

NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 26, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Outhit, Chair
Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Vice Chair
Councillor Peter Lund
Councilor Brad Johns

REGRETS: Councillor Robert Harvey

STAFF: Randolph Kinghorne, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Sackville Heights Community Centre Silver and Gold Room, 46 Connolly Road, Sackville.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 29, 2012

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Lund that the minutes of March 29, 2012 be approved, as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

13.1 Councillor Outhit – Request for Report re: Fencing Provisions in Bedford Land Use By-law

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Lund that the Order of Business be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

4.1 STATUS SHEET REVIEW

A copy of the Status Sheet was before the Community Council for review.

4.1.1 Request for Street Light Installation – Hammonds Plains Road

Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, Acting Manager, Traffic & Right of Way provide clarification to the Community Council's November 24, 2011 motion to install street lights on every pole along Hammonds Plains Road. He indicated that the current state of street lighting in HRM is an amalgamation of different street light standards from the former Municipal units; of which status quo has been maintained since amalgamation. He advised that the Province has mandated HRM, in a draft regulation, to replace all high pressured sodium street lights to LED street lights by 2019; 75% of lights must be replaced by 2017. As part of this plan, HRM staff is reviewing the best practices Industry wide for lighting standards (ie. International Lighting Engineers Society Standard) to ensure HRM has a consistent light level throughout the Municipality.

Councillor Lund questioned whether having a light on every second pole along Hammonds Plains Road is adequate. Mr. Koutroulakis indicated that without conducting an extensive study, which HRM does not currently have the resources to do, he could not confirm. As HRM systematically installs the LED street lights, it is staff's intent to verify the standards to ensure proper lighting levels are present. Mr. Koutroulakis went on to note that there are various factors taken into consideration for a lighting design plan, such as the type of fixture, wattage, down lighting design and pole spacing.

Councillor Lund further questioned the prioritization of replacing the street lights. Mr. Koutroulakis advised that a report will be coming to Regional Council May 2012 from the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee to determine how to acquire the lights from Nova Scotia Power Inc., at which point Council and staff will determine the best business model for the Municipality.

Councillor Johns commented for the record that typically the view seems to have been that for more rural areas lighting is spaced further apart. However, in urban areas there are other lighting sources providing illumination aside from street lights. In areas such as Lucasville Road, Hammonds Plains Road, Upper and Middle Sackville there is a lot less illumination from other sources and the sole source becomes the street lights. He suggested that this needs to be taken into consideration in addition to the number of vehicles on the road. Councillor Johns added that he has no concerns about where the standard is currently on residential street lights (ie. every second pole) but expressed concern that when the Municipality moves forward to review a lighting standard, that it should be based on the number of cars on a road and not necessarily location.

In response to the Community Council's request to staff to install lights on every pole along Hammonds Plains Road, Mr. Koutroulakis clarified that based on staff's review and the current standard HRM has maintained since amalgamation, additional lighting is not required. However, with the change over to LED lights, a plan will be developed along with a review of the lighting standard across HRM.

Councillor Johns suggested the Community Council forward a similar recommendation on street lighting to Regional Council, suggesting that if Council is not prepared to upgrade Hammonds Plains Road street lighting, than similar roads with lights on every pole should be down graded. Mr. Koutroulakis reiterated that HRM is in a transitional phase from high pressure sodium lights to LED lights, clarifying that different types of lights can not be mixed on a roadway. There are significant cost implications but as part of the retrofit program is to develop a plan to evaluate every roadway to determine what lighting levels are appropriate.

In response to concern raised respecting areas with low visibility on dark, rainy/foggy nights, it was agreed that staff would drive along Hammonds Plains Road during this type of evening to review lighting and road conditions, identify any bad areas prior to the LED street light change over, and report back to the Community Council.

Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.1.2 Status of Flooding at Intersection of Hammonds Plains Road and Blue Water Road

An extract of John Sheppard's response to Councillor Lund dated April 10, 2012 re: Flooding of Hammonds Plains at Bluewater Road was circulated to the Community Council.

Item removed from the Status Sheet.

4.1.3 Funding for Hammonds Plains Common Area Rate

The Community Council is awaiting confirmation of provincial funding. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.1.4 Request for Update re: Traffic Lights at Intersection of Hammonds Plains Road and Glen Arbour

Report forthcoming, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.1.5 Update on Soil and Grading By-law

An extract of Paul Morgan's email dated March 29, 2012 re: Update on Soil and Grading By-Law was before North West Community Council.

As requested by the Community Council March 29th, the Clerk advised that the past origin of this matter has been updated on the Status Sheet.

The Community Council requested this matter remain on the Status Sheet pending future update on discussion paper and work plan forthcoming to the Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee.

4.1.6 Area Rate for Implementing a Sidewalk within the Sunset Ridge and Twin Brooks Subdivisions

Councillor Johns advised that this matter could be removed from the Status Sheet as the project will not be moving forward at this time due to cost implications.

4.1.7 Crosswalk Request – Sackville Drive at Intersection of Sunset Ridge to Twin Brooks

Staff advised that a report is being prepared for the Community Council's May meeting.

Councillor Johns indicated that with the opening of Sunset Ridge and TwinBrooks subdivisions, requests are increasing for a crosswalk with some form of overhead signage at this intersection. He further noted that during the construction of Sunset Ridge a third centre turning lane was installed, making it even more difficult for people to cross.

Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.1.8 Review of By-law T-400 – Truck Routes

Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, Acting Manager, Traffic and Right of Way advised that he met with Staff Sergeant Scott Warnica, RCMP and Vehicle Compliance Officer Jim Slaunwhite to review By-Law T-400 and develop a strategy to address truck concerns along Hammonds Plains Road. A plan has been developed to install permissive signage, rather than prohibitive signage, in appropriate locations; which will be enforced by RCMP under the *Nova Scotia Motor Vehicles Act*. Mr. Koutroulakis noted that RCMP has the ability to enforce either the By-law or the *MVA*, whereas Vehicle Compliance can only enforce the *MVA*.

During the By-law review, it was noted that there are a couple of minor revisions that will be brought to Regional Council at a later date; but for the time being by installing permissive signage, stricter fines can be issued to the trucking industry as a result of illegally crossing a permissive truck sign and issuing a ticket for a violation under the *MVA*.

Mr. Koutroulakis further indicated that many of the proposed signs would be located on Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal roadways. Staff will be in contact with the Province to determine the length of time it will take to install signage on these roadways.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Lund on amendments to the By-law, Mr. Koutroulakis clarified that staff is not proposing any immediate amendments to By-Law T-400, as the proposed revisions are minor in nature and do not deal with the issue at hand of enforcement.

The Community Council agreed to keep this matter on their Status Sheet to allow for future update from staff.

4.1.9 Update - “Brad’s Brook”

An extract of Val William’s email dated April 5, 2012 re: Update – “Brad’s Brook”, with attached letter from Halifax Water to North West Community Council dated December 14, 2007 was before the North West Community Council.

The Community Council requested the Clerk forward a copy of the April 5th correspondence to Walter Regan, Sackville Rivers Association for his information.

Item removed from the Status Sheet.

4.1.10 Case 01311: Paper Mill Lake CCDD MPS Amendment, Bedford

No Update, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.1.11 Bedford Waterfront Design Study

No Update, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

- 5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**
- 6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**
- 7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**
- 8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**
- 9. HEARINGS – NONE**

Councillor Dalrymple noted that Walter Regan, Sackville Rivers Association delivered a presentation on the Sackville Greenway Multi-year Plan to the Transportation Standing Committee and Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee on April 26, 2012. He noted that there was widespread support from both Standing Committees.

- 10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**
- 10.1 Correspondence – None**
- 10.2 Petitions – None**

11. REPORTS

11.1 NORTH WEST PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

11.1.1 Case 16891 Hartland Village Rezoning, Sackville (Give First Reading)

A report from the North West Planning Advisory Committee dated April 4, 2012 was before the Community Council.

MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Lund that the North West Community Council Give First Reading to the proposed rezoning of Harland Village from the R-6A (Rural Residential) zone to the R-6A (Rural Residential Single Unit Dwelling) zone as shown in Attachment A of the March 7, 2012 staff report and schedule a public hearing.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Public Hearing scheduled for May 24, 2012 at the Sackville Heights Community Centre Silver & Gold Room, 45 Connolly Road, Sackville.

- 12. MOTIONS – NONE**

13. ADDED ITEMS

13.1 Councillor Outhit – Request for Report re: Fencing Provisions in Bedford Land Use By-law

Councillor Outhit expressed concern on behalf of Bedford residents in regard to fencing requirements being stricter in the Bedford Land Use By-law as compared to provisions in other Land Use By-laws.

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Johns that North West Community Council request a report outlining the reasons for the fencing requirements in the Bedford Land Use By-law, in comparison to fencing provisions in other Land Use By-laws. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

15. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Nick Antoft, Greater Hammonds Plains Communities Association questioned the trucking industry's knowledge of By-Law T-400 and questioned how permissive signage would deter trucks from using non-truck routes.

The Community Council noted that RCMP would be enforcing the permissive truck signage under the *Nova Scotia Motor Vehicles Act*, and that this signage would require some form of education to the trucking industry.

Councillor Johns suggested allowing for a period of time to see how the permissive signage is working and receive an update at the Community Council's September meeting.

In response to further concerns respecting enforcement of the permissive truck signage, it was **MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Johns that North West Community Council write a letter to RCMP and Vehicle Compliance asking for monthly updates of the enforcement statistics (ie. number of tickets issued, warnings given) in relation to the permissive signage being installed for trucks along Hammonds Plains Road. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Ms. Evan's commented on how well traffic flow has been at the intersection of Pockwock Road with RCMP being posted near the real estate business monitoring traffic.

16. NEXT MEETING DATE – May 24, 2012

The Community Council reminded residents that their Annual General Meeting will be held in conjunction with regular May meeting.

17. IN CAMERA

Council may rise and go into a private In Camera session, in accordance with Section 19 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, for the purpose of dealing with the following;

17.1 In Camera Minutes – October 20, 2011

MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Lund that the In Camera minutes of October 20, 2011 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

17.2 Personnel Matter

Citizen and Councillor boards and committees in keeping with the Public Appointment Policy adopted by Regional Council in August 2011, to be found at <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/documents/Citizenrecruitmentpolicy.pdf>

17.2.1 Future of the North West Transit Advisory Committee

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Johns that North West Community Council convene into In Camera in order to address matters related to the future of the North West Transit Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. to allow the Community Council to convene into In Camera.

Krista Vining
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS – NONE