



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES  
August 20, 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., Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer  
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants  
Simon Ross-Siegel, 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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:06 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 10:02 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.

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

## **3. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – NONE**

## **4. May 2023 Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Wildfire Post Incident Analysis**

The following was before Committee of the Whole:

- Staff information report dated July 4, 2024
- Staff presentation dated August 20, 2024
- Correspondence from Andrew Burchell, Cornell Flinterman, Wolfgang Friedrich

Ken Stuebing, Executive Director/Fire Chief, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, Bruce Lake, Division Chief, Safety & Compliance, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, and Jennifer Mark, Policy & Business Initiatives Coordinator, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Committee of the Whole.

Stuebing spoke to the initial incident response, timelines and objectives for policy review and accreditation, coordination with fire and emergency partners including the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables, fire and emergency communications, and community education and engagement initiatives.

Kara McCurdy, Wildfire Mitigation Program Manager, Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency spoke to current wildfire mitigation initiatives including the development of a Community Risk Assessment, equipment investments and technology improvements. McCurdy spoke to relevant parties sharing responsibilities for investigations, fines and enforcement.

Lake spoke to service standards for the provision of first aid as a component of incident response.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer spoke to municipal emergency and crisis communications initiatives, investments in technology improvements, and interfacing with other orders of government.

Brad Anguish, Commissioner of Operations spoke to emergency egress standards for road and highway infrastructure, secondary access policies, cooperation and advocacy with other orders of government.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Krista Vining  
Team Lead, Legislative Assistants