

# Transcript

**[00:00:00] Warden Smith**

Okay, it's six o'clock and we will call our meeting to order and welcome everyone this evening. Our first item of business is the approval of the agenda for May 13th, 2026. Thank you. It's been moved and seconded. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye. Those who pose no, motion is carried. Next item is the acceptance of the minutes of April 22nd, 2026. Are there any changes required to these minutes? Hearing none, we can accept them as presented. Next item, business arising from the minutes. Anything to come before council this evening? Hearing none, we'll move on to proclamation, Lyme disease month. Whereas Lyme disease is a serious illness caused by the bite of a black legged tick infected with the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*. And whereas black legged ticks carrying a variety of diseases or illnesses can now be found in all parts of Nova Scotia, and whereas awareness, education, and practicing preventative measures such as daily tick checks and proper tick removal can help reduce your chances of contracting tick-borne diseases. Therefore be it resolved that I work in Penny Smith on behalf of the municipality of the District of Shelburn to hereby proclaim May 2026 is Lyme disease awareness month. Moving on, we have one presentation this evening regarding sustainable decalination project proposal and that's onica technologies and I see Mr. Tutic. Yes.

**[00:02:00] Mr. Tutic**

Yes, it's me.

**[00:02:01] Warden Smith**

Hello, and welcome.

**[00:02:04] Mr. Tutic**

Thank you. Thank you, Mrs. Smith. Thank you for having us.

**[00:02:07] Warden Smith**

Yes, so we'll do a round of introductions for you. I'm Penny Smith. I'm the warden for the municipality of Shelburn and Councillor for District 2, which includes communities from Roseway through to Reed's Hill and I'll go to my far left.

**[00:02:25] c. Richardson**

Councillor Dale Richardson and District 7 goes from County line to Loveport.

**[00:02:34] c. Cole**

I'm Ron Cole. I'm from District 6 and that's from East Jordan to Loveport.

**[00:02:46] c. Thorburn**

Hi. So my name is Sherry Thorbener. I'm district three, which is Sandy Point. So that's a peninsula. And I'm down to about 2272. And then district five joins and she'll introduce herself in a minute.

**[00:03:03] CAO**

Sorry, I'm a class studio.

**[00:03:05] c. Thorburn**

Yes.

**[00:03:07] c. Wagner**

Hi, I'm Stephanie Warden, Heidi Wagner. I'm district five. So I'm lower Sandy Point, Jordan Branch, right through to East Jordan.

**[00:03:19] c. Shand**

and I'm Ms. Counselor for District 4, which covers Woodlawn, Ohio, and the Walsh Town area. A cool blade's executive assistant.

**[00:03:31] Warden Smith**

And we do have Counselor Sutherland joining us virtually if she wants to introduce herself as well.

**[00:03:36] c Sutherland**

Hello, Counselor Sutherland, District 1 from Beaver Dam to Redhead Road.

**[00:03:49] Speaker J**

Okay. Thank you.

**[00:03:51] Mr. Tutic**

Nice to meet you all. Thanks, Blot. Yes. And myself, I'm drinking two digits here in Fandra at Onika Technologies, based on a Sherbert Kubik.

**[00:04:00] Warden Smith**

Okay. And welcome in the floor of yours.

**[00:04:03] Mr. Tutic**

Thank you. So I'll jump in and share my screen name, maybe even, maybe even before that. So just some background. So we launched Monika, about 10 years ago, where after traveling for like three years, we discovered the challenges of water scarcity globally. And thinking like Juan Coba, we have like Canada plenty of water resources. So in the past couple of weeks had the chance to exchange with Warren and other folks in the region and seeing that there is visibly some increasing water challenges in the area. So we're glad that we have the chance to meet and discuss and potentially find solutions to get here. With that being said, I'll dive right in. So can you just confirm you can see my screen correctly?

**[00:04:55] Warden Smith**

Yes, we can.

**[00:04:56] Mr. Tutic**

Okay. Awesome. Thank you. So yeah, we're pleased to be here. Really, the idea is to present a sustainable deceleration project to secure a new water source from the ocean without it being the environment. And from what we saw and heard over the past couple of years, water stress has been increasing in the regions really with changing rain patterns and even some residents have to travel to find new water sources sometimes in different districts, towns and areas and especially in the summer where there is more demand for water but at the same time less supply of natural water and it can have also some meaningful impact on both the real estate industries as fisheries, maritime and tourism activity But at the same time, the whole region is run by the ocean. And there is ways to secure water from the ocean without impacting the environment. And at Tuneca, we do it in two different ways. The first way is, maybe some of you have heard about it, it's a wave-powered decalination system. So it's essentially systems that are installed offshore. As the units wobble in the ocean, they actually do a pumping action. that pumps the sea water through reverse osmosis membranes decimated and send it to the coast with another water pipe. And these systems are modular, so we can increase the number of these units to provide a larger amount of water. And essentially providing water to local water distribution and municipalities without creating any greenhouse gas emissions without using any land. And the other environmental aspects, whether it's the sea brand release, water intakes, can also facilitate permitting as well. The second approach is solar power integrated systems that are also modular, but instead of using the motion of the waves, it's actually solar panels with electrical system that also has energy storage control that adapt depending on the natural little bit of sunlight. Also, everything is integrated in one piece, so it doesn't require the grid to operate. And on top of it, we ensure that it is zero-mission, as you can imagine, that it's also safe for marine life, for brand diffusers as well. And it can be really decentralized. So no need to have a really big diesel plant as we see. So this can be adapted to smaller municipalities as well. And essentially for every site, we look at the different availability and factors for which approach is better. And in this context, with the local wave regime, And from our conversation, the solar powered approach is more appropriate in this context, compared to, for example, and the California coast or Tila coast where the wave action is really like three to four times more energy and the wage than there is locally available, making it a more financially interesting approach in this context. In terms of business model, it's really like securing a water source so we take care of everything that is involved in the project from the site evaluation engineering permitting activities to have essentially really the water supply. So on for the municipality, this would mean essentially securing a water volume from Onika for a 10 to 20 year period. And there is also a possibility to buy out the project during that time firm as well. And this enables to secure a long-term water supply without the financial risk to invest in a project and find also different groups to do the commissioning, operation, permitting, and overall really stabilizing that by diversifying the water sources and not being stuck in the last minute to find trucking water or other solutions for much larger amounts. And there is also a potential for a scale of a project, even though we can start a smaller scale, where the price per cubic meter is higher. Over long run, if the municipality likes this approach, the residents are happy there's a possibility to increase the amount of water and reduce the cost of water with that. So by looking at the different size possibilities, at this time, one of the interesting potential side is the admin-adiment drive area. where they could be the installation of the intake awful. And the whole system would fit within a lot that actually could welcome many times over this project's size, so it could be increased over time. The site would produce about 100 cubic meter per day, a bit over in the summertime. And obviously during the months that there is less need or no need that essentially it could be put on pause during that time frame. So just a little walkthrough of what's included in that system. So there is an array of solar panels. These are connected to a battery and energy storage system that is also connected to the main unit. The main unit actually will be receiving the sea water from the ocean. Inside it, there is some pre-trooming of the sea water. There is all the power and control systems that manage the power coming from the sun to what's required to do all the decommission process. There's obviously all the deceleration components, safety systems. There's also post treatment to ensure that the water is portable as well. And the water being produced is sent to a water reservoir. From that water reservoir, it's connected to a meter for all the billing, billing elements. And the system is connected to a water filling station where in this context, people would be able to people or companies would be able to come there, fill their water and bring it to their locations. Just for the water supply, it's not right at the coast, but it would be connected essentially with horizontal drilling or trenching to get water directly from the seawater, and ensure that the brine constitution is diluted enough to have not have any impacts on marine life, so that would be worked out with DFO. And that brings in the sea water to operate the system. And based on the potential scaling of the system, those could be sized in a way that we don't need to redo them if the project is scaled up down the road. For this distribution of the water, there's different systems on the

market that exists. This is one example. This is an example that's actually used in Yarmup. From what we discussed, we can take care of that part as well for the commissioning installation operation. All the payment, though, would be processed and sent back to the municipality. So whenever like the residents will be using it, setting the pricing and all those that would be left to the municipality to decide. But whole all the, except all the financing bar, the maintenance, entering that it's properly operating maintenance. Our team could take care of that at the same time as we take care of the deceleration plant itself. In terms of water volumes, the project is clearly size about the smallest scale that makes sense for this project in doing this whole project. It represents about \$250,000 per year starting from March up to October. There can be some adjustments in terms of the timing of the volumes and commitments. And there is a possibility for a certain ramp up that would be essentially based. There'll be also a tradeoff in terms of duration of the contract. And obviously all the elements can be detailed in a contract. So all these water volumes are essentially a commitment from the municipality for a minimum amount to be bought from our systems. But for Unica, We would be executing all the project, financing it, doing the engineering, doing all the permitting, licensing, installation, commissioning, the distribution, the operation, maintenance of it during this whole time. On a cubic meter basis or on a per liter basis, it represents about one cent per liter for the water. And as we include also the water distribution system within the project, the project initiation fee would include the water distribution system would be about \$95,000. And down the road by scaling the project, that's the biggest driver to reduce the cost of water. That could reduce the cost by over 75% by making a larger project on the road. And this pricing is based on a contract term of 15 years. And it's on the take-or-pay structure. And there's also the possibility for a project buyback that depending if down the road you prefer to buy the whole project and take it over, that can also be negotiated. So what this means in terms of responsible this expenses during the first year, it's about 120 to \$145,000 that would be for the initial initiation fee, the land preparation. There is also some fencing for the water security. And for the water delivered, for that part, it really depends on the timing. There's mainly, we're already in May, something time is advancing. But for permitting, it's a bit uncertain exactly the timing it would, it would be a commission. But this is taken into account, like half the amount of August to the end of the year. be roughly \$65,000, but that would be only based on the water. And within this whole project during the first year, there is a possibility for some of the amounts to be partial payments that would be deferred to the next year if that's a concern. And really hear the objective that we have would be to secure this new water source that is independent from the grid natural rain patterns, long-term essentially the price stays stable just with inflation and really making the municipality more resilient and having a new water source and really diversifying the option to supply water. And on top of it, while securing water, it's also for the environment doesn't compromise the environment. It does exist the soundation system, but those actually generate a lot of Q2 emissions, especially in a place like Nova Scotia, where primer energy source is actually coal, sadly, so this doesn't increase any emissions. And yeah, as we mentioned, really think the One of the elements here is seeing the proactiveness of the municipalities for the residents, seeing that this is also being looked at by the municipality, which we assume would be good positive, well perceived and received by the residents. And in terms of discussion, essentially, we're in terms of steps for us to be able to commit to all these, to start executing the project essentially with the contract in a hand, and with the initiation fees. And with this, we actually can really dive into all the permitting procurement and execution of the project. And to give a order of magnitude for the timing, the goal would be to have something up and running before the end of the year. As we mentioned, one of the question is the permitting aspect in terms of preparation, manufacturing, that's something that would be feasible. But the sooner that first phase can be completed, the sooner we can start. But for sure, be ready for next year's season. But the goal is to start operating this year and be ready to react depending on the water availability locally. So that gives us another idea. And happy to, there's probably many questions in people's mind right now. So happy to expand into any elements that you'd like us to have more details. We're in more clarity.

**[00:17:44] Warden Smith**

Okay, great. Thank you very much for that presentation. I know I have a number of questions. I'm not sure if anyone else does at this point, or I can start with mine or Councillor Sand.

**[00:17:57] c. Shand**

It sounds like a really, really cool product. Really interesting to actually see, like to, will be really interesting to actually watch, get put together and how that actually works. It's very interesting and could be a really great thing for the community. I guess my biggest things are looking at the price tag that comes with it. The \$145,000 for the start-up cost basically for year one. And then one of the slides said about \$250,000 a year. So is that what it would cost us after year one to run it, or is that including the water that would be coming out of it that we would be selling to residents?

**[00:18:33] Mr. Tutic**

So the \$145,000, the main part of it, I'll just share it at the same time, And one of the main aspects typically that the model would be there is just a mobilization fee, which is like going between \$80,000. Then in some cases, the land is already ready to receive the whole system. In this case, that land, there is some land preparation to be able to put the project in that location. So that fee enables to buy prepared at land and also get a water distribution system that normally actually would be something that would be on the client side to take care and buy it for the water distribution. In this context, like we from our conversation, there is a preference to not have the municipality have its own certified operator. So we would be operating the whole system. So to 145,000 includes The water distribution system that will cost roughly between 60,000 to 100,000 depending on the cost of the installation, the size, pumping, and other parameters. And the third part, I'm sorry, was about, there was, yeah, just the site fencing, that's something that can be discussed, but just like make sure the water, there's nobody that can touch the water just because of safety concerns on that. And the following years or from that moment, it's really priced on a per cubic meter basis. And if that part of the water distribution would be on our side, essentially represents about 6% of the water cost increase. Like if there would be no initial cost, the water price would be somewhere between 6% to 10% more expensive. But with this, it actually reduces the price per community, including that water distribution system. And I don't mind going over it again if I made it even more unclear.

**[00:20:47] Warden Smith**

CAO, did you wish to comment on that?

**[00:20:49] CAO**

Yeah, I just wanted to clarify something. So for the 15 years, there have been a charge there for about 250,000 per year. that we paid onica, but on the distribution side, we can recover revenue from what we charge residents to buy the water. So that would offset either all of it or portion of it depending on how you price it.

**[00:21:12] c. Shand**

Yeah. Yeah. Thank you. Okay.

**[00:21:17] Warden Smith**

Okay. Great. I can scratch that off line two because I had \$250,000 there and then the 120 to 145. Thank you for that explanation for that. Councillor Thornton.

**[00:21:31] c. Thorburn**

Thank you. I had the pleasure of attending your session in person in Barrington. And so there's a great deal of complexity to all of this. And given that I had gone to that, it was recently that I was talking to one of the Councillors in Barrington. And I just generally, and I know fully you may not be able to speak to the Barrington model because that's a different contract in a different municipal unit. But I did ask, how's it going? And they were very positive on it and into our CAOs, you know, I guess that's the question mark. How much would there be uptake? Um, in water demand. I mean, it's a, it's a variable obviously because droughts are not, droughts are not predictable, but um, the councilor from Barrington had felt like this was going to pay for itself. Um, so that's a, that's a very general comment. Um, so, you know, money, money always is a big decision maker. It's a most important service going forward in terms of building our resiliency. So typically, is there a way to predict consumer take up on this? It's probably, it's a question mark.

**[00:22:55] Mr. Tutic**

So really, personally, you don't have a crystal ball to say what's going to, but maybe one thing that could be mentioned is that it's hard to foresee a situation where the water natural water supply will improve just by itself. So the trend is really the other way around where rain comes there's a less rain and when it comes it's like really sudden as well. So often what happens like The natural aquifers don't even have enough time to regenerate as they would have been normally witnessed. And that's a pattern that we see in so many places around the globe, even like we're seeing something similar to what happens in California where it's not raining for a while. And suddenly there's really big, really big rain. And it's so much rain that just goes right back in the ocean without having the time to fill the aquifers as it would have been normally filling in the past. decades. So we foresee an increasing demand. And this is the, the idea of this is really diversifying, like obviously there would be still natural water available. But this is one way to diversify the sources of water. And there is, there is some variability in the demand, obviously. There is some, like in terms of the water consumption, like it's focused in the summer, ideally, like the water consumption to fit the worst months possible, like increasing at the beginning of the year and kind of the tail end toward October after October from what we see, there's not, there won't be that much demand. So try to adapt with that uncertainty. And Onika as a company, we take some of that risk by doing the whole project and it's essentially a share uncertainty by both parties.

**[00:24:53] c. Thorburn**

Yeah, thank you. So that's understood. And the productivity is pretty critical and it's nice to have options. Thank you.

**[00:25:03] Warden Smith**

Sure. Thank you. See you.

**[00:25:05] CAO**

Thank you. I do have some data for Council to consider. West Hans sells bulk water to its rural residents. They sell around about last year, 22,000 cubic meters. This model is based on about 26,000. And Yarmouth, I've got the data and leaders, I was just trying to quickly, mentally, trying to do a calculation there. I think it's around about 21 or 22,000 cubic meters. We're in terms of civic addresses compared to less West Hanson. We're about 40% of civic addresses. If you did a calculation, the estimation might be about 8,900 cubic meters. So that the risk in this model is, are we going to be able to get up to 26,000 cubic meters and sell the water to residents to cover the costs? And that is the question mark, the big question mark.

**[00:26:09] Warden Smith**

Yeah, so I think I'm going to jump in now because some of these questions that I have, I think, are really discussing them all together now, which is great. We all have, you know, those concerns or those questions, I guess, on our minds. So, but that was one of the points that I thought had to be made was exactly what the CAO just said. You know, we're talking about different areas. that I mean, we're nowhere near their population or probably their usage. So, so how do we, so one of my questions before that, before that comment was how do we know at this point how large to go with this infrastructure? And so I don't know how small we can start out and then increase or whether that's a possibility or whether you have to go with, you know, this is the size and that's that or

**[00:27:05] Mr. Tutic**

So one of the possibilities that can be discussed, like in terms of the whole project scale, it's pretty much the smallest that it can be to make financial sense. Although one of the possibilities is to have like an increase in the land like first three years or so since it's like starting year one with that full water commitment, we would still be able to produce more, but at least like the commitment on the municipal side to be increasing over the path first like to like one third of first year to third second year and the full amount of third year. And essentially, extending a bit of contract to compensate for that first initial ramp up. So that would be with. The idea behind it would be that the situation is most likely not going to improve so that the water conceptual would increase. So that would kind of upset some of the risk associated with that.

**[00:28:04] Warden Smith**

Right. Because with a lot of projects, the first couple of years, you know, even for people to know what we're offering is, you know, there's a lot of communication that has to happen for that as well. My concern is, I don't want a \$265,000 bill at the end of the year. And there being no uptake on using, you know, utilizing that service that's now there.

**[00:28:31] Mr. Tutic**

And there are some, some other approaches that can be discussed on the contract side. That's a bit like, complicated to detail, but understanding that there is some risk about the water consumption. One of the things, for example, that was discussed with Barrington regarding that approach was in the site location, to be in a location where there is some water distribution already and a larger water consumption area. So actually there is a water distribution and all the excess water is actually redistributed in the network. So actually that There is no water being wasted. It's actually re-injected in the system. So actually it doesn't all come from the ground. It also just supplements a local water supply. So it's made available for a population. And at the same time, any excess water could be distributed to that local infrastructure. So that's one way. So if there is some areas in shell burned that consume a certain amount of water, it could be connected to that area. So any any water that is not used by local population or entrepreneurs distributed in the water, all the rest of the water could be injected in the network as well. And that could actually just diversify the water sources of the water distribution network or industrial user or something like that.

**[00:30:02] Warden Smith**

Okay, and we're looking at it appears that it's about a six-month timeline from start to finish for a project like this.

**[00:30:12] Mr. Tutic**

Yeah, roughly six months, exactly.

**[00:30:14] Warden Smith**

Okay, yeah, and I noted on one of your slides it included a statement regarding marine life and and I think you had mentioned as well that but I guess I'll just ask the question because it was certainly on my mind about whether or not there are any environmental concerns with a project like this.

**[00:30:32] Mr. Tutic**

Yeah so definitely like with deceleration there's different ways that it can be done in some cases to optimize operations you can use really lots of chemicals to maintain the membranes and stuff like that but the way we design it we keep the recovery, meaning the water percentage that goes through the membrane as low as possible. So the brine is not too concentration and salt. The way that the outfalls intake and outfall are made, we ensure that the dilution is quick enough to not impede the marine life. And obviously, like all the emissions that the typical system would be. Sometimes there's a lot of, especially for example, in California or in the environmentally conscious area, there's a lot pushback for deceleration because of all the emissions that it do. The system does not do any of it. Also intakes, the intake must be safe. In this case, like the filtration at the intake is very, very fine. So there's no marine life that gets sucked into the system. And anything related to the permits or concerns about environment essentially, we take over that responsibility. So we'll have to negotiate with Nova Scotia environment and climate change department, for example, for all the permits. And obviously, that's not too pretty environment, but all the health aspects like there is different monitoring that need to be put in place sampling to ensure that the water is safe to drink.

**[00:32:05] Warden Smith**

Okay. And just another question regarding, well, I guess about other municipalities or other areas in the province that you've installed something similar to this size. Do you have examples through this province?

**[00:32:21] Mr. Tutic**

So it's a barrington would be the first one in the area. Right now, we're commissioning two projects. One in Chile and one in California distant with the wave powered systems. And for this solar-based system, we've already fabricated a full system at our headquarters in Canada. That one would be the one that we anticipate be deployed at the barrington site to begin. And we would be manufacturing another one for this project.

**[00:32:51] Warden Smith**

Okay. And my last question again comes down to cost. So how much would we be, how much would it cost for someone to to be filled up, I guess from, you know, someone providing the water source, but what kind of cost would there be for that resident? So we were trying to help as well keeping in mind our most vulnerable and those who can't, you know, potentially can't afford to pay \$150 for a truck to come with some water.

**[00:33:23] Mr. Tutic**

So in a water tote, like in a pickup truck that could last for a few days, it really depends on the consumption of the cows. That would be that the cost of an ECA to municipality would be about \$10, \$9 and 60 and then the municipality could have a price structure that Maybe some people, like the first toe is a certain price, and if somebody takes more of them, like the price increases based on the level of consumption. So the whole structure, we'd lead up to municipality structure, but the cost to the municipality for a cubic meter would be about a little under \$10 for a one cubic meter.

**[00:34:00] Warden Smith**

Yeah. I'm just trying to think realistically, if I were to ask, you know, to get filled out what I'd be looking at for a cost.

**[00:34:08] Mr. Tutic**

Yeah. \$10, but that depends on what the municipality would charge. We'd want to see.

**[00:34:15] CAO**

Yeah, so most of the residents that were picking up water at the Shelton Fire Department last year were using cubic meter totes, which would be probably what they, for this project, most people would be using a cubic meter tote. So if we wanted to break even, we have charged \$10 to fill up a cubic meter.

**[00:34:36] Mr. Tutic**

And saving the gate is also to save a lot of driving time for a population like doing a 40-minute drive. It's quite a long time also for all people doing that. So ideally, have it centrally located in Shelburne. So it's just a quick drive to get there and not save a lot of time and gas. It's probably more expensive for anybody filling out the transport in time more than the water to itself. Thank you.

**[00:35:05] Warden Smith**

Thank you. Council of Chan.

**[00:35:10] c. Shand**

I just have one more question about so if it's a 15 year contract and we know we're paying X amount of dollars for that. So does that include any repairs or anything if anything worth of brain that's covered in that amount or is there is no additional for us?

**[00:35:24] Mr. Tutic**

Yeah there's absolutely no additional costs to do Miss Valley so anything that breaks a solar panel that gets stolen anything that's happening on the system like we're responsible for it. if we need to replace the electrical motors, or there's corrosion on some electrical parts, anything happening, except for measure, like I don't know, earthquake. There's like a cure of six months to take care of that where both parties could break in for measure their obligation temporarily. But anything related to the operation, if we need to replace the intake, whatever We hope we don't, we won't have to do that, but that's all on us.

**[00:36:10] c. Shand**

And what is the expected lifespan of the system? Like is 15 years is the contract you expect that this will last 30 or you expect this will last 15 like?

**[00:36:19] Mr. Tutic**

Yeah, it will most likely last more than 15 years. It could last typically for very large projects. Those contracts were between 20 to 30 years. This is a smaller scale. So perhaps within 15 years, the system will be much better and maybe better upgrading it. Through that 15 years, there will be several components that are changed, whether it's the pumps, the seals, the membranes. A lot of it is repair, replaced over time. There's a certain components that we expect not to be replaced with them, that time frame, for example, the solar panels. And the way that the contract is structured, there is some residual value at the end. So the municipality could by the project at the end. So yeah, the whole system is expected to last longer. So at the very end of the project, either we renew the O&M contract with perhaps lower price per cubic meter after that, or the municipality takes it over and has its own staff operated, for example.

**[00:37:30] Warden Smith**

Okay, thank you. Excellent questions. Any other questions or comments regarding as it sounds, it's a very interesting concept that's for sure. And, and I think you're spot on when you when you mentioned about the drought and the fact that, you know, it's likely not going to get any better as we continue. But we want to be proactive and to consider all the options that there may be available for the municipality to provide a service like this to our residents. So really appreciate your time, your presentation. And if there aren't any other questions from anyone, thank you very much for being with us this evening.

**[00:38:14] Mr. Tutic**

Yeah, thank you so much for having us as well. And we'll remain available for any follow-up questions.

**[00:38:21] Warden Smith**

Okay. Wonderful. Thank you. Take care.

**[00:38:23] Mr. Tutic**

Okay.

**[00:38:27] Warden Smith**

Okay. Very interesting. We're going to move on to recreation and parks. And we have one item for Mr. Dedrick, Community Representative's appointment, Eastern Shelburne County Equity and Anti-Racism Committee. Welcome.

**[00:38:43] Mr. Dedrick**

Good evening. So The we advertised for community representatives with certain members of the public for the equity and tourism committee, and we received four submissions at that time. And so the process that's involved, which is as per the terms of reference. We have what's called the nominating committee. So the council representatives from each of the three units make up that nominating committee. And then also any staff resources that may be involved. So those four submissions were taken to the nominating committee and reviewed. And so that committee made the recommendation to appoint the four individuals. So the town of Shawburn and the town of Walker, a lot of port have both approved these appointments. And so we're the remaining municipal unit. And so those four individuals we have. Louise Delil, Davey Hartley, Catherine Hartley, also known as Cat Hartley, in court lavender. And so, I'll just real briefly go through kind of their information. So this is the information. Essentially, we use an expressive interest form, which has some real general information. But the main part of it was kind of like, why do you want to be involved with the committee kind of give us your reasons? So you just asked for some general information from them. And so Louise Delil, who is the resident of the town of Charlburn. So Louise raised in Charlburn, town of Charlburn, and she has been involved with this type of work with equity and racism, discrimination kind of all her life. And she's been active in numerous organizations. Many listed here at the Black Cultural Society, Southwestern Regional and Provides Network, African Nova Scotian Justice Institute, and you're probably aware of the two local groups seed and CEJ Center for Environmental Justice. She was one of the main founders of both of those, two groups as well. In Louise was also part of our advisory panel for the development of the Equity and Tourism Plan. And so Davey has also he's been a member of the community. I think he was born and raised in Charlburn, but he's been involved with community leadership development work for over 30 years. And he's worked with many organizations like United Front, St. Mary's University, et cetera, where he's been involved with youth initiatives, things of that nature. And he's currently the chair for the Charlburn Community Health Board. And he's kind of like local efforts to support marginalized communities. Davey was also a member of the advisory panel for the plan as well. And then so next up, can't hardly, can't from hardly. Catherine, so in her kind of information, she is the Senate of Black Loyalists. So the work for her is personally meaningful. She really wants to be involved with this type of work to create a real positive change. And she really believes in trying to have open discussions about this type of initiatives. And it seems like she just is very sincere in how she wants to be involved with the committee. And then finally, Cory Lavender, he would be a resident of the municipality as well, who currently lives in Gunning, Colve, originally from Liverpool, but he does have, you know, he's probably back below his family and many ties to Charlottesville County. So his work has been involved with race, identity, African Nova Scotia history, and he's also Here's poetry, mixed identity, black, low list heritage, leads workshops and poetry, and serves on the right as Federation of the Nova Scotia Board. So with the terms of reference, when it comes to community representatives, we're trying to have a diverse number of those, but also representation from the three units. So currently we have a town of Shalvan representation and the rest from the municipality. So currently there is an Italian lawport representative. but also these four individuals are mainly for one equity-deserving group, which is good, which is great. But we are going to make efforts to try to have representation from the other groups, which the nominating committee. We did discuss that, but we felt it was the time to move on with to get the committee started. And then as we move along, we'll do more I guess engagement is trying to get more representation from the other groups on the committee and it just may take a while. So with that being said, so these four individuals are who have been recommended by the nominating committee.

**[00:43:45] Warden Smith**

Okay, thank you very much for that. I think there's a phenomenal amount of knowledge and experience with those community members. And I think we're quite fortunate that they've put their name forward to be on the committee. Councillor Richardson. I'm sorry, Councillor Thorough and Irvine. You may have been first. Okay. Thank you.

**[00:44:08] c. Richardson**

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of District and Shelter approved the appointment of Louise Dalloway's, Dave A. Hartley, Kate Hartley and Corey Lavender as community representatives for the Eastern Shelter and County Equity and Annie Racism Advisory Committee based on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

**[00:44:30] Warden Smith**

Okay, in concern.

**[00:44:31] c. Thorburn**

Second that.

**[00:44:32] Warden Smith**

Thank you. It's been moved and seconded. Any discussion on the motion? All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

**[00:44:41] Speaker J**

Aye.

**[00:44:43] Warden Smith**

Those supposed no motion is carried. Thank you for that. Thank you. We'll now move on to operations and with Ms. Dion. First is the RMRF account write-off.

**[00:44:56] Speaker J**

Welcome.

**[00:45:02] Ms. Dion**

As you know, we made some transitions at our MRF site or our CND site. with a closure April 1 and reopening April 15 and as part of that we spent some time reviewing the accounts at the department and looking at sort of starting everything fresh under the new model and there was one account that was identified as being uncollectable and so the details of that are in the staff report and we're asking the council agree that this is uncollectable and allow us to write it off.

**[00:45:39] Warden Smith**

Okay, thank you for that. There's the prepared motion if someone would like to make that. Deputy Warden.

**[00:45:47] c. Wagner**

Make the motion be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of the District of Shelbourn write off the balance of \$637.12 from the RMRF account, P-A-R-T-001 using the 20 26, 20, 27, shared services bank interest in charges account, GL, 00-29540-000.

**[00:46:14] Warden Smith**

Thank you. Is there a seconder? You have been moved and seconded any discussion on the motion? I have one question about collecting. Is that something that staff reviews on a like a biannual.

**[00:46:32] Ms. Dion**

The collections are done every single month.

**[00:46:34] Warden Smith**

Okay.

**[00:46:35] Ms. Dion**

And and this particular individual was contacted many times and was unable to bring the account to current.

**[00:46:44] Warden Smith**

Okay. Thank you for that. Any other questions or comments? All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye. Aye. Those supposed no motion is carried. Next is the declaration of surplus equipment.

**[00:47:03] Ms. Dion**

We've been working diligently to do a lot of cleaning up around the municipality at our various facilities. And one of the facilities that we've been working very hard on is our public work facility. We currently use that building for a lot of storage for various departments. And we identified that we needed to do some real cleaning up. There were some materials there stored within the site that were either declared as unsafe with our OHNS or they were determined that they were outdated or that we no longer had staff trained to use them because they were from years ago. So with that in mind, we went through and looked at a lot of the equipment said, you know, here are some things that still has potential useful life for someone and even though we don't currently have a use for it perhaps we could put them to tender as a means of cleaning out the space. So that's been identified in the addendum and we're asking the council declare them as surplus and allow the CAO to set a minimum bid and then we will put it out to tender.

**[00:48:18] Warden Smith**

Okay, thank you for that. There's a prepared motion if someone would like to make that.

**[00:48:24] c. Thorburn**

Sure, I'll make that motion. But it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of the District of Shalpern approve the declaration of all items shown in Addendum A, S surplus property, and that Council of the Municipality of the District of Shalpern approved sale by tender with minimum bid set by the CAO, all bids plus HST.

**[00:48:44] Warden Smith**

Do you feel it's been moved and seconded? Any discussion on the motion? All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye. Aye. I suppose no motion is carried. Thank you for that. Next is green cards discussion and I can leave that discussion. So so it was brought to a couple of counselors I guess attention. Just a little bit ago regarding concerns on the municipality's current practice of requiring residents to purchase replacement green cards at their own expense when existing cards become damaged or I guess unusable. So we wanted to have a discussion on whether it would be appropriate for the municipality to explore options, I guess, for some type of a replacement program. So I think Ms. Dionne, you may have some. Yeah, you may be able to speak to that. Right. Perhaps as a council we can we can.

**[00:49:49] Ms. Dion**

I just wanted to give a little bit of background on sort of the reinstatement of the green cart fees. So as you know, we have a new staff member in the waste diversion position. And as part of their training, they have sort of dove into our policies and procedures around everything related to waste. And one of the things that was discovered was that we had an operational internal procedure whereby we charged for green carts and over time. We stopped charging for green carts and we were. giving out a fairly excessive number of green cards. And when we started tracking that properly with the proper forms, we realized that one, that our own solid waste bylaw, which we have asked our shared service partners, the Town of Lockwood, Town of Shelburne, to adopt the same shared services, a solid waste bylaw as us, both of those two municipal units are charging for green cards, yet we were not. And then as well, we have a fee for green cards that is just cost recovery. And so we looked at the data, we looked at what our neighbors were doing, and we said it's not clear to residents if there's different rules within the waste umbrella. So we re-implemented the policy. The internal procedure whereby you charge for a green card. And again, our charge for a green card is cost. There's no markup to the public. It's just the cost that we paid for them. So we did that. We started advertising to the public last fall. Facebook, you know, website. We had a front desk staff put it into their policy and procedure book where they told everyone. And as well, we provided it with our new construction booklet. So when people were coming in to get a permit for a new construction, they were being told, here's your cart. Here's your form for a green cart. And if you're building a brand new house that didn't exist before, you get your one cart to good to go with your new construction. But if you're coming in to replace your cart or because you want to have two or three or four for various reasons, you know, we don't give those out for free. Here's the, here's the form. You fill it out and we charge you for it. We really have not had any real negative feedback. And what I can say to you is that in the fiscal year 2526, we give out 94 green cards. The majority of which were prior to when we implemented the fee. So since implementing the fee at the beginning of January, we have given out 15. So that's five months, a little over five months, 15 cards. So just to put it in perspective, if you were giving out 100 green cards a year, we would be in the thousands of dollars.

**[00:52:55] Warden Smith**

Okay. Thank you for that. I'm sure there'll be questions around here, around the table. I'll start with just a couple that I have. And I guess just making a statement as well that, I guess we want all of our residents to participate in all of our waste diversion programs and green cards aren't cheap. And we don't want people to stop separating their organics because they can't afford to do so. So I just, I just want to put that comment out there. But so the cost right now is how much?

**[00:53:31] Ms. Dion**

Well, we are at a position right now where we do have to order new ones. The cost fluctuates depending on how many you order at once. So when you order in bulk, we could get them within a range of 40 to \$60. But if we order a smaller quantity, like under 500, we would be more closer to the 80 range. Okay.

**[00:53:55] Warden Smith**

And what is the cost to the resident for a 64 plus tax?

**[00:53:59] Ms. Dion**

I think it comes to like 53 and change. I don't have it in front of me, sorry. Yeah, no, that's okay.

**[00:54:04] Warden Smith**

So that's what that's what residents would be is about \$50. Yeah, 50.

**[00:54:09] Ms. Dion**

And that's based on the cost of the carts that we currently have an inventory, not the new cost of purchasing more. Right.

**[00:54:15] Warden Smith**

And is that the same cost that's being charged by the two towns?

**[00:54:19] Ms. Dion**

But I don't know. Okay. Okay. And I believe it's very similar.

**[00:54:26] Warden Smith**

Okay. And the 94 green carts that you mentioned. So how many of those would be for new dwellings?

**[00:54:35] Ms. Dion**

At least 15 because it included the 15 or sorry not 15 for at least three because I have a note from the wasteivers and officer here that there were three given outside in the beginning of the year for new builds. But if we actually looked at the building inspection report and looked at new constructions, we'd be able to yes.

**[00:54:54] Warden Smith**

Yeah. Yeah.

**[00:54:55] Ms. Dion**

And I think we were only going only tracking the new ones since we started charging for them. And what because we were giving them out for free to everyone before. Yeah. So new construction since January 1st, since you've been charging, we've given out three. Right. That I can tell you for sure. Yeah. Yeah.

**[00:55:11] Warden Smith**

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. So that's I guess where my mind was going with that the 94 where they're like. Yeah, you know, 80 for new dwellings and and the rest were because they were damaged and needed to be replaced or maybe the other way around. I don't know. It's trying to get.

**[00:55:27] Ms. Dion**

There would have been. He would be in one. Prior to January 1st based on the numbers in front of me. Right. Because we were only tracking new builds and free ones since January 1st. Right.

**[00:55:37] Warden Smith**

Okay.

**[00:55:38] Ms. Dion**

Great. Thank you for that.

**[00:55:41] Warden Smith**

Uh, deputy warden and then counselor Richardson and then counselor. Cool.

**[00:55:46] c. Wagner**

Um. I have my original green card. It's 30 odd years old, so for somebody to come in and if their card has been damaged or the collectors have broken the lid or something, I feel that if we're enforcing this separation and we're wanting our residents to separate. If the broken card is there, we should be replacing it. It shouldn't come as a cost to the resident. If they're looking for a second green card, by all means, I'm an agreement that they should be charged. If they don't, if somebody's stolen it, we can't prove that, but if they have a broken one and we're replacing it, I feel that it should be replaced at no charge to that resident.

**[00:56:28] Warden Smith**

Okay, thank you. Councillor Richardson.

**[00:56:35] c. Richardson**

Yeah, it's, I certainly understand that there's wear and tear and I do have a lot for somebody that loses one that is broken. I mean, eventually they will break down. The problem I have is generally if it's open, I drive by garbage day and I drive by week later and they're still laying in the ditch or kicking around the rope. So it's an abuse that I think is wide open. If we're going to entertain a replacement, which I would support if it has limitations, I have no problem that you have a green card. If somebody comes in and it's one every five years and of course, then it gets to be a tracking thing and the other problem with that is. I don't feel it's just right that we are going to hand them out when the other two are not in that system. What we have done is when we overhauled garbage collection or what we want to call it, we're supposed to all be on the same page these days. So I do have concerns in doing that. I have sympathy for the breakdown. I know one of my residents had a problem with actually the truck devolving. But that I think was replaced because it was an accident type thing. But so I really have concern to say that we hand them on three because it's not cheap. And people are abusing them. And if you want to abuse it and if you have to pay to replace it, so be it. But if you're abused and it on everybody else is done, I don't think that's right.

**[00:58:36] Warden Smith**

Thank you, thank you for that counselor Richardson and just before counselor cool. I agree with what you're saying. I think if we are if we do staff to explore options for us that there have, you know, there has to be some. parameters, I guess, for that. And one of the things that you had suggested, perhaps, you know, with the one every five years or whatever the case may be, and even what Deputy Warden had said, you know, if someone is coming in and saying they want an extra green card, well, then you pay for that. If you have one, and you want an extra one, you pay for that. That only makes sense. And maybe, as part of that exploration, maybe, and I don't know how we keep the carts that come in, whether some can be refurbished or not? Like, I don't know any of that. But again, I think I just, from those comments, I think it might be, it might be good to at least explore the options and see if there is something that we may be able to do. Because the other thing too, I mean, I know we want to, we want to try to keep in line with, with the other two towns, and that makes sense.

**[00:59:48] Speaker M**

but doesn't the town of children charge a separate amount for garbage collection?

**[00:59:54] Warden Smith**

Yeah, garbage tax and we don't charge that. So I think there are some variables as well just to be considered. Councillor Cool.

**[01:00:03] c. Cole**

I agree with the deputy warden in the sense that I've watched even my own green card when some of the guys come in. I've got mine in the middle of the street. And I found them in the ditch. And I know they've been thrown there by those emptying them. And if they're broken like that, I can't see us not replacing them at a chair. I can't see us charging someone to replace them. But again, if there's like a second or a third, I think we should, if not even just at cost, even add a little to it.

**[01:00:50] Speaker M**

Thank you. Councilor Sutherland has our hand raised.

**[01:00:54] Warden Smith**

Okay, so we'll go to Councilor Sutherland and then Councilor Thorvin and then our CEO. Go ahead, Councilor Sutherland.

**[01:01:04] c Sutherland**

Hi there. Are you agreeing with Councilor Sutherland and Councilor Sutherland? I also got to remember some of these other people who fixed the terms. I can't afford it. I know it doesn't sound like much. About \$46 will be a prescription for them. So that's why I'm trying to strongly believe that they should be replaced with their broken, for a recent community.

**[01:01:29] Warden Smith**

Okay, thank you for that. Councillor Thoroughve and Irvine.

**[01:01:32] c. Thorburn**

Thank you. I think this has already been echoed, but I would just weigh in in support of the sentiments around aligning with our municipal, our neighboring municipal units and. I would certainly leave it to staff in terms of the decision on replacement, but I've seen abuse and I'm going to go on record to tell you that I've got two green cards. I got two green cards because I picked one up on the road and I only use one green card, so I'm happy. I'm serious. I'm happy to donate my green my extra green card so you know when we when we have to pay for things we respect them more and so i you know i would be in favor we don't want to be chucking out 94 hundred green cards free um sensitivity to what what Paula said but um Yeah, we want to eliminate the abuse aspect of cards.

**[01:02:35] Warden Smith**

And I think you do that by having like a state, if we ask council to or staff to explore this, that it would be parameters around that so that you're not coming in every other week asking for a new green card. You get one free one, perhaps in a five year term or whatever. That's just an example putting that out there. CAO, thank you.

**[01:02:55] CAO**

Thank you, Warden. I'd like to express my concern about any kind of tracking system. I don't think it's something that is feasible. I don't, you know, like, for example, if someone sells the house and a new person comes in, and the person that sold the house takes the big car away, you know, it's impossible to track something like that. My advice to Council is if you want to replace broken carts, then just give staff direction replace them, you know, without sort of having a stipulation that you get one every five years and that because that requires tracking. But rather than putting the onus on us to come up with an idea, I'd like to get direction from council today because we need your direction in order for us to go to the two other units to say, this is what our council wants, are you in alignment with this? Because if we come to you with a recommendation, We wouldn't have even talked to the other two units.

**[01:04:01] Warden Smith**

No, but we would be the expectation would be for staff to do the research on it to come up with perhaps different options that we could explore.

**[01:04:09] CAO**

But I don't have a problem at all with charging for an extra bit, right? I think everyone for one I can see here around the table everyone seems to be in agreement with that. But in terms of tracking. Um, let's say replacement bins or broken bins in that. I, you know, I, I'm not in favor of that. I think from an administrator point of view, it would be very difficult to do that. I would like to get direction from council of your okay with the idea of just replace it at our cost or, or at a reduced cost. I don't know.

**[01:04:42] Warden Smith**

I mean, I, I don't know that I would, I, I, Yeah, I'd have to think about that because we, again, we're trying to come up with a way to provide the best service to our residents, but at the same time have those parameters so that there isn't abuse of that. So, so we have to think of some way to do that if we're going to explore this deputy warden and then councilor Richardson.

**[01:05:11] c. Wagner**

I think if they're bringing back a broken ringart, we replace it. If they haven't got one to bring back to get a new one, Then they're yeah buying it.

**[01:05:19] Ms. Dion**

They're they're going to say maybe it's a garbage truck picked it up or someone took it or whatever.

**[01:05:25] c. Wagner**

If we put it out there that the only way that a new that a green card is replaced. Mm hmm. For you charge to them, is it the broken one is returned. Yeah, or a new one.

**[01:05:35] Ms. Dion**

And I just say most people will not put a used green card in their car and not everyone has a truck. So what they'll be doing is they'll be calling our staff and asking for personal door to door service for us to pick up the green card and deliver the new one. That's a huge amount of staff time and gas and resources to deliver a green card. With the new green carts, we have them here at the municipal unit, clean, put together stored in the shed. People just stop in and get one at the front desk. No work on our public works behalf at all, no gas or travel time. They just stop and pick up a clean one and they fit in for a try.

**[01:06:14] Warden Smith**

Yeah, I think years ago what happened is if public works were going to a certain community at a time, they would drop one off on the way or something like that. With that, sometimes in

**[01:06:28] Ms. Dion**

Some of the communities that could be several weeks before someone had a reason to travel that way. And it perhaps became a situation where staff was planning some travel time to drop off carts. To meet expectations of residents when in fact, they may have had some other duties to do in their roles.

**[01:06:52] Warden Smith**

Okay. Councilor Richardson. Oh, sorry. Seeing her, did you? No, okay, you're good. Councilor Richard.

**[01:07:00] c. Richardson**

No, suggestion was exactly what the deputy warden had come up with and on sorry, but the onus, if you have a broken card and you want to replace, then it's up to you to bring it back. I'm not comfortable throwing the door open and saying you get a green card free status. So it would be on the onus to bring it back to the head of our public waste or Rest diversion or whatever and say can you replace this. Yeah, and the oldest is aren't going to be on the resident and they have to take some homes.

**[01:07:36] Warden Smith**

Yeah, and I think that comes back to some accountability as well.

**[01:07:45] Speaker J**

Councilor Jones will and has her hand out. Okay, Councillor Sutherland.

**[01:07:52] c Sutherland**

Yes, I agree that if there has to be on a solo property owner and bring their own green carpet action, be our responsibility. We've agreed to give them a free one, but they think it's going to bring us a couple of us.

**[01:08:05] Warden Smith**

Thank you. Councillor Schand.

**[01:08:08] c. Shand**

I agree as well. If we have a policy that states if you return with a broken one, we replace it and the story. There's no ifs, answer buts, or I can't or I whatever. And the policy is this. And we have something to stand behind. So when you can make a call or resident calls to the waste of urgent coordinate or whatever, the answer is simply, this is what our policy states are not able to bring that to you. I have a policy to back that up.

**[01:08:34] Warden Smith**

Thank you. Any other questions or comments or direction for staff, CAO?

**[01:08:42] CAO**

Okay, so just for clarity sake here. Do we have consensus on the first one being that if you buy or want a second one, you pay for it?

**[01:08:51] Warden Smith**

Absolutely.

**[01:08:52] CAO**

Okay. And then in terms of a broken cart, we have a policy point in place whereby the resident brings it in and they get a replacement for free.



**[01:10:42] Warden Smith**

Yeah, I think if it's internal, it's fine, but it's at the direction of council. Sure. Okay, we're good. Awesome. Thank you for that. Moving on to monthly building report. And that was a wonderful report to see. I think it was five new dwellings for the months of April. Yes. So the number of permits, of course, is down a little bit, but certainly the construction dollar amount is significant. I would suggest for the month of April. So wonderful to see. Any questions or comments on that item? If not, we'll move on to protective services and the remote bylaw first reading and that's Ms. Bell.

**[01:11:32] Speaker J**

Welcome. Good evening.

**[01:11:42] Ms. Bell**

So the origin of this document here in my staff report, this is already the E300 bylaw that was presented in September, I believe. So this was already passed by Council. As discussed here in the staff report, there were some recommendations by the province that we make some changes to the documents. So it aligned with their documentation. These changes have been made and provided for you to review for acceptance.

**[01:12:15] Warden Smith**

Okay, there is a prepared motion. If someone would like to make that please. Stephanie Horton.

**[01:12:24] c. Wagner**

Yeah, it resolved that the council of the municipality of district children is recommended by Reno approved revised by law e-300. Thank you. Is there a seconder? I'll second.

**[01:12:37] Warden Smith**

Thank you. It's been moved and seconded. Any discussion on the motion? I think this one is pretty straightforward for us. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

**[01:12:48] c. Thorburn**

Aye.

**[01:12:49] Warden Smith**

Those opposed no motion is carried. Thank you very much for that. And we'll move on to administration and we just lost our CAO for a moment. So we'll move on to court. Oh, okay.

**[01:13:07] Speaker J**

Thank you. Sorry.

**[01:13:16] Speaker M**

So basically it's just the Joint Services Board Exploration Committee. You guys approved council approved the members of the committee back in October at the council meeting and draft terms of reference have been attached for council to review and approve.

**[01:13:35] Warden Smith**

Thank you very much for that, Nicole. And that's a pretty straightforward terms of reference as well. I don't know if anyone has any questions on it, but there is a prepared motion. If someone would like to make that, Councillor Schand.

**[01:13:50] c. Shand**

We have resolved that the Council of the Municipality of the District of Shelbourne approve the attached joint services board exploration committee terms of reference.

**[01:13:58] Warden Smith**

Thank you. Is there a seconder? A seconder. Thank you. It's been moved and seconded. Any discussion on the motion?

**[01:14:09] Speaker J**

It's a pretty straightforward terms of reference.

**[01:14:14] Warden Smith**

Hearing none, all those in favor of the motion, signify by saying aye. Aye. Those opposed, no. Motion is carried. Okay, moving on to committee reports and warden update. Are there any committee reports to bring forward this evening? Councilor Governing.

**[01:14:34] Speaker M**

You just skipped.

**[01:14:35] Warden Smith**

Yeah. Oh my gosh, I went right through to committee reports and missed the correspondence completely. We have two items under correspondence. First is a thank you letter from the Shelburne and Area Chamber of Commerce. Just always nice to receive. And I know they have an AGM coming up soon. I believe it's June, June 10, which is our council meeting night. Next is the Minister of Municipal Affairs letter notice of provincial actions affecting municipalities. And that was a pretty substantial letter. I think it was five or six pages of changes that we are to expect in the upcoming year, fiscal year. I don't know. The CAO people want it to talk to any of, or speak to any of the items that were included.

**[01:15:34] CAO**

Just at a very high level, all of our directors went through the letter and we did identify a number of the items in there that we believe are going to impact us. All of them were our protective services. So fire services, RCMP, and there was one other forgotten one.

**[01:15:53] Warden Smith**

Traffic control as well, or traffic authority or something that I believe. It basically all comes down to that.

**[01:15:59] CAO**

The challenge for us is We don't know what the cost implications are going to be because they haven't given us any any information on what that could be. I mean, there's been hints. I mean, for example, when you were at the at the recent conference, there was hints that the RCMP might be actually cheaper. But they haven't given us any numbers. So it's hard to say.

**[01:16:25] Warden Smith**

Yeah. And if I remember correctly, and a number of the other counselors were had attended that conference as well, I believe we were supposed to hear something back from the minister October 1st. Yeah. And he did signal that. We were going to be happy. Yeah, yeah, he did. He did state that a couple of times, but he didn't elaborate on that. So we really don't know. And there's a long ways for you know. time between now and October. So, and of course, some of these items that are listed here in the letter by the minister, you know, they're probably impact municipalities in different ways as well. So, I guess it's kind of a wait and see at this point, but just to the CAO's point, you know, there's many issues outlined in this letter that we're going to have to be, I guess, on top of the next year. Okay, now we can move on to committee reports and warden update. reports to discuss at Councilor Thorvin Irvine.

**[01:17:36] c. Thorburn**

Just one, there was an NRKAN climate adaptation, inter-municipal learning session today through Zoom, led by Emily Cohen, and so Matt DeLorm from AIMW Network and other speakers. We're discussing projects that have been successful in the public sphere and the Mahon Bay vegetative front in front of the three churches. It was a successful example of that. So there was a few of those discussed. There was discussions on risks, for example, into any municipal unit as our election cycles, you know, inevitably occur the drop in initiative on these kinds of projects. How do you bridge between election cycles, etc. So it was all very good. And of course, it's not this group, but it's the other group with that's led by Molly with Shelburne and Barrington. leading toward public engagement on our climate file. So it was a good meeting and the next one is in June, June 17. And NSFM conference was excellent.

**[01:18:51] Speaker ?**

Yeah. Yeah.

**[01:18:56] c. Wagner**

So we attended the NSF conference and it was very good. I enjoyed listening to the deputy minister, but the place services and that's what I think that was really good. We did meet last night with the economic growth committee and that was a really great meeting. We will not be meeting in June, but we'll meet again in July. I'm sure that the warden will give a little more thorough update in her correspondence.

**[01:19:26] Warden Smith**

Councillor Richardson, thank you.

**[01:19:29] c. Richardson**

also participated in the NSF and conference. I guess it would be the time to say that the speakers are very good communicators. It's not often that you have people in that position that they have the knowledge and sometimes can't communicate it to the public that I think is a great presentation by all those participated. Also participated in the economic development committee last night.

**[01:20:08] Warden Smith**

Councilor Shand.

**[01:20:10] c. Shand**

I attended the Shelby County Arena, so she is your meeting, which was they're reviewing the budget to present to council for years. Are they getting that ready? And I also attended the conference, which I have to say was very engaging, very glad I had an opportunity to go. Walked away a lot more dollars than when I walked in and very much looking forward to the next one.

**[01:20:33] Warden Smith**

Thank you. Okay, so back on April 24th, Friday, April 24th, I attended the youth summit at the NSCC in Yarmouth. which was just an absolutely fantastic opportunity to listen to our high school students and to get their views. And I was just so impressed with their knowledge of local events and they were so engaging and just and very candid, but just so open to have that conversation. And I know other elected officials who attended they really felt the same way. They couldn't believe just how engaged they were and the desire to be part of the decision making and shaping the community really is what come out of it. So I think they I think they have a great deal to contribute to the conversation moving forward. And I hope that we find ways to support and empower them to ensure that their voices are being heard. Excuse me. And on April 28th, I delivered smile cookies with Mayor Tanny and with staff from both the town and municipality. And as others have already mentioned, I attended the NSF and conference as well with the deputy warden. and councillors Richardson, Thorger Irvine and Chan. And I think Councillor Richardson's points were spot on. The deputy ministers and the ministers who were there were wonderful communicators. And I think they had all of our attention who were in that room for that day. And all of the slide presentations are on the NSF website for those who want to have a review of them. There's a lot of information that was contained in them. And so they talked about, so just some of the highlights, I guess. So were the municipal success stories. There were updates from the Department of Communities Culture, Tourism and Heritage. There was a very interesting session on West Hand's Drone Program and updates, of course, from the Department of Emergency Management, Environment, Climate, and Resource Development and the Nova Scotia Policing Review. And we've already made mention about Minister Armstrong making a comment a couple of times about the October 1st date and that Council The municipalities would be happy to hear from him at that point. So we'll see what that means. And out of all of the slides that were presented, there was one that really stuck with me. And that was the one regarding the summer 2026 weather outlook. And what was written there and I wrote it out was As of April 2026, about 24% of Nova Scotia is classified as being in drought, with an additional 46% considered abnormally dry. Conditions are most pronounced across large parts of southern and central Nova Scotia. Dry conditions require, of course, all of us to remain vigilant. Take precautions to prevent fires and support ongoing efforts to address drought conditions. So as I said that that slide really just stood out for me for us with everything that we've gone through in previous years. And then, of course, at our last evening, we had the economic growth meeting. And there was discussion on the Hart's Point Informer Boy School properties as well as surplus lands. And our CAO gave an amalgamation steering committee update as well. And the economic growth committee's next meeting will be July 14th. Okay. It is now 724. I could have a motion, please, to go and camera.

**[01:24:52] Speaker J**

I move it.

**[01:24:53] Warden Smith**

Thank you. Thank you. It's been moved and seconded. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

**[01:25:04] Ms. Bell**

Aye.

**[01:25:05] Warden Smith**

Those supposed no motion is carried. So we need a motion to go out of in camera. All right. At 836. Is there a seconder? Thank you. It's been moved and seconded. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

**[01:25:24] c. Wagner**

Aye.

**[01:25:26] Warden Smith**

Those supposed no motion is carried. It is 836 and we shall adjourn our meeting for this evening. Thank you everyone.

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**Speaker Summary**

