

GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

July 9, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Chair
Councillor Russell Walker
Councillor Jennifer Watts
Councillor Peter Lund
Mr. Andrew Higdon
Ms. Kate Watson
Mr. Darren Watts
Mr. David Woo

REGRETS: Mr. Geoff Baker
Dr. Lori Wozney
Councillor Brad Johns
Councillor Jim Smith

STAFF: Mr. Greg Keefe, Acting Director, Finance and Information
Technology
Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special
Projects
Mr. Tom Crouse, Manager, Acquisition and Disposal, Real Estate,
Planning and Infrastructure
Mr. Andre MacNeil, Senior Financial Consultant, Finance and
Information Technology
Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Dalrymple, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. in Duke Room 1, 3rd Floor Duke Tower, 5251 Duke Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 11, 2012

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Mr. Higdon that the minutes of June 11, 2012, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

4.1 Update on the Sale of 2421 Brunswick Street, Halifax

8.1 Information Item 3 - Community Grants Program: Delinquent Reporting Update 2012 – Councillor Lund

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Watts that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Update on the Sale of 2421 Brunswick Street, Halifax

The Legislative Assistant advised that the Grants Committee report has been delayed moving to Regional Council pending confirmation of funding for the required 50% payment of the property's market value to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) by the Adsum Association. Staff have suggested that prior to the matter moving to a public hearing, that confirmation be sought as to Adsum's ability to pay the 50% required to CMHC.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence - NONE

6.2 Delegations – NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 Community Grants Program: Delinquent Reporting Proposed Policy and Procedures

The June 21, 2012 staff report was before the Committee.

Information Item 3, Community Grants Program: Delinquent Reporting Update 2012, was dealt with at this time.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects, presented the report. She then responded to questions of clarification from Members of the Committee.

Discussion ensued on the proposed policy and procedures for delinquent reporting.

MOVED by Mr. Darren Watts, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Grants Committee request that staff prepare a Community Grants Program Policy and Procedures document as outlined in the June 21, 2012 staff report with the following amendments, and; provide a report back to the Committee:

1) Legal Services be requested to comment on the wording for Recommendation 1, Page 2 of the June 21, 2012 staff report, in regard to “legal proceedings by or against the municipality”.

2) Amend Recommendation 11, page 5, to include “until they comply” after “suspended”. The recommendation will now read as follows;

“It is recommended that in the event of an overdue grant report or repayment, or tax arrears in excess of one (1) year, eligibility for a municipal donation or grant, tax exemption, less than market value property sale or lease, or in-kind contribution shall be suspended until they comply.”

3) Amend Recommendation 8, page 5, to include that “a holdback of 10% be applied to all awards valued at \$10,000 and under”. Recommendation 8 will now read as follows:

“It is recommended that a 10% holdback be applied to all awards valued at \$10,000 and under issued under the Community Grants Program, effective 2013-2014. Grant recipients who fail to submit a final report by the stated deadline shall forfeit the balance of the grant.”

4) Clarification to be included in regard to the Carry Forward of an Award section, Page 3, concerning the Grants Committee’s ability to adjudicate appeals.

5) Inclusion on page 5, Recourse for Non-Compliance: Notification to Applicants section, that Property Management Companies be included for consideration of collections proceedings for failure to comply with the reporting deadlines.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2 Property Matter: Less Than Market Value Sale of 2041 Hammonds Plains Road, Hammonds Plains (PID#00421438), to Hammonds Plains Fire Hall & Community Centre Association

The July 3, 2012 staff report was before the Committee.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects, presented the report and clarified that the civic address of the property is 2041 Hammonds Plains Road not 2050 Hammonds Plains Road as shown in the recommendation on the staff report. She then responded to questions of clarification from Members of the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Mr. Darren Watts that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Set a date for a public hearing as required under Section 63(2) of the HRM Charter to consider the less than market value sale of 2041 Hammonds Plains Road.**
- 2. Authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale whereby the property located at 2050 Hammonds Plains Road, Hammonds Plains be conveyed to Hammonds Plains Fire Hall & Community Centre Association for the sum of \$1, plus all costs associated with this conveyance, subject to the preparation of site survey, legal description and documents of conveyance, and the terms and conditions set out in Table 1 of the July 3, 2012 staff report.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Community Grants Program: Delinquent Reporting Update 2012

This item was dealt with along with Item 7.1. See page 3.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE – August 13, 2012

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

Chris Newson
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Upcoming Agenda Items:
 - a) Recurring Annual Awards – Draft Process –**2012**
 - b) Non-Profit Tax in Comparable Municipalities –**Fall 2012**
 - c) Proposed Tax Exemption Program Review –**Fall 2012**
2. Community Grants Program Delinquent Reporting: Current Practice
3. Community Grants Program: Delinquent Reporting Update 2012
4. Remaining 2012 meeting dates: *August 13, September 10, October 1, November 5, and December 3.*