



**EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 20, 2018**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage, Chair
Deputy Mayor Wayne Mason, Vice Chair
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll
Councillor Tony Mancini
Councillor Russell Walker
Councillor Steve Craig
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Sherrill Murphy, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Phoebe Rai, Legislative Assistant
Liam MacSween, 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 1:03 p.m., and the Standing Committee adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 25, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Walker

THAT the minutes of June 25, 2018 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

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

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received regarding item 12.1.1 and this was circulated to Members of the Executive Standing Committee.

10.2 Petitions - None

10.3 Presentation - None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 HRM Election Campaign Financing By-law

The following was before Executive Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated August 15, 2018
- A staff presentation dated September 20, 2018
- Correspondence from Morris Givner, Marjorie Willison, Ray Whitley, Peter Glenister, Alex Rascanu, and Charles Schafer

Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk, presented on the proposed Election Campaign Financing By-law.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Executive Standing Committee hold public participation regarding this matter prior to debate.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

For details regarding public participation, please see item 17.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Deputy Mayor

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt By-law C-1100, the Campaign Financing By-law, as set out in Attachment A of the staff report dated August 15, 2018;**
- 2. Direct staff to conduct a review of By-law C-1100 after the next regular election and return to the Executive Standing Committee with their findings; and**
- 3. Request a staff report regarding the introduction of an administrative order on the use of HRM corporate resources during an election.**

Kevin Arjoon responded to questions of clarification, noting that the proposed by-law was designed to build on and work in concert with the Municipal Elections Act.

Committee Members discussed making amendments to the proposed by-law, but noted that due to the complexity of campaign financing it would be prudent to have a full discussion with all of Council at a Committee of the Whole before making changes. Potential amendments included reducing the individual donation limit, modifying the formula for maximum spending limit, increasing the limit for self- and spouse-contributions, clarifying the process for acclimations and in-kind contributions, reducing the campaign donation period, and considering the feasibility of issuing tax receipts for donations.

MAIN MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.2 Potential Municipal Lobbyist Registry

The following was before Executive Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 6, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council maintain its current approach and continue to rely on existing policies and legislation to promote the accountability of elected officials.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the motion be amended to recommend that Halifax Regional Council request staff engage with the province regarding the possibility of an amendment to the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter to expand the provincial Lobbyist Registration Act to include regulation of lobbying conducted at the local government level.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The question was called on the amended motion as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Maintain its current approach and continue to rely on existing policies and legislation to promote the accountability of elected officials; and**
- 2. Request staff engage with the province regarding the possibility of an amendment to the HRM Charter to expand the provincial Lobbyist Registration Act to include regulation of lobbying conducted at the local government level.**

AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.3 2019 Council Meeting Schedule

The following was before Executive Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated August 14, 2018

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the proposed 2019 Council meeting scheduled as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated August 14, 2018.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.4 Youth Advisory Committee – Establish a Staff Board

The following was before Executive Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated September 4, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council request the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to establish a staff board, pursuant to Section 6.2 of the Public Appointment Policy Staff Review, consisting of the Manager Youth Programs, the Youth Community Developer, a representative from the Municipal Clerk's Office, and the CAO or their designate, to review applications to the Youth Advisory Committee, and disclose to the Executive Standing Committee any relevant evaluations or references that may have been conducted.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY IN HRM

12.2.1 Designation of the Cogswell Redevelopment Project as a Rick Hansen Gold Zone

The following was before Executive Standing Committee:

- A recommendation report from the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility in HRM dated September 4, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct staff to include the designation of the Cogswell District Redevelopment Project as a Rick Hansen Gold Zone in the upcoming Cogswell District Redevelopment 90 percent Design and Approval report, such that the redevelopment of any lands within the Cogswell District achieve the Rick Hansen Foundation Gold Accessibility Standard.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bill Turpin, District 8, provided feedback regarding the proposed Campaign Financing By-law emphasizing the importance of compliance given the complaint-driven process. Turpin noted that the By-law does not speak to third-party contributions and suggested that an individual donation limit of \$2500 per candidate be reduced to \$1200 or less.

Peter Glenister, Millwood Avenue, spoke to the written correspondence and draft spreadsheet they submitted to the Committee and highlighted the need for collecting banking records from the campaign account. Glenister suggested housekeeping amendments to ensure that any surplus funds donated to charity remain within Canada.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, October 22, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Phoebe Rai
Legislative Assistant