COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 17, 2019

PRESENT: Councillor Sam Austin, Chair
Councillor Lindell Smith, Vice Chair
Mayor Mike Savage
Councillor Steve Craig

REGrets: Councillor Steve Streatch
Councillor Waye Mason
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF: Maggie MacDonald, Managing Director, Government Relations and External Affairs
Donna Boutilier, Solicitor
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.
1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Austin, Chair called the meeting to order in Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 15 & November 29, 2018 (Special Meeting)

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Craig

THAT the minutes of November 15 & November 29, 2018 (Special Meeting) be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Smith

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

8.1 November 15, 2018 – Blasting By-law B-600 Review

The following was before the Standing Committee:
- A recommendation report from the Heritage Advisory Committee dated October 1, 2018.

Peter Duncan, Manager of Infrastructure Planning, provided a presentation on Blasting By-Law B-600 and Blasting Activities in Halifax.

In response to questions from the Standing Committee, Duncan provided clarification on provisions within the By-law to mitigate the impacts of blasting on neighbouring properties, the requirement for the submission of a blasting plan, monitoring activities, and the requirement for a blasting mitigation plan if neighbouring properties are impacted.

In response to a follow up question, Duncan advised that if the impacts of blasting on heritage properties became a prevalent occurrence than staff would recommend that Regional Council consider amending the Blasting By-law with more stringent controls.
9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence – NONE

10.2 Petitions – NONE

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Chris Atwood, Executive Director, CBDC Blue Water - CBDC Bluewater: Economic Development in rural HRM

The following was before the Standing Committee:
- Supplementary information from CBDC Blue Water

Chris Atwood, Executive Director of CBDC Blue Water introduced Alayne Jackson, Senior Development Officer and provided a presentation on the CBDC Blue Water’s role in the economic development of rural HRM.

In response to questions from the Standing Committee, Atwood noted that the greatest challenge facing CBDC Blue Water is communications and marketing. Atwood advised that the organization covers a large geographic area and ensuring that small business owners in rural markets are aware of corporation and its services presents challenges.

In response to a follow up question, Atwood advised that CBDC Blue Water has maintained strong partnerships with HRM’s Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) within the communities that it serves. Atwood noted that CBDC will continue to establish partnerships with other BIDs as they are formed.

10.3.2 John Rogers, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer, Halifax Partnership - Halifax Partnership – An Economic Snapshot, Highlights of 2018-19 Initiatives & Results to Date

The following was before the Standing Committee:
- A presentation dated January 19, 2019 entitled: “Economic Update and Activities to Date”
- Supplementary information from the Halifax Partnership

John Rogers, Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Halifax Partnership, introduced Ruth Cunningham, Senior Vice President of Programs and Operations, and Ian Munro, Chief Economist and provided a presentation on the Economic Snapshot, Highlights of 2018-19 Initiatives & Results to Date.

In response to questions from the Committee, Rogers provided clarification on Diversity and Inclusion initiatives currently being undertaken by the Halifax Partnership respecting labour force participation among African Nova Scotia and Indigenous Communities. Rogers provided further commentary with respect to ongoing partnerships with HRM University and Colleges regarding experiential learning and the retention of new graduates.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Building Poverty Solutions – Ideas for Action
The following was before the Standing Committee:
- A staff recommendation report dated November 20, 2018

Scott Sheffield, Community Developer, introduced Sarah Napier, President and Chief Executive Officer, United Way Halifax and provided a presentation on the Building Poverty Solutions.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommends that Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:
1. Continue to work collaboratively with United Way Halifax on the development and implementation of anti-poverty solutions for the municipality;
2. Include a strategic response to the United Way report “Building poverty solutions: Ideas for Action” in the development of a Social Policy Lens; and
3. Incorporate updates on federal/provincial poverty reduction action plans and basic income projects when reporting on the Social policy lens and poverty reduction solutions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

12.4 COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes – November 15, 2018

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Camera). The following motion was ratified in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee approve the In Camera (In Private) minutes of November 15, 2018 as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.2 Personnel Matter

14.2.1 Citizen Nominations to Heritage Advisory Committee

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private). The following motion was ratified in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:
1. Nominate one resident at large to the Heritage Advisory Committee for a term to November 30, 2020 as outlined in Attachment # 1 of the private and confidential staff report dated January 3, 2019.
2. Nominate an alternative for first consideration when/if a vacancy occurs during the term.
3. That the names of the successful appointees be released to the public following ratification and notification of applicants.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Austin called three times for members of the public to address the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee. There were no members of the public present.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 21, 2019 – Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax – 10:00 a.m.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant