



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
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
Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, 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 1:00 p.m., and recessed at 2:56 p.m. Council moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 3:18 p.m. and reconvened at 7:46 p.m. Council adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 1:00 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.

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillors noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 6, 2024

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the minutes of August 6, 2024 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

As provided for in section 12 (5) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Lovelace requested that Information Item 6 – Existing and Planned Measures for Coastal Management be brought forward at the next Regional Council Meeting.

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk requested that Item 17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) be considered after the afternoon break.

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, 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:

- Item 15.1.11 was removed from the consent agenda at the request of Councillor Morse
- Item 15.2.1 was removed from the consent agenda at the request of Councillor Austin

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

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

- **15.1.2 – Facility Operating Agreement – Lake Echo Community Centre;**
- **15.1.3 – Sheet Harbour Streetscape Area Rate: Proposed Assignment of Area Rate Agreement;**
- **15.1.4 – First Reading Proposed By-law R-500, Respecting the Designation of Road Trails on Municipal Highways;**

- 15.1.5 – First Reading Proposed By-law S-454, an Amendment to By-law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements;
- 15.1.6 – Halifax Convention Centre Annual Report;
- 15.1.7– First Reading Proposed By-law U-119, an Amendment to By-law U-100, Respecting User Charges – Recreation User Fees;
- 15.1.8 – Proposed Administrative Order SC-104, Respecting Closure of Parcel CI-B Right-of-Way, Cogswell District, Halifax; and
- 15.3.1 – 2024/25 Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve (MLSER) 2nd Intake Report.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

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 items: 15.2.1, 15.4.1 and 15.4.3.

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

13.2 Petitions – None

14. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

15. REPORTS

15.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

15.1.1 Second Reading Proposed By-law M-402, an Amendment to By-law M-400, Respecting Marketing Levy

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated June 24, 2024
- Extract from the July 9, 2024 Halifax Regional Council minutes

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT Halifax Regional Council adopt By-law M-402, the purpose of which is to amend By-law M-400, the Marketing Levy By-law, as set out in Attachment 1 to the staff report dated June 24, 2024.

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance & Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer and Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15.1.2 Facility Operating Agreement – Lake Echo Community Centre

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated May 22, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve a Facility Operating Agreement (FOA) with the Lake Echo Community Recreation Society for the Lake Echo Community Centre facility at 3168 Highway 7, substantially in the same form as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated May 22, 2024 and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to execute the FOA.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

15.1.3 Sheet Harbour Streetscape Area Rate: Proposed Assignment of Area Rate Agreement

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated June 14, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to direct staff to release funds in the amount of \$114,482 held in Operating Account W944 to the Sheet Harbour and Area Development Corporation Limited subject to reasonable conditions to ensure appropriate and sufficient insurance, the remediation of priority sidewalk deficiencies, and snow and ice removal; and**
- 2. Invite the Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce to submit a detailed proposal to HRM with respect to the transfer of the area rate, any expansion in the scope of work to be funded using these funds, the uniform charge and/or catchment area, and engagement with residents of Sheet Harbour subject to the area rate in accordance with Administrative Order 2019-005-ADM.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

15.1.4 First Reading Proposed By-law R-500, Respecting the Designation of Road Trails on Municipal Highways

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 25, 2024
- Extract from the August 6, 2024 Halifax Regional Council draft minutes

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to By-law R-500, The Road Trails By-law, as set out in Attachment 1 to the staff report dated July 25, 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

15.1.5 First Reading Proposed By-law S-454, an Amendment to By-law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 2, 2024
- Extract from the August 6, 2024 Halifax Regional Council draft minutes

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to By-Law S-454, amending By-Law S-400, the Street Improvement By-Law, as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated July 2, 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

15.1.6 Halifax Convention Centre Annual Report

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 17, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve the audited financial statements for the Halifax Convention Centre attached to the staff report dated July 17, 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

15.1.7 First Reading Proposed By-law U-119, an Amendment to By-law U-100, Respecting User Charges – Recreation User Fees

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 12, 2024
- Extract from the August 6, 2024 Halifax Regional Council draft minutes

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council give First Reading to amending By-law U-119, amending By-law U-100, the User Charges By-law, as set out in Attachment 4 of the staff report dated July 12, 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

15.1.8 Proposed Administrative Order SC-104, Respecting Closure of Parcel CI-B Right-of-Way, Cogswell District, Halifax

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 24, 2024
- Extract from the August 6, 2024 Halifax Regional Council draft minutes

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Declare Parcel CI-B Cogswell District as shown on Attachment B of the staff report dated July 24, 2024 surplus to municipal requirements pursuant to Administrative Order 50 the Disposal of Surplus Real Property Administrative Order and categorize the Parcel as Extraordinary; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to set a date for a public hearing to consider permanently closing Parcel CI-B, a portion of the right-of-way as outlined in Attachment A of the staff report dated July 24, 2024 as a street, with notice to be published in a newspaper at least fourteen days prior to the Council meeting and with notice to be sent to the Minister of Public Works before the hearing.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

15.1.9 Recreation Funding Access Application Process

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 25, 2024
- Staff presentation dated August 20, 2024

Cassady Yochoff, Accessibility Specialist, Parks and Recreation gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to direct staff to:

- 1. Consult with and instruct multi-district facilities (MDFs) on the adoption of discounted user charges in accordance with the Recreation Access Program as part of their 2025/26 budget planning process;**

2. **Obtain estimates from MDFs showing the budget impacts of adoption of discounted user charges under the Recreation Access Program as part of the 2025/26 budget planning process; and**
3. **Negotiate arrangements with the MDFs to charge and collect discounted user charges in accordance with the Recreation Access Funding Program in the 2025/26 fiscal year, as permitted under and in accordance with HRM's agreements with the MDFs, subject to Council direction during the 2025/26 budget process.**

Brendon Smithson, Director of Regional Recreation Services and Angela Green, Director of Recreation Programming responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15.1.10 Proposed Amendments to Administrative Order 2020-008-ADM, Respecting Grants for Affordable Housing

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 25, 2024
- Extract from the August 6, 2024 Halifax Regional Council draft minutes

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

THAT Halifax Regional Council adopt amendments to Administrative Order Number 2020-008-ADM, the Grants for Affordable Housing Administrative Order, as set out in Attachment B of the staff report dated July 25, 2024.

Jamy-Ellen Proud, Planner III, Regional and Community Planning and John Traves, K.C., Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15.1.11 Collection of Construction Related Fines

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated July 15, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Mayor to write a letter to the Minister responsible for Municipal Affairs with a request to:

1. **Amend the Building Code Act to allow the Municipality to refuse to issue or renew permits to applicants and related companies for outstanding fines; and**
2. **Amend the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter to allow the Municipality to refuse to issue or renew planning approvals to applicants and related companies for outstanding fines.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15.1.12 Lake District Recreation Association - Contribution and Service Agreement

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated August 12, 2024

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer updated Regional Council that the funding for the Lake District Recreation Association came from three Councillors' district capital funds and the Community Grants Program and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Suspend the rules of procedure under Schedule 2, the Audit and Finance Standing Committee Terms of Reference, of Administrative Order One, Respecting the Procedures of the Council Administrative Order;**
- 2. Approve the expenditure(s) described in the Financial Implications section of the staff report dated August 12, 2024; and**
- 3. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to approve and sign a Contribution and Service Agreement for 2024-2025 between HRM and Lake District Recreation Association in form and content that (i) is substantially similar to the draft at Attachment 1 to the staff report dated August 12, 2024 or (ii) otherwise meets with the satisfaction of the CAO.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15.2 ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE

15.2.1 Municipal Watershed Management Framework

The following was before Council:

- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee report dated August 1, 2024 with attached staff report dated May 29, 2024
- Correspondence from Walter Regan
- Staff presentation dated August 1, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Endorse the draft Framework for Integrated Watershed Management as set out in Attachment A of the staff report dated May 29, 2024;**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to direct staff to implement the steps outlined in the Framework for Integrated Watershed Management in the Dartmouth Lakes watershed and return to Council with a completed watershed management plan for approval; and**
- 3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to direct staff to implement the steps outlined in the Framework for Integrated Watershed Management in the Nine Mile River watershed and return to Council with a completed watershed management plan for approval.**

Elizabeth Montgomery, Water Resources Specialist, Environment & Climate Change gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

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

Mayor Savage resumed the Chair.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15.3 SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15.3.1 2024/25 Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve (MLSER) 2nd Intake Report

The following was before Council:

- Special Events Advisory Committee report dated August 14, 2024 with attached staff report dated July 12, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council approve total funding in the amount of \$17,500 from the Community and Events Reserve (Q621), as shown in Table 1 of the staff report dated July 12, 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Outhit

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

15.4 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

15.4.1 Councillor Austin - Nature-Based Stormwater Retrofit Program

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Austin
- Correspondence from Walter Regan

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to prepare a staff report on a potential Public Works program to retrofit existing stormwater infrastructure to install nature-based solutions such as bioswales, and rain gardens.

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Blackburn

15.4.2 Councillor Mason – Stabilization Funding for Signature Events

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Mason

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Halifax Regional Council request the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) produce a staff report regarding the potential to establish one time stabilization funding for Signature Events that will:

- 1. Propose a funding envelop for one time funding from Market Levy Special Events Reserve (MLSER);**

2. Identify what Signature Events may require stabilization funding;
3. Consider a requirement that applicants produce a sustainability plan in order to continue to access further municipal funding through the normal process;
4. Require a demonstration of some matching funding from other orders of government, and;
5. Report back with recommendations no later than November 2024.

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

Councillor Mancini proposed that part 1 of the motion be amended to include "or other appropriate funding reserves". As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Halifax Regional Council request the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) produce a staff report regarding the potential to establish one time stabilization funding for Signature Events that will:

1. Propose a funding envelop for one time funding from Market Levy Special Events Reserve (MLSER) or other appropriate funding reserves;
2. Identify what Signature Events may require stabilization funding;
3. Consider a requirement that applicants produce a sustainability plan in order to continue to access further municipal funding through the normal process;
4. Require a demonstration of some matching funding from other orders of government, and;
5. Report back with recommendations no later than November 2024.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (14 in favour, 1 against)

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

Against: Councillor Purdy

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Blackburn

15.4.3 Councillor Lovelace – Extend Water Service Boundary in Hammonds Plains and Upper Hammonds Plains

The following was before Council:

- Request for Consideration form from Councillor Lovelace
- Correspondence from Yao Chen, JP Sun, and Stephen Adams

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Offer to write a staff report to include consideration for municipal water service extension along:

1. **Pockwock Road. In doing so, staff should coordinate with Halifax Water, and with work related to community action planning with the Upper Hammonds Plains African Nova Scotian community to ensure the undersized watermain is rightsized for the community's future use; and**
2. **Citation Drive from Voyageur Way to St George Boulevard to enable a closed loop water system and installation of fire hydrants.**

Councillor Lovelace proposed that the motion be amended to include part 3 to read "declassify all In Camera (In Private) documents related to the decision to cost and install the watermain on Pockwock Road." As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to write a staff report to include consideration for municipal water service extension along:

1. **Pockwock Road. In doing so, staff should coordinate with Halifax Water, and with work related to community action planning with the Upper Hammonds Plains African Nova Scotian community to ensure the undersized watermain is rightsized for the community's future use; and**
2. **Citation Drive from Voyageur Way to St George Boulevard to enable a closed loop water system and installation of fire hydrants.**
3. **Declassify all In Camera (In Private) documents related to the decision to cost and install the watermain on Pockwock Road.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Blackburn

16. MOTIONS – NONE

17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Regional Council convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 17.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes, Item 17.2 LEGAL ADVICE, Item 17.3 PROPERTY MATTER and Item 17.4 LEGAL ADVICE.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

17.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – August 6, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of August 6, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

17.2 LEGAL ADVICE – 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 August 9, 2024
- Private and confidential staff presentation dated August 20, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Adopt the direction given In Camera (In Private); and**
2. **Direct that the private and confidential report dated August 9, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Blackburn

17.3 PROPERTY 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 August 1, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Blackburn

17.4 LEGAL ADVICE – Private and Confidential Report

The following was before Council:

- Private and Confidential report dated August 20, 2024

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

Private and Confidential Information Items

1. Private and Confidential In Camera (In Private) Information Report – re: Legal Advice

18. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

19. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk