



Date: September 23, 2026
To: Municipal Council
cc: Kim Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Councillor Garden-Cole, Corporate and Residential Services Committee Chairperson
RE: Corporate & Residential Services Committee Report

The Committee held regular meeting on September 15, 2026 in Council Chambers. The following motions are coming forward as a result of that meeting:

1. RESCHEDULE THE OCTOBER 1ST CAO PRIORITIES SESSION

The CAO requested that the October 1st CAO Priorities Session be rescheduled due to her upcoming leave of absence.

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends that *Council reschedule the CAO Priorities Session on the return of the CAO from her leave of absence.*

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

2. 2026 NSFM FALL CONFERENCE - SELECTION OF DELEGATION

Past practice has been to include the Warden, Chief Administrative Officer and three additional members of Council in the municipal delegation. For the 2026 NSFM Fall Conference, it is suggested that the Assistant Municipal Clerk be appointed to the delegation in lieu of the CAO, while maintaining the remaining delegation structure of the Warden and three members of Council

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council appoint the following delegates for the 2026 NSFM Fall Conference:*

1. *Warden Eleanor Roulston*
2. *Councillor Carl MacPhee*
3. *Councillor Craig Merriam*
4. *Another Councillor at the approval of the Warden*
5. *Assistant Municipal Clerk Sheralee MacEwan*

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

3. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MTAP (MUNICIPAL TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) POLICY

There are a few housekeeping changes staff are recommending to the Municipal Tax Assistance Program Policy. Those changes were noted in the red-lined version of the draft policy attached to the agenda. The Corporate & Residential Services Committee excluded one of the suggested changes to set a limit on assistance.

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council approve the amendments to Council Policy "Municipal Tax Assistance Program" (excluding Section 2.5) as attached*



to the Executive agenda dated September 15, 2026 and amended by the Corporate & Residential Services Committee

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

4. PROPOSED PILOT OF THE ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX SALE VIA A TENDER PROCES

Staff suggested that the 2027 annual property tax sale be changed to a sealed tender bidding process (from the current format of an in-person auction). This 2027 pilot would be used to determine the method of future annual tax sales. The Corporate & Residential Services Committee considered the request and agreed the current in-person auction method was preferred.

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council continue with the in-person tax sale process.*

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

5. NON-RESIDENTIAL MARKET ANALYSIS

As part of Council's Strategic Plan and current year Business Plan, Economic and Business Development completed a 10-year market outlook of real estate land and buildings for the industrial, commercial, retail, and office industries in East Hants. The report assessed current market supply and forecasts future demand for land and building space across these sectors to help inform Council and Staff decisions on future land use and opportunities in East Hants.

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council receive the report dated May 2026 and titled "Non-Residential Market Analysis" for informational purposes to support future decision making.*

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

6. RECOGNITION POLICY (MUNICIPAL LONG SERVICE AWARDS FOR FIREFIGHTERS - UNDRRESSED RIBBONS)

In June, Council requested staff investigate the cost of undressed ribbons to be awarded with the 10 and 15-year Municipal long service awards for firefighters. It was also requested that staff investigate changing the current black ribbon for those medals.

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council send this issue back to the Fire Advisory Committee for feedback.*

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

7. ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - INFORMATION UPDATE

Through the Asset Management Program, staff have developed an internal-use, centralized, spatially accurate inventory of Water and Wastewater mainline pipe, providing staff with a clear picture of what infrastructure we own, where it is, what it is made of, and when segments of the system may require renewal. Beyond building the spatial inventory, staff have developed practical



tools that are being used to enhance inspections, locate assets, and track maintenance and repairs, connecting day-to-day operations with longer-term Asset Management and capital planning.

The Corporate & Residential Services Committee recommends *that Council receive and file the “Asset Management Program Update - Linear Water and Wastewater” report dated August 17, 2026.*

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

This concludes the report.