



**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES  
April 25 and May 9, 2023**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage  
Deputy Mayor Sam Austin  
Councillors: Cathy Deagle Gammon  
David Hendsbee  
Becky Kent  
Trish Purdy  
Tony Mancini  
Waye Mason  
Lindell Smith  
Kathryn Morse  
Patty Cuttell  
Lisa Blackburn  
Paul Russell  
Tim Outhit

REGRETS: Councillors: Shawn Cleary (May 9)  
Iona Stoddard (May 9)  
Pam Lovelace (May 9)

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, Acting Deputy Clerk  
Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant  
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, 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 10:00 a.m. and recessed at 11:55 a.m. Committee of the Whole reconvened at 10:02 a.m. on May 9, 2023 and adjourned at 10:38 a.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

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.

Mayor Savage recognized John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer for their 10-year anniversary as a member of the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators.

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – April 4, 2023**

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

**THAT the minutes of April 4, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **3. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

## **4. POLICING TRANSFORMATION STUDY RECOMMENDATION REPORT**

The following was before Committee of the Whole:

- Staff report dated April 19, 2023, revised April 20, 2023
- Staff presentation dated April 25, 2023

Bronwyn Burke, Partner, National Leader, Digital Operations - Government & Public Sector, Price Waterhouse Coopers LLP, and Joshua Oviatt, Engagement Manager, Digital Operations - Government & Public Sector, Price Waterhouse Coopers LLP gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from Committee of the Whole.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT Committee of the Whole recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Refer the Policing Model Transformation Study to the Board of Police Commissioners for their review.**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to meet with the Board of Police Commissioners and report to Council on the result of the review by the Board of the Study**
- 3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to meet with representatives of the Province of Nova Scotia and request HRM be a participant in the multisectoral council being developed by the Province.**

Oviatt and Tara MacPherson, Partner, National Leader, Community Safety & Justice, Price Waterhouse Coopers LLP responded to questions of clarification from Committee of the Whole regarding the role of a proposed transformation management office and highlighted the importance of balancing independence and accountability on the Board of Police Commissioners.

Bill Moore, Executive Director, Community Safety responded to questions of clarification from Committee of the Whole regarding the relationship between Regional Council and the Board of Police

Commissioners, and highlighted need for partnership with the Provincial and Federal Governments to implement the recommendations within the report. Moore noted the need to build a more comprehensive approach with a clear plan and strong project management principles to move forward with integration of Halifax Regional Police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from Committee of the Whole regarding oversight and direction from Regional Council and noted that the current policing services agreement with the Government of Nova Scotia expires in 2032. O'Toole noted the immediate steps to be taken after motion approved. O'Toole confirmed a report would be prepared for Regional Council identifying actions in the Policing Model Transformation Study that are actionable without changes to Provincial legislation.

John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer responded to questions of clarification from Committee of the Whole regarding jurisdictional considerations between the Board of Police Commissioners, Regional Council, and the Government of Nova Scotia in establishing an independent Board of Police Commissioners. Traves confirmed that the Chief Administrative Officer would report the results of the Board of Police Commissioners' review and that the Board would not make formal recommendations to Regional Council.

Mayor Savage stepped down from the Chair and Deputy Mayor Austin assumed the Chair.

Burke responded to questions of clarification from Committee of the Whole.

Mayor Savage resumed the Chair.

Moore confirmed that the Policing Model Transformation Study would be reviewed with other studies including the Wortley Report, the Defunding the Police Report and the Mass Casualty Commission Final Report to identify common recommendations and actions. O'Toole confirmed the Board of Police Commissioners would determine priorities at a future strategic planning session.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the motion be amended to include:**

- 4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to Council in 18 months regarding the viability of achieving an integrated policing model with recommendations for next steps.**

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Councillors Cleary, Stoddard, Lovelace

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT Committee of the Whole recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Refer the Policing Model Transformation Study to the Board of Police Commissioners for their review.**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to meet with the Board of Police Commissioners and report to Council on the result of the review by the Board of the Study**

- 3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to meet with representatives of the Province of Nova Scotia and request HRM be a participant in the multisectoral council being developed by the Province.**
- 4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to Council in 18 months regarding the viability of achieving an integrated policing model with recommendations for next steps.**

**MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Councillors Cleary, Stoddard, Lovelace

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m. on May 9, 2023.

Iain MacLean  
Municipal Clerk