



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

Item No. 13.1.7
Halifax and West Community Council
November 13, 2018

TO: Chair and Members of Halifax and West Community Council

SUBMITTED BY: ORIGINAL SIGNED

Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

DATE: November 5, 2019

SUBJECT: 2020 Halifax and West Community Council Meeting Schedule

ORIGIN

It is the practice for Halifax and West Community Council (HWCC) to adopt a schedule of meetings for the upcoming year.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrative Order 1, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Schedule 8, Community Councils Rules Governing Meetings, Section 3:

- (1) *There shall be ten (10) regular meetings of a Community Council each year.*
- (4) *There shall be no regular meetings of a Community Council during the months of July and August unless the Community Council, by resolution, establishes a summer meeting schedule.*

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax and West Community Council approve the proposed 2020 meeting schedule as outlined in Attachment 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 8 of the Community Councils Rules Governing Procedures, Halifax and West Community Council (HWCC) shall meet no less than ten (10) times annually. Halifax and West Community Council typically meets from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Council Chamber, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street.

DISCUSSION

The proposed 2020 schedule provided as Attachment 1 of this report, proposes 10 regular meetings and 1 'if required', and takes into account statutory holidays, March Break, meetings of Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) and Halifax Regional Council. The approval of this schedule will allow members of Council, staff and the public to be notified and plan in advance for meetings. The Chair of the Standing Committee, with input from staff, has the authority to cancel a scheduled meeting should it be deemed necessary. A special meeting for a time sensitive matter may be called with appropriate notice, provided it is done in accordance with the HRM Charter and Administrative Order One.

Where 2020 is an election year, with polls anticipated to open as early as October 6 and the Municipal Election is anticipated for October 17, 2020, Regional Council meetings have not been planned for the month of October. Although there are no restrictions in the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter or the Municipal Elections Act preventing Council from conducting business close to an election, there may be a perceived benefit to incumbents. Similarly, where possible, Standing Committee meetings have not been scheduled for the month of October.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

RISK CONSIDERATION

A delay in approval could result in additional delays for other HRM Committee meeting schedules, as the Community Council schedule may impact the timing of other Committee meeting times and dates.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The 2020 meeting schedule for the Community Council, once adopted, is posted to the HRM calendar at Halifax.ca to enable members of the public and media to have access to the meeting schedule, agendas and reports.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

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

ALTERNATIVES

The Community Council may recommend and/or adjust the proposed 2020 meeting schedule as they see fit.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Proposed 2020 Halifax and West Community Council Meeting Schedule

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: Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant, Office of Municipal Clerk, 902.490.6519

Attachment 1

Halifax and West Community Council Proposed 2020 Meeting Schedule

Date	Time	Location
January 21, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
February 18, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
March 17, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
April 14, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
May 12, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
June 9, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
July 7, 2020 <i>*if required</i>	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
August 11, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
September 8, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
<i>No October meeting</i>		
November 11, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
December 9, 2020	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Council Chambers – 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax

***Please be advised that meeting times and locations are subject to change**