



NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 24, 2005  
MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Councillor Robert Harvey, Chair  
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher

**REGRETS:** Councillor Brad Johns

**STAFF:** Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant  
Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Planning  
Debbie McCaig, Budget Co-ordinator, Financial Planning

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1.	CALL TO ORDER .....	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES .....	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS .....	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES .....	3
4.1	STATUS SHEET ITEMS .....	3
4.1.1	Judy Avenue Pathway .....	3
4.1.2	Purchase of Land for Springfield Lake Rec Centre .....	3
4.1.3	George Hepworth Park Designation .....	3
4.1.4	Sackville Drive Secondary Planning Strategy .....	3
4.1.5	Home Occupations, Bedford .....	3
4.1.6	Union Street Flooding .....	3
4.1.7	Sackville Waters Advisory Board .....	4
4.1.8	Policy P-71, Beaver Bank, Hammonds Plains and Upper Sackville MPS .....	4
5.	MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION .....	4
6.	MOTIONS OF RESCISSION .....	4
7.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS .....	4
8.	HEARINGS: .....	4
8.1	Public Hearings .....	4
8.2	Variance Hearings .....	4
9.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS .....	4
9.1	Correspondence .....	4
9.2	Petitions .....	4
9.3	Presentations .....	4
9.3.1	Sackville Rivers Association - Trails Update .....	4
9.3.2	Budget Presentation - HRM Financial Planning Staff .....	5
10.	REPORTS .....	5
11.	MOTIONS: .....	5
12.	ADDED ITEMS .....	5
13.	NOTICES OF MOTION .....	5
14.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION .....	5

15. NEXT MEETING DATE ..... 7
16. ADJOURNMENT ..... 7
1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Lion's Den, 36 Holland Avenue, Bedford.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Harvey the minutes of the regular meeting of January 27, 2005 and the special meeting of February 8, 2005 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

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**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Harvey the agenda as circulated be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:**

**4.1 STATUS SHEET ITEMS:**

**4.1.1 Judy Avenue Pathway**

No update was provided. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

**4.1.2 Purchase of Land for Springfield Lake Rec Centre**

No update was provided. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

**4.1.3 George Hepworth Park Designation**

No update was provided. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

**4.1.4 Sackville Drive Secondary Planning Strategy**

The Chair noted that a public meeting was held February 17 and that the next step will be to forward the amendments to North West Planning Advisory Committee. Following this, two public hearings will be required—one at North West Community Council and one at Regional Council. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

**4.1.5 Home Occupations, Bedford**

It was noted that a report will be forwarded to the North West Planning Advisory Committee soon. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

#### **4.1.6 Union Street Flooding**

Deputy Mayor Goucher advised of a meeting recently with senior staff and staff of Environmental Management Services on this issue and indicated he was optimistic with the direction things appear to be moving. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

#### **4.1.7 Sackville Waters Advisory Board**

No update was provided. The Chair advised that he was of the understanding there was a commitment to have a staff response in January, however, nothing has been received to date. The Legislative Assistant was asked to follow up with Director of Planning and Development. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

#### **4.1.8 Policy P-71, Beaver Bank, Hammonds Plains and Upper Sackville MPS**

No update was provided. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

5. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION** - None

6. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION** - None

7. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**: None

8. **HEARINGS**:

8.1 **Public Hearings**: None

8.2 **Variance Hearings**: None

9. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**:

9.1 **Correspondence**: None

9.2 **Petitions**: None

9.3 **Presentations**:

##### **9.3.1 Sackville Rivers Association - Trails Update**

Mr. Walter Regan, Sackville Rivers Association and Mr. Don Ambler, HRDA's Western Trails Project Manager, gave a presentation updating Community Council on the Sackville-Bedford Trail.

Mr. Regan read and submitted his presentation. In his remarks, he noted that the Sackville Rivers Association was a member of the HRM Trails Advisory Team. He explained that

HRM has allocated core funding for the 2005/06 year of approximately \$1,000,000 for the Trails Advisory Team, and that the Sackville Rivers Association was requesting \$50,000 of these funds be invested in the Bedford Sackville Greenway Connector. Mr. Regan briefly elaborated on aspects that have been completed to date with regard to the trail, and he noted other areas of funding sources the SRA is seeking. In conclusion, Mr. Regan thanked Community Council for their support of their efforts, and he introduced Mr. Don Ambler, HRDA's Western Trails Project Manager.

Mr. Don Ambler read and submitted a presentation in support of the Sackville-Bedford Trail and in support of active transportation trails throughout the Municipality

### 9.3.2 Budget Presentation - HRM Financial Planning Staff

Mr. Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Planning presented an overview of the proposed 2005/06 HRM Budget. Highlights of his remarks are as follows:

- S If Council approves holding the tax rate, there will be an extra \$11.4 million
- S Expansion of services include:
  - S 32 new police officers to be hired over the next two years; traffic division to be re-activated;
  - S Fire Stations - work to begin on two fire stations—one in the Fall River-Waverley area, as well as one in Penhorn in Dartmouth
  - S Sidewalk snow removal - clearing of snow from all intersections, including those in the former City of Halifax.
  - S bus rapid transit - new commuter service linking Sackville, Cole Harbour and Burnside areas to downtown. Nearly 30 new buses on the road this year.
  - S Streets and Sidewalks - budget increased from \$11 million to 15 million.

Mr. Fisher also commented on the impact inflation has had on HRM over the past ten years; the Municipality's dependence on property taxes; HRM's operating expenditures, HRM's debt; Proposal to fund additional capital; proposal for fuel tax sharing and the Long Term Capital Plan. Mr. Fisher concluded his presentation by outlining the next steps with regard to HRM's budget process.

10. **REPORTS:** None

11. **MOTIONS:** None

12. **ADDED ITEMS:** None

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION:** None

14. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**Dave O'Connor**

Mr. Dave O'Connor advised that he was with GLOW Promotions and the Mobile Sign Association and addressed Community Council requesting its support with regard to the proposed HRM Sign Bylaw. He explained that the bylaw is quite restrictive and will resolve the problems caused by mobile signs.

Deputy Mayor Goucher noted that this proposed bylaw will not change the Bedford sign bylaw.

The Chair advised that the Secondary Planning Strategy for Sackville Drive has a provision for temporary mobile signs which will come forward within a group of amendments next month, at the Planning Advisory Committee and then public hearing. He explained that the provisions for temporary mobile signs came about from a lengthy process which involved the public.

The Chair advised Mr. O'Connor that he would have an opportunity either before or at the Public Hearings to put forward his ideas.

**Steve Gouchier**

Mr. Gouchier, representing Brite Signs addressed Council speaking in support of the proposed sign bylaw. He indicated that the main issues the bylaw will address will be clutter and aesthetics. Mr. Gouchier advised that his suggestion is to phase in recommendations pertaining to clutter, and enforcement on aesthetics.

**Henry Romme**

Mr. Romme addressed Council and advised that he was a resident of Cavalier Drive. He advised that many vehicles travel at excessive speeds along his street and suggested Community Council request speed bumps on Cavalier Drive, particularly in light of the amount of children on this roadway.

The Chair indicated that in the past emergency services personnel have not been receptive to the idea of speed bumps. He asked the Legislative Assistant to follow up with Traffic Services and request a response to Mr. Romme's question.

**Don Lowther**

Mr. Lowther questioned if there was any update regarding Photo-radar.

Deputy Mayor Goucher indicated that Council was still waiting for a response from the Province.

**Ed Grace**

In response to a question by Mr. Grace pertaining to status sheet item 4.1.7 Policy P-71, the Chair indicated that he thought that there would be a response for this meeting.

Mr. Grace added that he received a letter from Engineering Services which stated the matter had been forwarded from staff back to the North West Community Council.

The Chair indicated that nothing has been received, and he asked the Legislative Assistant to follow up with staff.

On another matter, Mr. Grace noted that along Fenerty Road, there was a short strip of land that gets washed out during rainstorms. He questioned if it would be possible to get curb and gutter installed along this area.

The Chair requested the Legislative Assistant to note this and pass it along to Councillor Johns.

### **Shirley Towill**

Ms. Towill questioned if the trails in Range Park will have a negative impact on the flood plain.

Deputy Mayor Goucher indicated that it would not because there will be no increase in the height of the berm.

### **Walter Regan**

Mr. Regan advised of a public meeting on March 3, 2005, 7:00 p.m. at Community Centre in Sackville on regulations concerning siltation. He noted that it was open to the public and he invited members of Community Council to attend.

### **15. NEXT MEETING DATE:**

The next regular meeting date was scheduled for March 24, 2005.

### **16. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant