

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL COUNCIL MINUTES

March 10, 1998

PRESENT:

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald
Deputy Mayor Reg Rankin
Councillors: David Hendsbee
Harry McInroy
Jack Greenough
Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington
Clint Schofield
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Graham L. Downey
Larry Uteck
Howard Epstein
Russell Walker
Bill Stone
Ron Hanson
Stephen Adams
Barry Barnet
Bob Harvey
Peter Kelly
Jack Mitchell

REGRETS:

Councillors Bill Dooks
Gordon R. Snow
Ron Cooper

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Patti Halliday, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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1. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Invocation. Council agreed to delay the scheduled Public Hearing until 6:30 p.m. to allow Mr. Robert Chisholm, Leader of the New Democratic Party, to make a presentation to Council.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At a later point in the meeting, Councillor McInroy acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the 1st Cole Harbour Scout Troop.

13.1 **Presentation - Mr. Robert Chisholm, Leader, Nova Scotia NDP re: Halifax Regional Municipality Issues**

Mr. Robert Chisholm, Leader, Nova Scotia NDP, made a presentation to Council, copies of which were made available to Council. Copies of the document entitled "Priorities for People" which outlines the priorities for Nova Scotia New Democrats, were also made available to Council.

Councillor Hendsbee inquired what the NDP would do on behalf of HRM regarding the Shearwater Airport, the Halifax International Airport and the Port of Halifax. Mr. Chisholm responded the NDP would work with HRM to push the Federal government to follow through with the commitments it has made with respect to the Halifax International and Shearwater Airports. Mr. Chisholm stated the Federal government should invest the same kind of money in the Halifax International Airport as it has invested in similar airports across the county. He added it is not fair to ask HRM and the Province to pick up costs that are clearly the responsibility of the Federal government. With respect to the Port of Halifax, Mr. Chisholm stated the Port is very important to HRM and the Province, and he suggested governments need to work together to ensure the port develops to a benefit to this region and the Province. However, Mr. Chisholm stated he is not prepared to make any financial commitments until the fiscal state of the Province is known.

Councillor Barnet inquired, if the NDP were elected, and developed a policy that had a negative impact on the region, would Mr. Chisholm, as Leader of that government, allow his members from the HRM area to vote against the government policy. Mr. Chisholm responded the NDP will not impose policies that are detrimental to HRM, and will work with HRM to ensure work is done in a positive and constructive manner.

With respect to the service exchange and the Department of Transportation, Councillor Adams inquired what Mr. Chisholm would do to ensure the outer areas get the same level of service as the core area. Mr. Chisholm replied it is clear service exchange has not worked and needs to be reviewed.

Councillor Greenough inquired if the NDP is elected, what will be the intention with respect to sharing the gasoline tax revenue with the municipalities. Mr. Chisholm

replied the tax system needs to be re-examined as it is not a fair system. He stated the NDP understands the pressure the Municipality is under as a result of changes that have taken place over the last five years with respect to the down loading of costs. Mr. Chisholm further stated the NDP wants to work with HRM to find out the best way to meet that challenge.

Councillor Blumenthal inquired where the NDP stands with respect to establishing convalescent homes. Mr. Chisholm replied there is no question that Home Care, in its present state, does not provide an adequate level of service. This system, and the type of services being made available to seniors in the Province, needs to be examined and modified to provide the required medical services and support to the seniors of Nova Scotia.

Councillor Kelly inquired about the plebiscite proposed by Mr. Chisholm, asking if it would be HRM wide or community based. The Councillor also inquired if the NDP would be willing to remove Section 20 of the HRM Act, and Section 36 of the proposed Municipal Government Act, which state that no towns can be created within HRM. Mr. Chisholm replied the plebiscite, through a joint Municipal Affairs/HRM task force, would give people an opportunity to examine what happened with amalgamation, the current status, as well as provide an opportunity to have some say in the future. Mr. Chisholm stated the details of the plebiscite would have to be worked out in consultation with HRM.

Councilor Stone inquired how the NDP proposes to build new schools. Mr. Chisholm replied the NDP believes they can immediately begin to build the schools on the critical list. The Province of Nova Scotia has budgeted \$25 million per year for leasing costs. The NDP has estimated the money can be borrowed cheaper through a non-profit corporation, and the schools can be built as quickly, if not sooner, than through the current government's public/private partnership proposal.

Councillor Harvey questioned if the plebiscite will be a vote on where we are now, and if we can go forward or back, and would the vote be binding. Mr. Chisholm stated the details need to be worked out, but the voters should have an opportunity to make a decision on whether the current structure should remain, or if there should be changes. Mr. Chisholm stated trying to correct a problem does not mean going back.

Councillor Sarto asked, assuming the tri-level cost sharing infrastructure program ceases, would the NDP be willing to look at setting up a similar municipal/provincial infrastructure program. Mr. Chisholm replied he was not prepared to say the federal participation of the infrastructure program is over. The Province has a responsibility to make sure the federal government continues to make that contribution to infrastructure.

Councillor Downey inquired how many jobs does the NDP, if elected, propose to create. Mr. Chisholm replied the NDP has made a clear commitment in its platform to make jobs a priority.

Councillor Schofield asked Mr. Chisholm what his position is with respect to regional health and school boards. Mr. Chisholm replied the current structure is not working, and community health boards need to be properly constituted and provided with resources to make decisions on how health services are to be delivered. The NDP is not proposing to dismantle regional health boards, but wants to ensure the decisions get beyond the regional boards to the community health boards. With respect to the School Boards, the NDP has suggested the amalgamation process needs to be reviewed.

Councillor Schofield asked Mr. Chisholm, if elected, would he seek to have any changes made to supplementary educational funding requirements. Mr. Chisholm replied the legislation would need to be examined as to how it has affected HRM's ability to do provide this funding.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Mr. Chisholm for attending the meeting and responding to Council's questions. Mr. Chisholm expressed thanks to the Mayor and Council for the invitation to attend.

2. PROCLAMATIONS

2.1 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Mayor Fitzgerald proclaimed March 21 to be International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

2.2 Hunger Awareness Week

Mayor Fitzgerald proclaimed the week of March 15 - 22, 1998 to be Hunger Awareness Week.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 24 and March 3, 1998

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal and Deputy Mayor Rankin that the minutes of February 24 and March 3, 1998, be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

The following items were requested to be added to the agenda:

- 13.1 Presentation - 6:00 p.m. Robert Chisholm, Leader, Nova Scotia NDP re: Halifax Regional Municipality Issues
- 13.2 Organics Cart Financing - Recommendation from Committee of the Whole, March 9/98

- 13.3 Councillor Harvey - 85th Battalion Monument - Passchendaele, Belgium
- 13.4 Ratification - In Camera Motion - Legal Matter: Ferry Terminal Canteen
- 13.5 Councillor Kelly - 213 and 216 Bedford Highway - Metro Food Bank
- 13.6 Councillor Walker - Information Item #2 - Fire Station Location Study
- 13.7 Councillor Walker - Proposal for Services for Collection and Transportation of Source Separated Solid Waste

Deputy Mayor Rankin advised Council he had to leave early to attend a school meeting. Councillor Epstein advised Council he had to leave early to attend a candidates' debate in his area this evening.

Councillor Blumenthal requested that Item 11.1 Petition Concerning Convalescent Care, be moved up on the agenda to be dealt with after the Public Hearing.

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Stone that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item 10.1 Public Hearing - Second Reading By-Law S-400 Respecting Charges for Street Improvements was addressed at this time.

10. PUBLIC HEARING

10.1 Second Reading By-Law S-400 Respecting Charges for Street Improvements

- An information report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

By-Law S-400 received First Reading on January 27, 1998. It was now before Council for Second Reading.

Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Engineering Services, gave a brief overview of the Information Report which was based on questions raised at First Reading of the By-Law and the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 17, 1998.

Mayor Fitzgerald called three times for speakers from the public either in favour or against the By-Law. No one came forward.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Rankin and Councillor Hetherington that the Public Hearing be closed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Deputy Mayor Rankin referenced Page 4 of the Information Report, dated March 4, 1998, and the suggested wording by staff to clarify the By-Law to include situations of a corner lot where one street has already been paved by a developer or the Municipality. Staff is taking the interpretation that charges shall not be applied for subsequent projects.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Rankin and Councillor Greenough that By-Law S-400 be amended to include the following section:

2.(3)(f) Where a property abuts more than one street, and where one street has already been paved, there shall not be any further charges on subsequent paving of the other streets. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Barnet also proposed an amendment to the By-law with respect to Section 4 of the By-Law regarding Interest.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Hendsbee that the Municipality charge residents the interest rate charged to the Municipality plus no extra percentage.

Councillor Walker inquired what cost implications would this amendment create. Mr. Dhillon replied the interest rate charge is consistent with what Council has already approved for other outstanding charges to the Municipality. If only the bank interest is charged, there will be an additional cost, similar to tax bills and other outstanding dues to the Municipality. Mr. Dhillon stated the cost would be four percent of the outstanding balance of the bills due to the Municipality. Councillor Barnet clarified the intent of his motion is not to create an additional expense to HRM, but to break even.

Mr. Ron Singer, Director, Finance, stated HRM is in the business of providing services, not the banking business. This By-law will provide residents an option to spread payments over a term, and the charge of four percent above prime is consistent with HRM's other interest policies.

Councillor Walker stated he could not support the motion without knowing a definitive cost amount.

Councillor Greenough suggested Council should refer this aspect of the report back to Finance to determine the actual costs and what a reasonable rate might be, given a good number of these projects will be financed over a ten year period. Mr. Meech suggested Council could pass the By-Law and have this aspect referred back to staff. The By-law can be amended in the future, if necessary.

The vote was taken on Councillor Barnet's amendment.

MOTION DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Stone that By-Law S-400, as amended, receive Second Reading.

Council agreed that staff should review the interest component of the By-Law.

Councillor Barnet spoke against the motion expressing concern with Schedule A of the By-Law, stating the \$14 charge per foot for paving may not be the right approach in every circumstance. The Councillor stated the Municipality absorbs the extra cost in the Capital Budget for projects that actually cost more than \$14 per foot. If the project costs less than \$14 per foot, it is a loss for the residents of the street. Councillor Barnet stated this was not a fair process. With respect to the interest charges, Councillor Barnet referenced a case in Beaver Bank where the resident will be required to pay \$70,000 in betterment charges which will force her out of her property. The Councillor suggested a policy needs to be created which has flexibility, and twenty years should be available for certain circumstances.

In response to a question from Councillor Schofield regarding sidewalk projects approved for Dartmouth in 1996, but completed in 1997, Mr. Dhillon replied staff has previously stated that any project that has come forward from the previous municipalities will be looked after under the former municipality's policies. Councillor Schofield noted the same tax rate for all former municipalities was kept in 1996. This type of work was included in the tax rate for Dartmouth for that one year only. Therefore, the Councillor stated there should be no betterment charges for projects approved as part of the 1996 Capital Budget. Mr. Dhillon replied staff can bring a report back to Council outlining the various projects. Councillor Greenough agreed with Councillor Schofield that these projects were already paid for in the tax rate, and to bill the residents for them now, would be double billing.

The vote was then taken on Second Reading of By-Law S-400, as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Item 11.1 Petitions - Petition Concerning Convalescent Care, was dealt with next on the agenda.

11. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS

11.1 Petition - Concerning Convalescent Care

- A petition from the Halifax Seniors' Council concerning convalescent care, was before Council for consideration.

Councillor Blumenthal introduced the following four members of the Halifax Seniors' Council: Ms. E. Blair Weatherdon, President; Ms. Lucy Riley, Ms. Sylvia Doyle and Ms. Molly Whitzman. Councillor Blumenthal read the Halifax Seniors' Council petition into the record.

Councillor Blumenthal stated the present Provincial government is not dealing with this situation properly, and there is a great need for the service of convalescent care for

seniors. The Councillor suggested that HRM send a strong message to the Provincial government to move swiftly to open these homes.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington that the Mayor write a letter of support to the Province asking them to move in the direction of convalescent homes, and to include the petition from the Halifax Seniors' Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Deputy Mayor Rankin and Councillor Epstein left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.)

11.2 Petition - Regional Museum of Cultural History

Councillor Cunningham submitted a petition containing 1321 signatures, stating they do not want the museum cut from the 1998-99 Operating Budget of the Halifax Regional Municipality as either a program or cultural institution, but ask that the Municipal Council re-confirm their financial support and commitment to the culture, heritage and history of the Municipality by continuing operating funds for the museum for this and future fiscal years.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - None

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - None

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

9. REPORTS

9.1 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

9.1.1 Councillor Dooks - Municipal Tax Properties for Sale

- A memorandum from Councillor Dooks regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

As Councillor Dooks was not present, this item was not addressed.

9.1.2 Councillor Adams - Street and Road Maintenance Beyond the Urban Core

- A memorandum from Councillor Adams regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

Councillor Adams expressed concern with the state of street and road maintenance beyond the urban core area. The Councillor noted taxes have increased and the level of service has declined. Councillor Adams commended Regional Operations staff for

the work they have done in response to calls he had made regarding street and road maintenance issues in the core area. He stated the same level of service is not received from the Provincial Department of Transportation and Communication.

The Councillor requested a staff report to determine how HRM can go about taking over the service of the roads in the outside core area from Harrietsfield, at the top of Lieblin Drive, around the highway to Village Road in Herring Cove. Council agreed to the request for a staff report.

Councillor Hendsbee agreed with Councillor Adams' comments and expressed similar concerns with the eastern side of the Municipality. The Councillor noted the service agreement with the Province will expire in October 1999, and stated he hopes HRM will take over the roads, with respect to the District 3 boundaries, if the Province has not met its responsibilities at that time.

9.2 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The following recommendation to Council is from the February 17, 1998 Committee of the Whole meeting.

9.2.1 Halifax Regional Search and Rescue

(i) Condition of Emergency Vehicles

(ii) Request for Assistance from HRM Regarding Training Centre

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Greenough, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that these two concerns raised by the Halifax Regional Search and Rescue be referred to the Chief Administrative Officer and Commissioner of Fire Services, to initiate preliminary discussions with Brian Russell, Chief Director.

In response to a question from Councillor Mitchell, Mr. Meech stated the report is currently being prepared and is expected to be completed for the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The following recommendations to Council are from the March 3, 1998 Committee of the Whole meeting.

9.2.2 Report from Regional Taxi & Limousine Committee re: Freeze on the Number of Taxi Vehicle Licenses in the Former County of Halifax

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Schofield, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that this matter be referred back to the Regional Taxi and

Limousine Committee to come forward to Council with a recommendation as soon as possible.

Councillor Adams noted during the Committee of the Whole discussion of this item, he had asked Council to endorse the current zones and to ensure that they remain in place and be enforced to protect the drivers of those particular zones.

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Hetherington that the motion be amended to include Council's endorsement and the enforcement of the current zone system.

Councillor Hendsbee reiterated his concerns regarding the opportunities for people in the rural area wanting to establish a limousine or taxi service, and stated he hopes these opportunities will not be frozen. The Councillor stated he wants it clearly understood that the rural areas can still make application for licenses.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The vote was then taken on the main motion, as amended. The amended motion read as follows:

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Schofield that this matter be referred back to the Regional Taxi and Limousine Committee to come forward to Council with a recommendation as soon as possible, and that Council endorses the current zone system and its enforcement. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.3 Report from Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities re: Accessible Parking Signage

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Sarto, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council approve a directive for the review of any regulations which affect the design and placement of accessible parking spaces and that consideration be given to make these regulations retroactive. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.4 Report from Heritage Advisory Committee re: Heritage Registration - Starr Manufacturing Building (set date for Public Hearing)

- Correspondence from the Shubenacadie Canal Commission in support of the Public Hearing regarding the Starr Manufacturing Building, was circulated to Council.
- Correspondence from the Dartmouth Downtown Development Corporation and James F. Lahey, requesting Council to delay the setting of a Public Hearing date, was circulated to Council.

The Committee of the Whole recommendation was that Council consider the recommendation of the Heritage Advisory Committee for heritage registration of the Starr Manufacturing Building, as set out in the Heritage Advisory Committee report dated February 27, 1998, at a public hearing, and that the date of April 14, 1998 be set for this public hearing.

Councillor Cunningham stated the heritage aspects of the Starr Manufacturing Building are important, but noted there are other interests including recreational, commercial and/or residential development. The Harbour East Community Council has briefly discussed such integration, and have requested staff to bring a report to Council. Councillor Cunningham suggested the proposed date of the Public Hearing does not allow staff the necessary time to prepare the necessary documentation, and proposed the date be changed to June 23, 1998. As a result of a motion adopted later in the meeting to amend the Regional Council meeting schedule, the proposed date of the Public Hearing was changed to June 30, 1998.

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Hetherington that Council consider the recommendation of the Heritage Advisory Committee for heritage registration of the Starr Manufacturing Building, as set out in the Heritage Advisory Committee report dated February 27, 1998, at a public hearing, and that the date of June 23, 1998 be set for this public hearing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.5 Report from Heritage Advisory Committee re: Substantial Alteration - Case 7555 - 5651-53 Victoria Road

- Attached: i) Extract from March 3 meeting of the Committee of the Whole
ii) Information Report from Municipal Solicitor

This item was referred to Council by Committee of the Whole on March 3, 1998, without recommendation.

- An Information Report prepared by Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

Councillor Uteck spoke in support of the recommendation from staff, the Heritage Advisory Committee and the Planning Advisory Committee. The Councillor clarified that concerns were expressed at the Committee of the Whole meeting regarding a development issue. The issue currently before Council is the substantial alteration, which would not prejudice future development decisions regarding the number of parking spaces. Councillor Uteck stated he believed it is irrelevant whether or not the section of the building questioned by the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia is original or not. The Councillor further stated the alteration will substantially improve the building, and the majority of its heritage characteristics will be maintained.

MOVED by Councillors Uteck and Harvey that the substantial alteration - Case 7555 - 5651-53 Victoria Road be approved, as recommended by the Heritage Advisory Committee, the Planning Advisory Committee and staff.

Councillor Harvey noted this proposal was before the Heritage Advisory Committee several times and a number of modifications were made based on suggestions from members of the Committee. The Councillor stated the majority of the members of the Heritage Advisory Committee believe the proposal meets the requirements of the Heritage Property Act.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.6 Award of Tender No. 97-344, Wyse Road Upgrading, Faulkner Street to Albro Lake Road, East District

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Greenough, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council award Tender No. 97-344, Wyse Road Upgrading, Faulkner Street to Albro Lake Road, East District, Option "B" to Ocean Contracting Ltd., at a Tender Price of \$662,382.46 Gross, \$220,794.15 Net, and a Total Project Cost of \$750,000.00 Gross, \$250,000.00 Net, with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95470, Resurfacing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.7 Award of Tender No. 97-365, Street Improvements, MacDonald Street - Chebucto Road to Quinpool Road, West District

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Walker, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council award Tender No. 97-365, Street Improvements, MacDonald Street - Chebucto Rd. to Quinpool Rd., West District, to Basin Contracting Ltd., at a Tender Price of \$322,960.83 and a Total Project Cost of \$371,405.00 with funding of \$363,524.00 authorized from Capital Account No. 95479, Street Improvement Program and \$7,881.00 from Capital Account No. 95470, Resurfacing, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.8 Award of Tender No. 98-213, Avon Crescent Storm Sewer

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Mitchell, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council award Tender No. 98-213, Avon Crescent Storm Sewer to W. Eric Whebby Ltd. for materials and services specified at the unit prices quoted for a Total Tender Price of \$151,255 and a Total Project Cost of \$173,909 with funding from the Capital Account Number noted in the Budget Implications section of the staff report dated February 23, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.9 Award of Quotation 97M431 for Three (3) Year Contract on Police Uniform Clothing (Fire Retardant)

MOVED by Councillors Mitchell and Hendsbee, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council award Quotation 97M431 for a three (3) year

contract to Horace Small Apparel for Police Fire Retardant Uniform shirts and trousers through their Operating Budget Account #01-24337-1502. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.10 By-Law B-201, Respecting the Building Code

MOVED by Councillors Stone and McInroy, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that By-Law B-201, Respecting the Building Code, proceed to Second Reading. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.11 Argyle Street Design Study

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Uteck, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that:

1. No further action be taken on the study recommendations to implement a permanent realignment of sidewalks on Argyle Street at this time;
2. Funding to replace street lights and undertake landscaping measures, as recommended by the Parker study, be introduced in the capital budgeting programme as financial resources become available;
3. The Municipality continue to grant approvals for temporary sidewalk cafes on Argyle Street on a seasonal basis; and
4. Staff bring forward revised approval and design requirements for temporary sidewalk cafes either through amendments to the policies previously approved by Council or through a sidewalk cafe by-law if the required enabling provisions under the HRM Act are approved by the Province. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.12 Solid Waste/Resource Management Strategy: Condominium Collection

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Mitchell, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that this matter be referred back to staff to review and further define the minimum level of solid waste service collection required by condominium owners in HRM and the associated costs of this service, for the next Committee of the Whole meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.13 Canadian Capital Cities Organization

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Mitchell, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council invite the Halifax Foundation to take the

lead role for the Halifax Regional Municipality in the Canadian Capital Cities Organization. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.14 Ferry Concession Stands

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Schofield, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that this matter be referred to the Chief Administrative Officer to explore possible alternatives. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.15 Request to Amend the Municipal Planning Strategy for Dartmouth

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Hetherington, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council initiate a process to amend the Municipal Planning Strategy for Dartmouth for the purposes of considering an extension of the Development Boundary to include all lands known as Craigwood Estates and that public participation be undertaken in accordance with the Public Participation Resolution adopted by Regional Council on February 25, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.16 Spring Weight Restrictions

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Greenough, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that Council approve maximum vehicle weight restrictions as per Schedule A of the staff report dated 25 February 1998, on streets not shown in Schedule B of the staff report, from March 16, 1998 to April 26, 1998, and authorize the Engineer to change the weight restrictions and list of exempted roads as conditions warrant. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.2.17 Committee of the Whole Meeting - March 24th

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Mitchell, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole, that there be a Committee of the Whole session commencing at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 1998, followed by a Regular Council Session at 6:00 p.m. for Public Hearings; further,

That the June 9, 1998 Regular Session be cancelled due to the FCM Conference, and that the June 16, 1998 Committee of the Whole meeting be changed to a Regular Council Session; the June 23, 1998 Regular Council Session be changed to a Committee of the Whole meeting; and, that there be a Regular Council Session on June 30, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Due to this motion being passed, Councillor Cunningham noted the motion passed earlier in the meeting, setting the date for the Public Hearing regarding the Starr Manufacturing Building, will need to be changed. The Councillor proposed that the date be changed to June 30, 1998, to which Council agreed.

9.3 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

9.3.1 Tender #97-144-A/C Water Chiller Replacement - Halifax Metro Centre

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Hetherington that Regional Council authorize the award of Tender #97-144-A/C to remove existing chiller and supply and install a new A/C water chiller at the Halifax Metro Centre to Cimco Refrigeration in the amount of \$81,710.53 plus 15% HST to a total of \$93,967.11. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10. PUBLIC HEARING

10.1 Second Reading By-Law S-400 Respecting Charges for Street Improvements

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

11. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

12. MOTIONS

12.1 Councillor Hendsbee

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Kelly that:

WHEREAS the next Provincial Election is two weeks away on March 24;

AND WHEREAS HRM should be setting forth issues that ought to set the agenda for all the political parties to address in each of their respective campaign platforms;

AND WHEREAS political campaigns ought to be conducted on the basis of electoral fairness and equal opportunity for all;

AND WHEREAS, so far to date, we have two Councillors nominated as candidates to seek election to the Provincial Legislature;

AND WHEREAS publicity from HRM Council meetings should not be misconstrued as an unfair advantage to portray and promote anyone or all candidates from any of the political parties or as an independent candidate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the HRM Council grant a leave of absence, with pay, to any and all Councillors who are provincial candidates, for the duration of the writ period up to its end on Election Day; and

THAT IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED than no candidates or political parties be permitted to make presentations, with the exception of the Leaders of the Political Parties, or be acknowledged to any future HRM Council Meetings or Committee of the Whole Meetings or Public Hearings, until this provincial election is over.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested that maybe this should become a policy of HRM, and possibly all municipalities of Nova Scotia, in the future, to provide fairness in any provincial elections. The Councillor stated there are opportunities Councillors would have above those of any other potential political candidates.

Mayor Fitzgerald and Councillors Adams, Barnet, Mitchell and Blumenthal spoke against the motion making the following points:

- The motion is not fair to the individuals it is targeting. The Councillors affected are performing their duties for the people they represent.
- Proposed changes to the Provincial Election Act should be taken to the Province.

- It is unfair to say to the residents that their Councillor can no longer represent them.

Councillor Hetherington stated he was elected by the residents of District 8 and will continue to represent them up to and including March 24, 1998.

In closing, Councillor Hendsbee stated he is only requesting fairness for all candidates.

MOTION DEFEATED.

13. ADDED ITEMS

13.1 Presentation - 6:00 p.m. Robert Chisholm, Leader, Nova Scotia NDP re: Halifax Regional Municipality Issues

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

13.2 Organics Cart Financing - Recommendation from Committee of the Whole, March 9/98

- A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

This item was recommended to Council from the March 9, 1998 Committee of the Whole meeting.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Mitchell, as recommended by Committee of the Whole, that Council approve a temporary borrowing resolution to enable HRM to borrow a maximum of \$8,775,000 through the Municipal Finance Corporation. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.3 Councillor Harvey - 85th Battalion Monument - Passchendaele, Belgium

- Correspondence from Councillor Harvey regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

Councillor Harvey stated he received a letter yesterday from Col. Douglas Stallard, Honorary Colonel of the Nova Scotia Highlanders regarding the 85th Battalion Monument in Passchendaele, Belgium. The monument is in some danger at this time. The text of a letter sent in 1919, by the Colonel of the Regiment to next of kin of fallen members of the Battalion, was attached. This text indicates why the monument was built and placed in its current location. Councillor Harvey stated he brought this item to Council because the 85th Battalion was raised in Halifax, and many members were from the area. There are no members of the Battalion left to defend their monument. Col. Stallard is requesting that HRM write to the Mayor of Zonnebeke, Belgium, to see what can be done to secure the monument at its present location.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Uteck that the Mayor write a letter to the Mayor of Zonnebeke, Belgium, to see what can be done to secure the monument at its present location, and that the letter be sent to Rev. Nigel Cave, London, England, who will hand deliver the letter to Belgium at the appropriate time.

Councillor Hendsbee stated he hopes that there might be an opportunity for HRM to address this issue with the Department of National Defence, the Department of External Affairs and Veterans Affairs and, to extend this information out to the local legions of HRM.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.4 Ratification - In Camera Motion - Legal Matter: Ferry Terminal Canteen

- This matter was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the public session.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Sarto that Council conclude its negotiations and issue the lease of the Ferry Terminal Canteens to Tim Horton's.

Councillor Blumenthal spoke against the motion stating Council is making a wrong decision and will be destroying a local business.

Councillor Barnet spoke in support of the motion stating the employees that will be working in the canteens will be local people. The Councillor stated a fair process was followed and the only action Council can take is to proceed with the recommendation.

Councillor Downey spoke against the motion stating he believes the matter should be left to the proprietors to work out among themselves.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.5 Councillor Kelly - 213 and 216 Bedford Highway - Metro Food Bank

Councillor Kelly requested that staff prepare a report for the March 24th Committee of the Whole meeting, regarding the proposal of purchase and sale of 213 and 217 Bedford Highway to the Food Bank, for discussion by Council. The Councillor noted there has been some correspondence back and forth, and suggested it may be time for Council to become involved again to resolve this issue.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Downey that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.6 Councillor Walker - Information Item #2 - Fire Station Location Study

Councillor Walker requested answers to the following questions regarding the above item for the next Committee of the Whole meeting on March 24:

- 1) What is the size of the Committee?
- 2) Who is on the Committee?
- 3) Are there any Councillors on the Committee?

Council agreed to the request for information.

13.7 Councillor Walker - Proposal for Services for Collection and Transportation of Source Separated Solid Waste

Councillor Walker referenced the above document and asked that it be discussed and debated at the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee meeting be held on March 25.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Blumenthal that the Proposal for the Collection and Transportation of Source Separated Solid Waste be referred to the March 25 meeting of the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee for discussion and debate.

Councillor Hetherington noted the tender is out and suggested it may be better to have a bidders' conference at the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee. Mr. Brian Smith noted staff has scheduled a bidders' meeting tomorrow (March 11/98) and would like to proceed with that, if at all possible. In response to a question from Councillor Hetherington, Mr. Smith stated the SWRAC has not been invited to the bidders' conference, as this is not normal procedure. However, he stated the document and the outcome of bidders' meeting can be discussed at SWRAC.

Councillor Hetherington stated every time Council tries to have the haulers discuss anything with the SWRAC, there seems to be a middle man. The Councillor requested that the haulers meet with Council to discuss this bid as it appears everybody is getting different stories. Mr. McLellan replied staff is in favour of clarifying the matter. Staff has had a few meetings with the bidders, and another will be held tomorrow. If Council wants to hear from the haulers, Mr. McLellan stated he would support Council in opening up a process that will have haulers come in and discuss the matter. But for staff's purposes, they have prepared a tender document based upon the foundation of the solid waste strategy. Staff has responded to questions of Council. The tender document was put out and changed because of meetings with the haulers. Staff came back to Council, and although Councillor Hetherington was not present, his concerns were raised and staff answered the questions at that time. Council did not instruct staff to hold back, so the tender was put out as is normally done. However, Mr. McLellan stated if there are any questions, he would encourage Council to open up the process. An addendum can be made or the process can be stopped.

Councillor Walker stated he would like to discuss the document with SWRAC to have his questions answered. Mr. McLellan stated if there are sufficient questions at the

SWRAC meeting, an addendum can always be sent out if there is a decision to change the tender and the job can still be accomplished.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington that the meeting adjourn at 8:05 p.m. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk