



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 7, 2024**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Cathy Deagle Gammon
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

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
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants
Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant
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 10:00 a.m., and recessed at 11:50 a.m. Council reconvened at 1:02 p.m. Council moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 1:18 p.m. and reconvened at 3:33 p.m. Council recessed at 5:05 p.m. and adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.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 – Youth Poet Laureates

Asiah Sparks and Damini Awoyiga, Youth Poet Laureates, presented original poems.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Citizenship Awards

Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon welcomed all those in attendance for the 2024 Citizenship Awards. Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon and Councillors presented the awards to the following students:

Megan Hart	Lockview High
Leon Petersen	Musquodoboit Rural High
Rory Jennex	Oyster Pond Academy
Sophia Langille	Bicentennial School
Grayson Rehberg	Marine Drive Academy
Charley Lane	Eric Graves Memorial Junior High
Madison Clarke	Sir Robert Borden Junior High
Katie Corbett	Graham Creighton Junior High
Liam Le Grange	Astral Drive Junior High
Grace Archibald	Dartmouth High
Ben Crocker	Ellenvale Junior High
Zoe Chun-Yi Hsia	Halifax Christian Academy
Lila Dsouza	Caledonia Junior High
Meaghan Ferguson	Shambhala School
Japnoor Kaur	John Martin Junior High
Saidharma Chelamkuri	Halifax Grammar School
Nathan Cooper	Sacred Heart School of Halifax, Fountain Academy
Isobel Schrader	Sacred Heart School of Halifax, Barat Academy
Mischaela Wong	Gorsebrook Junior High
Stella Murphy	Halifax Independent School
Isabelle Nader	École Mer et Monde
Lowen Orlik	Highland Park Junior High
Venessa Ukeje	Oxford School
Sophie Connick	Halifax Central Junior High
Jack Harrington	Armbrae Academy
Areti Panopolis	St. Agnes Junior High
Prasanth Menon	Halifax West High Jhanvi
Frانيا Leigh Andresen	J.L. Ilsley High
Shaza Khattab	Brookside Junior High
Yousef Fathalla	Maritime Muslim Academy
Bhumik Kalra	Park West School
Freya Neilson	Fairview Junior High
Charlotte Manthorne	Five Bridges Junior High
Semilore Olaoye	West Bedford High
Chinemerem Ohaegbulem	Millwood High
Sharthak Roy	Sackville High
Keegan Atkins	Rocky Lake Junior High

Dean Lee Guy
Joshua MacLaughlin

École secondaire du Sommet
Sandy Lake Academy

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillors noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 23, 2024 Budget Committee and April 23, 2024 Regional Council

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

THAT the minutes of April 23, 2024 Budget Committee and April 23, 2024 Regional Council be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Russell

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Austin requested that Item 17.1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS – Private and Confidential Report – Deferred from April 23, 2024 be considered immediately following SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Youth Poet Laureates.

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Later in the meeting, it was MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the following item be deferred to a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council:

- **Item 15.2.1 Community Benefit Agreements in African Nova Scotian Communities**

MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

As provided for in section 41 (3) of Administrative Order One:

- Item 15.1.2 was removed from the consent agenda at the request of Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve recommendations in the following agenda items:

- **15.1.1 – Facility Operating Agreement – Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre;**
- **15.3.1 – Case H00578: Request to Include 1735 Henry Street, Halifax in the Registry of Heritage Properties for the Halifax Regional Municipality.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Lovelace

- 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 – April 23, 2024

10.1 Property Matter – Africville Heritage Trust

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated February 26, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Declare portions A and B of Parcel H-3, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated February 26, 2024, surplus to municipal requirements and categorize the subject property as Extraordinary pursuant to Administrative Order 50, Respecting the Disposal of Surplus Real Property; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to set a date for a public hearing to consider the less-than market value sale of the subject property, a water lot and land portion of PID 41320326, to the Africville Heritage Trust Society.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Lovelace

10.2 Community Engagement Strategy 2024

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated March 26, 2024
- Staff presentation dated May 7, 2024

Breton Murphy, Managing Director, Corporate Communications and Maggie-Jane Spray, Manager, Internal Communications gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council regarding community engagement, phased implementation, monitoring success and use of various media forms.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve the revised Community Engagement Strategy and all appendices, as set out in the attachments to the staff report dated March 26, 2024, to provide a corporate framework for employees for the effective delivery of community engagement efforts.**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out the actions contained in the Community Engagement Strategy, outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated March 26, 2024, as part of the multi-year budgeting and business planning process.**

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council regarding engagement in collaboration with levels of government and multi-language options.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the motion be amended to include a new section that reads as follows:

- 3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a staff report with respect to the implementation and effectiveness of the Community Engagement Strategy 2024, after the strategy has been in place for 12 months.**

O'Toole, Murphy and Spray responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council regarding public consultation, feedback and continuous evaluation.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND DEFEATED. (7 in favour, 8 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon, Councillors Kent, Purdy, Morse, Cuttell, Blackburn, Russell

Against: Mayor Savage, Councillors Hendsbee, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Stoddard

Not present: Councillors Lovelace, Outhit

The question was called on the main motion:

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve the revised Community Engagement Strategy and all appendices, as set out in the attachments to the staff report dated March 26, 2024, to provide a corporate framework for employees for the effective delivery of community engagement efforts.**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out the actions contained in the Community Engagement Strategy, outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated March 26, 2024, as part of the multi-year budgeting and business planning process.**

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

In favour: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon, Councillors Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Morse, Stoddard, Blackburn, Russell, Outhit

Against: Councillor Cuttell

Not present: Councillor Lovelace

11. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

12. PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

13. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

13.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for items: 15.1.2 and 15.2.1.

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

13.2 Petitions – None

14. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – April 23, 2024

14.1 Update on Homelessness

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated April 19, 2024
- Staff presentation dated May 7, 2024

Max Chauvin, Director, Housing and Homelessness gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

15. REPORTS

15.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

15.1.1 Facility Operating Agreement – Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated February 29, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve a Facility Operating Agreement with the Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre Society for the Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre facility at 1583 Beaver Bank Road, substantially in the same form as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated February 29, 2024, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to execute the Facility Operating Agreement.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Lovelace

15.1.2 Renewal of a Grade Alteration Permit at PID 40611410, Lake Loon Road, Westphal

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated April 2, 2024
- Correspondence from Denise Bowes and Sarah Sutherland

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve the application to renew the permit to alter the grade at PID 40611410, Lake Loon Road, Westphal for one (1) year subject to the permit including the conditions proposed by the Engineer as set forth in the Discussion Section of the staff report dated April 2, 2024 and such conditions are to be in addition to the conditions and requirements already set forth in By-law G-200, the Grade Alteration By-law.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer noted that staff had requested the item be removed from the consent agenda to provide clarity around the applicants' consultation concerns.

Mayor Savage stepped down from the Chair and Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon assumed the Chair.

Councillor Hendsbee noted that the civic address was located in the community of Lake Loon and not in Westphal.

The motion before Council now read:

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve the application to renew the permit to alter the grade at PID 40611410, Lake Loon Road, Lake Loon for one (1) year subject to the permit including the conditions proposed by the Engineer as set forth in the Discussion Section of the staff report dated April 2, 2024 and such conditions are to be in addition to the conditions and requirements already set forth in By-law G-200, the Grade Alteration By-law.

Ashley Blissett, Manager, Development Engineering Program and Peter Duncan, Director, Infrastructure Planning responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the motion be deferred to a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council and that the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to provide a supplementary staff report to include additional information on PID 40611410, Lake Loon Road, Lake Loon regarding site regulation, seasonal restrictions, and lifespan for the site.

Mayor Savage resumed the Chair.

Brad Anguish, Commissioner of Operations responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Austin, Russell

15.2 EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE

15.2.1 Community Benefit Agreements in African Nova Scotian Communities

The following was before Council:

- Executive Standing Committee report dated April 22, 2024 with attached staff report dated March 21, 2024
- Correspondence from Councillor Smith

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

15.3 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15.3.1 Case H00578: Request to Include 1735 Henry Street, Halifax in the Registry of Heritage Properties for the Halifax Regional Municipality

The following was before Council:

- Heritage Advisory Committee report dated April 17, 2024 with attached staff report dated March 26, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council set a date for a heritage hearing to consider the inclusion of 1735 Henry Street, Halifax in the Registry of Heritage Property for the Halifax Regional Municipality as shown on Map 1 of the staff report dated March 26, 2024 as a municipal heritage property under the Heritage Property Act.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Lovelace

15.4 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

15.4.1 Councillor Outhit - Reappointment to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Outhit

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Waive Section 17 of Administrative Order One, requiring a staff report from the Chief Administrative Officer; and**
2. **Re-appoint Councillor Outhit to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee for a term until the end of the Council term.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Austin, Russell

15.4.2 Councillor Mason - Public Hearing Start Time - Housing Accelerator Fund

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Mason

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Waive section 17 of Administrative Order One, requiring a staff report from the Chief Administrative Officer; and**
2. **Waive Appendix A Section 4 (2) and (4) of Administrative Order One, regarding written submissions; and**
3. **Commence the Housing Accelerator Fund Public Hearing at 1:00 p.m. on May 21, 2024 and require that written submissions must be received by the Clerk's Office by 10:00 a.m. on May 21, 2024 and that all submissions received by the deadline will be distributed by the Clerk to Council.**

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Lovelace

15.4.3 Councillor Morse – Municipal Architect for Halifax Regional Municipality

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Morse

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report that explores the potential for establishing a position of a Municipal Architect funded through the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) and other mechanisms to strengthen municipal capacity in urban design, placemaking, heritage protection, and affordable housing, and to further consider best practices in urban design as part of the HAF project approvals and the suburban planning process.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillors Austin, Russell

15.4.4 Councillor Morse – Wildfire Prevention

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Morse

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to prepare a staff report with recommendations for wildfire prevention through an annual ban on open fires in HRM during the wildfire risk season (March 15 to October 15) as well as appropriate enforcement and reporting measures for the ban.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer and John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services /Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council regarding enforcement and enhancement of By-law O-109, *Respecting Open Air Burning*, and Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency education efforts toward wildfire prevention.

As provided for in section 66 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the motion was withdrawn with consent of Regional Council.

16. MOTIONS – NONE

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT Halifax Regional Council convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 17.1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS and Item 17.2 PERSONNEL MATTER.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

17.1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS - Private and Confidential Report – Deferred from April 23, 2024

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated April 21, 2024
- Private and confidential presentation report dated May 7, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 21, 2024; and**
2. **Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 21, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Purdy, Austin, Cleary, Russell

17.2 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated April 22, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 22, 2024; and**
2. **Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 22, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Purdy, Russell

17.3 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated April 25, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 25, 2024; and**
2. **Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 25, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Kent, Lovelace, Outhit

18. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

19. NOTICES OF MOTION
19.1 Councillor Mancini

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to propose First Reading of By-law S-613, amending By-law S-600, *Respecting Solid Waste Resource Collection and Disposal*, the purpose of which is to address enforcement measures against illegal dumping and litter abatement.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk