

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES

November 26, 2013

PRESENT:

Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Darren Fisher
Councillors: Barry Dalrymple
David Hendsbee
Lorelei Nicoll
Gloria McCluskey
Waye Mason
Jennifer Watts
Linda Mosher
Russell Walker
Stephen Adams
Reg Rankin
Matt Whitman
Brad Johns
Steve Craig
Tim Outhit

REGRETS:

Councillors: Bill Karsten

STAFF:

Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Deputy Clerk
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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1. INVOCATION

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with the Invocation being led by Deputy Mayor Fisher.

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Members of Council noted a number of community announcements and acknowledgements.

At the request of Councillor Watts, Council stood for a moment of silence in remembrance of Cheryl Downton, who recently passed away. Councillor Watts noted that Ms. Downton was a well-respected member of the North End community, where she was a long time community social worker and Acting Director of Veith House.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Committee of the Whole October 22, 2013 and Regional Council October 29, 2013.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Whitman that the minutes of Committee of the Whole for October 22, 2013 and Regional Council for October 29, 2013 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the agenda as presented be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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. PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence - NONE

10.2 Petitions

10.2.1 Councillor Adams

Councillor Adams submitted a letter of petition from the solicitors representing 10 property owners who abut Purcell's Cove Road, formally requesting that the subject properties be re-designated from Urban Reserve to Rural Commuter; and that the properties be rezoned to H (Holding) Zone. He requested that it be considered in the ongoing review of the RP+5.

11. REPORTS

11.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

11.1.1 Award – Tender No.'s 13-400 and 13-196, Dartmouth Ferry Terminal Renovations

The following was before Council:

- A staff recommendation report dated October 31, 2013 was submitted.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey seconded by Deputy Mayor Fisher that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Award Tender No. 13-400, Dartmouth Ferry Terminal - 1st and 2nd Floor Renovations, to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Seagate Construction, for a Total Tender Price of \$881,633.84 (net HST included) with funding from Project Nos. CBX01164 – Transit Facilities Upgrades, CBX01270 – Structural (Category 4), and CBX01273 – Architecture-Interior (Category 5), as outlined in the Financial Implications section of the October 31, 2013 report; and**
- 2. Award Tender No. 13-196, Dartmouth Ferry Terminal (DFT) Renovations – Metro Transit for interior renovations, to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Seagate Construction, for a Total Tender Price of \$673,478.99 (net HST included), with funding from Project No. CBX01164 - Transit Facilities Upgrades, as outlined in the Financial Implications section of this report.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (15 in favour)

Councillors Karsten and Mason were not present for the vote.

11.1.2 Property Transaction – Portland Hills Drive, Dartmouth

The following was before Council:

- A staff recommendation report dated October 23, 2013.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Fisher, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Declare the portion of the subject property, as shown on Attachment A of the October 23, 2013 report, surplus to municipal purposes and the portion be declared to be categorized as remnant for the purpose of Administrative Order 50, respecting the disposal of surplus real property; and**
- 2. Authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale with Blue Basin Investments, or assignee, for the surplus portion of HRM property, as per Table 1 and the terms and conditions of the October 23, 2013 report.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (15 in favour)

Councillors Karsten and Mason were not present for the vote.

11.1.3 Northcliffe Disposal – 111 Clayton Park Drive, Halifax

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Rankin that this item be dealt with In Camera. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Council dealt with this matter during the In Camera portion of the agenda and, subsequently, ratified the motion from In Camera, later in the meeting. See page 8.

11.2 SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

11.2.1 2013/14 HRM Event Grants – Second Intake

The following was before Council:

- A report from the Special Events Advisory Committee dated November 15, 2013 with an attached staff report dated September 8, 2013.

MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve one (1) grant award to the Blue Nose Squash Classic from the 2013/14 Non-Annual Grants – Second Intake for a total of \$10,000 from the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve (Q315).**
- 2. Approve the following grant awards from the 2013/14 Non-Annual grants – Second Intake for a total of \$85,000 from the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve (Q315) in 2014/15, subject to 2014/15 budget approval:**

Prismatic	\$10,000
Magnetic North Theatre Festival	<u>\$75,000</u>
	\$85,000

- 3. Approve four (4) grant awards from the 2013/14 Festival & Events – Second Intake for a total of \$4,000 funded from the 2013/14 Operating Budget Account No. C760 Regional Recreation & Culture as identified in Table 2.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (15 in favour)

Councillors Karsten and Mason were not present for the vote.

11.3 AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

11.3.1 HRM Rebranding Project Award

The following was before Council:

- A report dated November 21, 2013 from the Chair of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee with an attached staff report dated November 14, 2013.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Walker that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Award RFP#P13-083, HRM Rebranding Project to the successful proponent identified in the Private and Confidential Information Report dated November 14, 2013 for the costs indicated in the Financial Implications Section of the November 21, 2013 report and to request Council to direct that uncommitted surplus from 2012/13 fund the 2013/14 cost of the Rebranding Project.**
- 2. That the Private and Confidential Information Report dated November 14, 2013 be released following the award.**

Mr. Bruce Debaie, Managing Director, Corporate Communications responded to questions.

In response to concern expressed by some Councillors of holding public engagement over the Christmas holidays, Mr. Debaie advised that this would only be the first wave of public engagement, and that the consultation will continue in January and February, and March if necessary.

Councillor Craig noted that the Financial Implications section of the report indicates that the costs can be accommodated within the projected 2013/2014 operating surplus, but the staff recommendation notes it as the 2012/13 fund. In response, Mr. Debaie noted that the year stated in the Financial Implications section was in error, and that the correct year was in the recommendation, i.e. 2012/13.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (15 in favour)

Councillors Karsten and Mason were not present for the vote.

12. MOTIONS

12.1 Councillor Dalrymple

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Watts that Council request a staff report regarding establishing benchmarks and researching service levels, competitiveness and taxation in the Agricultural and Rural Shore areas of HRM in comparison to other rural and coastal agricultural counties in Nova Scotia.

Councillor Dalrymple advised that in requesting this report he was looking for three things: 1. A comparison with other rural municipalities to see if our taxes and services are equitable and fair; 2. To see if our rural parts of the Municipality are commercially competitive with other rural municipalities, in particular, neighbouring rural areas; and 3. To see if our residential taxes and services in the rural parts of HRM are competitive with other rural areas, in particular, neighbouring rural counties.

Councillor Hendsbee added that the report would be an opportunity to mirror the various tax regimes with the Regional Plan designations.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the information being requested is a substantial piece of work and he suggested that this matter be forwarded to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

Councillor Dalrymple advised that he supported referring this matter to the Standing Committee, and he asked that when the Committee has updates on its agenda, that the Councillors from the rural districts be notified so that they can attend the meeting if they wish.

At 1:45 p.m. Councillor Mason entered the meeting.

For clarification, Mayor Savage advised that, if passed, **the motion will be referred to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee** for follow-up.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (16 in favour)

Councillor Karsten was not present for the vote.

At 1:50 p.m. the meeting recessed so that Council could convene in camera to deal with item 11.1.3 Northcliffe Disposal – 111 Clayton Park Drive, Halifax.

13. IN CAMERA:

Private and Confidential Information Items

1. Private and Confidential In Camera Information Report – re: Northcliffe Disposal – 111 Clayton Park Drive, Halifax
2. Private and Confidential In Camera Information Report – re: Procurement Process for HRM Rebranding Project Award

Council reconvened in regular session at 2:40 p.m. to ratify the following motion:

11.1.3 Northcliffe Disposal – 111 Clayton Park Drive, Halifax

This item was dealt with in camera and was now before Council for ratification.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Rankin that Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with 3275727 Nova Scotia Limited, for HRM property 111 Clayton Park Drive, PID 00330639, Halifax, as per the terms and conditions outlined in the October 29, 2013 staff report, with the clarification that the term of the Buy Back Agreement is 36 months, and Table 1 in the Confidential Report dated October 29, 2013;**
2. **That the Confidential Information Report dated October 29, 2013 be declassified once the transaction is closed.**

In moving the motion, Councillor Walker noted that the property is for an intended church purpose.

Councillor Watts asked that, in future similar In Camera reports, staff list the bids along with the amounts, and work with Legal Services to see if this information could be released to the public.

Councillor Johns asked staff to provide information on the date when the policy regarding the Regional Facility Expansion Reserve was approved, and the Terms of Reference.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (15 in favour, 1 against)

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

Councillor Whitman voted against the motion.

Councillor Karsten was not present for the vote.

14. ADDED ITEMS: NONE

15. NOTICES OF MOTION - None

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Cathy J. Mellett
Municipal Clerk

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Memorandum from the Managing Director, Government Relations and External Affairs dated November 13, 2013 re: African Nova Scotian Affairs Integration Office Update
2. Memorandum from the Municipal Clerk dated November 18, 2013 re: Requests for Presentation to Council – None