

HALIFAX

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Item No. 14.1.12
Halifax Regional Council
December 12, 2017

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by 

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: December 6, 2017

SUBJECT: Appointment of Development Officers

ORIGIN

This report originates from staff.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, Chapter VIII, Section 258(1):

The Council shall appoint a Development Officer to administer its land-use by-law and subdivision by-law.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council appoint Karen Godwin as Development Officer, pursuant to Subsection 258(1) of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, and that these appointments be effective for the duration of their current conditions of employment with the Halifax Regional Municipality.

BACKGROUND

Development Officers are required to administer the Municipality's land use regulations, as set out in its various land use by-laws, development agreements, the Regional Subdivision By-law and the *HRM Charter*, on behalf of Council. As a result of a recent competition, a current staff member, Karen Godwin, has been hired to the Planner II position.

DISCUSSION

As part of the Planning and Development Business Unit Renewal Program, two Planner II positions were assigned to the Land Development and Subdivision Program Area within the Current Planning division. The job description for the Planner II position includes the assignment of Development Officer duties and

responsibilities as may be appropriate.

This position is responsible for making decisions concerning the more straightforward and routine development applications, thereby creating capacity to allow the existing Principal Planners who are appointed as Development Officers to devote more of their time to complicated development applications. This further division of staff roles and responsibilities will help to improve service delivery and allow all development applications to be processed more efficiently.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with this report. These are budgeted positions within C420 – Land Development and Subdivision.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations contained within this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement is not applicable to this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications.

ALTERNATIVES

Council may choose not to appoint the staff member as Development Officer. In doing so, the added capacity for the more efficient processing of development applications would be lost.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

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