

**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES**

March 25, 2008

- PRESENT:** Mayor Peter Kelly, Chair
Councillors: Steve Streach
Krista Snow
David Hendsbee
Harry McInroy
Andrew Younger
Bill Karsten
Jackie Barkhouse
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 Meade
- REGRETS:** Deputy Mayor Stephen Adams
Councillors: Gloria McCluskey
Jim Smith
- STAFF:** Mr. Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms. Melody Campbell, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INVOCATION 4

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ... 4

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 4

4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL
OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS 5

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES 5

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION 5

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION 5

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS
8.1 Property Tax System for Halifax Regional Municipality 6

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS
9.1 Correspondence 8
9.2 Petitions 8
9.3 Presentations 5

10. REPORTS
10.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
10.1.1 Tender 08-048 - Supply and Install Interpretive Signage -
Point Pleasant Park 8
10.1.2 Tender 08-205 - Canary Crescent, Paving Renewal, New
Curb and Watermain Renewal (Meadowlark Crescent to
Flamingo Drive) - West Region 8
10.1.3 Tender 08-207 - Greystone Drive Paving Resurfacing and
Sidewalk Renewal - West Region 9
10.1.4 Tender 08-214 - Frederick Avenue Paving Renewal, New
Curb and Watermain Renewal (Gesner Street to Willett
Street) - West Region 9
10.1.5 Tender 08-221 - Traffic Signal Rehabilitation, Intersection of
Lacewood Drive & Willett Street - West Region 9
10.1.6 Award of Tenders - Grass Cutting and Landscape
Maintenance 10
10.1.7 Case 01119 - Amendments to Land Use By-Laws Regarding
Parking Standards for Health Practitioners 10
10.1.8 2008 Spring Debenture 10
10.2 PENINSULA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
10.2.1 Case 00930 - Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-
Law Amendment for 6955 Bayers Road, Halifax 11

10.3	HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
10.3.1	Case H00206: Application to Consider 5755 Sackville Street, Halifax as a Municipally Registered Heritage Property (Heritage Hearing)	11
10.3.2	Case H00211: Application to Consider 11 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Halifax as a Municipally Registered Heritage Property (Heritage Hearing)	11
10.4	REGIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
10.4.1	Youth Transportation	11
10.5	MEMBERS OF COUNCIL	
10.5.1	Councillor Walker - Reinstatement of the Rail Service from Sydney to Truro and Halifax	12
11.	MOTIONS:	12
12.	ADDED ITEMS:	
12.1	Financial Incentives - Proposed Barrington Street Historic District	12
12.2	PROPERTY MATTER - Expression of Interest - Downtown Development Opportunities	13
12.3	CONTRACTUAL MATTER - Urban Renewal Lands Agreement: Remnant Lands - Proposed Leasing and Sales	13
12.4	PERSONNEL MATTER - Extension of terms of Police Commissioners	14
13.	NOTICES OF MOTION:	14
14.	ADJOURNMENT	14

1. INVOCATION

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

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillor Hum advised that she attended Grosvenor Wentworth Park School on Tuesday, March 25th, in support of the school events on Elimination of Racism. The day featured presentations and musical acts. Councillor Hum sends congratulations to Mr. Stickings Grade 5 class who travelled to Ottawa for winning first overall for their video supporting anti-racism "Stop It, A Peace of the Puzzle". They are recognized as the youngest grade to win this award and were among 500 schools who submitted videos.

Councillor Walker presented a Basketball Trophy from the Final 8 Tournament to honour the sponsors for the Outstanding Contributions to the 24 year legacy for Hosting the Final 8 Basketball Championships.

Councillor Barkhouse advised Friends of McNabs Island Society will be holding their 10th Annual Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, March 29th. The Oceanview Manor Foundation will hold their 3rd Annual Spring Fling Auction and Dance on March 29th.

Councillor Mosher advised that on Saturday, March 29th there is a dinner and dance in celebration of independence at the Greek Orthodox Community Centre on Purcells Cove Road.

Councillor Streach advised of two meetings on the Eastern Shore. The Community Facility Masterplan will be held on Thursday, March 27th at Duncan MacMillan High School. The Marine Drive, Valley, and Canal Community Council will be held on Wednesday, March 26th at the Ostrea Lake Fire Hall.

Councillor Younger noted on Monday, March 31st, the Community Facilities Masterplan Open House will be held at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. The Maple Syrup Festival will be held on Sunday, March 30th at Birch Cove Park.

Councillor Sloane noted that the continuation of the public participation "Imagine our Schools" will be held on Wednesday, March 26th at Dartmouth High School. The Best of the Coast Music will take place at the Seahorse on Thursday, March 27th.

Councillor Murphy advised that a public information meeting will be held at Bloomfield Centre on Thursday, March 27th regarding an as-of-right development at 5552 Kaye Street.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the minutes of February 26, 2008 and March 4, 2008, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Changes:

Council agreed to move Item 9.3.1 up on the agenda before Item 8.1.

Additions:

- 12.1 Financial Incentives - Proposed Barrington Street Historic District
- 12.2 PROPERTY MATTER - Expression of Interest - Downtown Development Opportunities
- 12.3 CONTRACTUAL MATTER - Urban Renewal Lands Agreement: Remnant Lands - Proposed Leasing and Sales
- 12.4 PERSONNEL MATTER - Extension of terms of Police Commissioners

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE

9.3 Presentations

9.3.1 Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission

At the request of Council, the Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission presentation was presented before the staff report "Property Tax System for Halifax Regional Municipality".

Mr. Steve Snider and Dr. John Robinson provided a presentation to Council regarding the Cross Harbour Traffic Needs Assessment.

The website containing the full report is www.needsassessment.ca

Councillor Uteck advised that the Bridge Commission and the Province should speak to residents in regard to plans as it moves forward. She noted concern as it relates to an increase in truck traffic in the area.

MOVED BY Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Fougere, that Staff prepare a Report on the Municipal Perspective as it relates to the Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission Presentation, with the report coming back to an In Camera session or the Committee of the Whole.

Upon further discussion, Council requested the following be addressed in the report by Staff:

- The HRM perspective
- HRM costs be clearly identified
- Breakdown of current debt, how this will be affected
- How construction of new crossing will impact HRM By Design
- All stakeholders be informed and attend all upcoming meetings

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Snider advised Council that the sale of tokens will end at the end of April. Residents will have one month to use their tokens. Any remaining tokens can be reimbursed. The MacPass does not require a deposit, transponders can be ordered online.

The Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission will be taking part in "Earth Hour" on Saturday, March 29th from 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - March 18, 2008

8.1 Property Tax System for Halifax Regional Municipality

The following motions were on the floor:

MOVED BY Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Johns that Regional Council recommend:

- 1. The Tax Reform Committee move forward toward public consultations and receive feedback on:**
 - The Foundations, Principals and Objectives of a new tax system, and
 - The Draft Tax Model
- 2. Report Back to Regional Council.**

MOVED BY Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Streach that this matter be referred to a Committee of the Whole.

Discussion was held among Council on the motion to refer.

The Mayor called for the question of the motion to refer the matter to Committee of the Whole.

MOTION DEFEATED. (5 in favour; 15 against)

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Kelly, Councillors: Streach, Karsten, Murphy, Walker

Those voting against were: Councillors: Snow, Hendsbee, McInroy, Younger, Barkhouse,

Wile, Sloane, Uteck, Fougere, Hum, Mosher, Johns, Harvey, Rankin, Meade

Deputy Mayor Stephen Adams and Councillors Gloria McCluskey and Jim Smith were absent.

Discussion continued on the main motion.

Mr. Mark Gilbert, Chair of the Tax Reform Committee, and Mr. Bruce Fisher, Manager, Fiscal & Tax Policy, were present to address questions of Council.

Councillor Walker advised that it is crucial that the public be aware that this is moving forward and the importance of public participation of this initiative. Councillor Walker advised that he is concerned about a tax increase and how it will affect residents in condominiums and those who rent apartments.

Councillor Snow advised that HRM must prepare public service announcements to inform the public of the upcoming meetings.

Councillor Fougere added that this an opportunity to discuss concepts of capital cost contribution.

MOVED BY Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Younger that the question now be put. MOTION DEFEATED. (7 in favour; 13 against)

Those voting in favour were: Councillors: McInroy, Younger, Uteck, Hum, Mosher, Harvey, Rankin

Those voting against were: Mayor Kelly, Councillors: Streach, Snow, Hendsbee, Karsten, Barkhouse, Murphy, Sloane, Fougere, Walker, Wile, Johns, Meade

Deputy Mayor Stephen Adams and Councillors Gloria McCluskey and Jim Smith were absent.

Councillor Streach questioned whether all implications will be addressed to the public. He also raised concerns regarding vacant land and how it differentiates from Urban, Suburban, and Rural and how this land can affect a resident's tax rate.

Councillor Sloane noted that abandoned buildings must be addressed as well.

Councillor Hendsbee added that meeting dates and locations must be confirmed.

Councillor Murphy added concern as to how this reform will affect middle class families.

Members of Council also raised concerns on the number of public meetings and the size of the areas that are anticipated for public meetings. Mr. Fisher advised that meeting dates and locations can be addressed with staff.

MAIN MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS:

9.1 Correspondence

9.1.1 Colin Stephenson, Executive Director Nova Scotia International Air Show re: Request for Fly Past

MOVED BY Councillor Snow, seconded by Sloane, that the Nova Scotia International Air Show be given permission for a fly past over the City for the dates of September 3 to September 8 inclusive. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 Petitions

9.3 Presentation

9.3.1 Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission

At the request, of Council, the Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission presentation was presented before the staff report "Property Tax System for Halifax Regional Municipality". See page 5.

10. REPORTS:

10.1 Chief Administrative Officer

10.1.1 Tender 08-048 - Supply and Install Interpretive Signage - Point Pleasant Park

- A staff report dated March 19, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 08-048, Supply and Install Interpretive Signage - Point Pleasant Park to Eye Catch Signs in the amount of \$122,096.50 (net HST included) and demolition and removal of existing signage in relation to the above noted tender to Eye Catch Signs on an as required, hourly basis up to a maximum amount of \$27,000.00 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account CPU00930, Point Pleasant Park Upgrades, as outlined in the budget implications section of this report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.2 Tender 08-205, Canary Crescent, Paving Renewal, New Curb and Watermain Renewal (Meadowlark Crescent to Flamingo Drive) West Region

- A staff report dated March 10, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Johns that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 08-205, Canary Crescent Paving Renewal, New Curb and

Watermain Renewal - West Region to Dexter Construction Company Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$648,525.69 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account No CYU01081 - Paving Renewal Program, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the March 10, 2008 report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.3 Tender 08-207, Greystone Drive Paving Resurfacing and Sidewalk Renewal - West Region

- A staff report dated March 4, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Snow that Halifax Regional Council award Tender 08-207, Greystone Drive, Paving Resurfacing, Sidewalk and Curb Renewal - West Region, to Ocean Contractors Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$628,848.32 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Accounts Nos. CZU010182 - Resurfacing Program, CKU01084 - Sidewalk Renewals and CYU01076 - Curb Renewals, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the March 4, 2008 report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.4 Tender 08-214, Frederick Avenue Paving Renewal, New Curb and Watermain Renewal (Gesner Street to Willett Street) - West Region

- A staff report dated March 10, 2008 was before Council.

Councillor Walker asked how many laterals need to be replaced. Mr. Dave Hubley, Manager of Design and Construction, advised that approximately 20-25 laterals are in place with 80-90% requiring replacement. Councillor Walker advised that he would like to have the homeowners informed if, upon digging, the contractor or staff notices the pipes are in poor condition.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 08-214, Frederick Avenue, Paving Renewal, New Curb, and Watermain Renewal - West Region to Brycon Construction Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$361,892.90 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account No. CYU01081 Paving Renewal Program, as outlined in the Budget Implications of the March 10, 2008 report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.5 Tender 08-221, Traffic Signal Rehabilitation, Intersection of Lacewood Drive & Willett Street, West Region

- A staff report dated March 14, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Walker that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 08-221, Traffic Signal Rehabilitation, Intersection of Lacewood Drive & Willett Street, West Region to XL Electric Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$165,946.78 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account No. CTU00419 - Traffic Signal Rehabilitation and CTU00422 - Traffic Signal Compliance, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of March 14, 2008 report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.6 Award of Tenders - Grass Cutting and Landscape Maintenance

- A staff report dated November 13, 2007 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Fougere that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Award the three (3) grass mowing and landscape maintenance tenders listed in the background section of this report, with a total award of \$352,486.03 (net HST included) for the period April 1 to November 1, 2008 with funding from Operating Account R710 Grounds and Landscaping as outlined in the budget Implications section of the November 13, 2007 report.**
- 2. Award the second and third year of each tender at a total cost of \$352,486.03 (net HST included) per year for the periods April 1 - November 1 of each year. The second and third year award would be contingent upon an annual performance review and budget allocation.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.7 Case 01119 - Amendments to Land Use By-laws Regarding Parking Standards for Health Practitioners

- A staff report dated February 29, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Request staff to initiate a process to amend the HRM Land Use By-laws identified in Attachment A to reduce the parking requirements for health practitioners; and**
- 2. Direct staff to held a Public Information Meeting regarding this issue in each of the three administrative regions of HRM.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.8 2008 Spring Debenture \$26,500,000

- A staff report dated March 12, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Snow that Halifax Regional Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance, Subject to Interest Rate confirmation, not to exceed 6.5%, to enable the Halifax Regional Municipality to issue a 10-year debenture in the amount of \$26,500,000. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2 Peninsula Community Council

10.2.1 Case 00930 - Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law Amendment for 6955 Bayers Road, Halifax

- A staff report dated March 25, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Case 00930 be referred back to staff to initiate a Public Information Meeting.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3 Heritage Advisory Committee

10.3.1 Case H00206: Application to Consider 5755 Sackville Street, Halifax as a Municipally Registered Heritage Property (Heritage Hearing)

- A staff report dated November 8, 2007 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Fougere that Halifax Regional Council approve the registration of 5755 Sackville Street, Halifax (shown in Map 1 of the November 8, 2007 staff report) under the HRM Heritage Property Program.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.2 Case H00211: Application to Consider 11 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Halifax as a Municipally Registered Heritage Property (Heritage Hearing)

- A staff report dated December 12, 2007 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council approve the registration of 11 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Halifax (shown in Map 1 of the December 12, 2007 staff report) under the HRM Heritage Property Program. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.4 Regional Youth Advisory Committee

10.4.1 Youth Transportation

- A staff report dated March 18, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Snow that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Request a staff report on the possibility of allocating funds from the Transit Trust Fund for improving suburban and rural transportation should they become available in the upcoming budget; and**
- 2. Request Metro Transit consider changing the age limit of the Metro Transit Child's ticket from fifteen (15) to eighteen (18) years old; and**

3. Request a staff report on the implementation of an HRM youth discount pass.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.5 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

10.5.1 Councillor Walker - Reinstatement of the Rail Service from Sydney to Truro and Halifax

- A request dated March 25, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Endorse a reinstatement of the rail service from Sydney to Truro and Halifax.
2. Request that the Mayor write a letter of support to the MLAs and MPs of the following municipalities: Cape Breton Regional Municipality, Town of Port Hawkesbury, Town of Westville, Municipality of the County of Colchester, Town of New Glasgow, Municipality of the District of St. Mary's, Town of Antigonish, Town of Stellarton, Town of Truro, Town of Canso, Municipality of the County of Antigonish, Municipality of the County of Pictou and Municipality of the County of Guysborough.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. MOTIONS

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 Financial Incentives - Proposed Barrington Street Historic District

Mr. Bill Plaskett, Heritage Planner, presented the Report Financial Incentives, Proposed Barrington Street Historic District to Council.

MOVED BY Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Wile that Halifax Regional Council approve in Principle a financial incentives program to support revitalization of the Barrington Street Historic District, budgeted at \$3 million over 65 years and consisting of:

Grants budgeted - \$1 million over 5 years

Tax Credits - \$2 million over 5 years

Permit fee waivers.

Councillor Meade expressed concern that monies may be made available to businesses before improvements are made. Mr. Wayne Anstey, DCAO advised that the work would

have to be completed before money or tax credits would be issued.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 PROPERTY MATTER - Expression of Interest - Downtown Development Opportunities

This item was addressed at an earlier In Camera session and was before Council for ratification.

MOVED BY Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Snow that Halifax Regional Council:

- **Approve the release, in partnership with the Province of Nova Scotia, of an Expression of Interest to investigate private sector interest in the construction of a building to provide approximately 200,000 square feet of exhibit space and related convention facilities for the World Trade and Convention Centre as described in the Background and Discussion Sections of this report dated March 12, 2008.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (13 in favour; 4 against)

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Kelly, Councillors: Snow, Hendsbee, Karsten, Wile, Sloane, Uteck, Fougere, Walker, Hum, Mosher, Harvey, Meade

Those voting against were: Councillors: McInroy, Barkhouse, Murphy, Johns

Deputy Mayor Stephen Adams and Councillors Gloria McCluskey and Jim Smith were absent.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 CONTRACTUAL MATTER - Urban Renewal Lands Agreement: Remnant Lands - Proposed Leasing and Sales

This item was addressed at an earlier In Camera session and was before Council for ratification.

MOVED BY Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Wile that Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Approve a one-time payment in the amount of \$17,691 to CMHC for outstanding rental income as per the Urban Renewal Lands Agreement;**
2. **Approve the process for the sale of properties as detailed in the Discussion section of the Private and Confidential Report dated September 1, 2007;**
3. **The Private and Confidential September 1, 2007 report be released to the**

public.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.4 PERSONNEL MATTER - Extension of Terms of Police Commissioners

This item was addressed at an earlier In Camera session and was before Council for ratification.

MOVED BY Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Extend the terms of William White and Terry Roane to the end of May, 2008; and**
- 2. Commissioners Douglas MacDonald's term to become effective June 1, 2008.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

14. ADJOURNMENT

Council was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Julia Horncastle
Acting Municipal Clerk

INFORMATION ITEMS
March 25, 2008

1. Memorandum from Director, Infrastructure & Asset Management dated March 14, 2008 re: Earth Hour - Earth Day Updates
2. Memorandum from Director, Transportation & Public Works dated March 3, 2008 re: Petition for Traffic Signals at the Intersection of Sackville Drive and Jubilee Lane / Beaver Bank Cross Road
3. Memorandum from Director, Business Planning & Information Management dated March 20, 2008 re: HRM Visitor Information
4. Memorandum from General Manager, Halifax Regional Water Commission dated March 19, 2008 re: Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board Order on Wastewater / Stormwater Rate Application
5. Memorandum from the Acting Municipal Clerk dated March 20, 2008 re: Requests for Presentation to Council - None