigger area you have, the more difficult it is to be a Councilor.</li><li>• A greater variance, might also help higher populated communities - you wouldn't necessarily have to split these communities.</li><li>• Do other municipalities feel the exact same way? Maybe a greater variance would be appreciated.</li><li>• Will the district changes have much of an impact on things like tax rates?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Recreation funds would, but area rates are different than polling districts.</li></ul></li></ul>	
--	---	--

## Appendix 3 On-line Poll Results

Polling District Review Survey December 2022

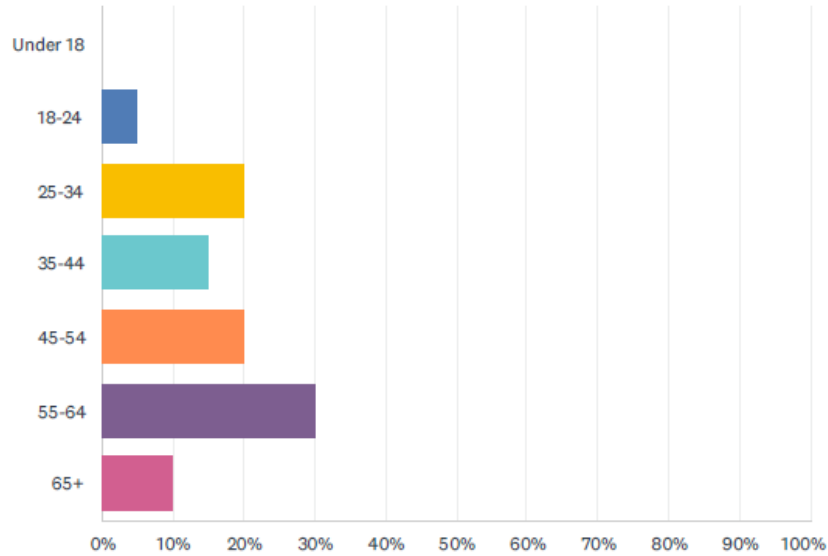
### Q1 Which community do you live in?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Walton	1/17/2023 11:57 AM
2	Walton	1/17/2023 11:39 AM
3	Enfield	1/12/2023 6:32 PM
4	Mt Uniacke	1/12/2023 1:23 PM
5	North Noel Road	1/12/2023 12:06 PM
6	Lantz	1/12/2023 10:47 AM
7	Lantz	1/11/2023 9:06 AM
8	Stanley	1/5/2023 5:51 AM
9	Maitland	1/4/2023 9:37 AM
10	Moose Brook	1/2/2023 6:25 PM
11	Maitland	1/2/2023 2:27 PM
12	Noel Shore	1/2/2023 11:28 AM
13	Maitland	1/2/2023 9:46 AM
14	Moose Brook	1/2/2023 9:24 AM
15	Maitland	1/2/2023 3:34 AM
16	Noel	12/29/2022 11:56 AM
17	Latties Brook	12/21/2022 8:06 PM
18	3-Nine Mile River	12/20/2022 9:09 PM
19	Lantz	12/20/2022 10:30 AM
20	Noel	12/20/2022 10:15 AM

## Q2 What age are you?

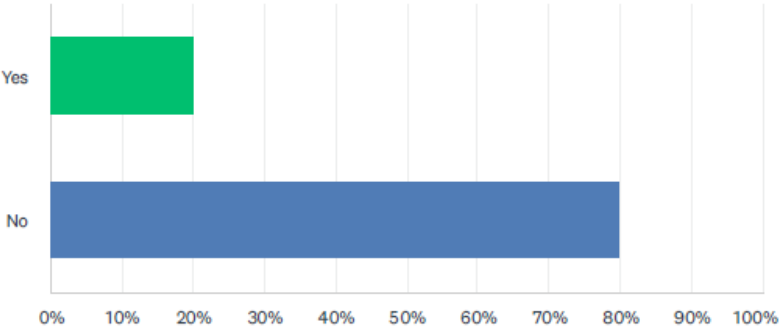
Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	5.00%	1
25-34	20.00%	4
35-44	15.00%	3
45-54	20.00%	4
55-64	30.00%	6
65+	10.00%	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>20</b>

Q3 Looking at the existing polling districts and the proposed changes shown on the maps below, are you in favour of the changes?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	20.00% 4
No	80.00% 16
Total Respondents: 20	



## Q4 Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the proposed changes?

Answered: 14 Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I feel our district is too large and spread out. It also coincides with the area that is currently under review for zoning designation which I find suspect.	1/17/2023 11:57 AM
2	have individuals who have nothing to gain or lose to come up with borders	1/17/2023 11:39 AM
3	I think when you have districts that are minuscule in physical size in comparison with others - that you are comparing apples and oranges - the people representing those huge districts are at such a disadvantage - what is the leveraging suggestion for them? The power resides in the corridor area and we are well aware of how disadvantaged we are!	1/12/2023 1:23 PM
4	Making larger polling districts does no one a favour...in fact gives some areas less of a voice.	1/4/2023 9:37 AM
5	This is wrong. We are loosing say out here your taking away another counselor from us. Already we have three and one is the warden so basically we have two votes,,, how is that fair in any event like the land situation. If someone wants to explain this to me my name is Joshua White and my email is wjosh315@gmail.com personally I don't think the municipality wants us to have much say out this way.	1/2/2023 6:25 PM
6	The rural voice will be disadvantaged	1/2/2023 2:27 PM
7	It took the province "60" years to re work the roads out here about 12 years back. We aren't used to changes out here. In fact, we love living and being out here partly because of that & the fact that, unlike everywhere else, mushroom houses are not popping up over night spoiling the view, or the land. If these changes are made, it won't take long for them to want to start implementing other changes, based on them believing that we all are open to the next stages, when we are not. We are an historical community, "The first designated heritage area of the Province, oldest General Store still operating...what we do need, is more help to save these houses by the means of personal grants, not changed boundaries, or changed land proposals.	1/2/2023 9:46 AM
8	How's a potential councillor living in Urbania going to know what the people of Walton, for example, want or need. The area is just too large.	1/2/2023 9:24 AM
9	The new district 5 is far too large. Is this why Agriculture Reserve is being brought in? To have one councillor for a soon to be unpopulated area? One councillor to over see the a soon to be handful of farmers? Has the 215/shore area already declined that much that only one councillor is required? Who brought this decision forward? Do not take a rural seat away from the table. East Hants needs a new Warden who is able to make better decisions for this community. Bring on 2024	1/2/2023 3:34 AM
10	It will mean 1 less rural vote at the council. The rural population especially in the north of east hants is feeling very alienated as it is, this proposal only insures we have less input into the decision making process.	12/29/2022 11:56 AM
11	The proposed changed will make rural east hants even more marginalized than they already are. It will result in less say for the Hants North area. I feel that there should have been a district added instead of the boundaries being changed. I understand that the corridor area is growing exponentially faster than the hants north area however there are considerably different needs in the two areas of the Municipality and those concerns need to be addressed.	12/21/2022 8:06 PM
12	I think the changes look good. Bigger districts in our area but still managable and fair.	12/20/2022 9:09 PM
13	Would like an explanation of why the boundaries are being redrawn	12/20/2022 10:30 AM
14	Areas 5 & 6 are better kept as-is.	12/20/2022 10:15 AM

**Appendix C**  
**Minutes of Corporate & Residential Services (CRS) Committee & Municipal Council**  
**Meeting Notes of Phase 1 & Phase 2 Public Meetings**

1. CRS Committee, January 18, 2022
2. Council, January 26, 2022
3. CRS Committee, February 15, 2022
4. Council, February 23, 2022
5. CRS Committee, April 19, 2022
6. Council, April 26, 2022
7. Phase 1 Public Meeting, May 16, 2022
8. Phase 1 Public Meeting, May 17, 2022
9. Phase 1 Public Meeting, May 18, 2022
10. CRS Committee, June 21, 2022
11. Council, June 29, 2022
12. CRS Committee, November 15, 2022
13. Council, November 23, 2022
14. Phase 2 Public Meeting, January 9, 2023
15. Phase 2 Public Meeting, January 11, 2023
16. Phase 2 Public Meeting, January 12, 2023
17. CRS Committee, February 14, 2023
18. Council, February 22, 2023



## Corporate & Residential Services Committee Executive Committee

January 18, 2022

A meeting of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee was held on the above date virtually via Zoom, the meeting was livestreamed and recorded.

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. All members of Council were present with the exception of Councillors Rhyno and Moussa who arrived at 9:04 a.m. and 9:08 a.m., respectively.

### Staff Present:

- Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
- Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services
- Mr. Michael Hatfield, Procurement Officer
- Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Ms. Sue Surrette, Director of Finance
- Ms. Janice Taylor, Manager of Finance
- Mr. Jordan Baltzer, Accountant & Budget Analyst
- Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
- Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
- Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer
- Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
- Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Perry 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.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CRS22(1)  
January On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Knockwood:

*Moved that the Agenda of all sub-committee meetings held January 18, 2022 be approved.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CRS22(2)  
January On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Garden-Cole:

***Moved that the minutes of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee meeting held December 14, 2021 be approved.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS**

Brittney McDonell, Aquatics Supervisor

The CAO introduced Brittney McDonell, Aquatics Supervisor, for the Municipality of East Hants.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Adam Clarkson - Director of Corporate Services - 5 years

**2022-2023 BUDGET PRESENTATION, BUSINESS PLANS & TAX ANALYSIS** 9:05

The Director of Finance presented a report titled “*Budget and Tax Analysis 2022/2023*”, dated January 18, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

**BREAK**

***The Corporate & Residential Committee adjourned for a break at 10:20 a.m. and reconvened at 10:33 a.m.***

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. All members of Council were present.

**CONTINUATION OF THE 2022-2023 BUDGET PRESENTATION, BUSINESS PLANS & TAX ANALYSIS**

The Director of Finance continued her presentation of a report titled “*Budget and Tax Analysis 2022/2023*”, dated January 18, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. The presentation ended on Page 49 and will continue at the Budget meeting scheduled on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. 10:33

**2022 POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW REPORT #1**

The Director of Planning & Development presented a report titled “*2022 Polling District Review Report # 1*”, dated January 18, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. 11:08

CRS22(3)  
January On the motion of Councillors Tingley and Knockwood:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council direct staff to bring a further report back to Council (Re: Mayor vs. Warden).***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ten (10) voting in favour. One (1) voting against. Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

CRS22(4)  
January

On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council authorize staff to write a letter to the Government seeking an extension, up to one year, due to Covid restrictions hoping we can have public consultation in person (Re: 2022 Polling District Review)***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ten (10) voting in favour. One (1) voting against. Councillor Moussa voting nay.

CRS22(5)  
January

On the motion of Councillor Tingley and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council authorize staff to conduct the 2022 Polling District Review using the process outlined in the staff report “2022 Polling District Review Report # 1” attached to the Executive Committee Agenda dated January 18th, 2022.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS22(6)  
January

On the motion of Councillors Greene and Knockwood:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee adjourn at 11:28 a.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approved by: Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services  
Date: January 20, 2022

Approved by: Sue Surrette, Director of Finance  
Date: January 20, 2022

Approved by: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development  
Date: January 20, 2022

/AM



## Regular Meeting of Council

January 26, 2022

(Virtual)

PRESENT	Warden Eleanor Roulston Deputy Warden Norval Mitchell
	Councillors: Sandra Garden-Cole      Michael Perry Eldon Hebb                                      Elie Moussa Ian Knockwood                                      Wayne Greene Keith Rhyno    Tom Isenor (joined at 7:15 pm) Walter Tingley
STAFF	Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture Ms. Sue Surette, Director of Finance Mr. Tom Gignac, Manager of Information Services Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer Ms. Erin Taylor, Communications Coordinator Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### CALL TO ORDER

Warden Roulston called the meeting to order at 7:02 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.

### MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

A moment of silent contemplation was observed.

### APPROVAL OF OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

C22(1) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

***Moved that the agenda be approved as presented.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL & SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

C22(2) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Greene:

*Moved that the minutes of the December 22, 2021 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.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION

A complete copy of “Correspondence for Decision” is attached to and forms part of the agenda. 7:05

ITEM 50 - ENFIELD EARTHKEEPERS REQUEST TO PRESENT TO COUNCIL

C22(3) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Tingley: Clarkson

*Moved that Council hear the staff report prior to hearing a presentation from the Earthkeepers.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

ITEM 49 - LETTER FROM LANTZ & ELMSDALE FIRE DEPARTMENTS (& ITEM 14 - ELMSDALE & ENFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENTS) REGARDING CHANGE IN FIRE BOUNDARIES

C22(4) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Knockwood: Clarkson

*Moved that Council approve the proposed change of boundaries between Elmsdale/Lantz and Elmsdale/Enfield.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

ITEM 39 - LETTER FROM NS PUBLIC WORKS REGARDING OFFER TO CONVEY SYLVIA AVENUE, MILFORD

C22(5) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb:

*Moved (later defeated) that this consideration to be dealt with at the next Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee.*

**MOTION DEFEATED**

Ten (10) voting against. One (1) voting in favour. Councillor Rhyno voting yay.

Discussion was held and questions addressed by staff.

C22(6) On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Greene: Clarkson

***Moved that Council authorize staff to purchase the property*** (at Sylvia Avenue, Milford).

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ten (10) voting in favour. One (1) voting against. Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

Councillor Isenor joined the meeting in progress.

**[ITEM 38 - REQUEST FROM ROBIN WILBER SEEKING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NORTHERN PULP](#)**

C22(7) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Rhyno:

***Moved that Council receive the letter and put it on file*** (Re: Request from Robin Wilber seeking a letter of support for Northern Pulp).

Ten (10) voting in favour. One (1) voting against. Councillor Knockwood voting nay.

**[ITEM 33 - REQUEST FROM THE TRUSTEES OF THE SOUTH RAWDON HALL TO TURN THE FACILITY OVER TO THE MUNICIPALITY](#)**

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Discussion was held.

C22(8) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Tingley: Clarkson

***Moved to have the request*** (from the trustees of the South Rawdon Hall to turn the facility over to the Municipality) ***sent to the next Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee meeting (February or March), and to authorize staff to start consultation, and use District 11 District Recreation funds to provide fuel and power to the Hall in the interim.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden resumed Chair.

**[ITEM 14 - REQUEST TO CHANGE THE ENFIELD - ELMSDALE FIRE DISTRICT BOUNDARY](#)**

Dealt with earlier during discussion of Item 49.



COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee from the meeting held on January 18, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting: 7:30

2022-2023 BUDGET PRESENTATION, BUSINESS PLANS & TAX ANALYSIS

The Director of Finance started the report titled “Budget and Tax Analysis 2022/2023” and ended on Page 49 at the January 18<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting. She will continue the presentation at the upcoming Budget meeting scheduled for February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. No motions resulted.

2022 POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW REPORT #1

C22(9) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: Woodford

*Moved that Council direct staff to bring a further report back to Council (Re: Mayor vs. Warden).*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(10) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to write a letter to the Government seeking an extension, up to one year, due to Covid restrictions hoping we can have public consultation in person (Re: 2022 Polling District Review)*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(11) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to conduct the 2022 Polling District Review using the process outlined in the staff report “2022 Polling District Review Report #1” attached to the Executive Committee Agenda dated January 18th, 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(12) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councillor Moussa, as Chairperson of the Infrastructure & Operations Committee, presented the report on the Infrastructure & Operations Committee from the meeting held on January 18, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**SHUBENACADIE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT CONSTRUCTION BUDGET**

C22(13) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Knockwood: Hulsman

*Moved that Council increase the total budget for project 10-022 “Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement - Shubenacadie” to \$7,705,000, with the additional \$2,205,000 to be funded through reserves.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2022 INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL FUNDING PRIORITIES**

C22(14) On the motion of Councillor Moussa and Deputy Warden Mitchell: Hulsman

*Moved that Council prioritize capital project 20-038, the Enfield Water Treatment Plant Capacity Upgrade, and are in support of a funding application.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RECYCLING PROCESSING CONTRACT**

C22(15) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Hebb: Hulsman

*Moved that Council approve a single source procurement with the Municipality of Colchester for the recycling processing of East Hants materials for a period of 2-years at the rates proposed.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(16) On the motion of Councillor Moussa and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Planning Advisory Committee from the meeting held on January 18, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting: 7:35

**PORTREE JACC - REZONING AND REDESIGNATION MOUNT UNIACKE - FIRST READING**

C22(17) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: Woodford

*Moved that Council give First Reading to amendments to the MPS & LUB that would change a portion of PID 45141496 from Rural Use (RU) to Established Residential Neighbourhood (ER) designation and from Rural Use (RU) to Established Residential Neighbourhood (R1) zone for the purpose of authorizing a public hearing; and authorize staff to schedule a public hearing.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ROAD GAP PROJECT**

C22(18) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: Woodford

*Moved that Council direct staff to bring another report back to Committee regarding further funding alternatives for Scenario 2 and more detail on the (Road Gap) project.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PROTECTIVE FENCING FOR CONSTRUCTION SITES - BYLAW P-900-1, AN AMENDMENT TO BYLAW P-900, BUILDING BYLAW**

C22(19) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: Woodford

*Moved that Council direct staff to bring a report back to Committee with further actions and information to consider for immediate response for emergency situations (Re: Protective Fencing for Construction Sites).*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(20) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry: Woodford

*Moved that Council direct staff to write a report on the construction site at 428 Highway 2, Enfield, including photos and bring it to Council next week (later in this meeting) to determine if action should be taken.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLAN UPDATE - FLOODLANDS BACKGROUND PAPER**

C22(21) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to prepare land use policies and regulations for floodlands, based on the direction in staff's report dated January 5, 2022, and also taking into account existing structures and those not considered permanent.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(22) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FIRST READING - BYLAW P-900-1, AN AMENDMENT TO BYLAW P-900, BUILDING BYLAW**

C22(23) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

Woodford

*Moved that Council gives first reading to Bylaw P-900-1, an amendment to Bylaw P-900, Building Bylaw to regulate protective construction fencing.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities.

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Councillors provided verbal reports on their recent activities.

**SOUTH UNIACKE ROAD BRIDGE CONDITION**

C22(24) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa:

Hulsman

*Move that Council direct staff monitor the South Uniacke Road bridge and that any deterioration concerns that are received gets reported to Nova Scotia Department of Public Works so it stays on their radar.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**SNOW CLEARING STANDARDS - EAST UNIACKE ROAD**

C22(25) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Perry:

Hulsman

*Move that Council direct staff to contact Nova Scotia Department of Public Works to request that they clear the East Uniacke Road earlier than their current schedule because it is a well-travelled road and there is a lot of residents that will not wait and will travel on it.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

WINTER MAINTENANCE - MUNICIPAL PATHS

- C22(26) On the motion of Councillors Tingley and Perry: 8:08  
Tapper  
Hulsman
- Move that Council direct staff to bring a report back to Committee for budget deliberation on the options and related costs to maintaining the Municipality owned paved paths as part of the Winter Maintenance Budget.*

MOTION CARRIED

IN CAMERA - LAND ISSUE

- C22(27) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Knockwood:
- Moved that Council move to an In-Camera Session regarding various land, legal and contractual matters at 8:09 p.m.*

MOTION CARRIED

The Council returned to open meeting at 9:28 p.m.

The Warden reported that Council met in camera to discuss a number of issues and staff was given direction. The following motions are coming forward as a result:

SHUBENACADIE HALL & GROUNDS

- C22(28) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: Tapper
- Moved that Council authorize the CAO to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with the Shubenacadie Hall and Grounds society to acquire the property at 2848 and 2850 Highway 2, Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia, PID 45096237 for the purpose of park and playground development and with the intent to subdivide and declare the hall and the land associated with the hall surplus to Council needs once acquired.*

*And, that once ownership has been transferred, Council enters into a short-term lease with Lighthouse Ministry and a long-term lease with Lions Club for the current buildings being used on the property.*

MOTION CARRIED

RENEWABLE ENERGY PARTNERSHIPS

- C22(29) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: Ramsay
- Moved that Council send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting enabling legislation to allow municipalities to partner with business in renewable energy projects.*

MOTION CARRIED

SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

C22(30) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy) be held on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and the Regular Meeting of Council February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.*

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

C22(31) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved that Council adjourn at 9:42 p.m.*

MOTION CARRIED



Approved By: Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: February 1, 2022



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden

Date: February 23, 2022

/AM



## Corporate & Residential Services Committee Executive Committee

February 15, 2022

A meeting of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee was held on the above date virtually via Zoom. The meeting was livestreamed and recorded.

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. All members of Council were present.

### Staff Present:

- Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
- Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services
- Mr. Michael Hatfield, Procurement Officer
- Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Ms. Sue Surrette, Director of Finance
- Ms. Janice Taylor, Manager of Finance
- Mr. Jordan Baltzer, Accountant & Budget Analyst
- Mr. Graham Scott, Manager of Economic and Business Development
- Ms. Amy Pyne, Manager Real Estate & Corporate Projects
- Ms. Amanda Hatfield, Information Management Clerk
- Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
- Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
- Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer
- Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
- Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CRS22(13)  
February On the motion of Warden Roulston and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved that the minutes of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee meeting held January 18, 2022, and the minutes of the Budget Meetings held February 3, 2022 and February 8, 2022 be approved.*

### MOTION CARRIED

### NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS

Erin Taylor, Communications Coordinator (Term)

The CAO introduced Erin Taylor, Communications Coordinator (Term), for the Municipality of East Hants.

Adam Brewster, Manager of Accounting

The Director of Finance introduced Adam Brewster, Manager of Accounting, for the Municipality of East Hants.

DECEMBER 2021 PENSION COST CERTIFICATE

The Director of Finance presented a report titled “*Pension Cost Certificate*”, dated February 8, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(14)  
February

On the motion of Councillors Greene and Garden-Cole

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council approve the filing of the December 31, 2021 actuarial cost certificate attached to the February 15th, 2022 Executive Committee Agenda; and that Plenus Consultants be appointed as the Actuary for the Municipality of East Hants pension plan.***

MOTION CARRIED

WALTON AND TINSMITH LEASE

The Manager Real Estate & Corporate Projects presented a report titled “*Walton Lighthouse and Watson Smith & Sons Tinsmith Shop Museum - Lease Renewals - Update*”, dated February 1, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(15)  
February

On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Moussa:

***Moved that the Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that the lease with Walton Area Development Association be renewed for ten (10) years for the Walton Lighthouse, PID 45149085, as per current lease terms and conditions, with amendment to increase the annual operations and maintenance grant to \$5,000 starting in 2022, to be adjusted annually for CPI going forward.***

MOTION CARRIED

CRS22(16)  
February

On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Moussa:

***Moved that the Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that the lease with East Hants Museum Society be renewed for ten (10) years for the Watson Smith & Sons Tinsmith Shop Museum, PID 45095668, as per current lease terms and conditions, with amendment to increase the annual operations and maintenance grant to \$13,000 starting in 2022, to be adjusted annually for CPI going forward.***

MOTION CARRIED



### ENFIELD EARTHKEEPERS

The Manager Real Estate & Corporate Projects presented a report titled “Former CN Train Station, Elmsdale - Enfield Earthkeepers Lease Request”, dated January 31, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(17)  
February On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:

***Moved (later tabled) that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council authorize the CAO to enter into a new lease agreement with the Enfield Earthkeepers for the Former CN Train Station for a term of three (3) years, ending July 31, 2025, with a two (2) year option to renew; the agreement is to include annual reporting requirements.***

CRS22(18)  
February On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Moussa:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee table the Motion CRS22(17) for lease renewal until they hear a presentation from the Enfield Earthkeepers.***

**MOTION TABLED**

### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Manager Economic and Business Development presented a report titled “Workforce Development Plan 2022-2027”, dated February 8, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(19)  
February On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Knockwood:

10:35

***Moved that the Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council to adopt the East Hants Workforce Development Plan 2022-2027.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

### ADJOURNMENT

The Corporate & Residential Committee adjourned for a short break at 10:37a.m. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

### FIREFIGHTER LONG SERVICE AWARDS

The Information Management Clerk presented a report titled “Volunteer Firefighters Long Service Awards”, dated February 3, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(20)  
February

On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council implement a municipal program that recognizes volunteer firefighters at 10 years of service, and every five years up to 19 years of service, by awarding them a medal at their department's annual event; and that,***

***Volunteer firefighters will be eligible if the nominee is alive on the date of the nomination, is nominated by the active fire chief of the nominee and has provided 10 years of volunteer service to their community; and that,***

***Council includes \$3,500 from the 2021-22 year end surplus to cover costs associated with implementation of this program.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

CRS22(21)  
February

On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council direct staff to send the question of whether the 10- or 15-year medals are on a go forward basis or whether they would like them to apply retroactively to firefighters who currently have 20 or more years of service for discussion with the Chief's Association.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **MAYOR VS. WARDEN**

The Director of Planning & Development presented a report titled "2022 Polling District Review Report # 2, Mayor vs Warden", dated February 8, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(22)  
February

On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Warden Roulston:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council approve Option 2 to not to seek public input and makes the decision to keep the warden system.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **WRAP UP OF BUDGET DISCUSSIONS & WATER UTILITY BUDGET**

The Director of Finance presented a wrap up of budget discussions, dated February 8, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

**OPERATING BUDGET 2022/2023**

CRS22(23)  
February

On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Rhyno:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council approve the draft Operating Budget 2022/2023, amended as follows:***

**GENERAL TAX RATE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS*****Proposed Budget Adjustments:***

Reserves Waste Balloon	\$ (29,590)
Land - Elmsdale Business Park Interest	\$ 19,000
Reserves - Year End Surplus	\$ (135,311)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (145,901)</b>

***And that the following tax rate be set by Council for the 2022/2023 fiscal year:***

**FINAL TAX RATES 2022/2023**

General Tax Rate - Residential*	\$ 0.3053
General Tax Rate - Resource*	\$ 0.3053
General Tax Rate - Commercial*	\$ 2.0553
General Tax Rate - Mandatory Provincial Funding*	\$ 0.3076
General Tax Rate - RCMP Services**	\$ 0.2371
Waste Management Fee (Per Dwelling Unit)	\$ 220.00
Commercial Serviced Levy Rate (R2)	\$ 0.6570
Commercial Serviced Levy Rate - Milford (M2)	\$ 1.2000
Residential Serviced Levy Rate (R1)	\$ 0.0700
Residential Serviced Levy Rate - Shubenacadie (SR1)	\$ 0.1900
Residential Serviced Levy Rate - Milford (M1)	\$ 0.3450
Urban Sidewalks and Streetlights Rate (R4)	\$ 0.0400
Urban Sidewalks Rate (R5)	\$ 0.0200
Urban Sidewalks Rate (R6)	\$ 0.0200
Mt Uniacke Streetlights- Park/Subdivision Rate (L9)	\$ 0.0200
Mt Uniacke Safety Streetlights Rate (L10)	\$ 0.0038
Rawdon Streetlights Rate (L8)	\$ 0.0430
Shubenacadie (differential on USR)	\$ 0.1200
Milford (differential on USR)	\$ 0.1200
Shubenacadie Area Rate (WU Deficit)	\$ 0.0210
Enfield Horne Settlement - Streetlights Rate (R3)	\$ 0.0180
Nine Mile River- Streetlights Rate (LN9)	\$ 0.0200
Sportsplex Area Rate (Comm./Residential) - Rhines Creek to Enfield; NMR & Belnan	\$ 0.0400
Mount Uniacke Recreation Rate	\$ 0.0070

Enfield Fire Department Levy (K1)	\$ 0.1200
Elmsdale Fire Department Levy (K2)	\$ 0.1400
Lantz Fire Department Levy (K3)	\$ 0.1400
Milford Fire Department Levy (K4)	\$ 0.1700
Shubenacadie Fire Department Levy (K5)	\$ 0.1700
Maitland Fire Department Levy (K6)	\$ 0.2200
Noel Fire Department Levy (K7)	\$ 0.2200
Walton Fire Department Levy (K8)	\$ 0.2200
Gore Fire Department Levy (G1)	\$ 0.2200
Kennetcook Fire Department Levy (G2)	\$ 0.2200
NMRiver Fire Department Levy (G3)	\$ 0.1700
Rawdon Fire Department Levy (G4)	\$ 0.2300
Mt Uniacke Fire Department Levy (G5)	\$ 0.1340
Brooklyn Fire Department Levy (G6)	\$ 0.2200
Wastewater Management Fee (rate/1,000 gallons of water) (Full Recovery \$10.00)	\$ 10.00
Wastewater Management Fee (rate/cubic metre) Full Recovery Rate (\$2.20)	\$ 2.20

***And that the “Mandatory Provincial Funding” rate will summarize the costs of Public Housing, Education, Regional Library and Corrections;***

***And that the “RCMP Services” rate will include the transfers to the Provincial Department of Justice for all amounts related to Police protection and related services;***

***And that both the Mandatory Provincial Funding rate and the RCMP Services rate will be charged on all taxable assessment including commercial, residential and resource assessments;***

***And that for Provincial reporting purposes the General Residential/Resource tax rate will be \$0.85 and the Commercial tax rate will be \$2.60.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CAPITAL BUDGET (2022/2023 TO 2026/2027)**

CRS22(24)  
February On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Hebb:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that the five-year Capital Budget for the fiscal years 2022/2023 to 2026/2027 as presented be approved and adopted effective April 1st, 2022. Administration is given approval to proceed with the previously approved capital projects and those in the “Approval Sought” sections, subject to any conditions limiting such projects in previous motions of Council or in policies of Council. Should time permit, staff are authorized to embark on projects in this Capital Budget that require long-term pre-planning prior to April 1st, 2022. Projects “Approved for***

*Further Study” are approved in principle only; amounts identified as “Approved for Further Study” cannot be expended prior to presentation of a full report to Council for consideration or approval through a future capital budget process. Where time permits, staff are given approval to proceed with “Approval Sought” projects from 2023/2024 prior to April 1st, 2023;*

*And that, any projects approved in the 2021/2022 Capital Budget not reflected as carried forward to the 2022/2023 Capital Budget, but that are substantially committed at March 31st, 2022, shall be carried forward to 2022/2023, based on the remaining budget at March 31st, 2022;*

*And that, this five-year estimate of capital spending forms the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) as required by the Federal and Provincial government funding agreements;*

*And that, the Water Utility sections of this budget are permitted to stand alone as the East Hants Water Utility Capital Budget as required by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (UARB);*

*And that, staff be given authority to alter the source(s) of funding where necessary, but in no case shall the amounts to be debentured increase without prior approval of Council;*

*And that, Council seek Ministerial approval for a temporary borrowing resolution (TBR) for any amounts in this Capital Budget under the “Debenture/Debt” category of funding;*

*And that, pre-approval to borrow amounts in this Capital Budget under the “Debenture/Debt” category of funding for a term not to exceed twenty-five (25) years at a rate not to exceed 6.5%.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS22(25)  
February

On the motion of Councillors Greene and Knockwood:

*Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee adjourn at 12:10 p.m. to reconvene after the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee meeting.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. All members of Council were present, with the exception of Councillor Knockwood who expressed regrets.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING IN-PERSON MEETINGS**

Discussion was held regarding the new Reopening Plan and Public Health restrictions in Nova Scotia.

CRS22(26)  
February On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee recommend to Council that Council resume in-person meetings (in Council Chambers) as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, and leave the Fire Advisory Committee Meeting (on March 3, 2022) up to the discretion of the Committee.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

CRS22(27)  
February On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Hebb:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee recommend to Council that Council give consent for Councillors (and Staff) to attend meetings via Web Conferencing if they are unable to attend in person (due to isolation or experiencing symptoms) for the duration of the Covid-19 State of Emergency.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS22(28)  
February On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee adjourn at 5:51 p.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approved by: Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services  
Date: February 17, 2022

Approved by: Sue Surrette, Director of Finance  
Date: February 17, 2022

Approved by: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development  
Date: February 17, 2022

/AM



## Regular Meeting of Council

February 23, 2022

(Virtual via Zoom)

### PRESENT

Warden Eleanor Roulston  
Deputy Warden Norval Mitchell

Councillors: Sandra Garden-Cole      Michael Perry  
                         Eldon Hebb                              Elie Moussa (joined at 7:03)  
                         Ian Knockwood                              Wayne Greene  
                         Keith Rhyno                                      Tom Isenor  
                         Walter Tingley

### STAFF

Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development  
Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture  
Ms. Sue Surette, Director of Finance  
Ms. Janice Taylor, Manager of Finance  
Mr. Jordan Baltzer, Accountant and Budget Analyst  
Mr. Tom Gignac, Manager of Information Services  
Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer  
Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### CALL TO ORDER

Warden Roulston called the meeting to order at 7:02 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.

### MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

A moment of silent contemplation was observed.

### APPROVAL OF OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

C22(35) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene:

***Moved that the agenda be approved as presented.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C22(36) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Greene:

*Moved that the minutes of the January 26, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council and the February 15, 2022 Council (Policy) meeting be approved.*

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

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

CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION

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

ITEM 70 - OFFICIAL CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS AGAINST COUNCILLOR WALTER TINGLEY IN RESPONSE TO A SOCIAL MEDIA POST

C22(37) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Knockwood:

*Moved that there was a breach of the Code of Conduct and that Councillor Tingley should apologize publicly as well as to the Complainants* (Councillor Tingley did not vote on the Motion).

MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 61 - LETTER FROM NSFM EXPLAINING THE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES THIS YEAR

C22(38) On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Perry:

7:31  
CAO

*Moved that staff send correspondence to NSFM with regards to the increase of membership dues, expressing the Municipality’s displeasure with the increase, request better communication in future, and pay the invoice for this year.*

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing was live-streamed through the municipal website and YouTube. 7:34

Note: All comments/questions have been summarized and are not to be considered a verbatim transcript.

Warden Roulston noted that there is one (1) item on the public hearing agenda. The purpose of the hearing is to hear input from the public prior to making a decision on the proposal.



The Warden welcomed those in attendance. She advised that anyone who wanted to comment or ask questions would be provided an opportunity to do so.

Warden Roulston noted Council's Procedural Policy. She advised that Council may approve, reject or defer its decision on the proposal to a later date. Council approval is required for the proposal to proceed.

Warden Roulston asked the Chief Administrative Officer/Municipal Clerk to outline when the public hearing advertisements were published.

The Chief Administrative Officer/Municipal Clerk noted that the public hearing notice appeared in the February 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> editions of The Chronicle Herald. The notice described the proposal, gave the date and time of the public hearing, and indicated that staff reports were available to the public.

#### PORTREE JACC ENTERPRISE INC. - MPS AND LUB MAPPING AMENDMENTS

Warden Roulston noted the public hearing item was a proposal to amend the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw, and to enter into a development agreement for a mixed-use development

Warden Roulston asked the Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee to present his report.

Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee noted that the Planning Advisory Committee considered the proposal on behalf of Municipal Council, reviewed staff's reports, completed their evaluation and would make a recommendation to Council during the Hearing. Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee asked staff to present their final report on the proposal.

The Director of Planning & Development presented the staff report titled "Portree JACC Enterprise Inc. - MPS and LUB Mapping Amendments" dated January 10, 2022. A copy of the report and related documents were attached to the agenda and available to all Council members.

Warden Roulston opened the floor to comments or questions from members of Council. Staff addressed questions from Council members.

Warden Roulston asked if the owner or a representative had any comments or would like to make a presentation. The representative did not make comments, but offered to address any questions.

Warden Roulston asked if there were comments or questions from members of the public via Zoom or live chat on YouTube. There were none.

Warden Roulston made a last call for comments or questions via Zoom or live chat on YouTube.

The Communications Officer confirmed there were none.

Warden Roulston asked if staff had any final comments. There were none.

**RECOMMENDATION**

C22(39) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: Woodford

***Moved that Council give Second Reading to amendments to the MPS & LUB that would change a portion of PID 45141496 from Rural Use (RU) to Established Residential Neighbourhood (ER) designation and from Rural Use (RU) to Established Residential Neighbourhood (R1) zone.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden Roulston asked Councillors if they had any final comments or questions. Staff addressed questions from Council members.

**WATER UTILITY BUDGET**

The Manager of Finance presented the East Hants Water Utility - Financial Estimates - 2022/2023 to 2024/2025 dated February 15, 2022. A copy was attached to the agenda and available to all Council members.

C22(40) On the motion of Councillor Tingley and Deputy Warden Mitchell: Surette

***Moved that Council approve the East Hants Water Utility Financial Estimates from 2022/2023 to 2024-2025 as presented.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Rhino, as Chairperson of the Police Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Police Advisory Committee from the meeting held on February 15, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting:

**THANK YOU LETTER TO GREG DENSMORE**

C22(41) On the motion of Councillors Rhino and Greene: MacEwan

***Moved that Council direct staff write thank you letter to Greg Densmore to thank him for his service on the East Hants Police Advisory Committee.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(42) On the motion of Councillors Rhino and Knockwood:

***Moved the adoption of the report.***

MOTION CARRIED

CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee from the meeting held on February 15, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

DECEMBER 2021 PENSION COST CERTIFICATE

C22(43) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: Surette

*Moved that Council approve the filing of the December 31, 2021 actuarial cost certificate attached to the February 15th, 2022 Executive Committee Agenda; and that Plenus Consultants be appointed as the Actuary for the Municipality of East Hants pension plan.*

MOTION CARRIED

WALTON AND TINSMITH LEASE

C22(44) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: Clarkson

*Moved that the lease with Walton Area Development Association be renewed for ten (10) years for the Walton Lighthouse, PID 45149085, as per current lease terms and conditions, with amendment to increase the annual operations and maintenance grant to \$5,000 starting in 2022, to be adjusted annually for CPI going forward.*

MOTION CARRIED

C22(45) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb: Clarkson

*Moved that the lease with East Hants Museum Society be renewed for ten (10) years for the Watson Smith & Sons Tinsmith Shop Museum, PID 45095668, as per current lease terms and conditions, with amendment to increase the annual operations and maintenance grant to \$13,000 starting in 2022, to be adjusted annually for CPI going forward.*

MOTION CARRIED

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

C22(46) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: Clarkson

*Moved that Council adopt the East Hants Workforce Development Plan 2022-2027.*

MOTION CARRIED

**FIREFIGHTER LONG SERVICE AWARDS**

C22(47) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: Clarkson

*Moved that Council implement a municipal program that recognizes volunteer firefighters at 10 years of service, and every five years up to 19 years of service, by awarding them a medal at their department’s annual event; and that,*

*Volunteer firefighters will be eligible if the nominee is alive on the date of the nomination, is nominated by the active fire chief of the nominee and has provided 10 years of volunteer service to their community; and that,*

*Council includes \$3,500 from the 2021-22 year end surplus to cover costs associated with implementation of this program.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(48) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell: Clarkson

*Moved that Council direct staff to send the question of whether the 10- or 15-year medals are on a go forward basis or whether they would like them to apply retroactively to firefighters who currently have 20 or more years of service for discussion with the Chief’s Association.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MAYOR VS. WARDEN**

C22(49) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb: Woodford

*Moved that Council approve Option 2 to not to seek public input and makes the decision to keep the Warden system.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**OPERATING BUDGET 2022/2023**

C22(50) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb: Surrette

*Moved that Council approve the draft Operating Budget 2022/2023, amended as follows:*

GENERAL TAX RATE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS	
<i>Proposed Budget Adjustments:</i>	
Reserves Waste Balloon	\$ (29,590)
Land - Elmsdale Business Park Interest	\$ 19,000
Reserves - Year End Surplus	\$ (135,311)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (145,901)</b>

*And that the following tax rate be set by Council for the 2022/2023 fiscal year:*

FINAL TAX RATES 2022/2023	
General Tax Rate - Residential*	\$ 0.3053
General Tax Rate - Resource*	\$ 0.3053
General Tax Rate - Commercial*	\$ 2.0553
General Tax Rate - Mandatory Provincial Funding*	\$ 0.3076
General Tax Rate - RCMP Services**	\$ 0.2371
Waste Management Fee (Per Dwelling Unit)	\$ 220.00
Commercial Serviced Levy Rate (R2)	\$ 0.6570
Commercial Serviced Levy Rate - Milford (M2)	\$ 1.2000
Residential Serviced Levy Rate (R1)	\$ 0.0700
Residential Serviced Levy Rate - Shubenacadie (SR1)	\$ 0.1900
Residential Serviced Levy Rate - Milford (M1)	\$ 0.3450
Urban Sidewalks and Streetlights Rate (R4)	\$ 0.0400
Urban Sidewalks Rate (R5)	\$ 0.0200
Urban Sidewalks Rate (R6)	\$ 0.0200
Mt Uniacke Streetlights- Park/Subdivision Rate (L9)	\$ 0.0200
Mt Uniacke Safety Streetlights Rate (L10)	\$ 0.0038
Rawdon Streetlights Rate (L8)	\$ 0.0430
Shubenacadie (differential on USR)	\$ 0.1200
Milford (differential on USR)	\$ 0.1200
Shubenacadie Area Rate (WU Deficit)	\$ 0.0210
Enfield Horne Settlement - Streetlights Rate (R3)	\$ 0.0180
Nine Mile River- Streetlights Rate (LN9)	\$ 0.0200
Sportsplex Area Rate (Comm./Residential) - Rhines Creek to Enfield; NMR & Belnan	\$ 0.0400
Mount Uniacke Recreation Rate	\$ 0.0070
Enfield Fire Department Levy (K1)	\$ 0.1200
Elmsdale Fire Department Levy (K2)	\$ 0.1400
Lantz Fire Department Levy (K3)	\$ 0.1400
Milford Fire Department Levy (K4)	\$ 0.1700
Shubenacadie Fire Department Levy (K5)	\$ 0.1700
Maitland Fire Department Levy (K6)	\$ 0.2200
Noel Fire Department Levy (K7)	\$ 0.2200
Walton Fire Department Levy (K8)	\$ 0.2200
Gore Fire Department Levy (G1)	\$ 0.2200
Kennetcook Fire Department Levy (G2)	\$ 0.2200
NMRiver Fire Department Levy (G3)	\$ 0.1700
Rawdon Fire Department Levy (G4)	\$ 0.2300
Mt Uniacke Fire Department Levy (G5)	\$ 0.1340
Brooklyn Fire Department Levy (G6)	\$ 0.2200
Wastewater Management Fee (rate/1,000 gallons of water) (Full Recovery \$10.00)	\$ 10.00
Wastewater Management Fee (rate/cubic metre) Full Recovery Rate \$2.20)	\$ 2.20

*And that the “Mandatory Provincial Funding” rate will summarize the costs of Public Housing, Education, Regional Library and Corrections;*

*And that the “RCMP Services” rate will include the transfers to the Provincial Department of Justice for all amounts related to Police protection and related services;*

*And that both the Mandatory Provincial Funding rate and the RCMP Services rate will be charged on all taxable assessment including commercial, residential and resource assessments;*

*And that for Provincial reporting purposes the General Residential/Resource tax rate will be \$0.85 and the Commercial tax rate will be \$2.60.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CAPITAL BUDGET (2022/2023 TO 2026/2027)**

C22(51) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene:

Surette

*Moved that the five-year Capital Budget for the fiscal years 2022/2023 to 2026/2027 as presented be approved and adopted effective April 1st, 2022. Administration is given approval to proceed with the previously approved capital projects and those in the “Approval Sought” sections, subject to any conditions limiting such projects in previous motions of Council or in policies of Council. Should time permit, staff are authorized to embark on projects in this Capital Budget that require long-term pre-planning prior to April 1st, 2022. Projects “Approved for Further Study” are approved in principle only; amounts identified as “Approved for Further Study” cannot be expended prior to presentation of a full report to Council for consideration or approval through a future capital budget process. Where time permits, staff are given approval to proceed with “Approval Sought” projects from 2023/2024 prior to April 1st, 2023;*

*And that, any projects approved in the 2021/2022 Capital Budget not reflected as carried forward to the 2022/2023 Capital Budget, but that are substantially committed at March 31st, 2022, shall be carried forward to 2022/2023, based on the remaining budget at March 31st, 2022;*

*And that, this five-year estimate of capital spending forms the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) as required by the Federal and Provincial government funding agreements;*

*And that, the Water Utility sections of this budget are permitted to stand alone as the East Hants Water Utility Capital Budget as required by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (UARB);*

*And that, staff be given authority to alter the source(s) of funding where necessary, but in no case shall the amounts to be debentured increase without prior approval of Council;*

*And that, Council seek Ministerial approval for a temporary borrowing resolution (TBR) for any amounts in this Capital Budget under the “Debenture/Debt” category of funding;*

*And that, pre-approval to borrow amounts in this Capital Budget under the “Debenture/Debt” category of funding for a term not to exceed twenty-five (25) years at a rate not to exceed 6.5%.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION REGARDING IN-PERSON MEETINGS**

C22(52) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene:

CAO  
Clarkson

*Moved Council resume in-person meetings (in Council Chambers) as of March 1st, and leave the Fire Advisory Committee Meeting (on March 3, 2022) up to the discretion of the Committee.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(53) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Knockwood:

CAO

*Moved that Council give consent for Councillors (and Staff) to attend meetings via Web Conferencing if they are unable to attend in person (due to isolation or experiencing symptoms) for the duration of the Covid-19 State of Emergency.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(54) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Planning Advisory Committee from the meeting held on February 15, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**PORTREE JACC - REZONING AND REDESIGNATION MOUNT UNIACKE - FINAL REPORT**

Dealt with at the Public Hearing earlier in the Meeting.

**FH DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT APPLICATION - REQUEST TO SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING**

C22(55) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to hold off on scheduling a public hearing for the application by FH Development Group to enter into a development agreement for a WCDD application in Elmsdale until we get further community consultation back on the proposed development agreement.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(56) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: Woodford

*Moved that Council direct staff to do a review on WCDD designations and what zones they are in place on.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**[VERSAILLES HOLDINGS LTD. - DISCHARGE OF DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT](#)**

C22(57) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley: Woodford

*Moved that Council approve the discharge agreement for lands located at 161 Highway 277, Lantz, to enable the subject property to be regulated by the provisions of the Land Use Bylaw.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**[ENFIELD DENTAL UNSUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT UPDATE - FLOODLANDS BACKGROUND PAPER](#)**

C22(58) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry: 8:27  
Woodford

*Moved that Council approve the application by Enfield Family Dental Centre for unsubstantial amendments to their Development Agreement, with the Municipality of East Hants.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**[PLAN UPDATE - ROOSTERS](#)**

C22(59) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley: Woodford

*Moved that Council direct staff to bring back a report to Council with other alternatives considering density and lot sizes (Use of Community Standards Bylaw or Noise By Laws etc.) for the keeping of Roosters.*

**MOTION CARRIED**



**CAMPGROUND LICENSING REPORT**

C22(60) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Garden-Cole: Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to conduct an educational campaign with campground owners on East Hants Bylaws that regulate noise, air quality, light control, and solid waste; and that owners be put on notice Council may consider a licensing bylaw.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ten (10) voting in favour. One (1) voting against. Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

C22(61) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: Woodford

*Moved that Council direct Staff to continue to work on developing a Campground Licensing Bylaw.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ten (10) voting in favour. One (1) voting against. Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**ROAD GAP PROJECT II**

C22(62) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley: Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to proceed with this local improvement based on option two outlined in the report; and that staff be directed to draft an amendment to the Local Improvement Bylaw; and that the road gap project be included in the 2022-2026 capital budget for construction in 2023. With the funding coming from the Paving Reserve (10%), and the Corridor Deed Transfer Tax 2021/2022 Surplus (remainder of the amount) with a proportionate amount going to the Mt. Uniacke Recreation Fund and the East Hants Rural Fire Capital Fund. Using the percentages of Deed Transfer Tax collected at December 31, 2021 to generate these estimates, the Planning Advisory Committee also recommends that Council:*

- *authorize staff to proceed with this local improvement on the basis of Option 2 as outlined in the Road Gap Project II report as attached to the Executive Committee agenda February 15, 2022; and,*
- *provide municipal funding of \$150,000 to this project from the Paving Reserve; and,*
- *add a contribution of \$94,000 to the Paving Reserve at March 31, 2022 to come from the Deed Transfer Tax surplus in 2021-2022; and,*

- *allocate a proportionate amount to the Rural Fire Capital Fund (estimate: \$23,000), equal to the proportional amount of the rural districts' percentage to the \$94,000 in Deed Transfer Tax collected in 2021-2022; and,*
- *allocate a proportionate amount to the Mount Uniacke Recreation Fund (estimate: \$37,000), equal to the proportional amount of the Mount Uniacke districts' percentage to the \$94,000 in Deed Transfer Tax collected in 2021-2022; and*
- *that staff be directed to draft an amendment to Bylaw F-100, Local Improvement Bylaw, Schedule A to enable a contribution greater than 10%, and to include the charges and related charge area; and,*
- *that the road gap project be included in the 2022-2026 capital budget for construction in 2023.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(63) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE**

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUND 2022/2023**

C22(64) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

Tapper

*Moved that Council approve the list of recommended Community Partnership Fund Organizations to be included in the draft 2022/2023 budget and grants to be disbursed following final budget approval:*

Organization	2022/2023 Grant
Corridor Community Options for Adults	\$15,000
East Hants Community Rider	\$50,000*
East Hants Family Resource Centre	\$10,000
East Hants Historical Society	\$15,813
East Hants Sports Heritage Society	\$5,000
East Hants Youth Links	\$6,000
Senior Safety Program Association of Hants County	\$20,000
Kids Action (Annapolis Valley-Hants Community Action Program)	\$10,000

**MOTION CARRIED**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS 2022/2023

C22(65) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene: Tapper

*Moved that pending appropriate documentation is received, Council approve the following General Government Grants for disbursement in 2022/2023:*

- *Remembering Canada's Heroes \$1,000*
- *Hants County Exhibition \$500*
- *East Hants Crime Prevention \$825*
- *Hants County Christmas Angels Society \$1,000*
- *Dr. Snow Bursaries \$3,000*
- *East Hants Foodbanks \$5,000*
- *Kids Action Program (Christmas Program) \$1,000*

**MOTION CARRIED**

WINTER MAINTENANCE PAVED PATHS

C22(66) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Deputy Warden Mitchell: Tapper  
Hulsman

*Moved that Council approves:*

1. *The extension of the Sidewalk Performance Standards for Plowing, De-icing and Snow Removal found in the East Hants Policy for Winter Clearing Standard for Roads & Sidewalks to municipally owned paved Active Transportation pathways at Ashford Way, Kali Lane and Tyler Street;*
2. *Providing winter maintenance to future municipally owned Active Transportation pathways that fit the following criteria:*
  - A. *Are built to sidewalk standard and fully paved;*
  - B. *At minimum 1.5 meters wide;*
  - C. *Are an extension of municipally owned and year-round maintained sidewalks or Active Transportation route;*
  - D. *Within the Urban Service Rate area;*
  - E. *Provide connectivity between municipal and/or provincial assets.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(67) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Moussa:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

SECOND READING - BYLAW P-900-1, AN AMENDMENT TO BYLAW P-900, BUILDING BYLAW

C22(68) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: Woodford  
MacEwan

*Moved that Council gives second reading to Bylaw P-900-1, an amendment to Bylaw P-900, Building Bylaw to regulate protective construction fencing.*

MOTION CARRIED

[FIRST READING - BYLAW F-400-7, AN AMENDMENT TO BYLAW F-400, EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION BYLAW](#)

C22(69) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene: Tapper  
MacEwan

*Moved that Council give first reading to By-law F-400-7, an amendment to By-law F-400, Tax Exemption By-law, and be amended to reflect the following changes:*

- *Remove Property # 7857012, East Hants Arena Association*
- *Remove Property # 7857020, East Hants Arena Association*
- *Remove Property # 03397645, Trustees of Clarksville Community Hall*
- *Correct name of Property # 01360884 to read East Noel Heritage Schoolhouse Society*

MOTION CARRIED

[WARDEN'S REPORT](#)

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities.

[NSFM PRESENTATION](#)

C22(70) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Perry: 8:51  
CAO

*Moved that Council invite NSFM come to an Executive Committee Meeting to make a presentation regarding organizational structure changes and authorize staff to make those arrangements.*

MOTION CARRIED

[FCM ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022 - REGINA, SK](#)

The Warden advised that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) released information earlier in the day regarding the 2022 FCM Conference to be held in Regina. Registration opens on February 24<sup>th</sup>. She opened the floor for discussion regarding selection of a delegation.

C22(71) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Perry: 9:10  
MacEwan

*Moved that Council authorize staff to book accommodations for 8 delegates for the 2022 FCM Conference in June;*

*And that, the Warden, CAO be registered for the conference;  
And that, the Deputy Warden, and Councillors Knockwood, Tingley, Garden-Cole,  
Isenor, and Perry be registered upon confirmation of availability.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Councillors provided verbal reports on their recent activities.

**CONCORDE WAY SNOW REMOVAL (PARKING) ISSUES**

Councillor Garden-Cole raised concerns with snow removal issues due to cars ignoring winter parking ban and parking on the street.

C22(72) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Hebb:

9:20

Hulsman

*Moved that staff prepare a report on parking on municipal streets during snow events with options for Council to consider be incorporated into compliance activities.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**EAST UNIACKE SURPLUS PROPERTY**

C22(73) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Greene:

Clarkson

*Moved that staff complete a review of the four municipal properties located on Charles Drive known as PID's 45150018, 45194644, 45194669, 45344165 with the intent to provide Council with land management options that will include; partnership opportunities and disposal of surplus property methods to help facilitate the operational needs of the Uniacke and District Volunteer Fire Department.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(IN CAMERA) LEGAL ISSUE**

C22(74) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

*Moved that Council move to an In-Camera Session regarding a legal matter at 9:28 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Council returned to open meeting at 10:48 p.m.

The Warden reported that Council met in camera to discuss a legal matter.

SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

C22(75) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry:

*Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy) be held on March 22, 2022 and the Regular Meeting of Council March 30, 2022.*

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

C22(76) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Moussa:

*Moved that Council adjourn at 10:50 p.m.*

MOTION CARRIED



Approved By: Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer  
Date: February 25, 2022



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden  
Date: March 30, 2022

/AM



## Corporate & Residential Services Committee Executive Committee

April 19, 2022

A meeting of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee was held on the above date virtually via Zoom. The meeting was livestreamed and recorded.

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. All members of Council were present with the exception of Councillor Knockwood & Councillor Isenor. Councillor Knockwood sent his regrets and Councillor Isenor joined the meeting later in the day.

### Staff Present:

- Ms. Sue Surrette, Director of Finance & Acting Chief Administrative Officer
- Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services
- Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
- Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
- Ms. Janice Taylor, Manager of Finance
- Ms. Erin Taylor, Communications Coordinator
- Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
- Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### Guests:

- Juanita Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
- Paul Russell, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities Board Member
- Wesley Petite, Policy Advisor, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
- Ross Young, Manager, Corridor Community Options for Adults
- Jim Arthur, Fundraising Committee Chair, Corridor Community Options for Adults
- Linda Coolen, Corridor Community Options for Adults

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Perry 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.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF ALL SUB-COMMITTEES

CRS22(43) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:  
April

***Moved that the agenda of all sub-committee meetings held April 19, 2022 be approved.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

CRS22(44) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Deputy Warden Mitchell:  
April

***Moved that the minutes of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee meeting held March 22, 2022 be approved.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PRESENTATION - NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION OF MUNICIPALITIES**

Juanita Spencer, Chief Executive Officer of the NSFM provided a verbal presentation dated April 19, 2022. A copy of the presentation material was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. Questions were addressed by Ms. Spencer, Paul Russell NSFM Board member and Wesley Petite, NSFM Policy Advisor. Committee members raised some concerns with the proposed model changes. Councillor Perry, as Chair, thanked the guests.

**PRESENTATION - CORRIDOR COMMUNITY OPTIONS FOR ADULTS (CCOA)**

Mr. Ross Young, Manager of CCOA provided a presentation dated April 19, 2022 providing an update on the new building plans. A copy of the presentation material was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

Mr. Jim Arthur, Chair of the Fundraising Committee, provided a verbal financial update and made a request that East Hants assist the CCOA in securing additional municipal grant funding in the amount of \$300,000, as well as, waiving fees/permit costs estimated at \$80,000.

CRS22(45) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Moussa:  
April

***Moved that the ask of the Corridor Community Options for Adults be brought back for discussion and a report on possible sources of funding be brought back by Staff.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councillor Perry, as Chair, thanked the guests.

**NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS**

**Corbin Williams, Water Operator (April 11)**



The Assistant Municipal Clerk introduced Corbin Williams, Water Operator for the Municipality of East Hants.

Charles Patterson, Solid Waste Seasonal Labourer (April 11)

The Assistant Municipal Clerk introduced Charles Patterson, Solid Waste Seasonal Labourer for the Municipality of East Hants.

Henry Black, Building Official (April 19)

The Assistant Municipal Clerk introduced Henry Black, Building Official for the Municipality of East Hants.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

- Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations - 10 Years
- Debbie Uloth, Project Planner - 15 Years
- Andrea Trask, Manager of Solid Waste - 20 Years

**COUNCIL PROCEDURAL POLICY**

The Assistant Municipal Clerk presented a report titled “*Council Procedural Policy - Annual Review*”, dated April 8, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

Concerns were raised regarding:

Bullet 1 - Addition of Section 2.6.12 prohibiting consumption of alcohol prior to and during breaks from Council and Committee meetings. Additional information was requested on how the provincial legislation approaches this issue for MLA’s.

Bullet 3 - Addition of Section 9.3 that Councillors will give as much advance notice, as reasonably possible, of a motion to other members of Council prior to the meeting.

Committee members supported:

Bullet 2 - Update Section 3.1.3.6 requiring Councillors to undergo a criminal records check at the beginning of their term before sitting on the Police Advisory Committee.

CRS22(46)  
April

On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb:

11:10

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee remove bullet items 1 and 3 listed in the report from the policy (regarding use of alcohol and providing notice of motions).***

Discussion was held regarding the appropriateness of splitting the motion, to vote on each item separately. It was determined the motion would stand as read to be voted on or amended.

CRS22(47) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Moussa:  
April

***Moved to amend motion CRS22(45) that bullet items 1 and 3 be voted on separately.***

Seven (7) voting in favor, two (2) voting against. Councillors Rhyno and Hebb voting nay.

**MOTION CARRIED**

CRS22(48) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Rhyno:  
April

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services moved to table the removal of bullet item 1 (Section 2.6.12 in the policy regarding use of alcohol) pending additional information is provided.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Eight (9) voting in favour, one (1) voting against. Councillor Hebb voting nay.

CRS22(49) **Question called for the vote to remove bullet item 3 (Section 9.3 regarding notice of motions).**  
April

Eight (8) voting in favour, one (1) voting against. Councillor Tingley voting nay.

CRS22(50) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:  
April

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council give notice of intent to approve the Council Procedural Policy as attached to the April 19, 2022 Executive Committee agenda with the proposed changes.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

CRS22(51) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:  
April

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council approve the Council Procedural Policy as attached to the April 19, 2022 Executive Committee agenda with the proposed changes.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Staff agreed to provide the requested additional information regarding use of alcohol during the Regular Meeting of Council.

**POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW REPORT #3**

The Director of Planning and Development presented a report titled “2022 Polling District Review Report # 3, Phase 1 Size of Council”, dated April 12, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. No motions resulted.

**IN CAMERA ITEMS**

CRS22(52) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Perry:  
April

***Moved that In Camera items be moved to the end of the Agenda.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS22(53) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Moussa:  
April

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee adjourn at 11:50 a.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

CRS22(54) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Perry:  
April

***Moved that Committee adjourn for lunch to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approved by: Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services

Date: April 21, 2022

Approved by: Sue Surette, Director of Finance

Date: April 21, 2022

/AM



## Regular Meeting of Council

April 27, 2022

PRESENT	Warden Eleanor Roulston Deputy Warden Norval Mitchell
	Councillors: Sandra Garden-Cole Eldon Hebb Keith Rhyno Walter Tingley
	Michael Perry Elie Moussa Wayne Greene Tom Isenor
STAFF	Ms. Sue Surette, Director of Finance & Acting Chief Administrative Officer Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture (arrived at 7:44 p.m. following attendance at the Maritime North Jr C Hockey opening ceremony representing the municipality) Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations Mr. Tom Gignac, Manager of Information Services Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### CALL TO ORDER

Warden Roulston called the meeting to order at 7:01 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.

### MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

A moment of silent contemplation was observed.

### APPROVAL OF OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

C22(127) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb:

*Moved that the agenda be approved as presented.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C22(128) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Greene:

***Moved that the minutes of the March Council (Policy) Meeting and the March 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 58 - LETTER FROM JOHN MACDONELL CONCERNING A POSSIBLE CAMPGROUND BYLAW**

In response to a question from Councillor Hebb, staff confirmed another report will be coming forward regarding a possible Campground Bylaw.

**ITEM 22 - LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REGARDING RCMP SERVICES BUDGET 2022-2023**

Deputy Warden Mitchell had questions regarding the budget for RCMP services and if Council would receive a breakdown of the services. Staff confirmed a breakdown of the invoice is expected.

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION**

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

**ITEM 76 - LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM COUNCILLOR IAN KNOCKWOOD**

C22(129) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene:

S. MacEwan

***Moved that Council accept the resignation of Councillor Ian Knockwood.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(130) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

S. MacEwan

***Moved that Council authorize staff to proceed with planning a Special Election for District 4 - Shubenacadie and bring a report back to Executive Committee in May.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Warden expressed thanks on behalf of Council for Councillor Knockwood’s service.

**ITEM 70 - COUNCIL IS ASKED TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR "RESPECT IN THE WORKPLACE FOR LEADERS" TRAINING, AS PART OF THE 2021-2024 EAST HANTS STRATEGIC PLAN**

C22(131) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

7:13

***Moved that Council direct staff to schedule the in-person Respect training in Council Chambers on either of the extension nights in May or June.*** S. MacEwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 57 - STAFF MEMO AND RECOMMENDATION FOR THE LEASE RENEWAL FOR THE FORMER CN TRAIN STATION SITE IN ELMSDALE. 30-DAY DEADLINE TO RENEW**

C22(132) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: A. Clarkson

***Moved that Council authorize the CAO to enter into a lease renewal with the Canadian National Railway company for the former CN Train Station lands for a term of five (5) years, ending August 14, 2027.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 56 - REQUEST FOR A LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM BILL MACLEAN, PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY WIND FARMS INC. FOR THE MELVIN LAKE WIND PROJECT**

C22(133) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb: J. Woodford

***Moved that Council send a letter of support to Community Wind Farms Inc. for the Melvin Lake Wind Project.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 51 - FLAG REQUEST TO COUNCIL FROM AFFIRM TEAM, RIVERVIEW UNITED CHURCH**

C22(134) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley: 7:19

***Moved that the Progress Pride Flag be flown (at the Municipal Office in Elmsdale) as requested in the letter by the Affirm Team (for the month of June).*** CAO

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 21 - APPOINTMENT OF BUILDING OFFICIAL & FIRE INSPECTOR - HENRY BLACK**

C22(135) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry: J. Woodford

***Moved that Council appoint Henry Black as Building Official for the Municipality of East Hants per Section 5(2) of the Building Code Act.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(136) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: J. Woodford

***Moved that Council appoints Henry Black as Municipal Fire Inspector per Section 19(1)(b) of the Fire Safety Act.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 18 - COPY OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM CHESTER AND GUYSBOROUGH - OPPOSING NEW PROPOSED PROVINCIAL NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY TAX AND DEED TRANSFER TAX (BILL 149), AS WELL AS, CORRESPONDENCE FROM RESIDENT BRIAN CANAVAN**

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston spoke about the meeting with NSFAM regarding the non-resident Property Tax and Deed Transfer Tax, Bill 149.

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

C22(137) On the motion of Councillors Tingley and Greene: 8:12

*Moved that Council direct staff to write a letter to the Province expressing concerns regarding the lack of consultation, infringement on a municipal property tax area, and possible unintended consequences copied to the local MLA's and NSFAM.* S. Surrette

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, One (1) voting against with Councillor Perry voting nay.

C22(138) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Tingley: 8:13

*Moved that Council direct staff to prepare a report on the pros and cons of Bill 149 and bring it back to next Executive Committee.* S. Surrette

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Public Hearing was live-streamed through the municipal website and YouTube.

Note: All comments/questions have been summarized and are not to be considered a verbatim transcript.

Warden Roulston noted that there is one (1) item on the public hearing agenda. The purpose of the hearing is to hear input from the public prior to making a decision on the proposal.

The Warden welcomed those in attendance. She advised that anyone who wanted to comment or ask questions would be provided an opportunity to do so.

Warden Roulston noted Council's Procedural Policy. She advised that Council may approve, reject or defer its decision on the proposal to a later date. Council approval is required for the proposal to proceed.

Warden Roulston asked the Assistant Municipal Clerk to outline when the public hearing advertisements were published.

The Assistant Municipal Clerk noted that the public hearing notice appeared in the April 13<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup> editions of The Chronicle Herald. The notice described the proposal, gave the date and time of the public hearing, and indicated that staff reports were available to the public.

#### BONA INVESTMENTS LIMITED - ZONING OF TWO PROPERTIES ON WHITE ROAD

Warden Roulston noted the public hearing item was a proposal to rezone two properties to Two Dwelling Unit Residential (R2) Zone.

Warden Roulston asked the Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee to present his report.

Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee noted that the Planning Advisory Committee considered the proposal on behalf of Municipal Council, reviewed staff's reports, completed their evaluation and would make a recommendation to Council during the Hearing. Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee asked staff to present their final report on the proposal.

The Director of Planning & Development presented the staff report titled "Bona Investments Limited - rezoning from R1 to R2" dated April 8, 2022. A copy of the report and related documents were attached to the agenda and available to all Council members.

Warden Roulston opened the floor to comments or questions from members of Council. Staff addressed questions from Council members.

Warden Roulston asked if the owner or a representative had any comments or would like to make a presentation. There was none.

Warden Roulston asked if staff had any final comments. There were none.

#### RECOMMENDATION

C22(139) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Garden-Cole: 7:44

***Moved that the Planning Advisory Committee recommend that Council refuse the application by Bona Investments limited to rezone property located at PID 45290178 and PID 45386737 on White Road from Established Residential Neighbourhood (R1) Zone to Two Dwelling Unit Residential (R2) Zone.*** J. Woodford

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, Three (3) voting against with Councillors Hebb and Isenor and Deputy Warden Mitchell voting nay.



Warden Roulston asked Councillors if they had any final comments or questions. Staff addressed questions from Council members.

C22(140) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Deputy Warden Mitchell: 7:52

*Moved that Council take a short recess to address live streaming issues, and return at 8:02 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden Roulston called the meeting back to order at 8:05 p.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee from the meeting held on April 19, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**CORRIDOR COMMUNITY OPTIONS FOR ADULTS (CCOA)**

C22(141) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell: 8:14

*Moved that the ask of the Corridor Community Options for Adults be brought back for discussion and a report on possible sources of funding be brought back by Staff.* A. Clarkson

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURAL POLICY**

C22(142) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: S. MacEwan

*Moved that Council remove Section 2.6.12 (prohibiting use of alcohol prior to and during breaks from Council and Committee meetings), from the Council Procedural Policy.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(143) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: S. MacEwan

*Moved that Council approve the Council Procedural Policy as attached to the April 19, 2022 Executive Committee agenda with the proposed changes.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(144) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Planning Advisory Committee from the meeting held on April 19, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND PAPER - WCDD DESIGNATED PROPERTIES**

- C22(145) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry: 8:19
- Moved that Council direct staff to prepare amendments to the MPS that would change the designation of lands in Enfield that are zoned R2-T from WCDD to MR and change the designation of lands zoned R2 from WCDD to ER, except for lands currently part of an application from Elmsdale Lumber.* J. Woodford

**MOTION CARRIED**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PREMISES POLICY - REGARDING EXCAVATION SITES**

- C22(146) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: J. Woodford
- Moved that Council approve the amended Dangerous or Unsightly Premises Policy, which includes a new provision for a risk of falling into an excavation related to construction as a dangerous premises, as attached to the April 19, 2022 Executive Committee agenda.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FH DEVELOPMENT GROUP - WCDD APPLICATION**

- C22(147) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: J. Woodford
- Moved that Council authorize staff to schedule a public hearing for the application by FH Development Group to enter into a development agreement for a WCDD in Elmsdale.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND PAPER - VILLAGE CORE ZONE**

- C22(148) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Garden-Cole: J. Woodford
- Moved that that Council authorize staff to draft proposed amendments to the Official Community Plan in regards to changes to the Village Core (VC) Zone, as presented to Executive Committee on April 19, 2022 and outlined in this staff report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND PAPER ROOSTERS**

C22(149) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: 8:29

*Moved that Council direct staff to review any other regulations rural municipalities have in place and look at the average lot size in the GMA to come up with a solution to managing roosters.* J. Woodford

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, One (1) voting against with Councillor Moussa voting nay.

**PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND - MIXED USE CENTRE ZONE**

C22(150) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Garden-Cole: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council direct staff to review zoning in the areas outlined on the map to see what type of zone could look like to encourage residential and some small-scale commercial as has been discussed.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, Three (3) voting against with Councillors Perry and Moussa and Deputy Warden Mitchell voting nay.

C22(151) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE**

Councillor Rhyno, as Chairperson of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee, presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee from the meeting held on April 19, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting:

**2022 TOURISM GRANT APPLICATIONS**

C22(152) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene: 8:35

*Moved that the Tourism Grant funding recommendations, totaling \$27,000 be approved for the following organizations:* A. Tapper

- *CHart Society - \$4,000*
- *East Hants Historical Society - \$5,000*

- *Maitland District Development Association - \$15,000*
- *Walton Area Development Association - \$3,000*

*And that staff release approved funds as confirmation of external funding sources for proposed projects are received from each group.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(153) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Hebb:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councillor Moussa, as Chairperson of the Infrastructure & Operations Committee, presented the report on the Infrastructure & Operations Committee from the meeting held on April 19, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting:

**CURBSIDE COLLECTION CONTRACT 2023-2028**

C22(154) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Hebb:

J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council approve the award of the Curbside Collection Contract (RFP50458) to Royal Environmental Inc., with a start date of April 1, 2023 for a period of 5-years, with a value of \$6.8M.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(155) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Greene:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed Chair.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Warden Roulston, as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, presented the report on the Nominating Committee from the meeting held on April 21, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - PUBLIC MEMBERS**

C22(156) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Rhyno:

CAO

*Moved that Council appoints Ruth Anne Greenough and Greg Densmore to the Police Advisory Committee to the end of the current term to April 2024.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - PUBLIC MEMBERS**

C22(157) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene: 8:40

*Moved that Council appoints the following public members to the Accessibility Advisory Committee:* CAO

- *Pam Kay - Citizen at Large*
- *Tanya Burke - Stakeholder Community*
- *Linda Coolen - Stakeholder Community*
- *Jenesta Kimball - Stakeholder Community*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(158) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Hebb:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden Roulston assumed Chair.

**FIRST READING - BYLAW IO-500: PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM (P.A.C.E)**

C22(159) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Perry: J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council give first reading to Bylaw IO-500: Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (P.A.C.E).*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, One (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair. 8:43

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities.

**NSFM MODEL CHANGE**

C22(160) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Hebb: CAO/  
S. MacEwan

*Moved that Council direct staff to write a letter to NSFM to express thanks for the presentation made at the April Executive Meeting and to provide feedback on the proposed organizational change and to copy all municipal units on the letter.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Councillors provided verbal reports on their recent activities. The following motion resulted:

**UNIACKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

C22(161) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: 8:48

*Moved that Council award a further \$8,400.00 (to come from the Uniacke Community Recreation Fund) to the Uniacke Volunteer Fire Department to cover the increased cost of the sports pad project.* A. Tapper

**MOTION CARRIED**

**SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

C22(162) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

*Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy) be held on May 17, 2022 and the Regular Meeting of Council be held on May 25, 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

C22(163) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved that Council adjourn at 9:10 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approved By: Sue Surrette, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
Date: April 28, 2022



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden  
Date: May 25, 2022  
/AM





### Phase 1 Public Consultation Meeting

#### Polling District Review

**Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Road, Kennetcook**

**May 16, 2022**

Staff in attendance: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development

Public in attendance: 3 members of the public attended

Questions & Comments:

- How big geographically are polling districts in East Hants?
- How do East Hants districts compare to other municipalities?



Title of Minutes - Date



### Phase 1 Public Consultation Meeting

#### Polling District Review

Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale

May 17, 2022

Staff in attendance: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development

Public in attendance: 4 members of the public attended

Questions & Comments:

- Why no public consultation on mayor vs warden decision?
- Mayor vs Warden should be revisited later.
- Council should be much smaller:
  - If more than 50,000 population should be 8 councillors plus a mayor
  - If less than 50,000 population should be 6 councillors plus a mayor
- 90% of issues are municipal wide, district shouldn't matter.
- Growth we are experiencing will lead to greater efficiency of government with greater density.
- Should use area advisory committees similar to community councils in HRM
- Council of 11 is difficult, should be 6 or 8

Title of Minutes - Date



**Phase 1 Public Consultation Meeting**  
**Polling District Review**  
**Uniacke Fire Hall, 654 Highway No. 1, Mt. Uniacke**

**May 18, 2022**

Staff in attendance: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development

Public in attendance: 0 members of the public attended

Questions & Comments: •

Title of Minutes - Date



## Corporate & Residential Services Committee Executive Committee

June 21, 2022

A meeting of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee was held on the above date in Council Chambers. The meeting was livestreamed and recorded.

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. All members of Council were present, with the exception of Warden Roulston and Councillor Isenor who sent regrets.

### Staff Present:

- Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
- Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services
- Mr. Graham Scott, Manager of Economic & Business Development
- Ms. Amy Pyne, Manager of Real Estate & Corporate Projects
- Mr. Nathan Hoffmann, Policy Analyst
- Ms. Janice Taylor, Manager of Finance
- Ms. Amanda Hatfield, Information Management Clerk
- Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
- Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
- Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer
- Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
- Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### Regrets:

- Ms. Sue Surrette, Director of Finance

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Perry 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.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CRS22(68) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:  
June

***Moved that the Agenda of all sub-committee meetings held June 21, 2022 be approved.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CRS22(69) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:  
June

***Moved that the minutes of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee meeting held May 17, 2022 be approved.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

### NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS

Matthew Mahoney, Manager of Roads and Engineering (June 6)

The CAO introduced Matthew Mahoney, Manager of Roads and Engineering, for the Municipality of East Hants.

### EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- Jordan Baltzer, Accountant & Budget Analyst - 5 Years

### EMPLOYEE POSITION CHANGES

- Erin Taylor, Communications Coordinator - Permanent

### YEAR END MEMO

The Manager of Finance presented a report titled “2021/2022 Year-End Adjustments”, dated June 15, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. [5:04]

CRS22(70) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council approve the year-end adjustments to the operating funds as presented in the 2021/2022 Year End Adjustments Report dated June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and presented on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 be accepted and approved.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

### COUNCIL EMAIL DISPOSITION

The Information Management Clerk presented a report titled “Councillor Emails Following Exit”, dated June 7, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. [23:15]

CRS22(71) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council support an addition to the administrative Records and Information Management Policy that will state once a Councillor’s term ends, an automatic reply is sent with messaging that lets the resident***

*know the person they are trying to reach is no longer a councillor and providing the name of the person that will be handling the correspondence. Incoming emails will also be forwarded to the person responsible for the mailbox to address. After 6 months, the Assistant Municipal Clerk will review the former Councillor's mailbox and retain any emails that are official records. Once that's been done, the mailbox will be deleted.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **FIRE SERVICE MEDAL UPDATE**

The Information Management Clerk presented a report titled “*East Hants Volunteer Firefighter Long Service Recognition*”, dated June 7, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. [32:55]

CRS22(72)  
June On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Greene:

*Move that the Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends that Council approves the award of a medal for 10 years of volunteer service and a bar for 15 years of volunteer service.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **HOSPITALITY POLICY**

The Policy Analyst presented a report titled “*Council Hospitality Policy*”, dated May 23, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. [37:55]

CRS22(73)  
June On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Greene:

*Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council gives notice of intent to enact the new ‘Council Hospitality Policy’ dated June 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

CRS22(74)  
June On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Greene:

*Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council to enact the new ‘Council Hospitality Policy’ dated June 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **FIRE SERVICE FUNDING POLICY**



The Policy Analyst presented a report titled “*Fire Service Funding Policy Updates*”, dated May 26, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. [43:20]

CRS22(75) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council gives notice of intent to approve the proposed updates to the ‘Fire Service Funding Policy’ dated June 2022, last updated October 2016.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

CRS22(76) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council approves the proposed updates to the ‘Fire Service Funding Policy’ dated June 2022, last updated October 2016.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Committee adjourned for a brief break at 10:00 a.m. Councillor Perry, called the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting back to order at 10:17 a.m.

#### **FLAG POLICY**

The CAO presented a report titled “*Flag Policy*”, dated May 26, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. [00:41]

CRS22(77) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council allocate \$20,000 from the General Government Other Reserve to install two (2) new flagpoles in front of the Lloyd E Matheson Centre.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

CRS22(78) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council gives notice of intent to approve the proposed updates to the ‘Municipal Flag Policy’ dated June 2022.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

CRS22(79)  
June On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council approves the proposed updates to the 'Municipal Flag Policy' dated June 2022.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**LOT 174-F LATERALS**

The Manager of Economic and Business Development presented a report titled [17:30]  
“Service Laterals - Elmsdale Business Park”, dated May 24, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(80)  
June On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Capital Project 22-004 (Service Laterals - Elmsdale Business Park) be increased to \$55,050 and that the total project cost be funded from the lot sales special reserve.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**UNIACKE BUSINESS PARK PRICING**

The Manager of Economic and Business Development presented a report titled [26:00]  
“Service Laterals - Elmsdale Business Park”, dated May 24, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(81)  
June On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that the Uniacke Business Park Lot Pricing and Availability document dated June 13, 2022 be approved.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DEVELOPMENT DRIVING ADDITIONAL RESOURCE NEEDS**

The CAO presented a report titled [34:00]  
“Development, the Driver of Additional Resource Needs”, dated June, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(82) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Greene:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council approve up to \$220,000 in the 2022/2023 operating budget for the establishment of one permanent development control position and one permanent project engineering position. These positions in 2022/2023 will be funded through a transfer from the General Contingency Reserve (if required) and shall be included in the 2023/2024 draft operating budget for Council consideration.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW**

The Director of Planning presented a report titled “2022 Polling District Review Report # 4, Phase 1 - Size of Council”, dated June 8, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. [63:55]

CRS22(83) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council set the size of Council at 11 and direct staff to prepare draft district boundaries.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(IN CAMERA) CONTRACTUAL ISSUE**

CRS22(84) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee move to an In Camera Session at 11:33 a.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Committee returned to an open meeting at 12:12 p.m. and Councillor Perry as Chair, reported that during an in-camera session, Committee members received a staff report regarding contractual and land issues and direction was given to staff.

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS22(85) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb:  
June

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Committee adjourn at 12:12 p.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approved by: Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services

Date: June 22, 2022

/AM



## Regular Meeting of Council

June 29, 2022

### PRESENT

Warden Eleanor Roulston  
Deputy Warden Norval Mitchell

Councillors: Sandra Garden-Cole	Michael Perry
Eldon Hebb	Elie Moussa
Keith Rhyno	Tom Isenor
Walter Tingley	Wayne Greene

### STAFF

Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Sue Surette, Director of Finance  
Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services  
Ms. Amy Pyne, Manager of Real Estate and Corporate Projects  
Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development  
Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations  
Mr. Tom Gignac, Manager of Information Services  
Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer  
Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Alana Mosher, Administrative Assistant

### 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.

### MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

A moment of silent contemplation was observed.

### APPROVAL OF OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

C22(210) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

***Moved that the agenda be approved as presented.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C22(211) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Greene:

***Moved that the minutes of the May 17, 2022 Council (Policy) Meeting and the May 25, 2022 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.

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION**

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

**ITEM 81 - ATLANTIC MAYORS CONGRESS (AMC) INVITATION FOR WARDEN ROULSTON**

- C22(212) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell: [04:19]  
S.MacEwan
- Moved that Council approve that the Warden may attend the next meeting of the Atlantic Mayors Congress in Shediac, NB from August 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 75 - LETTER FROM HALIFAX EAST HANTS 4-H COUNCIL TROPHY COMMITTEE REGARDING TROPHY DONATION**

- C22(213) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: A.Tapper
- Moved that Council donate \$100 to the Halifax East Hants 4-H Trophy Committee for a trophy donation.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Fire Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Fire Advisory Committee from the meeting held on June 2, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting: [8:24]

**RECOGNITION FOR SUPPORT TO THE FIRE SERVICE**

- C22(214) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: A.Clarkson
- Moved that Council recognize Pay Dirt Auto for providing vehicles for extraction training to the Nine Mile River Volunteer Fire Department.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

FIRE DEPARTMENT RE-REGISTRATIONS

C22(215) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: A.Clarkson

*Moved that Council approve the annual re-registration for all fire departments servicing East Hants.*

MOTION CARRIED

C22(216) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

MOTION CARRIED

CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, [12:00] presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee from the meeting held on June 21, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

YEAR END MEMO

C22(217) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: S. Surrette

*Moved that Council approve the year-end adjustments to the operating funds as presented in the 2021/2022 Year End Adjustments Report dated June 15th, 2022 and presented on June 21st, 2022 be accepted and approved.*

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL EMAIL DISPOSITION

C22(218) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: A. Clarkson

*Moved that Council support an addition to the administrative Records and Information Management Policy that will state once a Councillor's term ends, an automatic reply is sent with messaging that lets the resident know the person they are trying to reach is no longer a councillor and providing the name of the person that will be handling the correspondence. Incoming emails will also be forwarded to the person responsible for the mailbox to address. After 6 months, the Assistant Municipal Clerk will review the former Councillor's mailbox and retain any emails that are official records. Once that's been done, the mailbox will be deleted.*

MOTION CARRIED

FIRE SERVICE MEDAL UPDATE

C22(219) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell: A. Clarkson

*Moved that Council that Council approves the award of a medal for 10 years of volunteer service and a bar for 15 years of volunteer service.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FIRE SERVICE FUNDING POLICY**

C22(220) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: A. Clarkson

*Move that Council approves the proposed updates to the 'Fire Service Funding Policy' dated June 2022, last updated October 2016.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**HOSPITALITY POLICY**

C22(221) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: CAO/  
A. Clarkson

*Moved that Council enacts the new 'Council Hospitality Policy' dated June 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**FLAG POLICY**

C22(222) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: Tapper

*Moved that Council allocate \$20,000 from the General Government Other Reserve to install two (2) new flagpoles in front of the Lloyd E Matheson Centre.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

C22(223) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: CAO

*Moved that Council approve the proposed updates to the 'Municipal Flag Policy' dated June 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**LOT 174-F LATERALS**

C22(224) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell: A. Clarkson



*Moved that Capital Project 22-004 (Service Laterals - Elmsdale Business Park) be increased to \$55,050 and that the total project cost be funded from the lot sales special reserve.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**UNIACKE BUSINESS PARK PRICING**

C22(225) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Moussa: A. Clarkson

*Moved that the Uniacke Business Park Lot Pricing and Availability document dated June 13, 2022 be approved.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DEVELOPMENT DRIVING ADDITIONAL RESOURCE NEEDS**

C22(226) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Greene: CAO

*Moved that Council approve up to \$220,000 in the 2022/2023 operating budget for the establishment of one permanent development control position and one permanent project engineering position. These positions in 2022/2023 will be funded through a transfer from the General Contingency Reserve (if required) and shall be included in the 2023/2024 draft operating budget for Council consideration.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW**

C22(227) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council set the size of Council at 11 and direct staff to prepare draft district boundaries.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(228) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councillor Moussa, as Chairperson of the Infrastructure & Operations Committee, [26:20] presented the report on the Infrastructure & Operations Committee from the meeting

held on June 21, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting:

**2023 SYSTEM ASSESSMENT REPORT - BUDGET REQUIRED**

C22(229) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Tingley: J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council approves \$45,000 in budget to complete the Provincially mandated 2023 System Assessment report, to be funded from Water Utility accumulated surplus.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(230) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Perry:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Greene, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Planning Advisory Committee from the meeting held on June 21, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting: [28:17]

**SCOTT BLOIS - REZONING TO VILLAGE CORE - 236 HIGHWAY 214**

C22(231) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council give first reading to redesignate and rezone property at 236 Highway 214, Elmsdale to Village Core (VC); and authorize staff to schedule a public hearing.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FATHOM/WILKINS - AMENDMENTS TO MPS TO EXTEND SERVICEABLE BOUNDARY**

C22(232) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council refuse the application by Fathom Studio and Clark Wilkins to extend the serviceable boundary and enable a mixed-use development.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RAMAR - REDESIGNATION AND REZONING IN MOUNT UNIACKE**

C22(233) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to schedule a Public Information Meeting to consider a proposal for PID 45157054 to change the designation and zone from*

***Rural Use (RU) to Country Residential (CR); and that, a 800m mailout be sent to residents.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND PAPER - AGRICULTURAL REPORT FROM AAC**

C22(234) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: J. Woodford

***Moved that all active agricultural land in the Future Planned Area be designated Agricultural Reserve (AR) Designation and be zoned Agricultural Reserve (AR) Zone.***

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston had her questions answered by staff.

Warden Roulston assumed the Chair.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, three (3) voting against with Warden Roulston and Councillors Rhyno and Garden-Cole voting nay.

C22(235) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa: J. Woodford

***Moved that side and rear lot line setback requirements for intensive livestock structures be reduced to 10m where the adjoining property/properties are in common ownership.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(236) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: J. Woodford

***Moved that lands with Class 2 soils have the same land use policies and regulations as the Agricultural Reserve (AR) Designation and Zone; with provisions added to allow for residential and commercial development along existing road frontage and changes to the agricultural impact study requirements when applying for a development agreement, as described in the AAC report dated June 14, 2022.***

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston made comments relevant to the motion and had her questions answered by staff.

Warden Roulston assumed the Chair.

**MOTION DEFEATED**

Two (2) voting in favour, eight (8) voting against with Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Tingley voting in favour.

C22(237) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry: J. Woodford

***Moved that active agricultural lands, identified on the East Hants Plan Update - Future Planned Area - Agriculture mapping app, be used as the Agricultural Reserve (AR) Designation on the GFLUM maps and the Agricultural Reserve (AR) Zone on the LUB maps.***

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston made comments relevant to the motion and had her questions answered by staff.

Warden Roulston assumed the Chair.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Eight (8) voting in favour, two (2) voting against with Councillors Rhyno and Garden-Cole voting nay.

C22(238) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: J. Woodford

***Moved that lands with Class 2 soils be designated and zoned as Agricultural Reserve Soils (AR-2), as identified on the East Hants Plan Update - Future Planned Area - Agriculture mapping app.***

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston made comments relevant to the motion and had her questions answered by staff.

Warden Roulston assumed the Chair.

**MOTION DEFEATED**

Two (2) voting in favour, eight (8) voting against with Councillors Isenor and Tingley voting in favour.

**[PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND PAPER - MULTIPLE UNIT RESIDENTIAL \(R3\) ZONE](#)**

C22(239) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry: J. Woodford

***Moved that Council authorize staff to draft proposed amendments to the Official Community Plan in regards to changes to the Multiple Unit Residential (R3) Zone, as presented to Executive Committee on June 21, 2022, and outlined in this staff report as well as authorize staff to write a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting amendments to allow for open space funds to be recouped for multiple unit dwellings as part of infrastructure charges.***

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston had her questions answered by staff.

Warden Roulston assumed the Chair.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Six (6) voting in favour, four (4) voting against with Warden Roulston, Councillors Moussa Rhyno and Garden-Cole voting nay.

**PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND PAPER - FUNDY VULNERABILITY STUDY**

C22(240) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to prepare land use policies and regulations for land along the Fundy Shoreline, based on the direction in Staff's report dated June 9, 2022; and endorse the letter to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favour, one (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND PAPER - SETTLEMENTS**

C22(241) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to draft proposed amendments to the Official Community Plan related to rural settlements as outlined in the staff report "Plan Update - Rural Settlements" dated June 10, 2022 and that the proposed community boundaries do not split by a highway (i.e., same on both sides of the road).*

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston had her questions answered by staff.

Warden Roulston assumed the Chair.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Seven (7) voting in favour, three (3) voting against with Warden Roulston, Councillors Greene and Garden-Cole voting nay.

C22(242) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE**

Councillor Rhyno, as Chairperson of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee, [80:07] presented the report on the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee from the meeting held on June 21, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting:

**MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM POLICY**

C22(243) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene: A. Tapper

***Moved that Council approves the proposed updates to the Municipal Grant Program Policy, last updated September 2016.***

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

Warden Roulston had her questions answered by staff.

Warden Roulston assumed the Chair.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DISTRICT RECREATION FUND (DRF) GRANTS 2022-23**

C22(244) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Moussa: A. Tapper

Moved (later rescinded due to errors) that Council approve District Recreation Funding 2022-2023 (intake 2) based on policy as follows:

- Lions Memorial Park \$2,270 (Dist. 3), \$2,730 (Dist. 2) for a total of \$5,000.
- Mount Uniacke Legion \$5,000 (Dist. 8), \$5,000 (Dist. 9) for a total of \$10,000.
- Corridor Minor Baseball Association \$3,889.50 (Dist. 10), \$7,779 (Dist. 1), \$3,889.50 (Dist. 2) for a total of \$15,557.
- Enfield Elmsdale & Dist. Lions Club \$2,963 (Dist. 10), \$2,963 (Dist. 2) for a total of \$5,926.

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(245) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Deputy Warden Mitchell: A. Tapper

***Moved that Council approve District Recreation Funding 2022-2023 (intake 2) based on policy as follows:***

- ***Lions Memorial Park \$2,270 (Dist. 3), \$2,730 (Dist. 2) for a total of \$5,000.***
- ***Mount Uniacke Legion \$5,000 (Dist. 8), \$5,000 (Dist. 9) for a total of \$10,000.***
- ***Corridor Minor Baseball Association \$3,889.50 (Dist. 1), \$7,779 (Dist. 10), \$3,889.50 (Dist. 7) for a total of \$15,557.***
- ***Enfield Elmsdale & Dist. Lions Club \$2,963 (Dist. 1), \$2,963 (Dist. 2) for a total of \$5,926.***

**AMENDMENT CARRIED**

C22(246) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Mitchell: A. Tapper

*Moved that Council rescind the District Recreation Funding 2022-2023 motion (C22(244) due to errors.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(247) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb: A. Tapper

*Moved that Council approve District Recreation Funding 2022-2023 (intake 2) based on policy as follows:*

- *Lions Memorial Park \$2,730 (Dist. 2), \$2,270 (Dist. 3) for a total of \$5,000.*
- *Mount Uniacke Legion \$5,000 (Dist. 8), \$5,000 (Dist. 9) for a total of \$10,000.*
- *Corridor Minor Baseball Association \$3,889.50 (Dist. 1), \$3,889.50 (Dist. 7), \$7,779 (Dist. 10), for a total of \$15,557.*
- *Enfield Elmsdale & Dist. Lions Club \$2,963 (Dist. 1), \$2,963 (Dist. 2) for a total of \$5,926.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(248) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Deputy Warden Mitchell:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Audit Committee, presented the report on the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee from the meeting held on June 29, 2022. There [91:19]  
no motions that came forward as a result of that meeting.

**PRESENTATION FROM DELOITTE - 2021/2022 AUDIT RESULTS**

C22(249) On the motion of Councillor Perry and Greene:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

Deputy Warden Mitchell assumed the Chair.

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities.

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Councillors provided verbal reports on their recent activities. The following motions [97:00] resulted.

**LETTER OF RECOGNITION - ENFIELD FIRE**

C22(250) On the motion of Councillor Garden-Cole and Deputy Warden Mitchell: CAO

*Moved that Council send the Enfield Fire Department a letter of recognition to congratulate them for competing in the international extraction competition in Germany.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Council agreed to take a 5-minute break at 9:15 pm. The Warden called the meeting back to order at 9:21 pm.

C22(251) On the motion of Deputy Warden Mitchell and Councillor Hebb:

*Moved that Council move to an In-Camera Session regarding a land matter at 9:21 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Council returned to open meeting at 10:00 p.m.

The Warden reported that Council met in camera to discuss various land and staffing matters. Direction was given to staff and no motions resulted.

**SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

C22(252) On the motion of Councillors Greene and DWM:

*Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy) be held on July 19, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council (Policy) and Regular Meeting of Council be held on July 27, 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

C22(253) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Rhyno

*Moved that Council adjourn at 10:03 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**





Approved By: Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk

Date: July 5, 2022



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden

Date: July 27, 2022

/AM



## Corporate & Residential Services Committee Executive Committee

November 15, 2022

A meeting of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee was held on the above date in the Council Chamber.

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m. All members of Council were present, with the exception of Councillor Greene who sent requests.

### Staff Present:

- Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
- Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services
- Ms. Sue Surrette, Director of Finance
- Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
- Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
- Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer
- Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
- Ms. Alana Richards, Administrative Assistant

### Guests Present:

- Claire Halpern, Shubenacadie Canal Commission
- Anna Richard, Shubenacadie Canal Commission
- Commissioner Brad Hodgins, Shubenacadie Canal Commission
- Sp. Cst. Jo-Anne Landsburg, Chief Provincial Inspector, NS SPCA
- Sp. Cst. Greg Hussey, NS SPCA

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CRS22(114) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Garden-Cole:

November

***Moved that the minutes of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee held October 18, 2022 be approved.***

### **MOTION CARRIED**

### PRESENTATION - SHUBENACADIE CANAL COMMISSION

Claire Halpern, Executive Director of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission, and Anna Richard, Research Coordinator from the Shubenacadie Canal Commission gave a presentation on the three-year research and planning Transitions Project to increase awareness, access, and usage of the Shubenacadie Canal Waterway as a natural and cultural resource. A copy of the presentation was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(115) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Garden-Cole:  
November

***Move that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, recommends to Council, that Council direct staff to interact with the Shubenacadie Canal Commission to receive more information, and have staff bring back a report to make a decision on their request (for a letter of support for their effort to have the Shubenacadie River designated as a Canadian Heritage River).***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councillor Perry thanked the presenters.

**NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS**

Alex Fenton, Supervisor of Roads Operations (November 14)

The CAO introduced Alex Fenton, new Supervisor of Roads Operations, for the Municipality of East Hants.

**BREAK**

Executive Committee took recess at 10:38 a.m. to reconvene at 10:45 a.m.

Councillor Perry called the meeting back to order at 10:50 a.m. All members of Council were present with the exception of Councillor Greene.

**PRESENTATION - SPCA**

Sp. Cst. Jo-Anne Landsburg, Chief Provincial Inspector with the Nova Scotia SPCA and Sp. Cst. Greg Hussey, Regional Manager with the Nova Scotia SPCA, gave a presentation on the update of the contract with East Hants including enforcement over the past couple of years. A copy of the presentation was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

Councillor Perry thanked the presenters.

**2023 COUNCIL CALENDAR**

The CAO presented the draft *2023 Council Calendar*. A copy of the calendar was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(116) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Mitchell:  
November

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council approve the draft 2023 Council Calendar as drafted.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**IN CAMERA SESSION**

CRS22(117) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Hebb  
November

***Moved that the Executive Committee go in camera at 11:29 a.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Committee returned to open meeting at 11:52 a.m. Councillor Perry noted that Committee met in camera to discuss a land issue and the following motion is coming forward as a result of the discussion.

**LAND ISSUE - FORMER ELMSDALE & LANTZ SCHOOL SITES**

CRS22(118) On the motion of Councillors Tingley and Hebb:  
November

***Move that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council, that Council authorizes staff to award FBM, Turner Drake and Englobe an amount up to \$41,007 + HST to complete preliminary development consulting services for the Former Elmsdale School Site (PID 45147998) and Former Lantz School Site (PIDs 45148111 and 45088614); and to authorize staff to explore conceptual development options that include Lantz Volunteer Fire Department and the Elmsdale School's community tenants.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS22(119) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb:  
November

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee adjourn at 11:53 p.m. and reconvene at the end of the day.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 4:52 p.m. All members of Council were present, with the exception of Councillor Greene who sent requests.

**POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW**

The Director of Planning presented the report titled "2022 Polling District Review Report # 5, Phase 2 - District Boundaries", dated November 8, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(120) On the motion of Councillors Tingley and Hebb:  
November

***Moved (later amended) that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council authorize staff to proceed with the Polling District Review Phase 2 public consultation using the preferred option (Fb).***

CRS22(121) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Rhyno:  
November

***Moved to amend motion CRS22(120) to add “and move the community of Five Mile River to District 5”.***

Discussion was held.

**AMENDMENT CARRIED**

Discussion was held.

**AMENDED MOTION CARRIED**

For further clarification, Motion CRS(120) is as follows:

***That Council authorize staff to proceed with the Polling District Review Phase 2 public consultation using the preferred option (Fb) and move the community of Five Mile River to District 5.***

#### **ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY**

The Manager Real Estate & Corporate Projects presented the report titled “*Corporate Asset Management - Program Update & Proposed New Council Policy*”, dated November 2, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(122)  
November On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Moussa:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council give notice of intent to adopt the proposed Asset Management Policy as attached to the November 15, 2022 Executive Committee Agenda.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

CRS22(123)  
November On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Moussa:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council adopt the proposed Asset Management Policy as attached to the November 15, 2022 Executive Committee Agenda.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **BYLAW F-100 (F-100-8) AMENDMENT UPDATE**

The Director of Finance presented the report titled “*Bylaw F-100 Local Improvement Amendment*”, dated November 9, 2022. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS22(124)  
November On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Tingley:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council give second reading to Bylaw F-100-8, an amendment to Bylaw***

*F-100, Local Improvement Charges Bylaw to include the Road Gap Paving Project local improvements; and, an amendment to Section 9.13 to include contributing more than ten (10) percent in special circumstances at the discretion of Council.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS22(125) On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Tingley:  
November

*Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee adjourn at 5:25 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approved by: Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services  
Date: November 17, 2022

Approved by: Sue Surette, Director of Finance  
Date: November 17, 2022



## Regular Meeting of Council

November 23, 2022

### PRESENT

Warden Eleanor Roulston  
Deputy Warden Michael Perry

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

### STAFF

Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Sue Surette, Director of Finance  
Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services  
Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development  
Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations  
Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture  
Mr. Tom Gignac, Manager of Information Services  
Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer  
Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Alana Richards, Administrative Assistant

### 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.

Warden Roulston also acknowledged and extended congratulations to Chief Michelle Glasgow on being elected as the new Sipekne'katik Chief, the first woman to be elected as Chief of Sipekne'katik.

Warden Roulston acknowledged the passing of former Warden John Patterson & Councillor Fred Canavan, and explained that the flags at the Lloyd E. Matheson Centre were flown at half-mast due to their passing.

### MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

A moment of silent contemplation was observed.

### APPROVAL OF OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

C22(373) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Rhyno:

*Moved that the agenda be approved as presented.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

C22(374) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

*Moved that the minutes of the October 18, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council (Policy) and the October 26, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council be approved.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**THANK YOU TO MAC NOBLE**

The Warden expressed thanks to Mac Noble who recently retired as Chair of the East Hants Fire Service Association, a position he held since the group's incorporation in 2011 and from Council's Fire Advisory Committee where he was the only member to serve since its inception in 1994.

**NSFM LONG SERVICE AWARDS**

The CAO acknowledged that Warden Roulston recently received a 25-year long service award during the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities fall conference in Halifax.

The Warden presented Councillor Rhyno with the NSFM Long Service Award for 25 years serving on Municipal Council. Councillor Rhyno accepted the award and said a few words of thanks to the Municipality and his District.

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

A complete copy of "Correspondence for Information" is attached to and forms part of the agenda. No items were raised.

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION**

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

**ITEM 65- UNIACKE DISTRICT CIVIC CENTRE (UDCC) RESERVE FUNDS**

C22(375) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Moussa:

A. Tapper

*Moved that that Council establish a Uniacke District Civic Centre (UDCC) reserve to place funds (approximately \$32,000) raised in the Community to facilitate the building of a community recreational civic centre in Mount Uniacke, to be held until such a time in the future that a group comes forward to pick up the work*



**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 64 - AGREEMENT BETWEEN EAST HANTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

C22(376) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Garden-Cole: CAO

*Moved that Council authorize the CAO to enter into the agreement with the Department of Justice to hire two public service employees.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 55 - LETTER FROM THE EAST HANTS FIRE SERVICE REQUESTING FUNDING TO DEVELOP A TRAINING FACILITY IN NOEL**

C22(377) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Greene: S. Surette

*Moved that Council direct staff to prepare a report regarding funding to develop a fire training facility in Noel.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**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 November 15, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting:

**RCMP QUARTERLY REPORT & CRIME PREVENTION PRESENTATION**

C22(378) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene: CAO/MacEwan

*Moved that Council direct staff to schedule a workshop to discuss priorities in support of consultation efforts with the RCMP (at one of the extension of Committee or Council meeting dates in January or February) - January 19, 2023 booked.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(379) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Deputy Warden Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services



***Moved that Council adopt the proposed Asset Management Policy as attached to the November 15, 2022 Executive Committee Agenda.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(385) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Mitchell:

***Moved the adoption of the report.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Planning Advisory Committee from the meeting held on November 15, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**MIXED USE CENTRE REVIEW**

C22(386) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Greene:

J. Woodford

***Moved that Council give first reading to amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw which change the Mixed-Use Centre (MC) Designation and Zone by restricting the height of new buildings in a prescribed area to 3 storeys; and require a minimum of 50% of the ground floor area of all new buildings be commercial.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(387) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Hebb:

***Moved the adoption of the report.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councillor Garden-Cole, as Chairperson of the Infrastructure & Operations Committee, presented the report on the Infrastructure & Operations Committee from the meeting held on November 15, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**TRAFFIC CALMING**

C22(388) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Moussa:

J. Hulsman

***Moved that Council approve the addition of a Capital Project for Speed Tables with spending approval of \$50,000 in 2023, \$50,000 in 2024, and \$50,000 in***

*2025, to be funded from a reserve established from 2022-23 year-end surplus, if available or from debenture.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(389) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Mitchell: J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council approve the addition of a Capital Project for permanent Digital Speed Display Signs with spending approval of \$112,000 in 2023, \$100,000 in 2024, and \$23,000 in 2025, to be funded from a reserve established from 2022-23 year-end surplus, if available or from debenture.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(390) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Hebb: J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council have the draft 2023-24 operating budget, and ongoing, include \$50,000 annually to go into a traffic calming reserve.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(391) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Mitchell:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE**

Councillor Rhyno, as Chairperson of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee, presented the report on the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee from the meeting held on November 15, 2022. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**SHUBENACADIE RIVER PARK - UPDATE**

C22(392) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene: A. Tapper

*Moved that Council direct staff to complete the current capital projects at the Shubenacadie River Park and to not proceed with any further phases until projects related to the former Shubenacadie Residential School Site are completed.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(393) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene: A. Tapper

*Moved that Council direct staff to place portable washrooms in the park for seasonal use and portable stages be used for community events once the existing washroom/stage structure is removed following damage from a fire.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(394) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Moussa: A. Tapper

*Moved that Council direct staff to dispose of the hall property under the Disposal of Surplus Property Policy by a method recommended by Council once the proposed subdivision at the Shubenacadie River Park is approved and completed.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(395) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Mitchell: A. Tapper

*Moved that Council direct staff to complete the long-term lease with the Lion's Club for a 10-year period with the group responsible for all repairs and maintenance associated with the building and surrounding landscape.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(396) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Moussa: A. Tapper

*Moved that Council direct staff to bring any management agreements related to the Shubenacadie River Park 'ballfield' back to council before agreement.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C22(397) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Mitchell:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**[AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMO & FEEDBACK \(WEED CONTROL ACT CHANGES\)](#)**

Warden Roulston presented the memo titled "Weed Control Act Amendments: Review by AAC Members" dated November 17, 2022. A copy of the memo was attached to the agenda and available to all council members.

C22(398) On the motion of Councillor Greene and Deputy Warden Perry: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to send the Agricultural Weed Control Act letter, as attached to the Council agenda dated November 23, 2022, to Nova Scotia Agriculture.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**SECOND READING - BYLAW F-100-8, AN AMENDMENT TO BYLAW F-100, LOCAL IMPROVEMENT CHARGES BYLAW (ROAD GAP PAVING)**

C22(399) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Mitchell: S. Surrette

*Moved that Council give second reading to Bylaw F-100-8, an Amendment to Bylaw F-100, Local Improvement Charges Bylaw to include the Road Gap Paving Project local improvements; and, an amendment to Section 9.13 to include contributing more than ten (10) percent in special circumstances at the discretion of Council.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

Deputy Warden Perry assumed the Chair.

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities.

**CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION GUIDELINE AMENDMENTS**

C22(400) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Hebb: J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council write a letter to the Provincial Government outlining our concerns with the proposed amendments and request additional analysis be done on the overall Green House Gas emissions impact and the financial impact of increased transportation and tipping fees to the Nova Scotia tax payer.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS**

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

**NOISE ABATEMENT ON EVERGREEN CRESCENT IN LANTZ**

C22(401) On the motion of Councillor Tingley and Deputy Warden Perry: J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council request a letter to be sent to Province to request a review of noise reduction options along HWY 102 North to where the houses back up against HWY 102 (Evergreen Crescent area, Lantz)*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ENFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT LEVY INCREASE REQUEST**

C22(402) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Greene: S. Surrette

*Moved that Council approve including a fire levy increase from \$0.12 to \$0.14 per \$100 of assessment in the 2023/2024 draft budget for the Enfield Fire Department for Council consideration at budget time.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(IN CAMERA) SESSION**

C22(403) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Mitchell:

*Moved that Council go In Camera at 8:10 p.m. to discuss land issues and enforcement issue.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Council returned to open meeting at 9:35 p.m.

The Warden reported that Council met in camera to discuss land issues and an enforcement issue. Direction to staff was made during the in-camera session.

**SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

C22(404) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Perry

*Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy) be held December 13, 2022 and the Regular Meeting of Council be held on December 21, 2022.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

C22(405) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene

*Moved that Council adjourn at 9:35 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED**



Approved By: Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk

Date: November 24, 2022



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden

Date: December 21, 2022

/AR





### Phase 2 Public Consultation Meeting

#### Polling District Review

Kennetcook Fire Hall, 32 Martin Walsh Rd, Kennetcook

January 9, 2023

Staff in attendance: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development  
Tippy Scott, Geomatics Coordinator

Public in attendance: 17 members of the public attended  
5 Councilors (Warden Roulston, C. Rhyno, C. Garden-Cole, C. Maphee, C. Hebb)

#### General

- Our taxes out here (rural area) aren't going to drop - why should we lose a Councilor?
- When you get rid of rural Councilors, we lose our voice.
- Every community has different needs - there is no benefit to what you're doing.
  - We're making the best of a difficult situation.
- What was the problem with the 12 District option?
  - It split more communities and areas of interest both in the rural areas and the corridor.
- Sometimes the borders of communities on a map aren't necessarily how they are on the ground.
- What is the benefit of fewer Councilors?
  - Some people actually want fewer Councilors/smaller government. Compared with other municipalities with respect to number of Councilors and district size, there is no argument to increase the number of Councilors in East Hants.
- There may be no geographic argument when comparing with other municipalities, but have there been any studies done to see how that has impacted those larger districts?
  - There have not; we only looked at similar municipalities to compare the size of their districts.
- How will the proposed polling districts benefit the shore area? It looks like it's only benefitting the urban communities.
  - This isn't benefiting Enfield; it is being split (C. Garden-Cole).
- If we lose a Councillor, we basically have no vote because the Warden can't vote.
  - I vote on everything (W. Roulston)

Questions & Comments:

### **Population Growth**

- Districts 5 / 6 have been relatively unchanged in population over the last number of years. It makes no sense to lose a Councilor in this area.
  - Population is actually declining in some rural areas, and increasing significantly in the corridor.
- There has been a lot of people moving into NS recently, was that taken into consideration?
  - Not many of those people moving here have ended up in the rural areas of East Hants.
- District 5 will be losing more population due to zoning regulations that are coming. If you can't build houses, you're not going to have people here.
- How will we entice more population with the zoning regulations coming into place?
- The incentive isn't there for the rural area (for population growth?). Tourism stops at Burntcoat. If East Hants doesn't want to put more stuff into the area, how do you expect things to go? The advertising isn't there for Walton tourism. Maybe the growth could be better.
- I don't think we want to put all of our money into Tourism. Burntcoat has not done one thing for the community of Burntcoat.
- The growth in the Corridor is frightening for what it means for the rural area. This is going to negatively affect the rural area's representation.
- The Planning regulations you're bringing are only going to hinder population growth further.
  - The area of the municipality where population is booming is the area that has had planning regulations implemented for years.

### **Process and the UARB**

- When was the last application to the Board?
  - 8 years ago
- When did you collect the elector numbers data?
  - April 2022
- Has there been a request to the UARB for adding more Councilors?
  - No, but based on the previous application 8 years ago when we were told to drop to 11, we know they would not likely approve a 12 District option.
- Why do you wait 8 years? Why not do an assessment every year?
  - We could do it every 4 years, and are mandated to do it every 8. Staff/Council/Public time.
- Was the 12 District Option brought to the UARB?
  - No, it was reviewed by Council and ultimately, they decided not to move ahead because the districts unreasonably split communities in both the rural and corridor areas.
- Who is the UARB and how many people are involved?
  - Explanation of the UARB; a few people; lawyers.
- Have the UARB had a tour of the rural areas?
  - The UARB will do site visits for Planning Applications under appeal, and certain other cases, but we are not aware of them touring East Hants for the Polling District review. They are sent a very comprehensive package including detailed maps of the areas.

- When is the last time that the Polling Districts were changed? Were communities of interest taken into consideration then?
  - 8 years ago; yes.
- If we did try to go to 12 Districts, and the UARB didn't want that, we would just go back to the 11 district options?
  - Yes.

#### **Communication**

- Shouldn't this meeting have had a registered mail out?
  - The meeting was advertised online, on social, and in the Chronicle Herald.
- Many people don't have internet/social media, or subscribe to the paper.
- There should be advertising for these meetings much more in advance.
  - Sometimes when meetings are advertised too early, people forget about them.
- Put signs up in small town stores.
- I thought the presentation was well prepared - good speaker.

Title of Minutes - Date



**Phase 2 Public Consultation Meeting**

**Polling District Review**

**Mount Uniacke Fire Hall, 654 Highway 1, Mount Uniacke**

**January 11, 2023**

- Staff in attendance: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development  
Tippy Scott, Geomatics Coordinator
- Public in attendance: 5 members of the public attended  
5 Councilors (Warden Roulston, C. Rhyno, C. Moussa, C. MacPhee, C. Perry)
- Questions & Comments:
- There was one question unrelated to the polling district review regarding blasting in the area.
  - How do I access the online survey?

Title of Minutes - Date



Phase 2 Public Consultation Meeting

Polling District Review

Lloyd E. Matheson Centre, 15 Commerce Court, Elmsdale

January 12, 2023

Staff in attendance: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
Tippy Scott, Geomatics Coordinator
Kim Ramsay, CAO

Public in attendance: 2 members of the public attended
8 Councilors (Warden Roulston, C. Rhyno, C. Garden-Cole, C. MacPhee, C. Perry, C. Mitchell, C. Tingley)

- Is it 11 or 12 Districts?
o 11
Satisfied the 10% rule for voter parity
Don't want too large of a Council
Noticed in the last few years, when there are issues in the Corridor, the size of Council made for better discussions and decision. I usually fight for a smaller Council size, but you get more input with this size of Council.
Last time there was a recommendation that the Council of the day really look at reducing the size of Council even more (from the UARB). On the flip side, we've seen incredible growth in certain areas.
Should the UARB come back and say 9 or 10 Councilors only, are there options prepared?
o No. This seemed to fit when comparing similar municipalities.
Just came to see what was happening
How is the decision made to have a mayor or Warden?
o Council decides through a process outside of this review.
Many similar municipalities have mayors.
When comparing to similar municipalities, does the UARB tend to make allowances for rural areas to have fewer people, given the size of the area.
Would like to see the variances in similar rural boundaries (from other municipalities), what are their percentages?
We've taken a Councilor from Noel, and put it in Milford. There will now be less rural representation. We're different communities out in the rural areas.
When Warden/C. Rhyno first started they remember there was more weight for community of interest; now it is dependent on what the member of the UARB decides.
I (Warden) think the UARB has too much power
How many other places are pushing the envelope (re: 10% variance)

- The bigger area you have, the more difficult it is to be a Councilor.
- A greater variance, might also help higher populated communities - you wouldn't necessarily have to split these communities.
- Do other municipalities feel the exact same way? Maybe a greater variance would be appreciated.
- Will the district changes have much of an impact on things like tax rates?
  - Recreation funds would, but area rates are different than polling districts.



Title of Minutes - Date



## Corporate & Residential Services Committee Executive Committee

February 14, 2023

A meeting of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee was held on the above date via Zoom. The meeting was livestreamed and recorded.

Deputy Warden Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting to order at 10:13a.m. All members of Council were present.

### Staff Present:

- Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
- Ms. Sue Surette, Director of Finance
- Ms. Janice Taylor, Manager of Finance
- Mr. Jordan Baltzer, Accountant & Budget Analyst
- Ms. Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Mr. Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services
- Mr. Nathan Hoffmann, Policy Analyst
- Ms. Amy Pyne, Manager, Real Estate and Corporate Projects
- Mr. John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development
- Mr. Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
- Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer
- Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
- Ms. Alana Richards, Administrative Assistant

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CRS23(15) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Greene:  
February

***Moved that the minutes of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee held January 17, 24 and 31, 2023 be approved.***

### **MOTION CARRIED**

CRS23(16) On the motion of Councillors Isenor and Mitchell:  
February

***Moved that Committee take a 10-minute break, to resume the meeting at 10:25 a.m.***

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Deputy Warden Perry called the meeting back to order at 10:27 a.m.

### WATER UTILITY BUDGET

The Manager of Finance presented the report titled “2023-2024 Water Utility Operating Budget”, dated February, 2023. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS23(17)  
February On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Mitchell:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that Council approve the East Hants Water Utility Budget Financial Estimates 2023/2024 to 2025/26 as presented.***

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

Ten (10) voting in favor. One (1) voting against with Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

### POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW

The Director of Planning & Development presented the report titled “2022 Polling District Review Report # 6, Phase 2 - Completion”, dated February 6, 2023. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS23(18)  
February On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council authorize staff to prepare a submission to the NSUARB requesting that the size of Council be set at 11 and that district boundaries follow the preferred option (Fb).***

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

Eight (8) voting in favor. Three (3) voting against with Councillors Rhyno, Garden-Cole and Moussa voting nay.

### WELL/SEPTIC REPORT

The Policy Analyst presented a report titled “Well and Septic Loan Program”, dated February 2, 2023. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members.

CRS23(19)  
February On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that Council authorize staff to bring back a further report (Well/Septic Program) focusing on other funding alternatives and include middle earners.***

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

### CODE OF CONDUCT

The CAO presented a report titled “*Draft Provincial Code of Conduct*”, dated February 8, 2023. A copy of the report was attached to the agenda and available to all committee members. The CAO provided details on upcoming consultation sessions for Council members.

CRS23(20)  
February

On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Mitchell:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee In-Camera session be moved to the end of the day.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

### ADJOURNMENT

CRS23(21)  
February

On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee adjourn at 12:11 p.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Deputy Warden Perry, as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee called the meeting back to order at 2:41 p.m. All members of Council were present.

### IN CAMERA

CRS23(22)  
February

On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Hebb:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee move to an In-Camera session to discuss two (2) land issues.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee returned to open meeting at 4:36 p.m. Deputy Warden Perry, as Chair, reported that the committee met in-camera to receive an update on the Shubenacadie Community Hall land issue and the following motion resulted:

### SHUBENACADIE COMMUNITY HALL UPDATE

CRS23(23)  
February

On the motion of Councillors Greene and Tingley:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend that Council deem the subdivided Shubenacadie Community Hall, PID 45427218, surplus to municipal needs and that Council authorize staff to call for Expressions of Interest from community/non-profit groups to purchase the subdivided Shubenacadie Community Hall, PID 45427218, on***

*an as-is-where-is basis, with submissions to be brought to Council for consideration and direction.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

There was no motion resulting from the second in-camera item.

**ADJOURNMENT**

CRS23(24)  
February

On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:

***Moved that the Corporate & Residential Services Committee adjourn at 4:38 p.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approved by: Adam Clarkson, Director of Corporate Services

Date: February 15, 2023

Approved by: Sue Surrette, Director of Finance

Date: February 15, 2023



C23(30) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Greene:

*Moved that the agenda be amended to remove the Ratification - Sale of 1941 South Rawdon Road (item #11) from the list.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C23(31) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Greene:

*Moved that the agenda be approved as amended.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

C23(32) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

*Moved that the minutes of the January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council (Policy & In-Camera) and January 25, 2023 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.

Councillor Mitchell acknowledged the HR Report (item #11).

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION**

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

**ITEM 62 - 2023 FCM ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW (TORONTO, ON)**

C23(33) On the motion of Councillors MacPhee and Garden-Cole:

S. MacEwan

*Moved that Council approve the following delegates to the 2023 FCM Conference in Toronto (May 25-28):*

- *Warden Eleanor Roulston*
- *Deputy Warden Michael Perry*
- *Councillor Walter Tingley*
- *Councillor Carl MacPhee*
- *Kim Ramsay, CAO*

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Warden noted that Councillor Mitchell will be attending as an FCM Director.

**ITEM 51 - TEMPORARY BORROWING RESOLUTION - WATER TOWERS (SPRING 2023) & SIDEWALKS (FALL 2023)**

C23(34) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Mitchell: [12:06]

*Moved that Council approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution and the Resolution for Preapproval for the Regional and Shubenacadie Water Towers refinancing in the amount of \$130,730 as attached to the Council Agenda Report dated February 22, 2023 and;* S. Surette

*Moved that Council approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution and the Resolution for Preapproval for the Sidewalk refinancing in the amount of \$714,000 as attached to the Council Agenda Report dated February 22, 2023 and; that the average interest rate of the debentures not exceed the rate of 6.5% and for terms not to exceed 5 years for the refinancing of water towers and not exceed 10 years for the refinancing of sidewalks.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RATIFICATION - DAR LAND PURCHASE**

C23(35) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Hebb: [19:31]

*Moved that Council ratify the in-camera direction to staff to acquire the former Dominion Atlantic Railway (Capital Project 19-005) from LANDAR Holdings Limited for \$318,750 plus tax and legal fees to be funded from Special Reserves - Sale of Capital Assets (C008), PIDs:* A.Clarkson/  
A. Tapper

- 45225182 - Clarksville
- 45225190 - Kennetcook
- 45225208 - Kennetcook
- 45225216 - Upper Kennetcook
- 45225224 - Upper Kennetcook
- 45225232 - Five Mile River
- 45225240 - Latties Brook
- 45225265 - South Maitland
- 45225273 - South Maitland
- 45225281 - South Maitland

*And that, Council ratify the in-camera direction to provide an easement in favour of Timberland Holdings Limited to access PID 45387354 and PID 45229796 over PID 45225182;*

*And that, Council direct staff to enter into an agreement with West Hants Regional Municipality (WHRM) to set out the obligations for PID 45225174 with the intent for WHRM to subdivide and convey approximately 3.5 acres located within the municipal boundaries of East Hants to East Hants and that costs associated be allocated from Capital Project 19-005 to be funded from Special Reserves - Sale of Capital Assets (C008).*



**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Deputy Warden Perry as Chairperson of the Corporate & Residential Services Committee, presented the report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee from the meeting held on February 14, 2023. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting: [21:28]

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUND 2023/2024**

C23(36) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Mitchell: A.Tapper

*Moved that Council approve the list of recommended Community Partnership Fund Organizations to be included in the draft 2023/2024 budget and grants to be disbursed following final budget approval:*

- *Corridor Community Options for Adults, \$15,000*
- *East Hants Community Rider, \$50,000*
- *East Hants Family Resource Centre, \$20,000*
- *East Hants Historical Society, \$16,158*
- *East Hants Sports Heritage Society, \$5,000*
- *East Hants Youth Links, \$6,000*
- *Senior Safety Program Association of Hants County, \$10,000*
- *Kids Action (Annapolis Valley-Hants Community Action Program), \$10,000*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS 2023/2024**

C23(37) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Greene: A.Tapper

*Moved that pending appropriate documentation is received, and the passing of 2023/2024 budget, Council approve the following General Government Grants for disbursement in 2023/2024:*

- *Remembering Canada's Heroes, \$1,000*
- *Hants County Exhibition, \$500*
- *East Hants Crime Prevention \*Pending insurance grant, \$0*
- *Dr. Snow Bursaries, \$3,000*
- *East Hants Foodbanks/Christmas Programs (Caring & Sharing, Hants North Food Bank, Shumiliacke, Indian Brook Food Bank, Uniacke Wishgivers, Kids Action Angel Tree Program, Hants County Christmas Angels, \$7,000*
- *COAT Association \$2,000*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DEED TRANSFER TAX REVENUE**

C23(38) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Greene: [24:43]

*Moved that Council direct staff, at a time staff have an opportunity (before next budget), to bring a report to begin discussions of how the Deed Transfer Tax should be allocated.* S. Surrette

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CAPITAL BUDGET (2023/2024 TO 2027/2028)**

C23(39) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Moussa: [25:45]

*Moved that the five-year Capital Budget for the fiscal years 2023/2024 to 2027/2028 as presented, be approved and adopted effective April 1st, 2023. Administration is given approval to proceed with the previously approved capital projects and those in the “Approval Sought” sections, subject to any conditions limiting such projects in previous motions of Council or in policies of Council. Should time permit, staff are authorized to embark on projects in this Capital Budget that require long-term pre-planning prior to April 1st, 2023.* S. Surrette

*Projects “Approved for Further Study” are approved in principle only; amounts identified as “Approved for Further Study” cannot be expended prior to presentation of a full report to Council for consideration or approval through a future capital budget process. Where time permits, staff are given approval to proceed with “Approval Sought” projects from 2023/2024 prior to April 1st, 2023;*

*And that, any projects approved in the 2022/2023 Capital Budget not reflected as carried forward to the 2023/2024 Capital Budget, but that are substantially committed at March 31st, 2023, shall be carried forward to 2023/2024, based on the remaining budget at March 31st, 2023;*

*And that, this five-year estimate of capital spending form the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) as required by the Federal and Provincial government funding agreements;*

*And that, the Water Utility sections of this budget are permitted to stand alone as the East Hants Water Utility Capital Budget as required by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (UARB);*

*And that, staff be given authority to alter the source(s) of funding where necessary, but in no case shall the amounts to be debentured increase without prior approval of Council;*

*And that, Council seek Ministerial approval for a temporary borrowing resolution (TBR) for any amounts in this Capital Budget under the “Debenture/Debt” category of funding;*

*And that, pre-approval to borrow amounts in this Capital Budget under the “Debenture/Debt” category of funding for a term not to exceed twenty-five (25) years at a rate not to exceed 6.5%.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favor. One (1) voting against. Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Public Hearing was live-streamed through the municipal website and YouTube.

Note: All comments/questions have been summarized and are not to be considered a verbatim transcript.

Warden Roulston noted that there are two (2) items on the public hearing agenda. The purpose of the hearing is to hear input from the public prior to making a decision on the proposal.

The Warden welcomed those in attendance. She advised that anyone who wanted to comment or ask questions would be provided an opportunity to do so.

Warden Roulston noted Council’s Procedural Policy. She advised that Council may approve, reject or defer its decision on the proposal to a later date. Council approval is required for the proposal to proceed.

Councillor Isenor joined the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Warden Roulston asked the Municipal Clerk to outline when the public hearing advertisements were published.

The Municipal Clerk noted that the public hearing notices appeared in the February 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> editions of The Chronicle Herald. The notices described the proposals, gave the date and time of the public hearings, and indicated that staff reports were available to the public.

**PLN22-005 (CHRIS MARCHAND - MPS AND LUB MAPPING AMENDMENTS)**

Warden Roulston noted the first public hearing item is for a proposal to redesignate and rezone a property on the East Uniacke Road to enable a low-density residential Subdivision.

Warden Roulston asked the Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee to present his report.

Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee noted that the Planning Advisory Committee considered the proposal on behalf of Municipal Council, reviewed staff's reports, completed their evaluation and would make a recommendation to Council during the Hearing. Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee asked staff to present their final report on the proposal.

The Planner presented the staff report titled "*Chris Marchand - MPS and LUB Mapping Amendments*" dated February 1, 2023. A copy of the report and related documents were attached to the agenda and available to all Council members.

Warden Roulston opened the floor to comments or questions from members of Council. There were none.

Warden Roulston asked if the applicant wanted to make comments. He declined.

Warden Roulston asked if there were comments or questions from members of the public attending or via the livestream/YouTube. There were none.

#### RECOMMENDATION

C23(40) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Moussa: [38:55]

***Moved that Council give Second Reading to a proposal for a portion of PID 45143237 to change the designation from Rural Use (RU) to Established Residential Neighbourhood (ER) and the zone from Rural Use (RU) to Established Residential Neighbourhood (R1).*** J. Woodford

Warden Roulston asked Councillors if they had any final comments or questions.

Councillor Moussa asked if the road in the development will be municipal. Staff confirmed it will be municipal.

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### [PLN22-006 \(RAMAR DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED - MPS AND LUB MAPPING AMENDMENTS\)](#)

Warden Roulston noted the second public hearing item is a proposal to redesignate and rezone a property on the East Uniacke Road to enable a low-density residential subdivision

Warden Roulston asked the Chair of the Planning Advisory Committee to present his report.

Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee noted that the Planning Advisory Committee considered the proposal on behalf of Municipal Council, reviewed staff's reports, completed their evaluation and would make a recommendation to Council during the Hearing. Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee asked staff to present their final report on the proposal.

The Planner presented the staff report titled “*Ramar Developments Limited - MPS and LUB Mapping Amendments*” dated February 1, 2023. A copy of the report and related documents were attached to the agenda and available to all Council members.

Warden Roulston opened the floor to comments or questions from members of Council. The Applicant answered questions from Council.

Warden Roulston asked if there were comments or questions from members of the public attending or via livestream/YouTube. There were none.

**RECOMMENDATION**

C23(41) On the motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Perry: [50:00]

*Moved that Council give Second Reading and approve the proposal for PID 45157054 to change the designation and zone from Rural Use (RU) to Country Residential (CR).* J. Woodford

Warden Roulston asked Councillors if they had any final comments or questions. There were none.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Warden concluded the Public Hearings.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)**

**OPERATING BUDGET 2022/2023**

C23(42) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Greene: S. Surrette

*Moved that Council approve the draft Operating Budget 2023/2024, amended as follows:*

GENERAL TAX RATE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS	
<b>Proposed Budget Adjustments:</b>	
Reserves - PRC LEMC Facility Condition Assessment	\$ (34,000)
Additional Recoverable Revenue - LEMC	\$ (54,998)
Additional Rent - LEMC & Library	\$ 34,010
Revenue Reduction - Tourism	\$ 3,000
Janitorial Library/RCMP Office Increase	\$ 5,706
NSFM Fee Increase	\$ 5,300
Reserves Revised	\$ (9,046)
Proposed 3 cent commercial rate decrease (1 cent raises \$16,676)	\$ 50,029
GENERAL TAX RATE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS CONT'D	
Bylaw Enforcement Officer Full Time	\$ 50,967
Return on Investments - Interest Rate Increased January 25th, 2023	\$ (30,000)
Interest on outstanding taxes - Interest Rate Increased from 10% to 14%	\$ (21,000)
Deed Transfer Tax Revenue	\$ (225,000)
Proposed 1 cent residential/resource rate decrease (1 cent raises \$223,355)	\$ 223,355
Reserves Revised	\$ 1,677
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**And that the following tax rates be set by Council for the 2023/2024 fiscal year:**

FINAL TAX RATES 2023/2024	
General Tax Rate - Residential*	\$ 0.2917
General Tax Rate - Resource*	\$ 0.2917
General Tax Rate - Commercial*	\$ 2.0517
General Tax Rate - Mandatory Provincial Funding*	\$ 0.2899
General Tax Rate - RCMP Services**	\$ 0.2284
Waste Management Fee (Per Dwelling Unit)	\$ 220.00
Commercial Serviced Levy Rate (R2)	\$ 0.6570
Commercial Serviced Levy Rate - Milford (M2)	\$ 1.2000
Residential Serviced Levy Rate (R1)	\$ 0.0650
Residential Serviced Levy Rate - Shubenacadie (SR1)	\$ 0.1850
Residential Serviced Levy Rate - Milford (M1)	\$ 0.3450
Urban Sidewalks and Streetlights Rate (R4)	\$ 0.0400
Urban Sidewalks Rate (R5)	\$ 0.0200
Urban Sidewalks Rate (R6)	\$ 0.0200
Mt Uniacke Streetlights- Park/Subdivision Rate (L9)	\$ 0.0200
Mt Uniacke Safety Streetlights Rate (L10)	\$ 0.0038
Rawdon Streetlights Rate (L8)	\$ 0.0430
Shubenacadie (differential on USR)	\$ 0.1200
Milford (differential on USR)	\$ 0.1250
Enfield Home Settlement - Streetlights Rate (R3)	\$ 0.0160
Nine Mile River- Streetlights Rate (LN9)	\$ 0.0200
Sportsplex Area Rate (Comm./Residential) - Rhines Creek to Enfield; NMR & Belnan	\$ 0.0400
Mount Uniacke Recreation Rate	\$ 0.0070
Enfield Fire Department Levy (K1)	\$ 0.1400
Elmsdale Fire Department Levy (K2)	\$ 0.1400
Lantz Fire Department Levy (K3)	\$ 0.1400
Milford Fire Department Levy (K4)	\$ 0.1700
Shubenacadie Fire Department Levy (K5)	\$ 0.1700
Maitland Fire Department Levy (K6)	\$ 0.2200
Noel Fire Department Levy (K7)	\$ 0.2200
Walton Fire Department Levy (K8)	\$ 0.2200
Gore Fire Department Levy (G1)	\$ 0.2200
Kennetcook Fire Department Levy (G2)	\$ 0.2200
NMRiver Fire Department Levy (G3)	\$ 0.1700
Rawdon Fire Department Levy (G4)	\$ 0.2300
Mt Uniacke Fire Department Levy (G5)	\$ 0.1340
Brooklyn Fire Department Levy (G6)	\$ 0.2200
Wastewater Management Fee (rate/1,000 gallons of water) (Full Recovery \$10.00)	\$ 10.00
Wastewater Management Fee (rate/cubic metre) Full Recovery Rate \$2.20	\$ 2.20

*And that the "Mandatory Provincial Funding" rate will summarize the costs of Public Housing, Education, Regional Library, and Corrections;*

*And that the "RCMP Services" rate will include the transfers to the Provincial Department of Justice for all amounts related to Police protection and related services;*

*And that both the Mandatory Provincial Funding rate and the RCMP Services rate will be charged on all taxable assessment including commercial, residential and resource assessments;*

*And that for Provincial reporting purposes the General Residential/Resource tax rate will be \$0.81 and the Commercial tax rate will be \$2.57.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ten (10) voting in favor. One (1) voting against. Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

**WATER UTILITY BUDGET**

C23(43) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Moussa: S. Surrette

*Moved that Council approve the East Hants Water Utility Budget Financial Estimates 2023/2024 to 2025/26 as presented. Council Procedural Policy as attached to the Executive Committee agenda dated January 17, 2023.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Nine (9) voting in favor. Two (2) voting against. Councillors Garden-Cole and Rhyno voting nay.

(Councillor Garden-Cole later noted she did not intentionally vote nay, it was an error).

**POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW**

C23(44) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Hebb: J. Woodford

*Moved that Council authorize staff to prepare a submission to the NSUARB requesting that the size of Council be set at 11 and that district boundaries follow the preferred option (Fb).*

Discussion was held and a few Councillors noted they'd like to consider other options before submitting.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Eight (8) voting in favor. Three (3) voting against. Councillors Moussa, Garden-Cole and Rhyno voting nay.

WELL & SEPTIC REPORT

C23(45) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Hebb: [76:24]

*Moved that Council authorize staff to bring back a further report (Well/Septic Program) focusing on other funding alternatives and include middle earners.* A.Clarkson

MOTION CARRIED

SHUBENACADIE COMMUNITY HALL UPDATE

C23(46) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Greene: A.Tapper

*Moved that Council deem the subdivided Shubenacadie Community Hall, PID 45427218, surplus to municipal needs and that Council authorize staff to call for Expressions of Interest from community/non-profit groups to purchase the subdivided Shubenacadie Community Hall, PID 45427218, on an as-is- where-is basis, with submissions to be brought to Council for consideration and direction.*

MOTION CARRIED

C23(47) On the motion of Deputy Warden Perry and Councillor Greene:

*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 February 14, 2023. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting:

C23(48) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Mitchell: A.Clarkson

*Moved that Council authorizes Staff to move forward in securing the RCMP lease renewal for the Mount Uniacke Library Building.*

MOTION CARRIED

C23(49) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Moussa:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

MOTION CARRIED

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE



Councillor Rhyno, as Chairperson of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee, presented the report on the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee from the meeting held on February 14, 2023. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

**CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVER NOMINATION**

C23(50) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Greene: [80:08]

*Moved that Council support the Canadian Heritage River nomination and that East Hants provides a letter of support to the Shubenacadie Canal Commission.* A.Tapper

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NOT FOR PROFIT INSURANCE GRANT POLICY & RELATED POLICY UPDATES**

C23(51) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Greene: A.Tapper

*Moved that Council adopt the proposed Not-For-Profit Insurance Grant Policy and approve updates to the Community Grant Policy, the Tourism Grant Policy, and the Municipal Grant Program Policy as described in the Not-For-Profit Insurance Grant Policy Report as attached the Executive Committee Agenda dated February 14th, 2023.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C23(52) On the motion of Councillor Rhyno and Hebb:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Council adjourned for a brief break at 8:23 p.m. and the Warden called the meeting back to order at 8:29 p.m.

**PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson of the Planning Advisory Committee, presented the report on the Planning Advisory Committee from the meeting held on February 14, 2023. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. No motions came forward as a result of that meeting, other than the motions dealt with during the Public Hearings.

C23(53) On the motion of Councillor Mitchell and Moussa:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Warden Roulston, as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, presented the verbal report on the Nominating Committee from the meeting held on February 22, 2023 before the Regular Meeting of Council. The following motion came forward as a result of that meeting: [85:06]

C23(54) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene: A.Clarkson

*Moved that the Nominating Committee recommends to Council that Tyler Dauphinee as Chair of East Hants Fire Services Association be appointed to the Fire Advisory Committee.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C23(55) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Mitchell: A.Clarkson

*Moved that the Fire Advisory Board update the Terms of Reference to identify that the Chair of the EHFSA will be representative to the Fire Advisory Committee.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

C23(56) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Moussa: [87:26]

*Moved that due to a conflict in the Audit Committee, that Staff be authorized to start the process to advertise for the public member position on the Audit Committee.* S. Surette

**MOTION CARRIED**

C23(57) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Greene:

*Moved the adoption of the report.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

[SECOND READING - BYLAW F-400-8, AN AMENDMENT TO BYLAW F-400, TAX EXEMPTION BYLAW](#)

C23(58) On the motion of Councillors Rhyno and Hebb: A.Tapper

*Moved that Council give second reading to Bylaw F-400-8, an amendment to By-law F-400, Tax Exemption By-law, and be amended to reflect the following changes:*

- *Remove Property # 01855654, Northfield Community Club*
- *Add Property # 00838918, Lions Memorial Park Society*
- *Update Property Ownership for Property # 04720601 from Upper Nine Mile River Community Hall Association to East Hants Ground Search & Rescue.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

Deputy Warden Perry assumed the Chair.

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities.

**BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS**

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

**REGIONAL WASTE CHAIR COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

C23(59) On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Deputy Warden Perry: J. Hulsman

*Moved that Council send a letter to recommend that Regional Chairs meetings predominantly hosted as virtual meetings, with a maximum of one in person meeting a year that is still accessible for voting members to participate virtually, and to amend any and all Regional Chair Committee governance documents to enable and accept virtual meeting voting by voting representatives and that this be accepted practice effective immediately regardless of when documents can eventually be updated and adopted.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A REVIEW OF EAST UNIACKE ROAD**

C23(60) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Greene: J. Hulsman

*Moved to have a letter written to the Province advocating for a review of East Uniacke Road to determine both the current repair requirements based on increased traffic and weight loading, as well as the future requirements such as widening requirements for the road to meet future demands and keep up with the most current safety standards for road design.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**(IN CAMERA) SESSION - LAND ISSUE**

C23(61) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Mitchell:

*Moved that Council go In Camera at 9:02 p.m. to discuss a land issue.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councillor Tingley left the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

The Council returned to open meeting at 10:05 p.m.

The Warden reported that Council met in-camera to discuss a land issue. No motions resulted.

**SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

C23(62) On the motion of Councillors Hebb and Garden-Cole:

***Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy & In Camera) be held March 21, 2023 and the Regular Meeting of Council be held on March 29, 2023.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

C23(63) On the motion of Councillors Greene and Moussa:

***Moved that Council adjourn at 10:06 p.m.***

**MOTION CARRIED**



Approved By: Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk  
Date: February 23, 2023



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden  
Date: March 29, 2023

/AR

## Appendix D

### On-line Survey Results

Polling District Review Online Survey

#### Q1 Which community do you live in?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	West Gore	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
2	Maple Grove	5/26/2022 9:59 PM
3	Elmsdale	5/23/2022 10:14 AM
4	Lantz	5/22/2022 11:04 PM
5	Milford	5/18/2022 8:49 PM
6	East Hants	5/18/2022 6:28 PM
7	Enfield	5/18/2022 3:45 PM
8	Maitland	5/18/2022 11:36 AM
9	Maitland	5/18/2022 8:46 AM
10	East Hants	5/18/2022 7:27 AM
11	Elmsdale	5/18/2022 6:44 AM
12	Enfield	5/17/2022 3:44 PM
13	Milford	5/17/2022 12:51 PM
14	Enfield	5/17/2022 8:29 AM
15	Enfield	5/17/2022 7:50 AM
16	rines creek	5/17/2022 6:49 AM
17	Enfield	5/16/2022 6:27 PM
18	Milford	5/16/2022 5:55 PM
19	Mill Village	5/16/2022 4:14 PM
20	selma	5/16/2022 2:53 PM
21	Nine Mile River	5/16/2022 2:19 PM
22	Maitland	5/16/2022 12:06 PM
23	Milford	5/16/2022 9:04 AM
24	Enfield	5/16/2022 8:05 AM
25	Milford	5/16/2022 7:37 AM
26	Noel Road	5/16/2022 7:17 AM
27	Nine mile river	5/15/2022 8:39 AM
28	Lantz	5/14/2022 11:09 PM
29	Enfield	5/14/2022 9:11 PM
30	Enfield	5/14/2022 9:03 AM
31	Lantz	5/13/2022 2:37 PM
32	Enfield	5/13/2022 9:04 AM
33	Shubenacadie	5/12/2022 9:39 PM

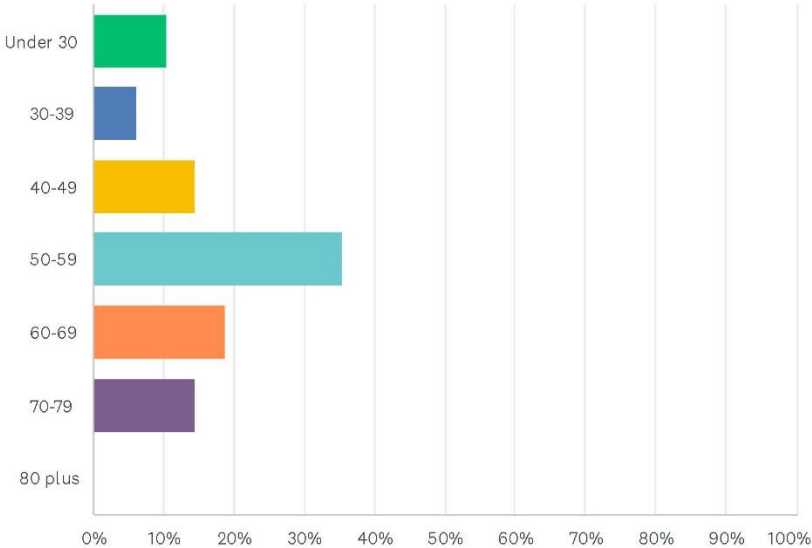
Polling District Review Online Survey

34	Mount uniacke	5/12/2022 9:33 PM
35	Lantz	5/12/2022 8:37 PM
36	Lantz	5/12/2022 8:25 PM
37	Shubenacadie	5/12/2022 6:35 PM
38	Enfield	5/12/2022 6:17 PM
39	Shubenacadie	5/12/2022 5:33 PM
40	Elmsdale	5/12/2022 5:27 PM
41	Enfield	5/11/2022 8:33 AM
42	Kennetcook	5/11/2022 8:26 AM
43	Enfield	5/6/2022 9:51 AM
44	Lakelands	5/4/2022 9:22 PM
45	Mt. Uniacke	5/4/2022 9:05 PM
46	Lantz	5/4/2022 7:22 PM
47	Nine Mile River	5/4/2022 5:03 PM
48	a	5/4/2022 9:16 AM

Polling District Review Online Survey

Q2 What age demographic are you in?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

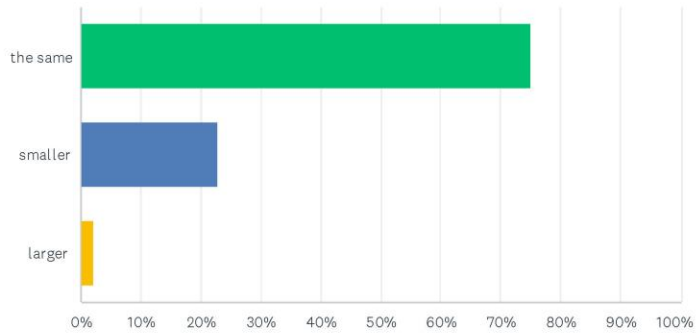


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 30	10.42%	5
30-39	6.25%	3
40-49	14.58%	7
50-59	35.42%	17
60-69	18.75%	9
70-79	14.58%	7
80 plus	0.00%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>48</b>

Polling District Review Online Survey

Q3 East Hants currently has 11 councillors, do you prefer a Council that is:

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
the same	75.00%	36
smaller	22.92%	11
larger	2.08%	1
TOTAL		48



Polling District Review Online Survey

**Q4 If you feel Council should change, what is your preferred number of councillors?**

Answered: 34 Skipped: 14

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Same	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
2	N/A	5/26/2022 9:59 PM
3	7 with a mayor elected at large	5/23/2022 10:14 AM
4	4	5/22/2022 11:04 PM
5	7	5/18/2022 3:45 PM
6	11	5/18/2022 8:46 AM
7	No change	5/18/2022 7:27 AM
8	N/A	5/17/2022 3:44 PM
9	Less	5/17/2022 8:29 AM
10	N/A	5/17/2022 7:50 AM
11	like current number	5/17/2022 6:49 AM
12	7 -9	5/16/2022 6:27 PM
13	NA	5/16/2022 5:55 PM
14	9	5/16/2022 4:14 PM
15	the same number as now	5/16/2022 2:53 PM
16	9	5/16/2022 12:06 PM
17	11	5/16/2022 9:04 AM
18	n/a	5/16/2022 8:05 AM
19	Proper representation for each community	5/16/2022 7:37 AM
20	8	5/14/2022 11:09 PM
21	It's fine	5/14/2022 9:11 PM
22	6	5/13/2022 9:04 AM
23	One or two less	5/12/2022 9:39 PM
24	NA	5/12/2022 9:33 PM
25	N/A	5/12/2022 8:37 PM
26	11	5/12/2022 8:25 PM
27	NA	5/12/2022 6:35 PM
28	9	5/12/2022 5:27 PM
29	N/A	5/11/2022 8:33 AM
30	8 or 9	5/6/2022 9:51 AM
31	9	5/4/2022 9:05 PM

Polling District Review Online Survey

32	8 to 9	5/4/2022 7:22 PM
33	No change	5/4/2022 5:03 PM
34	2	5/4/2022 9:16 AM

Appendix E  
Phase 2 On-line Poll Results

Polling District Review Survey December 2022

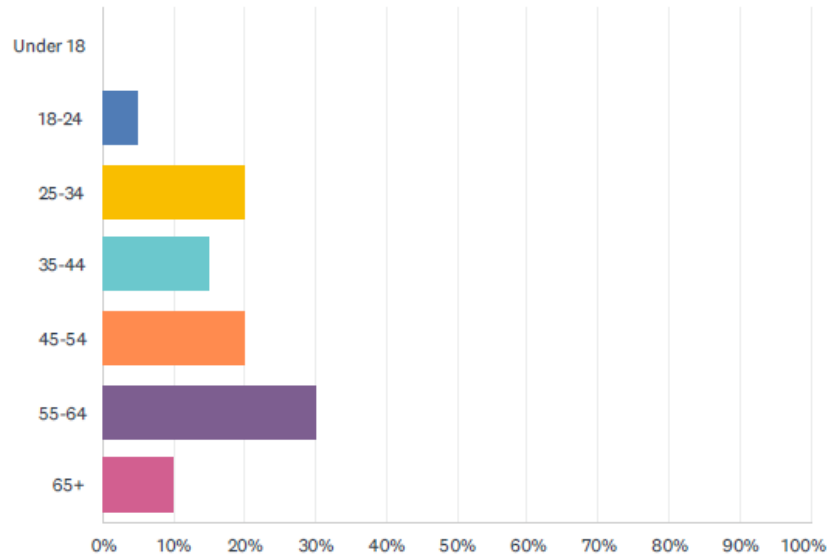
Q1 Which community do you live in?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Walton	1/17/2023 11:57 AM
2	Walton	1/17/2023 11:39 AM
3	Enfield	1/12/2023 6:32 PM
4	Mt Uniacke	1/12/2023 1:23 PM
5	North Noel Road	1/12/2023 12:06 PM
6	Lantz	1/12/2023 10:47 AM
7	Lantz	1/11/2023 9:06 AM
8	Stanley	1/5/2023 5:51 AM
9	Maitland	1/4/2023 9:37 AM
10	Moose Brook	1/2/2023 6:25 PM
11	Maitland	1/2/2023 2:27 PM
12	Noel Shore	1/2/2023 11:28 AM
13	Maitland	1/2/2023 9:46 AM
14	Moose Brook	1/2/2023 9:24 AM
15	Maitland	1/2/2023 3:34 AM
16	Noel	12/29/2022 11:56 AM
17	Latties Brook	12/21/2022 8:06 PM
18	3-Nine Mile River	12/20/2022 9:09 PM
19	Lantz	12/20/2022 10:30 AM
20	Noel	12/20/2022 10:15 AM

## Q2 What age are you?

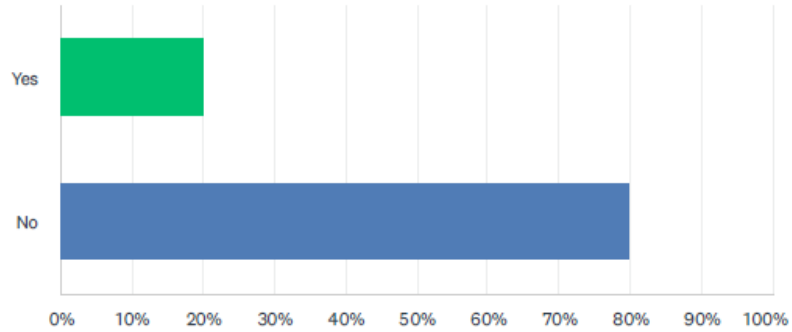
Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	5.00%	1
25-34	20.00%	4
35-44	15.00%	3
45-54	20.00%	4
55-64	30.00%	6
65+	10.00%	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>20</b>

### Q3 Looking at the existing polling districts and the proposed changes shown on the maps below, are you in favour of the changes?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	20.00%	4
No	80.00%	16
Total Respondents: 20		

## Q4 Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the proposed changes?

Answered: 14 Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I feel our district is too large and spread out. It also coincides with the area that is currently under review for zoning designation which I find suspect.	1/17/2023 11:57 AM
2	have individuals who have nothing to gain or lose to come up with borders	1/17/2023 11:39 AM
3	I think when you have districts that are minuscule in physical size in comparison with others - that you are comparing apples and oranges - the people representing those huge districts are at such a disadvantage - what is the leveraging suggestion for them? The power resides in the corridor area and we are well aware of how disadvantaged we are!	1/12/2023 1:23 PM
4	Making larger polling districts does no one a favour...in fact gives some areas less of a voice.	1/4/2023 9:37 AM
5	This is wrong. We are loosing say out here your taking away another counselor from us. Already we have three and one is the warden so basically we have two votes,,, how is that fair in any event like the land situation. If someone wants to explain this to me my name is Joshua White and my email is wjosh315@gmail.com personally I don't think the municipality wants us to have much say out this way.	1/2/2023 6:25 PM
6	The rural voice will be disadvantaged	1/2/2023 2:27 PM
7	It took the province "60" years to re work the roads out here about 12 years back. We aren't used to changes out here. In fact, we love living and being out here partly because of that & the fact that, unlike everywhere else, mushroom houses are not popping up over night spoiling the view, or the land. If these changes are made, it won't take long for them to want to start implementing other changes, based on them believing that we all are open to the next stages, when we are not. We are an historical community, "The first designated heritage area of the Province, oldest General Store still operating...what we do need, is more help to save these houses by the means of personal grants, not changed boundaries, or changed land proposals.	1/2/2023 9:46 AM
8	How's a potential councillor living in Urbania going to know what the people of Walton, for example, want or need. The area is just too large.	1/2/2023 9:24 AM
9	The new district 5 is far too large. Is this why Agriculture Reserve is being brought in? To have one councillor for a soon to be unpopulated area? One councillor to over see the a soon to be handful of farmers? Has the 215/shore area already declined that much that only one councillor is required? Who brought this decision forward? Do not take a rural seat away from the table. East Hants needs a new Warden who is able to make better decisions for this community. Bring on 2024	1/2/2023 3:34 AM
10	It will mean 1 less rural vote at the council. The rural population especially in the north of east hants is feeling very alienated as it is, this proposal only insures we have less input into the decision making process.	12/29/2022 11:56 AM
11	The proposed changed will make rural east hants even more marginalized than they already are. It will result in less say for the Hants North area. I feel that there should have been a district added instead of the boundaries being changed. I understand that the corridor area is growing exponentially faster than the hants north area however there are considerably different needs in the two areas of the Municipality and those concerns need to be addressed.	12/21/2022 8:06 PM
12	I think the changes look good. Bigger districts in our area but still managable and fair.	12/20/2022 9:09 PM
13	Would like an explanation of why the boundaries are being redrawn	12/20/2022 10:30 AM
14	Areas 5 & 6 are better kept as-is.	12/20/2022 10:15 AM

## **Appendix F**

### **Method of Electors Calculation**

Predicted electors 2024 =  $V1 + V2 (V3 \times V4)$

Where:

V1 = Sum of active electors (April 2022) from NS List of Electors

V2= Electors per occupied dwelling based on 2021 Census

V3 = Predicted Occupied new dwelling units by October 2024 (building permit issued by 2023)

V4 = Estimated overall vacancy rate based on 2021 CMHC and Census data