# HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 9, 2003

**PRESENT:** Mayor Peter J. Kelly

Deputy Mayor Steve Streatch Councillors: Krista Snow

David Hendsbee Ron Cooper Harry McInroy Brian Warshick Condo Sarto

Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Dawn Sloane
Sue Uteck
Sheila Fougere
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Linda Mosher
Stephen Adams
Brad Johns

Len Goucher Robert Harvey Reg Rankin Gary Meade

**REGRETS:** Councillor Jim Smith

STAFF: Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor Ms. Jan Gibson, Deputy Municipal Clerk Ms. Patti Halliday, Legislative Assistant

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### 1. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Invocation being led by Councillor Meade.

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 25, 2003

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that the minutes of November 25, 2003, be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

# 3. <u>APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS</u> AND DELETIONS

For the record, the Clerk noted Councillor Smith sent regrets due to illness.

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 12.1 Councillor Blumenthal By- Law Enforcement re: Unsightly Complaints
- 12.2 Private Roads Committee Rockwood Hills Drive Bridge
- 12.3 Contractual Matter Request for Proposal 98-016, Operation of Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Miller Waste, 2004-2009 Renewal Term
- 12.4 Legal Matter Settlement of Claim
- 12.5 Contractual Matter Canada Strategic Infrastructure Funds Harbour Solutions Project

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the Order of Business, Additions and Deletions be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES
- 5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION NONE
- 6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION NONE
- 6.1 <u>Councillor Cooper</u>

MOVED by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Council rescind the motion of November 25, 2003 concerning that portion of Appointments to Boards and Committees pertaining to the appointments to the Halifax Regional Water Commission and to have the Membership Selection Committee reconsider this matter."

Councillor Cooper stated the reason for his motion is with respect to continuance of governance of the Halifax Regional Water Commission. The Councillor stated to have a significant turnover of members would interrupt this and, therefore, he asked that this be reconsidered and that the Water Commission consider requesting staggered terms to avoid this problem in the future.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

#### 7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

## 7.1 Councillor Blumenthal - Abandoned Shopping Carts and Scavenging

Councillor Blumenthal expressed concern with the amount of revenue loss by HRM due to scavenging of recyclables. In response, Mr. Jim Bauld, Acting General Manager, Solid Waste Resources, stated staff's best estimate is that the amount lost is approximately \$300,000 but it is difficult to quantify. In response to a question of Councillor Blumenthal regarding fines being issued for stolen shopping carts, Mr. Alan Waye, General Manager, Community Projects, stated there has been no prosecution relative to shopping carts, however, there has been prosecution regarding scavenging on a reactive basis only. One person has been fined twice.

Councillor Blumenthal stated he would like a staff report to examine this problem which is costing taxpayers money.

# MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that this matter be referred to staff for a report.

Councillor Sloane stated this is also a social problem in that some people are scavenging just to survive. The Councillor suggested the provincial and federal governments should be requested to do something to assist these people. Mayor Kelly responded that this could be looked at as part of the staff report.

Councillor Harvey noted that scavenging is taking place more and more often in District 20 and scavenging by the poor is a social issue that needs to be addressed by more than just this municipality. With respect to shopping carts being removed from store property, the

Councillor noted there are carts littering various streets in Sackville and many end up in the Little Sackville River. Councillor Harvey stated punitive measures mentioned in the staff report may get the attention of the grocery sector, as they have to take responsibility for these carts which are an increasing form of litter in HRM communities.

Councillor Uteck commended Sobey's for installing an electronic barrier at its location in her District, whereby the cart wheels lock if they are taken off the property. With respect to scavenging, the Councillor stated citizens need to report those individuals making a business of consistently collecting the recyclables from the curb in late model vehicles.

Councillor Hetherington stated his biggest concern is with regard to the shopping carts stating they are abandoned in the streets creating a serious safety issue. He noted many carts from Penhorn Mall end up in Penhorn Lake. Councillor Hetherington suggested HRM needs to work with the larger chain stores to resolve this issue, noting the chain stores need to take responsibility for this issue and not HRM.

Responding to a question of Councillor Sloane, Mr. Waye stated with the new proposed nuisance by-law, the accountability will be put on the owner of the carts. It is anticipated that this by-law will be before Council this fiscal year. Councillor Sloane suggested a fine of \$500 should be placed on each cart.

Councillor Cunningham noted the Enviro Depots could assist in identifying the large scale scavengers.

Responding to a question of Councillor Streatch, Mr. McLellan stated staff is prepared to act more forcefully with respect to enforcing the by-law. Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Environmental Management Services, added that staff are prepared to put forth a pilot proactive enforcement plan to revamp resources and take a pro-active approach on this issue for a set period of time. He noted more information on this can be put in the staff report. Mr. Anguish stated there is a question of resources and the report will outline the initial resources required for the pilot. Mr. McLellan stated this action plan will be implemented with or without a report, and the report requested could deal with the social implications and the loss of revenue.

Councillor Goucher stated he would like the report to address controls (ie. \$1 deposit) for shopping carts.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

## 8.1 By-Law T-211, An Amendment to By-Law T-201, Respecting Tax Exemption

## **for Non-Profit Organizations**

- By-Law T-211, An Amendment to By-Law T-201, Respecting Tax Exemptions for Non-Profit Organizations passed First Reading on November 18, 2003 and was now before Council for Second Reading.
- Correspondence from Ms. Debbie Buckoski, Acting CEO, Sport Nova Scotia, in support of the By-Law, was before Council for its information.

Ms. Barbara Nehiley, Special Projects Advisor, presented the report to Council.

Councillor Uteck requested a list of those who applied this year but are not on the By-Law. Mayor Kelly called for members of the public wishing to speak either in favour of or against the By-Law.

#### Ms. Carol Tooton. Canadian Mental Health Association

Speaking in support of the By-Law, Ms. Carol Tooton addressed Council providing background information about the Association's property at 63 King Street, Dartmouth, and the benefits of tax exemption to the organization.

Mayor Kelly called three times for any further members of the public wishing to speak either in favour of or against the by-law. Hearing none, the following motion was put on the floor:

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, that the Public Hearing be closed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, that Council give Second Reading to By-Law T-211, An Amendment to By-Law T-201, Respecting Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organizations.

Following a brief discussion the vote was taken.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 8.2 <u>Case 00554: Request for Expansion of Portland Hills Subdivision in</u>

  Dartmouth
- C The proposed amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy passed First Reading on November 18, 2003 and were now before Council for Second

Reading.

- Correspondence from Mr. George Nicholson, dated December 3, 2003, was circulated to Council for its information.
- Correspondence from Mr. S. M. Mandaville, Soil and Water Conservation Society of Metro Halifax (SWCSMH) dated December 8, 2003, was circulated to Council for its information.

Mr. Paul Morgan, Regional Planning, presented the staff report to Council and responded to questions of clarification.

Mayor Kelly called for members of the public wishing to speak either in favour of or against the amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy.

# Mr. Shalom Mandaville, Soil and Water Conservation Society of Metro Halifax (SWCSMH)

Mr. Mandaville address Council regarding the amendments stating he was disappointed that the recommendations of the 1998 Griffith-Meucke report are not being followed. He noted one of the recommendations was to reduce phosphorous in the lake by 40 percent. Mr. Mandaville stated at a public meeting held on May 31, 2000, staff indicated that these recommendations would be followed. Although he stated he did not oppose the amendments, Mr. Mandaville expressed disappointment that these recommendations were not pursued.

Mayor Kelly called three times for any further members of the public wishing to speak either in favour of or against the amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy. Hearing none, the following motion was put on the floor:

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, that the Public Hearing be closed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that Regional Council give Second Reading to the proposed amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy presented in Attachment 1 of the staff report October 24, 2003.

In response to a question of Councillor Harvey regarding Mr. Mandaville's comments with respect to the recommendations of the Griffith-Meucke report, Mr. Morgan stated they are still under review by the Committee and there will still be an opportunity to take action.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS
- 9.1 <u>Correspondence None</u>
- 9.2 Petitions

None.

(Councillor Hetherington left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.)

- 9.3 Presentation
- 9.3.1 Soccer by the Sea Ms. Judith Phillips

Ms. Judith Phillips made a presentation to Council regarding Soccer by the Sea and presented a gift to Mr. Mike Labrecque, Director, Real Property and Asset Management, for his department's assistance during and after the National Soccer Championship.

- 10. REPORTS
- 10.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
- 10.1.1 <u>Tender #03-333, One (1) 2004, Commercial Cutaway Van with Fibreglass Body, Minimum 19,000 GVWR</u>
- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Streatch, seconded by Councillor Warshick, that Council authorize the award of Tender #03-333 to MacPhee Pontiac at a cost of \$64,277.79 (net HST incl) with funding from Operating Account F793 as outlined in the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated December 2, 2003. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 10.1.2 Capital Budget Increase Andrew Cobb Park Upgrade (Bedford)
- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Warshick, that Regional Council approve an increase in the Gross Capital Budget to Capital Account No. CPC00680 Park Upgrades by \$22,500.00, with no change to the Net Budget, to reflect the five percent parkland contribution from Realco Management Ltd., as per the Background Section of the staff report dated November 27, 2003. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

# 10.1.3 <u>By-Law L-114, Respecting Charges for Local Improvement Projects, Point Pleasant Drive Sanitary Sewer</u>

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

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal, that Council approve, in principle, and begin the formal process for the adoption of By-Law L-114, Respecting Charges for Local Improvement Projects, Point Pleasant Drive Sanitary Sewer. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 10.1.4 Proposed Advanced Funding Approval 2004/05 Capital Budget

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

Mr. Rick

Paynter, Director, Public Works and Transportation Services, gave a brief overview of the report to Council. Mr. Mike Labrecque, Director, Real Property and Asset Management, noted a revision to the staff recommendation in that any reference to \$7.22 million should read \$4.2 million and, in Schedule A, the phrase "18 buses" should read "10 buses."

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Warshick, that Halifax Regional Council provide advanced funding approval of the proposed 2004/05 Capital Roads and Sidewalk Budget for Public Works and Transportation Services (PWT), the Capital Sewer Budget for Environmental Management Services (EMS), and the Transit Fleet Bus Replacement for Real Property and Asset Management (RPAM), in the amounts of \$7,254,000.00, \$2,640,000.00 and \$4,200,000.00 respectively as outlined in Schedule "A" and as per the Discussion and Budget Implications section of the staff report dated November 29, 2003. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### 10.1.5 <u>Bicycle Advisory Committee</u>

C A staff report prepared for Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

## MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that:

- 1. Council approve the establishment of the Bicycle Advisory Committee based on the Terms of Reference attached to the staff report dated November 27, 2003.
- 2. The three Members of Council appointed to the Bikeways Task Force be transferred to the new Bicycle Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 10.1.6 <u>Amendment to Administrative Order #12, Respecting an Appointment to the Traffic Authority</u>
- C A staff report prepared for Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Mosher, that Council approve the amendment to the Administrative Order Number 12 to reflect the appointment of Mr. Ken Reashor, P. Eng., as the Traffic Authority. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 10.2 Heritage Advisory Committee

#### 10.2.1 Case H00122 - Proposed Addition to 2421 Brunswick Street, Halifax

A report from the Heritage Advisory Committee regarding the above was before Council for its consideration.

Ms. Randa James, Acting Heritage Planner, presented the report to Council.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Fougere, that Regional Council approve the addition to 2421 Brunswick Street, as proposed in the staff report dated November 14, 2003. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 10,2.2 Case H00123 - Proposed Addition to 149 Prince Albert Road, Dartmouth

A report from the Heritage Advisory Committee regarding the above was before Council for its consideration.

Ms. Randa James, Acting Heritage Planner, presented the report to Council.

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that Regional Council approve the addition to 149 Prince Albert Road, as proposed in the staff report dated November 10, 2003. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### 10.3 <u>MEMBERS OF COUNCIL</u>

#### 10.3.1 Councillor Mosher

### (i) <u>Proposed Muralist Position</u>

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Johns, that Council request a staff report regarding HRM having a full-time artist on staff.

In discussing the motion, Councillor Mosher suggested that this artist would be available for any business unit to help alleviate graffiti and for any other project deemed appropriate by HRM. The Councillor noted HRM is experiencing a growth in graffiti and data has shown that graffiti is absolutely linked to collateral crime. Councillor Mosher stated there are many costs to municipalities with respect to graffiti: lowering of property values, removal costs, judicial/police enforcement/court costs, etc. The Councillor noted that she has been working with the Community Response Team and one of their suggestions to deal with the graffiti issue has been to put up murals. With the use of photographs, the Councillor illustrated some examples. The cost of the three murals shown was \$27,000. Councillor Mosher stated the intent of her motion is to obtain a report to determine how fiscally responsible it would be for HRM to have a full time artist on staff.

Councillor Uteck requested that the staff report also include the alternative of an RFP to have a number of artists retained on staff to reflect the diversity in art.

With respect to funding, Councillor Mosher suggested one option that could be considered would be to utilize District Capital Funds for mural supplies.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

# (ii) <u>Interpretation of By-Law B-500 - Respecting Building Service Connections</u>

Councillor Mosher stated some residents are misinterpreting the intent and meaning of By-Law B-500 Respecting Building Service Connections and there is some confusion as to what are the roles and responsibilities of the residents and HRM. The Councillor requested a report from the By-Law Rationalization Committee as to how this can be clarified.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Adams, that By-Law B-500 Respecting Building Service Connections and the procedure respecting building service connections be sent to the By-Law Rationalization Committee to assess the clarity in the wording.

Councillor Mosher advised Council that she received a copy of a document regarding procedure written by Mr. Rick Paynter, Director, Public Works and Transportation Services, in June 2002 which addresses her concerns. The Councillor noted if the resident had a copy of the procedures there would be no confusion over responsibilities, and she suggested the By-Law Rationalization Committee review this with the possibility of having it included in the By-Law or being attached to the By-Law.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11. MOTIONS

### 11.1 <u>Councillor Cooper</u>

This item was addressed under Item 6.1.

## 11.2 <u>Councillor Smith</u>

"That the Halifax Regional Municipality Council Membership Committee, when nominating members to the Police Board of Commissioners, shall ensure, unless no qualified or appropriate candidate has applied, at least one member of the Board, at any time, is of the female gender and that at least one other member, at any time, is of a visible minority."

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham, seconded Blumenthal that this matter be deferred for one week.

Councillor McInroy suggested the matter be referred to the Board of Police Commissioners. Both the Mover and Seconder agreed. The motion now read as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal, that this matter be referred to the Board of Police Commissioners. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 12. ADDED ITEMS

### 12.1 Councillor Blumenthal - By-Law Enforcement re: Unsightly Complaints

Councillor Blumenthal briefly addressed Council regarding the above and complaints from

residents that work orders are not addressed in a timely matter. The Councillor referenced two cases that have been long-standing problems. Councillor Blumenthal stated he was pleased to hear that HRM will be pro-active in the future with respect to by-law enforcement.

### 12.2 Private Roads Committee - Rockwood Hills Drive Bridge

A report from the Private Roads Committee regarding the above was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Johns, that Council direct staff to proceed with the stabilization of the Rockwood Hills Drive Bridge to allow for the normal level of fire service, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) the formation of a legal entity by the property owners to be responsible for the bridge, including future maintenance and upgrades.
- 2) the acquisition of all applicable permits.
- a successful petition representing a minimum of 66 2/3% of the identified property owners located beyond the bridge, with the understanding that 50% of the total cost of the bridge work will be assigned to the property owners that are situated on the west side of Hillside Drive (Lots 1 through 5 Refer to Attached Plan) and the remaining 50% being assigned to the property owner located on the east side of Hillside Drive (Lot 6). It is estimated that the total cost of the bridge work will be \$50,000, and that this cost will be 100% recovered from the property owners by way of a Local Improvement Charges, amortization not to exceed ten years.
- 4) a Bylaw providing for the recovery of Local Improvement Charges must be developed and approved by Regional Council prior to permitting the project to proceed.
- 5) HRM assumes no responsibility or liability.
- 6) review by Legal Services. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 12.3 <u>Contractual Matter Request for Proposal 98-016, Operation of Materials</u>
  Recovery Facility (MFR) Miller Waste, 2004-2009 Renewal Term
- C This matter was discussed during an In Camera session held prior to the regular session and was now before Council for ratification.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that the Halifax Regional Municipality:

1. Award a five-year renewal of RFP No. 98-016 Miller Waste Systems for

the operations of the MRF from April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2009, subject to the drafting and signing of Supplementary Agreement #1 containing the terms and conditions as outlined in the November 18, 2003 Private and Confidential staff report, to be appended to the main MRF Operations Agreement.

2. The November 18, 2003 Private and Confidential staff report not be released to the public until after Council approval and the signing of the Agreement has taken place. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

## 12.4 <u>Legal Matter - Settlement of Claim</u>

C This matter was discussed during an In Camera session held prior to the regular session and was now before Council for ratification.

MOVED by Councillor Sarto, seconded by Councillor McInroy, that Halifax Regional Council settle the claim, as set out in the November 26, 2003 Private and Confidential staff report, brought by the Plaintiff in the amount \$30,521.53 as settlement in full upon obtaining a full release from the Plaintiff from any further claims arising out of the accident which occurred on September 4, 2000. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 12.5 <u>Contractual Matter Canada Strategic Infrastructure Funds Harbour Solutions</u>
  <u>Project</u>
- C This matter was discussed during an In Camera session held prior to the regular session and was now before Council for ratification.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Snow, that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the Canada-Halifax Regional Municipality Agreement on the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project (substantially in the form attached as Appendix 1 of the December 4, 2003 Private and Confidential staff report) with Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada, for the funding of the design and construction of the sewage collection systems and access roads in three communities, and the design and construction of a sewage treatment plant in Halifax. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 13. NOTICES OF MOTION

#### 13.1 Councillor Uteck - Off Leash dogs

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**December 9, 2003** 

TAKE NOTICE that, at the next regular Regional Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, the 16th day of December 2003, I propose to move a motion requesting staff to bring forward a report addressing the possibility of off-leash dogs being permitted in municipal public parks, which are sports and athletic fields, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. until May 1, 2004 as a temporary measure to provide an alternative to do owners who are not able to access Point Pleasant Park because of damages there resulting from Hurricane Juan. The report should deal with any legislative changes that might be required.

# 13.2 Councillor Uteck - First Reading, By-Law L-114

TAKE NOTICE that, at the next regular Regional Council meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 16th day of December 2003, I propose to introduce for First Reading By-Law Number L-114, Respecting Charges for Local Improvement Projects, Point Pleasant Drive Sanitary Sewer, the purpose of which is to amend By-Law L-100, the Local Improvement By-Law.

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**December 9, 2003** 

# 14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Jan Gibson Deputy Municipal Clerk