

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

February 27, 2012

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Kelly  
Deputy Mayor Bill Karsten  
Councillors: Linda Mosher, Vice Chair  
Russell Walker  
Reg Rankin  
Jim Smith  
Dawn Sloane

REGRETS: Councillor Brad Johns  
Councillor Steve Streach

STAFF: Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor  
Ms. Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Mosher, the Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Halifax City Hall.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 23, 2012**

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Smith that the minutes of January 23, 2012 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

In Camera

9.3 Legal Matter

9.3.1 Potential Litigation – Councillor Walker

9.4 Personnel Matter

9.4.1 2012/2013 RCMP Contract – Councillor Walker

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Walker that the agenda be accepted as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE**

**7. REPORTS**

**7.1 Staff**

**7.1.1 Corporate Sustainability Filter**

A supplementary report dated January 23, 2012 was before the Committee.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the Executive Standing Committee direct staff to adopt an Environmental Implications section as a standard requirement in Regional Council and Committee reports.**

Discussion on the motion ensued with staff responding to questions.

Councillor Rankin advised that he could not support the motion unless it was strengthened to state that the Environmental Implications section also include social factors where applicable. He requested this be considered as a friendly amendment.

The mover and seconder of the motion did not wish to include the friendly amendment.

Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor, advised that the key to an acceptable friendly amendment was if the amendment was germane to the issue; if it moves the business of Council along in a positive direction rather than undermining the intent of the original motion.

Councillor Sloane advised that while she understood Councillor Rankin's intentions, she did not want to jeopardize the motion on the floor with an amendment; however, she would be willing to take Councillor Rankin's concerns back to the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

Councillor Walker advised, for the record, that the motion on the floor does not omit anything from included in the Environmental Implications section.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**7.1.2 Administrative Order #1 - Alignment with Robert's Rules of Order**

A report dated February 13, 2012 was before the Committee.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Smith that the Executive Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council to;**

- 1. Approve in principle amendments to Amend Administrative Order #1 as found in Attachment 2 of the report dated February 13, 2012, to better align notices of rescission and reconsideration with Robert's Rules of Order.**
- 2. Adopt Robert's Rules of Order as the referenced source where Administrative Order #1 does not address this matter.**
- 3. Give Notice of Motion of the intent to adopt the amendments to Administrative Order #1, as outlined in Attachment 2 of the report dated February 13, 2012, at the next regular meeting of Halifax Regional Council.**

Deputy Mayor Karsten clarified, for the record, that under Robert's Rules of Order a motion of recession requires a two thirds majority vote which would be a change from the current practice under Administrative Order One which requires a simple majority.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**7.2 Motion of Referral**

**7.2.1 Audit and Finance Standing Committee – February 15, 2012**

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that the Executive Standing Committee request a staff report regarding the potential of including a Risk Management section in staff reports.**

It was noted that staff could indicate in the report as to when including a Risk Management section may be valuable as it may not be required for every report.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Standing Committee move In Camera to address the items as listed below.  
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mayor Kelly assumed the Chair at 10:46 p.m. and the meeting recessed to move In Camera.

**9. IN CAMERA**

**9.1 In Camera Minutes – September 26, 2011 & January 23, 2012**

This matter was dealt with In Camera.

**9.2 Personnel Matter**

**9.2.1 2012 HRM Volunteer Recognition and Award Recipients**

This matter was dealt with In Camera.

**9.3 Legal Matter**

**9.3.1 Potential Litigation**

This matter was dealt with In Camera.

**9.4 Personnel Matter**

**9.4.1 2012/2013 RCMP Contract**

This matter was dealt with In Camera.

The meeting reconvened at 11:08 a.m.

The following motion was passed during the In Camera session and was before the Committee for ratification:

**MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve:**

- 1. Individual Adult and Youth award recipients, including; ten volunteers to attend the Provincial Volunteer Awards, and HRM's 2012 Volunteer of the Year (Attachment B); and**
- 2. Community Group award and/or recognition recipients in three categories (Attachment C).**

**It is further recommended that this report not be released to the public until the 2012 HRM Volunteer Awards Ceremony on April 18, 2012.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. NEXT MEETING DATE – March 26, 2012**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Shawnee Gregory  
Legislative Assistant

Information Item

1. HRM Legislative Requests Strategy