

CHEBUCTO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

July 9, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor Linda Mosher, Chair
Councillor Russell Walker, Vice Chair
Councillor Steve Adams
Councillor Mary Wile
Councillor Debbie Hum

STAFF: Ms. Kirby Grant, Solicitor
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Keshen Goodman Library, Halifax.

2. TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT

A report dated June 25, 2012 was before Community Council.

On behalf of the Community Council, the Chair stated they were pleased with the annual report and noted, for the record, that as of April 2011 Chebucto was the first Community Council to conduct an annual meeting and draft a report template.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hum that Chebucto Community Council table the Annual Report dated June 25, 2012. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair asked if members of the public had questions or comments regarding the Annual Report.

There was no one wishing to speak at this time.

MOVED by Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Hum that Public Participation regarding the Annual Report be closed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 11, 2012

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Wile that the minutes of June 11, 2012 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 14.1 Correspondence from Ms. Carolyn T. Johns - July 8, 2012 - Councillor Hum
- 14.2 Dunbrack Street Rose Bush Maintenance Update – Councillor Hum
- 14.3 Mainland South Heritage Society – Councillor Mosher

MOVED by Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Hum that the agenda be accepted as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Status Sheet

6.1.1 Keefe Drive – Emergency Concerns Due to Road Construction and Lack of Seawall

An information report dated June 19, 2012 was before Community Council.

Community Council accepted the information report dated June 19, 2012. This item will be removed from the Status Sheet.

6.1.2 Beech Tree Infestation on HRM Owned Trees- Fairmount Subdivision

Correspondence was before Community Council.

The Chair advised that, as per the submitted update from staff, this item could be removed from the Status Sheet.

Councillor Hum stated, for the record, that she has received correspondence from residents of Clayton Park who indicated that they also have beech tree infestations. She advised that she would forward the submitted staff correspondence to these residents.

The Chair advised that the infestation affects approximately a 20 kilometre radius in Halifax. She indicated that a meeting was booked with CFS and CFIA on September 2, 2012 and that she would request a written update for residents at that time.

6.1.3 Chain of Lakes Trail - Surplus Lands

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

6.1.4 Graffiti on Chain of Lakes Trail – Northwest Arm Overpass

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

6.1.5 Request to Amend the C-1 Zone to Remove R-4 Uses under the Mainland Land Use By-law

The Chair advised that this item could be removed from the Status Sheet; noting a Public Information Meeting had been held and the matter would now be brought to Community Council for a Public Hearing.

6.1.6 Public Right Away (Tow Path) on the Northwest Arm - Maintenance and Access

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

6.1.7 Pocket Park - Crown Drive and Brook Street - Private Property and Parking Issue

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

6.1.8 Flooding - Purcell's Cove Road

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

6.1.9 Cowie Hill Development Agreement

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

6.1.10 It all Drains into the Lake Brochure

Correspondence was before Community Council.

The Chair advised that, as per the submitted update from staff, this item could be removed from the Status Sheet.

6.1.11 Armdale Rotary to Roundabout Conversion – Request for Report on Effectiveness

No update. To remain on Status Sheet.

7. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

8. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

9. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

10. HEARINGS

10.1 Public Hearings - None

10.2 Variance Appeal Hearings – None

11. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE

12. REPORTS – NONE

13. MOTIONS - NONE

14. ADDED ITEMS

14.1 Correspondence from Ms. Carolyn T. Johns - July 8, 2012 - Councillor Hum

Correspondence dated July 8, 2012 from Ms. Carolyn T. Johns was submitted.

Councillor Hum stated that the correspondence dated July 8, 2012 was submitted by a resident who expressed concern regarding the lack of active transportation in the Royal Hemlock community and also the fact that there was no access from that area to the trails in Hemlock Ravine Park. Councillor Hum advised that she had forwarded this to staff, however, there was also a larger issue as this was an environmentally sensitive area and the management plan states to protect the Ravine by not permitting access. She indicated that the Friends of Hemlock Ravine were reviewing this matter and may bring forward a proposal for staff.

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Walker that Chebucto Community Council:

- 1. Request a staff report regarding access and trail development in Hemlock Ravine Park as well as in the overall Royal Hemlock Estates and Wentworth Estates area in reference to outstanding issues including parkland dedication; and**
- 2. That this matter be forwarded to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.2 Dunbrack Street Rose Bush Maintenance Update – Councillor Hum

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Wile that Chebucto Community Council request that staff contact Councillor Hum with an update on the Dunbrack Street Rose Bush maintenance, what the delay was and what would be done to address this matter. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Vice Chair assumed the Chair at 7:16 p.m.

14.3 Mainland South Heritage Society – Councillor Mosher

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Adams that Chebucto Community Council request a staff report to assess the feasibility of converting an HRM property into a permanent facility to house the Mainland South Heritage Society artifacts and include office space for volunteers to continue to build upon and maintain our Halifax heritage. The assessment should include but not be limited to looking at existing residential properties that HRM rents out in the area or some dedicated space in an HRM owned or leased facility. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Mosher assumed the Chair at 7:18 p.m.

15. NOTICES OF MOTION - None

16. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Lawrence Lovett, 246 Bedford Highway, stated that he and his wife had enjoyed living in Rockingham for the past nine years. He expressed concern; however, that the cost of living in the area was becoming more expensive, particularly for residents like himself who were on CPP and disability and were living on a fixed monthly income. Mr. Lovett stated that they had been approved twice in the past nine years for price freezes on their rent; however, they could not afford to pay any more than their current rent and were concern about the possibility having to move if there was an increase noting that, as a result, he was 45th on a list for Metro Regional Community Housing. He asked if there was some way a committee could be formed or to somehow freeze rents or if he would have to approach the housing board to see whether he and his wife could stay in their current apartment as they could not afford to pay any more than they were now.

The Chair advised that the body in charge of this matter was the Province, via Mr. Lovett's MLA, Diana Whalen.

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Adams that Chebucto Community Council send a letter on Mr. Lawrence Lovett's behalf to MLA Diana Whalen and Nova Scotia Housing Services regarding the possibility of subsidization.

The Chair noted that a copy would also be sent to Killam Properties, Mr. Lovett's property manager. She advised, for the record, that this was not a municipal mandate and, as such, Community Council had no authority in this legislation; however, they would write a letter on Mr. Lovett's behalf. She stated this was a unique situation and, as such, this was the only time she would endorse such a request.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Bruce Smith, Forestside Crescent, requested responses to the following questions:

- If it was possible to have the unsightly fence removed that runs along Crown Drive from Brook Street parallel to the Chain of Lakes Trail.
- Why he was not permitted his requested 10 minutes to speak at the last meeting when 10 minutes had been granted to Ms. Jennifer Corson at the July 4, 2011 meeting.
- An update on the former Halifax West property

The Chair advised that the Chain of Lakes Trail Association (COLTA) had, at their annual general meeting, approved to fix the fenced area for connectivity and the matter was going to tender. She advised that Ms. Corson was the applicant for the Public

Hearing on July 4, 2011 and, under the approved legislation, applicants are permitted 10 minutes to make their presentation. She stated that she would get back to Mr. Smith regarding the former Halifax West matter.

Ms. Maureen Manuge, Westridge Drive, wondered, regarding item 14.3, if the Heritage Society planned to include any medical heritage as she was a member of the VG archives for nursing and they were also looking for a new home for their archives. She also requested an update on the Public Hearing for Northcliff property.

The Chair stated she was not sure if medical heritage was involved and welcomed Ms. Manuge to contact the society and that they were still working on the Northcliff matter.

Ms. Wendy McDonald, Warwick Lane, reminded Councillors that HRM was undergoing the Regional Plan Review and she remembered the staff team using vibrant, sustainable and liveable as goals, which could be reflected in Mr. Lovett's comments. Regarding the comments made about Hemlock Ravine, she stated these were matters that the Halifax Northwest Trails Association had been trying to address since 2006 when the Community Council requested a staff report which they still awaited. She noted that part of this was to address things such as quality of trails and the importance of trails for active transportation and recreation in new developments. She indicated that in working with Councillor Hum and the Friends of Hemlock Ravine, it was always understood that there would be no access on that sensitive slope. She advised that the Greenpark Close trail had been washed out during a recent rain as it was not built to standard. In closing, Ms. McDonald expressed concern that the washroom on the mainland common ballfield needed to be unlocked as walkers and ballplayers were using the trail instead.

The Chair advised she would ensure that Trails staff was informed that the Greenpark Close trail had been washed out.

Councillor Wile advised that she would follow up regarding the washroom on the Mainland Common.

Mr. Richard McFarlane, Halifax, expressed his concern regarding the potential sale of parkland to Clayton Developments and wondered what possible connection there could be with building the Canada Games Centre and large scale apartments. He stated that the park was not for sale, it was for public use. Mr. McFarlane hoped the developer would at least build to the standard in which the original Clayton Park was constructed instead of selling off small lots; noting the development would probably cost more than the sale in the end after selling the parkland and zoning. He indicated that it was such a nice, quiet area without high demand for building lots and there was no need to infill a park. Mr. McFarlane also wondered why they had only considered using parkland for the proposed Lacewood Transit Terminal and suggested that the former Blockbuster property be considered.

17. NEXT MEETING DATE –September 10, 2012

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant