



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
June 6, 2023**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Sam Austin
Councillors: Cathy Deagle Gammon
David Hendsbee
Becky Kent
Trish Purdy
Tony Mancini
Waye Mason
Shawn Cleary
Patty Cuttell
Iona Stoddard
Pam Lovelace
Lisa Blackburn
Paul Russell
Tim Outhit

REGRETS: Councillors: Lindell Smith
Kathryn Morse

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer
Karen MacDonald, Solicitor III
Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk
Dorothy Maponga, 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 6:01 p.m., and Council adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 6:01 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. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mayor Savage, District 13 Councillor Lovelace Officer Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer spoke on the recent wildfires in the HRM. Mayor Savage noted that the wildfire led to largest evacuation in the history of the Municipality, devastating neighborhoods and destroying and damaging over 150 homes. Mayor Savage highlighted that the Municipality is currently moving from the fire response phase to recovery efforts and thanked all those involved in each phase. O'Toole highlighted that there was currently no information on the financial impact of the wildfires and that the provincial and federal governments' will be providing the Municipality with disaster financial assistance. O'Toole thanked responders and staff for their actions during the fires. Councillor Lovelace further thanked all volunteers and first responders for the continuous support during the wildfire events.

Councillors noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 23, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the minutes of May 23, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- Item 18.1 – Councillor Lovelace - Westwood Hills Egress

Deletions: None

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

As provided for in section 41 (3) of Administrative Order One:

- Item 15.4.1 was removed from the consent agenda at the request of Councillor Hendsbee

MOVED by Councillor Kent seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve recommendations in the following agenda items:

- **15.1.2 – First Reading Proposed By-law U-114, an Amendment to By-law U-100, Respecting User Charges – Housekeeping Amendments to Transit Fares;**
- **15.2.1 – Contract Amendments – Keshen Goodman Library Renovations;**
- **15.3.1 – Almon Street AAA Bikeway Extension Options; and**
- **15.5.1 – Case H00562: 2023-2024 Financial Incentives Program for Schmidville and Old South Suburb Heritage Conservation Districts.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

7. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

8. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

9. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

10. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

11. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

12. PUBLIC HEARINGS

12.1 By-law N-200, Respecting Noise – Exemption Request – St. Mary's Boat Club

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated May 23, 2023

Tanya Phillips, Manager By-law Standards gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

The hearing opened at 6:32 p.m.

Mayor Savage reviewed the rules of procedure for public hearings. 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.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Austin

THAT the hearing be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The hearing closed at 6:32 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve the St. Mary's Boat Club's application for an exemption from the provisions of the Noise By-Law pursuant to the contents of the staff report dated May 23, 2023.

Phillips responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

12.2 Administrative Order 50 Disposal of Surplus Property – PID 40107138 – 9 Spring Street, Bedford

The following was before Council:

- Extract of April 25, 2023 Regional Council minutes
- Staff report dated April 13, 2023
- Staff presentation dated June 6, 2023

John Dalton, Senior Real Estate Officer gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

The hearing opened at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor Savage invited the applicant to come forward and address Council.

David Greenwood, Executive, Nova Scotia Salmon Association spoke to the non-profits' interest in purchasing 9 Spring Street for use as office space. Greenwood highlighted that the property would provide the Association with an opportunity for further community outreach and involvement.

Mayor Savage reviewed the rules of procedure for public hearings. 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.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the hearing be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The hearing closed at 6:44p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve the sale of the Property to the Nova Scotia Salmon Association and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute an Agreement of Purchase and Sale, a Buy-Back Agreement, and a Quit Claim Deed, and direct staff to complete the sale, all in accordance with the terms and conditions as set out in Table 1 of the staff report dated April 13, 2023.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

13. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

13.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for item: 15.3.1.

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

13.2 Petitions

13.2.1 Councillor Purdy

Councillor Purdy submitted a petition from Dartmouth Pickleball Association regarding the expansion of pickleball facilities in Dartmouth with approximately 540 signatures to expand Cole Harbour Commons into a multi-use facility.

14. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

15. REPORTS

15.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

15.1.1 Second Reading Proposed By-law U-113, An Amendment to By-Law U-100, Respecting User Charges – Electric Vehicle Charging Fees

The following was before Council:

- Extract of May 9, 2023 Regional Council minutes
- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee report dated April 6, 2023 with attached staff report dated April 3, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council adopt By-law U-113, amending By-law U-100, the User Charges By-law, as set out in Attachment 1 to the staff report dated April 3, 2023.

Kevin Boutilier, Manager Community Energy responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.1.2 First Reading Proposed By-law U-114, an Amendment to By-law U-100, Respecting User Charges – Housekeeping Amendments to Transit Fares

The following was before Council:

- Extract of May 23, 2023 Regional Council draft minutes
- Staff report dated May 25, 2023

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Kent seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to By-law U-114, amending Schedule 1 of By-law U-100, the User Charges By-law, as set out in Attachment B to the staff report dated May 25, 2023.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.1.3 2023-2024 Events East Business Plan – Halifax Convention Centre & Ticket Atlantic

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated May 31, 2023
- Handout dated June 1, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT Halifax Regional Council, in accordance with section 29 of the Halifax Convention Centre Act, Halifax Regional Council approve the 2023-2024 Events East Business Plan for the Halifax Convention Centre Corporation, submitted to the municipality March 27, 2023, as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated May 31, 2023.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer and Maggie MacDonald, Executive Director Parks and Recreation responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council. Regional Council noted that in future, Events East should attend Council meetings to respond to questions of clarification.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.1.4 Housing Accelerator Fund

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated June 3, 2023
- Staff presentation dated June 6, 2023

David Perusse, Intergovernmental Affairs Advisor, Jill MacLellan, Principal Planner and Scott Sheffield, Community Developer gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to submit a Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan that includes the initiatives as generally outlined in Attachment A of the staff report dated June 3, 2023, along with all additional required documentation to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation as the Municipality's application under the Housing Accelerator Fund program; and**
- 2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into any contribution agreements or amending agreements that may be required should the Municipality be approved for funding under the program.**

Kate Greene, Director Regional and Community Planning responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council. Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer noted that the federal program is targeted at municipalities to build smart housing and support smart growth. Karen MacDonald, Solicitor III noted that the *Charter* gives the Municipality the jurisdiction and rights to enter into agreements with CMHC. O'Toole further highlighted that a request can be submitted to amend the *Public Utilities Act* to waive fees and this implementation could take up to two years.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.2 AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

15.2.1 Contract Amendments – Keshen Goodman Library Renovations

The following was before Council:

- Audit and Finance Standing Committee report dated May 17, 2023 with attached staff report dated May 12, 2023

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Kent seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve a transfer of \$1,175,000 (net HST included) from Project Account No. CB190003 – Halifax North Memorial Public Library;
2. Approve a budget increase of \$1,175,000 (net HST included) to Project Account No. CB190010 – Keshen Goodman Library Renovations;
3. Approve an increase of \$362,359 (net HST included) to RFP 19-188, PO #2070834773 for changes to the contracted scope of work; and
4. Approve an increase of \$10,550 (net HST included) to PO #2070856766 for changes in contracted scope of work, as outlined in the Financial Implications section of the staff report dated May 12, 2023.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.3 TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

15.3.1 Almon Street AAA Bikeway Extension Options

The following was before Council:

- Transportation Standing Committee report dated May 18, 2023 with attached staff report dated April 19, 2023
- Correspondence from Karen Mitchell

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Kent seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to monitor and evaluate use of the approved all ages and abilities east-west cycling corridor across the north end of the Halifax peninsula for a minimum of two years post implementation and provide an update to the Transportation Standing Committee by 2026; and
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to initiate a functional planning process to evaluate options to provide an all ages abilities cycling connection from Almon Street at Agricola Street to Gottingen Street as described in Table 1 of the Discussion section of the report dated April 19, 2023.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.4 GRANTS COMMITTEE

15.4.1 HRM Community Grants Program: Fiscal 2023 – Recommended Awards

The following was before Council:

- Grants Committee report dated May 29, 2023 with attached staff report dated May 17, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve sixty (60) awards as detailed in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated May 17, 2023 for a combined total of \$473,275 from Operating Account M311-8004 Community Grants.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the motion be amended to refer the following applications to Administration for reconsideration:

- a. **Porter's Lake Community Services Association – Porter's Lake and return to Regional Council.**

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED. (14 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Austin, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Mancini, Mason, Cleary, Cuttell, Stoddard, Lovelace, Russell, Outhit

Against: Councillor Blackburn

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Approve sixty (60) awards as detailed in Attachment 2 of staff report dated May 17, 2023 for a combined total of \$473,275 from Operating Account M311-8004 Community Grants**
2. **Refer the following applications to Administration for reconsideration:**
 - a. **Porter's Lake Community Services Association – Porter's Lake and return to Regional Council.**

Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants Tax and Special Project responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.5. HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15.5.1 Case H00562: 2023-2024 Financial Incentives Program for Schmitdville and Old South Suburb Heritage Conservation Districts

The following was before Council:

- Heritage Advisory Committee report dated May 24, 2023 with attached staff report dated May 19, 2023.

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Kent seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve the proposed grant applications 24-001 through 24-005 and 24-007 through 24-009 listed in Attachment A of the staff report dated May 19, 2023,

conditional upon the applicant's compliance with sections 7 and 36-39 of Administrative Order Number 2020-005-ADM and the requirements specified in Attachment A of the staff report being satisfied.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

15.6 SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15.6.1 Proposed Amendments to Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV, Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants – MLSER Grant Report 2023

The following was before Council:

- Extract of May 23, 2023 Regional Council draft minutes
- Special Events Advisory Committee report dated May 10, 2023 with attached staff report dated April 26, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV – Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants as set out in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated April 26, 2023;**
- 2. Approve total funding in the amount of \$973,500 from the Community and Events Reserve, Q621, as proposed in the following categories:**
 - a. Seven (7) Distinguished Event Grants for a total of \$250,000 as identified in Table 1 of the staff report dated April 26, 2023;**
 - b. Eleven (11) Signature Event Grants for a total of \$573,500 as identified in Table 2 of the staff report dated April 26, 2023;**
 - c. And one (1) Major Hosting Event (previously approved) for a total of \$150,000 as identified in Table 2 of the staff report dated April 26, 2023;**
- 3. Pending final approval of the 2024/25 budget, approve \$573,500 for previously approved Signature Grants as identified in Table 3 of the staff report dated April 26, 2023;**
- 4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to undertake a review of administrative Order 2014-020- GOV – Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Grants and report through the Special Events Advisory Committee to Regional Council with proposed changes.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Purdy, Smith, Morse

16. MOTIONS - NONE

17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

17.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – May 9 & 23, 2023

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of May 9 & 23, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

18. ADDED ITEMS

18.1 Councillor Lovelace - Westwood Hills Egress

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report on developing egress for Westwood Hills subdivision in Upper Tantallon.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council. O'Toole noted that an after-action review of the recent wildfire events will be conducted and presented to the Committee of the Whole by year end.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Smith, Morse

19. NOTICES OF MOTION

19.1 Councillor Cleary

PLEASE TAKE NOTE that at a future meeting of Council, I will move the following:

THAT Halifax REGIONAL Council direct the Chief Administration Officer to review and provide recommendations on:

1. All boards, committees and commissions that include citizen volunteers, in an effort to reduce duplication, close gaps and increase efficiencies and resources optimization and
2. All standing committees of council, looking at the terms of reference, especially their duties, responsibilities, administration, and procedures, looking for improvements, efficiencies, and work that flows to Council.

19.2 Councillor Blackburn

TAKE NOTICE that at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to move:

1. First reading of proposed By-Law L-500, Respecting the Construction and Operation of Land-Lease Communities which includes amends to the Halifax County Mobile Home Park By-Law (By-Law 29), the City of Dartmouth By-Law Respecting Mobile Homes and Mobile Home Parks (By-Law M-200) and the repeal of the City of Halifax Ordinance Respecting Mobile Home Parks (Ordinance 143); and
2. Amendments to Administrative Order 15, the License Permits and Processing Fees Administrative Order

the purpose of which is to address gaps that existed in the regulation of land-lease communities under existing by-laws.

19.3 Councillor Cuttell

TAKE NOTICE that at a future meeting of the Halifax Regional Council, I intend to move that Council consider adopting, by policy, a revised Public Participation Program, the purpose of which is to update the Regional Plan Review Engagement Plan to provide for additional in-person engagement opportunities.

19.4 Councillor Mancini

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to move First Reading of proposed By-law S-804, amending By-law S-801 - *Respecting Licensing of Temporary Signs*, and amendments to Administrative Order 15, the purpose of which is to:

- Introduce Annual Business Licenses;
- Update aspects of community event signs, signs on Municipal Property, and in the Street Right of Way;
- Changes to setback rules for placement of Election Signs to be consistent with other right of way signage; and
- Add Variable Messaging Mobile Signs (VMMS) as a subsection within the mobile sign provisions;
- Add Free-standing Signs;
- Incorporate a new temporary sign type;
- Amend Administrative Order 15 – *License, Permits & Processing fees* to align with the By-law, removing fees for schools, and churches.
- Amend Administrative Order 15 – *License, Permits & Processing fees* to change the Basic Development Permit Fee from \$600 to \$60

19.5 Councillor Mancini

TAKE NOTICE that at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I propose to introduce a Policy pursuant to Section 325 of the Halifax Municipality Charter, Administrative Order SC-102, the purpose of which is to close a portion of Windmill Avenue, Dartmouth described as Parcel B-2B.

19.6 Councillor Mancini

TAKE NOTICE that at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to move First Reading of proposed By-law T-1200 *Respecting Halifax Transit*, the purpose of which is to promote the safety, well-being, comfort, and convenience of passengers and employees of Halifax Transit.

19.7 Councillor Deagle Gammon

TAKE NOTICE that at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to propose the adoption of By-Law U-116, the purpose of which is to amend By-law U-100, the User Fees By-law, to add Schedule 8, Community and Private Road Area Rate and Uniform Charge Administration Charges.

19.8 Councillor Deagle Gammon

TAKE NOTICE that at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I propose to introduce amendments to Administrative Order 2018-10-ADM, *Respecting Grants to Community Museums*, the purpose of which is to remove the term “interim” for the grant program, introduce a re-application process, increase operating grants, and address the replacement of the provincial Museum Evaluation Program with a modified program called TRACK.

19.9 Councillor Mason

TAKE NOTICE that at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to propose First Reading of By-law M-300, *Respecting Micromobility*, and Amendments to Administrative Order 15, *Respecting License, Permit and Processing Fees*, the purpose of which is to enable use of electric kick scooters (e-scooters) on HRM streets.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**Halifax Regional Council
Minutes
June 6, 2023**

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk