

Item No. 11.3.3
Halifax Regional Council
November 12, 2013

TO: Members of Halifax Regional Council
Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Mayor Mike Savage, Chair, Executive Standing Committee

DATE: October 30, 2013

SUBJECT: 2014 Council Meeting Schedule

ORIGIN

Resolution of the Executive Standing Committee dated October 28, 2013.

As outlined in the attached staff report dated October 21, 2013, it has been the practice for Regional Council to adopt a schedule outlining meetings of Regional Council for the forthcoming year.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The Terms of Reference for the Executive Standing Committee states the following:

3.6 General Council Governance

- 3.6.1 The Committee shall act as a review committee for matters related to the general self-governance and administration of Council as directed by Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Standing Committee recommends that Regional Council approve the 2014 Council Meeting Schedule, as set out in Attachment 1 of the October 21, 2013 staff report.

BACKGROUND

The Executive Standing Committee received a staff report dated October 21, 2013 (attached) as part of their October 28, 2013 agenda.

DISCUSSION

The Executive Standing Committee reviewed the October 21st staff report and concluded that the proposed modified bi-weekly Council schedule for 2014 (Attachment 1 of the October 21, 2013 staff report) should be put forward as the recommended schedule to Regional Council. It was noted that additional meetings of Council and or Committee of the Whole could be scheduled if required and with appropriate notice, as provided for under the HRM Charter.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with the recommended course of action.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Executive Standing Committee is open to the public and all items pertaining to the meeting are available online in advance.

As well, as outlined in the October 21, 2013 staff report, the 2014 meeting schedule for Halifax Regional Council, once adopted, is posted online at Halifax.ca to enable members of the public, Council and media to have access to the meeting schedule, agendas and reports (once posted).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with the recommended course of action.

ALTERNATIVES

Regional Council may adopt/or adjust the proposed 2014 Council meeting schedule as they see fit.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Staff report dated October 21, 2013

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.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: Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant, 490-6519



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Executive Standing Committee
October 28, 2013

TO: Chair and Members of Executive Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed
Cathy J. Mellett, Municipal Clerk

DATE: October 21, 2013

SUBJECT: 2014 Council Meeting Schedule

ORIGIN

It has been the practice for Regional Council to adopt a schedule outlining meetings of Regional Council for the forthcoming year.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The mandate of the Executive Standing Committee, as adopted by Regional Council is to fulfil the self-governance role of Regional Council including:

3.6 General Council Governance

3.6.1 The Executive Standing Committee shall act as a review committee for matters related to the general self-governance and administration of Council as directed by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Executive Standing Committee review scheduling options and put forward a recommendation to Regional Council in regard to the 2014 Regional Council schedule.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Administrative Order One, Section 8(2), regular Council sessions are held on Tuesdays at an hour deemed appropriate by the Mayor and the Chief Administrative Officer jointly. Regularly scheduled meetings of Regional Council may be canceled with the agreement of the Mayor/CAO or may be added with appropriate notice provided in accordance with the HRM Charter.

DISCUSSION

Since amalgamation Halifax Regional Council has adopted a Regional Council meeting schedule for the coming year. This process allows members of Council, staff and members of the public to be notified and plan in advance for Regional Council meetings.

Traditionally Halifax Regional Council has adopted a modified weekly meeting which combined a schedule for both Committee of the Whole and Regional Council.

Regional Council adopted a Standing Committee structure in December 2011. A number of matters are now initiated and/or addressed in Standing Committees prior to coming to Regional Council. This change in process has contributed to more streamlined agendas for Regional Council.

Following the 2012 Municipal Elections, Council moved from six (6) to three (3) Community Councils covering much larger geographic areas. Several Community Councils have a substantial number of planning and community matters to be dealt with at Community Councils which has resulted in additional meeting requirements.

Significant time commitment is required of members of Council in preparation and attendance at Community Councils, Standing Committees and other Boards & Committees of Council. Recommendations in regard to these changes will be addressed further by the Executive Committee through the governance review process currently underway.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with the recommended course of action.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The 2014 meeting schedule for Halifax Regional Council, once adopted, is posted online at Halifax.ca to enable members of the public, Council and media to have access to the meeting schedule, agendas and reports (once posted).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with the recommended course of action.

ALTERNATIVES

The Executive Committee may adopt and/or adjust the proposed 2014 Regional Council meeting schedule as they see fit for recommendation to Halifax Regional Council.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 –Modified bi-weekly 2014 Council Schedule
Attachment 2 –Modified weekly 2014 Council Schedule

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

Report Prepared by: Laura Lewis, Agenda & Council Coordinator, Office of Municipal Clerk (490-6525)

2014 HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL SCHEDULE

MEETING TIMES ARE TO BE ANNOUNCED

MONTH	DATE	MEETING	MONTH	DATE	MEETING
January	January 7	No Scheduled Meeting	July	July 1	No Scheduled Meetings
	January 14	Regional Council		July 8	
	January 21	No Scheduled Meeting		July 15	
	January 28	Regional Council		July 22	Regional Council
February	February 4	No Scheduled Meeting	August	July 29	Regional Council
	February 11	Regional Council		August 5	Regional Council
	February 18	No Scheduled Meeting		August 12	No Scheduled Meetings
	February 25	Regional Council		August 19	
March	March 4	Regional Council	September	August 26	
	March 11	No Scheduled Meeting (March Break)		September 2	Regional Council
	March 18	Regional Council		September 9	
	March 25	No Scheduled Meeting		September 16	No Scheduled Meeting
April	April 1	Regional Council		September 23	Regional Council
	April 8	No Scheduled Meeting	October	September 30	No Scheduled Meeting
	April 15	Regional Council		October 7	Regional Council
	April 22	No Scheduled Meeting (Easter)		October 14	No Scheduled Meeting (Thanksgiving)
	April 29	Regional Council		October 21	Regional Council
May	May 6	No Scheduled Meeting	November	October 28	Regional Council
	May 13	Regional Council		November 4	No Scheduled Meeting (UNSM)
	May 20	No Scheduled Meeting		November 11	No Scheduled Meeting (Remembrance Day)
	May 27	Regional Council		November 18	Regional Council
June	June 3	No Scheduled Meeting (FCM)	December	November 25	No Scheduled Meeting
	June 10	Regional Council		December 2	Regional Council
	June 17	No Scheduled Meeting		December 9	Regional Council
	June 24	Regional Council		December 16	No Scheduled Meetings
				December 23	
				December 30	

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	June 17	Regional Council		December 9	Regional Council
	June 24	Regional Council		December 16	No Scheduled Meetings
				December 23	
				December 30	