

Councillor McInroy stated the Committee had some difficulty in dealing in abstracts. He agreed the entire County could be re-aligned from scratch, but the Committee did not feel this is what Council would want. Councillor Walker had also suggested that an area like Sackville could be re-distributed in a manner whereby a less populated, rural area could be added to a district which is half urban to diffuse the prevailing situation. Councillor McInroy stated he did not feel the Committee was in favour of this. However, should Council desire this, he indicated the Committee would move on Council's direction.

Councillor Deveaux inquired about the proposed District 23. Councillor McInroy informed this new district will include the Flying Cloud Drive area of Forest Hills, Circassion Drive, Poplar Drive, Phases 2, 4, and 7 of Forest Hills, and it crosses Cole Harbour Road into the H and part of the D section of Colby Village; also across the other side of Caldwell Road into the northern section of Inishowen Subdivision.

Councillor Deveaux noted there is no proposed changes for district 7, and he asked if there was any consideration given to expanding district 7 rather than creating a new district in Cole Harbour. Councillor McInroy responded the population in district 7 is expected to increase because of the Department of Housing development in the area. It is proposed this expansion will bring an additional 1,500 people.

Councillor P. Baker felt the Redistribution Committee were not in unanimous agreement with the recommendations, and he felt the matter should be referred back to the committee level for further study. He suggested Council could be reduced rather than increased.

Councillor Walker stated the Committee must have some direction as to how to handle this situation. He felt the recommendations are not right, but the matter should not be referred back to the Committee. He stated there are other ways in which redistribution can take place. He felt the recommendations are an effort to please Sackville and Cole Harbour, and the remaining areas must accept what is left.

There was some discussion with respect to the recommendation of the Redistribution Committee regarding the Sackville and Cole Harbour areas. Councillor McInroy informed it is law that a presentation must be made to the Municipal Board with respect to redistribution, and if it the recommendation did not reflect any changes to Cole Harbour and Sackville, it would be viewed as ludicrous. He stated the recommendations are not tied to the current topic of Sackville's incorporation and Cole Harbour's annexation.

Councillor MacDonald informed the Redistribution was considered for the growth areas of the County, which are Sackville and Cole Harbour. He stated additional seats are required to represent the growth. He stated size of communities must also be taken into consideration.

Councillor MacKay stated the question is whether or not to add seats or to divide the existing population more equally. He stated Sackville has 20 percent of the population and 20 percent of the assessment, so Sackville should have 20 percent of the representation. He stated the

only solution to the problem is the recommendations of the Redistribution Committee.

Councillor Walker agreed that size must be taken into consideration when investigating redistribution; population is not the only concern. He stated many urban groups have high pressure organizations behind them that the rural groups do not have. He stated pressure groups is another factor to consider during redistribution.

Councillor Lichter stated the Redistribution Committee reaching an unanimous decision because it is difficult to deal with general statements and suggestions.

Councillor Fralick stated the western subsystem of the County will require redistribution in the near future, and he stated this should be taken into looked at shortly.

After much discussion,

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

"THAT the report of the Redistribution Committee be adopted."

Councillor Merrigan expressed concern about adopting the recommendations of the Redistribution Committee without giving any consideration to the concern he had about amendments to District 15.

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

"THAT the motion be amended to read:

THAT the report of the Redistribution Committee be endorsed by Council with the exception of a proposed boundary change between Beaverbank and Sackville Districts and which is referred to the Redistribution Committee for examination."

AMENDMENT CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

URBAN SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Agreement, re Leachate Treatment Plant, Landfill Site

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report and recommendation of the Urban Services Committee.

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

"THAT Council approve the agreement, re Leachate Treatment Plant, Landfill Site and forward it to the Metropolitan Authority for their consideration."

MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF WEED INSPECTOR

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

"THAT Roy DeWolfe be appointed Weed Inspector for the Municipality for 1987."

MOTION CARRIED

1987 FCM CONFERENCE

Mr. Kelly informed the 1987 FCM Conference will be held in Ottawa from May 31 to June 3. He suggested Council may wish to appoint the representatives to this conference.

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

"THAT Warden MacKenzie appoint the delegates to attend the 1987 FCM Conference."

MOTION CARRIED

Warden MacKenzie informed if any Councillor has any resolution to be forwarded to the 1987 FCM Conference, they should be in the Executive Office by March 4, 1987 because they are due on March 6.

GENERATION HOUSING - COUNCILLOR MacKAY

Councillor MacKay stated there has been a diversified opinion on generation housing. He stated he would like to pursue this matter because there is a need for generation housing for the elderly. He inquired about the present position of the Planning Advisory Committee with respect to this matter.

Councillor Lichter informed all recommendations of the planning staff have been exhausted by the Planning Advisory Committee. He stated Members of the Planning Advisory Committee and other Councillors have not come forth with any suggestions, so the Planning Advisory Committee is not in a position to do anything.

Councillor MacKay asked that he be invited to attend a meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee to discuss this matter. Councillor Lichter indicated to Councillor MacKay that he is welcome to attend the next meeting, scheduled for Monday, March 9, 1987.

GOVERNMENT WHARFS, DISTRICT 3 - COUNCILLOR FRALICK

Councillor Fralick asked that this matter be deferred pending receipt of further information.

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE RERORT

Application No. RA-EP/CB-49-86-06 Rezoning of a Portion of Quiet Acres Subdivision, Cow Bay

Mr. Kelly reviewed the recommendation of the PAC with respect to this application.

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

"THAT Application No. RA-EP/CB-49-86-06 be approved and that a public hearing be held on April 27, 1987 at 7 p.m."
MOTION CARRIED

Nova Scotia Municipal Board - Home East Developments Limited

Deputy Warden Mont informed this matter is in reference to the emergency agenda item he had added.

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

"THAT Council instruct the Municipal Solicitor to file an appeal with the Nova Scotia Supreme Court, Appeal Decision, on the Order of the Municipal Board with respect to the Home East Developments Limited application."

Deputy Warden Mont informed he read in detail the decision of the Municipal Board, and he expressed several concerns with the Order. He stated the Municipal Board seems to be indicating that where expert evidence is introduced in favour of the rezoning, Council has no choice but to approve the rezoning. He stated this is completely unacceptable, and it should be determined if this is the law. He stated if it is the law, there must be some lobbying on the part of Council to have this changed. He continued there is no sense in putting such a decision before a political body if they cannot look at the wishes of the people.

MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Warden Mont stated the County seems to be going into Municipal Board hearings unprepared - not taking any witnesses to support Council's decision. He stated experts in favour of Council's decision should be hired. The Municipal Board views comments by elected representatives as only Councillors speaking, and their words are not viewed as those of an expert.

Councillor Rawding expressed agreement with Deputy Warden Mont, stating appeals should be studied carefully and steps of reform should be immediate and well thought out.

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

"THAT where appeals are launched and it appears it would be beneficial for the Municipal Solicitor to hire independent consultants or witnesses, that he be authorized to hire such witnesses to properly prepare Council's case."

Councillor Lichter expressed difficulty with the motion, stating the action should apply to any appeals. He stated Council should be prepared to fight for their stance no matter if it is for or against an application. The taxpayers money is being spent for these consultants, and it should be spent uniformly.

Deputy Warden Mont and Councillor Eisenhower agreed to amend the motion to read:

"THAT the Municipal Solicitor be authorized to hire independent consultants as witnesses at Municipal Board hearings to defend Council's decision which are appealed."

There was some discussion about the motion. Several Councillors expressed opposition to the motion, stating this expense should not be incurred to prove the County's own staff wrong. Others supported the motion, stating it is a waste of taxpayers money not to defend Council's decision as they see fit.

After further discussion, Mr. Meech suggested the motion be amended to read that the experts be hired subject to the approval of the Planning Advisory Committee, so Council will have some discretion in these decisions.

Deputy Warden Mont and Councillor Eisenhower agreed to amend the motion to read:

"THAT the Municipal Solicitor be authorized to hire independent consultants as witnesses at Municipal Board hearings to defend Council's decisions that are appealed subject to approval of the Planning Advisory Committee."

Councillor Lichter clarified that the effect of the motion will be that Mr. Cragg will report to the Planning Advisory Committee when he is notified of an appeal, and he will brief and discuss this with the Planning Advisory Committee to determine if independent consultants are required. The Planning Advisory Committee and Mr. Cragg will be working closely together in appeal matters.

MOTION CARRIED

Hardman Group Limited - Appeal

Mr. Meech reviewed the report and recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee with respect to this appeal. He informed all Members of Council and the two non-Council members of the Planning Advisory Committee would be advised of the appeal hearing dates for all future appeals.

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

"THAT in order to monitor the situation of representation made on behalf of the County for appeals to the Municipal Board that the area Councillor and the Chairman of the Planning Advisory Committee be requested to attend the hearings."

MOTION CARRIED

RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report, recommending that a Committee of the Whole meeting be arranged as soon as possible to discuss the Sackville Civic Status Review Report and further that the implications of the recommendations contained in the report for the Municipality as a whole be outlined at that time.

Warden MacKenzie stated there should also be a meeting to discuss funding for capital projects. He suggested there be an all-day Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for March 20, 1987 to discuss both issues.

Councillor Eisenhauer felt the study by Henson College should be completed and made available before there is any discussion about the Sackville Civic Status Review Report. Mr. Meech indicated this report will not be available until May.

Councillor Merrigan agreed he would also like to review the Henson College study before the situation is dealt with, but he felt the County should take a stand in this matter immediately.

Warden MacKenzie informed he would have copies of the Sackville Civic Status Review Report circulated to each of the Councillor prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting.

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

"THAT a Committee of the Whole meeting be scheduled for March 20 at 10 a.m. to discuss the Sackville Civic Status Review Report and also prioritization and funding of capital projects."

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 20, 1987 be a public meeting."

MOTION CARRIED

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMSCouncillor C. Baker - Federal Minister of Fisheries

Councillor C. Baker informed throughout Nova Scotia there has been a ban on salmon fishing, and the Federal government is buying back the salmon fishing licenses at a price of \$10,000. He informed the cost for the gear for salmon fishing exceeds \$10,000, and in New Brunswick the Federal government is paying \$20,000 for the salmon fishing licenses. He stated the fishermen are concerned about the difference in buy-back prices.

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

"THAT a letter be written to the Federal Minister of Fisheries expressing concern about the difference in buy-back prices between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for salmon fishing licenses; also that a copy of this letter be sent to Premier Buchanan."

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Deveaux - Traffic Lights

Councillor Deveaux informed the traffic lights at the Imperial Oil intersection in Eastern Passage are not required after 7 p.m., as the only traffic at that time of night is Imperial Oil traffic.

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

"THAT a letter be written to the Dartmouth Traffic Authority requesting that the traffic lights at Imperial Oil be placed on a flashing basis after 7 p.m."

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Deveaux - Burning By-law

Councillor Deveaux inquired about the current position of the Burning By-law. He stated he would like to see this implemented before the grass-burning season in order that it can be controlled by the proposed by-law.

Councillor Walker informed the Fire Advisory Board will meet again on March 18 to discuss the concerns Council had with the proposed Burning By-law. He informed Councillor Deveaux he and his fire chief are welcome to attend the Fire Advisory Board meeting on March 18.

ADDITION OF ITEMS TO THE NEXT AGENDACouncillor Lichter - Liquor LicensesADJOURNMENT

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

"THAT this Council Session adjourn."

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL SESSION

MARCH 17, 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 Merrigan
Councillor MacKay
Councillor McInroy
Councillor Eisenhauer
Councillor MacDonald
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 at 6:05 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Mr. Kelly called the Roll.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

"THAT the minutes of the February 17, 1987 Council Session be approved as circulated."

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT the minutes of the February 23, 1987 Public Hearings be approved as circulated."

MOTION CARRIED

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS

Councillor C. Baker - Department of Lands and Forests

Councillor Randall - Hazardous Area, Number 7 Highway

Councillor DeRoche - Traffic Control, Number 7 Highway

Councillor P. Baker - CRTC

LETTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Office of the Premier

Mr. Kelly advised this letter is acknowledgement of Council's letter dated January 30, 1987, respecting snow plowing, highway maintenance, etc.

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

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

Department of Lands and Forests

Mr. Kelly advised this letter is with respect to abandoned Canadian National Railway line in response to Council's request for an up-to-date status report on negotiations between CN and the Department of Lands and Forests for the abandoned railway line to be taken over by the Province. He read the letter, advising the Minister has written that there has been no response from CN, although it is understood they have the request under full consideration.

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

"THAT this item of correspondence be received."

Councillor Bayers expressed concern about the delay in the transaction of the abandoned railway line. He stated both the Department and CN are claiming they have not heard or received anything from the other.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Bayers:

"THAT a letter be written to Canadian National Railway advising that the Province has requested control of the abandoned railway line from Dartmouth to Crawford's Bridge, and that Council would appreciate a decision as soon as possible based on the fact that Districts 12 and 13 of Halifax County are not included in this decision, and the abutting land owners in those districts are concerned about this land."

Councillor Reid expressed concern about the delay with respect to this matter. He advised the beautification lease, which were issued for the land in question last year, have been re-opened and the residents must pay another \$50 to hold onto the CN land abutting their property. He stated it is time this matter was settled.

MOTION CARRIED

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Mr. Kelly advised this letter identifies a resolution passed by the Lunenburg Municipal Council. The letter requested that Halifax County support Council's opposition to the issuance of a license for drilling in George's Bank by the Province of Nova Scotia or any other licensing agency. Mr. Kelly advised correspondence was also received from Texaco Canada Resources Ltd., respecting this matter.

Warden MacKenzie advised Mr. Waddell and Mr. O'Hagen were in attendance from Texaco Canada Ltd. He suggested this matter be deferred to the second session of Council in April (April 21), and have Mr. Kelly correspond with the company in the meantime in order to have any available information sent directly to Members of Council. He felt the two representatives of Texaco Canada Resources Ltd. would be available to make a presentation to Council with respect to this matter on April 21.

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

"THAT the matter of a resolution from the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg relating to oil and gas drilling on George's Bank be deferred to the April 21 Session of Council, and that the Municipal Clerk communicate with Texaco Canada Resources Ltd. to have any available information about this matter sent directly to Members of Council."

Councillor Deveaux expressed support for the fishermen, but he felt it would only be fair to hear Texaco's side on this issue. He stated Texaco Canada Resources Ltd. provide a good tax base in Halifax County, and they should have an opportunity to make their presentation, if only for information purposes.

Councillor MacDonald felt the fishermen should be represented, as well as Texaco Canada Resources Ltd. He stated if a proper judgement is to be made, the fishermen should be heard, as well as Texaco.

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT Halifax County Council invite representatives from the Eastern Fishermen's Federation (and/or others) to a Session of Council separate and apart from the meeting with Texaco officials to discuss drilling on George's Bank."

Councillor Deveaux suggested the fishermen attend the April 7 Session of Council.

There was some discussion about who would represent the fishermen. Councillor Fralick felt the Eastern Fishermen's Federation is the umbrella for the smaller associations in Atlantic Canada, and the Director and President of this Federation would be in the best position to give the report on the majority of the fishermen's behalf. Councillor P. Baker informed the intent of the motion was to have representation of the fishermen, regardless of whether or not they belong to an organization.

Councillor Walker stated he would support the request from the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, but he expressed difficulty hearing representation from two groups on this matter, as Halifax County Council will not make the final decision. He stated the Premier gave notice that any environmental impact on George's Bank from drilling will not be tolerated by the Province.

Councillor MacKay asked that the motion be amended to include representation from the Department of Mines and Energy (if that is the appropriate department), in order that they may answer any questions Council may have with respect to this problem.

Councillor P. Baker and Councillor Deveaux agreed to the amendment. The motion then read:

"THAT Halifax County Council invite representation from the Eastern Fishermen's Federation, the Provincial Department of Fisheries, and the Provincial Department of Mines and Energy (if that is the appropriate agency) to a Session of Council separate and apart from the meeting with Texaco officials to discuss drilling on George's Bank."

MOTION CARRIED

Need for Home Care Program

Mr. Kelly advised a copy of this letter was forwarded to Mr. Meech from a resident of St. Margaret's Bay, referencing the need for Home Care Programs in Nova Scotia. He advised this letter is for Council's general information.

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

"THAT this item of correspondce be directed to Mr. Mason, Director of Social Services."

MOTION CARRIED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Halifax County Pension Plan

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report and recommendation of the Executive Committee with respect to this matter.

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

"THAT Council approve an increase to the existing Halifax County pension plan recipients of 4 percent, effective Janaruy 1, 1987."
MOTION CARRIED

Request for Loan - Goff's Fire Department

Mr. Kelly reviewed the request.

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve a loan to the Goff's Fire Department in the amount of \$20,000 for the purchase of a pumper fire vehicle; the loan to be repaid over a ten year period, principal and interest with Council reserving the right to levy an area rate in default of principal and/or interest repayment."
MOTION CARRIED

Request for Grants

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

"THAT approval be granted for a General County Parkland Grant in the amount of \$639 and a District Parkland Grant in the amount of \$1,000 for the provision of playground equipment, Laura Drive, Cow Bay."
MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT Council approve a District Capital Grant, District 6 in the amount of \$4,300 for improvements to the community centre and ballfield, Eastern Passage."
MOTION CARRIED

East Preston Recreation Association Lands

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report, informing the Municipal Solicitor has carried out a search on the property title for the lands in question, and the Executive Committee recommend that Council acquire these lands and enter into a lease agreement with the East Preston Recreation Association for the use of these lands for recreation purposes.

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

"THAT the Municipality of the County of Halifax acquire lands (lots 3 and 38, East Prston) and enter into a lease agreement with the East Preston Recreation Association for use of these lands for recreation purposes."

MOTION CARRIED

Business Occupancy Taxes, Sackville Chamber of Commerce

Councillor McInroy declared a conflict of interest.

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report, advising the Sackville Chamber of Commerce act as a voluntary administrative sponsor for the Sackville Training and Employment Project; thus, they are requesting tax exemption on the Sackville Chamber of Commerce assessment at Downsview Mall.

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

"THAT Sackville Chamber of Commerce offices located in Downsview Mall occupied by the Sackville Training and Employment Project be exempt from taxation."

Councillor DeRoche noted this project has been in existence for a number of years; he asked why this request has only come forth now. Councillor MacKay agreed that S.T.E.P. has been located in Downsview Mall for three or four years, but this is the first year they have been assessed.

MOTION CARRIED

Conveyance of Lands to Department of Transportation

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report requesting the Municipality to convey a small parcel of property to the Department of Transportation to permit the Department to complete a drainage ditch adjacent to County property, Stephen Murphy Sub-division at Harritesfield.

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

"THAT Halifax County Council convey the property at Harrietsfield as outlined in the plan to the Department of Transportation for \$1."

MOTION CARRIED

METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY REPORT - COUNCILLOR MacDONALD

Councillor MacDonald reported the main topic of discussion at the Metropolitan Authority recently has been the deficit in the Metro Transit budget to the amount of \$700,000. He informed this is partially due to the 2 percent which was put in the budget for go-time, which has not yet been made available. Another reason is the decrease in ridership. He informed there has been some discussion about new

routes and changes that could be made to increase the ridership overall, and to make future deficits lower. He informed the overall consolidated budget for the Metropolitan Authority has been under budget, and it will not reflect this year on the Municipalities because of the deficit in the Metro Transit budget.

Councillor MacDonald continued that the contract between the Municipality and the Metropolitan Authority for the operation and maintenance of the Leachate Plant was approved.

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

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

GARBAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL - AREA RATE

Mr. Meech informed the proposed increase to the area rate for garbage collection and disposal is due to increased pick-ups by contractors which have been identified. There has also been a substantial increase in costs for disposal of garbage, as the result of increased tonnage.

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

"THAT the garbage collection and disposal rate for 1987 be approved at \$0.073 per \$100 of assessment.

Councillor MacDonald stated that increased tonnage is due to an increase in the number of homes; therefore, there should be tax revenue to cover this. Mr. Meech indicated increased costs in collection and disposal has been more than the increase in the tax base, resulting in the requirement for a tax increase.

Councillor MacKay inquired about the origin of each truck load of garbage and how this is determined. There was some discussion about the hauling of garbage to the landfill site and the transfer stations. Councillor MacKay expressed concern that in some instances the County of Halifax may be paying for garbage hauled from another jurisdiction. Mr. Wdowiak informed the contractor identifies the origin of garbage, which is recorded. However, there may be some inaccuracy to this system.

There was some discussion about where the various contractors should be hauling their garbage - to the landfill site or to the transfer station. Discussion also circulated around how the origin of garbage is identified.

Councillor C. Baker asked if contractors are paid for extra pick-ups along their route, after the contract is finalized. Mr. Wdowiak informed they are. He stated there was a formula incorporated into the current contract whereby there was an adjustment made for the extra number of houses developed during a given year. The manner of

adjustment is based on statistics received from the building inspector. These statistics are based on building permits rather than occupancy permits, as recommended by the Chief Building Inspector.

MOTION CARRIED

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Millwood Planned Unit Development

Deputy Warden Mont declared a conflict of interest.

Mr. Kelly advised a request has been received for amendments to the Planned Unit Development Agreement for Millwood, and although staff considered the amendments to be minor, the Planning Advisory Committee felt a public hearing should be held and the amendments considered major.

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

"THAT the request for amendments to the Millwood Planned Unit Development Agreement be heard at a public hearing on April 13, 1987 at 7 p.m."

There was discussion regarding this application being considered a minor or a major variance. Mr. Cragg informed the decision is a judgement call. He informed that he and staff have agreed that with respect to minor/major interpretations, when there is any doubt, the benefit should be given to the public, and a public hearing scheduled.

Councillor MacKay asked if it were determined this amendment is minor, and a member of the public opposes the amendment, he asked to what authority an appeal could be launched. Mr. Cragg felt there would be authority to proceed directly to the Supreme Court; it would not go the Municipal Board as other planning matters do. If the Supreme Court found Council had done something wrong, it would be referred back to Council with a recommendation from the Supreme Court. He suggested the recommendation would be forceful.

Councillor MacDonald stated the idea is a new concept in housing, and he felt it would only be fair to send the amendments to the public hearing stage.

MOTION CARRIED

Application No. RA-SA-01-87-16 Amend the Sackville Land Use By-law by Rezoning Lot 49, 8 Langevin Drive, Lower Sackville

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

"THAT Application No. RA-SA-01-87-16 be approved and that a public hearing be held on April 13, 1987 at 7 p.m."

MOTION CARRIED

Application No. RA-TLB-46-86-02 Amend the Timberlea/Lakeside/Beechville Land Use By-law by Rezoning a Portion of the Lands owned by the Armoyan Group Limited (and now or formerly by Myrtle Johnson), Timberlea

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report, indicating a previous application to this nature was approved by Council, and the applicant subsequently requested the application be cancelled.

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

"THAT Application No. RA-TLB-46-86-02 be approved and that a public hearing be held on April 27, 1987 at 7 p.m."

Councillor Rawding informed he has not had the opportunity to discuss this application with staff.

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

"THAT Application RA-TLB-46-86-02 be deferred to the next Session of Council giving the Councillor for the area an opportunity to discuss this with staff and the Planning Advisory Committee, should it be deemed necessary."

Councillor Walker stated it is supposed to be the policy of the Planning Advisory Board to discuss these matters with respective representatives. Councillor Lichter explained there was an election in between cancellation of the and renewal of the application. Council previously approved the application and arranged for a public hearing, when it was cancelled. Therefore, the Planning Advisory Committee felt the matter could be referred for approval and a public hearing.

MOTION CARRIED

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT, re LESSER SETBACK

Noel Parsons, Lucasville

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

"THAT a lesser setback of 24 feet be approved for Lot 7, W.P. Oliver Subdivision, Lucasville."

MOTION CARRIED

Blake Carter, McGrath's Cove

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

"THAT approval be granted for a lesser setback of 17 feet, for application Blake Carter at McGrath's Cove Road, McGrath's Cove."

MOTION CARRIED

RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORTGarbage Dumping

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report from the Rural Services Committee, advising their recommendation is that a news release be issued by the Warden respecting garbage dumping in Halifax County.

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

"THAT a news release be issued by the Warden respecting garbage dumping in Halifax County."

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor MacKay stated he agreed with the motion, but he questioned the effect of the action. He stated there is a need for mechanisms to apprehend and convict those who violate this by-law. There is a need for strict enforcement and the ability to impose a stiff sentence before this problem will be alleviated. He stated wherever there are vacant properties, there is a problem with unlawful garbage dumping.

Councillor MacKay suggested the matter of garbage dumping in Halifax County be referred to the Police Committee for discussion with the RCMP.

Councillor Fralick commented on the excellent cooperation he has received from the RCMP when dealing with garbage dumping matters.

Councillor Lichter clarified that the news release will still be issued, although the matter is being referred to the Police Committee. He stated there is no need for a motion because nothing prevents the Police Committee from discussing this matter, as the Rural Services Committee did.

Members of the Committee agreed that this matter be referred to the Police Committee for discussion with the RCMP.

RESOLUTION, RE SEWER LEGISLATION

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report, stating Mr. Cragg has advised the draft sewer legislation has been completed in appropriate form for presentation to the Legislature.

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

"THAT Halifax County Council endorse the draft sewer legislation for the Municipality for presentation to the current session of the Legislature for approval."

Councillor Reid expressed opposition to approving proposed legislation without having the opportunity to review it.

Mr. Cragg informed this matter had been discussed at the Urban Services Committee level on several different occasions, and it has been an on-going discussion between himself and staff. He informed the final form of the legislation was only received today, and if it is to be presented to this Session of the Legislature, it should be approved by Council immediately. He informed the only changes made in this draft from the previous draft, which was approved by the Urban Services Committee, are items dealing with a connection from the main sewer to the right-of-way or property line, the charging therefore, and a few minor housekeeping matters. He continued that the legislation is to give the County power to adopt its own sewer by-law, which has already been prepared; to charge for connections made to the main sewer line after December, 1985, to give the Municipal Engineer more authority to uncover problem areas found to be caused by landowners, and to enable the County to deal with per foot frontage charges, etc.

Deputy Warden Mont agreed with Councillor Reid that it is asking too much of Council to approve legislation for presentation to the Legislature, which has never been reviewed by Council.

After some discussion,

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

"THAT the final draft of the sewer legislation be referred to the next meeting of the Urban Services Committee (March 19, 1987); that copies of the proposed legislation be made available to all Members of Council; and that the matter be placed on the Council agenda for the first Session in April."

MOTION CARRIED

INTEREST RATES, re OUTSTANDING TAXES

Mr. Kelly advised that Mr. Wilson, Director of Finance, recommends that the rate charged on outstanding taxes be reduced from 13 percent to 11 percent effective April 1, 1987 due to the reduction in the prime bank rate.

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

"THAT the County interest rate for outstanding taxes be reduced from 13 percent to 11 percent effective April 1, 1987."

MOTION CARRIED

AGENDA ITEMS

Councillor C. Baker - Department of Lands and Forests

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

"THAT the Department of Lands and Forests be requested to provide improvements to the Hayes Garden Parkland area at Herring Cove."
MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Randall - Hazardous Area, No. 7 Highway

Councillor Randall advised on the eastern end of the village of Gaetz Brook where the No. 7 Highway crosses Petpeswick Lake there is a very hazardous area of highway. He advised there have been eight accidents in the area this winter, two of which resulted in serious injury and one in a fatality. He was of the understanding the problem is the result of blowing snow across the Lake.

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

"THAT a letter be sent to the Department of Transportation identifying this area of the No. 7 Highway as an urgent concern; and requesting that immediate action be taken to clearly identify this area as hazardous."

Councillor Bayers informed the RCMP had brought this concern to his attention, and he, in turn, referred the matter to Councillor Randall as the area is in District 9. Councillor Bayers informed the RCMP had suggested the speed limit in the area be reduced to 30 mph, but he expressed opposition, stating it is in a wooded area and the best resolution would be for proper signage to identify the area in question as hazardous.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor DeRoche - Traffic Control, No. 7 Highway

Councillor DeRoche identified a portion of the No. 7 Highway proceeding east from the lights at the intersection of Hillsboro Drive and Montague Road and the Little Salmon River Bridge. He informed there have been several accidents in this area, the most recent being last evening. He stated two weeks ago an accident killed a 14 year old girl after an east bound vehicle stopped to let the girl cross the road and a west bound vehicle did not.

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

"THAT a letter be written to the Department of Transportation requesting a more stringent traffic control to provide security and a modicum of safety to the pedestrians in this area on the No. 7 Highway at Westphal."

Councillor DeRoche stated approaches have been made in the past to have traffic lights installed at the intersection of the No. 7 Highway, the entrance to the Westphal Trailer Court and the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children, but he felt traffic lights would not be the solution. He informed an overhead crosswalk light was installed in the area approximately one year ago. He stated it should be left to the experts at the Department of Transportation to identify what will form a most appropriate traffic control to allow pedestrians in the area safety.

Warden MacKenzie informed he was in receipt of a copy of a letter to the Minister of Transportation from the Executive Director of the Home for Colored Children requesting support for traffic lights at this intersection. He agreed that traffic lights may not be the answer; he suggested an overhead pedway be installed here.

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor P. Baker - CRTC

Councillor P. Baker advised this matter could be added to the agenda for the next Session of Council.

ADDITION OF ITEMS TO THE APRIL 7, 1987 COUNCIL SESSION

Councillor P. Baker - CRTC
- Department of Transportation, Goodwood

ADJOURNMENT

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

"THAT the annual Session of Council be adjourned to April 7, 1987."

MOTION CARRIED

1987 BUDGET AND TAX RATE

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve the 1987 budget at \$21,383,135 with the commercial rate set at \$1.45 and the residential rate at 61 cents per \$100 of assessment."

Councillor Deveaux asked how much the budget is being cut, and where the cuts will be made. Warden MacKenzie replied that the motion proposes a \$350,000 cut from the original budget. Some areas of cutbacks have been discussed at the Committee of the Whole, but this will be left with staff.

Councillor Deveaux inquired about Mr. Meech opinion of the resolution and if it would adversely affect the level of service provided. Mr.

Meech stated he has not had much time to consider where the cuts will be, given the Committee of the Whole only adjourned a short time ago. He stated the entire budget would have to be evaluated and analyzed, and he would suggest the cutbacks be spread around as much as possible.

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT the area rates for Halifax County be approved as presented."

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

"THAT the aforementioned resolution be amended for approval of an additional .003 cent area rate in Districts 15, 16, 19, 20, and a portion of 18 for the Sackville Advisory Board."

Councillor MacKay noted this additional area rate will generate approximately \$21,000, and it will be subject to the approval of the Sackville Advisory Board.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Councillor Randall reminded there was some discussion about an area rate in District 9 with respect to the recent amendments to policing in this area. He expressed difficulty with this area rate because he was not immediately advised of the change keeping this portion of District 9 under the jurisdiction with the Cole Harbour Detachment of the RCMP. Therefore, he did not have the opportunity to approach the affected residents about this area rate. He informed that most of this residents do not know about the rate, and he felt it would be unfair at this time to put this area rate on these residents given the time frame involved.

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

"THAT the amended motion be amended to exempt that portion of District 9 from the area rate as projected for policing for 1987."

Councillor McInroy indicated he would rather see this rate deferred until the matter is straightened out. He stated it is not fair to let these residents off without paying this rate for one year while they receive the service.

Councillor Lichter agreed police service cannot be denied to the residents of the area.

Following much discussion concerning this amendment, Councillor Randall and Councillor Walker agreed to rescind the amendment on the floor.

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

"THAT the area rate for that portion of District 9 being serviced by the Cole Harbour Detachment of the RCMP be deferred."
MOTION DEFEATED

Councillor Bayers stated he did not support the motion because the area falls within the boundaries of the Cole Harbour Detachment of the RCMP, and if the rest are to pay for this service, that affected portion of District 9 should also pay.

Councillor Deveaux noted that Councillor Randall is only looking for deferral in order to give him an opportunity to meet with this people. He felt this time period should be granted.

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

"THAT the setting of an area rate for District 9 for policing services be deferred to the second Session of Council in July."

There was much discussion respecting this resolution. It was noted the motion could cause a time delay for the setting of the area rate for the other areas affected by the additional police protection, and Councillor Deveaux and Councillor C. Baker agreed to withdraw the motion.

MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MARCH 20, 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 MacDonald
Councillor Wiseman
Deputy Warden Mont

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. K.K. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer

SECRETARY: Glenda Higgins

The meeting convened at 10:05 a.m.

Sackville Civic Status Review Report

Warden MacKenzie began the discussion by stating Halifax County is presently the largest municipality in Nova Scotia, with the largest school population. He stated Halifax County has attempted to provide services to all of its communities, although there are other services which should be provided. Water and sewer services in Halifax County are one of the best services provided, and this will be expanded to other parts of the County in the near future. He continued there are a fair number of Industrial Commission members from the community of Sackville, and the Commission has been endeavouring to provide industrial development in that area of the County. Warden MacKenzie stated the County is working towards improved transit in the more populated areas of the Municipality, as well as better policing in the Metro areas of the County. Development in the Sackville area of the County has been rapid, and development at the Sackville Downs Raceway lands will take place very closely with the Municipality and the citizens of Sackville in order that development takes place as the community would like to see it. He noted the County must be doing something right in order to have such large development.

Warden MacKenzie concluded that he would like to see all of Halifax County remain as one municipal unit. He stated the size of this Municipality can have some political clout with the upper levels of government, and he would like to see Halifax County continue to grow as one municipal unit.

Councillor MacDonald extended a welcome to members of the Sackville Civic Status Review Committee. He stated the report in question was commissioned by funds from the Federal government. Over the past two years the committee has considered many options for Sackville in an effort to overcome perceived problems in the area. At a meeting of the Sackville Advisory Board, a recommendation was passed to present the report to the Department of Municipal Affairs for cost reviews, comments, and recommendations. He stated the Sackville Advisory Board is now waiting to hear these comments and recommendations to determine what basis, if any, Sackville should proceed with.

Councillor MacKay stated Sackville has been very frustrated being served by the form of government which presently exists. He stated there are things that should be done but cannot under the Municipal Act. He stated growth in Sackville has been outstripping the services available. Councillor MacKay continued that the Civic Status Review Committee have considered what is best for Sackville in a very constructive and objective nature, and they came forth with a recommendation, which has been sent to the Department of Municipal Affairs for costing and advice. He suggested that Halifax County consider the report in the same constructive nature, not focusing on any one portion of it.

Mr. Meech stated establishing Sackville as a municipal unit might pose a problem for the Province because if they are prepared to accept this recommendation, it will have implications across the Province. There are many towns in the Province who are trying to hang onto their independent status but it may not be economically feasible to do so. He stated if the Province accepted this recommendation, it would be interpreted as precedent-setting. He continued that the key areas in Sackville which have proven frustrating are transportation and policing, and a smaller municipality (geographically) would not necessarily resolve these frustrations; they would remain the direct responsibility of the Province. Mr. Meech stated he can only assume from the report that the Committee has concluded it is not viable to go to city or town status based on the financial implications. He recognized that the report was prepared in large by a volunteer group, and many of the financial implications are not available.

Mr. Meech continued, agreeing with portions of the report and not others. He stated many of the desires, concerns, and issues can be achieved within the present structure; the final problem is available dollars. People believe that a community the size of Sackville should become more independent, and if the community does take this route, residents will have expectations for many new services and facilities which were not available in the past. He stated as people expect more, and the financial resources are not available, they will be even more frustrated. He felt within the present structure, with some

accomodation, it could work. However, the problem is that people believe the logical step to take is more independence with a large community such as Sackville. The people have to be asked if the traditional solution is the only solution. There is presently difficulty at the metro municipal level to achieve cooperation, and additional municipal units will not make the system any more workable. Mr. Meech stated there are only so many dollars available Provincially, and everybody is attempting to obtain their piece of the pie. Local government being a creature of the Province, is influenced greatly by the Province. Consequently, the larger the municipal unit, the more political clout, impact, and bearing there is in dealing with the Provincial government. Additionally, certain economies of scale are offered by a larger municipality.

Mr. Meech continued that if Sackville does incorporate, Bedford and Sackville will probably join forces and attempt to establish their own district school board, which may benefit that local area, however, it may have some negative impact to the balance of the present area served. He stated the present structure must recognize the need for give-and-take, and while Sackville may not receive full benefit of fees contributed in one area, it may be receiving a larger share of revenues in others servies. You must look at the situation in whole and refrain from being selective for a fair assessment.

Mr. Meech concluded that the Sackville Civic Status Review Committe determined the community lacks the financial position to become an independent town or city, and they recommend a municipality in the same legislative form as Halifax County. Otherwise, residents of Sackville would obtain independent status and lack the financial resources to meet needs and demandes. Having raised community expectations through incorporation, the frustrations will grow stonger.

Councillor Merrigan stated Sackville needs independence, as the biggest problem in Sackville is identity. Sackville is a part of the County of Halifax, and we have to find a way to ensure they are themselves and happy. Councillor Merrigan expressed appreciation to the Sackville Civic Status Review Committee for the report, which perhaps should have been done by the County earlier. He stated he is interested in the report presently being done by Henson College, in hopes it will recommend some reasonable solutions to find the answer for Sackville. He stated he would support whatever will be best for Sackville. He stated it is Council's responsibility to assure the people across the County are properly represented to get what they can for the dollars paid. He concluded that the report is eye-opening, but it really does not contain any answers.

Councillor Wiseman stated much of the contents of the report are the result of what the Sackville Councillors have wanted for years for the residents of Sackville. She stated an urban study completed several years ago was very good with good results. There were many advances as a result of that study, but the need for self-determination was not followed upon. She stated there is a need for the community of Sackville to be able to decide upon those things which are important to the community. She agreed with the implications of independence as

presented by Mr. Meech, and she stated significant study would have to be done to determine just what the major impact would be on the community. She expressed hope for the support of Council to serve the needs of Sackville.

Councillor Deveaux inquired about the study by Henson College. Mr. Meech stated the report from Henson College should have some specific recommendations as to how to deal with the issue. He stated the report may or may not provide a suggested solution in a different form than the Sackville Civic Status Review Report. He stated the report may provide a different alternative, and it will then be a matter of deciding which alternative would be in the best interest of the Municipality and the community of Sackville.

Councillor Deveaux noted a comment on page III of the report, which indicated that if Sackville were to incorporate as a separate municipality, there should be no additional costs to the Sackville taxpayer. He questioned this. Mr. Meech responded that the Sackville Civic Status Review Committee concluded that because Sackville does not have a very high ratio of commercial and industrial assessment, the recommendation was to establish Sackville under the Municipal Act rather than going with an independent status, such as a town or a city. He stated Sackville is only about 15 percent industrial/commercial.

Councillor Deveaux next referred to page IV with reference to the Aerotech, Autoport, and refineries. He stated this probably refers to these facilities being given a reduced tax rate, and in this respect, all of Halifax County contributed to the establishment of this refinery. Mr. Meech stated at the present time the County is financing much of the development of the Aerotech Park, and Sackville is paying its proportionate share of those costs, with hope that there will be more benefits in terms of additional tax revenue.

Councillor Deveaux asked if it has been ascertained in any manner how much the Municipality has been putting into the Sackville area on a per capita basis. Mr. Meech informed the Sackville Civic Status Review Committee were trying to identify this, but it is very difficult to pinpoint all expenditures and relate them to revenues generated from that area. He informed the County does not keep their accounting records on that basis, with the exception of those services paid for by area rates.

Councillor Lichter expressed appreciation for the effort that went into the Sackville Civic Status Review Report. He stated he can appreciate all that has been expressed by fellow Councillors so far, and that improvements have been implemented slowly. He stated people want self-determination and independence. However, he expressed concern that discussion about independence, freedom, and self-determination are desires tied to dollars. He stated he is willing to do anything, as long as he feels it is the right thing to do. He expressed hope that whatever will happen to Sackville will be done in a democratic manner - in the form of a plebescite.

With respect to the report, Councillor Lichter stated it is not different from the perceptions of the writers of the report. He felt before the study began there was bias in favour of a number of options - none of which included remaining with the County. He stated the report reinforces this feeling.

Councillor Lichter continued that much of the report was repetitive, word-for-word. He stated this added nothing to the understanding of the situation.

With respect to the planning section of the report, Councillor Lichter stated planning in Sackville in 1982 is being implied as planning in which the people had no involvement. Councillor Lichter objected, stating the Planners assisted the people; the Sackville Municipal Development Plan was the plan of the people. He discussed the make-up of the Planning Advisory Committee, stating it is composed of 25 percent Sackville representation, and 75 percent from the remainder of the County. However, this does not give Sackville 25 percent representation on the Executive Committee.

Councillor Lichter concluded, stating he noticed there was no indication of how the federal grant of \$150,000 was spent on this study. He felt an accountable group should show its accountability by including a financial statement for the report within the report.

Councillor McInroy expressed disagreement with Councillor Lichter. He stated it is not useful to be critical of minor details within the report. He felt the County should be dealing with the motivation for the report, and he stated he would like to see Council move in the direction of a joint approach with the community of Sackville to assist them with some kind of transfer of power. Councillor McInroy stated the local communities should be able to make decisions about their own communities and what they want there. He expressed opposition to representatives from other parts of the County making these decisions for the people, and he felt there should be an effort on the part of the County to participate in this kind of change. The best interests of the people of Sackville may not be to remain a part of Halifax County. However, there may be some middle ground. Councillor McInroy stated he would like to see Halifax County make a decision that is meaningful, rather than token, and that it should be positive and in the direction of creating something different to meet the needs and desires of Sackville within a framework of Halifax County. He concluded if Sackville and Halifax County are working towards the same goal, more can be accomplished in terms of what is better for everybody, much faster.

Councillor DeRoche stated many of the conclusions in the report could apply to Westphal, Cole Harbour, and Eastern Passage. Councillor DeRoche felt the Municipality has procrastinated somewhat, and frustrations for letting this lag are being expressed in this report. He stated the report can raise a number of questions which should be addressed. Councillor DeRoche expressed hope that the fact that the report was sent to the Department of Municipal Affairs would cause more investigation and answers so a considered judgement can be arrived at.

With respect to the suggested plebescite, Councillor DeRoche stated this means is not always indictative of the majority of the population because there is not always a popular turn-out. He stated he could see the County of Halifax making any transition necessary to make it easy and less problematic and to cause as little disruption as possible. He stated there is room within the present municipal structure for the communities to have greater input in the decision making that impacts those communities.

Councillor MacDonald stated since the Municipal Development Plan for Sackville was implemented in 1982 it has been almost completely reviewed through the public hearing process. He stated planning mistakes which have been made in Sackville is frustrating to people, but Sackville was built around small businesses, and the decisions made are not always based on good planning rules. Housing markets, employment, etc. must also be considered when making decisions on planning matters. He concluded that this report has been brought forth by the community of Sackville as an instrument to get better control.

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

"THAT a recommendation be made to Council that the Municipality of the County of Halifax cooperate with the Department of Municipal Affairs whenever and wherever possible in providing the information and the guidance that would come back to the community for the information they have requested."

Councillor MacKay stated this motion is only the first step, as there is much more information required. He stated there will be a requirement for further meetings and recommendations. He stated it is very important that a plebescite or referendum be held.

Councillor McInroy stated it is important to remember that Halifax County is the local government to the people of Sackville, and Councillors have the responsibility to make decisions. He stated he would support the motion, but he would like to see the County actively participate in the process in bringing about the changes that may occur with respect to local government in the community of Sackville.

Mr. Meech responded that Halifax County has taken initiative by commissioning the Henson College study. He stated it is becoming very difficult at the Council level, as well as the administration level, to function under this uncertainty. The role of the elected officials is to represent the interests of the people. Mr. Meech suggested a goal should be set so that a decision will be made by a certain point in time. It is not within the interests of the public to let this matter and uncertainty drag on. He concluded there should be an established date set for making a decision, whatever it is. Given the decisions, the residents will at least have some certainty as to what the future will hold for them.

Warden MacKenzie concluded the discussion by stating that no matter what happens to Halifax County, it will continue to grow as it has in

the past. He stated Halifax County has seen many annexations, and the County is still in the position of being the largest municipality in Nova Scotia. Halifax County should continue with what it has.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There being no further discussion with respect to the Sackville Civic Status Review Report, the meeting recessed to 1:15 p.m.

Capital Funding and Priorization of Capital Projects

Mr. Meech informed that staff assembled a group to prioritize capital projects, although it is Council's role to make these final judgements. Mr. Meech suggested that capital funding should be made available from a portion of Deed Tax revenues, as well as additional assistance from the Province. A previous report on capital funding also had special emphasis on cost-sharing of capital projects between the user and the Municipality. He felt it is important for Council to finally determine the priorization, as well as a policy for capital projects in terms of what the user will be expected to pay. Mr. Meech informed that capital projects were prioritized in terms of commitment, priority A, B, C, and D. Those committed are projects currently underway and are fully committed. He stated these projects could be substantially completed or they could be in the beginning stages. They are projects which have been approved by Council, and the identification of the sources of funding have been identified. He reviewed the list of committed projects.

Priority A projects are those projects so urgently required that implementation cannot be delayed, and only essential projects should be so classified. Priority B projects are also of high priority, but they are only required to maintain the agency/activity program at the current level of performance. He stated these projects may be achieved either simultaneously or prior to the more major projects, according to available funding. He reviewed the committed project, their expenditures, and the years of expenditures.

With respect to Priority A, Mr. Wilson informed the priorization criteria employed was very simply, and a more detailed one is presently being considered. He stated there are two basic capital operations: 1) the capital which requires funding, and 2) the capital which requires revenue (operating which requires revenue). He stated the Priority A projects are those which have created a health or safety hazard and are needed as soon as possible. He informed the four Priority A projects were determined at a meeting with Mr. Meech, Mr. Wdowiak, Mr. Tam, Ms. Spencer, and Ms. Ellwood in order to determine where each project stood. The main projects identified under Priority A were Springfield Lake, MacPherson-Lockview Road areas, North Preston, and Middle Musquodoboit. With respect to these projects, Mr. Wilson noted there is a capital budget request form which has been completed for each of the priority projects, including a start date for each project, as well as the estimated costs, according to 1987 figures. Suggested financing was determined according to a 60-40 cost-sharing formula, if there was no other information available.