

**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES**

January 15, 2008

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter Kelly, Chair
Deputy Mayor Stephen D. Adams
Councillors: Steve Streach
Krista Snow
David Hendsbee
Harry McInroy
Gloria McCluskey
Andrew Younger
Bill Karsten
Jackie Barkhouse
Jim Smith
Mary Wile
Patrick Murphy
Dawn M. Sloane
Sue Uteck
Sheila Fougere
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Linda Mosher
Brad Johns
Robert P. Harvey
Reg Rankin
Gary G. Meade

REGRETS:

Councillor Gary Martin

STAFF:

Mr. Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Geri Kaiser, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Kirby Grant, Acting Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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1. INVOCATION

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kelly at 6:00 p.m. with the invocation being led by Councillor Murphy.

At the request of Councillor McInroy, Council observed a minute of silence for the community of Bathurst, New Brunswick, to honour the memory of those who lost their lives in the tragic highway crash which occurred near Bathurst this past weekend.

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillor Younger advised of two upcoming meetings in his district as follows:

- C for businesses in the Main Street/Tacoma Drive area to discuss the creation of a Business Improvement District, a meeting will be held Wednesday, January 16, 2008, 10:00 a.m., at the Garden View Restaurant
- C there will be a meeting on wind energy. Monday, January 21, 2007, 7:00 p.m., Akerley Community College,

Councillor Hendsbee advised that in recognition of Martin Luther King's birthday and the 'Share the Dream' experience, the Nova Scotia Mass Choir and others will be having a film presentation of *Poor Boys Game* next Sunday, January 20, 2008 at the Alderney Landing; following this, there will be a panel discussion.

Deputy Mayor Adams advised of a meeting on Wind Energy to be held Thursday, January 17, 2007, 7:00 p.m. at Halifax West High School.

Deputy Mayor Adams noted that Cst. Darcy Houston won the 'Maritimer of the Week' award last week. He advised that Cst. Houston is a patrol officer in Spryfield area and, in addition to these duties, he has become involved in the Greystone Tenant's Association, and is working closely with the school. As well he led the purchasing of Christmas gifts by area police officers for less fortunate students; and he has organized a basketball game between police officers and Rockingstone students as a way to help break down barriers. Deputy Mayor Adams noted that Cst. Houston epitomizes professionalism in a police officer.

Deputy Mayor Adams advised of the tragic passing of Mr. Rene Quigley this week. Councillor Adams pointed out that Mr. Quigley had a long history of serving his community, noting that he worked diligently with community groups, in labour relations and human rights, and that he was a driving force behind the playground and park at the Recreation Centre in Spryfield. Deputy Mayor Adams requested that Mayor Kelly on behalf of Council send condolences to

Ms. Sandra Quigley in recognition of his countless hours of giving to his community.

Councillor Smith extended an invitation to residents to attend a fundraiser on Sunday, January 20, 2008, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Northbrook Community Centre to assist three students who are part of a group of students going to Quebec within the next couple of months.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None

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

Additions:

13.1 Councillor Streach - Tender 07-380 - One (1) 28 Foot Fire / Rescue Boat

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the order of business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9.1 Proposed Administrative Order SC49, Respecting Closure of a Portion of Old Windsor Street Right of Way, Halifax

An extract of the December 11, 2007 minutes regarding this item was submitted.

A staff report dated November 22, 2007, originally submitted at the December 11, 2007 Regional Council meeting was before Regional Council for consideration.

Mr. Tom Crouse, Acquisition & Disposal Manager, Transportation and Public Works addressed Council and outlined the request, which originated from Transportation and Public Works, Municipal Operations - HRM Cemeteries, to close a portion of the Old Windsor Street right of way, Halifax.

There were no questions of clarification from Council.

The Chair called three times for anyone wishing to speak; there being none, it was **MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Public Hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Regional Council approve the request by Transportation and Public Works, Municipal Operations - HRM Cemeteries to close a portion of the Old Windsor Street right-of-way, Halifax as shown on Attachment "B" of the November 22, 2007 staff report.

Councillor Harvey noted that Blue Bell road was once the original road in and out of Halifax, adding that part of the road is carried in the name of the current Bell Road. He suggested that this was a significant part of the early history of Halifax of which Council should be mindful.

MOVED by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the motion be amended to request that staff install interpretive signs in the area which explain the historical significance of Blue Bell Road.

THE AMENDMENT WAS PUT AND PASSED.

The motion now reads:

MOVED by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Regional Council approve the request by Transportation and Public Works, Municipal Operations - HRM Cemeteries to close a portion of the Old Windsor Street right-of-way, Halifax as shown on Attachment "B" of the November 22, 2007 staff report; and that staff install interpretive signs in the area which explain the historical significance of Blue Bell Road.

THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS PUT AND PASSED.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**
6. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE**
7. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE**
8. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE**
10. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS:**
 - 10.1 **Correspondence - None**
 - 10.2 **Petitions**

Councillor Streach served a petition containing 60 signatures from concerned citizens and property owners of the land bordering Grassy and Ferry Lakes, located in Mooseland, HRM to have a dam constructed on the Tangier River where it leaves the two lakes. He asked that the petition be forwarded to the Provincial Department of Environment and Labour for consideration.

10.3 Presentations

10.3.1 Lakeshore Curling Club

C A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation regarding this matter was submitted.

Mr. Tom Burchill, representing the Lakeshore Curling Club addressed Regional Council and

gave a presentation pertaining to the Club's bid to retain the use of the curling facilities at the Sackville Sports Stadium.

In his remarks, Mr. Burchill elaborated on the number and diversity of individuals who belong to the Club and the economic impact it has for HRM. He advised that \$1.5 million of capital debt is now attributed to the Lakeshore Curling Club and they were proposing the following partnership with HRM in order to move forward:

- C Lakeshore Curling Club to pay operating costs through rent programme
- C Additional funds to be remitted to assist with Sackville Sprits Stadium capital debt payment
- C Council to make up the shortfall through general rate increase
- C Lakeshore Curling Club to expand is support to wheelchair and Special Olympic athletes

Mr. Burchill responded to questions from members of Council and was thanked by the Chair for his presentation.

In response to a questions about this matter coming forward in a report to Council within the next few weeks, the Chief Administrative Officer advised that as it is a contractual matter, it would come forward to an In Camera Council meeting. However, should Council want to table the report as a public report, it can direct staff now to forward the report to a Committee of the Whole, or the report can go to In Camera and Council can then decide if it wants to make it public.

10.3.2 Nova Scotia Home Builders Association - Industry Update

- C A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation regarding this matter was submitted.

Mr. Andrew Holley, 1st. Vice President of Nova Scotia Homeowner's Builder Association, Mr. Paul Pettispas, CEO, Nova Scotia Homebuilder's Association, and Ms. Sherry Grant, Communications Director, Nova Scotia Homebuilder's Association provided a presentation to Regional Council on the state of the housing industry in HRM.

Highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- C In the new home construction market there are 15,000 direct and indirect jobs; there is over \$550 million in direct wages; and the new home and renovation market has a combined value of \$2 billion.
- C Average cost of a new house in HRM is \$328,000 and the average family income in HRM is \$80,000; therefore the average family cannot afford to purchase a new home in HRM.
- C The Province has mandated that all new homes will require an EnerGuide for New Houses label in 2008.
- C Solutions for affordable housing and growth in HRM include: rewarding developers with greater density; tax rewards and rewards for energy efficient housing.
- C The renovation industry accounts for \$1.3 billion in Nova Scotia - - many families are choosing to renovate rather than relocate due to the high cost of

new housing.

Mr. Pettispas responded to questions and was thanked by the Chair for the presentation.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Murphy that the presentation be forwarded to the Tax Reform Committee and the Regional Plan Advisory Committee for comment. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. REPORTS

11.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

11.1.1 Request for Proposal 07-136 - Interior & Exterior Bus and Ferry Terminal Poster Advertising for Metro Transit Service

A staff report dated January 2, 2008 was submitted.

A letter sent via e-mail from Mr. Richard Morin, President Streetseen Media, dated January 14, 2008 was submitted.

The Chair referred to the submitted e-mail advising that concern was raised in regard to the scoring of the Request for Proposal, and that staff would respond at this time.

Ms. Lori Patterson, Acting General Manager, Metro Transit addressed Council and provided clarification on the scoring competition in regard to the Request for Proposal No. 07-136 Interior and Exterior Bus Advertising for Metro Transit Service, in response to concerns submitted by Streetseen Media, one of the firms who submitted a bid. In her comments, Ms. Patterson noted that the recommended proponent, Pattison, will guarantee \$332,000 more in revenue as a minimum, over five years, above the next nearest proposal. She added that they have submitted a guaranteed minimum of \$425,000 in each of the first two years. Ms. Patterson advised that a complete and detailed process as laid out by HRM Procurement was followed by the evaluation team. In conclusion, Ms. Patterson noted that Streetseen did not present a clear model in their proposal for how they would provide a local office presence, and that the overall quality of the proposal was clearly part of the evaluation process and Pattison had the best proposal.

MOVED by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Regional Council:

- 1. Award RFP No. 07-136, Interior & Exterior Bus Board Advertising to Pattison Outdoor Advertising effective February 1, 2008, for the exclusive rights to provide interior and exterior poster advertising on Metro Transit buses and at the Halifax and Dartmouth Ferry Terminals with revenues credited to Revenue Account No. R6225503 - Advertising Revenue.**
- 2. Authorize staff to enter into a new one year term contract renewable on an annual basis up to five (5) years maximum, on the terms and**

conditions outlined in the January 2, 2008 staff report. The total guaranteed minimum revenue will be \$2,310,000 (tax out) over five years, with \$425,000 (tax out) guaranteed minimum in each of the first two years.

Councillor Hum pointed out that her brother owned Scotia Signs, and she declared a conflict of interest. Councillor Hum left her seat in Council.

Ms. Patterson responded to questions from Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Hum returned to her seat at Council.

11.1.2 Proposed By-Law S-424, An Amendment to By-Law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements - New Paving O'Connell Drive, Porters Lake

A staff report dated January 10, 2008 was submitted.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Snow that Regional Council approve, in principle, and begin the formal process for adoption of By-Law S-424, Respecting Charges for new paving of the HRM portion of O'Connell Drive, Porters Lake. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.1.3 Acceptable Forms of Petition

A staff report dated January 2, 2008 was submitted.

MOVED by Councillor Younger, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Regional Council:

- 1. Accept both electronic and written petitions which include the signature of the originator of the petition and the name, address, date of signing, and either a telephone number or e-mail address for all persons listed on the petition.**
- 2. Direct Legal Services to prepare the appropriate amendments to Administrative Order One.**

Ms. Geri Kaiser, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

A recorded vote was taken.

Those voting in favour: Mayor Kelly and Councillors: Snow, Hendsbee, McCluskey, Younger, Barkhouse, Smith, Murphy, Sloane, Fougere, Walker, Harvey, Rankin, and Meade.

Those voting against: Deputy Mayor Adams and Councillors: Streach, McInroy, Karsten, Wile, Hum, Mosher, and Johns.

Councillor Martin was absent from the meeting, and Councillor Uteck was out of the room at the time of the vote.

At 8:00 p.m. Regional Council recessed.

At 8:12: p.m. Regional Council reconvened with the same members present with the exception of Councillors: Mosher, Uteck, and Fougere.

11.1.4 Public Mapping Site

C A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation regarding this matter was submitted.

Ms. Donna Davis, Manager, Data and Business Information Management provided a presentation on HRM's new public mapping site, entitled 'Explore HRM' and responded to questions from Council.

Council members provided the following feedback:

- C it was noted that some libraries offer free training on their computer programs, and a suggestion was put forward that staff contact the libraries to see if they would include this site in their free training programs.
- C ensure that streetlights maintained by Nova Scotia Power are included in the asset inventory information.
- C it was suggested that staff inform HRM's real estate industry of the website, as well as groups like Destination Halifax.
- C a suggestion was put forward to include information regarding school board districts, and information on federal and provincial boundaries (to determine MLA's and MP's).

The Chair thanked Ms. Davis for her presentation.

11.2 NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

11.2.1 Case 00762: Amendments to the Bedford Municipal Planning Strategy / Land Use By-Law And Development Agreement (Southgate Village)

A report dated January 8, 2008 from the North West Community Council was submitted.

MOVED by Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Rankin that First Reading be given to the proposed amendments to the Bedford Municipal Planning Strategy and

Land Use By-law as provided in Attachments A and B of the October 24, 2007 and a joint public hearing with North West Community Council be scheduled. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12. MOTIONS - NONE

13. ADDED ITEMS

13.1 Councillor Streach - Tender 07-380 - One (1) 28 Foot Fire / Rescue Boat

Councillor Streach advised that at the last Regional Council meeting, this matter was discussed and, unfortunately, comments in regard to the retrofitting of fishing boats were taken out of context and were interpreted in a negative manner by the Nova Scotia Association of Professional Boat Builders. In addition, Councillor Streach noted that there were some outstanding questions pertaining to this issue that he would like answered.

MOVED by Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Murphy that the Mayor forward a letter to the Nova Scotia Boat Building Industry on behalf of Council and staff expressing HRM's continued confidence and pride in the local boat building industry; and that staff provide an information report to Council on the chronology of the procurement process and the product specifications relating to this purchase, and addressing the safety and operational concerns voice by the local boat builders. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1 Councillor Hendsbee

Take notice that, at the next regular Regional Council meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 22 day of January, 2008 I proposed to move First Reading of By-Law S-424 Respecting Charges for Street Improvements, the purpose of which is to amend By-Law S-400, the Street Improvement By-Law which will enable HRM to Levy Local Improvement Charges for paving of O'Connell Drive, Porters Lake.

14.1 Councillor Adams

Take notice that at a future meeting of Halifax Regional Council I intend to introduce a motion to name the Spryfield Lions Recreation Centre and adjoining playground/parkland as the *Rene Quigley Recreation Complex*.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Julia Horncastle
Acting Municipal Clerk

The following information items were submitted:

1. Proclamation - World Religion Day - January 20, 2008
2. Memorandum from Chief of Police dated December 14, 2007
re: Coordination of Graffiti Removal and Forensic Identification
3. Memorandum from Intergovernmental and Corporate Affairs Advisor
dated December 20, 2007 re: HRM and Capital Health Memorandum of
Understanding
4. Memorandum from Director, Finance dated December 24, 2007
re: Building Communities Fund - Capital Grants to Cemeteries - Eligibility
5. Memorandum from Director, Finance dated January 5, 2008
re: Award of Contracts - CAO Approval
6. Memorandum from the Acting Municipal Clerk dated January 11, 2007
re: Requests for Presentation to Council - Lakeshore Curling Club;
Nova Scotia Home Builders Association