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Item No. 15.1.1

Halifax Regional Council

May 21, 2019

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed by

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** December 06, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Development Officer

# **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 Peter Nightingale as Development Officer, pursuant to Subsection 258(1) of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, and that this appointment be effective for the duration of the current conditions of Mr. Nightingale's 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, Peter Nightingale, has been hired to the Planner II position.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Two Planner II positions are 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.

Peter Nightingale has accepted a term placement of up to 18 months, which is the expected duration of another staff's maternity leave. Achieving the results identified in the current business plan requires the appointment by Council of this individual as Development Officer.

### 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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