



Date: February 28, 2024
To: Municipal Council
cc: Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Councillor Perry, Corporate and Residential Services Committee Chairperson
RE: Corporate & Residential Services Committee Report

The Committee held Budget meetings on January 20th; February 1st; February 8th; February 13th, February 15th; February 22nd; and the regular meeting on February 20th, 2024, in Council Chambers. The following motions are coming forward as a result of those meetings.

1. COUNCILLOR TINGLEY - LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council, *that Councillor Walter Tingley be permitted a leave of absence to travel to New Zealand from February 12 to March 19, 2024.*

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

2. HOSPITAL BALLOON DEBT PAYMENT

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council, *that Council approve that the Hospital Balloon Debt Payment, being \$112 300.00, be taken from year end surplus.*

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

3. BEAUTIFICATION GRANT FUND

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council, *that Council approve that the draft budget reflect an increase in the beautification budget to \$3000.00 from \$2000.00; the additional \$1000.00 to be available to Councillors after the election.*

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

4. SHUBENACADIE PARKING LOT

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council *that Council direct staff include funding for annual operations of a municipal parking in Shubenacadie PID 45330214 (+/- 5,000 sqft) as part of the budget adjustments sheet for Council discussion.*

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

5. 2024 FCM CONFERENCE DELEGATION SELECTION (JUNE 6-9)

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends to Council, *that Council approve the following delegation to attend the 2024 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference in Calgary; and that associated costs will be funded from the 2024/2025 updated Operating Budget and Reserves:*

Kim Ramsay, CAO

Warden Eleanor Roulston

Councillor Carl MacPhee

Councillor Walter Tingley

Councillor Norval Mitchell

Councillor Sandra Garden-Cole

Councillor Tom Isenor

Councillor Elie Moussa

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

6. PENSION COST CERTIFICATE

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council *approve the filing of the December 31, 2023 actuarial cost certificate attached to the February 20, 2024 Executive Committee agenda.*

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

7. 2024/2025 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUND

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council *approve the list of recommended Community Partnership Fund organizations to be included in the draft 2024/2025 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: \$16 503*
- *East Hants Sports Heritage Society: \$5000*
- *East Hants Youth Links: \$6000*
- *Kids Action (Annapolis Valley-Hants Community Action Program): \$10 000*

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

8. 2024/2025 GENERAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommend to Council *that pending appropriate documentation is received and the passing of 2024/2025 budget, Council approve the following General Government Grants for disbursement in 2024/2025:*

- *Remembering Canada's Heroes: \$1000*

- **Hants County Exhibition: \$500**
- **Dr Snow Bursaries: \$3000**
- **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): \$7000**
- **COAT Association: \$2000**
- **Contingency Available: \$4000**

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

9. 2024/2025 WATER UTILITY BUDGET

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommend to Council that Council ***approve the East Hants Water Utility Financial Estimates 2024/2025 to 2026/2027 as presented.***

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

10. 2024/2025 TO 2028/2029 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL BUDGET

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council that the five-year Capital Budget for the fiscal years 2024/2025 to 2028/2029 as presented be approved and adopted effective April 1st, 2024. 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, 2024. 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 2025/2026 prior to April 1st, 2025;

And that, any projects approved in the 2023/2024 Capital Budget not reflected as carried forward to the 2024/2025 Capital Budget, but that are substantially committed at March 31st, 2024, shall be carried forward to 2024/2025, based on the remaining budget at March 31st, 2024;

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%.

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

11. REVIEW OF OTHER BUDGET MATTERS (ARROWHEAD PARK ROAD REQUEST)

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council *that Council deny the request from the Arrowhead Road Association to waive the 24/25 5% administration fee.*

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

The Corporate and Residential Services Committee recommends to Council *that Council direct staff to prepare a report on the private roads fees requirements for municipal staff to administer the collection of road dues to include a maximum fee based on either per lot or per road as seen by staff so that there can be a fixed cost associated and they know their fixed costs.*

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

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