

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed by 

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: October 31, 2022

SUBJECT: **Appointment of Building Officials**

ORIGIN

Pursuant to the *Nova Scotia Building Code Act*, all Building Officials must be appointed by Regional Council.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The *Nova Scotia Building Code Act*, Chapter 46 of the Revised Statutes, 1989 Section 5 states that

- 5 (1) The council of a municipality is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this Act in the municipality.
- (2) A building official or building officials shall be appointed by each council to administer and enforce this Act in the municipality.

The *Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations*, article 1.3.1.3, defines a Building Official

1.3.1.3. Specific Definitions

- (1) In these regulations the following definitions apply:

“Building Official” means a person appointed as an inspector pursuant to Section 5 of the Act.

Municipal by-law *B-201 Respecting the Building Code* article 2.4.1.1 sets forth the qualification requirements for Building Officials

2.4.1.1. Appointment

- (1) A person appointed or eligible to be appointed by a municipality as a *building official* shall
 - (a) hold a valid diploma from the Nova Scotia Building Code Training and Certification Board, and
 - (b) be a member in good standing of the Nova Scotia Building Officials Association.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council appoint Daniel Campagna, James MacDonald, Joshua Hirschfield and Jeffrey Graham as a Building Officials, pursuant to Section 5(2) of the *Nova Scotia Building Code Act*. This appointment is effective for the duration of their assignment to the duties of a Building Official with Halifax Regional Municipality.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

As of April 1, 2008, Building Officials in Nova Scotia are required to be qualified in order to administer and enforce the Nova Scotia Building Code. The requirements for qualification are consistent with the training requirements of the National Certification Model adopted in 2005 by the Alliance of Canadian Building Officials Association (ACBOA) and the Nova Scotia Building Officials Association (NSBOA). The *NS Building Code Act* requires that Building Officials be appointed by Regional Council. Building Officials are required to administer and enforce provisions of the *NS Building Code Act* and *Regulations* on behalf of HRM.

Building Officials are primarily responsible for the delivery of two programs: Construction Approvals and Maintenance of Residential Occupancies. Building Officials ensure consistent interpretation and application of various by-laws, administrative orders and the Provincial Building code as they apply to buildings and development in co-ordination with other HRM staff in the development approvals process.

Daniel Campagna, James MacDonald, Joshua Hirschfield and Jeffrey Graham have been employed by HRM as Assistant Building Officials while completing their training and mentorship programs. These individuals have completed the training requirements, hold diplomas from the Nova Scotia Building Code Training and Certification Board and were successful applicants in recent competitions for vacant Building Official positions. They meet the qualifications of the job descriptions in addition to any Provincial requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications. Funding for these positions is accommodated within the approved 2022-2023 operating budget for C430 Building Standards.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There is no significant risk associated with the staff recommendation as these are current employees qualified to fill the position to which they are being appointed.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement is required.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives applicable as a Council appointment is required for Building Officials to have the necessary authority to enforce compliance to applicable codes, and by-laws.

ATTACHMENTS

No attachments.

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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