



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
March 10, 2015**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage
Councillors: Barry Dalrymple
David Hendsbee
Bill Karsten
Gloria McCluskey
Darren Fisher
Waye Mason
Jennifer Watts
Linda Mosher
Russell Walker
Stephen Adams
Reg Rankin
Matt Whitman
Brad Johns
Steve Craig
Tim Outhit

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Lorelei Nicoll

STAFF: Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk
Ms. Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

*A video recording of this meeting is available:
http://archive.isiglobal.ca/vod/halifax/archive_2015-03-10_live-committee.mp4.html*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Council are available online:
<http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/150310cow-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., and recessed at 12:18 p.m.
Committee of the Whole reconvened at 1:01 p.m. and adjourned at 3:39 p.m.*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – NONE

3. Fire Services Operational Review – 2014 Update

This meeting was rescheduled from February 3, 2015.

The following information was before Committee of the Whole:

- Supplementary information report dated January 19, 2015
- Questions and Answers omitted in error from the Supplementary information report dated January 19, 2015
- Recommendation report from the Executive Standing Committee dated December 15, 2014, with attached staff recommendation report dated December 15, 2014
- Staff recommendation report dated February 6, 2006
- Correspondence circulated for the March 10, 2015 meeting from Thomas Tupper, Kate Gillard, Ellen Scanlan, Deirdre Dwyer of the Musquodoboit Harbour and Area Community Association, Kathleen Phelan, Linda Yates, Ken Jollymore, Don Lushington, Ronald Dickie, Rob Widdison, Cheryl Dickie, Glenda Dean, and Wayne MacEwan.
- Correspondence previously distributed for the January 27, 2015 meeting from Reverend Dianne Parker, Kay Ann Meagher, Nancy Lewin, Janet Maybee, Rita Benjamin, Jane Hawes, Patricia and John Driscoll, Dan Ray, Harcourt Gardiner, Ed West, Debbie Kelly, Pamela Carney, and the Honourable Gerald J. O'Malley and Marie O'Malley.
- Correspondence previously distributed for the February 3, 2015 meeting from Adam Hayter, Randy Webb, Greg and Karen Samson, Debbie Kelly and Jennyfer Brickenden.
- Copy of the staff presentation
- Fire Station Reports

Mr. Doug Trussler, Fire Chief, and Mr. Stephen Nearing, Divisional Commander, presented the fire services operation review to Committee of the Whole. The presentation is available online and on file.

Chief Trussler noted a correction to pages 45 and 46 of the presentation, that "response time" should read "travel time" on these pages.

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Endorse the 5-Year Technology Roadmap objectives in the Discussion section of the December 15, 2014 staff report and include the year one objectives (Data Management and Process Review, HRFE Dispatch Project and HRFE FDM Review and Enhancements) in the 2015/2016 capital budget;**
- 2. Endorse the consolidation of equipment, career personnel and volunteer personnel in the core fire stations, to more effectively deliver fire services, and authorize staff to decommission Stations 4 (Lady Hammond), 11 (Patton Road), and 13 (King Street);**
- 3. Authorize staff to initiate the process to improve coverage by relocating stations 8 (Bedford) and 9 (Sackville) to increase coverage and eliminate gaps that exist due to the growth of Bedford West/Hammonds Plains;**

4. **Authorize staff to investigate partnership opportunities with Halifax Stanfield International Airport to improve service delivery;**
5. **Endorse the following:**
 - (a) **Improve the rural fire response by:**
 - i. **maintaining E Platoon complements, as per the Discussion section of the December 15, 2014 report and as set out in Attachment 1 of the December 15, 2014 staff report (proposed staffing model);**
 - ii. **increasing career staff to four in major rural stations; and**
 - iii. **investigating operations to transition Station 28 (Sheet Harbour) to E Platoon staffing level.**
 - (b) **Maintain 24/7 Volunteer staffing, as per the Discussion section of the report and as set out in Attachment 1 of the December 15, 2014 staff report (proposed staffing model);**
 - (c) **Decommission volunteer sub-stations 25 (Ostrea Lake-Pleasant Point), 31 (East Ship Harbour), 36 (Meaghers Grant), and 43 (Grand Lake-Oakfield);**
 - (d) **Maintain the existing fire coverage MOU with Enfield;**
 - (e) **Investigate entering into fire coverage MOUs with communities bounding Halifax Regional Municipality, including Hubbards and Ecum Secum; and**
 - (f) **Continue volunteer recruitment initiatives.**
6. **Direct staff to return to Council with a revised Fire Service Delivery Target and Administrative Order 24 Respecting Fire and Emergency Service in Halifax Regional Municipality no later than March 2016 following further detailed analysis of the 2006 Service Delivery Standard.**

Councillor Whitman commented that the Black Point Fire Station in District 13 moved to volunteer-only service nine months ago, without consultation with the community or himself. Councillor Whitman compared District 13 with the factors affecting rural resource allocation set out on page 35 of the presentation, noting that he was informed that there are only two active volunteer fire fighters in the Black Point area, and that it is 25 km to from the Tantallon Fire Station to the Hubbards Fire Station at the county line. Councillor Whitman commented that he is pleased staff are working toward a Memorandum of Understanding with Lunenburg County firefighters, although they are volunteers as well and residents shouldn't have to rely on their services, especially considering that some locations such as Black Point, Mason's Point, and Boutilier's Point would be too far to be effectively serviced. Councillor Whitman asked for comment from staff on the possibility of the uninsurability of properties due to a lack of fire service.

Responding to points raised by Councillor Whitman, Chief Trussler indicated that the factors affecting rural resource allocation referenced in the presentation and by Councillor Whitman were set by Regional Council in 2006, and that staff may be coming back within a year with amendments to the service level objectives. He indicated that there are eight volunteers listed for the Black Point Fire Station, five of which are active and two are in training. Chief Trussler further clarified that the Volunteer Recruitment vacant position is currently undergoing interviews.

Councillor Whitman advised that he has an amendment to bring forward to return Black Point to the previous staffing model from before the temporary summer staffing decision.

Council discussed when amendments should be brought forward, and decided that amendments will be addressed after Council's questions had been answered by staff.

Councillor Watts request that when it comes time to vote on the motion, that the motion be split.

Councillor Watts advised that she also has an amendment to bring forward to remove item 2 and item 5 (c) from the motion.

Councillor Watts thanked the Chief and his team for the work that went into bringing forward the fire services operational review, and acknowledged several positive recommendations that she is in support of, including technology upgrades, a review of By-law M-100 regarding current processes for legislated fire inspections, the potential for a new training centre, and staffing of aerial trucks. Councillor Watts indicated that she will be submitting a petition at Regional Council signed by over 3000 residents against the closure of the Lady Hammond Fire Station. She noted concern with decommissioning this station when density is being increased in the urban core, concern with response times to emergency medical calls for seniors, and concern with fire response times in the winter with narrow, snow congested streets and icy conditions. Councillor Watts also brought forward concerns with stations that specialize in certain areas, such as the Bayers Road Fire Station which is trained in hazardous materials handling, being unavailable for fire calls due to other emergencies, and concern with response times from Dartmouth stations to Halifax when needed because of the Macdonald Bridge redecking project. Councillor Watts commented on the historical connection with the Lady Hammond Fire Station and the Halifax Explosion.

Chief Trussler acknowledged that closing a fire station can be an emotional issue for a community. He reviewed standard response times and how the number of units are assigned dependent on the type of fire noting that response times from West Street and Bayers Road stations would adequately meet service standards. Chief Trussler noted that fire services support the role of the provincial medial service in terms of medical emergency calls, although that is primarily a provincial responsibility. He acknowledged that weather can affect service level objectives, and noted that when specialty teams are unavailable, other staff are reallocated to provide coverage. Chief Trussler commented that if the Lady Hammond Fire Station were to close, staff would work with all interested parties to relocate the Halifax Explosion memorial on site.

Councillor McCluskey noted that she will be presenting several petitions at Regional Council from Dartmouth residents against the proposed decommissioning of the King Street Fire Station. She noted that no consultation with residents or herself took place with the proposal to close this station.

Responding to questions from Councillor McCluskey regarding the composition of the steering committee that was struck to oversee the operational review, Chief Trussler advised that the fire fighters on the committee provided a valuable role, although the end recommendation was a management decision.

Councillor McCluskey noted concern that fire trucks coming from Highfield Park along Victoria Road would not be able to get through during rush hour traffic, and that streets are currently so narrow because of snow banks that vehicles would not be able to pull over to allow trucks to pass. She referenced information on the short amount of time it takes for modern furnishings to burn, and how important the first few minutes of a fire are, in terms of response time. Councillor McCluskey also noted the importance of having fire fighters with knowledge of an area, to be able to get to a call as fast as possible. She noted that the Regional Plan encourages density in the urban core, and essential services draw people to move to an area. Chief Trussler commented that fire services employs expert drivers, who are paid a premium to know which streets to take at certain times of the day.

Councillor Craig noted that in the 2010 Citizen Survey, 82% of respondents felt that fire services would respond in a timely manner, and that fire services was rated a 4.8 out of 5 in terms of importance of public service. At the request of Councillor Craig, the Clerk shared on the overhead information from the

National Fire Protection Association on response time standards from 2006, noting that response times are arbitrary and set according to each municipality. He indicated that he will not support any changes to fire stations until a fire station location study is completed.

Councillor Outhit spoke in support of the plans for Bedford, and of his support for urban volunteer fire fighters. He also spoke in support of enhancements to technology, and asked for information on the implementation of the system that controls changing traffic lights. Councillor Outhit commented that he has concerns with the proposed closure of the Lady Hammond Fire Station, noting that the North End of Halifax is growing, and he understands this station backs up many other stations. He also spoke of the importance of having fire stations fully staffed with four fire fighters at all times to allow for entry into buildings when the trucks arrive on site.

Chief Trussler clarified that Opticom devices turn lights green to clear an intersection, and they are tested on an annual basis. Deputy Chief Roy Hollett advised that the current Opticom devices depend on line of sight, and the new systems would be by satellite, so that the truck would be followed by the satellite, providing a better timing process. He advised that fire services staff work with traffic services so that when traffic lights are upgraded, the Opticom system would also be upgraded, and that they also address intersections that are a problem for fire services. Chief Trussler commented that staffs' analysis indicated that the Lady Hammond Fire Station is operationally redundant and meets the criteria for closure, and that staff would still be able to meet the service delivery targets set by Council in 2006 with the closure of this station. He further noted that all response areas currently covered by the King Street Station can be adequately covered by Fire Stations 12, 14 and 15 while allowing for full staffing of an aerial unit in Dartmouth as recommended in the Fire Underwriters report.

Councillor Johns commented that the 2006 direction of Council has not been met regarding the hiring of fire fighters. He noted that fire services used to be funded through an area rate, and was moved to a general rated service, which, in hindsight, those communities wouldn't have supported given the current implications to rural fire stations. Councillor Johns indicated that since his time on Council there has never been a volunteer fire fighter recruitment drive for Sackville. He suggested that with the large number of urban volunteer fire fighters, that career fire fighters could be moved to staff areas where there are fewer volunteers.

Chief Trussler clarified that with regard to the 2006 service delivery standard, the direction was to hire 81 fire fighters, and 24 were hired. He noted that this was contingent on annual audits being done, and these audits were not completed. Chief Trussler indicated that in 2006/07 the total number employees were 419, and the total number of employees currently is 441. He advised that volunteer fire fighters need to live close to the station at which they volunteer in order to meet response times.

Councillor Mason spoke in support of Council making evidence based decisions, indicating that the public needs to know the reality of staffing levels at some stations. He inquired whether density is something that Halifax and other municipalities look at when calculating response times, and whether there would be merit to having a third party study to examine service standards. Councillor Mason commented on concerns with the current morale of volunteers and staff. He suggested that if the Lady Hammond Fire Station closes, he would hope the land reverts to a park.

Councilor Hendsbee asked that when the recommendations are voted on separately, that includes voting separately on each sub-section of recommendation 5. Councillor Hendsbee suggested that since there is one tax rate for all fire services throughout the municipality, that residents expect equality of fire service. He asked for clarification on whether there has been a fire station location study completed, and whether it was completed internally or externally. Chief Trussler clarified that this is essentially a station location study, and it was based on the current service delivery standard and was validated by a third party study.

Councillor Dalrymple noted a discrepancy with the number of volunteers listed for stations in District 1, and the number of active and potential volunteers he is aware of. He noted the need for Council to hold a discussion about the role of volunteer fire fighters. Councillor Dalrymple noted concerns with response

times in rural areas, noting that it takes 23 minutes to drive from Meaghers Grant to Musquodoboit Harbour, plus dispatch and time for volunteers to get to the station.

Councillor Rankin cautioned Council against approving amendments to the staff recommendations based on fear and perception instead of fact based evidence. He indicated that the Chief is responsible for service standards, in his professional leadership capacity, and questioned how the municipality would finance new hires to staff stations if the recommendation to decommission some stations is not approved.

Council recessed at 12:18 p.m. and reconvened at 1:01 p.m.

Councillor Karsten thanked the Chief for correcting certain incorrect aspects reported in the media, noting that one of them was about a shortage of staff and equipment based on insufficient budget. He noted that Council has always been supportive of the needs of Fire and Police Services. Councillor Karsten indicated that this is a complex issue which is difficult to communicate in its entirety to the public.

Councillor Karsten indicated that he will be bringing forward an amendment to have the volunteer model revised if necessary with input from volunteers themselves through the volunteer fire fighters advisory committee.

Councillor Fisher, noting that the staff report indicates that insurance ratings will remain unchanged if Council approves the staff recommendations, inquired whether ratings would change if the recommendations are not followed. Chief Trussler advised that staff were told by the authors of the Fire Underwriters Survey that if Council were to implement the recommendations, that ratings will remain the same. He further clarified that if aerial trucks are not staffed, ratings will go down and the likely outcome would be an increase in insurance premiums for businesses in the core areas of Halifax and Dartmouth. Fire Underwriters have suggested an increase of up to \$1.2 million dollars annually.

Councillor Fisher inquired whether the technology roadmap would be affected by any of the proposed amendments discussed by members of Council today. Chief Trussler indicated that the technology roadmap is separate from any of the amendments discussed.

Councillor Walker requested that before any amendments are voted on, he would like to know the full cost and effect of the amendments.

Councillor Adams inquired when the consolidation of the Harrietsfield and Spryfield Fire Stations into one new station is planned to take place. Deputy Chief Hollett advised that staff are waiting for valuation work on existing stations and will be coming forward to Council within the next six months with a recommendation.

Councillor Watts acknowledged the important contribution that women make to the fire service and reminded everyone to use gender inclusive language. She indicated that she is not comfortable closing stations without having more information on how the effects of climate change, such as the icing events over the past few weeks, will have on response times. Councillor Watts commented on the flash over of materials, which happens faster and hotter with the composition of materials of modern furnishings, which should also be considered in response times. Referencing her proposed amendment to not decommission the three stations in recommendation #2, she acknowledged that this would involve considerable financial investment, and indicated she would like to see this matter deferred to the March 25, 2015 Committee of the Whole to allow staff time to determine the budget implications of this amendment.

Councillor McCluskey inquired whether the possibility of a station being unavailable for a call because they are responding to another fire or on training was taken into account when calculating response times. She also asked for a breakdown of costs needed for the King Street Fire Station over the next ten years, and asked for clarification of the term "coding" in the table of emergency calls by incident type on page 8 of the binder materials. Chief Trussler responded to Councillor McCluskey's inquiries, advised that concurrent alarms occur very rarely. He indicated he would forward a breakdown of costs for the King

Street Fire Station to Councillor McCluskey, and for the Lady Hammond Fire Station to Councillor Watts. Chief Trussler indicated he would look into the “coding” term referenced by Councillor McCluskey and get back to her with that information.

Councillor Craig proposed putting forward an amendment to replace recommendation no. 3 with the following:

3. Authorize staff to initiate the process to improve coverage to increase coverage by relocating station 8 to the area between the 102 and 101 intersections and Bedford Commons, and construct a new station on Larry Uteck drive and assign a 24/7 crew of four firefighters at this station per the Fire Underwriters Survey recommendation Option 2 for zone 8.

Councillor Johns inquired, if the 81 fire fighters were hired further to the 2006 direction by Council, whether the Patton Road Fire Station and the others proposed for closure would have four full time staff. Chief Trussler clarified that the Patton Road Fire Station is completely covered by Fire Station 10, and is not required to meet service standards. He indicated that they would rather use those fire fighters from Patton Road in underutilized areas of the municipality. Chief Trussler further clarified that there are currently two stations in District 14 that only have two fire fighters. Councillor Johns spoke of the significant growth coming to District 14 over the next few years, and questioned the rationale in closing stations in districts where populations are growing. He indicated he would be open to consolidating the Millwood and Upper Sackville Fire Stations, but this was not put forward as a recommendation.

Councillor Dalrymple commented that he is not opposed to the Meaghers Grant and Grand Lake Fire Stations closing, just not this year. He indicated that at some point in the near future a new connector road will be built from the Aerotech Business Park to Wellington, and that proposal includes a new fire station on that road. He suggested that would be the time to close the Wellington, Geoffs and Grand Lake Fire Stations. Councillor Dalrymple indicated that the costs of leaving the Meaghers Grant and Grand Lake Fire Stations open would be very minimal, considering both are in excellent physical condition, and he believes the community could raise the volunteer contingent for these stations.

Responding to a question from Councillor Hendsbee regarding the recruitment list, Chief Trussler advised that there are 29 people on that list, which was started in 2007. He clarified that dependent on those individuals meeting certain conditions, including fitness testing, they would be offered employment as openings come available.

Councillor Karsten indicated that he would like to see a staff report explaining why only 24 of the 81 fire fighter positions directed by Council in 2006 to be hired were filled. Referencing the February 6, 2006 staff report before Council, Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, clarified that recommendation no. 3 of that report was the establishment of the service standards, from which the 81 positions were identified as required. Councillor Karsten asked for further information on the Volunteer Fire Fighters’ Advisory Committee, including how they originated and why this Committee was not part of the Governance Review when Councillors Hendsbee and Dalrymple sit on that Committee. Mr. Phil McNulty, Executive Fire Officer, clarified that the Committee evolved out of volunteer committees formed long before amalgamation. He indicated that the Committee has representatives from all volunteer divisions and is chaired by the Volunteer Program Manager.

Responding to questions from Councillor McCluskey regarding the number of personnel other than fire fighters that work from the King Street station, Chief Trussler advised that also working in the building are a Division Commander and a staff person working on the roster, as well as a District Captain from Fire Station 12 there temporarily.

Councillor Outhit reiterated that four fire fighters are needed to fight a fire, and inquired how many employees would need to be hired to have a minimum of four fire fighters on staff at each station currently open. Chief Trussler advised that another 75 employees, in addition to the current staff complement and including the staffing of aerial trucks, would be required. He indicated that the costs for first year salary and benefits for one employee is approximately \$80,000 plus benefits, training and equipment. Councillor

Outhit noted that would bring the total starting annual costs of 75 employees to over \$7.5 million dollars annually.

Councillor Johns indicated that he would also like to see a report explaining why all of the 81 hires were not completed as directed by Council in 2006, and inquired whether budgets were increased to reflect these anticipated hires.

Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer, reviewed the recommendations approved in the February 6, 2006 staff report, clarifying that there was no actual direction from Council to hire 81 fire fighters, but to accept the service delivery standards as attached to that report as a desired level of service. He further clarified that staff were directed to develop a multi-year strategy for implementation for future budget cycles.

Responding to questions from Councillor Craig with regard to the completion of the Master Fire Plan, Chief Trussler advised that two of the three phases of the plan have been completed. Staff are working toward bringing forward further recommendations to Council for the third phase.

Responding to questions from members regarding the role of the Emergency Management Office (EMO) within Fire Services, Chief Trussler clarified that EMO is working well and fully supported by Fire Services and was not a part of the Fire Services Operational Review.

Council discussed which direction it wished to move at this time. Councillor Rankin reminded members that it is prudent and common practice to have the financial implications before making any decisions on service adjustments.

Mr. John Traves, Municipal Solicitor, concurred, suggesting that Chief Trussler may respond during this meeting with financial implications if he has them, otherwise Council should ask him to come back with that information. Mr. Butts also concurred, noting that the proposed amendments discussed today are inter-related and would be contrary to the preliminary budget for Fire Services. He suggested that Council should have the financial implications of any amendments before making a decision.

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple, that Halifax Regional Council direct that the Black Point Fire Station return to the daytime staffing model of two staff which existed prior to the suspension of fire services in the summer of 2014.

Committee of the Whole discussed Councillor Whitman's motion at this time.

Responding to questions from members, the Mayor indicated that the Fire Services preliminary budget presentation was delayed to first hold this discussion on the Fire Services Operational Review, and the Fire Services budget is scheduled to be presented to Committee of the Whole on March 25, 2015.

Mr. Butts noted that the Operational Plan as presented to Council meets the Service Standards adopted by Regional Council in 2006 within the Operating envelope and direction in regard to the Operating Budget and Tax Rates provided by Council.

Responding to questions from Councillor Outhit, Chief Trussler advised that the two fire fighters from the Black Point Fire Station were reallocated to the Tantallon Fire Station to make a crew of four. He indicated that if Councillor Whitman's motion passes, the two fire fighters would have to be returned to Black Point leaving two stations running with two fire fighters, which he cannot recommend for fire fighter safety and fire fighting efficiency.

Mr. Butts advised that should Council approve the main motion (staff recommendation) with a request for a supplementary report exploring the financial implications of the proposed amendments, then Council may find itself in a position to have to rescind the main motion after learning of the financial implications, which would require a 2/3 vote of Council. He suggested that Council may wish to defer this matter to the

March 25, 2015 Committee of the Whole, with a request for a supplementary report exploring the financial implications of the four proposed amendments.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Karsten that further consideration of the main motion be deferred pending receipt of a supplementary staff report outlining the implications of the proposed amendments, as follows:

1. **Councillor Watts: to amend the motion to remove recommendations 2 and 5(c).**
2. **Councillor Karsten: to amend the motion to provide that the urban volunteer model be revised with input from volunteers through the Volunteer Fire Advisory Committee or other body as appropriate.**
3. **Councillor Craig: to amend the motion to authorize staff to initiate the process to improve and increase coverage by relocating Station 8 to the area between the 102 and 101 intersections and Bedford Commons, and construct a new station on Larry Uteck Drive and assign a 24/7 crew of four firefighters at this station per the Fire Underwriters Survey recommendations Option 2 for zone 8.**

And further that staff provide the cost of staffing all stations with four fire fighters.

Councillor Johns asked that the supplementary report include a list of what a two member fire station can and cannot do when responding to a fire.

Responding to an inquiry from Councillor Watts about phasing of costs, Mr. Butts indicated that staff will ensure this information is also available to members of Council.

Councillor Outhit requested further information on the analysis and costing for the plans for Bedford, including the possibility of a new fire station on Larry Uteck Blvd.

Councillor Whitman indicated that he does not want his motion regarding the Black Point Fire Station to be a part of the deferral, and asked that his motion be voted on today.

Mr. Traves advised that Councillor Whitman is proposing an amendment to the main motion, and at the same time the main motion is the subject of a motion of deferral. He indicated a motion of deferral would take precedence over the amendment to the main motion. Mr. Traves further clarified that in order to remove Councillor Whitman's amendment from the main motion to vote on it today, it would first require a 2/3 vote to waive the rules of order.

Councillor Outhit cautioned Council against becoming involved in operational matters. Mr. Traves concurred that operational matters would normally be under the purview of the CAO and staff, although this is an amendment on operational matters before Committee of the Whole for recommendation to Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that the rules of order be waived to allow an amendment to the main motion, which is the subject of a motion of deferral, to be voted upon at this time. MOTION PUT AND PASSED (2/3 vote required).

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple, that Halifax Regional Council direct that the Black Point Fire Station return to the daytime staffing model of two staff which existed prior to the suspension of fire services in the summer of 2014.

Committee of the Whole further discussed Councillor Whitman's motion, and the question was called.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The motion of deferral was voted on at this time, as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Karsten that further consideration of the main motion be deferred pending receipt of a supplementary staff report outlining the implications of the proposed amendments, as follows:

1. **Councillor Watts: to amend the motion to remove recommendations 2 and 5(c).**
2. **Councillor Karsten: to amend the motion to provide that the urban volunteer model be revised with input from volunteers through the Volunteer Fire Advisory Committee or other body as appropriate.**
3. **Councillor Craig: to amend the motion to authorize staff to initiate the process to improve and increase coverage by relocating Station 8 to the area between the 102 and 101 intersections and Bedford Commons, and construct a new station on Larry Uteck Drive and assign a 24/7 crew of four firefighters at this station per the Fire Underwriters Survey recommendations Option 2 for zone 8.**

And further that staff provide the cost of staffing all stations with four fire fighters.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Cathy J. Mellett
Municipal Clerk