



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
April 28, 2020**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Mike Savage  
Deputy Mayor Lisa Blackburn  
Councillors: Steve Streach  
David Hendsbee  
Bill Karsten  
Lorelei Nicoll  
Sam Austin  
Tony Mancini  
Waye Mason  
Lindell Smith  
Shawn Cleary  
Russell Walker  
Stephen Adams  
Richard Zurawski  
Matt Whitman  
Paul Russell  
Tim Outhit

**STAFF:**

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer  
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor  
Sherryl Murphy, A/Municipal Clerk  
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant  
Andrea MacDonald, Program Manager, License Standards

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video or audio (if available) are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The special meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., and moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 3:21 p.m. and reconvened at 3:45 p.m. Council adjourned at 3:49 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and a moment of silence was held for victims of the Portapique tragedy.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Additions:

9.1 Councillor Streach – District Capital Funding – Burial Costs for Joey Webber and Heidi Stevenson

Councillor Streach requested Item 9.1 be addressed following Item 6. Correspondence, Petitions and Delegations, to which Council agreed.

Councillor Whitman requested Information Item 9 Memorandum from the CFO/Director of Finance, Asset Management and ICT dated January 28, 2020 re: Progress Report - Conveyance of 1588 Barrington Street, Halifax, and Item 10 Memorandum from the Chief Administrative Officer dated March 12, 2020 re: HRM Public Safety Strategy Update, be added to the May 12, 2020 Council agenda.

MOVED by Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Whitman

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. CONSENT AGENDA – NONE**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**6.1 Correspondence**

The Clerk noted that correspondence was received for item 7.1.1. This correspondence was circulated to Council.

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

**6.2 Petitions – None**

**7. REPORTS**

**7.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**7.1.1 Second Reading Proposed By-law A-702, an Amendment to By-law A-700, Respecting Animals and Responsible Pet Ownership**

The following was before Council:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 5, 2019
- An extract of draft minutes – Regional Council – April 2, 2020
- Correspondence from Ann-Noreen Norton

Notice of Motion was given on March 10, 2020 and First Reading was given on April 2, 2020.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT Halifax Regional Council adopt By-law A-702, amending By-law A-700, the Animal By-law as set out in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated February 5, 2019.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7.2 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**7.2.1 Councillor Hendsbee - Musquodoboit Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs (MHACCCA) Community Area Rate Administrative Order**

The following was before Council:

- A Councillor request for consideration form

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Streach

**THAT Halifax Regional Council request a staff report to amend Administrative Order, 2019-005-ADM, the Community Area Rates Administrative Order, by adding section 33A after section 33 and before section 34 as follows:**

**Notwithstanding the purpose and sections 33 and 34 of this Administrative Order, for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, grants may be provided by the community organization for Musquodoboit Harbour without a contribution agreement or approval of Council if:**

- (a) the cumulative amounts of the grants do not exceed \$5,000; and**
- (b) the recipient of each grant is either a non-profit organization registered with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies, or a registered Canadian charitable organization.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7.2.2 Councillor Mason - Lower Water Sidewalk Improvements**

The following was before Council:

- A Councillor request for consideration form

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

**THAT Halifax Regional Council request a staff report regarding costs and opportunities for bringing the sidewalk on Lower Water Street west side between Prince and Sackville to current standards for accessibility.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **7.2.3 Councillor Cleary - Temporary Installation of Tactical Bike Lanes and Active Transportation Routes**

The following was before Council:

- A Councillor request for consideration form

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT Halifax Regional Council request an expedited staff report on providing safe mobility through an inexpensive, tactical, and temporary installation of bike lanes and active transportation routes along the lines of the already approved minimum grid network in the Integrated Mobility Plan or nearby, easily implemented streets.**

The Chief Administrative Officer explained that the Municipality was taking a surgical approach and adjusting service levels as more information became available on reopening the economy and lifting restrictions, in response to provincial direction. A Task Force comprised of Planning and Development and Transportation and Public Works staff has been established to look at temporary and permanent infrastructure measures such as the removal of push buttons from high traffic crosswalks, widening sidewalks and the implementation of the AAA Bikeway Network to address social distancing.

Councillors also asked for information on cities which have expressed regret with implementing temporary infrastructure measures to address social distancing.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (12 in favour, 5 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Blackburn, Councillors Nicoll, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Walker, Zurawski, Russell, Outhit

Against: Councillors Streach, Hendsbee, Karsten, Adams, Whitman

### **7.2.4 Councillor Nicoll - Public Transit – Emergency Funding**

The following was before Council:

- A Councillor request for consideration form

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Karsten

**THAT Halifax Regional Council make a statement supporting the Canadian Urban Transit Association's (CUTA) request to the federal government for emergency funding due to COVID-19 expenses as follows:**

- 1) \$400 million a month in revenue relief to keep services running as farebox and other revenue drops by up to 100 percent.**
- 2) A fund to help systems maintain liquidity in the period before revenue relief can arrive. CUTA estimates as many as 40 percent of systems may require bridge funding over the coming months. The association hopes these systems can access \$1.2 billion to help them keep the buses and trains running.**
- 3) Support to cover costs of disinfectants and protective equipment for employees.**
- 4) That a copy of the statement be sent to the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**8. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT Halifax Regional Council convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 8.1 Property Matter.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**8.1 PROPERTY MATTER – *Private and Confidential Report***

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

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

**THAT Halifax Regional Council defer Item 8.1 Property Matter in accordance with the direction provided In Camera (In Private).**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Councillor Adams

**8.2 PERSONNEL MATTER – *Private and Confidential Report***

This matter was dealt with in public.

The following was before Council:

- A private and confidential staff report dated April 15, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 15, 2020; and**
- 2. Not release the private and confidential report dated April 15, 2020 to the public.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**8.3 PERSONNEL MATTER – *Private and Confidential Report***

This matter was dealt with in public.

The following was before Council:

- A private and confidential staff report dated April 15, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blackburn

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 15, 2020; and**
- 2. Not release the private and confidential report dated April 15, 2020 to the public.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **8.4 PERSONNEL MATTER – *Private and Confidential Report***

This matter was dealt with in public.

The following was before Council:

- A private and confidential staff report dated April 15, 2020

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Walker

**THAT Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 15, 2020; and**
- 2. Not release the private and confidential report dated April 15, 2020 to the public.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (16 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Blackburn, Councillors Streach, Hendsbee, Karsten, Nicoll, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Walker, Adams, Zurawski, Russell, Outhit

Against: Councillor Whitman

#### **9. ADDED ITEMS**

##### **9.1 Councillor Streach – District Capital Funding – Burial Costs for Joey Webber and Heidi Stevenson**

MOVED by Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT Halifax Regional Council allocate \$10,000, \$5,000 each to the families of Joey Webber and Heidi Stevenson, from Councillor District Capital funds to help with the burial costs.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

##### **10.1 Councillor Walker**

TAKE NOTICE that at the next meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on May 12, 2020, I intend to move a new Administrative Order 2020-009-ADM, *Respecting Recommendations for the Allocation of Grants and Withdrawal from Reserves During COVID-19*, the purpose of which is to shorten the approval time to allocate grants and withdraw from Reserves by temporarily suspending the need for Council to receive a recommendation from:

1. the HRM Grants Committee or HRM Special Events Advisory Committee before awarding a grant; and
2. the Audit and Finance Standing Committee on impacts to the Reserves.

##### **10.2 Councillor Smith**

TAKE NOTICE that, at the next meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on May 12, 2020, I propose to introduce Administrative Order 2020-002-GOV, *the Social Policy Administrative Order*, the purpose of which is to provide a clearly defined, consistent and collaborative approach to social policy.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Sherryl Murphy  
A/Municipal Clerk