



**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
September 7, 2023**

PRESENT: Councillor Tony Mancini, Chair  
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Vice Chair  
Deputy Mayor Sam Austin  
Councillor Kathryn Morse  
Councillor Iona Stoddard  
Councillor Pam Lovelace

STAFF: John MacPherson, Executive Director, Fleet, Property and Environment  
Josh Judah, Solicitor  
Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., and adjourned at 2:50 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 6, 2023 and July 6, 2023**

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

**THAT the minutes of April 6, 2023 and July 6, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

**8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**10.1 Correspondence**

Correspondence was received and circulated for Item 13.1.1.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

**10.2 Petitions – None**

**10.3 Presentations**

**10.3.1 Nova Scotia Power – Proposed Grid-Scale Battery Project in the Spider Lake Area**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Request to present from Susan Smith
- Presentation dated September 7, 2023

Susan Smith and Debra McLellan gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

### **10.3.2 Ecology Action Centre – United National Convention on Biological Diversity**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Request to present from Karen McKendry
- Presentation dated September 7, 2023

Karen McKendry gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

## **11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Alan Joyce, Fall River** spoke to protecting biodiversity in Lake Thomas and the Shubenacadie waterway. Joyce noted the no-net phosphorus rule and history of collaboration with the Municipality on developing a plan for Districts 14 and 16, which included future land-use plans and land use by-law 14G81C, related to the no-net phosphorus rule. Joyce spoke to concerns regarding collaboration between the Municipality and the Province and noted the Municipality should uphold their by-laws. Joyce requested more transparency in by-law changes and a way to monitor phosphorus entering the lakes.

**Dave Hawboldt, Fall River** spoke to filing an appeal against the Carr Farm development and ongoing community engagement. Hawboldt noted changes with the development, lack of transparency and accountability regarding the sewage treatment plant and pipes in the lake. Hawboldt suggested more transparency would have allowed for further community engagement. Hawboldt highlighted three current systems running into Lake Thomas and the Carr Farm development would be the fourth. Hawboldt noted a previous Freedom of Information Protection of Privacy request to obtain information regarding a private company running sewage into the lake. Hawboldt responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding the no-net phosphorus rule and the Carr Farm development not abiding by the Municipal standards.

**Elaine Blanchard, Fall River** spoke to living on Thomas Drive and receiving water supply from Lake Thomas, which was treated through a community system. Blanchard spoke to supporting affordable seniors housing but lack of community engagement and transparency regarding pipes and materials entering the lake. Blanchard highlighted concerns regarding the potential implications of the system breaking, noting the health and financial implications. Blanchard emphasized an online petition in support of the community.

## **12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **13. REPORTS**

### **13.1 STAFF**

#### **13.1.1 Current Policies for the River-Lakes Secondary Plan – Update**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Extract of July 6, 2023 Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee draft minutes
- Staff presentation dated September 7, 2023
- Correspondence from Colleen Menard

Erin MacIntyre, Director, Development Services gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

## **14. MOTIONS – NONE**

## **15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

### **15.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – April 6, 2023**

**Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee  
Minutes  
September 7, 2023**

The matter was dealt with in public:

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of April 6, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – November 2, 2023**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Catie Campbell  
Legislative Assistant