

After further discussion,

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Nolan, seconded by Councillor Fralick:

"THAT be it resolved that in accordance with the resolution regarding the establishment of an excess cost formula approved at a Joint Council Session between the Councils of the Town of Bedford and the County of Halifax, held on April 7, 1987, that the sum of \$1,397,692 be approved as the joint municipal contribution towards excess costs of the Halifax County-Bedford District School for the fiscal year 1987."

Deputy Mayor Nolan indicated the figure included in the resolution is that which is calculated using the approved formula.

Councillor Eisenhower if this motion is approved, would the area rate for library services disappear. It was clarified this would have nothing to do with the area rate for library services.

Councillor Kelly noted in October, 1986, the School Board presented a budget of \$99,414,900, and the additional funding from the Province brings the budget back to this level again. He asked if it was planned to overspend in particular areas or if the \$3.8 million from the Province is what the original budget would have been increased by. Mr. Gillis replied there was never a budget figure of \$99,414,100 by the School Board. He stated when the preliminary budget was presented in October, 1986, there was no knowledge of teachers' salary increases, and it is a coincidence that it all added up equally. He stated if all the facts had been known in October, he would not be asking for an additional \$517,000 now.

Councillor Deveaux expressed no objection to the formula, but he felt it should not be etched in stone; he stated there should be some flexibility. He asked how much of an impact this motion will have on the operation of the board - approving the budget less the \$517,000 excess. Mr. Gillis replied without the excess funding, adjustments will have to be made in other areas, and there will probably be fewer additional teachers hired. He stated priorities would have to be examined first. Councillor Deveaux asked Mr. Gillis if he felt the loss of this excess funding would lower the level of education in 1987. Mr. Gillis responded that several positions would have to continue with too much of a caseload. However, this is difficult to determine at this point, as there are some matter which have lower priority than others. He noted all dollars in the present budget are pinpointed for various activities, and the Board would have to decide priorities in this regard.

Councillor Deveaux proposed an amendment to the motion, whereby the budget be approved as per the formula with an additional \$400,000 in excess funding. The Warden did not accept the amendment.

Councillor MacDonald expressed concern that some areas pay for library services through an area rate and others have this service included in the budget. He suggested this money should be put into property services as there would be no school properties available now if it were not for Councillors using district capital funds for the upkeep of school playing fields.

Deputy Mayor Nolan stated the Province has given a generous sum this year, and if the School Board cannot work with the Provincial money and the money given according to the formula from the municipal units, something is wrong.

Councillor P. Baker felt the budget is realistic, and it is essential that the budget be supported. He asked that other Members of this Session not support the motion on the floor.

Councillor Wiseman indicated to Councillor MacDonald there is \$72,000 worth of building and grounds improvements to the three school properties in District 19. She stated these properties are not neglected, although upkeep and improvements have been sacrificed in the past because of cuts to the budget. She added when cuts are made to the budget, there are some things that cannot be cut, such as program assistance salaries and legal fees. She stated new schools require services. She stated everything is proposed for a purpose and all is justified. She advised there is a savings of \$2.5 million this year as a result of the Province's contribution, and she recommended approval of the funding according to the formula and the excess funding in the amount of \$517,000.

There was some discussion and clarification of figures involved and affected by the motion on the floor. Deputy Mayor Nolan indicated the motion is only for approval of the funding according to the formula. He felt there is not need for any excess funding.

MOTION DEFEATED

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

"THAT the Councils from the Town of Bedford and the County of Halifax approve the budget as presented, including the amount to be contribute according to the formula and the excess funding of \$517,000 as requested."

Councillor Eisenhower stated he would like to know what this will cost the taxpayer, especially those will a high re-assessment. on informed one cent on the taxrate will generate \$280,000, so to generate the total request would mean an additional two cents on the taxrate. He advised this has been taken into account during budget preparations, and it would not have much effect this year.

MOTION DEFEATED

Mr. Wilson reiterated that the formula contains the fourth component that is required to keep the level of service the same throughout the

system. He clarified this additional funding, over and above the formula level, is required to bring the level of service up to appropriate levels throughout the system. This level of service will have to be maintained in the future, and it will have to be considered each year; however, any <sup>other</sup> contribution agreed to this year will be a one-time commitment.

Councillor Deveaux stated if maintenance of school grounds is not continued, the properties will be in bad shape. Since the Province provided additional dollars this year, it is the time for the municipal units to provide additional dollars. He stated the formula is a step in the right direction, but the two Councils must be flexible with it.

It was moved by Councillor Deveaux, LOST FOR A SECONDER:

"THAT the budget be approved as presented, according to the formula and including \$500,000 in excess funding."

Councillor Roberts stated the formula was passed unanimously with the exception of one vote, and this was done only a short while ago. He felt the formula should be used for at least one year. Councillor Wiseman stated that all Members of both Councils seem to be ignoring the fact that the fourth component of the formula was approved a part of the formula. She stated this component is the only means that the School Board can deal with expansion and extension to services which is required.

Councillor Eisenhower indicated he expected the additional funding from the Province to mean relief to the taxpayer. He stated he is not convinced as to where the \$3.2 million from the Province went. He continued that the extra money requested is such a small percentage of such a large budget, and no forecast could be so accurate to come any closer to this figure. He concluded he is not comfortable with the fact that the additional money from the Province has not been accounted for.

Councillor Short commented there should have been more briefing on the extras before bring them to this meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Short, seconded by Councillor Lugar:

"THAT the Councils from the Town of Bedford and the County of Halifax approve additional funding for the Halifax County-Bedford District School Board in the amount of \$1,688,000."

Councillor MacDonald inquired about the priorities of the Board, given this figure. Mr. Gillis responded the Board would have to meet to decide upon priorities. He stated the question of property service is of great importance.

MOTION DEFEATED

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

"THAT the Councils from the Town of Bedford and the County of Halifax approve a total of \$1,747,692 for the Halifax County-Bedford District School Board."

MOTION DEFEATED

There was further discussion about the formula and the fourth component of the formula. It was suggested this meeting adjourn until more information can be made available from School Board staff with respect to an equitable level of education across the district. After further discussion,

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

"THAT the Councils from the Town of Bedford and the County of Halifax approve a total budget figure of \$1,757,972 for the Halifax County-Bedford District School Board."

Councillor Wiseman clarified this figure will approve the amount dictated by the formula, as well as \$358,580 of the additional funding requested.

Councillor Lugar clarified that this will be for 1987 only. He expressed concern that next years budget will be based on this figure.

There was further discussion concerning this motion. Councillor P. Baker suggested after this year the Town of Bedford and Halifax County separate with respect to School Boards and education. He suggested an attempt should be made to change the legislation in this respect.

MOTION DEFEATED

There being difficulty holding a quorum, Warden MacKenzie declared the meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. He stated he would arrange another meeting date and advise all Councillors.

MINUTES & REPORTS  
OF THE  
SECOND YEAR MEETINGS  
OF THE  
FORTY-SECOND COUNCIL  
OF THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF HALIFAX

MAY COUNCIL SESSION

TUESDAY, MAY 5 and 19, 1987

&

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MAY 5, 1987

&

JOINT COUNCIL SESSIONS

MAY 4, 1987

&

PUBLIC HEARINGS

MAY 11 and 25, 1987

May Council Session - 1987

I N D E X

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Grants -----	7-8 & 24-25
Lake Major Watershed Advisory Committee - -----	22-23
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Motion - Approval of Minutes -----	1 & 15-16
Motion - Letters & Correspondence-----	2-3 & 20-22
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Motion - Petition re Roadwork, Meagher's Grant -----	3
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Motion - Land Titles Clarification - Mabel Glasgow, East Preston-----	5-6
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Motion - Signage Policy -----	6-7
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Sackville Advisory Board -----	2
Signage Policy -----	6-7
Smoking Policy -----	12-13
Vehicle Acquisitions -----	25

JOINT COUNCIL SESSION

MAY 4, 1987

PRESENT WERE: Warden MacKenzie  
Mayor Roberts  
Councillor Walker  
Councillor Rawding  
Councillor Fralick  
Councillor C. Baker  
Councillor Deveaux  
Councillor DeRoche  
Councillor Randall  
Councillor Bayers  
Councillor Reid  
Councillor Lichter  
Councillor Snow  
Councillor Merrigan  
Councillor MacKay  
Councillor McInroy  
Councillor MacDonald  
Councillor Wiseman  
Councillor Kelly  
Councillor Lugar  
councillor Christie  
councillor Roy  
Councillor Short  
Deputy Mayor Nolan

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. K.R Meech, CAO, County of Halifax  
Mr. D. English, CAO, Town of Bedford  
Mr. R. Singer, Director of Finance, Town of Bedford  
Mr. L. Gillis, CEO, District School Board

SECRETARY: Glenda Higgins

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Warden MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. He immediately opened the floor to dicussion and resolution concerning School Board funding. Initially there was some discussion concerning the formula and excess funding, as well as the property services account.

Councillor Merrigan inquired about a reasonable figure which should be assumed. He stated anything over and above the reasonable figure would be to catch up from cutbacks of previous years. Mr. Gillis responded in 1982-83 there was \$413,000 put aside into an account property maintenance. This was later reduced to \$0, where it has remained since. He informed most of the money from this account is spent for the maintenance of properties, such as window replacement, etc.

Following further discussion, Deputy Mayor Nolan stated in 1986 the budget was approved as presented, and it was agreed that 1986 would be

established as a base year with an acceptable level of service. However, it is not made known there are a number of areas that were not acceptable. He stated the formula which was developed on the basis of 1986 being the base year, not<sup>v</sup> appears to be going out the window, unless something is done to prevent it.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Nolan, seconded by Councillor Kelly:

"THAT the entire excess funding granted by the two municipal units for 1987 be the amount of \$1,397,693."

He clarified this motion will approve everything in the budget with the exception of the requested \$517,580 in excess funding.

Councillor Deveaux expressed opposition to the motion. He felt the formula should not be etched in stone as nobody can predict future budgets for the School Board. He stated this year's budget should be dealt with now, and when next year's budget is brought forth, it can be dealt with. He continued that education is an important issue, and there is a need to provide students with a decent education. He stated he will not support too much in the future, but the request this year is not unreasonable. He stated the additional funds requested from the School Board will only mean a 0 to 4 percent increase, which is not a bad figure. Councillor Deveaux concluded if a few extra dollars are not given this year, a much higher sum may be necessary next year. He felt the School Board does an exception job based on cost per pupil.

Councillor Merrigan expressed difficulty with the motion because it allows for additional funding under the fourth component of the formula. He asked if it has been determined that five additional librarians are not wanted.

Councillor Lugar stated the amount derived from the formula should be approved, and discussion should revolve around the excess funding. He stated Members of the two Councils should not fear that excess funding will not inflate the formula in the future. Councillor Reid stated that should be made clear in the content of the formula before it is approved. Otherwise the Board may only received the amount derived from the formula. He stated the School Board requires additional funding over and above the formula dollars in order to provide an acceptable level of service and to maintain the school properties in a proper manner. There was discussion concerning the formula and approval and any excess funding. Councillor Walker indicated he would support the motion on the floor, if he is given an opportunity after it is carried to make a motion regarding excess funding.

Deputy Mayor Nolan stated the budget as presented represents 8.52 percent increase, and there is no need for any additional funding. He also stated there is no need to give the School Board its entire request every year; he felt there is some room in the budget somewhere for a surplus.

Councillor Roy proposed an amendment to the motion, whereby supplementary funding would be considered separately. He stated this supplementary funding could range from \$0 to \$579,000.



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

"THAT the motion regarding the formula budget for the Halifax County-Bedford District School Board be deferred pending settlement of the debate with respect to excess funding."

There was discussion concerning the amendment as proposed by Councillor Roy and the motion of deferral of the original resolution. Warden MacKenzie called for the question on the motion of deferral.

MOTION DEFEATED

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

"THAT the motion on the floor be amended to clearly state that excess funding will be given due consideration as the supplementary portion of the budget."

Councillor MacKay clarified if the motion is carried as amended, the School Board budget will be amended up to the limit as per the formula adopted by the Joint Councils, and subsequent to this, supplementary funding to a maximum of \$517,580 will be debated and given due consideration.

Councillor DeRoche questioned the legality of the amendment, stating it is a motion of proviso, placing stipulations on the original motion.

Warden MacKenzie called for the question on the amendment.

AMENDMENT DEFEATED

ORIGINAL MOTION DEFEATED

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

"THAT the formula contribution be approved by the Joint Councils, as well as an excess amount of \$517,560."

Councillor Lichter felt this motion would be dangerous for the School Board in particular because those supportive of the formula amount may not be supportive of the excess funding, and both will be lost. He felt one motion should approve a certain amount for the School Board, whatever it may be.

Councillor Merrigan expressed difficulty in supporting the excess funding. He inquired about the number of elementary schools and the number of librarians there are under the Halifax County-Bedford District School Board. Councillor Walker noted the library in his district is deplorable, and the money projected could be spent in his district alone. Mr. Gillis informed there are 40 elementary schools, and because of the requirement of the School Board within the Teachers Union agreement, there is 1.5 staff in three or four schools who act as Librarians. He felt the demand could be met with 15 additional positions.

Councillor Lugar clarified if this motion is carried it will only be effective for the 1987 budget, and it will not automatically be incurred in 1988. Councillor Lugar also reminded the two Councils have not right to decide how the Board will spend the money given.

## MOTION DEFEATED

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

"THAT Councils from the Town of Bedford and the County of Halifax approve the amount of funding for the School Board in accordance with the formula adopted, as well as excess funding in the amount of \$400,000."

Councillor Short asked if \$268,000 of the excess funding will go into building and property improvements and the rest into teachers. He felt the motion did not address some of the basic problems as to whether or not they were voting for an increase in the formula. He stated it is difficult to separate the formula and any excess funding. Staff cannot be added with hopes that it will be cut in the future.

Councillor Wiseman informed when she put \$350,000 in excess funding forward at the last meeting it was to include the incremental cost to expand existing program or to add new programs, as well as \$194,200 for the positions needed to expand existing programs, and \$30,380 for program assistance salaries. It was felt the \$25,000 for continuing education could be dropped because this could be covered from a federal grant. An additional \$134,000 was added, to cover one-half of the property services budget. She advised this amounts to \$358,580 which was not approved at the last meeting. She noted the motion now on the floor is for \$400,000, and similar items would probably be covered.

Councillor Short asked if the \$134,000 (one-half of the grounds and maintenance budget) would be a one-time request only. He felt it important to note this. Councillor Wiseman responded that the School Board has a number of projects to undertaken in 1987. She stated building maintenance has already suffered due to budget cuts. She reviewed a number of the grounds improvement projects which are of priority for 1987. She stated the only commitment she can give is that these projects will not be done over again in 1988, but there may be others that must be completed. She suggested more may be completed with the money available or from the capital budget, but this cannot be guaranteed at this time.

Councillor Deveaux supported Councillor Wiseman's commented, stating there is a need for proper facilities to educate the children in. He stated we can only consider this budget this year, and next year consideration can be given to what is requested at that time.

Councillor Short proposed an amendment, which he later withdrew because the total amount of dollars were confused. He proposed an amendment whereby the Joint Councils would approve under clause 4, sections 1 and 2 of the amended amount of \$224,580 to be to make current programs universal and to replace some of those which have been phased out; also that \$125,420 be approved as a one-time expenditure towards building and grounds improvement.

Warden MacKenzie called for the question on the motion moved by Councillor Deveaux and seconded by Councillor Wiseman.

MOTION DEFEATED

It was moved by Councillor Short, seconded by Councillor Roy:

"THAT the Joint Councils approve the formula amount at \$1,397,692 plus an amount of \$224,580 under clause 4, sections 1 and 2; and a further amount of \$125,420 as an extraordinary item for this fiscal year to be applied against the building and grounds improvements."

Councillor Short clarified that this motion would give the School Board the formula amount plus \$350,000 additional funds.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Meech noted there is a difference of opinion as to how the cost between Bedford and the Municipality should be allocated. He stated there will have to be a basis to resolve this in the near future.

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

"THAT this meeting of the Joint Councils adjourn."

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MAY 5, 1987

PRESENT WERE: Warden MacKenzie  
Councillor Walker  
Councillor Rawding  
Councillor Fralick  
Councillor C. Baker  
Councillor Deveaux  
Councillor DeRoche  
Councillor Randall  
Councillor Bayers  
Councillor Reid  
Councillor Lichter  
Councillor Snow  
Councillor Merrigan  
Councillor MacKay  
Councillor McInroy  
Councillor MacDonald  
Councillor Wiseman

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. K.R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. K. Wilson, Director of Finance

SECRETARY: Glenda Higgins

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Warden MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. He advised the meeting is to finalize the budget before the tax rate is set at the Council Session the same day.

With respect to the Mainstreet Program, Mr. Meech informed in 1986 Halifax County Council allocated a sum of \$65,000, which was to cover the County's share of administration costs of the Mainstreet office and Co-ordinator. There were also sums allocated to the communities of the Sheet Harbour, Musquodoboit Harbour, and Sackville to deal with specific programs. In 1986 the total from the Municipality, the Department of Development, and perhaps another source took care of carrying out mainstreet projects. He informed the 1987 budget proposes \$125,000 for Mainstreet programs, and Council will have to make a decision with respect to this. A major program proposed for Sackville in the near future is to get the necessary funding to proceed with an extensive program, replacing existing sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, etc. to enhance the existing mainstreet. There is discussion of financing this program over a four or five year period, and there has been no formal response to a submission to the Department of Development respecting this. Mr. Meech continued that there is a sum of \$20,000 for community development.

Mr. Meech informed Musquodoboit Harbour has made or will be making application to the Department of Development for several projects, including phase II of the railcar restoration project at the Railroad

Museum. This project is estimated at \$20,000, and an application has been made to the Department of Development for 50-50 cost-sharing. Another project is identification signage for Martinque Beach and game sanctuary at an estimated cost of \$15,000, with an application for 50-50 cost-sharing from the Province. A third project proposed for this community is signage for the community centre at an estimated cost of \$9,000, on the assumption it will be cost-shared 50-50 between the Province and the Municipality.

Mr. Meech informed the community of Sheet Harbour is into Phase III of the MacPhee House restoration at an estimated cost of \$30,000, which is assumed to be cost-shared 50-50 with the Province. There is also an estimated sum of \$3,200 for downtown landscaping, again on the assumption of 50-50 cost-sharing.

He reviewed the cost assumption for each community under the mainstreet program, totalling \$162,000 including our share of the administration.

Mr. Meech recommended that Halifax County absorb the administration costs, which will amount to approximately \$41,000, and anything over this costs would be allocated to the community. He noted this would depend on the Department of Development's decision with respect to cost-sharing.

Councillor McInroy asked if there is any indication from the Province with respect to street lighting and sidewalk construction being handled under a mainstreet program. He asked if these are considered as eligible projects under the mainstreet program. Mr. Meech responded that there has been a proposal put together and a submission made to the Minister of Development respecting this, although there has been no official response. He expected the Department of Development may be prepared to make a contribution to this program over a three to five year period. There would also be an application with respect to sidewalk construction made to the Department of Transportation. There has been an effort made to seek cost-sharing towards sidewalk construction and other things associated with them. He noted this has qualified in the past in some communities.

Warden MacKenzie stated he had an indication from the Minister that he would support this over a period of years. He asked if there is any way the project can proceed and have it completed with a commitment from the Province. Mr. Meech stated once the official commitment is received from the Province it will be necessary to revise the schedule and determine where financing can be obtained. He noted it may be necessary to finance part of this for one or two years pending the receipt of certain money from the Province.

Councillor Lichter noted several years ago there was discussion about expensive trees being planted in Sackville under the Mainstreet Program. He inquired if those trees were successful, noting Council should be kept informed about past projects undertaken by the Mainstreet Program. Mr. Meech stated there were a number of valuable projects undertaken by the Mainstreet Program in the past, including Pocket Parks and signage. He noted many of the benefits are not

tangible. There is continuing liaison through the committee and the business people in terms of promotion of Sackville as a commercial area. He stated in conversation with the Mainstreet Co-ordinator, it is intended to have her make a presentation to Council with the chairperson from each of the three Mainstreet Programs to give Council the benefit of what has happened in the past and what their future plans are.

Councillor Wiseman stated it has been brought to her attention that approval in principal was given for five year funding agreement. She was not sure if the funding was approved with approval of the policy. Mr. Meech advised he was just notified nothing is official yet. He suggested at the appropriate time there will be an indication by announcement and in written form, after all allocations for Mainstreet Programs for 1987 are made.

Councillor MacDonald advised money was never made available for the planting of trees, as noted by Councillor Lichter earlier. There was also difficulty with an area to plant them given the short area between sidewalks. He advised there were a number of improvements made with the money received, and it is hoped the Province will come through on a five year basis to continue with the improvements. He noted there is a desperate need for new sidewalks in Sackville, most particularly on Sackville Drive. He stated Mainstreet Programs should be support for the entire County.

Councillor Bayers informed the Mainstreet funding provided for Musquodoboit Harbour helped with a number of projects, including the establishment of a community centre and a core area for business to grow. In 1987 there are four businesses taking advantage of the Mainstreet Program with 20 percent of the funding from the Province and the business owner must provide 80 percent. He stated money spent assisted in painting the railroad museum area, signage identifying the community at all entrance points, landscaping and paving in front of the rink area, and it is also hoped to continue with upgrading of the Railroad Museum. He stated this museum stops many tourists. Councillor Bayers stated the money earmarked to be spent in Musquodoboit Harbour is designed to improve the community centre and to benefit the community by stopping tourists. The money will come back into the community.

Councillor Rawding inquired about a breakdown of the Mainstreet dollars. Mr. Meech stated this information was just made available to him earlier that day, and he would have it circulated to Members of Council. Mr. Meech stated an increase of \$60,000 over and above what was approved in 1986 is proposed for 1987. He stated last year when Council dealt with this matter, there was a willingness to come to an agreement on a total contribution from the County to Mainstreet, and there would have to be a further mechanism as to how it is to be allocated. He responded to questions from Councillor Rawding, stating the proposals have come from the Business Improvement District Committees in each of the communities, which we do not usually relate to, although they are technically committees of Council. The amount approved by Council for Mainstreet will not cover the required contribution, the remaining usually comes from community fundraising.

Councillor McInroy stated he does not have much exposure to the Mainstreet Programs, especially those in Musquodoboit Harbour and Sheet Harbour. He expressed concern that after the money is allocated, Halifax County loses credit for the dollars allocated. He felt the County is not getting the benefit that it should from the money allocated. If the County is making the Program possible, the County should have some obvious presence. He expressed concern that is the budget is increased by \$60,000 this year, it will probably increase again next year, and he stated the County should have its contribution made known.

There was some discussion concerning the presence of the County in Mainstreet projects given the allocation of dollars. Councillor Bayers expressed agreement with Councillor McInroy in this respect. He stated publicity would let the public know they are getting some return for their tax dollars.

Councillor Rawding asked for clarification on the Mainstreet Budget. Mr. Meech informed many of the figures mentioned are not included in the County budget. He stated \$125,000 is included in the County budget for Mainstreet Programs, and it was never intended that the County would pay 100 percent of the sidewalk construction costs, etc. in the community of Sackville. He stated the administration is the provision of the Mainstreet Co-ordinator, secretarial support, the office facility, and associated costs. He noted it is expected \$27,628 will be received back from the Department of Development for this.

Councillor Fralick referred to signage, noting the County crest should be on all signage. Mr. Meech informed the advise of the professional who developed the policy was that the crest would be over-dressing the signage. He stated the color code may also have to change given the colors of the Coat of Arms. He was not sure if this would be a problem, cost-wise.

Councillor McInroy inquired about the breakdown of the administration costs, and he asked why this is not cost-shared on the same basis with the Department of Development. Mr. Meech informed it is cost-shared on a 50-50 basis, but it only covers the salary of the Mainstreet Co-ordinator and secretarial support. They do not share in the office and telephone expenses. Mr. Meech indicated he would look into the figures for the Co-ordinator's and secretary's salaries. Mr. Wilson noted Sackville Mainstreet was in receipt of free rent in the past, but they now have to pay rent, which accounts from some of the increase.

Mr. Wilson noted several changes in expenditures and revenues as a result of new census figures and other information. He commented that the Province use the new census figures when they want money from the County, but not when they are paying money to the County. He suggested this argument be used in getting the Province to pay the per capita fees for the Library Board based on the new census figures.

Mr. Wilson stated based on the decision of Council to use 25 percent of the Deed Transfer Tax for capital projects, it is proposed Deed Transfer Revenue will generate approximately \$3.2 million. He also informed the Province has responded with respect to the operating grants, whereby the County will receive \$849,560, which is \$162,738 more than last year. The Province Department of Social Services will also give additional funds to the County's Department of Social Services in the areas of general assistance and Homes for Special Care. He noted a portion of this increase was already worked into the budget, so the new total is \$50,000 and \$45,000 respectively. Mr. Wilson stated additional revenues have totalled \$694,560. Mr. Wilson continued to review additional revenues and expenditures which have been made known since the initial presentation of the budget. The additional costs included a new air conditioning system for the data processing centre, the additional funding for the School Board, and the transfer of Deed Transfer Tax revenues from the general budget to the capital reserve.

Mr. Meech referred back to the Mainstreet budget, clarifying that cost-sharing for administration is restricted to salaries, and office expenses are projected at \$13,000. There is an extra \$5,000 in the salary accounts in the event of the hiring of part-time maintenance. Federal make-work programs have been used for this in the past. He noted the Co-ordinator is paid \$30,000 to \$31,000 and the secretary is paid approximately \$18,000. He also noted there was a five year budget developed for the Sackville major works program. This included the annual operating costs for administration. The figure shown for 1987 is the average cost of the five year program, which would include inflationary increases.

Councillor Rawding asked for the process of the Deed Transfer Tax. He noted revenues for 1987 are estimated based on the same number of transfers in 1986. Mr. Wilson agreed, stating he is projecting no increase based on the 1987 figures to date. There were also several large transactions which contributed to this fund in 1986. Councillor Rawding suggested the County may be pleasantly surprised, although it may not be accounted for. Councillor Rawding expressed objection to a Deed Transfer Tax, stating it is another tax for home buyers to pay in addition to all the other costs which are continually on the rise. He stated this hits the first time home buyer especially hard. He stated it is an unfair, hidden tax which is used to subsidize development. Warden MacKenzie commented that it also costs the Municipality additional dollars to administer this tax. There was some discussion about the Deed Transfer Tax.

Councillor Merrigan inquired about the real growth in assessments. Mr. Wilson stated this was difficult to determine, but in 1986 there was \$176 million of commercial assessment; the Aerotech Park generated \$17 million; Seabright was again assessed at approximately \$11 million. He noted Seabright had existed previously, but it was not taxed. These two areas totalled 16 percent of the 38 percent of real commercial growth. This left approximately 22 percent, and it is also known that Cole Harbour had quite a growth in retail. Therefore, it is assumed that approximately 20 percent of real commercial growth was increased. Councillor Merrigan clarified if these figures are off by two percent,



there is no increase for these people. Mr. Meech stated he has always understood that as a result of re-assessment, commercial and industrial properties do not normally come close to the total increase. He noted if a commercial or business occupancy only had a ten percent increase in assessment, they would be paying less in taxes than they did in the previous year.

Councillor Merrigan next inquired about real residential growth. Mr. Wilson informed this is assumed at eight or nine percent based on 43 percent total increase. There was much discussion concerning this re-assessment and taxation between Mr. Wilson, Mr. Meech, and Councillor Merrigan.

Councillor Lichter stated eight or nine percent real growth based on last year's tax rate would generate at least \$2 million extra taxes, if nothing changed from last year. Also, approximately \$2.7 million was saved by the Province's contribution to the School Board. There is a \$4.7 million extra expenditure in 1987 without a significant raise in taxes. However, consideration must be given to what will happen next year, especially to the additional staff that is hired with approval of this budget. He stated if the Province does not give such a grant to the School Board again in 1988, there will be a large increase to the tax rate at that time.

Mr. Wilson informed no surplus is being used, which was used in 1986. This accounts for \$1 million which was used to keep the tax rate lower last year, which will not be used this year, leaving \$2.2 million in surplus. He noted this is not a lot, considering what the Provincial Department of Education might do or how unpredictable the Social Services budget can be. He stated there are many variables which must be considered.

Councillor Lichter felt the same education funding will not be available from the Province in the future, and there will not continue to be eight or nine percent real growth every year. He stated it sounds very good that there will not be much of a tax increase, but Council must be cautious because this is only a one-year deal. He felt \$994,000 could easily be cut from the present budget, and with this cut the Chief Administrative Officer and Department Heads could easily decide what tax rate is required and what staff and extra services could be had with this cut. However, if this cut is not made, in 1988 Halifax County will be in a sad state.

Mr. Meech agreed there was a substantial reduction in education, but there was also a large increase in the Social Services budget. He stated if the 16 new positions were deleted from the budget, it would only mean a total of \$450,000 in savings. This is not necessarily the cause of the increased costs. He stated one of the reasons there has been problems in the past to become more appropriately staffed was because the County has always played second fiddle to the School Board. The taxpayers of Halifax County are benefitting so greatly this year because they have been paying for this service in the past, and their ability to do so was not as great as those in the City of Halifax or the City of Dartmouth. He informed there have been discussions about

priorization with Department Heads, and the most of the new positions proposed are to keep up with increased growth and workloads. He agreed there is a substantial rate of growth in Halifax County, which is transferred to increased population, new housing starts, etc., and the County must keep up with this growth. He noted a few years ago there was discussion whereby more recoveries for administration could be made. However, it now appears the building permit fee is covering the administration of the Building Inspection Division. He noted this is also reflected by the increased amount of development in the County. He noted the increased positions are primarily for the Social Services Department, and all are aware of the increased pressures in this Department with new programs which the County has become involved in. He reviewed and justified several of the new positions requested.

Councillor Lichter persisted that the Province will probably not give the County this break with education funding next year, and Members of Council should proceed with caution when dealing with this budget. He reminded that Mr. Meech has stated in the past that staff is concerned about where they will be if and when Sackville incorporates on its own. He stated if staff is built up considerably with approval of this budget, they may have to be deleted next year, which will make staff morale even worse. He felt going half way with additional staffing and setting rates this year, by next year Members of Council and County officials will know how that worked and it can be considered for 1988.

Warden MacKenzie stated he has never witnessed annexations from Halifax County when staff had to be reduced. He stated there is continued growth in Halifax County, and he felt if Sackville incorporates, there will be no need to cut back on staff. Councillor Lichter stated this is a political perspective. The people feel no government body ever reduces its staff, whether it is needed or not.

Councillor DeRoche commented that in all previous annexations, staff cut backs were not necessary; however, there has never been an annexation from Halifax County that can compare to what may happen in the next two years. He stated Council has the opportunity to keep its eyes open and look into the future, and they should do so. He felt many of the residents from past annexations feel past Councils have not stood up for the County, but hid their heads in the sand. He noted there is always a problem with working with percentages. Re-assessment in his district was well above the average, and setting the tax rate according to percentages is not fair to those who were re-assessed high above the average. He accepted that it will cost more to hold the line on servicing, but we cannot continue to work with percentages in this respect.

Councillor Fralick asked if there would be a problem with his recommendation in 1988 for the deletion of 18 staff positions. Mr. Meech stated it would pose a problem, but if that were the decision of Council based on financial restraints, he would carry it out.

Councillor Merrigan expressed difficulty with the budget process for the County. He felt the County should be telling staff where to make cuts and leaving it up to them to justify cuts to Council. However,

the present system has Council justifying cutbacks to staff. He suggested this year the budget should be approved with a cut and leave it to staff to reallocate the funds. Mr. Meech stated he did not necessarily disagree with the approach, but there could probably be a means of cutting out \$1.5 million without cutting out the new staff positions. However, it may mean being more optimistic in areas of revenues. He concluded taking the allocations to the School Board and Social Services, there is not a lot left of the Halifax County budget. Mr. Wilson agreed, stating the budget is \$25 million, \$11 million of which is for education, and it is difficult to cut back in the area of Social Services. He continued that fiscal services are already committed. Therefore, any cuts would have to come from 25 percent of the departmental budgets. He stated this can be done very easily by reducing services, but pulling out recreation activities and closing down centres will not be serving the public.

Councillor Fralick stated grants which are approved at every Council Session should be given closer consideration. He stated it appears everyone and anyone is looking for a grant, and Councillors have been slack in handing this money out.

Councillor Merrigan recommended that the presented budget be cut by \$350,000. Mr. Wilson stated this cut would mean the residential rate would be 61 cents.

Councillor McInroy indicated difficulty with this recommendation because the same cannot be done to the education budget. He stated there are always comments "next year", but this is the first year Council has ever been close to settling the School Board budget. He felt Council should give some guidance to staff with the recommendation that the budget be cut by \$350,000.

Councillor Fralick felt there has been a levelling off of Social Assistance caseloads recently. He stated there have been fewer caseloads in District 3 recently with people finding work. Mr. Meech stated he just looked at the figures before the meeting, and while there has been some improvement from March to April, in comparison to 1986, the figures are still high. Councillor Fralick stated dollar figures for 1987 are also higher. Mr. Meech stated there is a high expenditure budgeted for general assistance in 1987, which is far above what was spent last year, and if it continues to rise at the same pace, there may be a \$8.4 million expenditure. He felt the total allocations will not amount to this much, but it is still running quite high.

Councillor Walker felt the budget should be cut at the Social Services Department. He felt this budget should be considered much more seriously, with further consideration put on the jobs of various individuals hired in this department. He stated what they are doing and what their job descriptions read are two different things. He stated many of them only fill out applications, not doing any social work. He stated he would not support the budget at this point in time, as it requires more serious attention. The staff requests are out of order.

Following further discussion and comments concerning the staff requests and the budget, it was agreed to recommend to Council that the 1987 budget be cut by \$350,000 according to what was presented, and that the residential rate be set at 61 cents per \$100 of assessment and that the commercial rate be set at \$1.45 per \$100 of assessment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

COUNCIL SESSION

MAY 5, 1987

PRESENT WERE. Warden MacKenzie  
Councillor Walker  
Councillor Rawding  
Councillor Fralick  
Councillor C. Baker  
Councillor Deveaux  
Councillor DeRoche  
Councillor Randall  
Councillor Bayers  
Councillor Reid  
Councillor Lichter  
Councillor Snow  
Councillor Merrigan  
Councillor MacKay  
Councillor McInroy  
Councillor Eisenhauer  
Councillor MacDonald  
Councillor Wiseman

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

SECRETARY: Glenda Higgins

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

Mr. Kelly called the Roll.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

"THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole, March 20, 1987, be approved as circulated."  
MOTION CARRIED

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS

Councillor Randall, Councillor Rawding - Policing

LETTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Administrator, City of Dartmouth

Mr. Kelly reviewed this letter from C.A. Moir expressed appreciation for support for his nomination and election for the position of Chairman of the Metropolitan Authority.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY CORRESPONDENCE

Sackville Advisory Board

Mr. Kelly reviewed this letter from Paul Hyland, Chairman of the Sackville Advisory Board, requesting Council to consider an operating budget for the Board at a minimum of \$25,000 and to a maximum of \$40,000. Enclosed with the correspondence was a copy of the proposed budget.

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

"THAT this item of correspondence be referred to the Executive Committee for a recommendation."

Councillor Wiseman advised the Sackville Councillors have been wondering if this request should be granted by means of an area rate or if it should be part of the general budget. She felt the matter should be dealt with before the area rates are approved, which is proposed for this meeting. She noted this will be difficult to do if this matter is referred to the Executive Committee.

Councillor MacKay reminded that late in 1986 Halifax County provided a grant for \$2,000 to the Sackville Advisory Board, and it was charged to the community in the form of an area rate. He stated at that time it was pre-determined this is where any money for the Sackville Advisory Board would come from.

Councillor McInroy inquired as to the impact of \$40,000 on the area rate and if the Sackville Councillors recommend this be charged to an area rate. He suggested the area rates could be determined at the next Session of Council.

Councillor MacDonald suggested the motion on the floor be rescinded and he would move that \$25,000 for the Sackville Advisory Board come from the general budget.

MOTION CARRIED

Texaco Canada Resources Ltd.

Mr. Kelly reviewed this letter, expressed appreciation for allowing this group to make a presentation to Council, and indicating appreciation for Council's position on the Lunenburg Council Resolution.

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

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

Residents of Cole Road and Interval Road to Wyse's Corner, Meagher's Grant

Mr. Kelly advised a petition was received signed by residents of this area, requesting road repairs to the area outlined above.

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

"THAT this petition and letter be received;

ALSO THAT the petition be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation with reference to the original letter written to the Department of Transportation following the April 7, 1987 Session of Council."  
MOTION CARRIED

PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Application No. RA-CH/W-45-85-07 Rezoning of a Portion of the Lands of Dartmouth Salvage Limited, Broom Road, Westphal

Mr. Kelly reviewed this report, advising the recommendation is that this application be approved and that a public hearing for this application be scheduled for June 22, 1987.

Councillor DeRoche referred to the Supplementary Planning Advisory Committee report, noting the Committee is now recommending the public hearing for this application be held on June 8, 1987.

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

"THAT Application No. RA-CH/W-45-85-07 be approved and that a public hearing for this application be scheduled for June 8, 1987 at 7 p.m."  
MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence Received from Robert Cragg Regarding Municipal Board Appeals

Mr. Kelly reviewed this report, advising the Planning Advisory Committee agreed on a policy that former Public Participation Chairmen

will not be subpoenaed by the Municipality to appear as witnesses; only staff, Councillors and any other expert witnesses authorized by the Planning Advisory Committee are to be subpoenaed by the Municipality.

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

"THAT the above-noted policy be endorsed by Municipal Council."  
MOTION CARRIED

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Application No. RA-SA-52-86-20 Application by Residents to Rezone Pope Crescent, Nelson Drive, Caudle Park Crescent, Haviland Street, Tache Street, and a part of Chandler Drive, Lower Sackville

Mr. Kelly read this report, advising this application has been withdrawn and the public hearing scheduled for June 8, 1987 for this application will not be held.

It was noted this report is for information purposes only.

BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORTS

Anthony Meagher, Waverley

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve a lesser setback of 12 feet, Lot M-1, 46 Halls Road, Waverley for applicant Anthony Meagher."  
MOTION CARRIED

Bernard Deal, White's Lake

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve a lesser setback of 18.86 feet on Lot 17, Bayview Subdivision, White's Lake for applicant Bernard Deal."  
MOTION CARRIED

John Campbell, Sr., Peggy's Cove

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve a lesser side yard clearance of two feet for application John Campbell, Sr., Peggy's Cove."  
MOTION CARRIED



Don Publicover, West Dover

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve a lesser setback of 19 feet for property located at Highway No. 333, West Dover owned by Don publicover."

MOTION CARRIED

Kenneth Green, Indian Harbour

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve a lesser setback of seven feet for property owned by Kenneth Green, Myers Road, Indian Harbour."

MOTION CARRIED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Excavation, Bayview Park Subdivision, White's Lake

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report.

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

"THAT the Nova Scotia Museum be given Municipal approval to enter upon Lot 16, Bayview Park Subdivision for the purpose of carrying out excavation of an existing ancient Indian burial ground on that site contingent upon the Nova Scotia Museum receiving letters from the Union of Nova Scotia Indians and the Association of Cultural Studies with their comments and recommendations."

Councillor Rawding recalled the discussion at the Executive Committee, noting this recommendation is only for the purpose of conducting a study, and the Nova Scotia Museum will report back to Council on their findings after the study is complete. He asked if it was determined how the County came to own this land for recreation purposes. Mr. Meech responded that there is a long history to the subdivision approval process for this subdivision. He informed he was part of the part who authorized this parcel of parkland, and it was accepted with the knowledge it is an ancient burial ground with the feeling that the County could take responsibility for protecting it. He advised there will be a further report respecting this at the next Executive Committee meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Land Titles Clarification - Mabel Glasgow, East Preston

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report.

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

"THAT the taxes for the Mabel Glasgow property, East Preston be forgiven as allowed under the Land Titles Clarification Act."  
MOTION CARRIED

Abandonment of Easement, E-C3, Colby Village

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report.

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

"THAT Easement C-3, Colby Village, Cole Harbour be abandoned."  
MOTION CARRIED

Signage Policy

Mr. Kelly advised the Executive Committee recommends to Council approval of the signage policy as presented.

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

"THAT the signage policy be approved as presented."

Councillor Snow asked why the policy does not contain the County crest. He felt signage would look dull without the crest. Mr. Meech stated he was advised by the expert who created the policy that the County crest would clutter the signage. He agreed it is a matter of opinion, and the crest could be considered for incorporation into the signage policy.

Councillor Rawding agreed the County crest should be included on any signage. He noted any other municipal unit would have their emblem on signage. He inquired about the cost of including the County crest in the signage policy. Mr. Meech indicated he was not aware of the price. With respect to the Coat of Arms, he questioned the ability to achieve a specific color code.

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

"THAT the aforementioned resolution be amended to have the County emblem contained in the signage policy."

Councillor McInroy stated only those familiar with the sign will recognize the emblem. He stated he would support the motion if the crest can be implemented into the policy without imposing upon the rest of the sign. He felt the signage as proposed is clear and concise. He stated there is need for downplaying the crest and the wording "The Municipality of the County of Halifax"; there is a need for clear wording with respect to Halifax County.

Councillor DeRoche felt the crest could be incorporated in such a manner that it would not overpower the rest of the sign. He stated any other government signage includes the emblem, and he felt our Municipality should also have this unity.

Councillor Snow expressed hope that residents of Halifax County would recognize the crest without the wording.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

Northwood Care Incorporated

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report of the Executive Committee advising this correspondence is forwarded for Council's consideration and action.

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

"THAT Halifax County Council write a letter to the Minister of Social Services supporting the concept of designated employees to ensure essential services during strike action, without removing the right to strike."

MOTION CARRIED

Joint Federal/Provincial/Municipal Apprentice Program

Mr. Kelly reviewed the report respecting the proposal of this program.

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve in principal a program of this nature,  
ALSO THAT this resolution be forwarded to Members of Parliament; Members of the Legislature; the Minister of Employment and Immigration, the Honourable Benoit Bouchard; and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Head Office."

Councillor DeRoche asked if this is a new theory and how it will differ from the existing apprentice program with effective work experience programs. He stated he would not support this concept without knowing how it will work. He noted there is now an inter-Provincial apprentice program across Canada whereby a certain mark achieved on the final examination will make a certificate applicable across Canada.

Councillor Merrigan informed he was of the understanding this program is proposed for the young people who need to be hired for the apprentice programs, in order that this program can be used where there is no place.

MOTION CARRIED

Requests for Grants and Loans

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

"THAT approval be granted for a District Capital Grant, District 3 in the amount of \$1,000 for the purpose of improvements to the Centennial Ballfield (County-owned property)."

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT approval be granted for a District Capital Grant, District 10 in the amount of \$1,000 for fencing Little Harbour Ballfield (County-owned property)."

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT approval be granted for a District Capital Grant, District 21 in the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of fencing walkways on County-owned property in District 21."

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT Halifax County Council approve a District Parkland Grant, District 4 in the amount of \$5,000 for capital improvements to Pinedale Park, Prospect Bay (County-owned property)."

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT approval be granted for a County loan in the amount of \$15,000 for District 4 for capital improvements to Pinedale Park, Prospect Bay, to be repaid over a three year period, including principal and interest from District Recreation funds with Council reserving the right to levy an area rate in default of principal and/or interest repayment."

MOTION CARRIED

Expansion Proposal, The Birches, A Home for Special Care

Mr. Kelly read this report.

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

"THAT Council approve a \$20,000 contribution towards the expansion of the Birches;

ALSO THAT the existing per diem rate be raised in an appropriate amount to cover the County's contribution over a two year period."

Councillor Bayers clarified the intent of the motion is to approve a \$20,000 grant to the Birches to be recovered by increasing the per diem rate. He reiterated that the \$20,000 is required upfront in order to start construction of the expansion. He noted the grant will have to be recovered from the 40 patients at 75 additional cents per day. He noted the County will still be paying for this addition because the majority of the per diems paid at the Birches are from the County Social Services Department. He noted the Province was asked to cost-share in this project, but the indicated they would only cost-share on the basis of per diem rates to a maximum of \$4.8 million; more than this amount is fully paid for by the County. Councillor Bayers indicated that Mr. Wilson, Director of Finance, had some

difficulty with raising the per diem rate to recover this, given that it is County-owned property. He then suggested the Birches be given a \$20,000 grant and that the per diem rate be increased by 75 cents per day to recover the \$20,000 grant.

Mr. Meech agreed with Councillor Bayers' concerns that the motion on the floor would not provide the \$20,000 upfront, and whether or not the money is given to the Birches in the form of a grant or raising the per diem rate, the County will be paying 100 percent of the cost.

Councillor Bayers and Councillor Randall agreed to rescind the motion on the floor.

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

"THAT Halifax County Council give the Birches a \$20,000 grant from the general budget for the purpose of expanding the common room."

Councillor Walker questioned how the per diem rate could be raised by Council, given that it must be approved by the Board of Directors for the Birches and the Triparite Committee. Councillor Bayers clarified there is no mention of raising the per diem rate in the existing motion because it will all be covered by the Municipality anyway. He noted the per diem rate could be raised if the Province decided to cost-share beyond the current maximum of \$4.8 million. Councillor Walker expressed no difficulty with the grant, but he felt it should be recovered in one year.

Following further discussion,

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

"THAT the aforementioned resolution be amended to include a \$20,000 loan to the Birches to be recovered over a two year period by raising the per diem rate accordingly."  
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