



**EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
November 27, 2023**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage, Chair
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Waye Mason

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Sam Austin, Vice Chair
Councillor Patty Cuttell
Councillor Paul Russell

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Pam Lovelace

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer
John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative
Services/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer
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 10:03 a.m. and moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 10:54 a.m. The Committee and reconvened at 10:56 a.m. The Standing Committee adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 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 MINUTES – October 23, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the minutes of October 23, 2023 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 Mason, Councillor Deagle Gammon

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 – September 25, 2023

8.1 Amendments By-Law C-1100, the Campaign Finance By-Law

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Supplementary staff report dated November 21, 2023
- Staff report dated September 19, 2023
- Extract of September 25, 2023 Executive Standing Committee meeting

The following motion was on the floor from the September 25, 2023 meeting:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Austin

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt By-law C-1102, amending By-law C-1100, the Campaign Financing By-law, as set out in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated September 19, 2023; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to conduct a review of the Campaign Finance Bylaw that considers inflation for the amount of campaign contribution and the maximum spending limits and that the review be completed prior to January 1 of an election year.**

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Executive Standing Committee amend subclause 2(l)(i) of Attachment 1 of the staff report dated September 19, 2023 by striking out ‘a Spouse’ from definition of Individual.

The following motion was put on the floor at the November 27, 2023 meeting.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Austin

THAT the Executive Standing Committee amend item 1 of the September 25, 2023, Executive Standing Committee motion (Item No. 13.1.4), moved by Councillor Mason and seconded by Deputy Mayor Austin, to replace the reference to “Attachment 2 of the Staff Report dated September 19, 2023” with “Attachment 2.1 (Revised) of the staff report dated November 21 2023 so it reads:

That the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt Bylaw C1102 amending By-law C-1100, the *Campaign Financing By-law*, as set out in Attachment 2.1 (Revised) of the staff report dated November 21 2023; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to conduct a review of the Campaign Finance By-law that considers inflation for the amount of campaign contribution and the maximum spending limits and that the review be completed prior to January 1 of an election year.**

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Austin

That the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt Bylaw C1102 amending By-law C-1100, the *Campaign Financing By-law*, as set out in Attachment 2.1 (Revised) of the report staff report dated November 21 2023; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to conduct a review of the Campaign Finance By-law that considers inflation for the amount of campaign contribution and the maximum spending limits and that the review be completed prior to January 1 of an election year.**

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deagle Gammon

THAT the Executive Standing Committee Section amend section 10 (3) of the proposed bylaw to read “The combined total amount a Candidate may contribute to their own campaign shall not exceed five thousand nine hundred dollars (\$5900) per Election.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion as amended now read:

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt Bylaw C1102 amending By-law C-1100, the *Campaign Financing By-law*, as set out in Attachment 2.1 (Revised) of the report staff report dated November 21 2023;**

2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to conduct a review of the Campaign Finance By-law that considers inflation for the amount of campaign contribution and the maximum spending limits and that the review be completed prior to January 1 of an election year; and;
3. Amend section 10 (3) of the proposed bylaw to read “The combined total amount a Candidate may contribute to their own campaign shall not exceed five thousand nine hundred dollars (\$5900) per Election.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED.

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence – None

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentations – None

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Savage noted there were no registered speakers and called three times for any other members of the public wishing to speak; there were none.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 2024 Halifax Regional Municipality and CSAP Regular Election: Appointment of Returning Officer, Delegation of Authorities, and Use of Provincial List of Electors

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated November 10, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Appoint Iain MacLean as the Returning Officer to conduct all regular and special elections required under the *Municipal Elections Act*, including both municipal and CSAP elections;**
2. **For the 2024 Halifax Regional Municipality and CSAP Elections, in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act*, delegate the following authorities:**
 - a. **To the Clerk, the authority to appoint one or more Assistant Returning Officers;**
 - b. **To the Clerk, the authority to make, revise, and amend the tariff of fees and expenses; and**
 - c. **To the Returning Officer, the authority to set the first advance polling date; and**
3. **Direct that the provincial list of electors be used in conducting the 2024 Halifax Regional Municipality and CSAP Elections.**

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 Proposed 2024 Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff memorandum dated November 27, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Executive Standing Committee approve the proposed 2024 Executive Standing Committee meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

13.2.1 Candidate Contribution Rebate Program

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Women's Advisory Committee report dated November 2, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the Executive Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a staff report exploring the creation of a rebate program for municipal campaign contributions during regular or special elections held in the Halifax Regional Municipality. The report should include an overview of the legislative and budgetary framework required to enable the proposed program.

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.3 AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

13.3.1 African Nova Scotian Representation in the Halifax Regional Police

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- African Descent Advisory Committee report dated November 9, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Executive Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to request a staff report on:

- 1. The representation of people of African Nova Scotian descent in the Halifax Regional Police force;**
- 2. The status of the all-African descent cadet class of 1993;**
- 3. An understanding of education provided to all officers around systemic racism and all matters; and**
- 4. That the staff report be provided to the African Nova Scotian Descent Advisory Committee for review and possible recommendation.**

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer and John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

15.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – October 23, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of October 23, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Executive Standing Committee convene In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 15.2 PERSONNEL MATTER.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15.2 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

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

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Private and confidential report dated November 8, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

That the Executive Standing Committee:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated November 8, 2023 and**
- 2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated November 8, 2023 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION

17.1 Councillor Mason

TAKE NOTICE that, at the next regular meeting of the Executive Standing Committee I propose to move the following:

The Executive Standing Committee request the CAO provide a staff report regarding potential adoption of changes to the committee's terms of reference to amend section 10 to add Community Safety and broaden the committee's responsibility to include oversight of strategic planning and direction for these business units, in line with other standing committee terms of reference.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 22, 2024

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Catie Campbell
Legislative Assistant