

NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

OCTOBER 29, 1998

THOSE PRESENT: Councillor Barnet, Chair
 Councillor Harvey

ALSO PRESENT: Sandra Shute, Assistant Municipal Clerk

Regrets: Councillor Kelly

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Charles Fenerty Room of the Sackville Library, Lower Sackville.

Councillor Barnet noted that Councillor Kelly was out of town. A legal opinion had been obtained from the Municipal Solicitor as to a Quorum. The Municipal Solicitor advised that two out of three members were enough for a Quorum.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 24, 1998**

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to approve the Minutes of meeting held on September 24, 1998 as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Added Items: From Information Items and Added Information Items

North West (Recreation) Advisory Committee
Traffic Concerns - Walker Service Road
Traffic Signal Request - McGee/Glendale
Establishment of Area Rate for Education Funding

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to approve the Order of Business as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES** - None

5. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION** - None

6. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION** - None

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

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None

9. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

9.1 **Correspondence - Sackville Community Development Association**

A letter dated October 21, 1998 from Sackville Community Development Association was before Community Council expressing concern re the unsightly and often inappropriate signage along Sackville Drive and putting forward recommendations in this regard.

Councillor Harvey said he understood there is an effort by staff at this time to bring together a common signage policy across HRM; however, in terms of the current rules, this correspondence should be sent on to By-law Enforcement with respect to the part that deals with making sure existing signs comply with the existing By-law requirements. Additionally he recommended requesting a report as to whether or not there are signs in violation and, if so, what action is being taken.

**MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to take the action as outlined above.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

With respect to other items in the letter such as refurbishing "Welcome to Sackville" signs and replacing and repositioning signs, Councillor Barnet felt it was a worthwhile project.

10. REPORTS

10.1 Bedford Waters Advisory Committee

10.1.1 Introduction of Members

Marvin Silver, Chair, Bedford Waters Advisory Committee introduced Lawrence White and Bob Kerr, Vice Chair who are members of the Bedford Waters Advisory Committee. He listed the other members of the Committee who were not in attendance at this time.

10.1.2 Terms of Reference

A report dated October 20, 1998 from Bedford Waters Advisory Committee recommending approval of the attached Terms of Reference was before Community Council.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to adopt the Terms of Reference as recommended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.3 Disturbance of Non-Disturbance Zone Around Paper Mill Lake

A Report dated October 20, 1998 was before Community Council in this regard.

Councillor Harvey asked if there were some property owners pinpointed. In reply, Mr. Kerr, Vice-Chair advised there were two properties where the people have cleared near the

shore. To protect the environment, you should not disturb the zone that close to the lake because runoff from the lot would go directly into the lake and not be absorbed by the soil.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to accept the recommendation of Bedford Waters Advisory Committee that the disturbance of the 50' non-disturbance zone around Paper Mill Lake, by a number of property owners, be referred to staff and that staff be instructed to inform BWAC of this situation at its November meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.4 Water Testing Results - Paper Mill Lake

A Report dated October 20, 1998 was before Community Council in this regard.

Councillor Harvey asked for clarification that the developer should submit the test results and pay for same because it is part of the Development Agreement for Paper Mill Lake.

Mr. Kerr advised that the developer has not tested for over a year but the Development Agreement states that if there is any more than 10 mm. of rain, they must test. It was important for the lake to be tested because there has been a lot of ingrowth of plant life and the water is not as clear as it used to be. As well, there were high fecal coliform counts. The purpose of the testing was not just to test the lake but to test the effect of construction.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to seek compliance of the terms of the Development Agreement that water testing of Paper Mill Lake be done monthly regardless of weather conditions and that the results be released to authorized representatives of BWAC and HRM directly by the testing agency. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2 Membership Selection Committee Appointment

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to nominate Councillor Kelly as North West Community Council's representative on Membership Selection Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3 Ratification of Expenditures - Sackville Landfill Compensation Fund

10.3.1 Centennial School Playground Project - District 20

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to ratify the expenditure of \$5,000.00 from the District Interest Landfill Compensation Funds for the Centennial School Playground Project to assist in its completion. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.2 Replacement of Fence at Highway 101 with Rosebushes

Councillor Harvey advised that rosebushes have been planted to replace the fence in the area of the Highway 101 off ramp to Sackville enclosing the Sackville Heritage Park. This was a campaign put on by the Sackville Community Development Association. Half the payment has been achieved from municipal funds from District 20 but Mr. Gordon Morgan, on behalf of Sackville Community Development Association, had advanced the remaining amount - \$1,940.63 - personally.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to ratify the expenditure of \$1,940.63 to reimburse Gordon Morgan for the cost of rosebushes for the Sackville Heritage Park area from the landfill interest account. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.4 Formation of the Upper Sackville Recreation Facility Advisory Committee

A report dated October 21, 1998 was before Community Council.

Councillor Harvey asked how the five residents to serve on the Committee would be located. In reply, Councillor Barnet said he understood there were a number of residents interested in serving on the Committee but the best way would be to put an advertisement in the newspaper asking for expressions of interest.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to approve the creation of the Upper Sackville Recreation Facility Committee consisting of five residents from District 19 appointed by North West Community Council, the Councillor for District 19 and a member of Springfield Lake Recreation Association along with the General Manager of Springfield Lake Recreation Association, serving as ex officio, to advise Community Council on policies and procedures in the operations of the Upper Sackville Recreation Facility including the Community Centre and all outdoor facilities located on the site. As well, to advise and make recommendations to Springfield Lake Recreation Association Manager of the facility on matters concerning day-to-day operations of the facility. Further, that an advertisement be placed in the newspaper asking for expressions of interest to serve on the Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. MOTIONS - None

12. **ADDED ITEMS**

12.1 **North West Recreation Advisory Committee**

An Information Report dated September 22, 1998 was before Community Council.

Councillor Harvey asked for clarification as to what sports would be considered. In reply, Councillor Barnet advised that the request came from the Soccer Association but it would involve all outdoor sports and facilities.

Councillor Harvey then questioned whether or not staff looked at the existing Lake District Recreation Association organization as a possible existing body that could be used as is or in some way altered to do the job, recognizing that Districts 2 and 21 are included.

Councillor Harvey suggested asking staff to discuss this idea with Lake District Recreation Association as he saw some overlaps and staff could rework the feasibility after Lake District Recreation Association was given a chance to comment. When Lake District Recreation Association was removed from providing programming, one of the remaining roles was to have an advisory role with regard to capital projects, particularly in Districts 19 and 20. He would feel more comfortable if staff made a reference to Lake District Recreation Association's role and whether or not there would be an overlap.

It was agreed to seek further staff input.

12.2 **Traffic Concerns - Walker Service Road and Scott Edward Drive**

An Information Report dated October 13, 1998 was before Community Council.

Councillor Harvey noted that a number of cars have lost control and gone off the road usually on the first right hand corner. This was a concern of the residents, particularly who live right on the corner. A "dangerous curve" sign has been replaced at Scott Edward Drive and Traffic Authority has agreed to take a serious look at erecting chevron yellow and black signs. The problem was with speed and he hoped that the additional signs would alert the public to the two dangerous corners.

Councillor Harvey subsequently requested that the RCMP be advised that additional signage has been requested and to request monitoring of that section of road for speed as resources permit.

12.3 **Traffic Signal Request - Glendale and McGee**

An Information Report dated October 5, 1998 was before Community Council.

Councillor Harvey advised he had met with the Traffic Authority to look at options. Traffic Authority proposed consideration of a partial closure of Chandler and Glendale in that right hand turns would be allowed only from Glendale and right hand turns out from Chandler. This would have the effect of an increase in use of the McGee/Glendale intersection which would mean that the McGee/Glendale intersection would be placed on the priority list for traffic lights. Traffic Authority felt McGee Drive could handle the additional traffic.

Councillor Harvey subsequently advised that he agreed to look for public input on Traffic Authority's suggestion. He had contacted residents in the area, sent a written report to Caudle Park Elementary School for circulation and offered to attend the next PTA meeting. No decisions have been made at this time.

12.4 **Establishment of Area Rate for Education Funding**

An Information Report dated October 2, 1998 was before Community Council. Councillor Barnet outlined the report.

Councillor Barnet advised that he had recently distributed a Newsletter in his District with a survey attached which asked a specific question with respect to an area rate for computer technology for Millwood High School. He explained the question. Although a number of surveys have been received, it was still too early to determine what the community's wishes were.

Councillor Harvey pointed out there was another question of education funding across the Municipality - supplementary funding provided to Halifax and Dartmouth - which has created real misery for the School Board in trying to educate students from one end of the Municipality to the other as there were two levels of funding in one system since the extra funding can only be used in certain areas. The supplementary funding question either has to be done away with or expanded throughout all HRM. There is a joint committee formed with representatives of Regional Council and the School Board to examine this question and he was a member. There was a proposal to be looked at separately by Council and the School Board to obtain a response which should be dealt with over the next few months. He did not think that if there was universal supplementary funding throughout HRM that there would be area rates on top of that. He also pointed out that area rates created inequalities for individual schools and there were boundary questions as well. He preferred a universal supplementary rate across all of HRM rather than targeting individual schools. Area rates could only be levied on residential property.

Councillor Barnet noted the question had been referred to the Committee on Supplementary Education Funding but the Information Report did not refer to that. He expected the Committee had not met since the referral.

It was agreed that the Information Report would be forwarded to the Joint Committee on Supplementary Education Funding. Community Council was interested in seeking advice or input from the Joint Committee.

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION** - None

14. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Walter Regan, Sackville Rivers Association, raised the following points during Public Participation:

- He expressed appreciation for support of rock sills in the Sackville River and planting of rosebushes by Sackville Community Development Association.
- He advised that there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony at Hefler's sawmill at 1:00 p.m. on November 8 re a fish counting fence that had been supported by Community Council.
- He asked for an update on Millwood Commons. In reply, Councillor Barnet advised that a tender for a french drain is being prepared as well as for landscaping. Award of tenders will take place this fall with the expectation that the work will take place in the spring.
- He asked when the sidewalk would be completed on Millwood Drive to Beaver Bank. In reply, Councillor Barnet advised this has been a budget request item for the last three years but he was not successful. Given the financial situation, he would be surprised if any money was spent on sidewalks in the coming year.
- He was disappointed with the response received as to the floodplain study of the Shubenacadie River with East Hants participating and HRM not.
- He was disappointed with the response received re separation of combined sewer. Councillor Barnet advised that this issue was raised at Regional Council as well; however, it came down to the question of money.
- He asked for an update on Second Lake Park. In reply, Councillor Harvey advised he believed that a report is being prepared by Municipal Affairs and there could be an announcement in the not-too-distant future.
- He asked for an update on the Tree By-law. In response, Councillor Barnet advised that Regional Council moved First Reading on a By-law respecting trees on public property. Staff was requested to report back on development issues. There will be a Public Hearing with regard to trees on public property within the next few weeks.
- He asked for clarification re Pesticide Spraying By-law. In response, Councillor Barnet advised that HRM does not have legal jurisdiction to establish a Pesticide By-law; the jurisdiction is with the province at this time. The province has been asked to amend the HRM Act to permit Council to regulate the use of pesticides in HRM and the province has agreed to a portion of the request. It was anticipated it would be part of the package of amendments coming forward for HRM this year.

- With regard to the Plan Amendments for Districts 15, 18 and 19, he pointed out that there had not been adequate time to look at environmentally sensitive areas properly. It was agreed to forward Mr. Regan's comments on to the Plan Review Committee as it was still meeting.
- He referred to infilling by a landowner of a portion of Bedford Basin to make a building lot; he questioned if this was legal. It was agreed to forward the question on to Development Services.

Mr. David Arsenault, Millwood High School Council asked when the supplementary funding issue would be addressed. In reply, Councillor Harvey said he expected there would have to be a decision before the 1999/2000 budget is finalized.

Ms. Colleen Paschal, on behalf of Millwood High School raised the following points:

- She asked who had jurisdiction to levy an area rate to which Councillor Barnet replied it was Regional Council. Community Council could make a recommendation to Regional Council to establish a rate.
- She then advised that Timberlea got an area rate for their computers this year and asked why it was such a problem for Millwood to get one. Subsequently, the Clerk was requested to obtain documentation to this effect as to the dates approved and by whom, if that was so.
- She asked if you needed public consensus to set an area rate. Councillor Barnet referred to the Staff Report received earlier in the meeting which indicated that a public consultation meeting would have to be held and provided further information as per the Staff Report. The question of an area rate was still in the preliminary stages. To get to Regional Council by February, it would have to be considered by Community Council no later than January but there was no detailed request before Community Council at this time.

Mr. David Arsenault asked, therefore, if he and the members of his group could put forward a detailed request at the next meeting by way of a presentation. He was told he could do so.

Mr. Gordon Morgan raised the following points:

- He was Co-Chair, Sackville Millennium Committee and advised that costing to celebrate in the Sackville area - Mill Cove to Enfield and to the Hants County line - would be approximately \$80,000.
- He thanked Community Council for its financial support for the rosebushes on behalf of Sackville Community Development Association and advised that letters of appreciation would be sent by him on behalf of the Association to those who contributed.

- Referring to the intersection of McGee and Glendale Drive, he suggested that a red light be installed at pedestrian crossings which is being done in some other municipalities. He suggested McGee and Glendale could be used as a test case as the ramifications of changing traffic patterns would result in a lot of opposition, in his opinion.

In reply, Councillor Harvey advised that he had discussed a flashing red light with Traffic Authority but right now the Motor Vehicle Act does not permit it. Traffic Authority will be dealing with the province as to trying a flashing red light on a trial basis. He requested that David McCusker, Manager, Traffic and Transportation be sent a note indicating that this issue was discussed at Community Council and encourage that the Traffic Authority make the contact as soon as possible. As to the change in traffic pattern, Councillor Harvey said he did not have an opinion at this time; however, to wait until the volume of traffic is equal on both streets would be well past the year 2000. Any installation of lights would have to be based on the recommendation from Traffic Authority.

15. **NEXT MEETING** - November 26, 1998 - Bedford.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion from Councillor Harvey, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Sandra M. Shute
Assistant Municipal Clerk