

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES

February 5, 2013

PRESENT:

Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Reg Rankin
Councillors: Barry Dalrymple
David Hendsbee
Bill Karsten
Lorelei Nicoll
Darren Fisher
Waye Mason
Jennifer Watts
Linda Mosher
Russell Walker
Stephen Adams
Matt Whitman
Brad Johns

REGRETS:

Councillors: Gloria McCluskey
Steve Craig
Tim Outhit

STAFF:

Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Martin Ward, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk
Mr. Quentin Hill, Legislative Assistant

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1. INVOCATION

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. with the Invocation being led by Councillor Mosher.

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillors noted a number of community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 15, 2013

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Karsten that the January 15, 2013 minutes be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Council accepted the agenda as presented.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS -NONE

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10. REPORTS

10.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

10.1.1 Proposed Amendments to Administrative Order One and Thirty-Two

A staff report dated January 28, 2013 was before Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, that Halifax Regional Council adopt the amendments to Administrative Order One and Administrative Order Thirty-two as set out in Appendices B and E of the January 28, 2013 staff report.

Councillor Karsten noted that the amendments were to streamline the by-law adoption process. He noted that the Executive Standing Committee has the mandate to oversee

by-law rationalization and requested that a list of outstanding by-laws for consolidation be compiled for review by the Executive Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (13 in favour)

Councillors McCluskey, Adams, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

10.2 HARBOUR EAST-MARINE DRIVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

10.2.1 Circumferential Highway Maintenance

A January 14, 2013 report from Harbour-East Marine Drive Community Council was before Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that Halifax Regional Council contact the province to request consistent maintenance of the area at the entrance to Lakeshore Park Terrace/Lakemist Court in Dartmouth, on the Circumferential Highway, particularly with the regard to overgrown grass and weeds, and the clean-up of a substantial amount of litter.

Councillor Fisher advised that the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation had cleaned up a portion of the circumferential during the summer, but ignored the adjacent community side. He noted that on the adjacent side there were weeds growing three or four feet tall with a substantial amount of litter. He stated writing a letter to the province would help the province consider cleaning the adjacent community side when they are conducting their scheduled maintenance work.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested that the community adjacent to the circumferential highway consider participation in the provincial "Adopt-a-highway" program.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (13 in favour)

Councillors McCluskey, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

11. MOTIONS

11.1 Councillor Adams

Councillor Adams Gave Notice of Motion at the January 29, 2013 meeting of Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Walker to request a staff report on the request from the Discovery Centre for HRM to increase its current support of its operations to \$220,000 annually as well as to provide a capital investment of \$2 million and property tax relief for the Discovery Centre's proposed new facility in the Nova Scotia Power building on Lower Water Street.

The staff report should address alignment between Discovery Centre objectives and outcomes with HRM priorities, including economic development, and should address HRM's ability to respond to the request.

During the debate on the motion Councillors noted the following concerns:

- 1) Lack of grant guidelines for this type of initiative.
- 2) Other groups may come forward with requests for funding, and that;
- 3) Requesting extra reports from staff may require other projects to be placed aside.

Councillor Hendsbee requested the report indicate how the Discovery Centre fits within the municipal mandate. He noted that he felt the municipality was overlapping with Provincial responsibilities in regard to the Discovery Centre.

In response to a question from Councillor Nicoll, CAO Richard Butts stated that Finance was doing a review of the tax exemption program.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (11 in favour, 3 opposed)

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Savage; Deputy Mayor Rankin; and Councillors Dalrymple, Hendsbee, Karsten, Nicoll, Fisher, Mason, Walker, Adams and Johns.

Those voting against were: Councillors Watts, Mosher and Whitman.

Councillors McCluskey, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

11.2 Councillor Mason

Councillor Mason Gave Notice of Motion at the January 29, 2013 meeting of Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Nicoll to direct staff to produce a report to present to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee April 3, 2013 outlining an action plan, starting in fiscal 2013/14 with the strategic priorities for downtown as outlined in the Greater Halifax Partnership Economic Plan, as endorsed by Council in March of 2011, specifically:

1. **To establish the \$50 million intergovernmental capital improvement campaign to repair and enhance the public realm in the urban core.**
2. **To establish a "Strategic Urban Reserve" fund for urban core beautification, "pole free area," public art and infrastructure improvements."**

Councillor Mason noted that, after some discussion with Council colleagues, he would like to refer the recommendation to Community Planning and Economic Development Committee for consideration.

In response to a question by Councillor Mosher, the CAO advised that if the report was unable to be completed that staff would advise Council.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested that the Business Improvement Districts have some participation.

Councillor Karsten requested that the report also be considered at Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

Councillor Dalrymple expressed concern regarding the timing of the report noting that budget planning and discussions would be virtually complete by April.

With Councils agreement, the mover and seconder agreed to withdraw the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll to request a staff report for an update in regard to the strategic priorities as outlined in the Economic Plan as endorsed by Council in March 2011, specifically related to;

1. **The establishment of the \$50 million intergovernmental capital campaign and;**
2. **The establishment of a strategic economic reserve.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillors McCluskey, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts that the requested update be referred to Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (9 in favour, 5 against)

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Savage; Deputy Mayor Rankin and; Councillors: Hendsbee, Karsten, Nicoll, Fisher, Mason, Watts and Whitman.

Those voting against were Councillors: Dalrymple, Mosher, Walker, Adams and Johns.

Councillors McCluskey, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

12. IN CAMERA

There was no In Camera session held.

12.1 Personnel Matter

12.1.1 Councillor and Citizen Appointments to Boards and Committees

A confidential staff report dated January 28, 2013 was before Council.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations of the Standing Committees regarding the Councillor and Citizen Appointments as outlined in Attachment 1 of the January 28, 2013 private & confidential report**
- 2. Express their appreciation to all residents who have put forward their names to serve on Boards and Committees of Council**
- 3. The list of Citizen and Councillor appointments be released to the public following Council ratification**

Councillor Mason withdrew his name from consideration on the Special Events Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (13 in favour, 1 against)

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Savage; Deputy Mayor Rankin; and Councillors: Dalrymple, Hendsbee, Nicoll, Fisher, Mason, Watts, Mosher, Walker, Adams, Whitman and Johns.

Councillor Karsten voted against.

Councillors McCluskey, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

12.2 Contractual/Legal Matter

12.2.1 Solid Waste Strategy Review

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Release the Stantec Waste Resource Strategy report January, 2013**
- 2. Direct Staff to initiate public consultation on the Stantec Report options and recommendations beginning with the community monitoring committee and in particular recommendations A1 and A3 that:**
 - i. The Front End Processor FEP and Waste Stabilization facility (WSF) be closed.**

- ii. **The life of the Otter Lake Landfill be extended through vertical expansion.**
- 3. **Direct staff that as part of the public consultation process to initiate discussions with the operator of the Otter Lake Landfill concerning the implications of the Stantec Report options and recommendations.**
- 4. **Direct the CAO to report to the Environmental and Sustainability Standing Committee with a recommendation for the design of a public consultation exercise.**

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee that the question now be put.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED (10 in favour, 4 against)

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Savage; Deputy Mayor Rankin and; Councillors: Dalrymple, Hendsbee, Karsten, Nicoll, Fisher, Mason, Mosher and Adams.

Those voting against were: Councillors Watts, Walker, Whitman and Johns.

Councillors McCluskey, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

A vote on the main motion was taken. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (10 in favour, 4 against)**

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Savage; Deputy Mayor Rankin and; Councillors: Dalrymple, Hendsbee, Karsten, Nicoll, Fisher, Mason, Watts and Mosher

Those voting against were: Councillors Walker, Adams, Whitman and Johns.

Councillors McCluskey, Craig and Outhit were not present for the vote.

14. ADDED ITEMS- NONE

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

15.1 Councillor Dalrymple

“Take notice that, at the next regular Regional Council meeting, I propose to move approval of an amendment to Administrative Order 45, Respecting Private Road Maintenance, the purpose of which is to revise Schedule 4 Respecting Road Maintenance Fees for Kings Road in Wellington, as well as other private roads which branch from Kings Road.”

15.2 Councillor Fisher

“Take notice that at the next regular meeting of Halifax Regional Council, to be held on the 12th day of February, 2013, I intend to move a motion to request HRM staff provide a report on funding options for interim funding in the amount of \$140,000 for the next 24 months to the YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth to support the programs and services provided by the YMCA at NSCC Akerley Campus, and that the report be brought back to Regional Council in a timely fashion.”

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17pm.

Cathy J. Mellett
Municipal Clerk

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Proclamation- African Heritage Month- February 2013
2. Proclamation- 2013 Toque Campaign
3. Memorandum from the Municipal Clerk dated January 29, 2013
re: Requests for Presentation to Council—None