

Item No. 12.4
Halifax Regional Council
March 27, 2012

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original signed

SUBMITTED BY:

~~Richard Butts~~, Chief Administrative Officer

Original signed

Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: March 26, 2012

SUBJECT: Purcell's Cove Servicing Study Community Steering Committee

ORIGIN

The Halifax Regional Council motion of February 8, 2011 initiating the Purcell's Cove Road Servicing Study.

The Halifax Regional Council motion of August 2, 2011 adopting the *Public Appointments Policy – Governing Citizen Appointments to Agencies, Boards and Committee*.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Confirms that the Chebucto Community Council is the nominating and appointing body for members of the Purcell's Cove Servicing Study Community Steering Committee and for the adoption of the Terms of Reference for the Committee in accordance with the direction provided in the staff report dated January 24, 2011 and,
2. Amends Section 4.2 of the *HRM Public Appointments Policy* as outlined in Attachment 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND

After careful deliberation, by way of motion on February 8, 2011 Regional Council initiated a servicing study to examine possible servicing scenarios in study areas 1 and 2 adjacent to the Purcell's Cove Road. The staff report dated January 24, 2011 outlined that, as part of the public consultation process, staff would "consult with a community Steering Committee as appointed by the Community Council, to determine servicing alternatives, size of service area, future land uses and community form, cost estimates and impacts on other existing infrastructure and related matters" (pg. 5).

The staff report went on to outline that the Community Steering Committee would be "comprised of property owners in the study area to act as liaison group for the consultants, receiving information and providing feedback, and assisting in preparing and conducting the public consultation phase of the study. The Steering Committee will be appointed by Chebucto Community Council" (pg. 6).

Due to a delay in initiating the process, the public process for establishing the Purcell's Cove Steering Committee was not put in place until November 2011.

In the interim Regional Council adopted the *Public Appointments Policy – Governing Citizen Appointments to Agencies, Board and Committees*, in order to standardize and provide transparency in the process of appointments to HRM's agencies, boards and Committees.

DISCUSSION

The intent of the Community Council acting as the nominating and appointing body for the Purcell's Cove Servicing Study Community Steering Committee was clear, however, there was no formal motion of Council formally delegating that responsibility.

The matter of servicing is a significant issue in the Purcell's Cove Community. To ensure that the Committee has been established in accordance with *HRM's Public Appointment Policy* staff is recommending that a motion confirming the intent of Regional Council be adopted.

Further, it provides the opportunity for Regional Council to clarify the original intent of the Policy in regard to authority of Community Councils to act as nominating and appointing bodies for advisory committees to Community Councils in accordance with the powers of Community Councils under the HRM Charter, unless directed otherwise by motion of Regional Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Recruitment of members of the Purcell's Cove Community Steering Committee was undertaken by public advertisement.

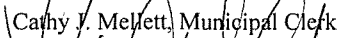
ALTERNATIVES

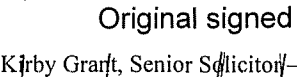
None recommended.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Proposed amendment to *HRM Public Appointments Policy*, Section 4.2
Attachment 2: Staff Report dated January 24, 2011

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/agenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by:  Cathy J. Mellett, Municipal Clerk – 490-6456

Report Approved by:  Original signed
Kirby Grant, Senior Solicitor – 490-4226

Proposed amendment to *HRM Public Appointments Policy*, Section 4.2

4.2 Nominating body

The term nominating body used in this policy refers to ~~the~~ *either a Community Council having the ability under the Charter to appoint advisory committees or to a Standing Committee of Council* delegated the responsibility by Council to recommend citizens for appointment.

Council will determine, through the adoption of terms of reference for a Standing Committee or by delegating to a Community Council, the appropriate nominating body. Council determines by adoption of Standing Committee Terms of Reference and delegation of Authority to Community Councils as outlined under the HRM Charter the appropriate nominating body and Council may choose, by motion, to change those determinations from time to time. The nominating body for HRM's Boards and Committee structure is outlined in APPENDIX A of this policy (as revised from time to time).