



**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 6, 2023**

PRESENT: Councillor Tony Mancini, Chair
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Vice Chair
Deputy Mayor Sam Austin
Councillor Kathryn Morse
Councillor Pam Lovelace

REGRETS: Councillor Iona Stoddard

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Patty Cuttell

STAFF: John MacPherson, Executive Director, Fleet, Property & Environment
Shannon Miedema, Director, Environment and Climate Change
Joshua Judah, Solicitor
Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant
Lama Farhat, 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.

Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee

Minutes

April 6, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. The Standing Committee moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 3:08 p.m. and reconvened at 3:23 p.m. The Standing Committee adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 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.

1.1 Election of Chair

Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT Councillor Mancini be nominated Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

Councillor Mancini was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT Councillor Mancini be appointed Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Mancini was declared the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

Councillor Mancini assumed the Chair.

1.2 Election of Vice Chair

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Councillor Deagle Gammon be nominated Vice Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

Councillor Deagle Gammon was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Councillor Deagle Gammon be appointed Vice Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Deagle Gammon was declared the Vice Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 1, 2022

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Austin, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the minutes of December 1, 2022 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, Seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Later in the meeting, the Standing Committee agreed to add Item 13.1 Councillor Morse.

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 Presentations

10.3.1 The Backlands Coalition: A Cornerstone for Our City's Green Network

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated December 28, 2022
- Presentation dated April 6, 2023

Dr. Boris Worm and Dr. Mather Carscallen, Backlands Coalition, gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

10.3.2 Clean Energy Pilot – GreenQuest Power Inc.

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated February 2, 2023
- Presentation dated April 6, 2023

Kevin Mullen, GreenQuest Power Inc, gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Bylaw U100 Amendment – Electric Vehicle Charging Fees

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated April 3, 2023
- Presentation dated April 6, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Deputy Mayor Austin

THAT the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend 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 of the report dated April 3, 2023.

Kevin Boutilier, Manager, Community Energy and Martha Horsman, Environmental Professional gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Shannon Miedema, Director, Environment and Climate Change responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. MOTIONS

13.1 Councillor Morse

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to consider and provide a staff report and advice on a letter to the Province of Nova Scotia in support of a request from GreenQuest at the April 6, 2023 Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee meeting to develop a clean energy geothermal project in Nova Scotia.

Councillor Lovelace proposed that the motion specify that this is a pilot project. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to consider and provide a staff report and advice on a letter to the Province of Nova Scotia in support of a request from GreenQuest at the April 6, 2023 Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee meeting to develop a clean energy geothermal pilot project in Nova Scotia.

Joshua Judah, Solicitor and Shannon Miedema, Director, Environment and Climate Change responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Deputy Mayor Austin proposed that the motion not include “to develop a clean energy geothermal pilot project in Nova Scotia” as the presenter’s request was for a letter of support. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to consider and provide a staff report and advice on a letter to the Province of Nova Scotia in support of a request from GreenQuest at the April 6, 2023 Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Private and confidential staff report dated March 21, 2023

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Austin, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Environmental and Sustainability Standing Committee:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated March 3, 2023;**

- 2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated March 3, 2023 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 1, 2023

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Lama Farhat
Legislative Assistant