

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

**PENINSULA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JULY 8, 2002**

PRESENT: Councillor Sheila Fougere, Chair
Councillor Jerry Blumenthal
Councillor Dawn Sloane
Councillor Sue Uteck

STAFF: Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - June 10, 2002

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Uteck that the minutes of June 10, 2002, as distributed, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Additions

- 12.1 Case 00416: Request to Rezone Land on Harbourview Drive (SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING - September 9, 2002)

Subsequent to legal advice, the Regional Council Public Meeting regarding Neighbourhood Short-Cutting - Romans Avenue was moved up to be considered immediately following the Approval of the Order of Business.

3A. PUBLIC MEETING - NEIGHBOURHOOD SHORT-CUTTING - ROMANS AVENUE

- An information report dated June 24, 2002 submitted by John Sheppard, Acting Director, Public Works & Transportation was before Council for consideration.

Mr. David McCusker, Traffic Authority, briefly reviewed the process to date as set out in the Information Report. Mr. McCusker advised that staff was recommending that both sets of chicanes be made permanent. He noted that problems for pedestrians at the intersection of Romans and Cook Avenues observed during the test, will be addressed by locating the chicanes at Cook and Ward Avenues.

Councillor Uteck expressed concern that as per the Neighbourhood Short-Cutting Policy this matter had to go before Regional Council for final approval. The Councillor indicated that this was not a street closure, merely a calming of traffic and safety measures in a local area.

Mr. McCusker then responded to questions from members of Committee.

Councillor Blumenthal commented that the north side of Romans did not receive any treatment due to a lack of response from area residents. Councillor Blumenthal noted

that only residents of St. Andrew's and Chisholm Streets were distributed ballots with 24 of the 28 distributed on St. Andrew's Street being returned and no returns being received from Chisholm Street. The Councillor indicated that this lack of response is not unusual in areas where there are a number of rental properties or public housing. Councillor Blumenthal expressed concern that almost two years of work had not resulted in an improved situation.

The Chair then requested members of the public wishing to speak to come forward.

Gaye Pottie, 3259 MicMac Street

Ms. Pottie indicated that she had been a member of the Romans Avenue Short-Cutting Committee. Ms. Pottie commented that neither the concerns of the residents of the north side of Romans Avenue or those of the Halifax Shopping Centre had received a response. She stressed that something must be done to respond to the concerns of the residents. Ms. Pottie noted that the residents of St. Andrew's Street had fully expected some action to be taken to calm traffic and the lack of action was very disappointing. She requested that Council not continue to ignore the north side of Romans Avenue and include all of Romans Avenue in the traffic calming treatment. In conclusion, Ms. Pottie indicated that she felt the process was unbalanced and that she did not agree with the process.

Rocky Jones, Romans Avenue

Mr. Jones addressed Council indicating that he had also been a member of the Neighbourhood Short-Cutting Committee. He went on to thank staff for their work with regard to this issue. Referring to previous comments, Mr. Jones indicated that he felt there had been opportunity for the concerns of residents from both sides of the street to be addressed. Speaking specifically to the south side of Romans Avenues, Mr. Jones indicated that he was hoping to convince Council to go a bit further with regard to traffic calming. He noted that speed on Romans Avenue is now an issue as motorists manoeuvre through the chicanes. Mr. Jones recommended that speed bumps be installed between Isenor and Archibald Streets. Referring to difficulties emergency vehicles have with speed bumps, Mr. Jones noted that emergency vehicles rarely use Romans Avenue.

Ann Monahan, 6870 Chebucto Road

Ms. Monahan addressed Council objecting to the barriers erected on Romans Avenue noting that the barriers had created a safety issue on Chebucto Road. Ms. Monahan referred to the change on Joseph Howe Drive and noted that until that time the flow of traffic from Highway 102 was very smooth. She commented that allowing the expansion of the Halifax Shopping Centre and the choking off of traffic seemed to be somewhat contradictory. Ms. Monahan went on to indicate that traffic was a regional problem and without addressing improved transit and encouraging cyclists, the problems would not be resolved. Ms. Monahan urged Council to address the larger

issue and not to go street by street. In conclusion, Ms. Monahan commented that certain streets in the city should not be given special consideration to the detriment of others. She indicated that although she did not want speed or unsafe conditions, she did want the traffic to flow.

Manuel Escobar, 7059 Mumford Road

Mr. Escobar addressed Council indicating that traffic should be permitted to flow. He went on to indicate that he was opposed to changes to any of the existing accesses to the Halifax Shopping Centre. In conclusion, he requested that Council let the traffic find its own way.

Rosemary Mooney, 6951 Cook Street

Ms. Mooney addressed Council commenting that although she enjoyed the decreased traffic, she was still concerned with speed. Noting that there were other streets in the city that presently have speed bumps, Ms. Cuney suggested that speed bumps should be considered for the opposite end of Romans Avenue. In conclusion, Ms. Cuney noted that drivers must be considerate of residents of the city.

Reg Allen, Romans Avenue

Mr. Allen addressed Council expressing concern regarding remarks of a previous speaker with regard to the process. He noted that he had been very surprised with the outcome of the vote for the north side of Romans Avenue and believed that some action should be taken to address the concerns of these residents. Mr. Allen went on to note that although he was appreciative of the efforts to date, he was disappointed with the outcome of the traffic calming. He asked that Council direct staff to take another look at traffic calming for Romans Avenue. Mr. Allen noted that since the expansion of the Halifax Shopping Centre, Romans Avenue has become inundated with trucks. He requested that No Truck Signs be installed.

Mr. Allen went on to note that Romans Avenue is a residential street, not a collector or arterial road. The standard for a residential street is 3000 vehicles per day and he would like to achieve that standard. Mr. Allen noted that a 20% reduction missed the mark significantly. In conclusion, Mr. Allen indicated that he was also concerned about speed.

There were no further persons wishing to speak.

Providing an opportunity for Councillor Fougere to address the matter, Councillor Uteck assumed the Chair.

MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that Peninsula Community Council recommend to Halifax Regional Council:

1. That the chicanes on Romans Avenue, as outlined in the June 24, 2002 Information Report and as depicted on Attachment One of the report, be made permanent.
2. That staff follow up with an investigation and additional treatment for the area between the south chicane and the intersection at Mumford Road and Romans Avenue.
3. That staff respond with an effort to address the issues on the north side of Romans Avenue.
4. That staff study the issues around trucks on Mumford Road and MacDonald Street.

Following a brief discussion, the **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

4.1 **Status Sheet**

4.1.1 **C-2 Zoning in District 12**

Councillor Sloane advised that as per discussions with staff, the report is being finalized. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.1.2 **Establishment of a PAC for the Peninsula Community Council**

There is no report available. This item is to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.1.3 **Collection of Organics in the Peninsula Area**

An Information Report dated June 11, 2002 submitted by Brian T. Smith, Director of Solid Waste Resources was before Community Council for consideration. This item is to be removed from the Status Sheet.

Councillor Uteck noted that this Community Council continues to hear complaints regarding the holiday collection of organics and **MOVED, seconded Councillor Sloane that a request be made Regional Council that they give direction to Solid Waste Resources to investigate moving holiday collection for the Peninsula area to the Saturday previous to the Monday collection prior to the Collection Schedule being issued next year. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4.1.4 All Way Stop Signs Jubilee Road

An Information Report dated June 26, 2002 submitted by David McCusker, Traffic Authority, was before Community Council for consideration.

Mr. McCusker responded to questions from members of Community Council. Councillor Uteck requested that staff provide a follow up report for the September 9, 2002 meeting of Peninsula Community Council responding directly to Ms. Tania Li's presentation including a definitive answer as to whether all way stop signs are warranted, and further that the report include an explanation of what is meant by the "balance of traffic between the two streets".

4.1.5 Moran Street On Street Residential Parking

An Information Report dated July 3, 2002 submitted by Taso Koutroulakis, Deputy Traffic Authority, was before Community Council for consideration.

Note was made of the above Information Report. This item is to be removed from the Status Sheet.

4.1.6 Accident Statistics Jubilee Road

An information report dated June 26, 2002 entitled Quinpool Parking/Jubilee Collisions was before Council for consideration. Also distributed was a document entitled Five Year Collision History at Intersections on Jubilee Road, July 2002.

Note was made of the above information. This item is to be removed from the Status Sheet.

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

7.1 Appeal of Refusal of Application for Variance - 6118 South Street, Halifax (Deferred from June 10, 2002)

- Consideration of this matter was deferred pending resolution of the matter by the involved parties from the meeting of Peninsula Community Council held on June 10, 2002. A variance hearing regarding this matter was held on April 4, 2002.

Councillor Uteck provided an update noting that the adjoining property owners had reached agreement and **MOVED, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that Peninsula Community Council overturn the decision of the Development Officer and grant the variance for the property at 6118 South Street. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. HEARINGS

8.1 Public Hearings - None

8.2 Variance Hearings - None

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

9.1 Petitions - None

9.2 Presentation - None

10. REPORTS

10.1 Case 00370: Amendment to Development Agreement, 1343 Hollis Street, Halifax

- A staff report dated June 17, 2002 submitted by Paul Dunphy, Director of Planning & Development was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Uteck that Peninsula Community Council give Notice of Motion for the proposed amendment to the development agreement for 1343 Hollis Street and schedule a public hearing for September 9, 2002. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. MOTIONS - None

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 Case 00416: Request to Rezone Land on Harbourview Drive (SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING - September 9, 2002)

- This matter was added to the agenda during the setting of the agenda. A staff report dated July 3, 2002 submitted by Paul Dunphy, Director, Planning & Development Services was before Council for consideration.

Councillor Uteck addressed the matter noting that she was not in favour of the staff recommendation. She noted that the residents of the neighbourhood were opposed to the rezoning as indicated in the notes of the public meeting attached to the staff report. Councillor Uteck further indicated that Canadian National Railway has also indicated that they would not be in favour of the application. Councillor Uteck went on to note that the land is presently zoned Parks and Institutional and there is the potential to have trail developed over this land.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Peninsula Community Council support retention of the current zoning and not set a date for a public hearing to consider the rezoning of land on Harbourview Drive .

Councillor Blumenthal indicated concern with the resolution noting that he would like to have something in writing from the residents.

Councillor Uteck noted that the views of the residents are contained in the public meeting notes attached to the staff report.

The **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION** - None

14. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Tania Li, 64 Jubilee Road

Ms. Li expressed surprise regarding Mr. McCuskers response to questions from members of Community Council relative to agenda item 4.1.4. Ms. Li went on to note that the primary data contained within her submission was data provided by the Traffic Department. Ms. Li indicated that the only data collected by area residents was an 8 hour pedestrian count which does not appear to be in question.

Councillor Fougere noted that a report has been requested responding directly to Ms. Li's proposal and indicating whether all way stop signs are warranted.

Councillor Uteck assured Ms. Li that she would be following up with staff over the summer months.

Hugh Pullen, 6262 Oakland Road

Mr. Pullen expressed concern regarding the paint being used to repaint streets markings noting that it did not dry quickly enough and the result was very messy markings.

The Chair indicated that she believed HRM acquired paint for street markings through a joint tender with the Provincial Department of Transport.

Mr. Pullen went on to express concern regarding HRM's involvement in supplementary education funding given that education is the responsibility of the Province. Mr. Pullen asked if HRM Financial staff could investigate the whole question of HRM support to the Halifax Regional School Board. A copy of Mr. Pullen's comments are on file.

The Chair advised that HRM has established a Task Force on Supplementary Funding which will be reporting to Council in July. The report of the Task Force includes recommendations relative to the 2002/03 supplementary funding and how to deal with supplementary funding in the future. Councillor Fougere went on to note that supplementary funding was a pre-amalgamation legacy of the former cities of Halifax and Dartmouth. Supplementary funding is provided for within the Municipal Government Act and the Act sets out that this funding cannot be reduced by more than 10% per year.

Eleanor Reynolds, 6285 Jubilee Road

Ms. Reynolds commented that the number of accidents at the corner of Jubilee and Vernon would appear to meet the criteria for all way stop signs. She went on to note that work was being carried out on the lights at Preston Street and asked what exactly was being done with the lights. She further noted that there seemed to be activity around the Jubilee Road/Vernon Street intersection and asked what was happening in that area. The Chair noted that she would follow up with Public Works regarding these matters.

Ms. Reynolds went on to express concern regarding the number of bus tours and heavy trucks which were using Jubilee Road and adjoining streets. Noting that her understanding is that bus tours can travel anywhere in the city, she suggested that bus tours should be limited as to where they can travel in the city. In conclusion, Ms. Reynolds commented that the noise level from rooming houses after 11:00 p.m. continues to be a problem, and asked what could be done about this.

The Chair, referring to the problem of noise from rooming houses, encouraged Ms. Reynolds to report every incident. She noted that noise complaints did not have a high priority, however, establishing a history of complaints will allow police to respond appropriately.

Melanie Macey, Waterloo Street

Ms. Macey referred to the variance approved for 6118 South Street and noted that the concerns of the immediately adjacent neighbour had been addressed. However, other residents in the neighbourhood are concerned that the project proceed as the

developer has indicated. Ms. Macey asked what assurances HRM had that the development would proceed as agreed upon.

Councillor Uteck noted that the problems experienced to date have raised a red flag on this property and that staff would be keeping an eye on this particular development. She further noted that prior to the issuance of an occupancy permit, if one is required, an inspection would be carried out.

Beverly Miller, 6128 South Street

Ms. Miller addressed Council noting that amendments had been proposed to the Noise By-law and asked the status of these amendments. The Chair advised that a By-law rationalization process was underway and it is likely that the amendments to the Noise By-law are caught up in that process.

Ms. Miller commented that the response from Solid Waste Resources was not reasonable and it is apparent that staff have no real understanding of the issues.

Referring to the variance approved for 6118 South Street, Ms. Miller expressed concern that this decision had been based upon a private agreement.

Councillor Uteck assured Ms. Miller that the private legal agreement was an issue separate from the variance decision. However, the private agreement was required before the variance decision could be made.

In conclusion, Ms. Miller asked that Peninsula Community Council encourage the Solicitors to move forward with regard to amendments to the Noise By-law.

Referring to comments made with regard to noise and Rooming Houses during Public Participation, Councillor Sloane urged staff to bring forward the proposed By-law relating to Rooming Houses as soon as possible.

15. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Peninsula Community Council will be held on Monday, September 9, 2002 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Sherryll Murphy
Assistant Municipal Clerk