

Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

---

## KEY STRATEGIC AREAS

### 1. Growing our Economy

#### *3.1 Attract Accommodations*

We continue to facilitate discussions between a hotel management and development company and a local developer in the hopes of increasing the number of accommodations in the Municipality.

#### *3.2 Invest in our Beaches and Parks*

In the past month, we have reviewed our Beaches Strategy and its outstanding objectives. Based on this review, staff has developed a plan for the next 12 months which includes restarting regular meetings with our Beach Resource Team, continuing our stewardship work through a partnership with Birds Canada on the Beach Ambassador program and continuing our efforts on making Stoney Island an accessible beach.

In addition to this work, the draft budget currently includes wells for Stoney Island and North East Point beaches and power at Stoney Island Beach.

#### *3.3 Improved Cell Service*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *3.4 Municipal Property Development*

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### *3.5 Renewable Energy*

Nothing new to report at this time.

### 2. Investing in our People

#### *2.1 Community Health Centre*

The RFP for architect services to undertake the next phase of work for a Community Health Centre was published on Thursday, March 16. The link to the RFP is the following:  
<https://procurement-portal.novascotia.ca/tenders/MODB2305>.

Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

---

### *2.2 Doctor Recruitment & Retention*

On Sunday, March 26, we participated in a Family Medicine Interest Group weekend activity. The Group spent some time touring Yarmouth and the Regional Hospital and we were able to chat with the students on Sunday morning over coffee and treats that we supplied from Salty Shores Café. Other recruitment activities are being planned for the summer.

### *2.3 Public Transit*

Nothing new to report at this time.

## **3. Strengthening our Communities**

### *3.1 Infrastructure Renewal*

On March 17, we shared in the incredible news that the Government of Nova Scotia is investing \$6 million investment in our Recreation Centre project.

Our architects are working on drafting the contract documents, which they hope will be done by the end of May, so that we can tender for construction in June.

During the build phase, we will be engaging with both current and potential users of the facility on what programming and uses of the space they envision. While existing users are easy to target and get feedback from, we need to explore ways to hear from those potential users. We plan to use the existing facility to create drop-in programming for seniors and preschool aged youth (2 underserved populations) in the next year to improve services now and with the new recreation spaces.

With this funding comes some expectation from the Province that the Municipality will further enhance recreation spaces and facilities to better serve its residents. We are looking to make accessibility and safety improvements to the arena and utilize the facility much more in the off season. We also need to move forward with recommendations to improve the Sherose Island Trail, especially a boardwalk section to make the trail accessible and safe.

### *3.2 Housing*

A Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking development proposals from qualified firms or individuals for the opportunity to purchase and develop a portion of municipally owned properties along Highway 3 in Barrington Passage (PID# 80051063 and 82569138) was issued for a second time in

Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

---

January. The deadline to submit proposals was March 2 and we unfortunately did not receive any proposals.

We will now be soliciting interested developers to see if we can garner any interest in developing housing on that property.

*3.3 Improved Wastewater Services*

Nothing new to report at this time.

*3.4 Accessibility*

Nothing new to report at this time.

*3.5 Diversity and Inclusion*

Nothing new to report at this time.

**4. Operating Efficiently**

*4.1 Develop an Employee Retention Program*

Nothing new to report at this time.

*4.2 Create an Economic Development Office*

Nothing new to report at this time.

*4.3 Consider the Expansion of the C&D Site*

Nothing new to report at this time.

*4.4 Transparency*

Nothing new to report at this time.

**5. Keeping Barrington Moving**

*5.1 Enhance Recreation Programs*

Nothing new to report at this time.

*5.2 Sherose Island Recreation Complex Strategy*

Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

---

Nothing new to report at this time.

*5.3 Increase the Number of Outdoor Spaces Strategy*

Nothing new to report at this time.

*5.4 Trail Expansion*

The Sherose Island Nature Trail saw 523 people in the month of February. The highest single day was 76 on February 19, which was on a Sunday and the day before the Heritage Day holiday. We had a story trail set up to celebrate. We have now had the trail tracker for one year. In February 2022, we had 525 people on the trail.

*5.5 Sidewalk Expansion*

Nothing new to report at this time.

Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

---

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FROM FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> TO MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

### **TOPICS**

#### **Budget**

The budget has been one of the main priorities in the last three months. Council has completed its review of the first draft of the operating and capital budgets and will be discussing the second draft next month. A final draft of the budgets will include the feedback received during these meetings and we are hopeful it will be approved at the end of April.

#### **Complaint Handling System**

It has been a year since we've launched our complaints handling system. Our "Helpdesk" has helped us streamline the complaint process through a cloud-based app which allows the public to submit complaints online. A public page that includes a form is available for residents to report problems 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from any device and location. Internally, Staff and Council will have access to an internal application (authorized access only) to manage the complaints/inquiries.

To provide an overview of the data associated with our first year of usage, we've prepared a "2022-2023 Complaints Report", which can be viewed here: <https://barringtonmunicipality-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/p/cfrotten/EZQKCQIZn2BlmT4WVaGzOKcBRdbDYr4bg9oas7FXhS-tCw?e=TcazTz>.

A reminder that residents can report problems by visiting our website and clicking on "Report a Problem" on our homepage or by visiting <https://helpdesk.barringtonmunicipality.com/report>.

#### **Recreation Programming**

Nomination forms have gone out to community groups for volunteer week recognition (April 16-22). We will be hosting a volunteer recognition celebration in partnership with the Town of Clark's Harbour.

March Break activities were well attended, and feedback indicates we need an adult version of some youth activities. Watch for a mystery Tea Party again soon!

Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

---

We are starting to work on our summer program plans including recreation activities and aquatics scheduling. There is some work being done regionally to “reimagine” day camp and you will not see us use this term for any programming this summer. On the aquatics side, we will begin developing a swimming team. We really need community volunteers to make this sustainable year after year but it is of great value internally because it keeps kids in the water longer and more likely to train as aquatic staff.

We received \$1,876.63 from Recreation Nova Scotia to purchase recreational skates to be loaned out of the arena. These skates will be available to be borrowed for all municipal residents. These skates will benefit international students, and low-income families who do not have skates.

The 8-hole disc golf course is set up around Sherose Island. We set up the course during the March break and the Department will plan a disc golf workshop in the near future.

#### **Building Permits & By-Law Enforcement**

From February 12 to March 18, 15 permits were issued for a total value of \$2,745,000. This is an increase of \$370,795 compared to the same period last year. 55 building inspections along with two fire inspections and three fire re-inspections were carried out during this period.

Six new civic number was issued and two civic numbers were deleted as the structures were demolished. Eight homes or businesses were visited to discuss civic numbering.

We received three new subdivision application and sent one for registration. We presently have four outstanding subdivisions that we continue to work on.

Four new by-law complaints were received and four were resolved. This leaves us with three open complaints that we continue to work on.

Finally, we continue to develop our new e-permitting software. We are currently tweaking the system and we hope to have it implemented at some point this year.

#### **Fire Services & Emergency Management**

WHSH’s hall renovations are progressing.

Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

Our Coordinator completed a level 2 course with 5 students, taught a 1 Officer course but had to reschedule another due to poor weather and has scheduled various courses for the coming year; including an instructor course for the summer which currently has 10 students registered. This course will give us more resources to draw from when doing training.

On the EMO front, our Coordinator is working to get folks registered for various EMO training courses scheduled for April, held an EMO Planning Committee Meeting and attended a regional exercise planning meeting. The regional exercise is being facilitated by the EMONS and will be in the Counties of Queens and Shelburne.

Otherwise, our Coordinator continues to help fire departments develop their budgets, to monitor COVID-19 updates from the province and EMONS and performed monthly fire and life safety inspections.

This past February, the Fire Departments responded to 20 calls, compared to 23 in February 2022. Here is the data for this past month:

<b>BARRINGTON MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE</b>							
<b>EMERGENCY CALLS February 2023</b>							
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>Fire</b>	<b>Mut</b>	<b>Auto</b>	<b>MFR</b>	<b>MVC</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
		<b>Aid</b>	<b>Aid</b>				
Barrington/Port La Tour FD	2		1			1	<b>4</b>
Island Barrington Passage FD	2				2	1	<b>5</b>
Woods Harbour/Shag Harbour FD		1	1	7	1	1	<b>11</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>
B/PLT - 2 chimney fire							
IBP - microwave fire, 1 Structure fire							
WH/SH-							



Staff Report  
March 28, 2023

**CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE**

Here is an update on our 2022-2023 Capital Projects:

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Status</b>
2	Arena Rubber Flooring Dressing Rooms	In Progress
7	Admin Office Parking Lot Resurface & Curbs	In Progress
9	Healthcare Centre	In Progress
10	Recreation Centre (21/22)	In Progress
13	Municipal Admin Building Accessibility (21/22)	In Progress
1	Barrington Ballfield Aluminum Seating	Completed
3	Stoney Island Accessible Mats & Wheelchairs	Completed
4	Property Services 3/4 Ton Truck	Completed
5	Property Services Equipment	Completed
6	Solar Speed Sign	Completed
8	Council AV System	Completed
11	Brass Hill Clarifier & Screens (21/22)	Completed
12	Landfill Truck Scale (21/22)	Completed
14	Property Services Building (21/22)	Completed

