



**EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 25, 2023**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage, Chair
Deputy Mayor Sam Austin, Vice Chair
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Waye Mason
Councillor Patty Cuttell
Councillor Paul Russell

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer
Martin Ward, Acting Municipal Solicitor
Krista Vining, Acting Deputy Clerk
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.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., and Committee adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.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 – June 26, 2023

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Austin, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the minutes of June 26, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- Private and Confidential Information Items 1. Private and Confidential In Camera (In Private) Information Report – re: PERSONNEL MATTER

Deletions: None

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

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 – None

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation – None

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Savage noted there were no registered speakers and called three times for any other members of the public wishing to speak; there were none.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 2024/25 Strategic Business Planning and Budget Process

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 14, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Cuttall

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the 2024/25 Business Planning and Budget Schedule as outlined in the staff report dated September 14, 2023.

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer and Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT Table 1 of the staff report dated September 14, 2023 be amended to remove February 16, 2024 from the 2024/25 Business Planning and Budget Schedule.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Cuttall

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the 2024/25 Business Planning and Budget Schedule, as amended, as outlined in the staff report dated September 14, 2023.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 2024 Halifax Regional Council Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 19, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Cuttall

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve the proposed 2024 Regional Council meeting schedule as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated September 19, 2023; and**
- 2. Direct, in accordance with Administrative Order One, Appendix A, Subsection 2(1), that if the only business for Regional Council listed on the agenda for the meeting is one or more Public Hearings, then the public hearing shall be advertised to commence at 5:00 p.m. rather than 6:00 pm.**

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee

As provided for in section 90 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the motion was separated for voting purposes.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Cuttall

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve the proposed 2024 Regional Council meeting schedule as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated September 19, 2023; and**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 2. Direct, in accordance with Administrative Order One, Appendix A, Subsection 2(1), that if the only business for Regional Council listed on the agenda for the meeting is one or more Public Hearings, then the public hearing shall be advertised to commence at 5:00 p.m. rather than 6:00 pm.**

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

13.1.3 Councillor Appointments to Halifax Water Board of Commissioners

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 13, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the Executive Standing Committee nominate two (2) Councillors to the Halifax Water Board of Commissioners, for a term to the end of the Council term.

April Doucette, Public Appointments Coordinator and Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the Executive Standing Committee refer Item 13.1.3 Councillor Appointments to Halifax Water Board of Commissioners to Halifax Regional Council.

MOTION TO REFER PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.4 Amendments By-law C-1100, *The Campaign Finance By-Law*

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 19, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Austin

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt By-law C-1102, amending By-law C-1100, the Campaign Financing By-law, as set out in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated September 19, 2023; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to conduct a review of the Campaign Finance By-law that considers inflation for the amount of campaign contribution and the maximum spending limits and that the review be completed prior to January 1 of an election year.**

Derk Slaunwhite, Senior Solicitor and Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Executive Standing Committee amend subclause 2(l)(i) of Attachment 1 of the staff report dated September 19, 2023 by striking out ‘a Spouse’ from definition of Individual.

MOVED Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT Item 13.1.4 Amendments By-law C-1100, The Campaign Finance By-Law be deferred to a future meeting of Executive standing Committee and the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to provide a supplementary staff report to include:

- **Contribution limits per election;**
- **Reduce the maximum contribution of spouse to match the maximum total contribution;**
- **Amend subclause 2(l)(i) By-law C-1100, the *Campaign Finance By-Law* by striking out ‘a Spouse’ from definition of Individual; and**
- **Review the utilization of the word spouse throughout the By-law, for the perspective of reducing barriers/promoting equity.**

Martin Ward, Acting Municipal Solicitor and Cathie O’Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Mayor Savage stepped down from the Chair and Deputy Mayor Austin assumed the Chair.

MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

15.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – June 26, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of June 26, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 23, 2023

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Catie Campbell
Legislative Assistant