



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 9, 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
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant
Catie Campbell, 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 2:40 p.m. Council reconvened at 2:59 p.m. and recessed at 3:54 p.m. Council reconvened at 6:00 p.m. and adjourned at 6:37 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 – March 19, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the minutes of March 19, 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

Deferred to a future meeting of Regional Council:

- Item 15.3.1 – Removal of Hammonds Plains Road from By-law S-900

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. CONSENT AGENDA – NONE

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

12.1 MPSA 2023-00474 (formerly Case 23961): Amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for Dartmouth for 16 Greenbank Court, Dartmouth

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated February 21, 2024
- Extract from March 19, 2024 Regional Council draft Minutes
- Staff presentation dated April 9, 2024

Darrell Joudrey, Planner II and Thea Langille, Manager, Planning Applications gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Council.

The hearing opened at 6:17 p.m.

Mayor Savage invited the applicant to come forward and address Council.

Brianna Cluett, Applicant spoke to the history of the property and local community. Cluett noted the process of changing the zoning on the property, a previous land study and suitability for low density residential development. Cluett responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council regarding other lots in the area.

Mayor Savage reviewed the rules of procedure for public hearings and called for anyone wishing to speak on the matter.

Barbara Smizer, Dartmouth spoke to the proposed amendments and noted the septic systems on the lot, improved filtration systems, the lot's road use designation and the garbage collection schedule. Smizer responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council regarding the history of the property.

Bret Brasley, Dartmouth spoke in support of the proposed amendments. Brasley noted the neighboring properties and the residential use of the area.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT the hearing be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The hearing closed at 6:32 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT Halifax Regional Council adopt the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for Dartmouth, as set out in Attachments A and B of staff report dated February 21, 2024 to permit the development of single-unit dwelling on R-1 (Single Family Residential) zoned properties on Greenbank Court and Cove Lane, Dartmouth.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Mason, Blackburn, Outhit

13. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

13.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for items: 15.2.1 and 15.3.1.

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

13.2 Petitions – None

14. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

14.1 Councillor Lovelace - By-law P-600 Review and Bay Lookout Park

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated November 17, 2023

Ray Walsh, Director of Parks, and Richard Harvey, Manager of Policy & Planning responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

15. REPORTS

15.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

15.1.1 PLPROJ-2023-01763: Comprehensive Neighbourhood Planning process for the Halifax Exhibition Centre lands, Beechville

The following was before Council:

- Staff report dated March 11, 2024
- Extract from the March 26, 2024 Regional Council draft minutes

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

- 1. Initiate a process 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; and**
- 2. Follow the public participation program as set out in Attachment A in staff report dated March 11, 2024.**

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Item 15.1.1 be deferred and that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a supplemental staff report for PLPROJ-2023-01763: Comprehensive Neighbourhood Planning process for the Halifax Exhibition Centre lands, Beechville;

- 1. For updates on the completion of all outstanding reports related to the planning and infrastructure in this area, including but not limited to the Beechville/Goodwood Community Boundary supplementary report, the provincial study on Prospect Road, the Ragged Lake Industrial Park background studies, the Regional Plan Review, the Suburban Plan Review, any infrastructure studies related to water and sewer capacity, the Halifax Green Network Plan and any plans regarding the Long Lake Provincial Park, and,**
- 2. Information on the impact of the development charges/fees freeze on municipal budgets to fund and support required infrastructure and services for this development.**

Matt Conlin, Planner III, Stephanie Salloum, Principal Planner, Jacqueline Hamilton, Executive Director of Planning and Development, John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services /Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer and Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council. Hamilton confirmed that if the motion before Regional Council to initiate a Comprehensive Neighbourhood Planning process was approved staff would return to Regional Council with a report in June of 2024.

MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND DEFEATED. (7 in favour, 10 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon, Councillors Purdy, Austin, Morse, Cuttell, Stoddard, Lovelace

Against: Mayor Savage, Councillors Hendsbee, Kent, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Blackburn, Russell, Outhit

Salloum confirmed that if the motion before Regional Council to initiate a Comprehensive Neighbourhood Planning process was approved the items and concerns expressed by Council would be addressed in the resulting staff report. One exception to this would be information about infrastructure planning contained in the forthcoming Beechville/Goodwood Community Boundary supplementary report. Salloum stated that staff was confident that the two reports would be completed within a timeline which would enable the information to come before Regional Council and be considered together.

Salloum stated that land can be zoned as institutional in order to support future school and park land uses.

O'Toole provided detail regarding policy for wastewater charges.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (13 in favour, 4 against)

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

Against: Councillors Austin, Morse, Cuttell, Stoddard

15.2 EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE

15.2.1 Combatting Islamophobia and Improving the Safety of Muslim Women and Girls

The following was before Council:

- Executive Standing Committee report dated March 25, 2024 with attached staff report dated March 21, 2024
- Correspondence from Md Golam Kibria Talukder
- Staff presentation dated April 9, 2024

Amy Brierley, Programs and Partnerships/Community Safety gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Regional Council.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to:

- 1. Strike a working group of municipal staff to create an action plan to combat Islamophobia and improve the safety of Muslim women and girls, incorporating findings from the staff report dated March 21, 2024;**
- 2. Direct staff to explore potential sources of funding from provincial and federal government to support this work; and**
- 3. Direct staff to return to Regional Council to provide a supplementary report on progress made and resources required for implementation.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Purdy

15.3 TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

15.3.1 Removal of Hammonds Plains Road from By-law S-900

The following was before Council:

- Transportation Standing Committee report dated March 28, 2024 with attached staff report dated February 16, 2024
- Correspondence from Councillor Pam Lovelace

This matter was deferred during the approval of the Order of Business.

16. MOTIONS – NONE

17. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

17.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – March 19, 2024

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of March 19, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

17.2 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with in public.

The following was before Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated March 25, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Purdy, Mancini, Cuttell

17.3 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with in public.

The following was before Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated March 25, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated March 25, 2024; and**

2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated March 25, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Purdy, Mancini, Cuttell

17.4 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with in public.

The following was before Council:

- Private and confidential staff report dated March 25, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Purdy, Cuttell

18. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

19. NOTICES OF MOTION

19.1 Councillor Russell

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to propose amendments to:

1. Administrative Order 2018-003-ADM, Respecting Private Road Maintenance; and
2. Administrative Order 2019-005-ADM, Respecting the Establishment and Use of Community Area Rates in HRM

The purpose of which is to approve area rates and uniform charges for fiscal year 2024-25 including Community Area Rates, Private Road Area Rates, and Business Improvement Districts (BIDS);

19.2 Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of the Halifax Regional Council I intend to move a motion to amend section 25 (d) of Administrative Order 2018-010-ADM Respecting the Community Museums Grants Program. The purpose of this amendment is to remove the remaining reference to the Provincial Museum Evaluation Program in respect to the application criteria to the Halifax Regional Municipality's Community Museums Grant Program.

19.3 Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

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, and amendments to Administrative Order 18, Respecting the Revenue Collections Policy, the purpose of which is to establish a new Tax Relief Policy for the municipality.

19.4 Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I proposed to introduce Administrative Order 2024-002-ADM Respecting Anti-Black Racism Grants, the purpose of which is to establish a new Anti-Black Racism Grants program for the Municipality.

19.5 Councillor Lovelace

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to move amendments to Administrative Order 10, Respecting Partial Tax Exemption for Residential Taxation, the purpose of which is to support tax relief for commercial properties damaged or destroyed by the May 2023 Upper Tantallon and Hammonds Plains wildfire.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk