

WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
Committee of the Whole - Meeting Agenda **AMENDED**
November 8, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.
(also held via virtual via Zoom and Facebook livestreamed)



1. Call to Order
2. Attendance
3. Approval of the Agenda, including additions or deletions
 - a) Dashboard Action Items – Information Log
 - Dashboard Action Items – Dangerous and Unsightly Premises
4. Declaration(s) of Conflict of Interest
5. Announcements
6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - a) 2022-10-11 Committee of the Whole Minutes
7. Presentations
 - ~~a) Schools Plus – Lisa Redden~~
 - b) Falmouth Family Park Project – Matt Dunfield
 - c) West Hants Sports Complex Design Presentation – Manager Bennett/ Director Kehoe
 - d) In-Camera MGA 22(2)(a) Legal Matter
 - e) In-Camera MGA 22(2)(a) Legal Matter
 - f) In-Camera MGA 22(2)(a) Legal Matter
 - g) In-Camera MGA 22(2)(a) Land Matter
8. Unfinished Business/Postponed Motions
 - a) Bowman Road -Follow up Report – Councillor Ivey
 - b) Capped Assessment Report – Acting Director Gibson
 - ~~c) Cogmagun Report – Acting Director Gibson~~
 - d) Invasive Plant Species Information Report - Director Kehoe
9. Reports
 - a) CAO Activity Update – Information Report
 - b) Financial Update – Information Report
 - c) Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP) Committee - Information Report
10. Correspondence
 - a) Information
 1. Avon Causeway Activity Log as of November 3rd, 2022
 - a) 2022-10-28 K Salter re: request for a pond and water fountain where Lake Pisiquid once existed

2. Correspondence Received Ledger as of November 3rd, 2022
 - a) 2022-09-13 Proposed Changes to the Weed Control Act
 - b) 2022-10-21 Minister of Finance and Treasury Board Re: Provincial Non-Resident Deed Transfer Tax
 - c) 2022-10-21 Home Hardware re: Security Cameras
 - d) 2022-10-24 Windsor Township re: Security Cameras
 - e) 2022-10-28 Dawna MacIvor re: November is Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month
 - f) 2022-11-02 Wayne Mason re Concerns and Information regarding Bill 225 and HRM Noise By-Law
 - g) 2022-11-02 Peter Gregg Re Information on Bill 212, An Act to Amend Public Utility Act

3. Fort Edward Municipal Lands Activity Log as of November 3rd, 2022

4. Storm Wastewater Activity Log as of November 3rd, 2022

- a. Requests - None
- b. Out-going Correspondence Ledger as of November 3rd, 2022

11. New Business

- a) Commercial/Large Vehicle Parking in Residential Zones Report Request – Councillor Ivey
- ~~b) Letter of Support re Hon. Kody Blois correspondence to Minister Murray (ongoing situation at the Avon River in Windsor, Nova Scotia) – Councillor Smith~~
- ~~c) Notice of Motion – Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy RCOGE-003.00 – Councillor Ivey~~
- d) Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) Conference Report – Mayor Zebian
- ~~e) Parking Regulations Review and Request – Councillor Ivey~~
- f) Streetlights in the Crossing Verbal Discussion – Councillor B. Morton
- g) December Meeting Date for Committee of the Whole and Council – Discussion and Decision Request – Clerk Snair
- h) Planning Advisory and Heritage Advisory Committee Member Appointment Decision Request - Clerk Snair
- i) Thermal Imaging Cameras Capital Purchase Over-budget Recommendation Report – Supervisor Thornton
- j) Updating the 2022-2023 Tax Resolution – Acting Director Gibson
- k) Website Redesign and Rebrand Tender Award Over-budget Recommendation Report Supervisor Thornton
- l) West Hants Sports Complex Ice Resurfacers Decision Request – Director Kehoe
- m) REMO - Kings Co-WHRM Mutual Aid Agreement Recommendation Report – Supervisor Thornton

12. Public Participation Period
13. In-Camera
 - ~~a) MGA 22(2)(a) Legal Matter~~
 - ~~b) MGA 22(2)(a) Legal Matter~~
 - ~~c) MGA 22(2)(a) Legal Matter~~
 - ~~d) MGA 22(2)(a) Land Matter~~
14. Next Meeting Date / Adjournment – November 22, 2022 at 5 p.m.



1. Call to Order – Deputy Mayor Paul Morton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Attendance

Council:

Abraham Zebian, Mayor	Paul Morton, Deputy Mayor Dist. 8
Rupert Jannasch, Councillor Dist. 1	Bob Morton, Councillor Dist. 6 (ZOOM)
Scott McLean, Councillor Dist. 2	Ed Sherman, Councillor Dist. 7
Mark McLean, Councillor Dist. 3	John A. Smith, Councillor Dist. 9
Jeff Hartt, Councillor Dist. 4	Laurie Murley, Councillor Dist. 10
Debbie Francis, Councillor Dist. 5	Jim Ivey, Councillor Dist. 11

Staff:

Mark Phillips, CAO	Madelyn LeMay, Dir. Planning and Development
Kathy Kehoe, Dir. Community Development	Deanna Snair, Exec. Asst/ Clerk
Shelleena Thornton, Municipal Operations Supervisor	Matt Dunfield, Falmouth Family Park
Todd Richard, Dir. Public Works	One member in the Gallery
Diana Gibson, Acting Director of Financial Services	

Voting occurred by a show of hands.

3. Approval of the Agenda, including additions or deletions (6:01 p.m.)
 - a) Dashboard Action Items – Information Log
 - Dashboard – Dangerous and Unsightly Premises – Information log

Discussion Points:

- The Hantsport Fire Station matter was scheduled to be discussed later In-Camera. The allocated budget (as approved by Council) for the project, including the change orders (approximately 36, some were rejected or not approved that were agreed to and paid for has not been exceeded.

Deletions to the Agenda:

- Item 11(b) Letter of Support re Hon. Kody Blois correspondence to Minister Murray (ongoing situation at the Avon River in Windsor, Nova Scotia) – Councillor Smith
- Item 7(a) Schools Plus Presentation from Lisa Redden
- Item 8(c) Cogmagun Report - Acting Director Gibson

Additions to the Agenda:

- Item 13 (e) In-Camera Personnel

Move all the In-Camera from Item 13 to Item 7(c)

MOVED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN AND COUNCILLOR SHERMAN THAT THE ITEM BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED. Nays: Hartt

CAO Phillips confirmed the presence of the solicitor was present for the In-Camera Legal Matters. Any matters requiring the presence of the solicitor were placed within the In-Camera session.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS SHERMAN FRANCIS THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Declaration(s) of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

5. Announcements (6:07 p.m.)

- Deputy Mayor P. Morton acknowledged that West Hants Regional Municipality recognizes that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people and that this land is governed by the treaties of Peace and Friendship signed in 1726.
- Electronic voting would not occur at this meeting due to
- The William Hall (VC) Cairn 75th Anniversary Memorial Rededication Ceremony will occur tomorrow (February 9, 2022) at 1 p.m. in Hantsport.
- The Hantsport Remembrance Day Ceremony occurs Friday at 10:45 a.m. at the school. The doors open at 9:30 a.m.
- Appreciation and Thanks extended to Dr. Ahmad for taking on an additional shift to avoid the Hants Community Hospital closure on Thursday, November 10, 2022. The whole team at all levels worked hard to make that not happen.
- Public Consultations are occurring for the 2022 Boundary Review.
- Councillor Hartt provided a brief update with respects to the Landfill. The last fire was a result of batteries and flares being placed in the garbage. A friendly reminder was extended to dispose of these items appropriately so as not to create another fire. Another area addressed was with respects to recycling; if the small ring below the tab on a bottle was not removed there was a high probability that the bottle would not be recycled.
- The Birthplace of Hockey Tournament begins Thursday night (November 10, 2022) with Avonview hosting.

6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (6:10 p.m.)

a) 2022-10-11 Committee of the Whole Minutes

MOVED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN AND COUNCILLOR FRANCIS THAT THE 2022-10-11 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES BE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Presentations (6:10 p.m.)

a) Schools Plus – Lisa Redden

This presentation did not occur. The presentation will occur at another meeting.

b) Falmouth Family Park – Matt Dunfield (6:10 p.m.)

Mr. Dunfield reviewed the report updating Council on the progress of the park and to request the assistance of Council in moving the project forward.

Discussion Points:

- Funding from ACOA has been confirmed; however, it can't be leveraged until the project has acquired their 40% contribution towards the total Capital costs. There were no municipal contributions to the Capital side of the project. Different grants can appear differently.
- Working towards fundraising the forty (40%) of the Capital budget required for the project through various fundraising events.
- Requesting access to sewer and water to install and all access/barrier free washroom facility and provide an outdoor water spigot for the park users.
- An additional request made was that once the park was completed that the municipality assume ownership and maintenance of the parcel of land with the park included. The current ownership of the land remains with the Falmouth Hall Association (they want to sign ownership over).
- Progress has been slow and time consuming. The old debris and fencing have been cleared, the backside of the property has been leveled off and seeded. Projected next steps are to look for and secure contractors for fencing for the dog park and review playground equipment (six-month turnaround time from the date of order to delivery). The project will carry on into the next calendar year.
- The playground was an all access, barrier free style area that would draw people to the area that provided a better, broader service to community and those who would use it. The total projected cost of the project was \$147,000; the ACOA funding covers the playground portion of the project resulting in a total project cost of approximately \$200,000.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR FRANCIS AND MAYOR ZEBIAN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO MEET WITH MR. DUNFIELD AND VOLUNTEERS TO DETERMINE THE NEXT STEPS IF THE MUNICIPALITY WAS TO ASSUME OWNERSHIP OF THE PARK AND BRING FORWARD A REPORT TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION. MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Dunfield and the member of the Gallery left the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

c) West Hants Sports Complex Design Presentation – Director Kehoe (6:23 p.m.)

Director Kehoe provided some brief background information pertaining to the presentation to assist with guiding strategic discussions forward. FBM were contracted to complete a conceptual design plan for community spaces within the West Hants Sports Complex. The video presentation reviewed the history of West Hants, the existing conditions of the new Sports Complex, where the inspiration for the proposed design originated from (with a focus on West Hants being the Birthplace of Hockey), creating a community space for all users to gather, socialize, work, play, eat, relax and spectate. The video format was not compatible with ZOOM resulting in the public not being able to view the presentation. The slides will be printed and included with in the agenda package. Staff will attempt to reformat the video and share it on Facebook and the Municipal Website.

Discussion Points:

- The concept intends to complement the existing architecture and interior spaces; creating a place for all people by integrating contemporary combinations of materials, patterns and textures that have been interpreted to reflect West Hants story, identity and community and providing a welcoming environment with a clear sense of place while promoting history and wellness.
- West Hants has a rich history influenced by the Mi'kmaq, French Acadians, and the black community, this history. Much of this history was considered and reflected in the interior space design. The intent of the design was to create a strong sense of place by utilizing the community in developing art and temporary exhibitions showcasing community social and cultural expression. which resulted in keeping the community and the users as the focus and inspiration.
- Colour/Water has been an integral element of the West Hants community. Colours that are reminiscent of nature are directly connected with wellness (bright blue colours = optimism, Orange = radiates warmth and happiness). Water is also represented in the design with the use of soft textured fabric and comfortable seating furniture. Curving silhouettes to mimic the movement of water at tides are used in the kids area, a space inspired by the Mi'kmaq legend of how a whale changes the tide of the bay of Fundy.
- The design concept draws the zigzag motion adding energy to the space resulting in a dynamic layout and visual interest. The concept is open, modern and energetic, while having a multi-cultural/diverse focus and be socially and culturally accessible to all, "a place for all people".
- The plan costs were \$13,440 (the expense portion after the rebate) and in the Capital budget.
- The vending machine area was presented as a viable option as opposed to a specific canteen.
- The design provides an initial first step, vision and direction moving forward so a place is created where everyone feels welcomed. Within the current Capital Budget there're are some funds that provide the ability to move forward with

respect to pieces of the design plan. Staff wanted to seek some guidance prior to initiating the design plans.

- Cultural representation is a key component of the design. A meeting occurred with Glooscap First Nation with opportunities for continued discussions with respects to how they wish to be representation.

The video presentation concluded at 6:47 6 p.m. Due to the current format of the video, it was not able to be screen shared. Once the video has been reformatted, it will be added to Facebook and the Municipal website for viewing.

At the last meeting Facebook would not permit the meeting to be broadcasted live. The intention is to always stream a live Facebook feed of the meeting.

THERE WAS NO MOVER OR SECONDER. COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO MOVE THE MEETING TO IN-CAMERA AT 6:49 P.M.

- d) In-Camera MGA 22(2)(a) Legal Matter
- e) In-Camera MGA (22)(2)(a) Legal Matter
- f) In-Camera MGA (22)(2)(a) Legal Matter
- g) In-Camera MGA (22)(2)(a) Land Matter
- h) In-Camera MGA (22)(2)(a) Personnel Matter

The regular meeting resumed with no motions coming from out of In-Camera at 9:28 p.m.

8. Unfinished Business/Postponed Motions

a) 74 Bowman Road Follow up Report (9:28 p.m.)

Councillor Ivey reviewed the report provided Council with a brief review of the background/history associated with this report. This file has been ongoing for approximately eleven (11) months. The purpose of the report was to receive an update on a plan to move the file forward to resolution

Discussion Points:

- Planning has exhausted their efforts in obtaining requested proof that should have been in possession with the contractor.
- The contractor has not responded resulting in the file being moved along through the legal process with the intent to send a letter to express the seriousness and stimulate the contractor to respond.
- CAO Phillips has contacted the homeowner and shared the dissatisfaction with the contractor and advised the homeowner to wait to hear from the municipality. No interest will accrue on the bill and the bill may be revisited resulting in the same bill or an amended bill.
- Council will be updated of any pending legal action that may be pursued.

b) Capped Assessment Report (9:31 p.m.)

Acting Director Gibson reviewed the report reflecting the meeting that staff had with PVSC, who provided a comparison of the municipal tax assessment role with the capped assessments and then without the cap. By using these figures and the 2022 tax rates Director Gibson calculated the difference between the two residential tax revenues should the cap ever be removed would be an increase of \$1.8 million in revenue.

Discussion Points:

- The CAP was discussed in length at the NSFM Conference. Municipalities have come to the unofficial stance that the Cap is gone. It is not an item that will be reviewed as the provincial government appears to not want to make any changes in this area. The thought was that Council will see this item removed from the NSFM and it will remain status quo.
- There was a general belief from some that once the cap on a property was removed that it disappears; in fact, it disappears for a year and then established at a new capped rate.
- PVSC provided an overall report detailing the total capped assessment and what it looked like with the cap removed. They did indicate that due to the housing market and increased number of properties recently sold that there were a significant number of properties that were no longer on the cap. There are regulations when these properties can get back on the cap.
- A request was made by Councillor Ivey to find out how much information PVSC can provide as it was felt to be an important question.
- Depending on the assessment value of a home and level the Cap was applied determines the taxation amount.
- PVSC has offered an online workshop for anyone wishing to delve into the process more.

c) Invasive Plant Species Information Report (9:38 p.m.)

Director Kehoe reviewed the report detailing the initial gathering of information from other municipal units and agencies regarding educational materials and operational practices addressing invasive species and noxious weeds. During this process it was identified that invasive species can include plants, animals and micro-organisms that are introduced into areas beyond their native range and negatively impact the environment, the economy, or society. The Department of Agriculture primarily focuses on weeds that are designated “noxious”. Staff are seeking an opportunity to confirm that the intent of the recommendation was directed towards noxious weeds and not animals or micro-organisms.

Discussion Points:

- It should be noted that while the municipality may consider implementing a plan or policy to address invasive species within the municipality it will have little effect if it isn't a community wide approach involving all landowners within and adjacent to the region. This would include provincial, municipal and private lands within the region.

- The intention was for the report to focus on noxious weeds. There was a thought that the Department of Agriculture and the Province view noxious weeds in the context of Agriculture.
- The province has updated it's Weed Control Act. Within the act it states the responsibility for controlling the weeds are the individual owners of the land.
- A belief was that when the Department of Agriculture and the Province view noxious weeds it was in the context of Agriculture.
- A municipal approach could be through an educational or sharing of information approach on what the upcoming threats are.
- What approach does the municipality take on municipally owned land.
- Staff felt they had sufficient direction to craft the report.

9. Reports

a) CAO's Report (9:43 p.m.)

CAO Philips provided a verbal report highlighting the events between the October Committee of the Whole meeting and tonight's meeting.

Summary Points:

- Strategy sessions continue.
- Appreciation expressed with the patience extended with respects to the Electoral Boundary review. Surveys with corrected maps are being circulated. Public Consultation sessions continue.
- Met with the West Hants Historical Society to see what supports could be provided based on their ask of a collaborative approach. They have been provided with some mapping to help define boundaries. They plan to coordinate, facilitate an input session for stakeholders. At this point there has been no request for resources required to support them.
- Met with the Council at Glooscap with respects to a memorial type of project. Some of the ideas pertaining to the Spirits Complex were shared. The Council plan to do a tour of the facility to gather a sense/feel of the space.
- Sports Complex activities and Township Mural Festival continues.
- The Planning Department remains busy with meetings and housing strategy.
- The Fences and Arbitration committee, Brison Development growth meetings continue along with meetings regarding the Hantsport Bog Road and Citizen and Property complaint meetings where we are trying to a different approach and having a representative from Planning or By-Law within the meeting when the concern was land based.
- Attended the West Hants Hosing Coalition and Benjamin Mills Windfarm Open house.
- The Fire Chiefs continue their monthly meetings with Supervisor Thornton.

Discussion Points:

- Staffs understanding from previous direction was that the Noise By-Law would be converted to a Peace and Good Order By-Law. This will be the report available in January.

- The phase 2 A.R.I.A continues. The RFP will be issued.

b) Financial Update – Information Report (9:50 p.m.)

Acting Director Gibson presented the financial update for 2022-23 Operating Budget ending on September 30, 2022.

Discussion Points:

- Presently trending at a small surplus primarily due to savings in staffing costs and there was a small increase in the projection of the deed transfer tax. \$1.8 million was budgeted, as of September 30th there was just over \$1.4 million in actual deed transfer tax received.

c) Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP) Committee - Information Update (9:53 p.m.)

Councillor Francis reviewed the report from the MCCAP Committee.

Summary Points:

- A biannual report will be presented to Council to communicate progress on the 2022 work plan and identify budget items that may arise.
- Continue to explore potential for a small solar project.
- Electric vehicle charging stations have been implemented at the Sports Complex and the Community Centre. Announcements will be made soon.
- West Hants is 1 of 4 municipalities participating in a fleet conversion study. The Planning Department is the focus for this study.
- More information pertaining to the MCCAP coordinator position will be presented to Council for consideration.

10. Correspondence (9:55 p.m.)

a) Information

1. Avon Causeway Activity Log, current correspondence received as of November 3, 2022.
 - i. Correspondence received from K. Salter on October 28, 2022, re Request for a pond and water fountain where Lake Pisiqid once existed. Minister Murray that was sent October 6, 2022
2. Current Correspondence Received Log as of November 3, 2022.
 - i. Correspondence received from Heather Hughes, Executive Director on September 9, 2022, re: Proposed changes to the Weed Control Act
 - ii. Correspondence received from the Minister of Finance and Treasury Board re: Provincial Non-Residential Deed Transfer Tax
 - iii. Correspondence received from Home Hardware on October 21, 2022 re: Security Cameras
 - iv. Correspondence received from the Windsor Township re: Security Cameras

- v. Correspondence received from Dawna McIvor re: November being Chron's and Colitis Awareness Month; requesting a proclamation be made.
 - vi. Correspondence from Way Mason re: Concerns and Information regarding Bill 225 and HRM Noise By-Law
 - vii. Correspondence received from Peter Gregg re: Information on Bill 212, An Act to amend the Public Utility
3. Fort Edward Activity Log
No new correspondence was received for this meeting.
4. Storm Wastewater Activity Log
No new correspondence was received for this meeting.
- b) Requests
There were no requests received.
- c) Out-going as of October 6, 2022
No new correspondence was sent as of this meeting.

Council acknowledged receipt of the correspondence received from Home Hardware and the Windsor Business Township pertaining to surveillance cameras.

Discussion Points:

- The correspondence was received and discussed at the Police Advisory Board meeting. Staff would need direction to explore further or install cameras.
- Although Cole Drive was the suggested primary location; there was value in expanding the criteria to a perimeter around Windsor, Highway 1, Garlands Crossing to route 14 and all entrance and exit points within West Hants.
- Consultations with RCMP and IT may identify other locations.
- The item needs to be put on the Police Advisory Board meeting agenda.
- By ensure all entry and exit points are covered within West Hants (not just Windsor) it may provide the ability to determine if these acts are a result of local individuals or someone from outside the area.
- Ensure all cameras are working.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS IVEY AND SHERMAN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS COUNCIL DIRECT THE CAO TO UNDERTAKE AN INITIAL REVIEW AND INVESTIGATION TO BRING A REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL FOR FURTHER DECISION MAKING AND THAT THE REPORT BE IN CONSULTATION WITH TECHNOLOGY AND THE RCMP ON LOCATIONS. MOTION CARRIED

MOVED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN AND COUNCILLOR FRANCIS THAT THE MEETING CONTINUE PAST 10 P.M. MOTION CARRIED

11. New Business

a) Commercial/Large Vehicle Parking in Residential Zones Report (10:00 p.m.)

Councillor Ivey reviewed the report identifying an issue that surfaced in a Windsor neighborhood where a large commercial vehicle parked in a driveway bordering another property. The issue has since been successfully resolved; however, the concern highlighted a possible need for regulations to ensure that the situation does not repeat itself within our existing and new residential communities.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS IVEY AND MURLEY THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO UNDERTAKE A REVIEW OF VEHICLE PARKING REGULATIONS IN WEST HANTS TO DETERMINE IF A BYLAW WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR REGULATING THE PARKING OF LARGE COMMERCIAL VEHICLES IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS.

Discussion Points:

- Attention was raised pertaining to the timing of when the report was provided. Late additions to the agenda do not permit enough time for them to be reviewed resulting in the inability to be prepared to discuss and make qualified decisions.
- Apologies were extended for the report arriving late. The author of the report and Mover of the motion offered to defer the motion until Council or another month. It was felt that the report would not be priority as Planning are very busy and it could wait.
- It was felt that By-law and the Planning Department handled the situation very well and this may not be Region wide issue.
- One opinion was that if a report was not in by Friday; to allow reviewing over the weekend then the report would not be supported.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS IVEY AND S. MCLEAN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DEFER THE MOTION UNTIL TWO WEEKS TIME AT THE COUNCIL MEETING.

Discussion Points:

- Concern was raised that the November Council meeting had a large agenda already, was there the ability to defer until January.

The MOVER and SECONDER withdrew the motion at 10:06 p.m. The item will return in January.

b) Notice of Motion – Meeting and Committee Procedural policy RCOGE-003.00 (10:06 p.m.)

The report was withdrawn at 10:06 p.m. The report will be provided at a future meeting.

c) Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) Conference Report (10:06 p.m.)

Mayor Zebian provided a verbal update to Council regarding the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) Conference that occurred November 1-4th, 2022.

Discussion Points:

- Paul Russel from HRM was elected the chair for the Regional Caucus. Councillor Pam Lovelace (HRM) and Mayor Darlene Norman were the two new board members representing the Regional Caucus.
- Discussed statements of municipal interest such as (in order):
 - Capped Assessments (most likely to be dropped off for not being a provincial priority)
 - Extended producer responsibility (EPR) for PPP was removed as it was felt that this was already in motion and would be accomplished within the coming months which left Municipal funding, municipal modernization, roads.
 - A new item: Sustainability and Infrastructure funding was next on the list.
- The NSFM was looking at changing its By-Laws, proceeding in the direction of Resolutions. Resolutions include:
 - Sustainability and Infrastructure funding
 - Climate change
 - Municipal responsibilities
 - Surplus
 - Schools

Some of which are already addressed by Provincial legislation, others would be addressed at a later time.

- The By-Law changes was to be discussed at a different special meeting due to the detail and amount of information.
- Minister Lohr spoke with respects to the Marketing levy that will allow municipalities to collect up to 3% on accommodations.
- Service exchange agreements were discussed, the main theme were roads; J-Class roads in particular.
- A lot of discussion/friction regarding taking the HRM charter and changing things on a provincial side.
- PVSC was discussed and the workshops information was emailed to anyone wishing to take part in them. PVSC maintains that it looks at factual and takes a methodical approach.
- HRM was a Climate change initiative winner for their electrified vehicle program. The Town of New Glasgow was also recognized for going net zero on their municipal building.

- The keynote speaker addressed topics pertaining to Leadership which focused on showing compassion, empathy, inclusion and spoke of psychological safety and situational negativity.
- The service exchange agreement was discussed in length; the current negotiations haven't been updated since 1995. The intent is to have something for municipalities to review by April 2023 to give a one (1) year notice for implementations of changes to come into effect April 2024.
- Immediate concerns were the J-class roads and the Municipal Financial Capacity Grant (the Equalization grant). Implications were that Equalization could be doubled until the service exchange agreement was ratified.
- The information and booklet will be scanned and shared with Council.

d) Parking Regulations Review Request (10:14 p.m.)

The report was withdrawn at 10:14 p.m. The report will return at a later meeting.

e) Streetlights with the Crossing (10:14 p.m.)

Councillor B. Morton provided a verbal update to Council regarding concerns that were received from residents in the Crossing pertaining to Streetlights. Some areas have streetlights while other areas do not.

Discussion Points:

- The intent of the report was to gather information, including public input (yes we want them, no we don't want them) and explore and communicate what the financial implications would be for residents if streetlights were added.
- Some lights have been installed, although not under power yet.
- If the intent was for residents within an area pay for an item; a consultation would occur with the community, similar to fire in Kings County.
- Falmouth Clover lane has the only set of area rated streetlights within West Hants. There was no communication with the public outside of "a yes, we'll turn streetlights on". The community accepted it after the fact.
- Information could be gathered through a public meeting (called by the Councillor) or by gauging the public's response by going door to door.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS B. MORTON AND SHERMAN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO INVESTIGATE WHAT THE COST OF STREETLIGHTS AT THE CROSSING WOULD BE AND FURTHER THAT STAFF WORK WITH THE OFFICE ON STRATEGIC LOCATIONS FOR THE LIGHTS. MOTION CARRIED Nays: Jannasch, Hartt and Murley

f) December Meeting Dates for Committee of the Whole and Council meetings (10:25 p.m.)

A discussion of Council resulted in the consensus that the Committee of the Whole meeting will be held 6 p.m., December 6, 2022, and the Council meeting be held December 13th, 2022, at 6 p.m.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS FRANCIS AND SHERMAN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMEND COUNCIL MEET ON THE SIXTH (6TH) FOR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND THIRTEENTH (13TH) FOR COUNCIL. MOTION CARRIED

At 10 p.m. Deputy Mayor P. Morton requested Council input to determine if there was an interest to continue with the meeting or if Council would like to adjourn and continue the next evening.

g) Planning Advisory and Heritage Advisory Committee Member Appointment (10:26 p.m.) Clerk Snair reviewed the report highlighting that the Planning Advisory and Heritage Advisory Committee has received a resignation letter from a recently appointed member resulting in a need to fill the vacancy.

Discussion Points:

- The committee composition identifies that there be two (2) residents from both the former towns of Hantsport and Windsor; as well as three (3) representatives from West Hants. While recognizing the individual would be an exceptional addition to the committee, they do not reside within the Hantsport resulting in the policy not being followed should the recommendation be supported. It was important to follow policy.

MOVED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN AND COUNCILLOR MURLEY THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT PAUL BEAZLEY BE APPOINTED AS A RESIDENT MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2022-2024 TERM. MOTION DEFEATED
Nays: Zebian, P. Morton, Jannasch, Smith, Ivey, S. McLean, Hartt, B. Morton, M. McLean, Sherman, Francis.

Council directed staff to advertise for a resident committee member from the Hantsport area for the PAC/HAC committee.

h) Thermal Imaging Camera Capital Purchase - Over budget Recommendation (10:33 p.m.) Supervisor Thornton reviewed the report highlighting the report requesting approval and funding to replace a thermal imaging camera due to ghosting (blurred imaging) for the Windsor Fire Department. A Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) converts infrared radiation into visible light. These cameras provide the ability to see heat signatures through heavy smoke and see heat inside walls, ceilings, etc. (basically anything that is non-reflective).

Discussion Points:

- The camera was \$6,015.78 over the approved budget. Even with the previously approved items from the last meeting the overall Capital budget for the Windsor Fire Department items remains with the budget.

- There was an incorrect reporting on the numbers within the extrication tools report previously presented. The budget was \$19,000 not \$59,000; something happened in the translation at the previous month. The requirement of the tool should stand on that merit alone was worthy of support from a safety stance.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS SMITH AND MURLEY THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS (TICS) FOR WINDSOR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO THE LOW COMPLIANT QUOTE FROM CUMING'S FIRE & SAFETY EQUIPMENT LTD, AT THE OVER-BUDGET QUOTED PRICE OF \$27,151.00 PLUS APPLICABLE TAXES. MOTION CARRIED

i) Updating the 2022/23 Tax Resolution (10:38 p.m.)

Acting Director Gibson reviewed the report highlighting the 2022/23 Tax Resolution was incorrectly written. On June 2, 2022, the 2022-2023 Taxing Resolution was approved as part of the 2022-2023 budget deliberations. Upon recent review of the resolution, it was determined that an error occurred in the entry of the area rated residential tax rate. In the current approved resolution, the total tax rate by area was included in this section, when it should have shown the area rate only. It was noted that the total tax figure provided in each area was calculated properly in the tax resolution, it was just the area rate figure that was entered incorrectly.

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS FRANCIS AND SHERMAN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE UPDATED 2022-2023 TAXING RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON NOVEMBER 9, 2022. MOTION CARRIED Nays: Ivey

j) Website Redesign and Rebrand Tender Award Over- budget (10:40 p.m.)

Supervisor Thornton reviewed the report highlighting the report to develop a user-friendly website, incorporate the new brand and increase and meet the accessibility standards set by the Provincial for a more accessible Nova Scotia by 2030. The West Hants Regional Municipality Accessibility Plan identified the following two website barriers:

- Difficulty finding items on the Municipality's website if you don't know where to look.
- The Municipality's website can be challenging or impossible to navigate for people with visual impairments.

Discussion Points:

- The Nova Scotia Procurement website was reviewed to determine a value to put into the budget. When the tender closed, and bids were reviewed the quote came in at \$72,846.00 plus applicable taxes (over the budgeted amount).
- Business days were used to calculate the sixty (60) days that were required to award the tender and noted within the report. The tender template does not identify if consecutive calendar days or business days be used to determine the

sixty (60) days. If consecutive calendars days were used, then the date would have been yesterday. There was more of a pricing concern.

- The Accessibility Directorate and the Nova Scotia Communications Department were consulted and have indicated that the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 standard was the latest standard resulting in no required upgrades in the near future. This was the recommendation to meet the municipalities accessibility plan and the Nova Scotia's accessibility goal of 2030.
- The understanding was that the design was only compatible to the website.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR SMITH AND MAYOR ZEBAIN THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE AWARD OF TENDER WHRMAD22-01 FOR THE WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY WEBSITE REDESIGN AND REBRAND, AT THE TENDERED PRICE OF \$72,846.00 PLUS APPLICABLE TAXES TO CUNDARI GROUP LTD. MOTION DEFEATED. Nays: P. Morton, Francis, Murley, Sherman, S. McLean, Hartt, B. Morton, M. McLean, Murley, Ivey, Smith

k) West Hants Sports Complex Ice Resurfacer Decision Request (10:53 p.m.)

Director Kehoe reviewed the report seeking permission to proceed with the procurement of a new ice resurfacer for the West Hants Sports Complex. The existing ice resurfacer was purchased in 2013 from Dalhousie University after it had been used for one year. The recommendation report identified two (2) options as a replacement for the existing machine; a propane ice resurfacer or an electric ice resurfacer for consideration.

Discussion Points:

- A search of the web identified that the electric ice resurfacer battery provided the ability to charge between resurfacings. The batteries are sealed lithium ions that do not require maintenance, are emissions free and carry a life expectancy of 10-12 years.
- The cost associated with each charge was unknown. The current costs associated with propane usage (propane machine and exchange on the tanks) was estimated to be \$2,500 per year.
- Battery replacement costs were not available at the time of the meeting.
- Currently there were no significant issues with the existing machine; however, given the age of the machine and the lead time to purchase a new machine it was recommended to move forward with the purchase. If the machine were to be out of commission the ice facility would be closed.
- The EV resurfacer came with a charger, power would need to be pulled from upstairs plant for usage. It was estimated this would add an additional cost of \$7,500.
- Plans for the existing resurfacer have not been discussed should a new ice resurfacer be approved. A back up facility has potential benefits for both facilities; however, the Newport Rink will be receiving a new ice resurfacer (believed to be propane) next year and there was limited storage.

- A used ice resurfer was not explored.
- There were discussions based on the value from MCCAP's perspective to explore an EV resurfer. The cost benefit analysis did not meet up. There may have been more value in a vehicle that traveled more km compared to an ice resurfer.
- Concern was that a lot of money was going into the rink with more to come. There was a need for additional storage.

MOVED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN AND COUNCILLOR SMITH THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT AN ALLOCATION OF \$110,000 BE PREAPPROVED FOR THE 2023 / 24 WHRM CAPITAL BUDGET TO SUPPORT THE PROCUREMENT AND PURCHASE OF A PROPANE ICE RESURFACER FOR THE WEST HANTS SPORTS COMPLEX WITH THE FUNDING TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE WHRM (CANADA COMMUNITY BUILDING FUND (CCBF) RESERVE. Motion defeated. Nays: Hartt, Sherman, Francis, S. McLean, Ivey and Jannasch

l) REMO – Kings County/West Hants Mutual Aid Agreement Recommendation Report (11:09 p.m.)

Discussion Points:

- As per Section 2.2(c) of the Municipality's Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy; the mandate of the Committee of the Whole is to carry out the duties of the Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee as set forth the Regional Emergency Management By-law of the Municipality.
- Individual resources are inadequate to cope with an emergency. The ability to recognize a timely exchange of information and sharing of resources during an emergency was beneficial. The mutual aid agreement streamlines the process to request assistance.

MOVED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN AND COUNCILLOR FRANCIS THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS COUNCIL APPROVE THE MAYOR AND CLERK SIGN THE REMO – KING COUNTY-WEST HANTS MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT. MOTION CARRIED

12. Public Participation Period – Upwards of 24 viewers with most comments pertaining the Sports Complex Conceptual Design.
13. In-Camera
The In-Camera items were moved up on the agenda and were discussed under Item 7.

MOVED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN AND COUNCILLOR HART TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:10 P.M. MOTION CARRIED

14. Next Meeting Date / Adjournment – Next regular meeting will be November 22, 2022, at 5 p.m.

Mayor Abraham Zebian

Deanna Snair, Exec. Assistant/ Mun. Cl