

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
MARCH 4, 1997

PRESENT:

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald
Deputy Mayor Jack Greenough
Councillors Bill Dooks
Gordon R. Snow
David Hendsbee
Ron Cooper
Harry McInroy
Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Graham L. Downey
Larry Uteck
Howard Epstein
Russell Walker
Ron Hanson
Stephen Adams
Robert Harvey
Peter Kelly
Reg Rankin
Jack Mitchell

REGRETS:

Councillors: Clint Schofield
Bill Stone
Barry Barnet

STAFF MEMBERS:

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

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1. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Invocation.

2. **PROCLAMATIONS**

2.1 **Red Cross Month**

Mayor Fitzgerald proclaimed March, 1997 as Red Cross Month.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - February 18 and 25,1997

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Blumenthal to approve the minutes of February 18 and 25 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Council agreed to add the following items to the agenda:

9.3.1 Councillor Harvey, Chair - North West Community Council - Source Separated Composting Facility RFP

11.1 Presentation - Rev. Daryll Gray and Barbara Verge

13.1 Councillor Adams, Chair, Taxi and Limousing Committee - Transferability of Taxi Licenses (Dartmouth)

13.2 Natal Day Membership - Ratification of In Camera Decision

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Sarto to approve the Order of Business, as amended, and additions and deletions. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES** - NONE

6. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION** - NONE

7. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION** - NONE

8. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS** - NONE

9. **REPORTS**

9.1 **MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

9.1.1 **Tax Issues - Councillor Dooks**

Councillor Dooks addressed Council expressing concerns that had been voiced from his community particularly as they pertain to the concept of amalgamation:

- farm acreage tax;
- tax exemption for seniors possibly being removed;
- Bed and Breakfast companies (small, rural businesses) now facing a provincial assessment;
- fire department municipal grants are being removed;
- facing 15% - 30% new provincial assessment;
- police service provided in District 1 is provided by individuals who are not housed in this municipality;
- additional costs for Source Separated Organic Collection Containers; and
- tax structure.

Residents of District 1 wish to address Council in the future on the tax structure to clarify their positions as residents in a rural area. Outer core residents do not have the privilege of having the municipality look after their streets.

The proposed tax structure will incur additional costs for rural areas. District 1 encompasses 58% of the geographical area of the municipality, and included are a number of ball fields and parklands. It is proposed that taxpayers will pay \$.04 on the dollar for maintenance on these grounds. It is impossible to bring these facilities up to the standard that is expected of this Council. The community, therefore, will be proposing they will look after their own maintenance in this regard, in consultation with staff.

This municipality is designed around an urban core, and rural concerns are being ignored. Accordingly, he requested Council support in establishing a Committee comprised of four representatives - one from each of the four former municipalities, and one member of staff, to review the aforementioned rural concerns. This Committee would prove effective in bringing the rural concerns - particularly in the area of District 1 - to a Committee of the Whole. Council must listen to rural taxpayer concerns.

MOVED by Councillors Dooks and Snow to establish a Committee comprised of four representatives - one from each of the four former municipalities, and one member of staff, to review rural concerns.

Councillor Epstein stated, for the record, when the Utility and Review Board established the different Districts, there were differences in population. It was not apparent at the time exactly the extent of the differences in population and the tax base represented by each of the Districts. District 1 Councillor has one vote at this table.

Should the votes be proportional to the tax base represented by each of the different Districts, then the District 12 Councillor would have nine votes, District 14 would have 3.5 votes, District 21 would have 4 votes, and District 3 would have 1.6 votes. It is important that Council keep these figures in mind when issues are brought to the table and when important matters are voted upon, including the budget.

Councillor Cooper expressed concern with Councillor Epstein's comments. Further, he suggested Terms of Reference and a mandate be established for the Committee; also, it should be determined to which Districts the Committee would be applied.

Councillor Mitchell stated he would assist Councillor Dooks in establishing community committees to look after rural services, such as those in his District, if he so desires.

No vote was taken on the Motion.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Cunningham to refer this matter to the next Committee of the Whole with Terms of Reference and design objectives to be established. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that information on the tax structure should be available between the middle and the end of March. Mr. Meech also stated that the budget will be tabled near the end of April.

9.1.2 Water Damage - Councillor Adams

Councillor Adams addressed Council noting that a number of residents in the Spryfield area experienced flooding, on February 13, 1997, due to a broken watermain. Accordingly, Councillor Adams requested a staff report to investigate the causes of this break; further, that information be obtained from both the municipality and the Regional Water Commission with regard to the responsible party in this matter.

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Uteck that a staff report be prepared to investigate the causes of a broken watermain in the Spryfield area on February 13, 1997; further, that information be obtained from both the municipality and the Water Commission with regard to the responsible party in this matter. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2 REGIONAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

9.2.1 Application for Substantial Alteration - 1260 Blenheim Terrace

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. Turney Manzer, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Uteck and Walker that the proposed substantial alteration for 1260 Blenheim Terrace be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.2 **Application for Demolition - Uniacke House - 1240 - 46 Hollis St.**

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. Turney Manzer, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Uteck that permission for Uniacke House to be demolished be denied and that the one year waiting period shall begin to run from January 1, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3 **SOLID WASTE / RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

9.3.1 **Source Separated Composting Facility RFP**

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair, Solid Waste / Resource Advisory Committee (SWRAC), on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.
- Correspondence from the Maplewood on the Lakes Residents Association Executive was distributed to Council. A memorandum from Councillor Harvey, Chair, North West Community Council, and correspondence from New Era Farms Limited were also before Council.

SWRAC was recommending that, based on the results of the final evaluation of the three short listed proposals for the development of source separated composting facilities, Council approve, subject to contract negotiations, the selection of New Era Farms Limited for the development of a 20,000 tonne per year facility and Miller Composting Corporation for the development of a 20,000 tonne per year facility, which represents the best combination of price, schedule, contractual arrangements and operations.

As Chair of the North West Community Council, Councillor Harvey addressed Council noting on February 27, 1997, residents in the area of Hammonds Plains expressed concern they had not been given an opportunity to provide input into a proposal to develop a source separated composting facility in their area. Accordingly, he was recommending a public information session be held to address concerns raised by residents, prior to Council approving the recommendation of SWRAC.

MOVED by Councillor Harvey and Deputy Mayor Greenough that public information sessions be held to address concerns of the composting facilities raised by residents, prior to Council approving the recommendation of SWRAC.

Deputy Mayor Greenough stated residents from Dartmouth are also concerned. Accordingly, an open house / public information session is scheduled for March 19, 1997 - 3 - 7 p.m. to be followed by a special meeting of Harbour East Community Council at 7 p.m. Further, there was a public information meeting scheduled for March 20, 1997 in the Hammonds Plains Area. Therefore, Council should defer any decision on this matter, pending these public information sessions; all Members of Council having been invited to attend.

Councillor Harvey requested staff contact the North West Community Council for their role, if any, on the public information session being held on the 20th.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Sarto, to table the Source Separated Composting Facility RFP report from SWRAC, and that same will be revisited upon completion of the public information sessions. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3.2 Community Monitoring of Solid Waste Facilities Agreement

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair, Solid Waste / Resources Advisory Committee, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Mitchell that the Community Monitoring of Solid Waste Facilities Agreement, as attached to the February 26, 1997 Committee Report, be approved.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Walker on the dollar figures stated in sections 9.02 and 9.03 (\$25,000 and \$65,000), Mr. Jim Bauld, Manager, Solid Waste, advised there is a breakdown of the expenditures indicated on page 15 of the Agreement. Further, each year a budget will be submitted for review and approval.

Mr. Fred Crooks, Cox Downey, addressed Council to clarify the following points:

- the extension of the Cumberland contract would not necessarily mean the termination of this arrangement;
- \$65,000 is the maximum fixed figure for the first operating year. For subsequent years, the obligation is to propose an amount that may be more or less, depending on anticipated expenses;

- it is at Council's discretion as to what amount is appropriate for the Monitoring Committee after the first year.

Councillor Walker enquired as to why possible in-kind services were not previously determined. In response, Mr. Crooks stated that staff determined \$65,000 was a reasonable estimate in anticipating expenses.

Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional Operations, addressed Council clarifying that every effort has to be made that costs involved will be in-kind and that any costs that aren't, must be supported by valid expense receipts.

Councillor Epstein expressed concern that Council was committing to building a Front End Processor which he could not support.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Kelly as to which area this Agreement deals with, Mr. Jim Bauld advised it pertained to the facilities at Site A.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.3.3 Source Separated Organic Collection Containers RFP

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair, Solid Waste / Resource Advisory Committee, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.
- Correspondence dated March 2, 1997, from Ms. Lorretta J. Smith, and correspondence dated March 4, 1997 from Mr. David Robinson were also distributed to Council.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Mitchell that Council approve the selection of the company Schaefer System International Limited, who received the highest total score in the RFP evaluation process, and had the lowest price, for the supply and implementation of residential curbside organics collection containers, and, that HRM retain up to 10% of the containers for further testing.

Members of Council expressed the following concerns on the recommendation

- Public had not been educated by LURA
- Public is being forced to purchase the containers
- Sourcing of the bins - American company
- Containers are on wheels - could roll down hills
- Could pose problems for the elderly and disabled - getting containers to the curb
- Container storage problems
- Size of the containers - too big
- Requirement for each town house to have its own container
- Odour

- Amount of 10% of containers being retained for further testing.

General questions raised by Council included

- How many cart lifters will be required and what is the cost?
- Will the public have the opportunity to opt out of the program?
- How much did the first phase of the pilot project cost?
- Will there be other charges levied?
- What happens if the public refuses to purchase or use these containers?
- What happens to people who are already undertaking a composting program on their properties?
- How many composting machines were sold by the former Halifax County?
- How will the containers be cleaned?
- How will the containers be paid?
- Were local contractors considered during the pre-pilot stage?
- Can local contractors be considered for the 10% of containers to be utilized for further testing?

General comments raised by Council

- Council needs to keep the Strategy in mind.
- There should be an exhibit of the containers - all sizes - for Council if this is discussed further in Committee of the Whole.
- Council is asking too much of the public - the process needs to be simplified
- A test run should be carried out under summer conditions and on hills.
- There is a need for more public input.
- This program should be included in the solid waste budget.
- A display of the containers should be set up in schools.
- There should be an urban / rural split in this collection methodology.
- These containers are not required in District One - a special allowance or opt to purchase should be implemented.

No vote was taken on the Motion.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Kelly to refer this matter to a Committee of the Whole Session.

Councillor Rankin stated that Council must concentrate on what the strategy is and not forget that Council's commitment called for an organic free landfill.

Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, addressed the meeting, apologizing to Council for any confusion. If communication was the main concern, perhaps further discussions in Committee of the Whole would prove viable.

The municipality must impact on the behaviour of the general public as it pertains to reaching diversion levels. This program is important to the tax dollar and each tonne that is diverted makes a financial difference.

In closing, Mr. McLellan stated that staff have recognized there are certain groups who will be exempted from this program.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3.4 **Extension of Contracts - Curbside Collection and Operation of the Recycling Plant**

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair, Solid Waste / Resource Advisory Committee, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Sarto that Council extend the contracts for curbside collection services and operation of the Region's recycling plant described in the February 18th staff report for a period of six months (with an option for a further six months) after March 31, 1997 at the existing payment rates as defined in the tender documents. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3.5 **Composition of Membership of Solid Waste / Resource Advisory Committee**

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair, Solid Waste / Resource Advisory Committee, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

SWRAC was recommending that Council expand the membership on SWRAC to include one additional member from Council, to be selected from the former City of Halifax, City of Dartmouth or Town of Bedford.

Mayor Fitzgerald advised he would make a recommendation on this matter for the next Session of Council.

9.4 **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

9.4.1 **Information Report from Commissioner of Community Services dated February 17/97 re Management Agreements for Recreation Centres**

- An Information Report prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, on the above-noted, was before Council as a result of a

request of Councillor Walker at the last session of Council.

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Sarto to receive and file the Information Report.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Walker reminded Council that consensus on the Centennial Arena Management Agreement had been reached in December, 1996 and that the Commission had been promised Council would deal with same in January, 1997. Councillor Walker expressed concern that staff was now suggesting that none of the proposed management agreements would be dealt with until all were ready to be presented to Council simultaneously. The Commission's annual meeting is scheduled for June 1, 1997 and the management agreement must be in place by that time. Accordingly, Councillor Walker requested the matter of the Centennial Arena Management Agreement be placed on the next Council agenda.

No vote was taken on the Motion.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Rankin that the Centennial Arena Management Agreement be brought forward for discussion and possible approval at the next meeting of Council.

Councillor Rankin expressed concern noting that the Information Report did not address operating and capital deficits.

Councillor Cooper stated that he looks forward to these Agreements coming into place, however, he expressed concern if they establish uneven playing fields.

Councillor Cooper enquired if it was the intention of staff to operate these facilities on a break even basis or if the municipality will continue to support capital projects in some of the arenas but not all. In response, Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised it would appear that staff are expecting the facilities to operate on a break even basis, however, it may not be viable to take this universal, one standard, approach. Mr. Meech suggested that perhaps the concept of leasing these facilities to non-profit organizations with staff being employees of the organizations, should be looked at.

With respect to municipal subsidies, Mr. Meech stated that perhaps this whole issue should be revisited.

Mr. Paul Dunphy, Executive Assistant, Community Services, addressed Council noting that should each management agreement be presented to Council individually, it would be difficult to understand what the other facilities are getting and the levels of performance standards that would be expected. Also, one of the crucial areas is in

terms of deficits. If all agreements are presented to Council at once, in approximately two months time, it would be easier for Council to see the entire picture.

With respect to the Centennial Arena, Mr. Dunphy suggested there would be no harm in having this particular issue postponed as the issues related to it are simpler than the others.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested it is important to know the tax implications these recreation facilities will have on the general budgets. Further, he agreed, along with Councillor Blumenthal and Deputy Mayor Greenough, with all management agreements being presented to Council as one collective package due to the fact it is important to determine any continuity or similarities with the documentation.

To review the process, Mr. Dunphy stated that staff will meet with each of the five facilities in question and lay out what the areas of responsibility are, and the methods of accountability and savings for both the organizations and the taxpayers. This information will be brought back to Council for further direction.

No vote was taken on the Motion.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Hetherington that this matter be deferred to staff for a report to be brought back to Council within two weeks.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.4.2 **Temporary Borrowing Resolutions**

- A staff report prepared for Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner of Corporate Services, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Hetherington that Council approve the temporary borrowing resolutions in the amounts on the schedule attached to the February 27, 1997 staff report and that these temporary borrowing resolutions eliminate and cancel any active resolutions that are still in force from the previous municipal units.

In response to enquiries from Councillor Kelly, Mr. Corrigan stated that "unfunded" pertained to work completed by the four former municipal units. During the 1996 budget presentation, staff reviewed for Council total capital debt and debt charges. Staff will be coming back to Council on a number of issues as they pertain to debt and forecasts up to 2005; long term interest rates; effects on budgets and how large the budgets should be. This particular staff report sets in place a requirement of the Department of Municipal Affairs to have the temporary borrowing resolutions in place.

Mr. Corrigan stated he would provide information as it pertains to "minor" costs of the debenture for Councillor Kelly.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the March 4, 1997 minutes of Halifax Regional Council adopted on March 18, 1997.

Vi Carmichael
MUNICIPAL CLERK

9.4.3 **1997 World Canoe Championships**

Mr. Andrew Cox, Festivals and Events, addressed Council stating that a recommendation, along with detailed information, will be presented to Council on March 25, 1997.

9.4.4 **Future Direction of SeptemberFest**

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion. Correspondence dated February 24, 1997 from Marine Drive-Musquodoboit Valley SeptemberFest '96 Committee, had been previously distributed to Council.

Staff was recommending the following:

(1) **Non-urban Event**

- (a) Council approve a name change for a non-urban event to be held within the boundaries of the former Halifax County area, the new name to be "Summerfest."
- (b) Council approve an amount of \$35,000 to be included in the Festivals and Events 1997 Budget as the total HRM contribution to this event, on the condition that the host community has an organizing committee which will be responsible for the expenditure of these funds, following HRM guidelines and under the direction of HRM staff assigned to oversee this event.
- (c) Council approve that for 1997, the event be hosted by the Marine Drive-Musquodoboit Valley SeptemberFest '96 Committee.
- (d) Council direct staff to develop a selection process for choosing a host community for 1998 and subsequent years.

(2) **SeptemberFest - Urban Event**

- (a) Advise organizers of the proposed 1997 SeptemberFest, which is a private sector event, to apply to the Halifax Regional Municipality's Grants Committee for funding.

Councillor Mitchell expressed concern noting the staff report did not entail all information and that Council should take a serious look at the report. Further, he suggested the event be held in a different location each year and a five year plan should be put in place.

Councillors Dooks, Hendsbee and Hetherington supported the recommendation, with Councillor Hetherington suggesting that the Hubbards location be guaranteed the event would be held in that area.

Councillor Walker expressed concern with the staff report stating that areas of concern, as raised by Mr. Quinn in his correspondence of February 18, 1997, were not addressed. Further, he expressed concern with the entire procedure.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Mitchell to defer further discussion on this matter pending receipt of a further staff report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.4.5 **Policy for Sale and Lease of Land in HRM Business and Industrial Parks**

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. Tom Rath, General Manager, Business Parks Office, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Sarto that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute Agreements of Purchase and Sale for the lots owned by Halifax Regional Municipality in the business and industrial parks of Greater Halifax, subject to the terms and conditions as noted in the February 26, 1997 staff report.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

**MOVED by Councillor Cooper and Deputy Mayor Greenough to amend the Motion to include "that quarterly reports be provided to Council on items such as this."
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The amended Motion now reads:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Sarto that Council authorize

the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute Agreements of Purchase and Sale for the lots owned by Halifax Regional Municipality in the business and industrial parks of Greater Halifax, subject to the terms and conditions as noted in the February 26, 1997 staff report; further, that quarterly reports be provided to Council on items such as this. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.6 **Proposal for a Senior's Housing Complex and Cultural Centre: St. Andrew's Centre Site**

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Sarto that:

- (a) Council authorize the initiation of a plan amendment for the St. Andrews Centre site to permit the development of a combination seniors residence and cultural / community centre by development agreement. The proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and land use by-law for Halifax to permit this project are included in the staff report dated February 24, 1997 as Appendix A.**
- (b) Council refer this report to the Halifax Peninsula Community Council and the Halifax Peninsula Planning Advisory Committee for public consultation and advice. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.4.7 **Halifax Harbour Waste Water Management**

- A memorandum prepared for Ms. Val Spencer, Commissioner of Policy and Planning, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

Staff was recommending:

- (a) that Council adopt the 12 Principles agreed to by the Symposium participants as a basis for moving forward.
- (b) that Council appoint an Advisory Committee of key stakeholders, based upon expertise and experience with the issues, to provide a meaningful venue for stakeholder input into the harbour solutions planning process. The work of this group will be essential in advising HRM management and Council on the standards and expectations which Council should set in seeking private sector partners to develop and implement treatment strategies.
- (c) that Council retain a management consultant to assist with the process of

selecting a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) by developing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP). The consultant will work with the Advisory Committee and HRM management to ensure that calls for proposals and the selection of private partners are designed to meet Council's expectations and needs.

- (d) that Council solicit proposals for a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to design and implement solutions for wastewater treatment for the harbour.
- (e) that the general public be kept well informed and educated on the planning and design process for wastewater treatment facilities.

Mr. Tony Blouin, Policy and Planning, through the use of overheads, provided an overview of the above-noted recommendation, noting this information was strictly for Council's information this evening.

Councillor Epstein commented on the proposed role of a private sector partner and requested clarification. He further enquired as to whether the partner being proposed will be involved simply in the design and building of the project or whether it is proposed that the partner would have a role in the operation, even ownership, of the project. If the latter is the case, than a close examination of the experience in Britain (privatized sewer and water) should be undertaken. Also, the justification for a private sector partner at this level, should be explained.

Councillor Hetherington suggested that funds can be saved by reviewing the blueprint of what has been done over the past three years. With respect to advisory committees, Councillor Hetherington stated that membership should not have any kind of a conflict of interest.

On the matter of public partnership and if it is acceptable, there are scenarios that perhaps joint ventures can work to the benefit of the municipality, while still owned and operated by the municipality. With respect to the fact this may come before the Regional Water Commission, Councillor Hetherington suggested a copy of this report be forwarded to Mr. John Dick, Chairman; and Carl Yates, Executive Director, for their input.

Mr. Ken Meech stated this latter point of Councillor Hetherington's was a suggestion raised at the Symposium.

Mr. Blouin, in response to an enquiry of Councillor Cooper respecting public

involvement and an education process, advised the public will generally want to be kept informed, however, others may wish to be further involved through interaction with the advisory committee. Also, there may be a need for public meetings.

This matter will be discussed on March 18, 1997.

9.4.8 **Provincial Cost Sharing**

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, on the above-noted, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Uteck that Council:

- (a) approve the Maintenance Agreement No. HRM-04 between the Halifax Regional Municipality and the Province of Nova Scotia and authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign this Agreement;**
- (b) negotiate with the Province to cost share on the upgrading of approaches to the Macdonald Bridge and the Landfill Site "A" Interchange on Highway 103.**

Mr. Ken Meech stated that the Province has decided to change the rules as to the criteria for streets and roads qualifying for cost sharing. Accordingly, he suggested that the municipality pressure the Province into re-visiting this issue. With respect to the Macdonald Bridge approach roads, the municipality could advise the Province it is not prepared to continue with this project, unless there is 50% cost sharing.

Councillor Rankin referenced Highway 103 Interchange noting that should funding not be available from the Province, perhaps HRM should reconsider the construction of the interchange. In this case, additional costs would accrue to the transportation costs of the solid waste collection contract. Councillor Rankin stated there is no viable alternative but to have an interchange at Site A. It is unacceptable for the Province NOT to assist in this interchange. Also, to suggest that the municipality accommodate Provincial plans for the 100 series Highways at its cost is incomprehensible. The MLAs should be advised that should they want cooperation on these initiatives - on solid waste - that relate to their own highways, they have to at least have a degree of acceptance for some amount of cost sharing.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Epstein to negotiate with the Province to cost share on the upgrading of approaches to the Macdonald Bridge.

Councillor Downey, on a Point of Order, stated when Council originally approved the Motion for the Bridge work, cost sharing was included in that Motion.

Mr. Meech stated that the municipality has been advised that the Province is not prepared to cost share. Therefore; Councillor Kelly requested his Motion remain as is.

On a Point of Clarification, Deputy Mayor Greenough stated this was part and parcel of continuing negotiations for both the approach roads to the Macdonald Bridge and the 103 Interchange.

Councillor Downey expressed concern respecting the need to redirect traffic on Artz Street and Brunswick Street. Accordingly, the municipality must negotiate with the Province to proceed with the work.

No vote was taken on Councillor Kelly's Motion.

A vote on the Main Motion took place.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.4.9 **Plumbing By-Law**

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Adams declared a Conflict of Interest as he is part owner in a plumbing company, and removed himself from discussions on this item.

- A Staff Report Prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, on the above-noted, was before Council for Discussion.

Notice of Motion on this item was served by Councillor Rankin Under Item 14.1. Council will decide First Reading on the Plumbing By-Law at its March 18, 1997 meeting.

Councillor Adams resumed his place at the meeting.

10. **Public Hearings** - None

11. **Correspondence, Petitions and Delegations**

11.1 Delegation - Rev. Darryl Gray and Ms. Barbara Verge will be heard when Council meets in Committee of the Whole.

12. **Motions**

12.1 **Councillor Snow**

- A Notice of Motion had been served by Councillor Snow during the February 25, 1997 Council Session.

MOVED by Councillors Snow and Uteck:

WHEREAS in light of environmental concerns by society today, and with more people continually developing sensitivities to toxic pesticides and herbicides;

AND WHEREAS the cost of treating environmental illnesses and operating clinics which deal with these illnesses is significant;

AND WHEREAS the use of toxic chemicals and pesticides is potentially dangerous to our waterways;

AND WHEREAS alternative methods exist to deal with pests that are harmful to vegetation and crops;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff be requested to prepare a report for the consideration of this Council which will lead to legislating a Ban on Toxic Pesticide and Herbicide Use By-Law in Halifax Regional Municipality. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

12.2 Councillor Snow

- A Notice of Motion had been served by Councillor Snow during the February 25, 1997 Council Session.

MOVED by Councillors Snow and Sarto:

WHEREAS a 16 year old Richmond County youth died recently as a result of massive head injuries he sustained in an accident while on a school ski trip in Nova Scotia;

AND WHEREAS there was a similar accident on a Nova Scotia ski slope in November, 1994 which claimed the life of a 12 year old girl;

AND WHEREAS there is growing public concern over the safety of our students while on these school-sponsored ski trips because there are no requirements for them to wear protective head gear while on the ski hills;

AND WHEREAS there are such mandatory requirements for the use of safety helmets for other school-sponsored events within the Halifax Region, such as for hockey and football games;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Halifax Regional Council go on record as supporting a policy of mandatory use of protective head gear for students in the Halifax Region who take part in school-sponsored ski trips; and urge the Halifax

Regional School Board to implement such a policy as soon as possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor send a letter to the Premier of Nova Scotia urging his government to implement a similar mandatory ski safety policy for all School Boards across the Province.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. Added Items

13.1 Transferability of Taxi Licenses (Dartmouth) - Councillor Adams, Chair, Taxi and Limousine Committee

Councillor Adams addressed Council reviewing the recommendation of the Taxi & Limousine Committee.

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Cunningham that Council endorse the Motion passed at the Dartmouth City Council, January 16, 1996 meeting regarding transferability of taxi licenses.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Epstein to refer this matter to the Taxi & Limousine Committee. **MOTION DEFEATED.**

A vote on the Main Motion took place.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 Natal Day Steering Committee

- This matter had been discussed by Council In Camera earlier in the day.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Cunningham that the recommendation made In Camera, to appoint the following individuals, for a two year term, to the Natal Day Steering Committee, be ratified:

9 Residents from the community of Dartmouth:

Beatrice MacGregor; Peter Majeau; Elwood Boone; Patricia Fogarty-Pearce; Phyllis Balcom; Ollie Woods; Leon Fitzgerald; Harris Dunn; Tracy Chisholm.

9 Residents from the community of Halifax:

Peter Murchland; Clyde Paul; Graham Bowser; Allan Snow; Paula Milsom; Julie Gibson; Cynthia Sullivan; Katherine Dinelle; Doug MacDonald.

Two Members of Council:

Councillors Jerry Blumenthal and Bruce Hetherington.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

14.1 **Councillor Rankin**

TAKE NOTICE that at the next regular meeting of the Halifax Regional Council to be held on March 18, 1997, I intend to introduce a Motion to give First Reading to the Plumbing By-Law.

14.2 **Councillor Kelly**

TAKE NOTICE that at the next regular meeting of the Halifax Regional Council to be held on March 18, 1997, I intend to introduce a Motion to implement a Sewer Charge By-Law for the Halifax Regional Municipality.

15. **Adjournment**

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Cunningham to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk