

Request for Agenda Item

Date of Committee of the Whole Council Meeting: November 12th or November 19th

(Requests must be submitted to the Municipal Clerk's Office by end of day on the Wednesday before the meeting)

Subject: Live Stream Committee of the Whole Meetings

Motion to be Considered: Be it recommended to Council that all Committee of the Whole Meetings of Council be live-streamed, commencing as of January 2025.

Reason:

Whereas, most public business gets vetted and discussed at Committee of the Whole;

Whereas, Committee of the Whole meetings are where most presentations, processes and decisions around public business unfolds;

Whereas, all Committee of the Whole meetings are already open to those from the public empowered with an ability to attend in person;

Whereas, there are persons for whom Committee of the Whole meetings are not currently accessible due to various factors beyond their own control, including but not limited to physical impairment, lack of transportation, or inclement weather;

Whereas, live-streaming removes most barriers for residents who may choose to attend Committee of the Whole meetings virtually, but who may not otherwise be able to do so;

Whereas, live-streaming promotes inclusivity and empowers all citizens to enjoy equal access to Council's decision-making processes and outcomes;

Whereas, the Provincial Code of Conduct for elected officials includes governance standards which promote openness, transparency, and accountability in the execution of Council duties;

Whereas, our Municipal Strategic Plan (Section 4:4) underscores the importance of transparency and was crafted with the intent to consider live-streaming Committee meetings;



Whereas, the majority of Municipal Government entities within South West Nova Scotia already offer live-streaming opportunities for their citizens;

Therefore, be it resolved that all Committee of the Whole Meetings of Council be livestreamed, commencing as of January 2025.

Name: Warden Shaun Hatfield

Date: November 6, 2024