



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
March 26, 2024**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage
Councillors: David Hendsbee
Becky Kent
Trish Purdy
Sam Austin
Tony Mancini
Waye Mason
Lindell Smith
Shawn Cleary
Kathryn Morse
Patty Cuttell
Iona Stoddard
Pam Lovelace
Lisa Blackburn
Paul Russell
Tim Outhit

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Cathy Deagle Gammon

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer
John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services
/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer
Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk
Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m., and Council adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

Special Presentation – Canada SailGP Team

John Flemming, Co-Chair SailGP and Phil Robertson, Driver for the Canada SailGP Team spoke to the SailGP Team's preparation for the 2024 Sail Grand Prix event and that they were looking forward to a great event in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Special Presentation – Civic Events and Environment and Climate Change

Mayor Savage recognized Billy Comer, Manager, Events and Civic Event team and Shannon Miedema, Director, Environment and Climate Change and team for their coordination efforts on the 2024 Junos.

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillors noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE

4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

- Information Item 7 – 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) Election Polling Divisions & Tariff of Fees and Expenses

Deletions: None

As provided for in section 12 (5) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Lovelace requested that Information Item 5 – By-law P-600 Review and Bay Lookout Park be brought forward at a future meeting of the Regional Council Meeting.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

As provided for in section 41 (3) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*:

- Item 15.1.4 was removed from the consent agenda at the request of Councillor Mancini

As provided for in section 90 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the motion was separated for voting purposes.

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve recommendation in the following agenda item:

- **15.2.1 – Council Chamber Hybrid Meeting Technology Funding.**

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

In favour: Mayor Savage, Councillors Hendsbee, Kent, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Morse, Cuttell, Stoddard, Lovelace, Blackburn, Russell

Against: Councillors Purdy, Austin, Outhit

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve recommendation in the following agenda item:

- **15.1.3 – First Reading Proposed By-Law S-452, an Amendment to By-Law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements (Supplementary Report).**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

7. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

8. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

9. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

10. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

11. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

12. PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

13. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

13.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for item 15.3.1.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

13.2 Petitions

13.2.1 Councillor Hendsbee

Councillor Hendsbee submitted a petition from residents of Hayling Acres Subdivision with approximately 97 signatures requesting the Municipality to design and implement effective traffic calming measures in alignment with Administrative Order 2021-005-OP.

14. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – March 19, 2024

14.1 Councillor Lovelace – Use of Managed Retreat as a Climate Adaptation Approach

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated March 12, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a staff report that considers a decision matrix for managed retreat as a proactive response to threats against life and property from climate change.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer, responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (15 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Councillors Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Morse, Cuttell, Lovelace, Blackburn, Russell, Outhit

Against: Councillor Stoddard

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

15. REPORTS

15.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

15.1.1 PLPROJ-2024-00185: Comprehensive Neighbourhood Planning Process for Strawberry Hill Future Growth Node, Halifax

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated February 13, 2024
- Extract from the March 19, 2024 Regional Council draft minutes

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

- 1. Initiate a process to consider amendments to the Regional Centre Municipal Planning Strategy, and the Regional Centre Land Use By-law to enable a comprehensive mixed-use development in the Strawberry Hill Future Growth Node, located along Windsor Street and Strawberry Hill Street, Halifax, and surrounding lands as outlined in the Discussion section of staff report dated February 13, 2024; and**
- 2. Follow the public participation program as set out in Attachment A of the staff report dated February 13, 2024.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

15.1.2 First Reading Proposed By-Law M-401, an Amendment to By-Law M-400, Respecting Marketing Levy

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated February 7, 2024
- Extract from the March 19, 2024 Regional Council draft minutes
- Staff presentation dated March 26, 2024

Vicki Robertson, Acting Director of Revenue, Finance & Asset Management gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Council.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to By-law M-401, amending By-law M-400, the Marketing Levy By-law, as set out in Attachment 3 of the staff report dated February 7, 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (12 in favour, 4 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Councillors Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Morse, Cuttell, Stoddard, Blackburn

Against: Councillors Cleary, Lovelace, Russell, Outhit

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

15.1.3 First Reading Proposed By-Law S-452, an Amendment to By-Law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements (Supplementary Report)

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated March 5, 2024
- Extract from the March 19, 2024 Regional Council draft minutes

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to By-Law S-452, amending By-Law S-400, the Street Improvement By-Law, as set out in Attachment 1 of the supplementary staff report dated March 5, 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

15.1.4 Protecting Eastern Hemlock in Halifax Regional Municipality

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated March 13, 2024

Crispin Wood, Manager Urban Forestry and Ray Walsh, Director, Park responded to questions of clarification from Council.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a plan for management of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid within the Halifax Regional Municipality.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

15.2 AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

15.2.1 Council Chamber Hybrid Meeting Technology Funding Request

The following was before Council:

- Audit and Finance Standing Committee report dated March 28, 2024 with attached staff report dated March 7, 2024

The following motion was approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve the transfer of \$155,000 from capital project CI000021 - Public WiFi to capital project CI240006 - Council Chamber Technology Refresh.

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

In favour: Mayor Savage, Councillors Hendsbee, Kent, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Morse, Cuttall, Stoddard, Lovelace, Blackburn, Russell

Against: Councillors Purdy, Austin, Outhit

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

15.3 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

15.3.1 Councillor Hendsbee – Use of Recreational Vehicles (RV's) for Residential Use

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Hendsbee
- Correspondence from Gia Greer, Georgina Eisenor

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report considering land use zoning changes to allow the use of Recreational Vehicles (RV's) for residential use. This report should include and consider:

- 1. Temporary accommodations for construction, seasonal rentals, backyard suites and emergency sheltering.**
- 2. Compatibility within Urban, suburban and rural areas.**
- 3. Best practices from other jurisdictions where RV's are utilized for residential use.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

16. MOTIONS - NONE

17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

17.1 PROPERTY MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was considered in public as follows:

The following was before Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated February 20, 2024, revised March 25, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the revised private and confidential report dated February 20, 2024; and**
- 2. Direct that the revised private and confidential report dated February 20, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

18. ADDED ITEMS

Information Items

Information Item 7 - 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) Election Polling Divisions & Tariff of Fees and Expenses

19. NOTICES OF MOTION

19.1 Councillor Blackburn

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I propose to introduce Administrative Order 2024-001-ADM Respecting Tax Relief for Non-profit and Registered Canadian Charitable Organizations, the purpose of which is to establish a new Tax Relief Policy for the municipality.

19.2 Councillor Cuttell

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to move that Council consider adopting, by policy, a Public Participation Program, the purpose of which is to consider amendments to the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, Regional Subdivision By-law, the Planning District 4 (Prospect) Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law and any other Municipal planning documents that are deemed necessary to enable a mixed-use neighbourhood development at the Halifax Exhibition Centre lands located along Prospect Road (Highway 333), Beechville.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk