

EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

August 15, 2011

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter Kelly  
Deputy Mayor Jim Smith  
Councillors: Steve Streach  
Bill Karsten  
Dawn Sloane  
Russell Walker  
Reg Rankin  
Linda Mosher  
Brad Johns

STAFF:

Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER.....	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 27, 2011 .....	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE.....	3
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – June 27, 2011 .....	4
5.1	Implementation of Code of Conduct/Ethics.....	4
6.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS .....	4
6.1	Correspondence - None.....	4
6.2	Petitions - None .....	4
6.3	Presentations - None .....	4
7.	REPORTS .....	4
7.1	Council – Motion of Referral .....	5
7.1.1	Election/Campaign Contributions – Councillor Johns.....	3
7.2	Councillor.....	5
7.2.1	FCM Nomination Update (verbal) – Councillor Walker.....	5
8.	ADDED ITEMS - NONE .....	5
9.	NEXT MEETING DATE – September 26, 2011 .....	5
10.	ADJOURNMENT .....	5

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:49 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Halifax City Hall.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 27, 2011**

**MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith that the minutes of June 27, 2011 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

It was agreed that item 7.1.1 would be moved to the top of the agenda.

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

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

**7.1.1 Election/Campaign Contributions – Councillor Johns**

The following motion referred from the March 29, 2011 Halifax Regional Council meeting was before the Committee for consideration:

“To direct the Mayor to contact the Province of Nova Scotia requesting amendments to the Municipal Elections Act, to prohibit campaign contributions to candidates during municipal elections by political parties, corporations, and unions, and that an official, non-tax deductible municipal receipt be provided for all campaign contributions made.”

**MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Executive Standing Committee reject the proposal brought forward by Councillor Johns as referred from Regional Council.**

Discussion on the motion ensued.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Karsten left the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

Councillor Johns put a motion on the floor requesting that the Committee investigate the potential of capping election contributions at the Councillor level at \$200 per donation.

As there was no seconder for the motion, the motion was lost.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the Executive Standing Committee strike a subcommittee to further research and discuss campaign and election issues such as signage and contribution caps and report back to the Standing Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mayor Kelly clarified that the previous motion moved by Councillor Karsten would be held in obeisance until the subcommittee process was complete.

Several Councillors requested that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) be involved in this process.

Councillor Johns stated, for the record, that he was not in favour of striking a subcommittee at this time.

## **5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – June 27, 2011**

### **5.1 Implementation of Code of Conduct/Ethics**

A supplementary report dated June 17, 2011 was before the Committee.

The Committee discussed the supplementary report dated June 17, 2011 with staff responding to questions of clarification.

**MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Rankin that the Executive Standing Committee:**

- 1. Recommend to Regional Council the adoption of the procedural approach to the administration of the Code of Conduct for Municipal Officials, as outlined in the report dated June 17, 2011, and**
- 2. Propose to Halifax Regional Council a date of September 30, 2011 as the time frame for execution of the Statement of Commitment by current members of Regional Council.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

### **6.1 Correspondence - None**

### **6.2 Petitions - None**

### **6.3 Presentations - None**

## **7. REPORTS**

**7.1 Council – Motion of Referral**

**7.1.1 Election/Campaign Contributions – Councillor Johns**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. Please see page 3.

**7.2 Councillor**

**7.2.1 FCM Nomination Update (verbal) – Councillor Walker**

Councillor Walker provided an update on the FCM nomination; advising that an FCM by-law has been amended to read that, of the four directors representing Nova Scotia, one shall be the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) president, one shall be from HRM and the additional two shall hold municipal office anywhere but in HRM. He stated that this new by-law would come into effect in 2012 and that he had been appointed to the FCM board of directors for a one year term in the interim. Councillor Walker advised that nominations would have to be made in April each year as the cut off date was early in May.

Mayor Kelly advised that nominations would be brought forward at the April 2012 meeting.

**8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE – September 26, 2011**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory  
Legislative Assistant