



**NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
December 14, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Steve Craig, Chair
Deputy Mayor Matt Whitman, Vice-Chair
Councillor Barry Dalrymple

REGRETS: Councillor Tim Outhit
Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Ms. Kirby Grant, Solicitor
Mr. Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

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

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Community Council are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/Commcoun/central/151214nwcc-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. and adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Steve Craig, Chair called the meeting to order in the Multi-purpose room of the Gordon R. Snow Community Centre, 1359 Fall River Road.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of North West Community Council.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman

THAT Councillor Craig be nominated as Chair of North West Community Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Legislative Assistant called three times for further nominations, there were no further nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman

THAT nomination cease. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Craig was elected as Chair of North West Community Council.

Vice Chair

Councillor Craig called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of North West Community Council.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple

THAT Councillor Outhit be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of North West Community Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Craig called three times for further nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of North West Community Council. There were none.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman

THAT nominations cease. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Outhit was elected as Vice-Chair of North West Community Council.

2. TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT

The following was before Community Council:

- *A staff report dated December 8, 2015*

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple

THAT North West Community Council accept and table the Annual Report as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION re: ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Craig called three times for members of the public to speak on the annual report. There were no speakers present.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

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

Deputy Mayor Whitman proposed the following addition on behalf of Councillor Outhit:

18.1 Councillor Outhit – Playground Naming.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple,

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

7. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

8. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

9. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

10. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

11. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

12. HEARINGS

12.1 PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

12.2 VARIANCE APPEAL HEARINGS – NONE

13. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE

14. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

15. REPORTS

15.1 STAFF

15.1.1 Proposed 2016 Meeting Schedule

The following was before Community Council:

- *The proposed 2016 meeting schedule.*

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple

THAT North West Community Council adopt the proposed 2016 meeting schedule as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. MOTIONS

16.1 Councillor Johns

Deputy Mayor Whitman proposed the following motion on behalf of Councillor Johns:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple

THAT North West Community Council request staff to being the process to exchange the serviceable rights to develop thirteen serviced lots currently allowed on PID # 40676215 and PID # 40326217.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

17.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – November 16, 2015

The following motion was dealt with and passed in public session:

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman

THAT the In Camera Minutes of November 16, 2015 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

17.2 Citizen Appointments to North West Planning Advisory Committee (Deferred – November 16, 2015)

The following motion was dealt with and passed in public session:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple

THAT North West Community Council:

- 1. Proceed to appoint three Citizens to the North West Planning Advisory Committee as outlined in Attachment # 1 of the private and confidential staff report dated November 9, 2015.**
- 2. It is further recommended that the citizen appointments be released to the public following ratification and notification of the successful candidates**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

18. ADDED ITEMS

18.1 Councillor Outhit – Playground Naming

The following documentation was before North West Community Council

- An added items request form dated December 14, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Whitman

THAT North West Community Council Request a staff report considering the naming of the playground in Dewolf Park in memoriam of Evan Servaes.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

19. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

20. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Jim Gates, of Halifax noted his experience as a Firefighter and provided commentary with respect to the proposed changes to fire service staffing levels, service delivery standards, and dispatch times. He advised that proposed changes to operations and staffing for Fire and Emergency Services currently being considered by Council will be detrimental to service delivery, particularly as the population further densifies. He provided information with respect to resources required to safely and efficiently respond to a fire or emergency situation in all areas of the municipality and expressed concern in relation to potential increases in travel/response time and the appropriate level of staffing available to adequately respond. He encouraged members of Council to thoughtfully consider the impact of the recommendations of HRM staff with regard to Fire Services.

Councillor Craig thanked Mr. Gates for his comments and advised that the matter is currently before Council as it is within Regional Council's mandate. He advised that members of Community Council can listen to concerns brought forward by the public on this matter but cannot enter into a debate on the matter.

Mr. Brenden Marr, of Middle Sackville, noted his occupation as a Firefighter and expressed concern with staff's recommendations with respect to Fire Service standards. He provided commentary with respect to the proposed staffing levels and noted that Council should consider modestly increasing resources for Fire and Emergency Services to allow for the full staffing/resource compliment outlined in the 2006 study.

Mr. Nick Antov, of Waterstone, expressed concern with the proposed changes to Fire Services by HRM staff in particular the deployment of resources in the Sackville/Lucasville area. He advised that Council should reconsider staff's proposal.

Mr. Brad Little, of Middle Sackville, provided commentary with respect to his career as both a volunteer and career Firefighter. He expressed concern with respect to the proposed decommissioning of several fire stations within HRM and the potential impact that the proposed changes to operations and staffing will have on response times.

Mr. Tony Manning, Wellington, expressed concern the proposed recommendations from HRM staff regarding Fire Services. He provided commentary from his experience as a Firefighter noting the importance of having four individuals to staff an engine when responding to a fire emergency, particularly in the downtown. He advised that the proposed recommendations from HRM staff will negatively impact fire and emergency service delivery in the municipality.

Mr. MacDougall, of Dartmouth noted that the proposed fire services recommendations from HRM staff are having a negative impact on the moral of both volunteer and career Firefighters in HRM. He provided background information with respect to his career as a firefighter and advised that current proposal from HRM staff will negatively impact response times and service standards.

Mr. Darren Jones, of Halifax provided background information with respect to the importance of response time and adequate resourcing at emergency scenes. He expressed concern with the HRM staff's recommendation with respect to fire services and encouraged members of Council to listen to the concerns voiced by professional firefighters and the community when making a decision on the matter.

Mr. Len March, of Halifax reiterated points made by previous speakers in relation to response times and services standards for Fire and Emergency Services. He highlighted the importance of appropriate levels of weekend staffing levels.

Mr. Paul Boyle, of Halifax expressed concern with respect to the decommissioning of fire stations and the proposed staffing levels brought forward by HRM staff. He reiterated early points respecting the importance of response times and the resources required in responding to a fire emergency.

Mr. Steve Austen, of Halifax noted his occupation as a Firefighter and expressed concern with staff's proposed recommendations in relation to Fire Services. He provided commentary with respect to the detriments of potential increased travel and response times for firefighters to respond to an emergency.

Mr. Don Carrol, of Fall River advised that he is a volunteer Firefighter in Waverly. He provided commentary with respect to the high turnover rate of volunteers Firefighters in HRM, the difficulty in attracting and retaining new volunteer recruits, and the amount of time invested in properly training these individuals. He expressed concern with the staff's proposal to

Mr. Trevor Lucas, of Halifax noted his occupation as a career Firefighter. He provided background information with respect to shift schedules for those staffing an E-Platoon and noted that staff's proposal in this regard could lead to cases of fatigue and burn-out among his colleagues.

Mr. Jim Gates, of Halifax reiterated the points raised by Firefighters and members of the public in relation to HRM Fire Services. He thanked members of Community Council for listening to the concerns which were expressed.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 11, 2015

22. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant