

HALIFAX

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Item No. 15.3.3
Halifax Regional Council
July 30, 2019

TO: Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed

Mayor Mike Savage, Chair, Budget Committee of the Whole

DATE: July 19, 2019

SUBJECT: Letter Request: Funding for Eastern Shore Lifestyles Centre

ORIGIN

- March 5, 2019 Halifax Regional Council, item 15.1.5
- July 19, 2019 Budget Committee of the Whole, item 3 & 3.1

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrative Order One, Schedule 4:

6. The Standing Committee of the Whole on Budget shall: (a) review the proposed budget for the next fiscal year; (b) report to the Council on matters respecting the proposed budget arising from its review; and (c) perform such other duties as directed by the Council.

RECOMMENDATION

The Budget Committee of the Whole recommends that Halifax Regional Council direct the Mayor and/or the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a letter to the Provincial Government of Nova Scotia stating that the Eastern Shore Lifestyle Centre is a priority project for the Municipality, and request that the Province proceed with their request and recommendation to the Federal-Provincial Infrastructure Program for funding under the Communities and Culture category.

BACKGROUND

At the March 5, 2019 meeting of Halifax Regional Council, Council approved a motion relating to a new facility for the Eastern Shore Lifestyles Centre, directing the Chief Administrative Officer to confirm availability of funding from other levels of government, and capping the HRM's funding portion at \$3 million.

At the July 19, 2019 meeting of the Budget Committee of the Whole, members of the Eastern Shore Lifestyles Centre Society addressed the Committee during public participation, requesting that Council forward a letter to the Provincial Government confirming the Municipality's commitment and prioritization of the Eastern Shore Lifestyles Centre project.

For additional background information on this item, refer to the minutes extract from the March 5, 2019 meeting of Halifax Regional Council, item 15.1.5 (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION

The Budget Committee of the Whole considered the request put forward by the Eastern Shore Lifestyles Centre Society, and following a discussion with staff, a motion was approved as outlined in the 'Recommendation' section of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The request for a letter to be forwarded to the Province has no financial implications. However, if funding is forthcoming from the Federal and Provincial levels of government, HRM has committed to funding in the amount of \$3,000,0000 and is accounted for in the 2019-2021 Capital Budget.

RISK CONSIDERATION

None.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Meetings of the Budget Committee of the Whole are open to the public. A live webcast of the meeting is provided on Halifax.ca. The agenda, reports, and minutes of the Budget Committee of the Whole are posted on Halifax.ca. The Budget Committee of the Whole meeting on July 19, 2019 received public participation from four (4) members of the public.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

ALTERNATIVES

The Budget Committee of the Whole did not discuss alternatives.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – March 5, 2019 Halifax Regional Council minutes extract, Item 15.1.5.

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.

Report Prepared by: David Perusse, Legislative Assistant, Office of the Municipal Clerk, 902.490.6732

Extract from the March 5, 2019 Halifax Regional Council minutes.

15.1.5 Sheet Harbour Lions Club / Eastern Shore Lifestyles Center

The following was before Council:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 28, 2019
- Correspondence from Senator Tom McInnis

Gareth Evans, Recreational Planning Specialist, and Denise Schofield, Director of Parks and Recreation, responded to questions of clarification of Council.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT That Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Address the matters identified in the Alternative Proposal (Option 3) section of the staff report dated February 28, 2019 as follows:

- a. confirm that the Halifax Public Library will locate its branch in the new facility;**
- b. confirm that the land identified for the new facility is suitable and is available;**
- c. develop a more detailed plan for the multi-purpose (community hall) component of the facility;**
- d. confirm availability of funding from other levels of government; and**
- e. develop an operating model for the new facility;**

2. Develop conceptual plans for the new facility in accordance with the Alternative Proposal (Option 3); and

3. Return to Council with recommendations regarding conceptual design and a funding plan for a multi-year capital project and ongoing operating funding based on the Alternative Proposal (Option 3).

Council considered an amendment to the motion to provide options 2 and 3 from the staff report in order to give staff further flexibility in planning. Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, confirmed for Council that adding alternative proposal (Option 2) would provide clear direction to staff to explore both options and return to Council. Dubé indicated, when staff returns the recommendation will include a full business plan for operating costs and all other items.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Streach

THAT the motion be amended to include Option 2, to direct the CAO to consider both Options 2 and 3, and that this be included in all three clauses.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Karsten

The following amendment was proposed by Councillor Blackburn

THAT clause 1a of the motion be amended to read:

- a. confirm if the Halifax Public Library will consider locating its branch in the new facility;**

The amendment was deemed friendly by the Mover, and incorporated in the motion as amended.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT clause 3 of the motion be amended to include that in the funding plan that HRM's funding portion not exceed \$2.3 M for Option 2 as identified and capped at \$2.5 M for Option 3

Councillor Outhit suggested that the amendment could be increased to reflect \$3 M for each option. Councillor Nicoll, the Mover, noted the suggestion as friendly. The motion to amend before Council now reads:

THAT clause 3 of the motion be amended to include that in the funding plan that HRM's funding portion not exceed \$3 M for Option 2 as identified and capped at \$3 M for Option 3

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED. (13 in favour, 3 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Mancini, Councillors Streach, Hendsbee, Nicoll, Smith, Cleary, Walker, Adams, Zurawski, Whitman, Blackburn and Outhit.

Against: Councillors Austin, Mason, and Craig

Not present: Councillor Karsten

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT That Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Address the matters identified in the Alternative Proposal (Options 2 and 3) section of the staff report dated February 28, 2019 as follows:

- a. confirm if the Halifax Public Library will consider locating its branch in the new facility;**
- b. confirm that the land identified for the new facility is suitable and is available;**
- c. develop a more detailed plan for the multi-purpose (community hall) component of the facility;**
- d. confirm availability of funding from other levels of government; and**
- e. develop an operating model for the new facility;**

2. Develop conceptual plans for the new facility in accordance with the Alternative Proposal (Options 2 and 3); and

3. Return to Council with recommendations regarding conceptual design and a funding plan, for a multi-year capital project ongoing operating funding, based on the Alternative Proposals (Options 2 and 3) and that HRM's funding portion be capped at \$3M.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Karsten