

Lib. Ref. Dept.

DARTMOUTH CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

* TUES., MAR 05/91 *
* 7:30 PM *
* COUNCIL CHAMBER *
* IN CAMERA SESSION *
* 10:00 P.M. *

1. PRESENTATION - Dartmouth Tenancy Association - Ruth Higgins
2. MOTION
 - 2.1 Ald. Pye
 - 2.1.1 Opposition to Goods & Services Tax
3. REPORT
 - 3.1 CITY ADMINISTRATOR
 - 3.1.1 Street Closures, Carver St & Settle St
(Set date for public hearing)
4. 1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS.
- PLEASE BRING YOUR COPY OF THE BUDGET WITH YOU AS THERE WILL
BE NO EXTRA COPIES PROVIDED -

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR SAVAGE
ALDERMEN SARTO, THOMPSON
BILLARD, MACFARLANE
CONNORS, LEVANDIER
MCCLUSKEY, RODGERS
PYE, WOODS, HAWLEY
GREENOUGH, WALTON
HETHERINGTON

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: J. BURKE
CITY SOLICITOR: S. HOOD
CITY CLERK-TREASURER: B. SMITH
DEPARTMENT HEADS & ASSISTANTS

INVOCATION

Mayor Savage opened the meeting with the Invocation.

1.0 PRESENTATION - DARTMOUTH TENANCY ASSOCIATION

A presentation followed to Ms. Ruth Higgins, President of the Dartmouth Public Housing Tenants Association, chosen as one of the six outstanding tenancy groups from across Canada. The Mayor commented on the honour this group has received, noting that they have only been active since 1986. He also singled out the contribution of Jim Vidito, in his work with the group; Mr. Vidito is now Manager of the Dartmouth/Hfx. County Housing Authority.

A scroll was presented to Ms. Higgins by Mayor Savage, and she responded with thanks to the Mayor and Council, also acknowledging members of her executive, and other agency representatives present, who have assisted the Association. Mr. Vidito then presented an honorary plaque to Ms. Higgins, as a further commendation of the Dartmouth Tenants Association.

2.0 MOTION

2.1 ALD. PYE

2.1.1 OPPOSITION TO GOODS & SERVICES TAX

MOTION: ALD. PYE

MOTION: WHEREAS the Goods & Services Tax is a tax opposed by at least 80% of Canadians;
AND WHEREAS this tax will impact financially upon the municipality;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Dartmouth refuse to accept or charge the G.S.T.;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipality of Dartmouth seek support for such a position from the U.N.S.M. and the F.C.M.

Moved: Ald. Pye
Second: Ald. Walton

In spite of the case made by Ald. Pye for his motion and his points about the adverse impact of the G.S.T. on the delivery of City services, it was pointed out by Ald. Greenough that the City would likely be in a position of breaking the law, by refusing to comply with the G.S.T. legislation. The Solicitor confirmed this statement, and the vote was then taken on the motion.

In Favour: Ald. Sarto and Pye
Against: All other members
Motion Defeated

3.0 REPORT

3.1 CITY ADMINISTRATOR

3.1.1 STREET CLOSURES, CARVER & SETTLE STREETS

SET DATE: STREET
CLOSURES

Report from Mr. Burke (R. Fougere, Paul Connors) on the proposed closure of Carver and Settle Streets at Portland Street, recommending that the public hearing required in this connection, be held on April 2nd, 1991, and that Council set this date for the purpose of the public hearing.

MOTION: That April 2/91 be set by Council as the date for public hearing of the proposed closure of Carver and Settle Streets at Portland St., in accordance with By-law S-1300.

Moved: Ald. Thompson
Second: Ald. Sarto
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

4.0 1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

1991 OPERATING
BUDGET

REVENUE REVIEW

The operating budget deliberations began at this meeting with a review by Mr. Smith of the Revenue section of the budget, as contained on pages B-1 to B-23. Mr. Smith

highlighted certain specific pages throughout, for which slides had been prepared. The first of these pertained to residential and commercial taxation, taxable assessment, and assessment growth (or the lack of it), in relation to the City's present financial position. A number of points were raised during this part of the presentation by Ald. McCluskey, mainly with reference to assessment issues and requests she has made in the past for additional information from the local Assessment Division. Mr. Smith responded by explaining the staff follow-up, insofar as possible, on the requests of Ald. McCluskey. Additionally, she suggested that a listing be made of all Provincial and Federal properties in the City, so it can be determined what percentage of assessment increase has been applied to them and whether the increase has been in accordance with the increases for other properties.

Besides noting the influence of such factors as the minimal increase in residential assessment and the commercial assessment decline, plus the revenue loss resulting from assessment appeals, Mr. Smith also noted the impact of the freeze on Provincial grants to the municipality and the declining revenue to the City from betterment charges. All of these factors together are reflected in the revenue picture for the City, coming into the 1991/92 budget year.

When Mr. Smith got into the revenue section dealing with parking rates in City lots, specifically the Alderney and Woodside lots that serve ferry patrons, Ald. Billard ***
asked that Council be provided with copies of the section of the consulting study of the ferry operation that deals specifically with these lots in relation to ferry ridership. He requested that this information be made available before the budget deliberations are completed, so the matter of parking rates can be looked at again, in light of the consultants' report.

(Ald. Woods was present from this point in the meeting.)

*** Ald. Sarto requested further information on page B-6-9, plumbing permits, and when permit rates were last increased. Mr. Lukan to provide the information.

The Mayor questioned whether the City is getting all the revenue it should be from dog tag licenses (page B-6-6). Mr. Smith said the possibility of engaging a student, during the summer, on a commission basis, for the purpose of increasing revenue from this source, is being considered.

City department heads were present to answer questions from members of Council, pertaining to their own revenue items such as Engineering and Recreation. After several specific fees had been questioned, as to the possibility of increasing them and when increases had taken place in the past, the Mayor advised that recent practice has been for staff to review fee scales on a regular basis and to recommend increases, when appropriate to do so during the year, rather than at budget time. Since this system seems to be working quite well, he said it seems advisable to continue following it.

When there were no further questions of Mr. Smith or the department heads, Council was willing to move on to the expenditure section of the operating budget.

Mr. Burke first brought to Council's attention, the report he has prepared, at the request of Ald. Rodgers, on the affect of additional budget cuts equal to 1% on the tax rate; 1% on the 15-month tax rate represents an amount of approx. \$830,000. The report also includes a ranking summary which Mr. Burke explained, as a means of determining at a glance, the impact of budget reductions at various points in the ranking list, over and above what has been recommended.

POLICE DEPT.
ESTIMATES:
SECTION 4

Police Dept. Estimates, Section 4

The first City department to have their operating budget reviewed by Council, was the Police Dept. The department was represented by Deputy Chief Cole, Inspectors Wright and Fraser.

Deputy Chief Cole made a brief introductory presentation, advising Council that the Police Dept. budget originally submitted, was in the total amount of \$15,465,100., providing for basically the same levels of service as in 1990, with the addition of officers in the Drug Section. Since then, the budget has been reduced to \$13,875,800., resulting in the staff reductions of 15 crosswalk guards and two part-time civilian dispatchers.

Asked about his present staff complement, Deputy Chief Cole advised that Dartmouth has 149 sworn police officers in its Police Dept. This represents a ratio of one police officer per 440 people in Dartmouth, as compared with one officer per 375 people in Halifax. The Deputy Chief also pointed out that the Dartmouth force is in fact, policing a metropolitan population and not just one municipality; crimes that are committed are not localized only in one of the local municipalities.

Pages C-4-2 and C-4-3, Administration, were reviewed and questions from Council answered by Deputy Chief Cole and the other two officers present. Ald. Levandier suggested that perhaps the use of police vehicles by administrative officers, needs to be looked at, although it was pointed out that Inspectors Wright and Fraser make use of cars that are regularly in service in the department; they are not assigned specific vehicles over and above those in normal use. Deputy Chief Cole uses his own vehicle.


Most of the discussion, in reviewing page C-4-4, centered around the proposed staff reductions in the Police Dept. budget, reflected in the deletion of two part-time dispatcher positions. Members of Council were concerned that police officers will have to be taken off the street to fill in for dispatch duties, when required. It was felt that this will not result in any economies for the department, and the level of policing service will be reduced accordingly when officers are required for dispatch duties. Ald. Hetherington said he would like to see these positions reinstated, especially in consideration of the fact that the department will be going to a new, expanded headquarters in 1991.

(Page C-4-4)

This question of the dispatch positions was still under discussion at 10:30 p.m., when Council had agreed to go in camera. A motion was adopted to go in camera, moved by Ald. Sarto and seconded by Ald. Hetherington.

(Prior to the budget item, Ald. Hetherington had raised a point of concern about the fact that school buses were cancelled due to the storm on Monday, March 4th, but children were still trying to get to schools that were open in the City. He said he hoped that in future, decisions about school closing would be made earlier, so the safety of children would not be jeopardized in this way.)

Adjournment was from the in camera meeting, at 10:50 p.m.



Bruce S. Smith,
City Clerk-Treasurer.

ITEMS:

- Invocation, page 1.
 - 1.0 Presentation, Dartmouth Tenancy Assn., page 1.
 - 2.0 Motion, page 1.
 - 2.1 Ald. Pye, page 1.
 - 2.1.1 Opposition to G.S.T., page 1 & 2.
 - 3.0 Report, page 2.
 - 3.1 City Administrator, page 2.
 - 3.1.1 Street closures, Carver & Settle Streets, pg. 2.
 - 4.0 1991 Operating Budget deliberations, page 2 to 5 incl.
Revenue review, page 2 to 4.
Police Dept., Section 4, page 4 & 5.
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LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: DEPUTY MAYOR MACFARLANE
ALDERMEN: BILLARD, MCCLUSKEY,
WALTON, WOODS, SARTO,
PYE, HAWLEY, CONNORS,
LEVANDIER, THOMPSON

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: J. BURKE
CITY CLERK TREASURER: B. SMITH
DEPARTMENT HEADS AND ASSISTANTS

REGRETS: MAYOR SAVAGE

SAFE DRIVING WEEK

Deputy Mayor MacFarlane opened the meeting by reporting that he accepted a plaque this morning from the Canada Safety Council on behalf of the City for remaining fatality free during Safe Driving Week.

1.0 REPORTS

1.1 CITY ADMINISTRATOR

1.1.1 APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER

Report from Mr. Burke regarding the appointment of a Returning Officer for the elections to be held on Saturday, October 19, 1991, requesting Council to appoint Bruce S. Smith, City Clerk-Treasurer, as the Returning Officer.

MOTION: That Bruce S. Smith, City Clerk-Treasurer, be appointed as the Returning Officer for the Elections to be held on Saturday, October 19, 1991.

Moved: Ald. McCluskey
Second: Ald. Hawley
In Favor: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

1.1.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF POLLING DIVISIONS

Report from Mr. Burke regarding the establishment of polling divisions for the election to be held on October 19, 1991, requesting Council to approve of the polling districts and polling divisions in each ward as set out in the City map.

MOTION: That the polling districts and polling divisions in each ward be as set out in the City map.

Moved: Ald. Hawley
Second: Ald. McCluskey
In Favor: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

1.1.3 APPOINT CONSULTANT - BURNSIDE RESERVOIR

Report from Mr. Burke regarding the appointment of an engineering consultant for the Burnside Reservoir, requesting Council approve the appointment of the firm of CBCL to carry out the design of the new Burnside Reservoir and, subject to approval of the Capital Budget for construction, to carry out the contract administration and provide site services.

MOTION: That the firm of CBCL be appointed to carry out the design of the new Burnside Reservoir and, subject to approval of the Capital Budget for construction, to carry out the contract administration and provide site services.

Moved: Ald. Sarto
Second: Ald. Walton
In Favor: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

2.0 1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

The operating budget deliberations began at this meeting on page C-4-5. The effectiveness and feasibility of reviewing the budget page by page was discussed. Deputy Mayor MacFarlane suggested that a general discussion would be more effective and time saving. It was decided to let members ask question on their particular areas of concern.

*** Ald. McCluskey raised the issue of bullet-proof vests being made available to members of the police force who wish to have them. She requested that this idea be looked into further and that figures be provided based on the officers that are interested in wearing bullet-proof vests.

Also, there was some discussion on how projected salaries for various departments were derived and it was noted that these are based on 15 months and not 12 months.

One main concern of several members of Council was the removal of 15 crosswalk guards. Ald. McCluskey stated that she was not in favor of removing the crosswalk guards unless it can be proven not to be dangerous. Ald. Billard stated that he would support the cuts if they are for junior high school areas and the schools involved participate in a student crosswalk guard program. Deputy Chief Cole stated that he would like to see the Dartmouth School Board take the lead in such a project but they would assist in any way possible. Ald. Connors stated that he felt the cuts were necessary as the budget was 2-3% higher than it should be and the people of Dartmouth cannot afford to pay these increases.

Ald. Levandier suggested merging the communication operations of the police and fire departments to reduce costs. Mr. Burke stated that this idea has been discussed for the past three years at the staff level and with the attainment of the new police station it will seriously considered for March 1992.

*** Ald. Pye, Ald. Thompson and Ald. Walton also expressed concerns with the removal of the crosswalk guards. Ald. Pye stated that he would like to see a report of numbers of crosswalk guards and children using each crossing as well as the cost of each crossing to get an overall picture of where they are situated.

Ald. Hawley stated that he would like to have the \$30,000 put back into the budget for lake safety.

Motion: That the \$30,000 allocated for Lake Safety be put back into the budget.

Moved: Ald. Hawley
Second: Ald. McCluskey

*** After some discussion on this item it was decided that the motion should be deferred and that this item should be sent back to Dan Walsh to bring back at a later date.

Against: Ald. Connors and Levandier
For: All others
Motion deferred

Further discussion followed on whether or not further cuts need to be made to the police budget. Deputy Chief Cole stated that if further cuts are made to the budget services now being offered by the police force will not

longer be available.

Motion: That four junior officers, one and one-half clerks and one-half of the capital out of revenue be cut from the police department budget and that the fifteen crosswalk guards and two part-time dispatchers be reinstated in the budget for a net cut of \$161,000 - \$176,000.

Moved: Ald. Connors
Second: Ald. Thompson

It was decided to defer this motion as well for further consideration at a later date.

Motion deferred

Further discussion followed as to whether or not items should be added or deleted from the budget.

Motion: That the 1991 operating budget for the Police Department be approved on principle.

Moved: Ald. Levandier
Second: Ald. Sarto
For: Six
Against: Four
Motion carried.

Due to the time, it was agreed to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.


Bruce S. Smith
City Clerk-Treasurer

ITEMS:

- 1.0 Reports, Page 1
- 1.1 City Administrator, Page 1
- 1.1.1 Appointment of Returning Officer, Page 1
- 1.1.2 Establishment of Polling Divisions, Page 1
- 1.1.3 Appoint Consultant - Burnside Reservoir, Page 2
- 2.0 1991 Operating Budget Deliberations, Page 2

DARTMOUTH CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

* TUES., MAR 19/91 *
* 7:30 PM *
* COUNCIL CHAMBER *
* IN CAMERA SESSION *
* 10:00 P.M. *

1. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS: Feb 19, 26, & Mar 5/91.
2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
3. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - PRESENTATION BY DOANE RAYMOND
4. 1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS.

- PLEASE BRING YOUR COPY OF THE BUDGET WITH YOU AS THERE WILL
BE NO EXTRA COPIES PROVIDED -

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR SAVAGE
ALDERMEN SARTO, THOMPSON
MACFARLANE, BILLARD
LEVANDIER, CONNORS
MCCLUSKEY, PYE, WOODS
HAWLEY, GREENOUGH
WALTON, HETHERINGTON

MEMBER ABSENT: ALD. RODGERS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: J. BURKE
CITY CLERK-TREASURER: B. SMITH
DEPARTMENT HEADS & ASSISTANTS

At the opening of the meeting, the Mayor brought to Council's attention, information circulated on the subject of election campaign expenses. He asked members to read this material, to be discussed at a meeting after the budget has been completed.

REQUEST TO MAKE PRESENTATIONS

A letter has been circulated to members of Council, from the Association for Bright Children of Nova Scotia, seeking permission on behalf of that organization, and others, to make presentations to Council during the present budget deliberations. The Mayor asked for an opinion from Council on this request, noting that in the past it has not been customary to receive presentations at budget time.

MOTION: To receive and file the letter
from the Assn. for Bright Children
of Nova Scotia.

Moved: Ald. Hetherington
Second: Ald. Levandier

Members opposed to the motion were in favour of allowing people to be heard, in view of the major concerns parents and educators have about the School Board budget and the impact of budget reductions on the quality of education in Dartmouth. Ald. Connors suggested that a specific date and time be designated for the hearing of presentations. Ald. Hawley further suggested a time limit for each organization wishing to be heard.

The members of Council who supported the motion were concerned about the precedent that will be set in allowing presentations during budget discussions, pointing out that if they are permitted for one Board, others can be expected for other City departments and their Boards or Commissions.

It was felt that the appropriate forum for organizations wanting to be heard in connection with the education budget, was at the School Board, and in fact, presentations have already been made at their meeting.

The vote was taken on the motion.

In Favour: Ald. Hetherington, Levandier
& MacFarlane

Against: All other members
Motion Defeated

Ald. Connors then proceeded with a second motion.

MOTION: That the Mayor be asked to make public a time in this year's budget process, to allow for presentations on any aspect of the budget, at the beginning of a budget meeting; presentations are to be of five minutes duration and one representative will speak for each organization.

Moved: Ald. Connors
Second: Ald. McCluskey
In Favour: All members except
Against: Ald. Pye, Levandier & Hetherington
Motion Carried

It was agreed that the Council meeting of March 21st will begin with presentations, prior to introduction of the School Board budget by the Supt. of Schools.

1.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of meetings held on Feb. 19, 26 & March 5/91.

Moved: Ald. Hetherington
Second: Ald. Sarto
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

ITEMS OF CONCERN: COUNCIL MEMBERS

ALD. MCCLUSKEY

Ald. McCluskey advised that the Youth Division of the Police Dept. will hold information sessions on the subject of the Young Offenders Act, on the evenings of April 18th and 25th.

Ald. McCluskey asked about the status of a decision on the tipping fee being charged to condo owners for garbage removal. The Mayor advised that the metro municipalities are trying to act jointly on this issue. A recommendation will be going to Halifax City Council, from their staff, by August 1st, after which it is hoped that the local Councils will reach an acceptable solution.

ALD. CONNORS

Ald. Connors quoted from a letter he has received from a Halifax company, objecting to the tendering process being followed for the police headquarters project. He stated his continuing concerns about the process, noting that he is again dissenting from the decision to proceed in this manner. Ald. Woods spoke on the same subject, asking that it be debated further by Council at the first possible meeting. Ald. Sarto requested copies of letters from Mr. Burke and the Mayor, to companies that have registered their objection.

ALD. MACFARLANE

Ald. MacFarlane indicated his concerns about an application for a permit to operate an arcade at 341 Portland Street, affecting both wards 2 and 7. He asked that Council register objection to the application with the Amusement Regulations Board.

MOTION: That Council indicate objection to the arcade application for 341 Portland Street.

Moved: Ald. MacFarlane
Second: Ald. Billard
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

Included as the basis for objection were: (1) the close proximity of the location to both a junior high and an elementary school; (2) potential for increased traffic on a heavily-travelled street.

Ald. Hetherington asked for information on the status of the poker machines, which were to have been taken over by the Lotto organization; he said nothing about done about them to date.

3.0

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

Present from Doane Raymond for the next item, were: Mr. Jamieson, Mr. Mallowney and Mr. DuPlessis.

Ald. Connors reported on behalf of the Audit Committee, informing Council of the thorough study given the 1990 Financial Statements for the City, by the Committee, in conjunction with the Auditors.

He reviewed for Council, items that received particular attention in the Committee review, such as the ferry deficit, and concluded by stating that the Committee is satisfied in all respects with the auditing process up to this point in the year. It was noted that the annual management letter is still to be received from the Auditors, and this document will also be dealt with in depth by the Audit Committee at a later time.

MOTION: To approve the City's 1990 Financial Statements, as prepared by Doane Raymond. (Copies of the Financial Statements were previously circulated, with the agenda for this Council meeting.)

Moved: Ald. Connors
Second: Ald. Greenough

Presentation of the highlights of the Financial Statements, was given by Mr. Mallowney, with a series of overhead slides; members were provided with copies of the same information. The various deficit items, contributing to the City's overall deficit position at the end of 1990, were explained, the main items being the loss of revenue through assessment appeals, the ferry deficit, and the Sportsplex deficit; also, the Social Services over-expenditure amounting to \$367,000. With reference to the ferry deficit (\$457,000.), Mr. Mallowney advised Council that action must be taken in 1991 to overcome the deficit, or otherwise, it will have to be funded from general operating. Note 1. (1) in the Statements sets out this point and confirms Mr. Mallowney's information to Council. Ald. Connors expressed his concerns about both the ferry and Sportsplex deficits, suggesting that action must be taken to get both situations under control. He also commented on the Water Utility deficit for 1990, noting that the Utility is presently not paying its way.

Members of Council were given time to ask any questions of the Auditors and/or to give their opinions on the City's financial position. Ald. McCluskey felt that consideration should be given to the sale of any properties owned by the City that we don't need, as one means of providing additional funds. She also questioned whether everything possible is being done to collect business occupancy taxes, especially in those instances where new businesses are opening and/or changing their locations. The Mayor said that efforts have been made to obtain information through telephone listings, but M.T. & T. are not willing to provide the information that would be required.

The vote was taken on the motion to accept the audited Financial Statements.

In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

The Mayor thanked the Auditors for being present and for their assistance with the Financial Statements.

4.0

1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS1991 BUDGET
DELIBERATIONS

Council continued with the 1991 operating budget, dealing at this time with the Fire Dept. estimates. Present for the Fire Dept. were: Fire Chief Greene, Deputy Chief Hodgson, and Div. Chief Swales.

Ald. McCluskey asked what cuts have already been made in this budget, from the estimates originally submitted. Chief Greene said he had requested nine additional firefighters, at level 3, in his original budget; also, miscellaneous items, totalling \$25,000., have been cut from his original submission.

A motion to accept the Fire Dept. budget, subject to any amendments and/or changes, was presented by Ald. Hetherington and Thompson.

MOTION: To accept the Fire Dept. budget,
subject to amendments and/or changes.

Moved Ald. Hetherington
Second: Ald. Thompson

Chief Greene gave Council an overview of his budget, noting that the present number of 132 firefighters is still at the 1978 level. He provided comparison figures with other Maritime cities, on the population ratio per firefighter, indicating that for the Dartmouth, the ratio is 1 per 500 people, as compared with 1 per 456 for Moncton, 1 per 453 for Sydney, 1 per 435 for Halifax, and 1 per 336 for St. John. Considering the percentage of the budget required for salaries, benefits and overtime (75%), and including the Fire Protection Rate, Chief Greene said there is little room to manoeuvre in the rest of the budget.

Questions about specific items were directed to Chief Greene, and he provided additional information in response.

Ald. Connors requested that the list for further consideration at the end of budget discussions, include the eight firefighters at \$370,000., from Mr. Burke's report of March 4/91, under the heading 'Further cuts to 1991/92 Recommended Expenditures'.

Another item that received particular attention was the maintenance and repair section on page C-3-9. Ald. Hetherington asked whether some of this work could not be done more cost-efficiently through the Works Dept. Mr. Burke will consider the question further and come back to Council with a report by June or July of this year. In the meantime, the present estimates will stand.

There were no other items singled out for further consideration, and members concluded the Fire Dept. estimates without further reductions or additions.

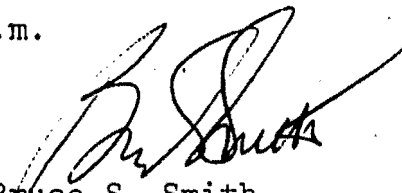
At 10:25 p.m., Council went in camera, on motion of Ald. Hetherington and MacFarlane.

After reconvening in open meeting, the action taken in camera was ratified.

MOTION: To ratify the action taken while meeting in camera on this date. (amendment, NSUPE contract).

Moved: Ald. Hetherington
Second: Ald. Levandier
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.



Bruce S. Smith,
City Clerk-Treasurer.

ITEMS:

- Request to make presentations, page 1.
 - 1.0 Approval of minutes, page 2.
 - 2.0 Business arising from the minutes, page 2.
 - Items of Concern: Council members, page 2 & 3.
 - 3.0 Financial Statements, page 3 & 4.
 - 4.0 1991 Operating Budget deliberations, page 5 & 6.
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LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR SAVAGE
ALDERMEN: WALTON, PYE, MCCLUSKEY,
WOODS, HETHERINGTON,
CONNORS, LEVANDIER,
GREENOUGH, HAWLEY,
THOMPSON, SARTO,
RODGERS, MACFARLANE

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: J. BURKE
CITY CLERK-TREASURER: B. SMITH
DEPARTMENT HEADS & ASSISTANTS

At the opening of the meeting, a revised budget deliberation agenda was circulated to the members.

Mayor Savage noted that Ald. MacFarlane was attending an anti-racial discrimination meeting at Cole Harbour High School

1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS:

As agreed to at the last Council meeting, people requesting to make presentations regarding the School Board budget proceeded to do so.

First to speak was Mr. David Ritchie who gave a brief introduction and stated that Ms. Jane McKay would speak on behalf of a coalition of parent groups.

Ms. McKay's presentation focused on the need for Council to provide sufficient funds for the continuance of existing education programs and the need for the School Board to improve the educational planning and budgeting process. She also noted that they believe there is room for greater parent and community involvement in program and budget planning.

Ms. McKay noted that the proposed funding for education is 16.8% of the City budget which is the lowest level of funding in ten years and is the lowest increase all city departments.

Mr. Stockton, representing NSUPE, then made a brief presentation noting that they have made concessions regarding classifications and overtime to help alleviate costs but to the best of his knowledge Administration has not taken advantage of this. One area that Mr. Stockton stated that he felt that Council should take a look at is the method of accounting for the School Board. Mr.

Stockton stated that the focus should be on long-term and the future of the children.

Ms. Everett, Chairman of the School Board, then gave a brief presentation. She reported that 1.4 million dollars has already been cut from the budget and staff cannot recommend any more cuts. She stated that they were unsuccessful in getting more money from the provincial government. Ms. Everett stated that only by the cooperative efforts of Council and the Board can the school system benefit now and in the future. She also stated that they feel the majority of the people in Dartmouth are willing to pay the cost to maintain the high calibre of education found in Dartmouth.

Mr. Harrison, Superintendent of Schools, then gave a presentation on the successes of the Dartmouth school system such as historically high marks on the provincial achievement tests, high scoring on the Canadian Tests of Basic Skills and the winning of scholarships. He noted that the Board has several long term plans but are left each year in the position of not knowing the amount of funding they will receive.

Mr. Gray, Director of Finance, they gave an overview of the finances of the Board. He reported various statistics such as the operating cost per student is the third lowest in the province, class size is seventh highest in the province, the average number of pupils per school is 363 compared to the provincial average of 320 and the School Board budget increase for 1991-92 is less than the projected inflation rate for 1991-92.

(Ald. Billard was present at this time.)

During discussion of the School Board budget, there were several areas that members expressed concerns about and felt they could be reduced. Some of these areas were long-term service awards, the \$169,000 put in the Econertec Contract account which will be paid back to the long-term service awards account, substitute teachers funding, conference grants, custodial overtime, water utility and administrative costs. Other areas that members expressed concerns with were travel expenses, grants and oil costs.

Ald. Connors expressed concerns about the management of the School Board and their planning process. He suggested that a comprehensive audit be done on the School Board and that a committee made up of School Board

members and Council members oversee this audit. He also suggested that a five year management plan be developed and followed with monthly reports as well as a review of demographics and school boundaries.

Some members noted that they felt the School Board has presented a reasonable budget and that any cuts in program would be detrimental to the quality of education offered by the City of Dartmouth. However, they did feel that some of Ald. Connors' suggestions of areas to examine were reasonable areas to look into possible cuts.

(Ald. MacFarlane was present at the meeting at this time.)

Some concern of duplication of programs was expressed as they are offered by other facilities in the City. These programs included driver's education, aquatics and library services. It was noted by the School Board that driver's education pays for itself and the school libraries are necessary for students who cannot get to the City library.

Council then took a short break and upon their return Mayor Savage suggested that the two levels of senior staff meet to discuss the proposed areas to examine and bring back a proposal to Council next Tuesday night. This was agreed to by all members.

It was then moved to adjourn by Ald. Levandier.

MOTION: That the meeting adjourn.

Moved: Ald. Levandier
Seconded: Ald. Walton
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Bruce S. Smith
City Clerk-Treasurer

ITEMS:

1.0 1991 Budget Deliberations, Page 1, 2 & 3

Lib. Ref. Dept.

DARTMOUTH CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

* MON, MAR 25/91 *
* * * * *
* 7:30 PM *
* * * * *
* COUNCIL CHAMBER *

1. Operating Budget.

- Social Services
- Engineering & Works
- Parks & Recreation
- Economic Development

- PLEASE BRING YOUR COPY OF THE BUDGET WITH YOU AS THERE WILL
BE NO EXTRA COPIES PROVIDED -

DARTMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 25, 1991

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR SAVAGE
ALDERMEN: WALTON, PYE, MCCLUSKEY,
HETHERINGTON, CONNORS,
LEVANDIER, GREENOUGH,
HAWLEY, THOMPSON, SARTO
MACFARLANE, BILLARD

RECEIVED
APR 11 1991

DARTMOUTH REGIONAL LIBRAR

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: J. BURKE
CITY CLERK-TREASURER: B. SMITH
DEPARTMENT HEADS & ASSISTANTS

At the opening of the meeting, Mr. Burke circulated a Municipal Planning Strategy Process Outline. He asked Council to consider the two options proposed, as a decision will be required at the Thursday night Council meeting.

Also circulated were the 1991 budget projections for the Sportsplex and operating budgets of the Library and Museum. A memorandum from the Mayor re the opening of tenders and a report from Mr. Burke on the Burnside Sale of Land Account were similarly distributed. The latter item will be discussed at Tuesday's Council meeting.

1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Before the budget deliberations commenced, Mr. Ron Stockton, representing NSUPE, made a brief presentation. He indicated that the Union has reviewed the budget and has some concrete proposals to discuss with Mr. Burke and city staff. For instance, he emphasized to Council the need for long-term planning. He noted that his members are not given an opportunity to take part in the process, although the budget has a major impact on their employment. He referred to proposals they have re the reorganization of several City departments. Particular reference was made to Parks and Recreation and Social Services. He referred to the potential favourable impact of instituting shift work, particularly in the Central Garage. He emphasized the desire NSUPE has to work cooperatively with the City.

SOCIAL SERVICES

In attendance, representing the Social Services Department were Messrs. Greene, Cleary and Newbery and Ms. Griswold.

Mr. Greene commenced their presentation by giving a brief overview of their budget. Particular reference was made to the significant increase in General Assistance recipients, as a result of the continuing recession. He noted that two cuts have already been made to the budget to date. The budget includes no new staff, programs or scale increases.

Particular attention was given to the inadequacies of the food and rent scales, the growth in the Homecare Program and the continuing reduction in revenues, as Provincial cost sharing decreases. He noted that even Federal cost sharing isn't certain under the Canada Assistance Program.

Since the Provincial capping was based on 1984 budgets, the citizens of Dartmouth are now paying 40% of each dollar, on average, rather than the previous 25%.

Referring to the significant savings to the Province on Health Care due to the Home Care alternative offered, Ald. Thompson felt that these savings should be passed on to the City. Mayor Savage discussed with Council the outcome of earlier unsuccessful discussions with the Department of Health.

It was noted that the average caseload per Social Worker is 135/138, but in order to properly control caseloads, the average should be 100.

Displayed on overheads were various food scales. They were based on a family of two adults and two children. Agriculture Canada recommended \$542 monthly, while the City provided \$414 and Provincial Family Benefits \$445.00, as of January 1991. In order to match the Provincial scale of \$445.00, \$200,000 (net) in additional funds is required from the City. The actual cost is \$400,000 but 50% cost sharing applies. Ald. Billard pointed out the double standard of capping the food scales when the Provincial guidelines specify a scale of \$445.00. Mayor Savage indicated he will bring this to the attention of the Minister of Social Services, if Council wishes. He briefly referred to a proposal that in exchange for amalgamating police services, capping may be removed.

Slides on rent scales illustrated that while Dartmouth provides \$487.00 monthly for rent, C.M.H.C. guidelines and Provincial scales are higher. The Provincial scale is \$575.00. In order to increase the rent scales, it would cost the City an additional \$175,000 (net) for 12 months.

The total monthly budget for a family of four was illustrated as well. Provincial Family Benefits allow \$1,234 monthly and Dartmouth Social Services \$1,050.

It was proposed that this be increased to \$1,169.

A resolution was subsequently moved that the City of Dartmouth increase the level of Social Assistance for both food and rent, in line with the Provincial Family Benefits, subject to the Province cost sharing part of the additional costs. If passed, this item will be reviewed at the conclusion of the budget deliberations.

Ald. Pye argued that Council should commit itself to the whole amount, i.e. \$375,000 rather than the proposed \$187,500.

A concern was raised regarding the impact of increasing these scales, if the City of Halifax and County don't do likewise.

MOTION: That the City increase the level of Social Assistance for both food and rent in line with the Provincial Family Benefits, subject to the Province cost sharing its portion of the additional costs.

Moved: Ald. Greenough
Second: Ald. Thompson
In Favour: All members except
Against: Ald. Pye and McCluskey
Motion Carried

Concern was expressed that the Career Path Program was a Level III item. Staff noted that while this Program had been contracted out this year, Social Services felt that could run a similar program, Step, for \$50,000 to \$60,000. Application has been made for SARS, Provincial Social Assistance Project money but a reply isn't expected until the end of April.

MOTION: That an additional \$50,000 be added to the Social Services budget to bring in a Career Program designed by the Department of Social Services, based on the premise that the City receives proportional cost sharing from Federal and Provincial Governments.

Moved: Ald. Pye
Second: Ald. Billard

Concern was expressed by both Mr. Burke and Ald. Connors about the impact on the overall budget, if such items are continually added. If a further tax rate increase isn't desired, these additions will be at the expense of other programs.

City Council, March 25, 1991

In Favour: Ald. Pye, McCluskey, MacFarlane
Billard and Sarto
Against: All others
Motion Defeated

Ald. McCluskey expressed concern regarding the average case load in Dartmouth. It was noted that besides losing control, stress levels increase, there are more appeals and frauds. The cost for two additional case workers would be \$78,000 for 12 months or \$39,000 net. Two additional workers would reduce the case load to an average of approximately 114.

MOTION: That \$39,000 be added to Social Services budget for the hiring of two additional case workers.

Mover: Ald. McCluskey
Second: Ald. Pye
In Favour: Ald. Walton, MacFarlane, Pye
McCluskey and Hetherington
Against: All other members
Motion Defeated

In closing, it was emphasized that 9.25% of the Dartmouth tax rate is attributable to Social Services versus 21% to Education.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Representing the Engineering Department were Messrs. Fougere, Purdy & Murray and Ms. Jeffries.

Mr. Fougere briefly outlined to Council the number of cuts which have already been made to the Engineering Department's budget. The result is that the budget for Engineering represents a .01% increase over last years.

It was suggested by Ald. Billard that a further \$250,000 could be safely taken out of the Snow and Ice Control budget. A motion was proposed to this effect, but there was no seconder.

Ald. Hetherington expressed concern that \$21,000 has been deducted from the Lakes Management activity. Ald. Hawley indicated that the Lakes Advisory Board did not object to the elimination of sampling and testing lake waters for chemical content for one year. Nevertheless, Ald. Hetherington suggested that this item should be reconsidered. Only four members supported this recommendation, however.

City Council, March 25, 1991

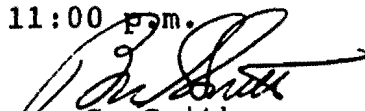
It was suggested that of the \$95,000 in items from Capital Out-of-Revenue, perhaps there was room for some reduction in these expenditures. There was agreement by consensus that \$25,000 of these expenditures be taken out.

Ald. Connors questioned whether the surplus in the Waste Water Management Account could be rebated to the taxpayers. This suggestion will be flagged out for further consideration at the end of the budget debates.

Concern was expressed by Ald. McCluskey that the true cost of maintaining and operating various City owned building isn't accurate, as Mr. Rix's salary is absorbed elsewhere.

Referring to Pages C-5-38 to C-5-43, which deal with Waste Water (Sanitary) Pumping & Treatment, Waste Water (Storm) Maintenance of Drains & Culverts and Catchbasin Cleaning, it was suggested by Ald. Billard that since these are essentially services performed in the summer, the budgeted amounts could be reduced. It was suggested these items be revisited at the conclusion of the budget debates. However, only Ald. Billard and Ald. Connors indicated their support. The majority were opposed.

Following the answering of a variety of miscellaneous questions, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.


Bruce S. Smith,
City Clerk-Treasurer

Dartmouth City Council, March 25, 1991

ITEMS:

1991 Operating Budget Deliberations:

- (a) Social Services, pages 1 to 4
- (b) Engineering, pages 4 & 5

LLeB

Lib. Ref. Dept.

DARTMOUTH CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

* TUES., MAR 26/91 *
* * * * *
* 7:30 PM *
* * * * *
* COUNCIL CHAMBER *

1. REPORTS

1.1 CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- 1.1.1 Construction Agreement No. D-8 - City of Dartmouth
- 1.1.2 Birch Cove Landscaping Contract
- 1.1.3 1991 Tender, 5 Ride-On Rotary Mowers

2. CONTINUATION OF 1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS.

- PLEASE BRING YOUR COPY OF THE BUDGET WITH YOU AS THERE WILL
BE NO EXTRA COPIES PROVIDED -

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR SAVAGE
ALDERMEN SARTO, THOMPSON
BILLARD, MACFARLANE
CONNORS, LEVANDIER
MCCLUSKEY, RODGERS
PYE, WOODS, HAWLEY
GREENOUGH, WALTON
HETHERINGTON

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: J. BURKE
CITY CLERK-TREASURER: B. SMITH
DEPARTMENT HEADS & ASSISTANTS

At the opening of the meeting, Mayor Savage announced that budget negotiations with the School Board are incomplete at this point, and their budget was therefore being deferred to the March 28th meeting.

1.0 REPORTS

1.1 CITY ADMINISTRATOR

1.1.1 CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT No. D-8 - CITY OF DARTMOUTH

CONSTRUCTION
AGREEMENT:
RES. 91-07

A report was before Council from the Acting City Administrator, Tom Rath (R. Fougere, Paul Connors), accompanied by Resolution 91-07, and recommending approval of the Construction Agreement D-8, between the N. S. Dept. of Transportation & Communications and the City of Dartmouth. This agreement pertains to cost-sharing in the upgrading of traffic signal controllers in Dartmouth, and the computerization of all traffic signals in the Cities of both Dartmouth and Halifax.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution 91-07, as recommended, authorizing Construction Agreement D-8 between the City and the N. S. Dept. of Transportation.

Moved: Ald. Hetherington
Second: Ald. Sarto
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

1.1.2 BIRCH COVE LANDSCAPING CONTRACT

AWARD TENDER:
BIRCH COVE

Report from Mr. Burke (L. Atkinson) on tenders received for renovations and improvements to the Birch Cove Park and beach.

The report recommends that the tender be awarded to Maritime Nurseries, the original low bidder for this project, in the amount of \$68,181.10.

MOTION: To award the tender for Birch Cove landscaping to the original low bidders for the project, Maritime Nurseries Ltd., in the amount of \$68,181.10.

Moved: Ald. MacFarlane
Second: Ald. McCluskey
In Favour: All members except
Against: Ald. Thompson, Billard & Hetherington
Motion Carried

Members voting against felt this contract should be re-tendered, in the hope of getting a better price.

1.1.3 1991 TENDER - FIVE RIDE-ON ROTARY MOWERS

AWARD TENDER:
RIDE-ON MOWERS

Report from Mr. Burke (L. Atkinson, W. Stevens, H. George) on tenders received for five ride-on rotary mowers, recommending that the tender be awarded to the lowest bidder, Provincial Lawn, for a total tender price of \$31,245.00.

MOTION: To approve the awarding of the tender for five ride-on rotary mowers, to the low bidder, Provincial Lawn, for a total tender price of \$31,245.00, as recommended.

Moved: Ald. Pye
Second: Ald. MacFarlane
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

1.1.4 BURNSIDE SALE OF LAND ACCOUNT

BURNSIDE SALE
OF LAND ACCOUNT

An item added to the agenda was a report from Mr. Burke (Tom Rath) on a proposed restructuring of the Burnside Sale of Land account, in keeping with a recommendation from the Auditors and the Audit Committee. For 1991/92, the financial implications of restructuring the accounting and reporting system for Burnside, would result in a net benefit of approx. \$1, 104,800. for the City. Beyond 1991/92, however, benefits diminish to the point where the City will begin to incur additional expenses as it continues to be responsible for the program of industrial and business park maintenance.

The report concludes with recommendations for Council's approval. Mr. Rath gave a slide presentation to Council, explaining in further detail the proposed restructuring procedures and their effect on the Sale of Land account. He also stressed the need for provision in future City budgets for those maintenance and improvement projects that will be required to maintain the infrastructure of the Burnside and City of Lakes Business Parks.

MOTION: To adopt the recommendations from the report, as follows:

That the accounting and financial reporting for the Burnside and City of Lakes Park be restructured, effective as of Jan. 1/91, on the basis that -

- 1) the Burnside Sale of Land Account be charged with the direct costs of the industrial/business park land development process, including; on-going business administration costs; development planning costs; development management & land servicing costs; marketing and land sales costs and financing and inventory management costs, as set out in Table 2 for 1991/92.
- 2) the Burnside Sale of Land Account be charged with the retirement of outstanding principal on debentures issued for capital projects in Burnside, and
- 3) that interest earned on the surplus balance in the Burnside Sale of Land Account be retained in the City's General Revenue Fund.

Further, that the financial and operational responsibility for on-going maintenance of infrastructure in the Burnside and City of Lakes Park, be assumed by City departments as a minimum level of service in their respective departmental budgets, per the figures quoted on page 9 of the report.

That Council approve Resolution 91-09, which accompanies the report to Council.

Moved: Ald. McCluskey
Second: Ald. MacFarlane

Ald. Connors suggested that the reference to Table 2 (see above recommendation) should be deleted, since it includes capital items that Council has not yet approved. No amendment was presented, however, to this effect.

Ald. Connors commended the restructuring procedure, noting that it has the support of the Audit Committee. He felt that an in-depth staff report on the economy of the community overall, based on a careful analysis, is required. He referred to an analysis of this nature being carried out presently by Halifax City staff.

Generally, members of Council were willing to go along with the motion, but there was considerable concern expressed that the importance of future maintenance provision for the Burnside & City of Lakes Park, must not be forgotten in the budgets of years to come. Otherwise, the major development accomplishments of Burnside will begin to deteriorate and its status will be diminished. It was noted that the Park is presently generating about twenty million dollars for the City in taxes and without this major revenue source, the residential taxpayers would be facing a much higher tax rate. Ald. Levandier also noted that the Industrial Commission has not had any opportunity for input before the restructuring proposal is adopted.

The vote was taken on the motion.

In Favour: All members except
Against: Ald. Billard
Motion Carried

(Ald. Rodgers left the meeting at this point due to illness.)

2.0

CONTINUATION OF 1991 OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS1991 OPERATING
BUDGET

Having completed the items on the agenda for this meeting, Council proceeded with further budget deliberations, starting with the operating estimates for the Parks & Rec. Department.

Parks & Recreation Department

Present for the Parks & Recreation Dept. budget were: Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Stevens and Ms. Kaiser. Opening remarks were made by Mr. Atkinson, during which he explained to Council the reorganization of the administrative division of his department and the reflection of these changes in the budget. He presented several slides to show Council the increasing number of facilities (including flower-beds & grass-cutting) his department is being expected to maintain, without any corresponding staff increases. He advised that \$250,000. has been cut from the Parks & Rec. budget, and he indicated where cuts have had to be made to accomplish the budget reductions.

During the budget review that followed, Council singled out the following items to be reconsidered before the tax rate is set:

- 1) elimination of the grant to the Crusaders (C-6-41); proposed reinstatement of \$9,000. rather than cut this grant out altogether.
- 2) elimination of the Canoe Assn. grant for the installation & maintenance of the Lake Banook canoe course; proposed reinstatement of the original \$13,400. estimate.
- 3) elimination of beach supervision and reduction in playground programs (C-6-30); proposed reinstatement of \$33,000.
- 4) information requested on the cost of operating the building at Graham's Grove, and the possible transfer of staff there to another Parks & Rec. location so the use of the building can be terminated.

A motion to consider again the elimination of the tree crew, did not receive a majority vote from Council. Mr. Atkinson had previously stated that the funding presently provided for tree maintenance, covers only emergency situations and contracting-out costs.

Over and above the items agreed to for further review, Council also requested discussions between Parks & Rec. staff and Sportsplex staff, in an effort to try and work out pool and ice-time use, so that City facilities will receive payment for Parks & Rec. programs, instead of the facilities presently being used, such as the Nova Scotia Hospital pool and the Vocational School facilities.

Ald. Hawley suggested that a total lake patrol, course maintenance, and tax relief for clubs package should be looked at when the items in this category come back to Council.

(Ald. Hetherington left the meeting.)

Dartmouth Regional Library Budget

Ms. Aileen Lewis and Mr. David Oxner were present for the Regional Library budget. In her introductory remarks to Council, Ms. Lewis provided statistics on the success rate of the new library, as reflected in the figure of 1,000 visitors per day (minimum), and considerably higher figures on weekends, particularly Sunday afternoons.

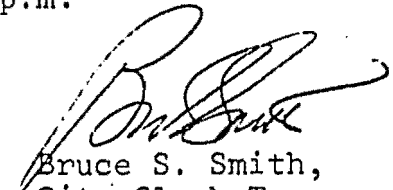
Budget reductions of \$140,000. have been made in the library budget to this point. The Library Board has stopped short of reducing hours of service, which would be the only alternative left. It was pointed out that the GST has hit the library hard in the area of book purchases,

lessening their purchasing power, over and above the budget reductions that have already been made.

The review of the library budget consisted mainly of questions to Ms. Lewis and Mr. Oxner, to which they responded with information for the members of Council. There were no items singled out for reconsideration, and members tended to take the position that it would not be practical to consider reducing hours of service in a facility for which the City is paying rental every day of the week. It was felt that maximum use should be made of the new library, taking into account the large number of people that have demonstrated their interest in it and their desire to have full use of it.

Ms. Lewis and Mr. Oxner were commended by the Mayor and Council for the quality of library service being provided in the new building, and Ms. Lewis thanked Council for making the new facility possible.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.



Bruce S. Smith,
City Clerk-Treasurer.

ITEMS:

- 1.0 Reports, page 1..
 - 1.1 City Administrator, page 1.
 - 1.1.1 Construction Agreement No. D-8, page 1. (Res. 91-07)
 - 1.1.2 Birch Cove landscaping contract, page 1.
 - 1.1.3 1991 tender, five ride-on rotary mowers, page 2.
 - 1.1.4 Burnside Sale of Land Account, page 2 to 4. (Res. 91-09)
 - 2.0 Continuation: 1991 operating budget, page 4 to 6.
 - Parks & Rec. Dept., page 4.
 - Regional Library, page 5.
-

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TIME: 8:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR SAVAGE
ALDERMEN SARTO, THOMPSON
BILLARD, MACFARLANE
CONNORS, MCCLUSKEY
RODGERS, PYE, WOODS
HAWLEY, GREENOUGH
WALTON, HETHERINGTON

MEMBER ABSENT: ALD. LEVANDIER (OUT OF CITY)

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: J. BURKE
CITY CLERK-TREAS.: B. SMITH
DEPARTMENT HEADS & ASSISTANTS

OPERATING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS 1991/92 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Following an in camera meeting, to discuss School Board funding, Council convened for the regular meeting scheduled for this date.

SCHOOL BOARD

The Mayor reported first on the proposal for School Board funding, approved while meeting in camera. The proposal is to grant additional funding to the Dartmouth District School Board, in the amount of 1.7 million dollars, beyond what is already contained in the current operating estimates, for the fifteen-month budget year ended March 31/92. Five provisions associated with the proposal, including the willingness of the Board to undertake a comprehensive audit of its operation during the current budget year, were also read out by the Mayor, as per a proposal document signed by him and previously circulated to all members of Council. Two amendments, added by Council during the in camera meeting, were included; these are:

- 1) an addition to item 2, which reads: '. . . a fourth person should be added, representing the public interest, acceptable to both sides'.
- 2) an addition to item 3, to read: '. . . Council requests that the Board immediately undertake the development of a three-to-five-year educational and financial plan'.

With these amendments, Council was willing to proceed with formal approval of the proposal, as outlined by Mayor Savage.

MOTION: To accept the proposal for additional School Board funding, in the amount of 1.7 million dollars, as outlined in the proposal presented by Mayor Savage.

Moved: Ald. Greenough
Second: Ald. Thompson

Members of Council were in favour of the comprehensive audit proposed for the School Board operation, and the majority of members supported the additional City contribution toward funding for education. Ald. Pye and Hetherington were not in favour of the motion, and had concerns about finding an extra \$500,000. to make up the 1.7 million dollars being recommended. They felt the impact on other City departments, where cut-backs will have to be made to provide this extra amount, will be adverse, and therefore, did not support the proposal.

At the conclusion of the debate, the vote was taken.

In Favour: All members except
Against: Ald. Pye & Hetherington
Motion Carried

(Ald. Rodgers left the meeting due to illness.)

Sportsplex Budget

SPORTSPLEX

Present for the Sportsplex budget were Mr. Bagnell, Mr. Dolan, and Mr. Quigley. Mr. Dolan made a presentation on behalf of the Sportsplex Commission, providing information on the financial status of the Sportsplex in its tenth year of operation, on community useage of the facilities it provides, and on the impact of new facilities that have opened in both Sackville and Cole Harbour. The submission also outlined budget objectives and some specifics of a 1991 action plan for the operation, for addressing financial considerations.

Following the presentation, members of Council had time to ask questions about specific budget items and/or comment on specific aspects of the Sportsplex operation. Ald. Billard suggested that there should be more of an effort to coordinate and integrate Sportsplex facilities with Parks & Recreation programs. Also, that long-range planning should start for diversified arena uses, in attempting to market the arena to better advantage. Mr. Bagnell said a longrange plan for the overall operation is being undertaken and will take into account the points raised by Ald. Billard. The plan, 'Fit for the '90's' will also be based on the input of community groups, to be solicited through one of the Commission's organizing committees.

In discussing the impact of the GST on Sportsplex use and revenues, Ald. Connors requested that a letter be sent from the Mayor's office, stating the City's concern about the detrimental impact of the PST being added to the GST, on our ability to market the Sportsplex programs. The letter from the Mayor to be sent to the Finance Minister

MUSEUM

Museum Budget

Mr. Gosley and Ms. Aaboe-Milligan were present for the Museum budget. The presentation to Council was made by Ms. Aaboe-Milligan, during which she reviewed with Council, the budget reductions that have been made from the original budget request of \$516,400. to \$456,957., and the consequences for the Museum operation of these reductions. The impact of a further \$37,757. reduction requested, was also explained, and Ald. Pye requested that this amount be designated for inclusion in the list of items for further consideration. Council was willing to have the amount included to be looked at again.

One of the points made by the Museum staff, in defending their budget, was that the entire library-museum building has now been taken over by the Heritage Museum and estimates for heating (two winter seasons), electricity, and staffing reflect this fact. Questions about specific budget items, particularly in the areas of staff and operating costs, were answered by Ms. Aaboe-Milligan and Mr. Gosley.

A motion for adjournment, at the conclusion of the Museum budget, was adopted, moved by Ald. Connors and seconded by Ald. McCluskey.

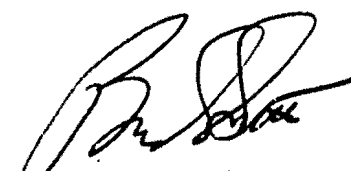
Prior to adjournment, Council approved Resolution 91-11, extending the date for setting the tax rate to April 2nd, 1991.

RESOLUTION 91-11

MOTION: To adopt Resolution 91-11, extending the date for setting the tax rate, to April 2nd, 1991.

Moved: Ald. Hetherington
Second: Ald. Sarto
In Favour: All
Against: None
Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.



Bruce S. Smith,
 City Clerk-Treasurer.

ITEMS:

1991/92 Budget deliberations, page 1 to 3.
School Board, page 1.
Sportsplex, page 2.
Museum, page 3.
Resolution 91-11, page 3.
