



**EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 25, 2015**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage, Chair
Deputy Mayor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair
Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Jennifer Watts
Councillor Russell Walker
Councillor Steve Craig

REGRETS: Councillor Linda Mosher

STAFF: Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. John Traves, Director of Legal Services
Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Phoebe Smith, 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 the Executive Standing Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCadmin/ESC150525Agenda-HRM.php>

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. and adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 30, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Walker that the minutes of the March 30, 2015 meeting of the Executive Standing Committee be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: 12.1 Information Report: 2014 Citizen Survey

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Karsten that the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-third majority vote required

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence

The Clerk's Office received correspondence in reference to item 11.2.1 and this was distributed to all Committee members.

8.2 Petitions - NONE

8.3 Presentation - NONE

9. REPORTS - NONE

10. MOTIONS - NONE

11. IN CAMERA

The following In Camera motions were approved in public session:

11.1 Minutes – March 30, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the Executive Standing Committee approve the In Camera minutes of March 30, 2015 as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.2 Personnel Matter

A matter pertaining to a personnel matter about an identifiable individual/individuals or body with whom the municipality has a direct interest.

11.2.1 Appointments to Design Review Committee

The following was before the Executive Standing Committee:

- A private and confidential staff recommendation report dated April 23, 2015
- Correspondence from Nathan Rogers dated September 30, 2014

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the Executive Standing Committee proceed to nominate the architect and the landscape architect to the Design Review Committee (term to November, 2016) as recommended in the private and confidential staff report dated April 23, 2015.

Councillor Karsten inquired about the correspondence submitted by Nathan Rogers, President of the Licensed Professional Planners Association of Nova Scotia, requesting the Committee consider requiring that the volunteer planner hold a professional license. Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, noted that similar correspondence has been received regarding other positions on the Design Review Committee such as engineer and architect. She advised that the terms of reference as outlined in section 4 of the Halifax Land Use By-Law do not require individuals to be licensed by their profession but only to have training in their field, and that an amendment to the land use By-law would be required to make any changes to these requirements. Ms. Mellett informed the Committee that most applicants do hold a professional license.

Councillor Watts queried whether this request would be considered during the Land Use By-Law review. Mr. John Traves, Municipal Solicitor advised that if this requirement was enacted, individuals who may have a great deal of experience in their field but are no longer practicing members by retirement or otherwise would be prevented from participating. He advised that there is currently no intention to revisit limiting participation on those committees. Councillor Watts requested that the Clerk's Office respond to the planning association in regard to the correspondence, to which the Clerk agreed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 2014 Citizen Survey

The following was before the Executive Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated May 12, 2015

Councillor Walker expressed concern with what he felt was a low response rate to the survey and questioned the accuracy of the results in representing the views of the residents.

Councillor Craig noted that this is the 8th time the survey has been conducted and advised that it be taken in that context to consider how responses have changed over time. He stated that he felt this survey is important to gaining a holistic view of the opinions of citizens and indicated that he would be interested in a staff presentation to help interpret the results including apparent contradictions, for example with respect to infrastructure.

A brief discussion ensued with Committee members discussing whether the report should be forwarded to Regional Council or whether the authors should be invited to make a presentation to the Executive Standing Committee. A presentation was requested. Mr. John Traves, Municipal Solicitor advised that the Standing Committee can forward the report as an information item, but this not will add it to the agenda for debate without a staff recommendation report and motion.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Craig that the Executive Standing Committee forward the staff report dated May 12, 2015 to Regional Council as an information item.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, June 22, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.**

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Ms. Cathy Mellett
Municipal Clerk