

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
March 27, 1996

PRESENT:

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald
Councillors: Bill Dooks
Gordon Snow
David Hendsbee
Ron Cooper
Harry McInroy
Jack Greenough
Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington
Clint Schofield
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Graham L. Downey
Larry Uteck
Howard Epstein
Russell Walker
Bill Stone
Ron Hanson
Steve Adams
Barry Barnet
Bob Harvey
Peter Kelly
Reg Rankin
Jack Mitchell

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Solicitor
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Jane Nauss, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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ADJOURNMENT..... 26

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with an invocation.

Mayor Fitzgerald expressed congratulations to the Eastern Shore Mariners Pee Wee Hockey Team on winning the Pee Wee Tournament held recently.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

< Councillor Schofield served a Notice of Motion for the next Regular Meeting of Council dealing with the following two items:

- Remaining Dartmouth Events Plaza
- Presentation - HarbourEdge Development in Dartmouth - Downtown Dartmouth Commission (due to municipal funding which will be involved)

< Councillor Epstein requested "Severance and Early Retirement Packages" be added as item 11.1.

< Councillor Sarto requested that staff report on the matter of lakes further on the agenda under item 9.5.1.

< Councillor Kelly requested that agenda item 3 - Motion of Consideration - be discussed subsequent to items 5.1 and 9.4.

< Municipal Clerk requested the following items be added to the agenda:

- Extension of Contracts - Refuse and Recyclables Collection - as item 9.4.2
- Library Board Appointments - as item 10.5
- Signing Officers - Event Bank Accounts - as item 9.3.3
- Standing and Advisory Committees - as item 9.7.

On a Point of Order, Councillor Peter Kelly expressed concern on the amount of documentation distributed to Council at the last minute. Mayor Fitzgerald agreed, however, he noted that several agenda matters had to be dealt with by Council prior to April 1, 1996.

Mr. Meech requested the addition of "Road Exchange - NSDOTC & Halifax Regional Municipality" to the agenda.

Councillor Reg Rankin requested that "Storefront Locations" currently listed on the "Added Items" package, be brought forward to the Council Agenda. Further, he enquired if Mr. Meech could address this matter.

Councillor Ron Cooper enquired if the inclusion of "Correspondence" in the Administrative Order could be taken into consideration prior to the Order receiving final approval by Council at the next Council meeting. In response, Mayor Fitzgerald agreed.

MOVED by Councillors Jack Greenough and Jack Mitchell, the Order of Business, as amended, was adopted. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. **REPORTS**

9.2. **Commissioner of Community Services**

9.2.3 **Supplementary Report Re: Major Recreation Facilities (Halifax Forum and Lake District Recreation Association - LDRA)**

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Hetherington to adopt the following recommendations of staff:

- 1) **Council authorize the assumption by the Halifax Regional Municipality of the existing management agreement between Lake District Recreation Association and Halifax County Municipality on a month to month basis as it relates to the Sackville Sports Stadium (i.e. continued management board role of LDRA - both parties agree);**
- 2) **Community Recreation Services, i.e. programming, etc., be managed by HRM staff in partnership with LDRA under the same delivery and financial cost-sharing agreements, and that LDRA act as an advisory board to HRM staff. Citizens would continue to register, etc. as in the past (LDRA would prefer to manage all community recreation in districts 19 and 20);**
- 3) **Existing staff be employed with HRM and fall within Community Services or Regional Operations. (The manager of Sackville Sports Stadium would continue to report to LDRA).**
- 4) **A central regional advisory board be created with assistance from LDRA to include citizen input from districts 2, 19, 20, 21 and 22 (both parties agree).**

It is further recommended that:

- (5) **A central region advisory board be created with assistance from LDRA to include citizen input from districts 2, 19, 20, 21 and 22.**

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Cooper if the proposed Agreements will be reviewed by the Board, Mr. Richard Cameron, Director of Recreation, advised they will be shared with Council first and then it is anticipated that a consensus will be reached as it pertains to content.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Barnet expressed concern with recommendation #4 as noted above in that both parties do not agree to this approach. There are more than two parties involved in this regard - LDRA and other communities such as Districts 21, 22 and 2. Further, LDRA is concerned with their decision making ability in the future.

Council was advised a Recreation Needs Assessment indicated there is a need for local services which are locally controlled. Within the UMA/Doane Report, it also states that certain services are better offered locally. It is anticipated this would be a cost effective approach to the delivery of recreation services.

Councillor Barnet also advised that within the Recreation Needs Assessment document, it clearly stated there are solid reasons why the community of Sackville should deliver its own recreation services, namely cost effectiveness, volunteerism, stewardship, and employees who wish to work with the LDRA.

Councillor Barnet suggested that LDRA function as is, on a month to month basis, and that Halifax Regional Municipality reassess the situation in 6 or 12 months time.

In response to enquires from Mayor Fitzgerald, Councillor Barnet offered the following comments:

Recommendation #1 - agrees;

Recommendation #2 - could be included with Recommendation #1 - on a month to month basis;

Recommendation #3 - has no problem with this recommendation;

Recommendation #4 - as other communities are involved outside of Sackville, they should have an opportunity for input.

Mr. Richard Cameron, Director of Recreation, addressed Council noting that staff recognize the need for community input and realizes that LDRA is an effective body. Further, staff are interested in enhancing the service of recreation in Sackville, not replacing it. Also, additional research is required in this regard, particularly as it pertains to financial aspects.

Councillor Barnet advised that the status quo in Sackville means leaving things as they are, particularly after amalgamation, although he did offer one option - that being a two tier system with LDRA forming a contract with Halifax Regional Municipality. He expressed concern that the LDRA Board will lose its effectiveness, spirit, volunteerism and stewardship. Accordingly, both sides need to review the situation very carefully.

Councillor Kelly agreed with Councillor Barnet in that neighbouring communities should have an opportunity to provide input prior to proceeding.

MOVED by Councillor Kelly to omit Recommendation #4. There was no seconder.

Mr. Meech addressed Council noting that LDRA cannot be isolated in this regard. In the past, there has been overlapping between LDRA and Halifax County Municipality thereby creating confusion, particularly as it pertained to areas of responsibility. Another aspect to consider is how services will be paid for.

Councillor Kelly noted that although the report circulated to Council was very informative, financial aspects need to be taken into consideration. Further, he reiterated his concern that Council is being asked to support a recommendation without knowing the budget implications.

Mr. Meech advised that approximately \$1 million was involved and that he suspected these funds (including the operating deficit) would be attained through the general rate.

On a Point of Procedure, Councillor Greenough enquired if Council could deal with each recommendation separately. Further, he agreed with Recommendation #1.

Mr. Richard Cameron noted that with respect to Recommendation #4, it was staff's intent to bring communities together and communicate with each one.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Blumenthal as to who will have ultimate responsibility of the Halifax Forum, Mr. Cameron advised that the management of the complex will report to the Board. Further, as Halifax Regional Municipality is the landlord, input from Council and staff is required.

In response to a comment from Councillor Adams that the Motion on page 1 of the report - (3) - was worded incorrectly in that a Policy Board should have been referenced and not an advisory committee, Mr. Cameron advised staff were aware of the wording in this particular report and that it has been corrected.

Councillor Harvey supported Councillor Barnet's comments and noted that in his opinion, Recommendation #1 was appropriate as is; Recommendation #2 should be re-worded to be in sync with Recommendation #1 and that Recommendation #3 was acceptable.

Councillor Snow advised that the Councillors from each respective districts involved, should have an opportunity to review the matter in detail and that all participants need to communicate with each other.

MOVED by Councillors Mitchell and Snow to defer further discussion on this matter until the next meeting of Council.

Mr. Richard Cameron respectfully requested discussions continue in this regard and Mayor Fitzgerald agreed.

There was no vote taken on the Motion.

Councillor Ron Hanson advised that each community must pull together although it will not be easy. Further, he suggested that staff's recommendations be supported by Council.

Councillor Barnet clarified a few points. He agreed with the background information included within the background report, however, he was simply seeking additional discussions on the matter at hand.

Recommendation #1

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Harvey to adopt Recommendation #1. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recommendation #2

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Harvey to maintain the status quo and operate under the existing management agreement on a month to month basis. MOTION DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Downey to amend Recommendation #2 in that the recreation services aspect be included in the Management Agreement and that field maintenance and the engineering aspect be separated and provided by staff through the LDRA.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Adams sought clarification from Councillor Barnet on this Motion.

In response, Councillor Barnet advised that Recommendation #2 be divided into two components - one being the Engineering section being responsible for field maintenance and the actual hands on work from Recreation Services. Further, recreation services should be provided through the management agreement and allow the field maintenance to be performed by the engineering department. This would allow for an economies of scale.

Mr. Richard Cameron advised this Motion would be contrary to staff's recommendation.

It was noted this would change the intent of the Motion therefore, this Motion was

not voted upon.

**MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Greenough to adopt Recommendation #2.
MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

Recommendation #3

**MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Greenough to adopt Recommendation #3.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Recommendation #4

**MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Kelly to defer further discussion on
Recommendation #4 for two weeks. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Recommendation #5

**MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Downey to adopt Recommendation #5.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Recommendation #2 - Notice of Reconsideration

**Councillor Barnet served a NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION (seconded by
Councillor Kelly) on Recommendation #2 for the next Meeting of Council.**

**8. PRESENTATION - UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUNICIPALITIES - MAYOR ANN
MACLEAN**

Mayor Ann MacLean, President, UNSM, addressed Council highlighting some of the UNSM activities and actions to date. Council was also advised that the UNSM was seeking two members from Council, plus two alternates, to sit on the Executive.

UNSM issues:

- < Provincial Sales Tax - the UNSM is extremely concerned with a proposal by the Province for municipalities to pay Provincial Sales Tax. Mayor MacLean was displeased that taxpayers would be forced to pay "a tax on tax" - further, she advised that each municipal unit must stand together on this issue;
- < Education Funding - this was simply another taxation without representation;
- < Social Services - the Province should pay for people services.

Mayor MacLean suggested the trend appears to be using property taxes to cover provincial services and debt. This is morally wrong and is a taxation without accountability.

Council was advised she will be attending a meeting on Friday, March 29, 1996 with the Minister of Finance at which time she will seek further clarification on the above.

< Resource Recovery Fund - concerned that the deposit refund will not be returned to the municipal units.

At the request of Mayor Fitzgerald, Mayor MacLean agreed to receive the names of two Councillors and two alternates to sit on the UNSM Executive at the next meeting of Council. Further, she expressed gratitude to Mayors Gloria McCluskey (City of Dartmouth) and Randy Ball (Halifax County Municipality) as well as Councillor Anne Cosgrove (Town of Bedford), for their contribution to the UNSM Executive over the years.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Hendsbee, Mayor MacLean advised that comments pertaining to a proposal to harmonize the GST and PST has been directed to the Province and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Further, she advised this matter will also be discussed during the meeting with the Minister of Finance on Friday, March 29, 1996.

In response to another enquiry from Councillor Hendsbee, Mayor MacLean advised that the UNSM supports a proposal for the issuance of tax receipts for candidates.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Stone respecting a municipal charter program, Mayor MacLean stated that the UNSM is working towards a process and procedure in this regard.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Mayor MacLean for addressing Council this evening, and advised that Council will work with the UNSM in its future endeavours.

5. **REPORTS**

5.1 **Commissioner of Regional Operations**

Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, addressed Council noting that two representatives from Sound Resource, Seattle, Washington, were in attendance this evening - Mr. Jeffrey Morris, PhD. and Mr. Jeff Brown.

Mr. Morris addressed Council noting that two members of Halifax Regional Municipality, Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, and Mr. George McLellan travelled to Seattle to visit facilities developed by Sound Resource in an attempt to maximize source separation and diversion from disposal. Over the past number of years, Mr. Morris advised it had been determined that it was more economically viable to go with source separation

and diversion programs rather than invest in six incineration facilities.

Sound Resource's main recommendation pertained to the fact that too much material was still coming in as mixed waste and too little was going to be source separated. Mr. Morris suggested, therefore, that rather than approximately 60% coming in as mixed garbage, the number should be down to 40% or less. Further, this would achieve a level of cost economies and would be more consistent with what the CSC strategy had proposed in terms of trying to maximize source separation. Basically, the essence of the system Sound Resource is attempting to implement is:

“make it as easy for everyone to put out source separation materials for diversion as it is to put out the garbage.”

With respect to a landfill, Mr. Morris advised that should a landfill be opened too soon (prior to source separation being implemented), a Front End Processor (FEP) that is quite large would be required as waste would not be diverted as it would in a mature system. Currently, Sound Resource is exploring the possibility of commencing construction of an FEP stabilization facility in modular form, which would handle approximately 1/3 of the waste stream while at the same time, using the safety net of waste export so anything that has not been stabilized doesn't have to be land filled. This enables the municipality to keep its commitment to the citizens involved in the CSC strategy and waste residual disposal facility site. Further, this permits the moving ahead on a time frame that can be met - 2 - 3 years - rather than by the end of this year.

Mr. Morris understood that a formal recommendation will be brought back to Council by the end of April, 1996.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Stone as to what is the most efficient operation of source separation and how would apartment dwellers be handled, Mr. Brown advised the Blue Box system creates 25% - 30% diversion and that the program can be enhanced. With respect to apartment dwellers, this is difficult to address as you can only deal with the site managers, although some areas have blue boxes for each apartment. Further, it comes down to educating the public.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Stone as to why a three year time frame, Mr. Brown advised that it must be determined how each aspect of the process will be integrated. Although the process could be rushed through, it would prove beneficial to test a couple of pilot programs, therefore, the reason for a three year time frame.

A brief discussion ensued on the process involved in educating the public i.e. newspaper ads and community based education.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Stone if the FEP could be constructed soon and if a middle sized FEP could be built rather than a smaller one, Mr. Morris advised that

feedback was required to determine the type of processing taking place in that facility. With respect to the size of the facility, a reasonable decision must be made prior to construction.

A brief discussion ensued on capital costs and attempting to keep these costs down on the front end and live with the trade-offs of having higher variable costs. In other words - not making a large investment on capital equipment but spending more on manual labour on the system upfront.

In response to an enquiry of clarification from Councillor Sarto if having all facilities in one area had been taken into consideration, Mr. Morris advised that the MRF and composting facility should not be located at the same site. However, a landfill and FEP should be constructed in one location.

A brief discussion ensued once again on the type of education program to be implemented.

Mr. Morris advised that the hauler needs to be responsible and advise each household of any "incorrect" garbage which is placed curbside.

Mr. Brown advised that a well designed collection/diversion program is essential. Various programs will be implemented year by year (i.e. schools), and other programs will require a short and intense implementation period after a few months of design work. Further, it must be decided which programs come on line so they don't "hit the streets" at the same time.

A brief discussion ensued on the fact that even though haulers will be responsible for "policing" - collection time and costs will not increase.

Councillor Jack Mitchell assumed the Chair and thanked both Messrs Morris and Brown for their presentation.

PROBE Presentation - Ms. Sandra Cober-Stasiulis, Co-Chair

Mr. George McLellan advised that a representative from PROBE was in attendance and with Council's permission, introduced Ms. Sandra Cober-Stasiulis.

Ms. Cober-Stasiulis addressed Council making reference to a letter dated March 25, 1996 which had been forwarded to Mayor Fitzgerald requesting adequate time - two weeks - for PROBE to review the NSRFC report in detail and respond to Council in writing.

Councillor Mitchell, Acting Chair, thanked Ms. Cober-Stasiulis for her presentation and that Council will consider her request.

N.S. Research Foundation - Dr. Ross McCurdy

Councillor Rankin enquired if Dr. Ross McCurdy, N.S. Research Foundation, could address Council on a potential health hazard due to levels of uranium and radon in the Goodwood area.

Mr. McLellan also suggested that Dr. McCurdy summarize the Foundation's findings in this regard.

Dr. McCurdy addressed Council noting that the Foundation presented a summary on uranium and radon levels at Site A:

- < Uranium levels at Site A were within an expected range;
- < Site A holds the Foundation negligible for radiological risks and hazards;
- < good engineering practice during construction and operation should be taken into consideration;
- < received correspondence from adjacent communities plus information received in the process of the research - there is no doubt that there are wells in the neighbouring communities that have high levels of radon and uranium. It is the Foundation's opinion that Council should take these levels quite seriously and look into the matter.

Dr. McCurdy advised he would be more than happy to speak to any individual who would like to discuss their particular situation to deliberate on possible remedies. The radon and uranium issues outside of Site A, however, were beyond the scope of the mandate given the Foundation.

Mayor Fitzgerald assumed the Chair.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Epstein as to what would occur should the liner fail, Dr. McCurdy advised that liner failure has to be taken into consideration before an Application is put before the Department of the Environment. Further, this is a consideration of any landfill site.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Hendsbee asking if comments made by Dr. Calder respecting potential risk due to the release of uranium and radon in the area, were taken into consideration, Dr. McCurdy advised in the affirmative.

In response to an enquiry from Mayor Fitzgerald asking if there was any debate in the academic world on the issue of uranium and radon, Dr. McCurdy advised there were discussions on drinking water and that effects from uranium and radon in drinking water appeared to be linked to kidney problems.

Prior to closing his remarks, Dr. McCurdy advised that when earth is moved, it is like

taking the top off a pot - gases escape and any accumulative gas will vent to the atmosphere. When the liner goes in, however, the reverse occurs.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Hendsbee if a reverse collection system could be used to vent gas, Dr. McCurdy advised he was not sure if it would be beneficial.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Dr. McCurdy for addressing Council.

5.1.1 **Solid Waste/Resource Strategy: System Work Plan**

Mr. McLellan, Director of Regional Operations, addressed Council reviewing the six recommendations contained within the staff Supplementary report entitled "Solid Waste/Resource Strategy: System Work Plan:"

1. That Council acknowledge the N.S. Research Foundation Report findings on Uranium and Radon levels attendant to Site "A" and:
 - a) consider, at its next session, a revised work plan for the MIRROR Group for further investigation of this site leading to a permit application for an RDF; and
 - b) authorize the negotiating team under staff direction to commence negotiations with the proposed private partner, MIRROR NS to develop a design, build and operate contract (DBO contract) with MIRROR NS for the operation of an RDF facility.
2. That Council authorize staff to continue its negotiations with Moncton and the Municipality of the County of Cumberland in order to bring forward a recommendation before the end of April regarding the alternate disposal site for mixed waste from our region for this two to three year period.
3. That Council support the preliminary report from staff regarding pro forma costs of transporting residual mixed waste to alternate sites (i.e. Moncton) pending further investigation and analysis.
4. That Council authorize the negotiating team under the direction of staff, with the assistance of the proposed private partner and our consultants, Sound Resource, to develop the framework for a regulatory and/or pricing environment that would be appropriate to maximize source separation and waste diversion strategies throughout our community. It is intended that this framework be available for Council by the end of April for its preliminary consideration.
5. That Council authorize staff to immediately prepare, in-house, a budget for communications and education to our public, both residential and commercial, to strengthen public understanding of the goals of our proposed system. It is intended

that this budget would reflect communication and education elements that would be tendered through our business and educational community and which would also utilize all relevant public institutions in our community, such as educational and special-interest institutions. It would be intended that this budget would be detailed and tender specifications available by the end of April.

6. That Council authorize that the proposed private partner, MIRROR NS, work with staff to develop a budget wherein they would, in conjunction with staff, and after evaluation of the potential for source separation efforts to reduce the mixed waste stream, enable us to better detail the scope and utility of a FEP/WAF facility to stabilize the remaining waste. This area of examination is critical in order to further stress the commitment to stabilization of the remaining mixed waste stream prior to disposal at the RDF and as set out in the CSC Strategy.

In closing, Mr. McLellan requested Council consider the six recommendations in total.

Councillor Cooper enquired if it would be appropriate to withdraw the Motion stated on the agenda and put another Motion on the floor:

MOVED by Councillor Cooper to proceed on to the method recommended to Council to develop source separation etc. and to proceed with further evaluation of Site A to meet the requirements of the Department of the Environment as recommended by the Advisory Committee of this Council.

On a Point of Procedure, Councillor Rankin suggested that to be fair, Council should test the recommendations currently before them. Further, in addition to what was stated in the report, he had requested that communities' protection and different components be addressed; further, any findings in the study by Dr. McCurdy relative to contingency plans and enriched pockets of uranium.

Mayor Fitzgerald advised there was a Motion on the floor.

Councillor Barnet seconded the Motion.

Councillor Rankin advised he would be voting against the Motion.

Councillor Greenough suggested the Mover of the Motion agree to deal with each recommendation and subsequently, deal with the Motions as they are put.

In response to an enquiry from Mayor Fitzgerald respecting clarification on the Motion, Councillor Cooper advised the Motion addresses Site A based on what Council has seen developed over the past 1 - 1.5 months. Dr. McCurdy's report clearly identifies the Site that is low risk for the disposal facility and the Motion simply recommends that Council proceeds with further evaluation to meet the requirements of the Department of the

Environment.

Councillor Barnet advised he seconded the Motion due to the fact that he feels the Motion complements staff's recommendation.

A brief discussion ensued as to the size of the facility to be constructed. Mr. McLellan suggested a private partner look at sizing and bring the matter back to Council. Further, it may be appropriate to wait until "Do it Now" projects have been evaluated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

At 9:00 p.m., Council broke for 20 minutes recess.

The meeting resumed at 9:20 p.m.

Resolutions - Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee

Councillor Rankin addressed Council noting that a meeting of the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee had taken place March 26, 1996 and that the following recommendations had been approved. Council consideration of same was required at this time:

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Mitchell to adopt the following recommendations:

Recommendation #1 - That the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee recommend to Council that whatever work is required on Site A, to complete the environment requirements of DOE and that same be carried out as soon as possible.

Recommendation #2 - That the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee recommend to Council that PROBE be permitted a two-week time frame to prepare a written report to Council on the Uranium and Radon Report prepared by N.S. Research Foundation.

Recommendation #3 - That the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee recommend to Council that the highest priority should be given to determine the magnitude of possible health problems associated with the amounts of uranium and radon in the communities surrounding the proposed landfill. Staff will investigate and bring back a report to Council. Further, to correspond with the N.S. Department of the Environment - Health Services Department - requesting their assistance in the matter of water quality monitoring.

Councillor Barnet confirmed that Council correspond with the N.S. Department of the Environment - Health Services Department - seeking their assistance in the matter of water quality monitoring.

On a Point of Clarification, Councillor Hendsbee noted that with respect to recommendation #2, Ms. Cober-Stasiulis has already addressed Council this evening on the N.S. Research Foundation Report. Further, were they now seeking another request.

Mr. Meech advised he understood from Ms. Cober-Stasiulis' presentation that she requested the ability of the option to provide a written report (their response to a report prepared by the N.S. Research Foundation) based on further review rather than to address Council again.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Barnet to adopt Recommendation #4:

That advice and recommendations from staff on the matter of the Solid Waste/Resource Strategy be reviewed by the Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee and if recommended, these actions be directed as follows:

- a) **If there are no budget implications, staff be requested to act under the direction of the Committee; and**
- b) **If there are budget implications, that the recommendation be forwarded to Council for their confirmation and approval of the recommendation. In the event that approval is not forthcoming, that the matter be an issue for discussion at Council with a view that resolution can be advanced or, in the absence of this, referred to staff and/or the Committee.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 5.1.2 (i) **Nova Scotia Research Foundation Re: Uranium & Radon Concerns at Site A**
- (ii) **Resource Recovery Fund Inc. - Enviro Depots Locations**

**MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Greenough to receive these for information.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5.1.3 **Nova Scotia Research Foundation Findings**

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Hetherington to receive the N.S. Research

Foundation Findings Report for information. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

On a Point of Clarification, Councillor Kelly requested, and Council agreed, that item #3 be removed from the agenda as it was now obsolete.

6. **MOTIONS**

6.1 **Councillor Epstein Re: Request for Proposals - Waste Management (deferred from March 6/96)**

It was agreed to defer this item.

6.2 **Councillor Schofield Re: Watershed Advisory Boards and Committees**

It was agreed to defer this matter until after April 11, 1996.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **Retirement and Severance Packages**

Councillor Rankin sought clarification on the current situation in Halifax noting that employees cannot receive two compensation packages.

In response, Mayor Fitzgerald advised this issue was debated by Halifax City Council and that Mr. Bill Hayward, Amalgamation Co-ordinator, will make a decision on the matter tomorrow. Further, this was not a severance package as such and was no different than other benefits offered through collective agreements.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Greenough asking if Mr. Hayward was seeking advice from Halifax Regional Council, Mr. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised Mr. Hayward was simply examining the issue at hand and obtaining as much information as possible prior to making a decision.

Councillor Hetherington expressed frustration in the manner in which various employees have been treated.

Mr. Meech advised this was not a general retirement program but a targeted program. Further, a report on the number of staff who will not be hired by Halifax Regional Municipality for various reasons, will be forwarded to Council in the near future.

Clarification on the recently cancelled "Job Fair" was provided by Mr. Meech. He noted the Fair was intended for internal staff only, however, the public had been applying for positions.

Councillor Adams suggested Halifax Regional Council request an extension to the Severance Package Program for the City of Halifax for an additional two weeks at least to enable the employees concerned to determine their future.

In response, Mr. Meech advised this should not be a problem. Further, should the Province not amend the Legislation as it pertains to the electrical inspectors, the program will be extended.

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Blumenthal that Halifax Regional Municipality agrees to accept funds from the City of Halifax to be earmarked as severance packages and held in trust for employees of the City of Halifax, until such time as a final decision is made by the employees concerned.

Councillor McInroy advised he could not support the Motion as the funds would be more beneficial if properly spent on the taxpayers.

Councillor Greenough advised he could not support the Motion and that this matter should be deferred pending a decision from Mr. Bill Hayward.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2 **“Septemberfest” - Councillor Mitchell**

Councillor Mitchell reviewed an information sheet pertaining to “Septemberfest” which was taking place September 1 and 2, 1996 in Hubbards Beach.

MOVED by Councillors Mitchell and Dooks to include “Septemberfest” on the list of special events with Halifax/Dartmouth Natal Days and Bedford Days; further that the event be hosted at the 1995 budget level. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.3 **Fire Services - Councillor Kelly**

Councillor Kelly addressed Council expressing concern that as a result of re-organization and the transition to Halifax Regional Municipality, the Bedford Volunteer Fire Department is in danger of losing its 60 volunteers, who collectively have 300 - 400 years of experience. Further, the volunteers wish to maintain the status quo.

A brief discussion ensued between Councillor Kelly and Chief Greene.

Councillor Kelly maintained that Bedford was the only Department outside of the core area which was to experience structural changes. Further, he was concerned that this “re-organization” could cost taxpayers in the vicinity of \$1.5 to \$1.6 million.

Chief Greene advised that in order to maintain consistency within the new Region, the structure of the Bedford Fire Department would require changes.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Hetherington, that Commissioner Gary Greene meet with the Bedford Volunteers to resolve any outstanding issues and to work towards maintaining the same structure as other volunteer bodies.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Hetherington advised he agrees with the first part of the Motion, however, with respect to the latter part of the Motion, Council may be tying the Chief's hands.

Councillor Kelly clarified the Motion by reiterating his concern that Bedford is the only Department to change its operation structure.

Commissioner Greene advised he has met with the volunteers on more than one occasion. Further, he noted there were six departments (of which Bedford is one) and that they will operate as one operation unit. Commissioner Greene also noted that Bedford appeared to have difficulty with the new position titles. However, he was awaiting further comment from the volunteers in this regard.

Councillor Cunningham advised that Commissioner Greene has to get the volunteers onside and that Council cannot direct the Commissioner at this point in time. Should a structure change be required, then so be it.

On a point of clarification, Councillor Kelly advised there could be major cost implications as a result of this re-organization of structure.

On a point of privilege, Councillor Kelly advised he was responsible for his community and that this item must be dealt with formally.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.

9. **REPORTS CON'T**

9.1 **Chief Administrative Officer**

9.1.1 **Recommendation Re: Nominations - Greater Halifax Economic Development Partnership**

MOVED by Councillors Jack Greenough and Uteck to adopt the list of nominees to the Greater Halifax Economic Development Partnership as noted:

Dr. Kenneth Ozmon, Colin Latham, Mayor Walter Fitzgerald, Councillor Larry Uteck, Louis Comeau, Vince March, Ian MacFadden, Miles Sweeney, Jim Moir,

Wynne Potter, Darrell Hiltz, and Michael MacDonald (Proposed Interim Chair). Further, that the balance of six appointments will be recommended at a future date. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.2 Commissioner of Community Services

9.2.1 Business Improvement District Committee Agreements

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Hetherington to adopt the draft agreements as distributed and authorize the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to enter into agreements with the Downtown Dartmouth Corporation, Downtown Halifax Development Association and Spring Garden Road Area Business Association to provide business district improvement services. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.2.2 Appointment of Development Officers and Building Inspectors

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Sarto to appoint the following individuals as Inspectors in accordance with the National Building Code of Canada (NBCC):

- Terry Magee, Wayne Hyland, Kevin Scudder, Jim Donovan, Doug Riley, Glen Lelacheur, Gerard Donohue, Ron Lowe, Chris Reid, Paul Bellefeuille, Don Williams, Wayne Gladwyn, Bernie Duggan, Garth Hazel, Doug Leahy, Alan Skerry, John O'Toole, Ivan Truen, Ed Thornhill, Paul Himelman, Wayne Webber, Mansel Eisan, Fred Tanner.

Further, that the following individuals be appointed "Municipal Development Officers" in accordance with the N.S. Planning Act:

- Sharon Bond, Mike Hanusiak, Bill D. Campbell, Gail Bowen, Linda Malloy, Greg Smith, Kelly Denty, Kevin Warner and Cathy Spencer.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.4 Animal Control - Award of Tender

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee and Dooks to authorize the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to execute a three year contract with Halifax - Metro SPCA for animal control services in the former Bedford and Halifax County areas, at an annual fee of \$190,000, with additional off hour patrols beyond 100 hours per month at a fee of \$10 per hour.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Rankin to defer this matter until the next meeting

of Council to enable time for Council to review the staff report. MOTION LOST.

In response to enquiries from Councillor Kelly, Mr. Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, advised that staff were recommending that the existing contract be extended.

A representative from the SPCA addressed Council noting that the existing level of service would remain in effect.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Barnet to extend the Meeting 30 minutes.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.3 Commissioner of Corporate Services

9.3.1 Extension of Existing Pension Plans

A staff report entitled "Extension of Existing Pension Plans" was included in the Council Package outlining the recommendations from the Pension Transition Team and Interim Pension Committee to Council.

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Dooks to adopt the recommendations of the Pension Transition Team and Interim Pension Committee as noted:

1. The following pension plans currently registered (or to be registered) under the Pension Benefits Act, namely:

- < **Halifax County Municipality Full-Time Retirement Pension Plan**
- < **Halifax County Municipality Part-Time Retirement Pension Plan**
- < **City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan**
- < **Halifax Superannuation Plan**
- < **Metropolitan Authority Employees' Pension Plan**
- < **Town of Bedford Employees' Pension Plan and Group RRSP**

to be continued effective April 1, 1996 until a new common plan for all employees of Halifax Regional Municipality can be established, with the Halifax Regional Municipality being substituted as the successor employer.

2. Employees who are currently members of the listed plans and whose employment is transferred to Halifax Regional Municipality continue as members of their respective plans.

3. As an interim measure, new employees of Halifax Regional Municipality (except members of Council) who, immediately prior to such employment, were not employees of one of the amalgamating units, shall become members of the Halifax County Municipality Full-Time Retirement Pension Plan on the date of employment with the municipality.
4. Members of Council be given an option to participate in a defined contribution plan effective January 9, 1996. As an interim measure, existing members of the Halifax Superannuation Plan shall continue as members of that plan; Council members opting to become plan members for the first time shall become members of the Halifax County Part-Time Retirement Pension Plan.
5. The pension/retirement committees of the listed plans shall continue. They shall advise and report to the Interim Pension Committee of Council until such time as a retirement governance structure is established by Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3.2 Schedule of Meetings - Halifax Regional Municipality

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Dooks to adopt staff's recommendation as follows:

- a) an interim schedule of regular Council meetings with Council meeting each Tuesday evening, commencing at 6:00 p.m.;
- b) as an interim measure, special Council meetings (including public hearings) be convened as necessary, but that, were possible, these meetings be scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday evenings;
- c) Council not establish any committees until after there has been an opportunity to hold a special Council meeting to discuss the committee options which are available and their implications; and
- d) the next regular meeting of Council be scheduled for Tuesday, April 2, 1996 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3.3 Signing of Officers - Event Bank Account

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Dooks that signing authority on the event

bank account for each of the Halifax Metro Centre, Dartmouth Sportsplex and the Halifax Forum be granted to those as approved from time to time by the Director of Finance and the Manager of Treasury of Halifax Regional Municipality. Such approval will only be granted upon written request duly signed by the Chairman where the facility is operated by a Board or Committee and by the Chief Administrative Officer where the facility is operated directly by Halifax Regional Municipality. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4 Commissioner of Regional Operations

9.4.1 Solid Waste/Resource Advisory Committee Meeting Recommendation - Household Hazardous Waste Management Contract

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Barnet that the Halifax Regional Municipality endorse a two year contract with Laidlaw Environmental Services (Atlantic) Limited for the supply of a Regional Household Hazardous Waste Management Program and that the contract be executed by Halifax County Municipality. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.2 Extension of Contracts - Refuse & Recyclables Collection

MOVED by Councillor Dooks and Snow to defer this matter to the next meeting of Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.5 Chief of Police

9.5.1 Lake Safety Patrol - Deputy Police Chief Don MacKinnon

Deputy Chief MacKinnon addressed Council noting that the contract for Lake Safety Patrol expires March 31, 1996.

Councillor Cunningham advised this is an urgent matter due to the fact that paddlers are out on the lakes as soon as the ice melts.

In response, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised he would like one unified service. At the consensus of Council, the tender will be amended to reflect same.

9.6 Municipal Solicitor

9.6.1 Indemnification - Members of Boards and Commissions

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Sarto that Halifax Regional Council, in consideration of a member of a board, commission or committee of the Regional

Municipality having agreed to serve or upon agreeing in the future to serve on such board, commission or committee, undertakes on behalf of the Halifax Regional Municipality to indemnify and save harmless the members and his estate against any liability incurred by the member by reason of the member serving or having served as a member of a board, commission or committee of the Halifax Regional Municipality and having acted in good faith within the scope of the member's authority as a member of the board, commission or committee and, including, if necessary, the provision of legal representation to the member at no cost to the member, in respect of such liability, and that the Municipal Solicitor be requested to communicate this undertaking to the present members of the boards, commissions or committees or to future members at the time of their appointment. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.7 Policy and Planning

9.7.1 Standing Advisory Committees

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Walker to defer discussion on this matter until April 11, 1996 at 6:00 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Appointments

10.1 Board of Police Commissioners

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Kelly to appoint Councillors Stone, Schofield and Mitchell; also Alan Abraham, Eartha Monard and Ann MacVicar to the Board of Police Commissioners. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2 Water Commission

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Hetherington that the proposed amendments to the Halifax Regional Water Commission Act attached as Appendix "A" in the staff report, be approved as to form and the Municipal Solicitor be directed to arrange for its introduction before the Spring sitting of the Nova Scotia Legislature. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Fitzgerald advised that the Commission would be comprised of himself, a member of staff, and three Members of Council namely: Councillors Hetherington, Hanson and Barnet. Further, as three citizens were still required, Mayor Fitzgerald advised Council to submit names to his office.

10.3 Harbour City Homes

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Adams to extend for a period of time, the term of those individuals who are currently serving on the Board of the Harbour City Homes. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.4 Halifax County Regional Rehabilitation Centre;
Ocean View Manor

MOVED by Councillors McInroy and Cooper to approve Councillors Schofield, Hetherington, McInroy and Cooper to the Halifax County Regional Rehabilitation Centre Board. Further, it was moved to maintain the membership of the two existing non-Council members namely; Archie Fader and Stephen Mont, to the Board. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The matter of appointments to the Ocean View Manor Board, at the request of Councillor Rankin, will be deferred to the next meeting of Council.

10.5 Library Appointments

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Schofield to appoint Councillors Stone, Cunningham, Harvey and Mitchell to the Library Board. Further, that John Kitz and Betty Thomas be appointed with two additional citizens who will be appointed at a later date. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Added Item

Road Exchange - NSDOTC & Halifax Regional Municipality

A staff report from Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, pertaining to "Road Exchange - NSDOTC & Halifax Regional Municipality" had been included in the Council Package.

A brief discussion ensued between Councillor Barnet and Mr. McLellan at which time Councillor Barnet expressed concern on a potential dust problem should there be a dry spring.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Hetherington that the takeover date, whereby certain roads in Halifax County be conveyed to Halifax Regional Municipality, at which time Halifax Regional Municipality would be responsible to undertake normal maintenance, be delayed until June 1, 1996; and, that the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Communications continue to provide regular maintenance programs on the exchange streets for a two month period, until June 1, 1996 at a flat rate charged to the Halifax Regional Municipality of \$600 per kilometre for the two month period. MOTION PUT AND PASSED

UNANIMOUSLY.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

MAYOR WALTER FITZGERALD, CHAIRMAN

Respectfully submitted by:
Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk

