

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANNAPOLIS POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION MANUAL		122
Section Procedure & Organization of Council	Subject Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committees	

GENERAL

1. This policy is entitled “*Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committees Policy.*”

AUTHORITY FOR POLICY

2. Sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 44, 200 and 345 *Municipal Government Act*, as amended

DEFINITIONS

3. Unless otherwise defined below, terms used in this policy shall have the same meanings as those defined in the *Municipal Government Act*.

PROVISIONS

4. From time to time Municipal Council may establish an Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committee with a specific purpose and mandate as deemed necessary and advisable to provide input on matters of timely consideration.
5. Such a committee shall be for a limited time period, not exceeding one year, as per its mandate determined by Municipal Council.
6. Except as otherwise determined by statute, bylaw or policy, every person shall be eligible to be appointed as a citizen member of an Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committee who meets the qualifications of *Policy 121 Citizen Appointments to Committees*.
7. Membership criteria may vary at the discretion of Council. (*Section 26 MGA*).
8. Ad hoc citizen advisory committees shall not be entitled to remuneration but will be reimbursed for travel expenses for up to two meetings per month at such rate as may be prescribed by municipal council in county policies.
9. Municipal Council may replace at any time committee members who resign or who, in Council’s opinion, are unable or unwilling to discharge their duties.
10. Except to the extent that the chair is otherwise determined by statute, bylaw or policy, municipal council may appoint a person to serve as chair of the committee, after seeking the advice of the Nominating Committee.
11. If Municipal Council does not appoint a chair, the committee shall elect a chair from one of its members.
12. The chair shall be entitled to speak and to vote on any motion. Subject to the other provisions of this policy, the chair shall have the same powers and responsibilities at committee meetings that are conferred upon the chair at municipal council meetings pursuant to *Policy 116 Committees of Council and Council Meeting Procedures*, with any necessary modifications for context.

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13. Except to the extent that the secretary is otherwise determined by bylaw or policy, the Chief Administrative Officer or his / her designate may appoint an employee of the County to serve as Secretary, with a voice but no vote.
14. If the Chief Administrative Officer or his/her designate does not appoint a secretary, the committee shall elect a secretary from one of its members, in which event the Secretary shall be a full voting member of the committee.
15. The secretary shall keep minutes of the committee meetings and ensure that the Municipal Clerk is provided with a signed copy of all approved minutes which are signed by the chairperson and recording secretary.
16. The committee shall meet at such time and place which it sets at a preceding meeting or at such other time and place as the Municipal Council, the Committee's Secretary, the Committee's Chair or a quorum of committee members may set by providing notice of meeting to all committee members at least 5 business days in advance.
17. The Secretary shall provide notice of meetings to the public by posting a "Notice of Committee Meeting" containing the time, date and place at the Administration Offices in Annapolis Royal and Middleton.
18. Subject to any resolution of municipal council, the resources which may be utilized by the committee include:
 - (1) advice and support of the Chief Administrative Officer OR the Municipal Clerk or his or her designate;
 - (2) use of the county's facilities and supplies for meetings, arranged through the Secretary or the Municipal Clerk;
 - (3) such other resources as may reasonably be required, by arrangement through the CAO.
19. All meetings minutes, and records of the committee shall be open to the public except as expressly authorized by law.
20. The committee may meet in closed session to discuss matters relating to:
 - acquisition, sale, lease and security of municipal property;
 - setting a minimum price to be accepted by the municipality at a tax sale;
 - personnel matters;
 - labour relations;
 - contract negotiations;
 - litigation or potential litigation;
 - legal advice eligible for solicitor-client privilege; and
 - public security.

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21. No decision shall be made in closed session except a decision concerning procedural matters.
22. A quorum of the committee shall be a majority (more than half) of the members appointed by Municipal Council at the time the meeting occurred.
23. A committee member who, without leave of the committee, is absent from three consecutive regular meetings, ceases to be a member (Subsection 25(1), MGA).
24. The secretary shall ensure that the Municipal Clerk is apprised immediately of any such circumstances which create a vacancy on any committee.
25. A committee may make recommendations to Municipal Council regarding the allocation or expenditure of funds but no committee shall have the power to expend funds (*Sub-section 23 (c) MGA*).
26. Subject to the other provisions of this policy, the rules of procedure, conduct and debate pursuant to *Policy 116 Committees of Council and Council Meeting Procedures* apply at committee meetings with any necessary modifications for context, except that no notices of reconsideration shall be permitted at committee meetings.
27. In the event the committee fails to provide a report or recommendation to municipal council within any set deadline established by the council, municipal council may proceed with a decision regarding a matter within the committee's mandate without awaiting the committee report or recommendation.
28. *AM-1.3.6 Advisory Committees and Boards Policy* is hereby repealed.
29. *AM-1.3.6.1 Ad Hoc Citizen Advisory Committees Policy*, approved on April 20, 2021, is hereby repealed.

Municipal Clerk's Annotation for Official Policy Book	
I certify that this policy was adopted by Municipal Council as indicated below:	
<i>Seven (7) Day Notice</i>	November 12, 2024
<i>Council Approval</i>	November 19, 2024
<i>Chris McNeill</i>	<u>November 20, 2024</u>
Chief Administrative Officer	Date
<i>At Annapolis Royal Nova Scotia</i>	