



**REGIONAL CENTRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
December 14, 2022**

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Sam Austin, Chair
Councillor Tony Mancini
Councillor Shawn Cleary

REGRETS: Councillor Waye Mason, Vice Chair
Councillor Lindell Smith

STAFF: Karen Brown, Solicitor
Jill McGillicuddy, 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 6:02 p.m., and Community Council adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 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.

1.1 Annual Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Jill McGillicuddy, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Regional Centre Community Council.

Deputy Mayor Austin was nominated and declared Chair of the Regional Centre Community Council.

Deputy Mayor Austin assumed the Chair.

Following the meeting it was confirmed the election of Vice Chair would take place at the January 25, 2023 meeting.

1.2 Tabling of 2022 Annual Report

The following was before Community Council:

- Staff recommendation report dated December 5, 2022

Public Participation – Annual Report

The Chair noted there were no registered speakers and called three times for any speakers present; there were none.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT Regional Centre Community Council table the 2022 Annual Report as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 23, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the minutes of November 30, 2022 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. HEARINGS

10.1 PUBLIC HEARINGS

10.1.1 Case 24540 Robie Street Transportation Reserve Minimum Setbacks and Regional Centre Land Use By-law Housekeeping Amendment

The following was before Community Council:

- Staff report dated October 12, 2022
- Staff presentation dated December 14, 2022
- Correspondence from Andrea Alarbic, Dan Conlin, Molly DeShong, Will Flanagan, Brian Gifford, Emma Lang, Cyndi Levine, Dusan Soudek, Candace Stevenson

Ross Grant, Planner II gave a presentation on the proposed amendments to the Regional Centre Land Use Bylaw and responded to questions of clarification from Community Council.

The Chair opened the hearing and noted that the applicant was the Municipality.

The hearing opened at 6:11 p.m.

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

Howard Epstein, Halifax spoke against the proposed amendments. The Municipality was experiencing financial pressure and the proposed additional bus lane would have a negative impact on both the capital and operating budgets. Given the current economic conditions, no further expansion of transportation projects should occur.

Epstein further noted that there was a negative impact to the neighbourhood as it relates to vehicular traffic, loss of affordable housing and obtaining net zero carbon emissions.

Peggy Cameron, Halifax spoke against the proposed amendments. Transportation reserve should be reversed, and other transit priority measures considered. There will be a loss of affordable housing, increase in green house gas emissions, and increased traffic potentially causing requiring traffic calming measures.

Cameron noted the agenda page had the location at the Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council meeting space located at 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth; however, there was information on presenting to Council via Zoom.

Jill McGillicuddy, Legislative Assistant confirmed the Municipal Clerks Office received one request to speak at the public hearing and the resident was registered. There were no additional requests to speak or any requests for clarification on the process or meeting location.

Karen Brown, Solicitor confirmed the public hearing could continue as the public had been provided notice and although the agenda page did note a Zoom meeting, residents had an opportunity to contact the Municipal Clerks Office to speak at the public hearing.

Mike Cowie, Halifax spoke against the proposed amendments. The Municipality is experiencing a housing crisis. These proposed amendments would have a negative impact on affordable housing.

Linda Christiansen Ruffman, Ferguson Cove spoke against the proposed amendments. The existing vegetation and landscaping on Robie Street would be removed. There would be a negative impact on affordable housing. Alternatives to the widening of Robie Street should be considered.

Alan Ruffman, Ferguson Cove spoke against the proposed amendments. There will be a loss of affordable housing and removal of landscaping on Robie Street; alternatives should be considered.

Duncan MacIntosh, Halifax spoke against the proposed amendments. The loss of affordable housing, in particular indigenous housing, would be detrimental with the existing housing crisis; alternatives should be considered.

Dale McLennan, Halifax spoke against the proposed amendments. McLennan noted that the process was challenging as there have been several meetings over the last number of years related to the Regional Centre and it was the responsibility of the residents to follow the upcoming meetings.

Further, there was a negative impact to the neighbourhood as it relates to vehicular traffic, loss of affordable housing and obtaining net zero carbon emissions. McLennan noted alternatives should be considered.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the hearing be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The hearing closed at 6:44 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT Regional Centre Community Council adopt the proposed amendments to the Regional Centre Land Use By-law to establish a front and flanking setback of 0.5 metre on Schedule 18 for properties abutting the Robie Street Transportation Reserve, as set out in Attachment A of the staff report dated October 12, 2022

Mike Connors, Manager Strategic Transportation Planning Program and Grant responded to questions of clarification from Community Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

11.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for item 10.1.1.

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

11.2 Petitions – None

11.3 Presentation – None

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 Proposed 2023 Meeting Schedule

The following was before Community Council:

- Staff memorandum dated December 9, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the Regional Centre Community Council approve the proposed 2023 Regional Centre Community Council meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum dated December 9, 2022.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair noted there were no registered speakers and called three times for any speakers present; there were none.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 25, 2023

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Jill McGillicuddy
Legislative Assistant