infiltration that gets into the treatment plant. He stated that they are installing a 52,000 gallon tank to monitor this before it goes into the treatment plant, from there into a 1,000 gallon tank, is chlorinated and put through a sand filter. He stated that the 120 x 40 foot building will contain 4 feet of sand as a filter. He stated that it should be very clear when it leaves the other side. He stated that this has been a problem for years and he lives in the area and wants to improve the situation. He stated that they will be drilling another well to hold 20,000 gallons of water per day.

Mr. Keddy stated that he has people to pick the garbage out of the ditches and will continue to landscape the property.

Councillor Ball stated that there are rules and regulations for the park and something has to be done with the garbage on the property and the animals not contained to their own yard. Mr. Keddy stated that they send letters and stated that the trailers and lots have improved. He stated that he intends to keep upgrading.

# Speakers in Opposition

Mrs. Cathy Gage stated that she lives in the trailer court and stated that there is no sign identifying the trailer court. She stated that as for improving the lots, he has raised lot rent by \$47/month since he bought the park. She stated that the street signs are so small that one can barely read them. She stated that as for upgrading pavement, that has been done, but not kept up. She stated that last year a hole was dug at the entrance of the park and it still has not been fixed. She stated that there are no speed signs to indicate the appropriate speed for the park. stated that dogs and other pets are roaming around the park and she stated that although she does not own a pet, she finds it necessary to clean up dog dirt before her children can go out to play. She stated that although Mr. Keddy does send out letters to tenants threatening eviction if the rules are not followed, the threats are not carried out. She stated that she has called every year for the last 3-4 years about a situation and nothing has been done.

Mrs. Gage stated that in 1986 a letter was sent to all residents of the park indicating that the lots had to be cleaned up and derelict vehicles and garbage removed. She stated that four years have passed and nothing has been done.

Councillor Boutilier stated that the items listed although legitimate should be brought to the attention of the owner through a tenants association. He asked if she could see any benefits with the expansion, ie. better water, sewer etc. Mrs. Gage stated that there were so many problems now that have not been addressed since she moved to the park in 1985.

Councillor Ball asked if Mr. Keddy put in a new sewer and water and storm drainage systems if this would be an improvement. Mrs. Gage stated that this development would be behind the existing park and the existing park is a dump. She stated that after four years, nothing has been done.

Deputy Warden Baker stated that he has known Mr. Keddy for years and he is a responsible person. He stated that Mr. Keddy should not be condemned for the animals on the loose. He stated that Mr. Keddy is showing concern and compassion for people in the trailer court by not evicting them. He suggested revamping the homeowners association. Mrs. Gage asked where the compassion is for the residents who are trying to comply with the rules and regulations while their next door neighbours are not.

Councillor Harvey asked which would be more help to the existing residents, denying or approving this application. He asked how she thought the situation could be helped if the application is denied. Mrs. Gage stated that she felt the existing park would be left out. She stated that upgrading should be done to the existing park before the expansion.

Councillor Deveaux stated that he sympathised and the concerns are legitimate, but stated that Mr. Keddy has given indication that he will try to improve the situation. He stated that the same situations are going on in subdivisions, not just mobile home parks. Mrs. Gage stated that the existing park should be cleaned up before expansion occurs.

Councillor Merrigan stated that unsightly properties could handle those situations. He stated that she should contact the building inspector to have those unsightly properties inspected.

#### Speakers in Opposition

Mr. Earl Keeping stated that concerning garbage and properties, it is not only the people who live in the park. He stated that Mr. Keddy has been dumping trailer loads of steel beams 500-1000 lbs. at the entrance of the park. He stated that he called the property manager and nothing was done. He stated that a little girl cut her face on the culvert and nothing was done. He stated that for years they tried to get a playground put in, but nothing was done. He stated that the road signs that are in place the residents have made themselves because the owner would not. He stated that with the new proposal, yes there would be a playground, but stated that he doubted that it would become reality. He stated that concerning garbage, it is not just the tenants. He stated that the owner has dumped old brush over the bank as well as cars and stated that the place is a mess. He added that there is no water pressure either.

He stated that concerns are brought to the owners attention and nothing is done.

Councillor Bates asked if he thought the main concerns were being dealt with in the agreement and asked if he saw the situation getting worse with this development. He stated that part of the agreement is that a playground has to be put in before new trailers can be put in. Mr. Keeping stated that the residents have not been able to get anywhere yet.

Councillor Ball stated that part of the agreement was that water pressure of 25 psi will be monitored. He stated that all of these conditions have to be met before new trailers move in. He stated that the agreement states that the municipality has the right to go in and fix a situation and put a lien on the property if the situation is not corrected. Mr. Keeping stated that he wanted the existing park fixed up before the new section was constructed.

Warden Lichter asked why he moved to Birchlee in 1983. Mr. Keeping stated that he was told that it was a nice place to live. He stated that Bill and Doug Olley owned the park prior to Mr. Keddy. He stated that there were problems, but whenever he called them, they came up to try to correct the problem. He stated that he moved out and a year later moved back in when the park came under the ownership of Mr. Keddy.

Warden Lichter stated that as a former member of the Board of Health he recalled a lot of headaches from the park. He stated that residents would be without water for days and the county arranged for water delivery. He stated that usually when one buys a trailer, the first available opening is the one that the home gets moved to. He stated that part of the problem may be that expectations were high when Mr. Keddy purchased the park and those expectations have not been met. The Warden stated that the only way to held the residents is through the development agreement.

Mr. Keeping stated that the manager of the park is Dale Keddy and whether or not he relays the messages to Donald Keddy is unknown.

# Speakers in Opposition

Mr. Gillis Lavolie stated that he lives across the road from the trailer court. He stated that when he moved there he had 3.5 acres and a swamp in behind his property. He stated that there was various wildlife that used the swamp as a habitat. He stated that there has been a change. He stated that now there is black slime at the bottom and all life has gone, birds moved away and he had to get a backhoe in to dig a ditch. He stated that he is concerned that this may contaminate his well. He stated that the sewage flows to Henry's Lake which is now polluted.

Mr. Lavolie stated that Mr. Keddy is looking for a permit when expansion has already begun. He stated that the erosion of the hill that is being cleared concerns him. He stated that it is like a mudslide during a rainstorm. He stated that his basement has been flooded. He stated that he has lived there for 35 years and notices that there are no green belt lines to protect the parks land. He stated that the owners are developing land and starting expansion before they even get the permit. He stated that the owner is a slum landlord by the look of the park.

Councillor Harvey inquired about Henry's Lake and asked where Ocean Run was going. He stated that council has been lead to believe that ocean run is an important factor in the drainage. Mr. Lavolie stated that the outfall is going to Henry's Lake by the storm ditch and when we have dry weather, there is only sewage in the ditch. He stated that 15,000 gallons/day was going through his property. He stated that soap suds are high through the ditch. He stated that for 15 years everyone has been passing the buck.

Councillor Merrigan stated that he has the same problems out in Beaverbank. He stated that all the improvements will be done before the 53 additional trailers are allowed to move in. He stated that the sewage treatment plant has not been working since 1988 and the Department of Health and Environment have approved a new plant. He stated that the only way for the county to solve the problem is to have the agreement signed, thereby giving the county the authority.

Councillor Morgan stated that the county presently has not jurisdiction, but if the development agreement is signed, which states that certain things have to be done, then we can ensure that the situation is improved. Mr. Lavolie stated that even with the new treatment plant, it will still spill out on his land. Mr. Lavolie suggested altering the route to pass outfall directly to Henry's Lake (1/4 mile) and bypass his property completely.

# Speakers in Opposition

Mr. Ted Noble stated that he had a few questions that he wanted answered. He questioned that only 15 students would be coming out of the expansion. Councillor Ball stated that this was the formula that the School Board uses - 0.3 children per home.

Mr. Noble asked if this agreement once signed can be revoked. Warden Lichter stated that it could not, but remedies can be taken.

Mr. Noble asked if all the conditions of the development have to be met before operating permits can be issued. The Warden responded yes.

Mr. Noble asked about the run-off from the hill. He asked what type of storm drainage system is required. Mr. Morgan stated that part will be piped and another part will be open canal. He stated that any conceptual designs have to be reviewed by engineering staff to ensure feasibility.

Mr. Noble stated that after a rainfall there is tremendous gallonage that runs off of the hill. He asked why they could not run the piping across the street through a main. Mr. Morgan stated that the grade of the land goes the other way. He stated that he was not familiar enough with the property to comment on the feasibility.

Councillor Poirier stated that Mr. Lavolie has been putting up with this problem for years and this run-off should be addressed.

Mr. Noble stated that the new treatment facility would help with the effluent and some of the problem, but does not correct the run off and sedimentation problem. He asked if the erosion/sedimentation control diagrams have been prepared according to Section 6 page 3 of the development agreement. Warden Lichter stated that once the agreement has been signed this will be done and they in turn will have to be approved by our Engineering Department and the Department of the Environment before construction permits are issued.

Mr. Noble asked about overseeing the project. Mr. Morgan stated that staff has building inspectors on staff and also the permit system is another method of monitoring the project.

#### Speakers in Opposition

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Robert Smith, 999 Old Sambro Road, stated that he has lived there for 30 years and has had various drainage problems as a result of the water from the trailer court. He stated that he would not be opposed if the assurance is given that this work will be done and supervised.

It was moved by Deputy Warden Baker, seconded by Councillor Merrigan:

"THAT this development agreement be approved."

Councillor Merrigan stated that one aspect of the proposal bothered him is the open ditch that carries the effluent and suggested referring this matter of the ditch to the Board of Health to see if a solution can be reached before the joint certificate is issued, such as piping the ditch. He stated that we have to make sure that storm drainage is directed away from the areas

experiencing basement flooding.

Mr. Cragg stated that there could be a motion of approval subject to a clause added where our storm water engineer would work out solutions considering the suggestions to the two speakers (piping directly to Henry's Lake and not through Mr. Lavolie's property, and the run-off from the hill piped across the street through Mr. Keddy's property). Mr. Cragg suggested that a motion to defer may be in order until the requested report is obtained for further consideration with that report or pass the agreement contingent upon the results of the report.

Councillor Ball stated that no one in the room can say where the effluent should be diverted.

Councillor Deveaux stated that he was not opposed to the application, but decision should be deferred pending a report from the Department of Health and the Department of the Environment and the Engineering Department and Storm Drainage Engineer to address the concerns and changes that can be made taking into consideration the suggestions made by speakers tonight.

Councillor Boutilier stated that this should be deferred pending a report from the storm drainage engineer. He stated that Council cannot speculate what to do or what to include into the development agreement.

Councillor Bates agreed, stating that there are major concerns that have to be addressed.

It was moved by Councillor Bates, seconded by Councillor Poirier:

"THAT this motion be deferred and a report be brought back in three weeks time."

Councillor Merrigan stated that staff has suggested that until the development agreement is signed, no detailed engineering is done. Warden Lichter stated that we do not ask the applicant to hire a consultant to do detailed studies before the agreement is signed. Warden Lichter stated that the storm drainage engineer can say whether one is a solution or not.

Councillor Ball stated that we are looking for a lot of reports, some concerning diverting of effluent. He stated that we do not have the expertise on staff to know the impact of any proposed solution. He stated that various government agencies would have to be involved.

Councillor McInroy requested clarification on if the proposed piping for storm water as well as sanitary sewage would be

addressed in the report.

MOTION TO DEFER DEFEATED 6 FOR 11 AGAINST

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

"THAT the original motion be amended to read:

THAT the engineering department carry out discussions or agreements with Mr. Donald Keddy and any other agency necessary to possibly satisfy and/or rectify storm water and sewage problems in the Birchlee Mobile Home Park as was brought to the attention of Council tonight."

Councillor Boutilier stated that the intention of this amendment is to make the signing of the agreement contingent upon our engineering department considering the feasibility of solutions and have the solution as part of the development agreement. He stated that if this involved the Board of Health or the Department of Health or the Department of the Environment then the engineering staff would do so.

Councillor Ball suggested instructing staff, along with government agencies to come up with a solution and if the two parties do not agree, then Council would act as the arbitrator in the issue.

Warden Lichter stated that this cannot be done. Mr. Cragg stated that an agreement is signed by two parties that agree and it cannot be arbitrated. Mr. Cragg stated that Council could approve subject to an agreement in this matter being reached.

Councillor Bates stated that it was ridiculous that Council does not want to wait to get a proper solution. He stated that Council needed expertise to answer these questions.

Councillor Richards stated that the amendment would not give the power back to Council to control the agreement. He stated that Council should make the final decision not in 2-3 minutes, but in 2-3 weeks with the proper information to make a strong decision to address the concerns of the people.

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

"THAT this matter be referred to the Board of Health as to whether or not the storm drainage and effluent from the sewage treatment plant can be diverted."

Councillor McInroy stated that without deferring this decision

until we get the proper information, council will end up missing something in the motion. He stated that this motion only speaks of diverting and not the suggestion of piping. He stated that staff should be asked to come back with a report after consulting with whatever agencies or departments necessary.

MOTION OF REFERRAL LOST 7 FOR 9 AGAINST

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

"THAT the motion as amended be deferred until staff comes back with a completed report from discussions from whatever departments or agencies necessary, to the MAy 28, 1990 Public Hearing."

Councillor Boutilier stated that User Fees were to be discussed at that public hearing and council may be in for a long night.

MOTION CARRIED

# Adjournment

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

"THAT these hearings adjourn." MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p. m.

#### SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION

8 MAY 1990

THOSE PRESENT:

Warden Lichter Councillor Meade Councillor Poirier Councillor Fralick Deputy Warden Baker Councillor Ball Councillor Deveaux Councillor Bates Councillor Adams Councillor Randall Councillor Bayers Councillor Smiley Councillor Reid Councillor Merrigan Councillor Morgan Councillor Eisenhauer Councillor MacDonald Councillor Boutilier Councillor Harvey Councillor Sutherland Councillor Richards Councillor McInroy

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

SECRETARY: Mrs. Twila Simms

Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 2:45 p. m. stating that he called the meeting reluctantly concerning legislation that would dissolve the Cole Harbour/Westphal Service Commission to allow for the introduction of a bill for the Cole Harbour Westphal Community Committee and that he had a call from Councillor Cooper from Newfoundland and will express Councillor Cooper's opinion on the matter later.

Councillor Bayers stated that he did not appreciate being called to a meeting when he did not know the topic to be discussed. He stated that people were calling him about this meeting and he did not know anything about it and had assumed that it was concerning the School Board Budget.

Deputy Warden Baker stated that he had received two calls today about the topic for this meeting. He stated that this would seem to be a function for the Executive Committee. He stated that in this case it appears that an agreement is being broken, and if that was the case, then he would not be a part of this meeting.

Councillor Ball stated that he received a number of calls on this matter and did not know what it was all about. He stated that he assumed that this was about the School Board. He stated that one

of the participants for the Cole Harbour/Westphal Community Committee is not in attendance and he stated that council should not deal with this until he returns. He stated that if this legislation is rammed through, the whole concept will begin on shaky ground. He stated that it would appear that there was some covert action without the knowledge of all participants.

Councillor Fralick stated that he did not see what the rush was to pass new legislation. He stated that Councillor Cooper is not present and this matter should be deferred until he is in attendance.

Councillor Deveaux stated that usually when an important item comes up and the local councillor is not involved, then the matter is deferred. He stated that he also received calls today about this matter. He stated that a vote was taken and we should abide by the vote, but he did not see the urgency to have this matter dealt with in the absence of one of the local councillors.

Councillor McInroy stated that he spoke directly with the local MLA, the Honourable David Nantes, who expressed an interest in support of the plebiscite and withdrawing the Service Commission Legislation. He stated that the Service Commission and the Community Committee cannot co-exist. He stated that the vote supported the concept that this was the process. He stated that the local MLA has stated that last Friday was the deadline for items for this sitting of the house, but he would do his best to get this matter dealt with in this sitting. Councillor McInroy stated that if the Service Commission legislation is not withdrawn at this sitting and Community Committee legislation put into place, then the Service Commission would remain in power until next year.

Councillor McInroy stated that Councillor Coopers absence is an unfortunate situation, but next Council Session will be too late to have this new legislation introduced. He also apologised that the topic of discussion was not 'advertised'.

Councillor McInroy stated that the Service Commission consists of the four area councillors and 12 residents. He stated that 9 members of the 16 are supportive of the Community Committee. He stated that it is the 7 opposed that have launched the campaign against the community committee. He stated that they will refuse to accept this Community Committee as being in place until the legislation is changed. He stated that this Community Committee has strong support from the local MLA and he could take this legislation through the house at this sitting. Councillor McInroy stated that there is a negative feeling on the part of a small number, but the community voted and wants this move made. He stated that the new Community Committee will be crippled without the change in legislation now.

Deputy Warden Baker stated that this is not the issue, but rather, holding a meeting in the absence of the fourth party.

Councillor Richards stated Councillor Richards had asked that the issue of the budget for the Westphal/Cole Harbour Service Commission not be debated in council until his return. Councillor Richards stated that he agreed with Councillor Cooper on this matter. He stated that the repeal of the Service Commission Act and new legislation has to be in the hands of the government as soon as possible, meaning this week. Councillor Richards stated that he has spoken with Councillor Cooper on the two issues: (1) the repeal of the Service Commission Act and (2) the By-law to set up the new committee. He stated that Councillor Cooper agreed with number 2 but expressed concern that there should be some time involved. Councillor Richards stated that he had responded that if the time is allowed, then it would give the opposing members the necessary platform to attempt to destroy what the municipality and council is trying to do.

Councillor Richards stated that he promised Councillor Cooper that he would convey his opinion, although personally, he would be asking for council's support. He stated that he would not do this behind Councillor Cooper's back. He stated that if council ignores what the Community Committee is asking for then the service commission will operate until the Act is repealed, which would not be until next spring. He stated that if the area councillors are going to act as a committee under the mandate the public gave to them, the two cannot coincide. He stated that he is neither trying to ram something through nor do something behind someone's back. He stated that he fully informed Councillor Cooper and agreed that the service commission budget would not be debated until his return and also that he would make known Councillor Cooper's opinion on the matter.

Councillor Richards apologized to Councillors for not advising them of the topic of the meeting.

Warden Lichter stated that he had spoken to Councillor Cooper this morning and Councillor Cooper stated that he spoken to Councillor Richards. Warden Lichter stated that Councillor Cooper has asked that his objection be registered and that he does not feel comfortable with passing new legislation immediately. Councillor Cooper had expressed to the Warden that he feels it would harm the community and that there should be some healing taking place.

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

"THAT this matter be deferred until Councillor Cooper is in attendance."

MOTION LOST 8 FOR 15 AGAINST

It was moved by Councillor Richards, seconded by Councillor Bates:

"THAT because the residents of the Cole Harbour/Westphal area voted in favour of having a community committee, that Council endorse the request to have the local MLA Honourable David Nantes introduce a Private Members Bill establishing the Service Commission to take effect on or before the end of May 1990."
MOTION CARRIED 15 FOR

7 AGAINST

# Adjournment

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

"THAT this meeting adjourn." MOTION CARRIED

### JOINT COUNCIL SESSION, TOWN OF BEDFORD AND HALIFAX COUNTY

# 8 MAY 1990

THOSE PRESENT:

Warden Lichter Councillor Meade Councillor Poirier Councillor Fralick Deputy Warden Baker Councillor Ball Councillor Deveaux Councillor Bates Councillor Adams Councillor Randall Councillor Bayers Councillor Smiley Councillor Reid Councillor Merrigan Councillor Morgan Councillor Eisenhauer Councillor MacDonald Councillor Boutilier Councillor Harvey Councillor Sutherland Councillor Richards Councillor McInroy

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer

Mayor Christie

Bedford Councillors:

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Twila Simms

Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 3:15 p. m. He stated that there were two things that could be agreed upon to resolve the direction the meeting was to take: (1) that the School Board request for supplementary funding be treated separately from the request for extra funding. Councillors agreed. (2) That 80% of Councillors present must be in favour for motions to pass as is required in the agreement for additional funding over the mandatory. Councillors agreed.

Mayor Christie stated that he and the Bedford Councillors were please to be at the meeting and hoped that they could achieve their goals. He stated that both councils have had an opportunity to meet with the school board and hoped that councils could bring this to an early resolve.

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

"THAT Halifax County and Bedford Councils support the full supplementary in the amount of \$1,229,213."

Councillor Boutilier and Councillor Harvey declared conflict of

interests.

# MOTION CARRIED 23 FOR 2 AGAINST

Warden Lichter congratulated the two councils for agreeing so quickly to the supplementary funding, something that has never happened before.

It was moved by Councillor Draper, seconded by Councillor Goucher:

"THAT the combined councils support the request of the School Board for a further \$1 Million to be cost shared 75% provincial funds and 25% between the two municipalities according to our agreement."

Councillor Draper stated that this would mean \$250,000 between the two municipalities.

Councillor Ball asked, in the package announced by the minister, how much money, if any, will come to our local school board. Councillor Goucher stated that it would be \$372,000.

Councillor Deveaux asked Dr. Morrison to answer the question. Dr. Morrison stated that \$372,000 represents what we would receive in capital funds for 1990 for the first three months. He stated that the restriction in terms of capital is directly to the Board to justify upwards of \$372,000 in capital expenditures.

Councillor Ball stated that if that is the case then the media misquoted the minister. He stated that the media article states that this could be used for anything including teachers salaries and that it was up to the School Board. Councillor Ball stated that the municipality is looking at tax rates and the province has put us in this bind. Councillor Ball stated that if this was towards programs rather than capital, then we may be able to do so, but he stated that he could not support the motion on the floor.

Dr. Morrison stated that he was speaking to the Minister only a few hours ago and he had stated that the extra money would be for capital funding.

Warden Lichter stated that the motion did not specify what happens if the province does not share 75%. He stated that it should be clear that this \$250,000 from the two municipalities is subject to the \$750,000 from the province. He stated that if the province decides not to pay the \$750,000, then councils would not be obliged to pay the \$250,000 and stated that they would have to convey this to the public.

Councillor Draper clarified the motion, with the support of Councillor Goucher:

"THAT the joint councils agree to the \$1 Million extra funding request from the School Board provided the province provides 75%."

Councillor Bates stated that he was against the motion. He stated that it is dangerous to set a precedent. He stated that the province made the decision on education and they are the ones primarily in control. He stated that this flies in the face of the motions already passed to support the UNSM where we are now paying special welfare beyond the level reasonable for property tax owners. He stated that now we would be doing the same with education. He stated that the municipalities should not assume the province's responsibility. He stated that he did not support the method of raising funds through property tax owners rather than income tax.

Councillor Deveaux stated that he agrees with Councillor Bates. He stated that there comes a time when one has to bite the bullet. He stated that the cost sharing has been increasing for the municipalities. He stated that he could not understand why the province cut back on education this year. He stated that education should have been one of the last things to be cut back, but he could not support any more than was asked for in supplementary although he would like to. He stated that education is very important, but to pass this motion would carry on a trend that will hurt us next year. He stated that if the province gave education a fair share, then we would not be in this situation to begin with.

Councillor Merrigan stated that he would support the motion. He stated that is not right to put children in a position where their education will be cut back and the county has to do something. He stated that from the input at public meetings, a lot of people are upset. He stated that we should put the province on the spot. He stated that for the sake of a 1% increase in taxes, one would not find too many people who would complain knowing that it was going to education. He added that if the province does not put in 75% then we would not have to pay.

Councillor Reid stated that at this point, the rationale in requesting \$1 Million is as follows. At budget decisions last year, the councils cut back the school board supplementary by \$450,000. As a result the contribution from the province is \$2 Million less. He stated that this year the school board is forced to make \$5.7 Million in cuts from a \$130 Million budget. He stated that the school board is asking that half of what we cut last year be reintroduced. He stated that if a situation arises this year we will not be in the position to pay for it. He stated that

programs introduced in 1968 will be cut. He stated that we must contribute to make sure that programs are not removed this year.

Councillor Walker stated that we would be fooling ourselves to think that property tax owners are not prepared to support this. He stated that funds are less from the federal government to the provincial and from provincial to municipal. He stated that parents are committed to maintain the programs that are presently in place. He stated that it would be a travesty to remove adequate facilities needed by the children. He stated that although it would mean less than 1% to Bedford, he would be supporting the motion because the citizens are behind this.

Warden Lichter stated that he felt somewhat put out when the Bedford is urging the County to be as generous when Bedford's portion is only \$18,000. He stated that maybe it was time that next year the contract be renegotiated and all supplementary and any excess funding be based on the ability to pay, that is assessment. He stated that this would mean a 4/10 of a percent increase to Bedford property owners. He stated that if the arrangement was not on a per student cost but on assessment, Bedford would find that their cost would be double and then one could see if the enthusiasm was the same.

Councillor Walker stated that Bedford has been affected significantly by assessment based sharing with this municipality relative to Metropolitan Authority. He stated that the agreement was negotiable and it has been tried in the past without success. He stated that the people are willing to support this resolution whatever way we pay for it.

Councillor MacDonald stated that he did not want to increase taxes, but over the last 3-4 weeks the message has been loud and clear, that the residents want him to support this increase. He stated that he would agree to support this for one year and hope they will not need it next year.

Councillor Morgan stated that he would not support the motion. He stated that the concern is the statement that people are willing to accept tax increases. He stated that it is not just 1%. He stated that each department indicated that they had to cut out percentages across the board to achieve a 5% tax increase, including school board, library, etc. He stated that this budget will be over 10% if this motion passes. He stated that the same people that want the funding for education are the same people who do not want taxes to be increased. He stated that this would mean everyone else cutting their budget and the School Board receiving a 10-12% increase. He stated that it was not fair that all other departments - recreation, libraries, etc. - face cuts and not the school board.

Councillor Ball reminded members that a lot of people do not want 10-15% tax increases this year. He stated that with the full supplementary we are in a corner and if this is passed we will be in another corner. He stated that he could not support the motion on the floor. He stated that some councillors have been talking about a 5% tax budget and with this motion we have already approved an 8% budget plus whatever departmental increases that may be required, we could be looking at a 15-20% increase. He stated that it sounds good to support them, and he believes in education, but there are other avenues to deal with the cuts. He stated that we should not bail out the province for their mistakes.

Councillor Cosgrove stated that education of our children is not taking a backwards step.

Councillor Bates stated that Councillors fought hard to try to get supplementary 25 cent dollars approved and he supported it 100%. He stated that the province is responsible for education. He stated that what we are doing is saying that we do not go along with the province and will pick up the remaining shortfall and charge it to the property tax owners. He stated that this should be done through income tax, which is a fairer way of doing it. He stated that he did not agree with the cuts to education, but the municipality should not pick this up.

Councillor Eisenhauer stated that he would support the dollars, but did not feel comfortable with the situation. He stated that the Board should go through the budget. He stated that the school board mandate is to provide education to the children not an administrative support for the teachers.

Councillor Drapers stated that the school board can take a harder look at where the money can be allocated. She stated that this would be appropriate in the form of a recommendation. She stated that although Bedford's portion is smaller, this still means a 19% increase. She stated that education is the best investment. She stated that the message has been clear, the parents want this no matter what the cost. She stated that other municipalities with declining enrolments have approved increased funding and we are expected to have an additional 200 students next year. She stated that the money will be well spent.

Councillor Reid stated that three weeks ago when the original cuts were made, at least 200 letters distributed to the school board members. He stated that this would be putting pressure on the provincial government stating that we are willing to support education as high as we can go with the best interest of the taxpayers and students in mind and now it is their turn.

Warden Lichter stated that from reading the Doane Raymond report it will be an indication that we support the idea of full supplementary as the responsibility of the municipality whether we can afford it or not. He stated that we would most likely be here next year and asked to fork our more money because of what the province may do. He stated that one cannot live on borrowed money forever.

Councillor Reid stated that from that report it appears that Halifax County/Bedford would receive a fair amount more than at present. He stated that he has not had an opportunity to compare the affect on the tax rates.

Councillor Richards stated that he was concerned with the motion. He stated that he was concerned with the message that we would be sending out. He stated that he understood that the motion was conditional, but if the province refuses, the school board will be back asking that the joint councils still provide the funding, similar to the library case yesterday. He stated that we cannot jeopardize the students future, but neither can we continue to bail out the province for its mismanagement.

Dr. Morrison stated that the Minister said that he is aware of our situation and understands and will keep this in mind.

Councillor Bates stated that the province has made their bed, now they have to lie in it.

MOTION DEFEATED 17 FOR 8 AGAINST (NOT 80% APPROVAL)

#### Adjournment

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

"THAT this meeting adjourn." MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p. m.

#### SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION

# 14 MAY 1990

THOSE PRESENT:

Warden Lichter Councillor Meade Councillor Poirier Deputy Warden Baker Councillor Ball Councillor Deveaux Councillor Bates Councillor Adams Councillor Randall Councillor Bayers Councillor Smiley Councillor Reid Councillor Horne Councillor Morgan Councillor Eisenhauer Councillor MacDonald Councillor Boutilier Councillor Harvey Councillor Sutherland Councillor Richards

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Twila Simms

Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 3:30 p. m.

It was moved by Councillor Sutherland, seconded by Councillor Horne:

"THAT Twila Simms be appointed as Recording Secretary." MOTION CARRIED

Warden Lichter asked that Council read over the report concerning Bedford's request for reconsideration regarding the excess funding requested.

Councillor Richards clarified that Bedford was not prepared to renegotiate the funding formula that was as per our request.

Councillor Eisenhauer asked if there has been any communication from the school board about the province cost sharing and if the school board has indicated that they would be prepared to reinstate teachers in the event that funding is cost shared.

Councillor Reid stated that a school board meeting was held to discuss ways to do this. He stated that the \$372,000 must be expended for capital projects. The school board at that time had \$200,000 in capital because of expenditures already incurred and the province dropped funding to nil. He stated that at 4:30 today the school board would be meeting with the MLAs and the Minister

of Education to try to get summer school and driver ed removed and request that they have the ability to use the funds in a global manner. This would take \$224,000 from those two areas and add to the \$200,000 that is already in capital for \$450,000 which would be a movement of funds. He stated that this would give them the ability to spend this amount in another manner. He stated that this would allow them to use it to hire back 20 additional teachers, 6 in General Music, 6 in Phys Ed, 4 Elementary Librarians and 4 Regular class room teachers. He stated that hopefully he would approve the funds in a global manner. He stated that at a meeting tomorrow, the school board would be requesting \$125,000 interpreted into \$500,000 in the supplementary formula. The school board would request a further meeting along with Bedford for \$125,000 from the two municipal units, the County portion being approximately \$115-118,000.

Warden Lichter clarified that the school board has not requested it. It is Bedford requesting the meeting to re-examine the situation. He stated that none of those other things were brought to our attention. He stated that it would have been better if the school board had faxed this information over.

Warden Lichter stated that Mayor Christie called him based on the meeting last Tuesday. Councillor Reid stated that the request from Bedford would be \$194,000 to be used globally if the Minister agrees, and if not, the request for excess funding would remain at \$250,000 and then there would be no sense in having a meeting. Councillor Reid clarified that the request to use the funds globally would be not just for Halifax County, but in other areas of the province.

Councillor Deveaux stated that the figure has been cut in half from the last meeting with Bedford and stated that he would be willing to reconsider the vote cast last week with regard to excess funding.

Warden Lichter stated that last Tuesday when this was discussed at the Joint Council Session, he had indicated to the Bedford Councillors that it would be more fair to have the formula changed to assessment based, rather than per student. He stated that it may be too late for this year as Bedford has already set their tax rate. He stated that the fact that Bedford has set their tax rate is the biggest political ploy he has seen in a long time.

Warden Lichter drew Council's attention to Table 4 of the report and stated that if they did share the supplementary as well as the excess, it would mean 3.85 cents for Halifax County and 3.87 cents for the Town of Bedford based on \$100 assessment.

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

"THAT we have a combined council session at 3:00 p.m. tomorrow conditional only on \$125,000 of funding and the fact that the School Board is able to convince the provincial government to take Driver Ed and Summer School out of the present funding formula and use it on a global basis and also that there be some indication that the province will cost share 75%."

Councillor Bates stated that if they wanted to change to assessment, it would represent a major change and he would go along with this. He stated that the two municipalities have already provided the mandatory and full supplementary and the province has let the system down.

Warden Lichter stated that according to Mr. Wilson, Director of Finance, May 15th is the last date to set the tax rate.

Councillor MacDonald stated that he agreed with the meeting tomorrow.

After some discussion on the ability of certain councillor's to vote:

Councillor Boutilier expressed his support for further negotiations with the two municipalities and then declared a conflict of interest.

Councillor Harvey stated that anyone with children or grandchildren in the system, or with relatives employed by the school board would have a conflict of interest and announced his intention to vote.

After some further discussion:

MOTION DEFEATED 9 FOR

9 AGAINST

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

"THAT the Municipality approach the Town of Bedford and the Province to renegotiate the District Board agreement."

MOTION CARRIED

# Adjournment

It was moved by Councillor Boutilier, seconded by Councillor Sutherland:

"THAT this meeting adjourn."

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p. m.

### JOINT COUNCIL SESSION

15 MAY 1990

THOSE PRESENT:

Warden Lichter Councillor Meade Councillor Poirier Councillor Fralick Deputy Warden Baker Councillor Ball Councillor Bates Councillor Adams Councillor Bayers Councillor Smiley Councillor Reid Councillor Horne Councillor Morgan Councillor Eisenhauer Councillor MacDonald Councillor Boutilier Councillor Harvey Councillor Sutherland Councillor Richards Councillor McInroy

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer

Mayor Christie, Town of Bedford

Dr. Morrison, School Board Ms. B. Rix, School Board

Mr. K. Wilson, Director Finance

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Twila Simms

Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 3:00 p. m.

Warden Lichter stated that yesterday at 3:30 p.m. Council considered a request by Bedford to have another joint meeting and the motion was defeated 9/9. He stated that he received a request from 9 councillors that read:

"We respectfully request a Special Joint Meeting of Halifax County and Bedford Councils be arranged immediately to consider provision of supplementary funding in the amount of \$500,000, one hundred twenty-five thousand (\$125,000) from the participating Municipal Units, and the remainder to be granted by the Province prior to Halifax County setting its tax rate."

Warden Lichter read the letter received from the Honourable Ronald Giffin, Minister of Education:

"Further to the meeting of the M.L.A.s with the Halifax County/Bedford District School Board, this is to confirm that the balance of the 1989 provincial supplementary funding for the Board will be given to the Board if the Town of Bedford and the

Municipality of the County of Halifax vote the required Municipal share."

Warden Lichter stated that he spoke to Mayor Christie to attempt to address the manner in which supplementary and excess funding is handled in the district agreement. It was indicated that the motion yesterday was to enter into negotiations for the future. He stated that he would have liked to have had a higher level of commitment than what is here. Warden Lichter relinquished the chair and asked Mayor Christie to run the rest of the meeting. He stated that Chapter 88, Section 2 of the Municipal Act forces the calling of special meeting when requested by not less than 1/3 of the Council.

Mayor Christie stated that he did have several discussions with Warden Lichter and the request at whether or not to amend the formula from student population to assessment. He stated that as late as 12:30 p.m., Bedford Council's position was that they would not, but they did leave \$18,000 in the budget for excess supplementary.

Councillor Reid stated that he appreciated the chance to speak to this. He stated that last week we had a request for \$1 Million from the School Board. He stated that he had supported that request, but with changes in the provincial formula and other changes at the school board level. He stated that the \$500,000 with the \$1 Million request last week would nearly restore what was to be lost. Dr. Morrison confirmed that there would be a letter this afternoon stating that the funds can be used as global funding.

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

"THAT Halifax County/Bedford provide \$125,000 to the District School Board interpreting into \$500,000 by the provincial share."

Warden Lichter stated that he wanted everyone to understand that he had quite a number of concerns about the school board funding, not only this year, but also in the past 11 years. He stated that this year his two main concerns were: (1) the impact on the property tax payer that would have come about if we had approved \$250,000 and if the province had been unable to come up with the \$750,000; and, (2) the School Board agreement. However, in view of the fact that the Town of Bedford has indicated that they are prepared to negotiate with Halifax County in good faith a fair and equitable way of providing funds for education above the mandatory he would support the motion. He also stated that he regrets that Bedford Council got hung up on semantics. He stated that he hoped that the motion would be approved.

Councillor Draper stated that one point she would like to make is that it was still her understanding that the request from the school board is for \$1 Million. She stated that the \$500,000 would allow programs to stay in place as much as possible.

Mayor Christie stated that the motion clearly is for \$500,000. Dr. Morrison stated that the school board request has not changed because there has not been a meeting of the board to consider any other motion. Dr. Morrison stated that a letter will be coming from the minister indicating that there will be changes to the existing formula to driver ed and summer school to globalize these figures. He stated that one could not have a \$5.7 Million reduction and put everything back in. He stated that there would be considerable changes, but the board's emphasis has always been on the teacher part of it and will be recommending to the Board that 22 teachers be reinstated, although this is still 12 less than last year.

Councillor Boutilier declared a conflict of interest.

Councillor Harvey stated that he is a teacher normally employed by the Board and stated that the motion could not make him personally richer or poorer and stated that he intended to exercise his right to vote on this motion.

Councillor MacDonald urged Council to support this motion. He stated that this would give members a calm summer without worrying about cuts or about schools being closed. He stated that this is an important part of the school system and the request was not too heavy on our budget.

Councillor Kelly asked Dr. Morrison about a newspaper article that indicated that principals and guidance councillors would be put into teaching positions. Dr. Morrison stated that this would not be a recommendation to the board. He stated that these cases would neither increase nor decrease.

Councillor Gaucher thanked County Council for giving them the opportunity and as a parent and councillor he was pleased with warden Lichter's comments. He stated that taxpayers in Bedford and the County demand high standards and Councils are ultimately responsible to them. He stated that he was pleased to support this motion.

Councillor Richards stated that Bedford has approved their budget and \$18,000 has been included. He stated that he had some difficulty in the position Bedford was placing County Council in. He stated that he will be supporting the motion, but stated that he was disappointed that Bedford Council is not coming forward with

a fair and equitable amount of money. He stated that their budget is already set with the \$18,000 in funding allocated. He stated that it would show a major step forward if they would contribute the full \$18,000 which would have been their share for \$250,000 in excess funding.

Mayor Christie stated that this could be considered. He stated that on the student population basis, Bedford pays \$1134 per student, while the County pays only \$523 per student.

Councillor Richards stated that he was hoping that in the future Councils will be sitting down to renegotiate the formula. He asked that Bedford commit the \$18,000 that is already in their budget as part of the total \$125,000 that the Joint Councils will be contributing to show that this is a serious attempt to fix the inequality in funding and as a sign of positive things to come.

Mayor Christie stated that he did not have the authority to do that, and it would require a Special Council Session to do that. He stated that the motion is to approve \$125,000 based on the existing formula.

Warden Lichter stated that in their discussions it was indicated that he would like to have the excess cost, this time only, to be paid on assessment and then renegotiate the rest. He stated that Mayor Christie had indicated that they had budgeted \$18,000 and were prepared to pay \$18,000. He stated that it was true that Bedford pays twice as much per student, but he had also calculated the impact to the taxpayer that clearly indicates that if we were looking at \$250,000 the impact would be .7 cents per \$100 of assessment for Halifax County and .3 cents per \$100 of assessment for Bedford. He stated that this is the difficulty that some councillors are having.

Councillor Bates stated that the funding we are dealing with is the supplementary funding from 1989 that we did not use. He stated that he had not been comfortable with a new level of funding. He stated that he could support the request and that it was encouraging to read in the papers that supplementary funding may be cut out altogether.

Councillor Morgan stated that since Bedford incorporated our taxes are some 38-40 cents higher, although it is virtually an extension of one community to the other. He stated that an assessment based formula may work out to be in Bedford's favour.

Mayor Christie stated that they were willing to discuss the formula at a future time. He stated that it could be that it could work in their favour.

Councillor Draper stated that Bedford Council will consider forming a joint committee to look at the agreement in the future, but the funds that would be approved today are funds that would have been coming to the Board and our children based on supplementary funding from last year. She stated that they will discuss this joint agreement in the future and pay what is appropriate.

Councillor Huntington stated that in the newspaper the student-teacher ratio is 17-3 yet classes have 30-40 students. He stated that in a time of restraint, it is time to look at the ratio between management and teachers.

Councillor Walker asked if funding allocated to global for driver ed and summer school meant that these would not be available in September. Mayor Christie answered yes. Councillor Reid stated that it was not indicated that they would do away with driver ed, but the cost would increase from \$75 to \$125. He stated that the summer school would not be offered, but a supplementary exam in the fall would be available.

Councillor Walker asked if the School Board has approached the teachers union and asked if some would donate their time to summer school as a possibility. Dr. Morrison stated that this could be a recommendation of council to the NSTU.

Deputy Warden Baker asked if any of the funding would be used for janitorial services or repairs, etc. Dr. Morrison stated that the recommendation to the board would be that \$300,000 to teachers, \$300,000 maintenance and \$100,000 for capital projects.

Councillor McInroy stated that there are many groups willing to put their reputation on the line, ie. boy scouts and girl guides, in order to have a key to use the schools in the evenings.

MOTION CARRIED 21 FOR 2 AGAINST.

Councillor Reid stated that as a member of the School Board he would like to thank the combined councils and the province for the commitments within the last couple of days.

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

"THAT the School Board ask the NSTU that they work cooperatively in restructuring a summer school program for those students require same."

MOTION CARRIED

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

"THAT the School Board give consideration for the evening use of schools as much as possible."
MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Draper stated that Bedford has a Council Session tonight and it was her intention to bring forward a motion that Bedford contribute the amount allocated in their budget for the School Board.

It was moved by Councillor Reid, seconded by Deputy Warden Baker:

"THAT we agree to sit down in the immediate future and reopen and discuss the District Agreement as it concerns supplementary funds in a committee of the two councils with two representatives from Bedford and four representatives from Halifax County and the appropriate staff."

MOTION CARRIED

# Adjournment

It was moved by Deputy Warden Baker, seconded by Councillor Reid:

"THAT this meeting adjourn." MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p. m.

#### SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION

#### 15 MAY 1990

THOSE PRESENT:

Warden Lichter Councillor Meade Councillor Poirier Councillor Fralick Deputy Warden Baker Councillor Ball Councillor Deveaux Councillor Bates Councillor Adams Councillor Randall Councillor Bayers Councillor Smiley Councillor Reid Councillor Horne Councillor Morgan Councillor Eisenhauer Councillor MacDonald Councillor Boutilier Councillor Harvey Councillor Sutherland Councillor Richards Councillor McInroy

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. K. Wilson, Director Finance

Mr. G. Smith, Financial Comptroller

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Twila Simms

Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p. m.

It was moved by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Harvey:

"IN view of the motion passed this afternoon we not waste any time in considering the 5% budget, but get on with the recommendations in the May 15th Memorandum from Mr. Meech."

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Ball stated that in reviewing this package, he had some difficulty that in reducing expenditures by \$120,000, 63 percent came out of recreation. He stated that this should have been done fairly across the board with each department. He stated that recreation is important in Halifax County. He stated that this cut will have a definite impact on the residents. He stated that recreational programs keep kids off the streets.

Councillor Boutilier stated that he would like to echo Councillor Ball's comments. He stated that the easiest expenditure to justify is one in recreation. He stated that to take the suggested amount of \$75,000 from the recreational budget could be done more equitably. He stated that the amount should be spread throughout the departments.

Mr. Wilson stated that they had examined the net expenditures and not all have been the same. He stated some are up 10%, some 30%, some 100%. He stated that they were starting at a different spot with each department. He stated that Municipal Clerk's was up 8.5%, Information Services up 41%, Development up 29%, and it was the higher places that they started from.

Councillor Morgan stated that he wanted to hear from Mr. Markesino if all the items on the list were mandatory or if the rest will go on the list for next year. He stated that if that was the case, then it was not as devastating as things that must be done.

Mr. Markesino stated that he was originally asked to make \$182,000 in cuts. He stated that this was done and the impact was severe on services. He stated that they came up with 21 areas where cuts could be made. He stated that each would have an impact on the department in one way or another. He stated that there is one property labourer, parks and grounds, originally he had another 3 budgeted. A full-time stenographer was reduced to part-time. Advertising for more identity was reduced by \$7,000 for brochures. Travel and conference was reduced. Membership was left at the 1989 level. A display unit was taken out and some summer programs were eliminated.

Mr. Markesino stated that \$75,000 out of the budget will still affect every district and reviewed the impact.

Mr. Meech stated that the information before council was prepared before the Joint Council Session this afternoon and does not include the \$115,000 extra funding for the school board. He stated that staff is recommending that residential be set at 73 cents and commercial at \$1.95. He added that as a result of the GST they will have to hire an additional staff person to administer this in the finance department. Mr. Meech stated that things would be tight in a couple of areas, but a few extra dollars allocated for other services could be allocated to the recreation department.

Councillor Morgan suggested that half of recreation be put back into the budget.

Mr. Meech added that the amount in the budget for libraries was \$915,000 which incorporates the additional \$115,000.

Councillor Reid stated that he supports recreation and all departments, but council was looking at a different situation with the school board and the library board. He stated that recreation made a \$350,000 increase in a \$1.5 Million budget. He stated that in a year like this we should be holding the line, not increasing services.

Councillor Deveaux stated that he supports recreation and he is amazed how they function with the budget that they do receive. He stated that he agreed with Councillor Reid and council has to set priorities. He stated that he would not have objections to giving recreation a little more. He asked Mr. Markesino what figure he would be happy with. He stated that even \$40-45,000 would be a start.

Councillor Ball expressed concerns that this was a reassessment year and although the rate per \$100 of assessment would be the same as last year, in his area this would mean a 14% increase over last year.

It was moved by Councillor Bates, seconded by Councillor Morgan:

"THAT Recreation be cut to \$45,000 rather than \$75,000, using the \$30,000 from additional funds raised by the increase of 1/2 cent, and that Council accept the rest of the recommendations in the report."

Councillor Adams stated that he supported recreation. He clarified that the budget was for additional support not necessarily new programs.

MOTION CARRIED

#### Adjournment

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

"THAT this meeting adjourn." MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p. m.

# PUBLIC HEARING

28 MAY 1990

THOSE PRESENT:

Warden Lichter Councillor Meade Councillor Poirier Councillor Fralick Deputy Warden Baker Councillor Ball Councillor Deveaux Councillor Bates Councillor Randall Councillor Bayers Councillor Smiley Councillor Reid Councillor Horne Councillor Morgan Councillor Eisenhauer Councillor Boutilier Councillor Harvey Councillor Sutherland Councillor Richards Councillor McInroy Councillor Cooper

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. R. Cragg, Municipal Solicitor Mr. G. J. Kelly, Municipal Clerk

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Twila Simms

Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m. with the Lord's Prayer. Mr. Kelly called the Roll.

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

"THAT Twila Simms be appointed as Recording Secretary." MOTION CARRIED

Councillor McInroy stated that there would be an Urban Services Committee meeting Thursday at 3:30 p.m. to discuss the Woodbine Hook-up to the Mill Cove Sewage Treatment Plant.

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

"THAT Warden Lichter represent the Municipality on the FCM Board of Directors." MOTION CARRIED

APPLICATION NO. DA-PD5-02-89-05 - APPLICATION BY DONALD KEDDY TO EXPAND THE BIRCHLEE MOBILE HOME PARK IN HARRIETFIELD

Mr. Paul Morgan presented the report stating that at the request of Council staff contacted the appropriate authorities - The Department of Health and Fitness, The Department of the Environment and Engineering and Works Staff. Two alternative options presented at the public hearing were considered: (1) diverting storm and sanitary effluent from the existing outlet location at a ditch beside the Old Sambro Road to lands on the opposite side of the Highway owned by Mr. Keddy; and, (2) maintaining the same route along the ditch, but piping treated sanitary sewage effluent to a point downstream of existing residential properties before reentering the natural watercourse.

Mr. Morgan showed an overhead of the site in question. He stated that diverting effluent to the opposite side of the Highway may be less environmentally preferable to the existing situation. Lands owned by Mr. Keddy on the east side of the Old Sambro Road are adjacent to Henry Lake and within its watershed. Diversion of flows from the park onto the lands would be across watersheds, a practice normally discouraged.

Mr. Morgan stated that the drainage ditch where effluent is presently discharged, does not enter Henry Lake, but flows to its north in an easterly direction. The ditch flows into Fish Brook which flows into Governors Lake and then into Ocean Run, which empties into the Atlantic Ocean. He stated that before entering these river systems, the ditch passes through swampy, low lying areas which are capable of providing additional treatment to any residual pollution which is not removed at the treatment plant. He stated that this natural treatment would not be available on lands around Henry Lake. He stated that any residual pollution introduced could alter the lake biology.

Mr. Morgan stated that the Departments of the Environment and Health and Fitness have advised that, if properly constructed and maintained, the improved treatment plant should provide a quality of effluent which would not pose a health risk or nuisance to downstream property owners. Piping sewage effluent further downstream would reduce the risk in the event that the treatment plant is malfunctioning. The departments have issued a joint certificate of approval and do not feel that the terms can be altered.

Questions from Council

Councillor McInroy stated that he was having some problem understanding that on one hand we are being advised to retain the