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Item No. 14.1.5
Halifax Regional Council
May 24, 2016

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by

SUBMITTED BY:

John Traves, Q.C. Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Original Signed by

Jane Fraser, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: April 28, 2016

SUBJECT: Appointment of Building Officials

ORIGIN

Pursuant to the Nova Scotia Building Code Act, all Building Officials must be appointed by Regional Council.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Nova Scotia Building Code Act, Section 5(2)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council appoint Cyril Huntley and Adam Sadler as Building Officials, pursuant to Section 5(2) of the *Nova Scotia Building Code Act*. This appointment is effective for the duration of their current conditions of employment with Halifax Regional Municipality.

BACKGROUND

Building Officials are required to administer and enforce provisions of the *Nova Scotia Building Code Act* and Regulations on behalf of HRM. These staff members were successfully promoted to the position of Building Official, as a result of a recent competition. These individuals gained their certification and experience from working as Assistant Building Officials for the past 2.5 years. The Provincial *Building Code Act* requires that Building Officials be appointed by Regional Council.

DISCUSSION

Building Officials are primarily responsible for the delivery of three programs: Construction Approvals, Maintenance of Residential Occupancies and Rooming House Licensing. Building Officials ensure consistent interpretation and application of the various by-laws, administrative orders and regulations to buildings and development in co-ordination with other HRM staff in the development approvals process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications. These positions are currently funded.

RISK CONSIDERATION

The risks associated with the assigned duties of this position are substantial. Building Officials appointed by Council are designated authority having jurisdiction in regard to compliance matters of public health, safety, fire and structural sufficiency as it relates to the construction of buildings on behalf of the Municipality. Officials in this category of position have a scope of duties applied to all new construction and renovation of all buildings less than 3 stories in height.

To mitigate this risk Building Officials require 2 years post-secondary education and completion of a licensing program to obtain qualification from the Nova Scotia Training & Certification Board (NSTCB). The training program condoned by the NSTCB includes 11 modules required to be completed prior to submitting an application for qualification within a 2.5 year mentorship program. The candidates recommended for appointment have successfully completed this program.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

ALTERNATIVES

There are no alternatives as this is a requirement of the Provincial Building Code Act.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

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