



Regular Meeting of Council

December 20, 2023

PRESENT Warden Eleanor Roulston
Deputy Warden Wayne Greene

Councillors: Sandra Garden-Cole Tom Isenor
Walter Tingley Carl MacPhee (joined
Elie Moussa at 7:22 pm)
Michael Perry (joined at 7:04 pm) Norval Mitchell
Keith Rhyno Eldon Hebb

STAFF Ms. Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wade Tattrie, 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
Ms. Juliann Cashen, Communications Officer
Mr. Tom Gignac, Manager of Information Services
Ms. Sheralee MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
Ms. Amanda Hatfield, Information Management Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

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

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

A moment of silent contemplation was observed.

APPROVAL OF OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

C23(393) On the motion of Deputy Warden Greene and Councillor Mitchell:

Moved that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C23(394) On the motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Greene:

Moved that the minutes of the November 21, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council (Policy & In-Camera) and November 29, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

[02:04]

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

ITEM # 46 - ACOA FUNDING UNDER ICF - HURRICANE FIONA RECOVERY FUND (HFRF)

Councillor Mitchell asked if the funding was available to fire departments and the CAO clarified the funding is only for municipalities.

ITEM # 28 - POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW

The CAO confirmed that the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board approval of the polling districts will be communicated on the East Hants website and as part of the election communications plan.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION

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

ITEM # 2 - JANUARY 23, 2023 BUDGET MEETING

[06:20]

C23(395) On the motion of Deputy Warden Greene and Councillor Rhyno:

W. Tattrie

Moved that the January 23, 2024 budget meeting be cancelled (due to a conflict with the Library Board meeting).

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CORPORATE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor Perry, as Chairperson, presented a report on the Corporate & Residential Services Committee meeting held on December 12, 2023. The minutes from that meeting were made available to all members of Council. No motions came forward as a result of that meeting.

C23(396) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Hebb:

Moved the adoption of the report.

MOTION CARRIED

INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Councillor Garden-Cole, as Chairperson, presented a report on the Infrastructure & Operations Committee meeting held on December 12, 2023. The following motions came forward as a result of that meeting:

EXIT RAMP CHALLENGE

[10:06]

Council approved a 3-year pilot program in 2021 to combine support for community groups looking for fundraising options with the issue of roadside litter. The East Hants Exit Ramp Challenge gave community groups that cleaned an exit ramp a \$500 grant. As the pilot was successful, it's been recommended that the program continue and the grant be increased to \$750.

C23(397) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Hebb:

[10:45]

J. Hulsman

Moved that Council direct staff to add \$9000 to the 2024-2025 (draft) budget for the East Hants Exit Ramp Challenge.

Nine (9) voting in favor, one (1) voting against. Councillor Rhyno voting nay.

MOTION CARRIED

RECYCLING PROCESSING CONTRACT RENEWAL

[12:10]

East Hants contracts the processing of recyclable materials to the Municipality of Colchester; that contract ends on March 31, 2024. On December 1, 2025 Nova Scotia will move to an Extended Producer Responsibility system, where the cost of processing recyclables will be put onto the producers, reducing costs to municipalities. The Municipality of Colchester has provided a contract renewal to bridge their customers from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026 and the launch of the new system.

C23(398) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Moussa:

[12:50]

J. Hulsman

Moved that Council direct the CAO to sign a 2-year contract for recycling processing with the Municipality of Colchester, effective April 1, 2024, at a rate of \$165 per tonne.

MOTION CARRIED

ORGANICS PROCESSING FACILITY FEASIBILITY REPORT

[13:36]

The organics transfer station at the Waste Management Centre was damaged beyond repair and torn down, triggering a report on the future management of organics. That report was made available to committee members at the December 12th meeting. The cost of a new processing facility is estimated to be \$6.4 million dollars.

C23(399) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Hebb: [14:06]
J. Hulsman

Moved that Council direct staff to prepare a report on funding options for an organic processing facility at the East Hants Waste Management Centre, to include potential grant applications and long-term partners/customers.

MOTION CARRIED

[CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION LANDFILL OPERATIONS AND 2ND GENERATION LANDFILL POTENTIAL AT THE WASTE MANAGEMENT CENTRE](#) [14:39]

New regulations around the management of C&D waste are in effect with compliance required by July 2024. Options for processing under the new regulations are being investigated, including an evaluation of current and future capacity of the C&D landfill and the feasibility of a 2nd generation landfill.

C23(400) On the motion of Councillors Garden-Cole and Mitchell: [15:20]
J. Hulsman

Moved that Council direct staff to include in the 2024-25 (draft) budget an evaluation of the Waste Management Centre C&D landfill for current capacity and future growth/expansion options under the new provincial regulations, to be funded from Waste Management Centre Operating Reserves.

MOTION CARRIED

C23(401) On the motion of Councillor Garden-Cole and Deputy Warden Greene: [16:28]

Moved the adoption of the report.

MOTION CARRIED

[PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE](#) [16:43]

Councillor Mitchell, as Chairperson, presented a report on the Planning Advisory Committee meeting held on December 12, 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:

[MUNICIPAL HOUSING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE](#)

Council approved the formation of a working group to aid in the development of a municipal housing strategy. A draft terms of reference was presented recommending the working group be comprised of three councillors, two members representing the East Hants development community, two members representing the non-profit housing community, one member representing the East Hants Chamber of Commerce, one public member at large, the Director of Planning & Development and a staff member representing Economic & Business Development. Discussion took place around increasing the number of councillors and representatives from the development community in the working group.

C23(402) On the motion of Councillor Mitchell and Deputy Warden Greene: [17:35]
J. Woodford

Moved that Council approve the terms of reference for the Municipal Housing Working Group as presented in the staff report dated December 6, 2023 (and attached to the December 12, 2023 Executive Committee agenda).

Seven (7) voting in favor, three (3) voting against. Councillors Rhyno and Garden-Cole and Warden Roulston voting nay.

MOTION CARRIED

C23(403) On the motion of Councillors Mitchell and Perry:

Moved the adoption of the report.

MOTION CARRIED

WARDEN'S REPORT

[19:12]

Deputy Warden Greene assumed the Chair.

The Warden provided a verbal report on her recent activities. The following motion resulted from her report.

C23(404) On the motion of Warden Roulston and Councillor Perry: [20:17]
K. Ramsay

Moved that the CAO bring back an update to Council's Procedural Policy clarifying the roles of individual councillors and of council (as a group) when corresponding with other levels of government.

MOTION CARRIED

Warden Roulston resumed the Chair.

BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS

[23:03]

Councillors provided verbal reports on their recent activities and expressed gratitude for the hard work and dedication of staff and support provided to Councillors. They also expressed well wishes this holiday season.

The following motion came forward under Business from Councillors:

PROVINCIAL PAVING OF EAST UNIACKE ROAD

C23(405) On the motion of Councillors Moussa and Perry: [39:00]
J. Hulsman

Moved that Council have a letter sent to the Province advocating for paving work on East Uniacke Road beyond the scope of work announced in the most recent 5-year capital plan that has work ending at the intersection with Powell Drive.

MOTION CARRIED

(IN CAMERA) - LAND ISSUES

[48:35]

C23(406) On the motion of Deputy Warden Greene and Councillor Mitchell:

Moved that Council go in camera at 7:49 p.m. to discuss land issues.

MOTION CARRIED

Council returned to open meeting at 8:30 p.m. Warden Roulston noted that Council met in camera to discuss land issues, direction was given to staff and no motions are coming forward.

SETTING DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

C23(407) On the motion of Deputy Warden Greene and Councillor Moussa:

Moved that the Regular Meeting of Council (Policy & In Camera) be held on January 16, 2024 the Regular Meeting of Council be held on January 24, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

C23(408) On the motion of Councillors Perry and Mitchell:

Moved that Council adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED



Approved By: Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan, Assistant Municipal Clerk
Date: December 21, 2023



Approved By: Eleanor Roulston, Warden
Date: January 24, 2024

/AH