

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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**NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
November 21, 2007**

PRESENT: Councillor Brad Johns  
Councillor Robert Harvey

REGRETS: Councillor Gary Martin

STAFF: Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Johns called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Fenerty Room, Sackville Library.

### 1.2 December Meeting Date

Community Council briefly discussed whether a December meeting would be required. **It was agreed** that a December meeting (regular or special) would be scheduled based on any agenda items received.

### 1.3 Election of Chair

Councillor Johns stepped down from the Chair, and the Legislative Assistant assumed the position of Chair.

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations of Chair. Councillor Johns nominated Councillor Martin.

There were no further nominations, and Councillor Martin was declared Chair for 2008.

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations of Vice Chair. Councillor Johns nominated Councillor Harvey as Vice-Chair.

There were no further nominations, and Councillor Harvey was declared Vice-Chair for 2008.

Councillor Harvey assumed the Chair.

### 1.4 Councillor Appointments to Community Council's Committees

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that the status quo be maintained in regard to the 2008 Community Council committee appointments. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that the minutes of October 25, 2007 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

### Additions:

11.1 Re-appointment - Halifax Watershed Advisory Board

11.2 Re-appointments - Bedford Waters Advisory Board

### Deferral:

10.1.1 Case 00762 - Amendments to the Bedford MPS and LUB and Development

Agreement (Southgate Village) (*recommendation to Regional Council for First Reading and scheduling a joint public hearing*)

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:**

**4.1 STATUS SHEET ITEMS:**

**4.1.1 Pinehill Street Stormwater Drainage**

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

**4.1.2 Storm Drain Issue - Cavalier Drive**

No update. To remain on Status Sheet

**4.1.3 Judy Avenue Pathway**

No update. To remain on Status Sheet

**4.1.4 Union Street Flooding**

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

**4.1.5 Policy P-71, Beaver Bank, Hammonds Plains and Upper Sackville MPS**

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that this item be removed from the Status Sheet. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE**

**8. HEARINGS:**

**8.1 Public Hearings: None**

**8.2 Variance Hearings: None**

**9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**9.1 Correspondence: None**

**9.2 Petitions: None**

**9.3 Presentations: None**

**10. REPORTS:**

**10.1 North West Planning Advisory Committee:**

**10.1.1 Case 00762 - Amendments to the Bedford MPS and LUB and Development Agreement (Southgate Village)** *(recommendation to Regional Council for First Reading and scheduling a joint public hearing)*

This item was deferred during the approval of the Order of Business.

**10.2 North West Transit Advisory Committee:**

**10.2.1 Removal of the #84 and #85 service from Bus Stop on Barrington Street, close to the MacDonald Bridge**

A report dated November 21, 2007 from the Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee was submitted.

Councillor Johns indicated that he did not support the recommendation contained in the Committee report but was prepared to forward the report to staff for comment

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that the report be referred to staff for report back to Community Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10.2.2 Parking at the Sackville Bus Terminal**

A report dated November 21, 2007 from the Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee was submitted.

Councillor Johns advised that at last evening's Regional Council meeting he spoke with Mr. Mike Labrecque, Director of Transportation and Public Works in regard to the submitted Committee report, and Mr. Labrecque advised that he would ensure staff was present this evening to address any questions.

Councillor Johns noted that Mr. David Reage, from Metro Transit was in attendance and suggested that rather than forward the Committee report to staff for comment, Mr. Reage address the concerns raised in the report at this time.

Mr. David Reage, Planning and Project Delivery Coordinator, HRM Transportation and Public Works addressed Community Council.

In his remarks, Mr. Reage noted the following:

- Staff are not looking at expanding further on the Sackville Bus Terminal Parking lot site for the following reasons:
  - there is no funding allocation at this time
  - there is no place to extend the parking lot
  - the current service in to the site can not handle anything further

- By virtue of the success of the Metro Link, the land around the Metro Link sites has become more expensive because it has become more attractive for development.
- In the longer term, the Regional Transportation Group is pursuing new park and ride lots further out from the existing lots.
- Staff are looking at acquiring land in Middle Sackville near the Highway 101 Interchange for a new metro link station. Placing park and ride lots further out will capture transit users closer to their trip origin.

Mr. Reage responded to questions from Community Council, and Community Council put forward a number of concerns and suggestions, noted as follows:

Councillor Johns advised that the site in the Margenson Drive area is good but it will not be available for another couple of years. He pointed out that there was a parcel of land at the Beaver Bank/Windsor Junction Cross Road the Province and HRM owned, and suggested that may be a suitable location.

In response to a question by Councillor Johns, Mr. Reage advised that there was no plan to bring Cobequid online, explaining that one of the issues they are currently having with Cobequid is that, even without it being a Metro Link terminal, they have the same parking issues as they do at the Sackville Terminal, therefore, there is absolutely no room to put a Link System in at Cobequid. Mr. Reage also noted that, at Cobequid, the #84 operates almost like an express route with very good travel times, and it has very good ridership.

Councillor Johns pointed out that, at the Sackville Terminal, there is a significant problem with parking overflow, and it is now going out onto Walker Avenue with parking occurring on both sides of the street. He suggested that it was becoming a hazard and that 'No Parking' signs be installed further along the street from where they currently are.

In response Mr. Reage advised that this would be a decision that Traffic Services staff would make, however, he pointed out that staff are pursuing the idea of prohibiting parking on one side of the driveway during the winter months in order that snowplows can properly clear the snow.

In response to a request by Councillor Johns, Mr. Reage concurred that staff would forward a request to the RCMP to increase enforcement of the 'No Parking' signs on Walker Avenue.

Councillor Johns advised that he is receiving e-mails on a weekly basis in regard to upgrading transit service in Sackville, and most are related to the issues around the Sackville Terminal.

Councillor Harvey noted that he was also getting similar e-mails. He pointed out that exiting the Sackville Terminal between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. is difficult as there are two intersections at Walker Avenue, and another intersection a short distance from this that has traffic lights. Councillor Harvey advised that this intersection is further complicated because it is a provincial intersection. He advised that staff are anticipating installing a left hand turning lane, if they receive provincial approval. Councillor Harvey also advised that because things are now getting clogged at that end, drivers take the long way down and

come out on Old Sackville Road. He noted that the people who live along that area are experiencing a lot of increased traffic at certain parts of the day. He added that his main concerns are to find a Park and Ride lot somewhere else, and that staff's plans to fix the situation is too far off in the future and this may result in more transit users deciding to start driving their cars again.

Councillor Johns suggested an alternate such as shuttle bus run originating from Walmart or Sobeys. He added that a key component to the Link system is the need for neighbourhood busing in Sackville. Councillor Johns noted that there has been discussion of implementing this in Burnside, but in that area it should be funded through the Burnside Business Association or the taxes the businesses pay in Burnside, North Gate, and Dartmouth Crossing, and not through residential taxes.

In conclusion, the Chair advised that an extract of the minutes would be forwarded to Transit staff and, rather than a written report back to Community Council, this will be regarded as staff's response to Community Council.

Community Council expressed appreciation to Mr. Reage for being in attendance.

## **11. ADDED ITEMS:**

### **11.1 Re-appointment - Halifax Watershed Advisory Board**

The following item was addressed at an earlier In Camera session and was now before Community Council for ratification:

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that Mr. Walter Regan be reappointed to the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board, for a term to expire November 2010. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **11.2 Re-appointments - Bedford Waters Advisory Board**

The following item was addressed at an earlier In Camera session and was now before Community Council for ratification:

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that Mr. Lem Murphy and Mr. Richard Hattin be re-appointed to the Bedford Waters Advisory Board, for terms to expire November 2010. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **12. NOTICES OF MOTION- None**

## **13. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Nick Antoft, submitted a letter dated November 21, 2007 on behalf of the Sackville Rivers Association.

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that the letter dated November 21, 2007 submitted by the Sackville Rivers Association be forwarded to**



**Mr. Carl Yates, General Manager, Halifax Region Water Commission and to Mr. Glen Warner, Nova Scotia Department of Environment (Bedford) for response. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Antoft questioned if there was a status report on the Interchange and Margeson Drive Project.

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that Mr. David McCusker be requested to provide an update to Community Council regarding this project. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Antoft advised that he would like to see the Lucasville Road designated as a truck restricted roadway. He explained that the Kearney Lake and Hammonds Plains Roads are restricted to trucks and the Lucasville Road shows a truck diversion sign. He added that if truck traffic is not discouraged from the Lucasville Road, it will transfer to Margeson Drive.

Councillor Johns advised that he asked staff for information on this and was told that there is a truck route bylaw and the police have the ability to write summary offence tickets. Councillor Johns noted that in order for it to be enforced, though, the truck restriction signs have to be in place and there has to be an official request to the RCMP for enforcement.

Councillor Johns advised that he would contact staff to confirm whether Hammonds Plains Road and the Lucasville Road are truck restricted. If Lucasville Road is not truck restricted, Councillor Johns added that he will ask staff if there is an opportunity to make this a truck restricted road as well, and erect signs; and once that is done, then the RCMP could be requested to provide enforcement.

**14. NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:**

A December meeting date will be determined based on agenda items.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant