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Item No. 15.1.4
Halifax Regional Council
November 19, 2024

TO: Mayor Fillmore and Members of Halifax Regional Council

FROM: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: November 13, 2024

SUBJECT: Deferral of Deputy Mayor Appointment

ORIGIN

Staff initiated.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Administrative Order One, *the Procedures of the Council Administrative Order*, outlines that Deputy Mayor shall be appointed in November annually. -Proposed deferral is to allow interested candidates to have an opportunity to speak to Council with the respect of their interest in the position.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

- (1) Suspend the rule of procedure in Administrative Order One, *the Procedures of the Council Administrative Order*, requiring the election of a Deputy Minister in November annually;
- (2) Extend the term of Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon as Deputy Mayor until the later of December 10, 2024, or a new Deputy Mayor is elected by Regional Council; and
- (3) Defer the appointment of the Deputy Mayor to the December 10, 2024, meeting of Regional Council.

BACKGROUND

Section 13 of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* requires Council to select one of its Members to be the Deputy Mayor. Under section 121 of Administrative Order One, Council has set the selection of the Deputy Mayor to occur in November annually. A motion of Regional Council would be required to suspend this rule of procedure. This would require an approval of 2/3 of the Members of Council present and voting in accordance with subsection 4(2).

DISCUSSION

The current term of the Deputy Mayor expires at the end of November 2024.

Staff is recommending the election of the Deputy Mayor be deferred until the December 10, 2024, meeting of Regional Council and that the current term of the Deputy Mayor be extended accordingly.

The recommended deferral would allow all interested members of Council the opportunity to speak to their interest in the position.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications at this time.

RISK CONSIDERATION

No risk considerations were identified.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement was required.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

Regional Council could choose to appoint a new Deputy Mayor at the November 19, 2024, meeting.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrative Order One – The Procedures of the Council Administrative Order:

4. (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), any one or more of the rules of procedures contained herein except for sections 5 and 41 and subsections 12(5) and 59(3) may be suspended by Council, Committee of the Whole, Community Council or a Standing Committee by the affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3rds) of the Members present and voting.

121. The election of a Deputy Mayor shall be made in November annually.

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter

13 (1) The Council shall select one of its Council members to be the Deputy Mayor of the Council

(2) Prior to the selection of a Deputy Mayor, the Council shall determine the term of office of the Deputy Mayor

ATTACHMENTS

None.

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