

Mr. Cross informed he has no prior experience in the tourism industry. He was formerly involved in the leisure industry and a family business. However, he has close involvement with friends in the tourism industry and with the Department of Tourism.

Councillor Fralick indicated there is difficulty having tourism promoted in the Peggy's Cove area, and he expressed concern that there are presently only 25 members of the MATA. Mr. Cross informed the past Executive Director did not pursue solicitation of membership on a full time basis. He informed he would look into this area and promote tourism to Peggy's Cove as much as possible.

Councillor MacDonald inquired about who is eligible to be a member of the MATA. Mr. Cross informed that mostly small business operators join the Association for promotion of their industry during the tourist season. However, anybody is welcome. With respect to tourist bureaus, the Board of Directors has requested a report on their effectiveness; this is yet to be addressed. He was of the understanding the County does not want to be directly involved with tourist bureaus.

Councillor C. Baker remarked there is no road between Herring Cove and Terence Bay, and such a road would promote tourism from Prospect Bay. He informed the lack of this road is referred to as the "missing link." Mr. Cross informed he would look into this.

Councillor McInroy, chairman of the former Tourism Committee, expressed appreciation and pleasure with the results of the new Association. He stated matters have gone well so far, and he felt the Association would be more successful as it grows.

Warden MacKenzie expressed thanks to Mr. Cross for introducing himself and making himself available to Councillors should they have questions or comments in the future.

LETTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Department of Vocational and Technical Training

Mr. Kelly reviewed this letter, advising of a public meeting to discuss issues concerning technical and vocational programs should the Provincial government decide to proceed with community colleges.

Councillor Wiseman advised the School Board and teachers are working on a presentation to be submitted to the Task Force. She suggested there are other concerns which the Municipality should make aware to the Task Force. She felt Council could have an opportunity to review the presentation before it is presented to the Task Force.

Warden MacKenzie suggested any input from other Members of Council should be passed along to Mr. Gillis for implementation into the report.

It was noted that written submissions were to be sent to the Task Force before January 12, 1987, but presentations to the Task Force can be made at the public meeting to be scheduled.

Nova Scotia Municipal Board

Mr. Kelly reviewed this letter regarding Council's concerns about the Municipal Board ordering Council to reverse a previously made decision.

Councillor Eisenhauer expressed concern that the Vice Chairman of the Municipal Board did not address Council's concerns in her response. Mr. Cragg informed the Municipal Board is sympathetic to Council's concerns, but under the Planning Act the procedure must be that the Municipal Board order Council to reverse its decision should they feel that appeal should be allowed. Mr. Cragg informed the issue of Council not following an order of the Board was not discussed, but he was of the opinion that Council could be held in contempt if such an order was not followed.

There was some discussion about the Planning Act and orders from the Municipal Board. Mr. Cragg explained Sections 63 (4) and 39 (4) of the Act to Members of Council.

It was moved by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor Adams:

"THAT the correspondence from the Municipal Board respecting Glengarry Development Limited be received."
MOTION CARRIED

AGENDA ITEMSWarden MacKenzie - Herring Cove Sewer Situation

Mr. Kelly reviewed a letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Minister of the Environment expressing dismay that Council refused to meet with them to discuss their solution to the Herring Cove pollution problem. The letter requested that alternate solutions to this problem be submitted to them along with documentation as to technical and economic feasibility. He suggested once Provincial staff have had an opportunity to review such material, consideration could be given to a future meeting to discuss the matter.

Councillor Fralick stated his reason for rejecting the City's hook-up to the Lakeside Treatment Plant was because the residents opposed it, and he is there to represent the residents.

Mr. Wdowiak made a presentation with respect to an alternate proposal. He stated there are five alternatives available. He recommended there be a pumped gravity interceptor along the south side of Long Lake to an upgraded Pine Grove/Roaches Pond system. However, the City has already called for tenders for a forcemain across Bicentennial Drive into the Fairview gravity sewer. He stated the Pine Grove/Roaches Pond system has to be upgraded because it has reached its life expectancy of approximately 20 years, and there is potential for development of lands north of Long Lake. Mr. Wdowiak informed his \$5 million estimate does not include the cost to intercept lines from the Ragged Lake area to the pumping station or from the Bayers Lake area to the pumping

station. The same costs would be applicable for both alternatives. He continued that it will cost approximately \$2.9 million for the City's proposal, which does not include costs for required upsizing of sewer mains through Fairview. Mr. Wdowiak stated his recommendation is projected to cost approximately \$3 million plus \$8 million for a new treatment plant. There had been an indication from the Minister of Municipal Affairs in the past that \$8 million would be available for this new treatment plant. He stated this would provide treatment for the City's two industrial parks and the mainland area not previously treated. This system would also provide treatment for the Atlantic Winter Fair site and any development which may take place south of Long Lake. He stated this may cost more initially, but in the long run it will provide for treated sewage rather than untreated discharge going into the harbour, and it will also allow for future development in this area. Otherwise this money will have to be provided in the future, perhaps at a greater cost. Mr. Wdowiak concluded his presentation, informing the figures may have to be upgraded as the report he referred to was completed in 1983. However, he suggested this is not a major concern as the dollars will probably be very similar.

Councillor Walker commented that the County wants to relieve the problem at Nine Mile River, and he felt Mr. Wdowiak's proposal of this regional system would provide this relief.

Councillor Deveaux inquired about the time frame involved. Mr. Wdowiak was of the opinion if approval could be granted and work begin immediately the system could be complete within two years.

After much discussion, Councillor Fralick felt Mr. Wdowiak's proposal would provide the answer to several of the County's problem, as well as provide a hook-up for the City's two industrial parks.

Councillor Eisenhauer expressed support for Mr. Wdowiak's proposal, stating this will provide the County with a solution should something go wrong. The area will then be 100 percent serviced, and the pollution problem will remain with the two cities. With this system there is a way out if something goes wrong, which is not available at Lakeside.

Councillor Deveaux stated he is not opposed to the proposal if the Province is willing to accept it. He expressed concern about the costs, and he stated other Councillors have expressed concern about the outcome of the plant. He inquired about this. Mr. Wdowiak informed the proposed system will eventually take sewage and treated effluent back to the system. This will require extra piping and dollars, but it will have to be spent in the future anyway if it is not now included as part of the proposal.

After a suggestion by Mr. Meech,

It was moved by Councillor P. Baker, seconded by Councillor Fralick:

"THAT Halifax County staff meet with staff at the Metropolitan Authority respecting the proposed alternative, and subsequently arrange a group meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Minister of the Environment, and the City of Halifax."

MOTION CARRIED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Report, Department of Social Services

Mr. Kelly reviewed this report respecting an increase to the food and shelter scales effective February 1, 1987.

It was moved by Councillor P. Baker, seconded by Councillor Deveaux:

"THAT Council approve increases in the Social Assistance scales for food allowance and shelter rates as outlined in the report, effective February 1, 1987."

MOTION CARRIED

Temporary Borrowing Resolution No. 86-05

Mr. Kelly read the report.

It was moved by Councillor DeRoche, seconded by Councillor Deveaux:

"THAT Council approve a temporary borrowing resolution in the amount of \$5,200,000 for sewage - Eastern Passage/Bissett Lake."

Councillor Deveaux inquired about the total cost of this project and the Municipality's responsibility for it. Mr. Meech informed the Municipality has identified its cost at \$5,200,000, and the users will pay 30 percent through the environmental rate.

MOTION CARRIED

Requests for Grants and Loan

Mr. Kelly reviewed each of the requests.

It was moved by Councillor Lichter, seconded by Councillor Snow:

"THAT Council approve a District Capital Grant, District 19 in the amount of \$236.64 to cover the balance of funding for the installation of playground equipment, Bridalwood Subdivision;

a District Capital Grant, District 13 in the amount of \$5,000 for the Gays River, Cooks Brook, Lake Egmont Recreation Hall for the purpose of extending the recreation hall; and

a loan in the amount of \$14,650 for the extension to the recreation hall to be advanced over a ten year period of principal and interest with Council reserving the right to levy an area rate in default of principal and/or interest."

MOTION CARRIED

By-law Amendment

Mr. Kelly informed of the Executive Committee's recommendation that District 5 be included in By-law No. 42, a By-law Respecting Blasting and Dangerous Materials.

It was moved by Councillor Eisenhauer, seconded by Councillor DeRoche:

"THAT Council approve an amendment to By-law No. 42 - a By-law Respecting Blasting and Dangerous Materials - to include District 5."

Warden MacKenzie asked about the time frame involved with getting this amendment approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. He informed he is considering adding his district to this by-law, as there are similar concerns in a portion of District 11. However, he informed he did not wish to pursue this matter at this time.

MOTION CARRIED

Bell Park Academic Centre - Fencing

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report respecting Bell Park Academic Centre, Fencing and funding for this project.

Attached is a copy of the report.

It was moved by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor P. Baker:

"THAT Council approve a District Capital Grant, District 8 in the amount of \$5,000 and a General Parkland Fund Grant in the amount of \$1,500 for fencing at the Bell Park Academic Centre with the provision that the District School Board funding for this project in the amount of \$3,500 is approved in the School Board 1987 Budget."

MOTION CARRIED

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Application No. DA-CH/W-09-86-17 - Development Agreement - Edwards Fine Foods Ltd., 960 Cole Harbour Road

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report.

It was moved by Councillor DeRoche, seconded by Councillor Snow:

"THAT Application No. DA-CH/W-09-86-17 be approved and that a public hearing be held on February 23, 1987 at 7 p.m."
MOTION CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT

It was moved by Councillor Wiseman, seconded by Councillor Randall:

"THAT the report of the Development Officer be received."
MOTION CARRIED

METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY REPORT - COUNCILLOR MacDONALD

Councillor MacDonald informed at the last meeting of the Metropolitan Authority the Metro Transit Commission became amalgamated with the Metropolitan Authority. The meeting was held at the Metro Transit garage boardroom, followed by a tour of the garage and the Go Time System.

At this meeting there was also concern expressed about the heavy metal going to the land fill site. There was representation from various groups with different opinions about this matter, and there was no agreement as to what the test results concluded. After much debate, it was decided to more tests in conjunction with the Federal and Provincial Departments of Health and the Environment. He expressed hope the results of these tests will be available at the next meeting of the Metropolitan Authority on January 27, 1987.

Councillor MacDonald informed there was much discussion at this meeting about the Metro Transit workers and their negotiations. He informed the drivers will have to give two weeks notice before going on strike, and in the meantime the mediator will try to resolve the problems.

It was moved by Councillor MacDonald, seconded by Councillor McInroy:

"THAT the Metropolitan Authority report be received as presented."

Warden MacKenzie commented on the tour of the Metro Transit garage and the Go Time System, stating the garage is in excellent condition and employees do a very good job of keeping the buses in working order and clean. With respect to the Go Time System, Warden MacKenzie stated it is very interesting, but there are still some details to be worked out.

Councillor MacDonald added there has been concern about Dominion Metal transporting metal to the land fill site. It has been stated this metal is not dangerous, but he questioned Dominion Metal's need to move it if it is not serious.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor C. Baker expressed concern about metal which was transported and dumped in Harrietsfield. He informed he was in touch with the Department of the Environment and the Department of Health, and the effected residents want to know what is going to be done about this. Warden MacKenzie informed the final report about this may require that this metal be removed. Councillor MacDonald informed he was of the understanding those truckloads were taken back to the Dominion Metal site. He informed he would inquire about this at the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEMSCouncillor P. Baker - Department of Transportation

Councillor P. Baker expressed concern about the deplorable condition of roads in his District, and he felt it was due to the change in shift

hours. Employees are now required to work 12 hour shifts for two weeks at a time. He stated the road clearing service in the area is affected by this change because employee morale is very low. He informed the employees sent a letter to the Minister about this concern, and they received a one-line response informing this is the way the operation will run.

It was moved by Councillor P. Baker, seconded by Councillor Eisenhauer:

"THAT a letter of concern about lack of snow clearing service be sent to the Premier from the residents of District 4; also that a copy of this letter be sent to the Minister of Transportation and the MLA for the area, Jerry Lawrence."

Councillor Eisenhauer, Councillor Bayers, and Councillor Fralick all asked that their respective districts be added to this letter, as they have all received complaints about the condition of roads.

Councillor Walker informed a motion was made at the January 6, 1987 Council Session expressing similar concerns. He suggested the Minister of Transportation be asked to meet with Members of Council to discuss the deplorable condition of roads in the western subsystem.

Mr. Kelly advised the letter referred to by Councillor Walker was sent and only a letter of acknowledgement was received. There has not been an official response.

Councillor P. Baker asked that the Minister of Transportation reconsider the change in shifts. He felt if the work periods were reinstated to one week shifts, the road conditions would improve.

Councillor C. Baker informed he received requests from residents for sanding only. However, they do not understand no sanding will be done while it is raining, and the trucks cannot be everywhere once it starts to snow. He advised he called the Premier, who is the MLA for his area, about these concerns. The Premier informed he would look into problems at the western subsystem.

Councillor Eisenhauer agreed the problem may be due to the change in shifts.

There were many comments about the deplorable condition of roads throughout the Municipality this winter.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Adams - Water and Sewer, North Preston

Councillor Adams informed there is a need for water and sewer services in the North Preston area. He informed this matter has been deemed a priority project in the past, but nothing has ever been done about it. The Atlantic Health Unit is now raising concerns about the quality of well water in this community. He asked about when this project would begin.

Mr. Wdowiak informed the problem with these projects is funding. He stated servicing of this area was included in the MDP with a three year capital projection. Councillor Adams clarified that this project was included in the three to five year plan. Councillor Adams stated he would like to have staff look at this and decide on the feasibility of it. He informed he is trying to get a date established for the review of the plan, which was supposed to be done last year.

Mr. Meech informed there are many such projects which need to be completed, but it must be determined which ones are priority, and it will be at least several months before this can be done.

After further discussion,

It was moved by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor DeRoche:

"THAT an application be submitted to the Department of Municipal Affairs for cost sharing for the installation of sewer and water services in North Preston."

Councillor DeRoche commented on the delay in reviewing the plan for the area, stating when the plan was adopted priorities and cost projections were included. However, delays have caused scepticism about the value of planning.

Warden Mackenzie advised there is difficulty reviewing the Municipal Development Plans because there is not enough staff to implement the new plans and review the old ones too. He stated the people want input, but this adds to the time for making a plan effective.

Councillor Reid was of the understanding when the decision about capital funding was delayed to budget time, there would be a meeting of the Committee of Whole to prioritize capital projects throughout the Municipality. He stated any action taken now in this regard would defeat the purpose of the action taken at the last Committee of the Whole meeting. He concluded stating that North Preston was not even on the list for prioritization at that time. Councillor DeRoche agreed it was not on the list, but it should have been.

MOTION CARRIED

Warden MacKenzie - In Camera Item

It was moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Fralick:

"THAT Council go in-camera."

MOTION CARRIED

Members of Council agreed to come out of camera.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Council Session adjourned.

MINUTES & REPORTS

OF THE

SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

OF THE

FORTY - SECOND COUNCIL

OF THE

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF HALIFAX

FEBRUARY COUNCIL SESSION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 and 17, 1987

&

PUBLIC HEARINGS

FEBRUARY 9 and 23, 1987

I N D E X

Assessment Appeal -----	8-12 & 18-19
Armdale Rotary -----	45
Beaver Bank Transit - Loan -----	17-18
Cole Harbour Place - Loan -----	13-15
Commonwealth Games Society -----	30-32
Capital Reserve - Transfer of Funds -----	34
Capital Projects -----	36-39
Derelect Vehicle Program -----	32-34
Employee Service Awards -----	17
Grants -----	13 & 35
Halifax/Dartmouth Bridge Commission - Funds -----	13
Motion - Appointment of Recording Secretary -----	1 & 24
Motion - Public Hearing, Undersized Lot Legislation, Sambro ----	6-8
Motion - Letters & Correspondence -----	8 & 24-30
Motion - Assessment Appeal -----	8-12 & 18-19
Motion - Halifax/Dartmouth Bridge Commission -----	13
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Motion - Loan, Cole Harbour Place -----	13-15
Motion - Uniform Closing Day, By-Law -----	15-16
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Motion - Loan, Beaver Bank Transit -----	17-18
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Motion - Public Hearing Dates -----	19-20 & 35-36
Motion - Regional Tripartite Committee -----	20-21
Motion - Adjournment -----	23 & 45
Motion - Approval of Minutes -----	25
Motion - Sackville Business Improvement District -----	25-29
Motion - Letter re Snow Removal, Salting and Sanding -----	30
Motion - Commonwealth Games Society -----	30-32
Motion - Derelect Vehicle Program -----	32-34
Motion - Transfer of Funds to Capital Reserve -----	34
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Motion - Capital Projects -----	36-39
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Motion - Wharfs, Eastern Passage -----	41-42
Motion - Abandoned Railway Line -----	42
Motion - Prospect Peninsula Residents Association -----	42-43
Motion - Tour, Halifax County -----	43-44
Motion - Senior Citizens Project, Hammonds Plains -----	44
Motion - Nursing Homes Care -----	44-45
Motion - Armdale Rotary -----	45
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Public Hearings - Dates -----	19-20 & 35-36
Prospect Peninsula Residents Association -----	42-43
Regional Tripartite Committee -----	20-21
Sackville Business Improvement District -----	25-29
Senior Citizens Project - Hammonds Plains -----	44
Temporary Borrowing Resolution -----	34-35
Undersized Lot Legislation - Public Hearing -----	6-8
Uniform Closing Day - By-Law -----	15-16
United Way Appointment -----	41
Wharfs - Eastern Passage -----	41-42

COUNCIL SESSION

FEBRUARY 3, 1987

PRESENT WERE: Warden MacKenzie
Councillor Walker
Councillor Rawding
Councillor Fralick
Councillor P. Baker
Councillor C. Baker
Councillor Deveaux
Councillor DeRoche
Councillor Adams
Councillor Randall
Councillor Bayers
Councillor Reid
Councillor Lichter
Councillor Snow
Councillor Merrigan
Councillor Mackay
Councillor McInroy
Councillor Eisenhauer
Councillor MacDonald
Councillor Wiseman
Deputy Warden Mont

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. K.R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. G.J. Kelly, Municipal Clerk
Mr. R.G. Cragg, Municipal Solicitor

SECRETARY: Glenda Higgins

Warden MacKenzie called the Council Session to order with the Lord's Prayer at 6 p.m.

Warden MacKenzie introduced Bruce Rawding, Councillor elect for District 2. Mr. Kelly presided over the swearing in of the new Councillor for district two, administering the Oath of Allegiance and of Office.

Mr. Kelly called the Roll.

APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING SECRETARY

It was moved by Councillor Snow, seconded by Councillor Adams:

"THAT Glenda Higgins be appointed Recording Secretary."
MOTION CARRIED

AGENDA ITEMS

Councillor C. Baker - Department of Transportation
- Snowmobiles at night

Councillor Walker - Assessments It was agreed to deal with this matter during the presentation to Council by the Director of Assessment.

Councillor Deveaux - New Wharf

Councillor MacKay - Snow Removal on Sidewalks
- Potential Flooding in Rivers

Councillor Randall - Abandoned CN Railway Line

MEETING WITH LLOYD GILLIS, CEO, DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Gillis reviewed his report which was circulated to Members of Council. The report outlined school capital projects in each of the subsystems, the formation of a SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk) association throughout the high schools, the School Board's smoking policy, the community college proposal, and a special program at Eastern Shore District High School attended by Duncan MacMillan and Musquodoboit Rural High School students.

Mr. Gillis informed there is great concern for Millwood High School, and he would be attending a meeting with Government Services and the Department of Education on February 4, 1987 with respect to this project. He also informed an application from the School Board to the Province has been submitted with respect to Acadia School. The Board already received a letter from the Minister of Education, stating he is not prepared to support this project. The Board subsequently re-affirmed support for that project, and the Minister is now reviewing the matter. A comment is expected within the next month.

Mr. Gillis also noted there were no Western Subsystem projects included with the report because the one project in this area has been completed, being the addition and improvements to Atlantic Memorial School.

With respect to the community college system, Mr. Gillis advised the School Board will be presenting a submission to the Community College Study Committee which has been established by the Minister responsible for Vocational, Education, and Technical Training. A copy of the submission was included with the report. He summarized the Board's opinion, stating they are supportive of a community college concept, but they are concerned that another elaborate bureaucracy not develop around the development of a community college system.

Councillor MacDonald expressed pleasure at seeing the new Millwood Elementary School project proceeding. He asked when the Millwood High School project could proceed. Mr. Gillis informed staff have been

examining plans and studying this matter for some time, and there is some difficulty reaching an agreement with respect to this. Mr. Gillis suggested the project will take approximately 14 to 16 months to construct once the plans are approved. However, it is difficult to determine when the plans will be approved by the Governments Services, the Department of Education, and the Board. He added that no money for this project has been approved yet. Mr. Gillis expressed concern that those who use the facility at the Board level do not have ready access to the planning process, and Government Services often approve plans before the School Board can see them, and when the School Board makes criticism, it upsets a lot of time and money investments into the project. Mr. Gillis stated he is trying to get Government Services to improve communication about such matters with the School Board.

Councillor MacDonald stated that Sackville Heights Elementary and Sackville Heights High Schools have been on a moratorium list for some time, but nothing is done. He stated it appears that new schools are being built, rather than renovating older schools. Mr. Gillis felt action would be taken on the Sackville Heights Elementary School once the Millwood Elementary School is available. The redesign of Sackville Heights Elementary School can only take place once the large population base is decreased. It is projected that 175 to 200 students will be re-located at the new Millwood facility, and the opportunity will be available to make changes and improvements to the Sackville Heights Elementary School. Mr. Gillis expressed pessimism about the Sackville Heights High School improvements.

Deputy Warden Mont expressed concern about Halifax County schools remaining open after a snowstorm when the roads were not clear, making it difficult for the children to make their way to school. Deputy Warden Mont advised he had received many calls concerning this. Mr. Gillis informed the School Board offices receive many such calls. The tendency within the system is to have the busing system dictate what will be done. If it is appropriate to have the bus on the road, schools are open. He agreed there is a population of children that must walk who face more difficulty getting to school. Mr. Gillis continued that during the very early mornings when a snowstorm has occurred, phone calls are exchanged between the homes of head bus drivers, bus drivers from isolated areas, the superintendents of schools for the two City School Boards and the Halifax County-Bedford District School to determine if school should open. He stated it is an extremely difficult decision to make, and the parent has the final analysis to make the decision whether or not to send their children to school.

Councillor Mackay inquired about the increasing enrollment of students at Acadia School. Mr. Gillis informed there are approximately 190 to 200 students at this school presently. There was a projection of 210 to 220 students in this school by June, and it appears this projection will be quite accurate. It is expected another classroom will be opened in this school before the end of June, being the former office facilities. This will occupy another class should there be requirements to split a class. Once this room is occupied, the building will be totally occupied. Councillor MacKay noted there is

still much development in the Acadia School catchment area which is nearing completion, which will mean a continual increase in the number of students. Mr. Gillis informed there will be a meeting between staff and trustees within the community to work out the short term placement of some students. There will be a necessity, possibly by September, 1987, to have students from this community re-directed to another school.

Councillor MacKay noted there has already been one such diversion in September, 1986. He asked how many students from the Acadia School catchment area are attending Hillside Park School. Mr. Gillis informed there are approximately 35 students from the Acadia School catchment area presently attending Hillside Park School. He informed more can be accommodated here.

Councillor MacKay next inquired about the physical education facilities available at Acadia School. Mr. Gillis informed there is an open area in the basement which is utilized for a gymnasium. With respect to Councillor MacKay's inquiry about busing students to other gymnasium facilities, Mr. Gillis informed he would have to investigate the situation to determine why this practice was curtailed. He suggested there was some difficulty with time loss.

Councillor MacKay asked if the land deal for the future site of Acadia School were complete. Mr. Kelly informed the purchase of the first parcel of land has been finalized. The estate for the second parcel of land has not been settled, so the land purchase cannot be finalized. We do have a right of first refusal on this parcel of land.

Councillor MacKay informed that Bill Arsenault of Arsenault's Ambulance had worked very hard on a Anti-Drunk Driving campaign, having the students in Sackville participate. Mr. Gillis informed the videos made under this project are being shown throughout the schools in Halifax County and Bedford. The video was well received by students and staff, and it has been used in both the junior and senior high schools.

Councillor MacKay asked when Council can expect to have the School Board budget tabled. Mr. Gillis informed the Board had three meetings about the budget, and the final section of the Board's budget to be analyzed is to be examined in two weeks. He informed there is no knowledge about revenue from the Province yet, so it is difficult to determine when the final budget can be tabled. He expected no information will be obtained from the Province before March. He felt the School Board would not finalize its budget for presentation until the Provincial revenue is made available.

Councillor Walker inquired about Sir John A. MacDonald playing field. Mr. Gillis informed there is money within the grounds improvement budget of the Property Services Committee to undertake this project in 1987. He agreed this money has been in previous budget, as have other projects, but at this point the money is in the budget assigned for the John A. MacDonald playing field project. It is hoped there will be sharing in this project between the School Board, the community, and other interested parties. The Board believes this project is necessary, as well as others.

Councillor Deveaux asked about when the agreement between DND and the Board will be finalized. Mr. Gillis stated the Board is operating under the terms of the agreement. Mr. Gillis informed that the School Board has taken over the operation of the DND building, and there are many residents of the community taking advantage of that building. DND have a french language instruction unit for Eastern Command located in one wing of that building, and they have not been able to identify when they can vacate that wing, and they do not want to sign over their rights to that space until they have another location for that program guaranteed. The policy of the DND is that they will not provide public education to DND children unless they are on an isolated base, and it is absolutely necessary. Negotiations with officials on the base projected a four year period during which the french language program would be phased out and Halifax County would be phased into the building. At that time, rights to the building would be turned over to the Board. Mr. Gillis informed the School Board has urged that this take place earlier because the Board would like to have some changes occur in some Eastern Passage schools which would be affected by the agreement with Ottawa for the building. Mr. Gillis felt there would be no overcrowding in the Eastern Passage schools. He stated there is plan for September, 1987 to move all grade three students into the DND building, freeing more space in the two Eastern Passage community schools. However, total consolidation of the two communities cannot take place until there is improvements to the buildings. Councillor Deveaux expressed hope that this process will take place faster than anticipated.

Councillor Bayers expressed concerns about busing changes in the Ship Harbour/Lake Charlotte/DeBay's Cove area. The residents are not satisfied with the reasoning behind the changes. He suggested in November that an official from the School Board meet with these residents to justify the changes and explain them to the residents. Mr. Gillis explained that the changes to the bus route was justified by a reduction in the number of "unloaded miles" that a bus must travel. He felt this was with minimal inconvenience to users of the service, although, it appears they are not satisfied. Councillor Bayers informed the changes involve two factors: the pick-up in Ship Harbour, and the time of pick-up and return of students. He was of the opinion the residents are still waiting for a meeting with an official of the School Board to voice their concerns about this change, as well as other matters. Councillor Bayers informed he would arrange to book the community hall and the advertisement for such a meeting, if the School Board would agree to the meeting. Mr. Gillis stated he would like to investigate the situation more thoroughly before a community meeting, and he asked that Councillor Bayers arrange a personal meeting with him first. Councillor Bayers agreed.

Councillor Snow inquired about a senior high school for District 14. Mr. Gillis informed this has not been considered because the five year forcast predicts no difficulty with respect to accomodating the total number of students within the district at C.P. Allen High School. Councillor Snow stated the residents are concerned about the children leaving the district to attend high school. Also, there is much development in this area, and when the time comes for a senior high

school there will be no land available for this purpose. He suggested planning for such a project should begin now. Mr. Gillis informed the decision for a new high school must be based on more than the desire of the residents. C.P. Allen School will accommodate all students from Bedford and District 14 for the next five years, and perhaps beyond.

Councillor C. Baker inquired about expansion to the schools in District 5. Mr. Gillis informed there is no anticipation for new facilities in this area at the present time. Enrolments in the area have been steady, but there are no projections for dramatic student growth at the present time. Mr. Gillis continued that growth and development is examined closely, and it is difficult to equate students per home because this has changed dramatically over the years.

There being no further questions and discussion, Warden MacKenzie extended appreciation for Mr. Gillis for his report. Mr. Gillis expressed appreciation and congratulations to Councillor Wiseman for serving as chairman of the District School Board.

PUBLIC HEARING, UNDERSIZED LOT LEGISLATION

Warden MacKenzie reviewed the procedures for the public hearing.

Mr. Gough reviewed the staff report respecting the lands of Michael Hart and Brian Gray, Sambro. He stated the application was advertised in the newspaper as prescribed under the terms of the legislation, and there has been no correspondence received in favour of or opposed to this application, although there were a number of inquiries.

Mr. Gough informed the land in question is located on the main road leading from Herring Cove to Sambro. He identified the area on a map. Development Division staff were of the opinion this subdivision would not violate the intent of the Subdivision By-law, and the only problem is relative to frontage of the subdivided lots. He informed the applicant is acquiring more land from an adjacent land-owner for the purpose of allowing 100 feet at the septic tank line. The Departments of Transportation and Health have expressed no objection to this subdivision, and the Municipal Solicitor has indicated this decision is strictly to the discretion of Council.

Questions from Council

Councillor C. Baker asked if the lands in question are near Atlantic View Subdivision. Mr. Gough informed it is, indicating the location of Atlantic View Subdivision in relation to the lands in question on the map.

Speakers in Favour of this Application

Murray Gray, Sambro, stated there is no right-of-way to get to his mother's land behind the land in question. He expressed no objection to the subdivision of the undersized lot if Mr. Hart will return the right-of-way to the back lot to his mother.

Questions from Council

Councillor Rawding inquired as to what manner Mr. Grey's mother had title to the legal right-of-way in the past. Mr. Grey informed when the deed was prepared for the land, there was a clause for use of the right-of-way by family members. However, there is no way a house can be put on the back lands, because Michael Hart has the only right-of-way.

Warden Mackenzie expressed concern that Mr. Gray was speaking in opposition to the application when speakers in favour of the application were called for.

Councillor Rawding inquired if it would be possible to obtain a right-of-way from Lot BG-A to access the lands to the rear of the property in question. Mr. Gray was of the opinion it would be difficult to build a right-of-way through this lot because there is much rock and a steep slope here. He stated he did not care where the right-of-way is located as long as he can get to the property in the rear.

Brian Gray, Sambro, stated the proposed subdivision as shown is the only manner in which this can be approved because of all the rules and regulations involved.

Questions from Council

Councillor Deveaux suggested the rules and regulations may change in the future. Mr. Gray objected, stating the rules will not change to allow this because it is difficult to plow and grade at the steep level.

Councillor Snow inquired about a legal right-of-way if this lot in question is approved under the Undersized Lot Legislation. Mr. Gray informed if this subdivision is passed, there will be no legal right-of-way to build on the rear lot, but there is access to the rear lot.

Councillor C. Baker inquired about the leveling of the land for road-building purposes. Mr. Gray stated the only area where this could be leveled off is directly behind a house, which could not be done because of the dwelling there. He stated on the other side of the proposed lot, there is only a steep elevation.

There was much discussion about the existing right-of-way and a legal right-of-way to lot to the rear of the land in question.

Allie Hart, Sambro, informed once the lot in question is approved under the Undersized Lot Legislation he will be receiving it from his brother, Michael Hart, to build a house on. However, there has been some confusion with respect to the right-of-way. He stated the only way in which this lot can be approved for building is as proposed under the Undersized Lot Legislation.

Questions from Council

Councillor P. Baker suggested the matter should be deferred until the family dispute is resolved. Warden MacKenzie stated the matter of the undersized lot is what Council should be considering - not the family dispute.

Speakers in Opposition to this Application

None.

It was moved by Councillor DeRoche, seconded by Councillor Snow:

"THAT the proposed subdivision of Lots MH-A and MH-B of the Subdivision of Lands of Michael Hart and Brian Gray be given final subdivision approval under the Undersized Lot Legislation."
MOTION CARRIED

LETTERS AND CORRESPONDENCEDepartment of Lands and Forests

Mr. Kelly reviewed this letter from the Minister of Lands and Forests on the proposed park site at Herring Cove.

It was moved by Councillor C. Baker, seconded by Councillor Fralick:

"THAT this item of correspondence be received."
MOTION CARRIED

Canada Post Corporation

Mr. Kelly reviewed this letter respecting postal service during the Christmas Holiday period.

It was moved by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor DeRoche:

"THAT this item of correspondence be received."
MOTION CARRIED

REPORT, H.J. McINROY, REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF ASSESSMENT

Mr. McInroy referred to a pamphlet which was circulated to all Councillors, which explains the assessment process, re-evaluation year, etc. He felt Councillors would be more interested in figures relative to their districts, so the presentation was based on estimated growth, new assessment, comparisons to previous assessments, numbers of appeals, etc. Mr. McInroy stated the Assessment Department does not

deal with assessment figures, percentages, ratios, etc. as a municipal unit would. Therefore, the total assessment referred to on the first page includes exempt properties; therefore, the indicated 5.9 percent increase in the assessment base is a low figure.

Councillor Deveaux suggested the word "exempt" is rather misleading in some instances, because Shearwater, in District 6, gives grants in lieu of taxes, which does not necessarily qualify them as "exempt". Mr. McInroy agreed, but stated the computer system does not allow for various exemptions, and these matter will have to be determined by the County's Finance Department.

Councillor Deveaux inquired about the percent increase in assessment. Mr. McInroy informed the figures shown is new assessment including exempt properties which are grantable and which are not grantable. These figures are based primarily on building permits and other factors which the Assessment Department is manually able to extract. He stated the 5.9 percent of estimated growth is based on 1987 assessment.

Councillor P. Baker expressed difficulty with the County receiving all complaints about assessments when it is the Provincial government which should be taking these complaints and explaining the process to the public. With respect to the Atlantic Winter Fair site, Councillor P. Baker asked if these lands are tax exempt. He stated it should not be tax exempt because the County provides fire services to this facility, and all functions at this facility are money-making activities which take money from other districts in the area. Mr. McInroy informed the Atlantic Winter Fair site is assessed as taxable property this year. It was exempt in the past based on the interpretation in the past that the use was a Provincial government objective, but the opinion on this matter has changed based on the fact that the facility is used for non-governmental functions, and this is now assessed as taxable property. Mr. McInroy informed a tax bill was sent for this property, but he did not know who would be paying the taxes, or if it would be paid.

Mr. McInroy continued to review his report. The second page indicated the number of accounts, district by district, as well as the total number of appeals, district by district. He informed the number of appeals is up-to-date as of February 2, and the final date for appealing an assessment is February 9. He stated 2.8 percent of the total number of accounts, including Bedford, have been appealed. He stated approximately 75 percent of the appeals will be corrected in the office as the result of errors in the assessment process. He felt there is not a high level of dissatisfaction which has been expressed through a high number of appeals. Districts 1 and 20 are the two with the highest number of appeals, percentage-wise.

Mr. McInroy continued with this report, reviewing property inspections/classifications, residential level of assessment in accordance with market values, and commercial levels of assessment. He advised an attempt is being made to get the area assessors to attend public

meetings at areas further away from the City. This would make it easier for residents to file their appeals, make general inquiries, or view their assessment field cards. He concluded the presentation with a comparison of assessment data between 1986 and 1987, district by district. He informed this information is available from the County's Finance Department.

Councillor Walker expressed objection to a 43 percent increase in assessment over a three year period based on market values. He stated the former Director of Assessment had left the impression three years ago that assessments were based on market value. Mr. McInroy explained that the market values go up annually, but assessments are only done every three years. As the market value goes up and the assessment value remains, the percentage of accuracy based on the market value goes down. Therefore, when re-assessment figures come out, the percentage increase is substantial.

Councillor Walker expressed concern and difficulty with the differences in assessments from County to County. He stated there are substantial differences in assessments between Halifax County and Lunenburg County. Halifax County assessments appear to be substantially higher than assessments from other municipal units. Mr. McInroy suggested the costing manual used by the Assessment Department may have something to do with this, although he had not looked into this yet.

Councillor Lichter asked if Assessors are paid mileage. Mr. McInroy indicated they are, and Councillor Lichter commented the faster they travel, the more mileage they can gather. He stated in the past it was indicated to Council that every property must be assessed and inspected once every three years. He expressed difficulty with exterior inspections, and he suggested that a card be left at every home if the owner is not home, or that the owner know in some manner that once in three years an assessment of their property and home has been carried out. He stated there have been increases in homes which the occupants claim were not inspected by the Assessor. He continued that the only homes that sell are the more desirable homes, but the less desirable homes are also assessed on the same marketable value. He expressed difficulty with this type of assessment. Councillor Lichter also expressed difficulty with the wording of the advertisements for the meetings with Assessors throughout the County. He suggested Districts should have been included in the notice, so people from District 13 would have known they could attend the meeting in Middle Musquodoboit. Mr. McInroy stated assessors are often responsible for more than one district - some are responsible for three districts - and it was difficult to set up the information sessions with such short notice for all areas. Therefore, only some of the areas benefited from this program. He expressed hope that next time it will be better coordinated with more time to set the meetings up.

Councillor Lichter asked if the assessment cards are public record. Mr. McInroy informed they are not public records, but they are readily accessible by the public given a letter of authorization from the owner of a property for information contained on the field card for that property.

Councillor Lichter inquired if the new assessment figures are considered to be reasonably accurate. Mr. McInroy informed at this time they are an estimate, and if the computer were coding each new account, it would be fairly easy to determine which accounts are new. However, the figures are obtained from the assessor's records (building permits, etc.) which are not 100 percent accurate. He stated the figures given are better than no figures.

Councillor C. Baker informed most of the complaints he received about assessments were from the Harrietsfield area. The residents were concerned about the high increase in assessments for that area with lack of transportation facilities, uranium in the water, poor quality roads, etc. Councillor C. Baker also inquired about transfer payment adjustments. Mr. McInroy informed the growth relative to previous years is the concerning factor. Total assessment would play a role relative to other municipal units throughout the Province. He suggested Mr. Wilson or Mr. Meech could assist more with such questions. With respect to the questions concerning Harrietsfield residents, Mr. McInroy informed the Act calls for properties to be assessed at market value, but there are some components of the process that do not allow this to occur all the time. Mr. McInroy stated a cost approach is used based on the size of the house, the quality and type of materials used, and the manual indicating so much per square foot, for certain styles, etc., and location is also important. Mr. McInroy stated it is location that determines market value. He stated the uranium in the water is a basis for an appeal if the presence of the uranium in the water has not been reflected in the assessment.

Councillor MacKay expressed concern about the increase in assessment compared to the increase in market value for homes in the Cole Harbour and Sackville areas. He also expressed agreement with Councillor Walker's comments with respect to Halifax County assessments in comparison to assessments for other municipal units. He stated many residents of his district never saw an assessor. Sometimes the assessor left a card, but there was not usually a response to that card. He continued that drive-by inspections are very misleading; people use the exterior appearance to keep their assessments down, although the inside of the house may be immaculate.

There was much discussion about the assessment process, and the report as presented by Mr. McInroy. Several Councillors expressed concern about the lack of information made available to the public and to Council about the assessment process. Mr. McInroy agreed this has been a problem, and a few small steps have been taken to begin education people about the separation of the provincial and municipal responsibilities. He stated he would continue to work to change this.

Councillor MacKay noted that page 6 of the report referred to commercial sales in 1986, and he commented that Sackville Downs alone sold for approximately \$5,000,000, which is the total amount of sales for 1986 outlined in the report. Mr. McInroy informed this sale was probably excluded because of the type of use. The assessment which was appealed on Sackville Downs was originally based on its highest and

best use as a commercial property, but that assessment was reduced on the basis of the appeal court judges opinion that property is assessed for its use, rather than its value. The judge felt because this was a race track it was considerably less valuable than if it were vacant land. This sale would have distorted the ratio, so it was not used in this report.

Councillor Walker stated assessments are not fair and equal throughout the Municipality, and abutting municipal units are not even taken into consideration, their assessments seem to be extremely lower.

When Mr. McInroy finished his report, he took his seat as Councillor and declared a conflict of interest.

It was moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor MacKay:

"THAT Halifax County appeal the Provincial assessment put on the Municipality of the County of Halifax based on the equality of the Municipal unit overall."

Councillor MacKay felt the wording of the motion should include "uniformity" because he felt there is a distinct lack of uniformity. Councillor Walker agreed, stating the abutting municipal units must also be taken into consideration.

The motion was amended to read:

"THAT Halifax County appeal the Provincial assessment put on the Municipality of the County of Halifax based on equality and uniformity throughout the overall municipal unit and abutting municipal units."

There was some discussion about whether or not the Municipality could proceed in this manner.

Councillor Merrigan expressed an obligation on behalf of the residents of the County to take action if it is felt there is not uniform assessment throughout the Province. He stated whether or not the County has the legal right to appeal the assessments, the County should ensure the Province realizes there is a double standard and residents of Halifax County are not satisfied.

Mr. Meech noted there are two routes: the political route, expressing to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Provincial government dissatisfaction and concern; and whether or not the Municipality wants to take legal action. He clarified that the motion is to take both actions.

MOTION CARRIED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTHalifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission

Mr. Kelly advised this is a request for funding in the amount of \$1,500 towards the annual meeting of the International Bridge, Tunnel, and Turnpike Association to be held in Halifax in 1987.

It was moved by Councillor Snow, seconded by Councillor Fralick:

"THAT approval be granted for funding in the amount of \$1,500 to the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission towards hosting the 1987 annual meeting of the International Bridge, Tunnel, and Turnpike Association."

Councillor Deveaux asked if the other local municipal units will be contributing towards this meeting. Warden MacKenzie informed each of the local municipal units were asked for funding to support this meeting, but it has not been determined whether or not they will support it.

MOTION CARRIED

Requests for Grants

Mr. Kelly reviewed each of the requests.

It was moved by Councillor Fralick, seconded by Councillor Rawding:

"THAT approval be granted for a District Parkland Fund Grant, District 3 in the amount of \$7,375 and a District Capital Grant, District 3 in the amount of \$1,911.78 for the acquisition of playground equipment, Tantallon Elementary School."

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor Randall, seconded by Councillor Deveaux:

"THAT approval be granted for a District Capital Grant, District 9 in the amount of \$2,500 for the Lawrencetown Volunteer Fire Department."

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor MacKay:

"THAT approval be granted for a District Capital Grant, District 17 in the amount of \$1,274 for the purpose of fencing walkways at Circassion Drive and Spence Drive."

MOTION CARRIED

request for Loan, Cole Harbour Place

Mr. Kelly reviewed this request, advising this is for a loan advance for Cole Harbour Place, as temporary financing as related to the design of Cole Harbour Place. He advised the loan advance is recommended over

a three year period with the usual provision that Council reserve the right to levy an area rate in default of payment.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Mont, seconded by Councillor McInroy:

"THAT approval be granted for a loan advance in the amount of \$200,000 to the Cole Harbour-Westphal and Area Culture Recreation Foundation over a three year period with Council reserving the right to levy an area rate in default of principal and/or interest repayment."

Councillor Lichter inquired about the amount the Province has put into Cole Harbour Place at this point in time. He clarified he was not asking about a commitment, but about the actual outlay of dollars. Mr. Meech was of the opinion there have been no actual advances from the Province. He stated Cole Harbour Place requires some working capital, so they have asked for an advance of \$200,000 in the form of a loan from Halifax County. If this project does not proceed, the community will pay back the \$200,000 loan.

Councillor Lichter stated Halifax County's financial commitment to Cole Harbour Place was with conditions, and one of those conditions was that this will be done when the Province actually pays their share. Councillor Lichter stated the \$200,000 will be 13.33 percent of our commitment, and he felt the Province should contribute their share of \$666,500. He stated he would support this loan based on the Province paying their share.

Mr. Meech stated that at the present time, they are asking for a \$200,000 loan from the Municipality and if the project does not proceed, or they do not meet our conditions, the Councillors on behalf of the community are guaranteeing repayment of the \$200,000 by levying an area rate.

Councillor Lichter noted there is nothing in the report indicating interest will be paid on this \$200,000 advance. Mr. Meech felt the intent of the Executive Committee was that there would be interest charged. Councillor Lichter stated if the Province would contribute the 13.33 percent the County is being asked for, there would be that much more guarantee for the general public in the Cole Harbour area that the project will proceed. However, if the Province defaults in their guarantee, the County will be giving the residents of Cole Harbour a \$200,000 debt with interest. He asked if they officials for Cole Harbour Place had applied for an advance from the Province on their commitment of \$5,000,000. Deputy Warden Mont informed he did not know if application was made for this money to the Province. He clarified that the request is for a loan. The initial request was for some of the money from the County's commitment, and this was not agreeable. After discussion, it was agreed between the three area Councillors that a request would be made for a loan to be repaid with interest if the conditions are not met. He also noted that the community through the service commission has already put \$100,000 into the project, which has already been spent. This \$200,000 loan advance

will carry the project through to the final development of the architectural plans. This is required to keep on schedule. He advised the three area Councillors have every confidence that the project will go ahead, but if something does happen, they are prepared to levy an area rate for repayment of the \$200,000 loan advance.

It was moved by Councillor Fralick, seconded by Councillor Deveaux:

"THAT the request for a \$200,000 loan advance for Cole Harbour Place be deferred to the next Session of Council pending the availability of further information."

MOTION DEFEATED

5 FOR

11 AGAINST

Councillor Lichter stated after approval of the \$1.5 million commitment from the County, there was some clarification required, such as where the money would go, etc. Mr. Meech informed there have been several sessions and discussions, and it was communicated in writing what Council's position is with respect to the commitment to Cole Harbour Place. He stated all the concerns have not been officially resolved, but there are on-going efforts to do so. Deputy Warden Mont informed it has now been resolved that ownership of the land and complex will be in the name of the Cole Harbour/Westphal Service Commission.

Councillor Deveaux informed he did not support the original project, and he would not support this motion. He agreed with Councillor Lichter that one of the stipulations of the \$1.5 million commitment was that there would be no funds until the Provincial and/or Federal governments give their money. Mr. Meech agreed, but he felt this \$200,000 request is separate and apart from the \$1.5 million commitment the County has made to this project.

After further discussion, Warden MacKenzie called for the question on the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

By-law Amendment

Councillor Reid declared a conflict of interest.

Mr. Kelly advised the recommendation is for an amendment to By-law No. 57 - Uniform Closing Day. He advised the amendment is recommended for approval as outlined in the agenda.

Deputy Warden Mont spoke against the amendments because he was of the opinion the amendment will substantially change the original by-law so that no business at all in Halifax County can remain open on Sunday's and Uniform Closing Days unless they have a permit. He also expressed objection because the amendment is coming at a time when the Province is clamping down on this issue, and it will appear that the County is taking steps to strengthen its legislation before the Province takes action.

Councillor Deveaux expressed agreement with the comments made by Deputy Warden Mont. He felt there is no reason to go through these changes at the present time.

Councillor MacDonald asked why this amendment has been proposed. Mr. Cragg informed the first change was brought about because he was of the opinion the Provincial legislation says our by-law should state that a business to which this by-law applies shall not open without a permit. This amendment will reflect what the Provincial legislation requires of the County by-law. He suggested alternate wording would be "a business to which this by-law applies shall not be open without a permit". He felt this amendment would more clearly and accurately set forth what cannot be done without a permit. He felt the amendment will not add or subtract from the by-law, but will simply clarify the by-law. The second amendment clearly states that the Municipal Clerk will be responsible for administering the by-law and issuing the permits.

It was moved by Councillor Mackay, seconded by Councillor Merrigan:

"THAT By-law No. 57 be amended by adding immediately after Section 2 thereof the following:

- 1) 3. A business to which this by-law applies shall not be open on a Uniform Closing Day without first obtaining a written Permit therefore from;
- 2) Section 3(b) amended by deleting the word "Council" in the first line thereof and substituting therefore the word "Clerk";
and
- 3) further amended by renumbering each of the presently existing Sections of the By-law from 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 to 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 respectively."

Mr. Cragg expressed no objection to the change in the motion as opposed to the change proposed in the report.

Councillor Deveaux clarified that the amendments are to make the by-law more clear. He asked if it was not originally as clear as it should have been. Mr. Cragg replied the by-law was originally clear, but these amendments will make the by-law as clear as it can possibly be. It also follows that provision in the Provincial legislation which says "a by-law made pursuant to this section shall provide for the issuing of permits." The original by-law did follow the legislation, but it was not totally clear.

After further discussion respecting the amendments and the intent of the amendments, Mr. Cragg clarified that a Permit will be required for opening on a Uniform Closing Day no matter what type of business is in question. Deputy Warden Mont expressed objection.

MOTION CARRIED

Employee Service Awards

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report respecting this matter.

It was moved by Councillor Merrigan, seconded by Councillor Lichter:

"THAT Council approve a policy respecting employee's service awards as outlined in the report to be presented at an annual banquet attended by Councillors and employees."

Councillor P. Baker noted and expressed concern that employees from Ocean View Manor and the Rehab Centre were not included in this policy. He stated these facilities are owned and operated by the County, and he felt these employees should have some recognition and be included in the policy.

Mr. Meech informed consideration was given to the Rehab Centre and Ocean View Manor at the Executive Committee level. It was the understanding that these two facilities have had in the past their own policy with respect to recognition for employees. Councillor P. Baker stated the present policy for the Rehab Centre is a long-term service award consisting of a pin awarded at a dinner.

It was moved by Councillor P. Baker, seconded by Councillor Deveaux:

"THAT the policy for long term service awards be referred back to the Executive Committee for consideration of Ocean View Manor and the Rehab Centre."

Councillor Deveaux suggested the Chairman and Administrator of the Rehab Centre and Ocean View Manor be asked to attend the Executive Committee to discuss this. Mr. Meech agreed, stating the policies for each of the facilities should be investigated and reported to the Executive Committee first.

MOTION CARRIED

Beaverbank Transit

Mr. Kelly reviewed this request for a \$10,000 loan to Beaverbank Transit.

It was moved by Councillor Merrigan, seconded by Councillor MacKay:

"THAT approval be granted for the provision of operating capital funds to Beaverbank Transit in the amount of \$10,000 and that Council reserve the right to levy an area rate in default of repayment."

Councillor P. Baker inquired about the term of repayment for this loan. Mr. Meech informed there was no specific term, but the request was to provide Beaverbank Transit with a revolving working capital, with the understanding that Beaverbank Transit may be better off at certain times of the year than others. At the end of the year, the County will have to determine if Beaverbank Transit is in a financial position to repay the loan from their operating revenues.

Councillor P. Baker felt this loan should be more specific with respect to a repayment term.

Councillor Eisenhauer expressed difficulty with extending a loan to this company when there is no area rate to cover some of the present expenses. Councillor Merrigan informed there is an area rate of one cent being put on in Beaverbank this year. The residents of the area have agreed to this area rate. He also agreed to put a term of one year on repayment of the loan.

Councillor Deveaux stated he would support the motion provided there is a repayment term. He asked if the money from the Federal grant is all used, or if there is any other source to turn to for funding without asking for a loan. Councillor Merrigan stated the Federal grant was to pay for two employees, and next month there will be a \$2,500 insurance bill to pay with no revenue. There is also a need for repairs, etc. Beaverbank Transit is now making a small profit but requires assistance to ensure that when bills come in they can be paid. There is not requirement for an area rate at this time for operation of Beaverbank Transit. However, he has charged Beaverbank with an area rate to cover some expenses.

Warden MacKenzie called for the question on the motion which read:

"THAT approval be granted for provision of operating capital funds to Beaverbank Transit in the amount of \$10,000 principal and interest to be repaid over a two year term and that Council reserve the right to levy an area rate in default of repayment."
MOTION CARRIED

ASSESSMENTS

Councillor McInroy declared a conflict of interest.

Mr. Cragg informed that the motion passed with respect to appealing assessments for all of Halifax County cannot be carried out. He stated the Municipality cannot appeal all of the assessments in Halifax County in block, but the Municipality does have the legislated right to appeal an individual assessment or all assessments on an individual basis.

There was some discussion about the implications of appealing all assessments for Halifax County individually. This would mean almost 60,000 appeals.

Councillor Rawding felt before appealing all assessments individually, consideration should be given to the time and expense this would require.

Councillor MacKay agreed, stating it is not realistic to entertain the thought of appeal all of Halifax County assessments individually. However, the legal ramifications of appeals should be explored. He stated this should be pursued through the political route with the Department of Municipal Affairs.