

AUDIT & FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES

MAY 16, 2012

PRESENT: Councillors: Russell Walker, Chair
Barry Dalrymple, Vice-Chair
Deputy Mayor Bill Karsten
Gloria McCluskey
Linda Mosher
Sue Uteck

REGRETS: Councillors: Stephen Adams
Tim Outhit

STAFF: Mr. Greg Keefe, Acting Director, Finance
Mr. Louis de Montbrun, Manager, Financial Reporting
Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Community Development and
Partnership
Ms. Marion Currie, Project Coordinator, Government Relations and
External Affairs
Ms. Anne Totten, Corporate Policy Analyst, External and Corporate Affairs
Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in the Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 18, 2012

This item was deleted from the agenda during the Approval of the Order of Business. See below.

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

Deletion: Approval of April 18, 2012 minutes

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mosher that the agenda, as amended, be approved. 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, DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence - NONE

8.2 Delegations - NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Sponsorship and Naming Administrative Orders

The March 16, 2012 staff report was before the Standing Committee.

Discussion ensued on the proposed Sponsorship and Naming Administrative Orders 55 and 56. Ms. Marion Currie, Project Coordinator, Government Relations and External Affairs, and Ms. Anne Totten, Corporate Policy Analyst, Government Relations and External Affairs, responded to questions from members of the Standing Committee.

Councillor McCluskey expressed concern that there was not a separate policy presented, as per her motion from the December 6, 2011 session of Halifax Regional

Council, in regard to accepting funds from alcohol companies for HRM sponsored events and facilities. She noted that two paragraphs in the staff report were not sufficient.

Councillor Uteck entered the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee refer Recommendation 2, of the March 16, 2012 staff report, back to staff for further research in regard to any alcohol policy other Nova Scotia municipalities may have in place.

Councillor McCluskey requested that staff research the Wolfville, Bridgewater and Antigonish areas for their existing alcohol policies as well as the Toronto area.

The Committee agreed that the overall Sponsorship Policy should be forwarded to Regional Council, however; more information in regard to an alcohol policy is required.

Councillor Mosher suggested that the cities used as benchmark cities for the issue of Council compensation be used for this study rather than Calgary, Vancouver, as outlined in the report, as they are not "like" cities. She inquired why there was no standard in regard to benchmark cities as each report seems to reference a different group of cities. Councillor Mosher requested that there be a responsible alcohol consumption message in facilities hosting events that attract children if they chose to sell alcohol or if there is alcohol sponsorship/advertising.

Councillors McCluskey, Dalrymple and Uteck commented that the debate / discussion on Alcohol Sponsorship should be held at Regional Council.

Without a vote on the motion on the floor, it was **MOVED by Councillor Uteck that the issue of Alcohol Sponsorship be moved to Regional Council for debate.**

Without a seconder, the **motion was lost.**

Discussion ensued on the motion before the Committee.

Councillor Walker, Chair, explained that one role of the Standing Committees is to review policy. If the Committee feels the matter is outside their jurisdiction they may forward the matter to Regional Council. .

In regard to staff recommending status quo, page 4 of the staff report, Deputy Mayor Karsten expressed concern that consistent annual events, such as Natal Day, do not come to Council for discussion and there are alcohol related sponsorships for those events. Currently, there is nothing in the policy that stipulates that if an alcohol sponsor is advertising in an HRM facility that they are required to provide a responsible drinking message.

Without a vote being taken on the motion on the floor, it was **MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Uteck that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee amend proposed Administrative Order 55, Sponsorship, by adding the following: “That alcohol sponsorships must contain a responsible drinking component.” MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

A vote was then taken on the motion on the floor as follows: **MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee refer Recommendation 2, of the March 16, 2012 staff report, back to staff for further research in regard to any alcohol policy other Nova Scotia municipalities may have in place. MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

Discussion ensued on the report with the following motion being placed: **MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Mosher that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council**

- 1. Give Notice of Motion to consider approval of proposed Administrative Order 55, Sponsorship, as outlined in the March 16, 2012 staff report with the following amendment: “*that alcohol sponsorships must contain a responsible drinking component*”.**
- 2. Give Notice of Motion to consider approval of proposed Administrative Order 56, Naming Rights, as outlined in the March 16, 2012 staff report.**
- 3. Approve Administrative Order 55, Sponsorship, as outlined in the March 16, 2012 staff report with the following amendment: “*that alcohol sponsorships must contain a responsible drinking component*”, to become effective in 120 days’ time.**
- 4. Approve Administrative Order 56, Naming Rights, as outlined in the March 16, 2012 staff report, to become effective in 120 days time.**

Deputy Mayor Karsten requested clarification on the inclusion of recommendations for Council to Give Notice of Motion prior to debating the matter and requested that the Clerk explain the process.

The Legislative Assistant advised that the creation of, or amendment to, an Administrative Order or By-Law requires that a Notice of Motion be given at Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Deputy Mayor Karsten requested that, for the record, his vote be recorded as a “No” vote as debate should take place prior to a Notice of Motion being given.

9.2 MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

9.3 OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL - NONE

9.4 SUB-COMITTEES

9.4.1 Grants Committee – NONE

9.4.2 Investment Policy Advisory Committee – NONE

9.4.3 Special Events Advisory Committee – NONE

10. MOTIONS – NONE

11. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

12. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 20, 2012

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Chris Newson
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Upcoming Agenda Items
 - 1.1 Sackville Sports Stadium Audit Report – **June 2012**
2. Information Report – Tender