

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
MARCH 18, 1997

PRESENT:

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

REGRETS:

Councillors: Clint Schofield
Harry McInroy
Jerry Blumenthal
Bruce Hetherington

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Acting Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Jane Nauss, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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1. **INVOCATION**

Deputy Mayor Greenough called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Invocation.

Deputy Mayor Greenough welcomed Access Cable 10 and extended a welcome to those viewing the proceedings at home.

2. **PROCLAMATIONS**

2.1 **Hunger Awareness Week**

Deputy Mayor Greenough proclaimed March 23, 1997 as Hunger Awareness Week.

2.2 **The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

Deputy Mayor Greenough proclaimed March 21, 1997 as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

2.3 **CIAU Weekend**

Deputy Mayor Greenough proclaimed March 21 - 23, 1997 as Keep CIAU in Halifax Weekend.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - March 4, 1997

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Mitchell to approve the minutes of March 4, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

The Municipal Clerk requested the following item be added to the agenda:

13.1 Councillor Mitchell - refer Item 8 on the Information Items Agenda - "Solid Waste/Resource Management Strategy Implementation Schedule" - to the Regular Council Agenda.

12.3 Councillor Kelly requested that his Motion - "Motion to Amend Administrative Order No. One" - be deferred to the March 25, 1997 Council Session.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Uteck 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 **Commuter Rail Sub-Committee - Councillor Kelly**

! Due to recent public interest and support for a commuter rail line for the municipality, Councillor Kelly was requesting Council consider re-establishing the former Commuter Rail Sub-Committee or establish a new Committee to study the idea of a commuter rail line. Documentation from VIA Rail was distributed to Council.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Epstein that a staff report be prepared on the re-instatement of a Commuter Rail Sub-Committee; further, that staff review VIA Rail assets. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.1.2 **Unsolicited Windshield Washing at Intersections - Councillor Adams**

Councillor Adams addressed Council noting he had received comments from motorists who were concerned with the safety aspect of unsolicited windshield washing taking place at intersections. Accordingly, he requested a report from staff as to how this concern can be addressed.

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Mitchell that staff investigate as to how the municipality can deal with unsolicited windshield washing at intersections; further, that potential liability and injury be taken into consideration. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2 **HALIFAX PENINSULA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

9.2.1 **Macdonald Bridge - Proposed Expansion**

- A memorandum from Councillor Epstein, Chair, Halifax Peninsula Community Council, was before Council for discussion.

Halifax Peninsula Community Council was recommending that:

- (1) should any changes be made to the approaches to the Macdonald Bridge, on the Halifax side of the Harbour, any ramp system be placed only on the north

side of North Street;

- (2) Halifax Regional Municipality staff report on ways in which co-ordination of planning between the Bridge Commission and Halifax Regional Municipality, can be improved.

Following a public meeting held February 5, 1997, residents expressed the fact that a Macdonald Bridge expansion was not a high priority; also, that it was important to alter traffic patterns so as to eliminate the Artz Street / Brunswick Street approach to the Bridge.

Deputy Mayor Greenough invited Mr. H. L. Doane, Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission, to address Council.

Mr. Doane addressed Council making the following comments (a copy of Mr. Doane's comments were passed to the Clerk):

- ! Additional information had been provided to the engineers that would move the bridge expansion up on the GoPlan priority list; further, that the UMA report supported the expansion.
- ! The Bridge Commission supports removal of bridge traffic from Brunswick Street.
- ! The north ramp option is a decision that Council will have to make although the joint study supports a south approach.
- ! Concern was expressed that cost-sharing is now an issue, after ten months of proceeding.
- ! The Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission can offer \$3 million in cost sharing of the approach roads, subject to the Board's approval.
- ! Work on the approach roads must proceed now as tenders are to be awarded in April.

In response to concern raised by Councillor Downey as to Provincial cost-sharing, Mr. Meech stated that the \$3 million from the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission equates to approximately the amount the municipality would be seeking from the Province.

Councillor Stone suggested that the municipality continue its attempts to obtain Provincial cost-sharing.

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Uteck to refer the recommendations of the Peninsula Community Council to staff to consider how to next proceed, with

report to be brought back to Council on April 1.

Councillor Kelly suggested that cost-factors be included in the staff report.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3 **HARBOUR EAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

9.3.1 **Morris Lake Management**

! A memorandum from Councillor Bruce Hetherington, Chair, Harbour East Community Council, was before Council for discussion. Also attached was a memorandum from Audrey Manzer, Chair, Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board, dated February 14, 1997.

The matter of the condition and future management of Morris Lake had been discussed by the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board and their comments forwarded to Harbour East Community Council.

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Cunningham that Regional Council agree to consider the inclusion of the amount requested (\$24,000) for the study of Morris Lake in the 1997/98 Capital Budget and further, a formal request go forward to 12 Wing Shearwater for cost sharing of the study. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4 **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

9.4.1 **Management Agreements for Recreation Facilities (Supplementary Report)**

! A memorandum prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner, Community Services, was before Council for discussion.

As various members of the community recreation groups were unable to meet with staff due to March Break, staff was requesting the matter of Management Agreements for Recreation Facilities, be deferred.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Hanson that the matter of Management Agreements for Recreation Facilities be deferred. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Dan English requested Council consideration of extending the Interim Management Agreements for Recreation Facilities.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Harvey to extend the Interim Management

Agreements for Recreation Facilities. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.2 **Centennial Arena Commission - Management Agreement**

- ! A memorandum prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner, Community Services, was before Council for discussion.

Attached to the staff report was a Management Agreement (one year term) with the Centennial Arena Commission, for Council's consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone that Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Management Agreement with the Centennial Arena Commission as attached to the March 14, 1997 staff report.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Cooper respecting Section 2.0.3 - Capital Budget - of the Agreement, Mr. Dan English stated this clause will also appear in the agreements for the four major facilities.

In response to a further enquiry from Councillor Cooper respecting the management of capital improvements through the recreation facility boards and if the Boards could be assured of funding, Mr. English stated even if the facilities could determine their own financing, staff would still like to review all capital improvements and ensure that the projects were consistent with long term facility planning.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Harvey as to whether the Centennial Arena Agreement is a "template" for each major facility, Mr. English stated it is not necessarily a "template" but that some of the information would be contained in the other agreements for the four major facilities.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Rankin, Mr. English stated it was staff's intent to operate the facility on a break even basis. Further, agreements of this type would not apply to community owned facilities.

Councillor Rankin expressed concern enquiring if staff could provide some form of comfort that community owned facilities would be treated the same as municipally-owned. Mr. English stated that staff would address this issue within the report on the major facilities.

Councillor Rankin, for the record, stated this is a precedent setting issue if community owned facilities are not dealt with.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested all agreements should be presented to Council simultaneously and considered collectively, even though each facility may not be equal in design.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.4.3 **HALIFAX HARBOUR WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT**

! This matter had been tabled during the March 4, 1997 Council Session.

Staff was recommending:

- 1) that Council adopt the 12 principles agreed to by the Symposium participants as a basis for moving forward;
- 2) 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;

- 3) 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;
- 4) that Council solicit proposals for a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to design and implement solutions for wastewater treatment for the harbour; and
- 5) that the general public be kept well informed and educated on the planning and design process for wastewater treatment facilities.

Councillor Epstein stated he could support recommendations 1, 2 and 5 but not clauses 3 and 4 as noted above.

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Uteck to recommend:

- (1) that Council adopt the 12 principles agreed to by the Symposium participants as a basis for moving forward;**
- (2) 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; and

- (5) 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, addressed Council reviewing the staff report noting that staff was recommending all five clauses.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Adams if individuals (at least two) who might be personally affected would be included on the Advisory Committee, Mr. Blouin assured Councillor Adams that staff would invite residents who might be affected, to sit on the Committee.

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised Council that all five recommendations should be adopted; subsequently, it can be defined as to what form the Public-Private Partnership will take.

No vote was taken on the Motion.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Cunningham to amend the Motion to include clauses 3 and 4. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

A vote on the Main Motion, as amended, took place.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Uteck:

- 1) that Council adopt the 12 principles agreed to by the Symposium participants as a basis for moving forward;**
- 2) 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;

- 3) 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;

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

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Epstein expressed concern, suggesting this was a hostile amendment.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.4.4 Plumbing By-Law P-400 - First Reading (ref item 12.2)

- !** A memorandum prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner, Community Services, was before Council for discussion.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Adams declared a Conflict of Interest, as he owns a plumbing company, and removed himself from discussions on this matter.

Council had directed staff, on July 16, 1996, to prepare a Plumbing By-Law and to seek co-ordination of inspections with the Halifax Regional Water Commission to determine guarantees of workmanship and materials available for homeowners.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Mitchell that:

- (1) Council approve the adoption of the Plumbing By-Law to apply to the Halifax Regional Municipality as attached to the staff report of February 25, 1997; and to repeal Ordinance Number 132, the Plumbing Ordinance of the City of Halifax; and, By-Law Number P-800, the Plumbing By-Law for the City of Dartmouth; further**
- (2) Adoption of the By-Law is required to have three readings; it is suggested that First Reading be given, but Second and Third Reading be scheduled to allow for comments to be received from the Construction Association of**

Nova Scotia and the Development Advisory Group.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Adams resumed his place at the meeting.

9.4.5 Future Direction of SeptemberFest

! A memorandum prepared for Mr. Dan English, Commissioner, Community Services, was before Council for direction.

This matter had been deferred at the March 4, 1997 meeting of Council. Staff was now in a position to define the future of SeptemberFest and accordingly, was making the following recommendation:

- (1) Non-Urban Event (former Halifax County celebration)
 - (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 have 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 (proposed Quincept Productions 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.

MOVED by Councillors Dooks and Snow that:

- (1) **Non-Urban Event (former Halifax County celebration)**

- (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 have 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.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Mitchell and Walker to amend the Motion as follows:

- (1) **Non-Urban Event (former Halifax County celebration)**
 - (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 have 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 could advise staff to begin a process to select a new host committee for the 1997 event (alternative #4).

Councillor Walker requested communications from both sides be provided to Council to clear any misunderstandings.

A recorded vote on the amendment took place. Those who voted **in favour** of the amendment were Councillors Sarto, Downey, Uteck, Epstein, Walker, Stone, Hanson, Adams, Barnet, Harvey, Kelly, Rankin, and Mitchell.

Those who voted **against** the amendment were Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillors Dooks, Snow, Hendsbee, Cooper, and Cunningham.

Absent for the vote were Mayor Fitzgerald and Councillors McInroy, Hetherington, Schofield and Blumenthal.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

A vote on the Main Motion as amended took place.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mayor Fitzgerald assumed his place at the meeting.

MOTION OF RECONSIDERATION

A Motion of Reconsideration was served by Councillors Hendsbee and Cooper, for the March 25, 1997 Council Session on the following Motion (Main Motion as amended):

“(1) Non-Urban Event (former Halifax County celebration)

- (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 have 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 could advise staff to begin a process to select a new host committee for the 1997 event (alternative #4). MOTION PUT AND PASSED.”**

Councillor Hendsbee stated he was looking for clarification on two items:

- it should have been noted that the community of Hubbards held two summer festivals in 1995; and
- it needs to be determined whether the Eastern Shore, Marine Drive-Musquodoboit Valley Committee can be eligible for consideration as a host

community for 1997.

Another Motion was put on the floor to deal with the second aspect of staff's recommendation.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Walker that:

(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. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayor Fitzgerald assumed his place at the meeting.

9.4.6 Amendment to By-Law P-408 - the City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan - First Reading of By-Law P-300 (ref item 12.1)

- !** A memorandum prepared for Mr. Ron Singer, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services, was before Council for discussion.

This proposed by-law will, if enacted, reduce the required contributions, for some employees, to the City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Sarto to give First Reading to By-Law #P-300 which amends certain required contribution rates in the City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.7 Dartmouth Pension Plan Contribution Reduction Collective Agreement Amendments

- !** A memorandum prepared for Mr. Ron Singer, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services, was before Council for discussion.

During a meeting of the Dartmouth Pension Committee held February 12, 1997, it was agreed that staff bring forward amendments to applicable collective agreements to allow for contribution rate reductions, in combination with an amendment to the applicable by-law.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Cunningham that Council

approve amendments to the NSUPE Local 1, NSUPE Local 4, and NSUPE Local 5 Collective Agreements as set out in Appendix "A" attached to the staff report dated March 13, 1997, to allow pension contribution rates to be set equal to current service costs and eliminate the obligation to direct 2.77% above current service costs towards Plan improvements. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.8 **Agreement to Extend Community Transit Service - Metro Transit to Municipality of the District of East Hants**

! A memorandum prepared for Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional Operations, was before Council for discussion.

The Municipality of the District of East Hants has requested an extension to the existing Sackville/Beaver Bank Community Transit Service to Parkview Manor, in Mount Uniacke.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Hetherington that Regional Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the Agreement attached to the March 5, 1997 staff report, concerning the extension of the Community Transit Service (Sackville) to the Municipality of the District of East Hants. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.9 **Land Acquisition, Parcel X-1, 16 Titus Street**

! A memorandum prepared for Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional Operations, was before Council for discussion.

In order to complete the Titus Street Upgrading, the acquisition of nine parcels of land is required. This report deals with one parcel - Parcel X-1.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone that Parcel X-1, 16 Titus Street, as shown on Plan No. TT-52-32816, as attached to the staff report dated March 11, 1997, and comprising of 15.4 square meters (165.7 square feet), be acquired from Mr. Domenico and Mrs. Ines Sablone for \$14,712.20 as settlement in full plus any additional taxes or closing adjustments that may be applicable. Funds are available for the project, Titus Street Upgrading Account No. 02-97921. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.10 **Service Easement Relocation, Markborough Properties, Mic Mac Boulevard**

! A memorandum prepared for Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional

Operations, was before Council for discussion.

The location of a proposed Kent Building Supplies Centre on lot K-1, Mic Mac Boulevard, requires the relocation of an existing service easement and associated services to this site.

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Sarto, that Council approve the relocation of the service easement over Markborough Properties lands located at Mic Mac Boulevard as shown on the plan attached to the March 12, 1997 staff report, and approve the release of the existing service easements as described in Schedules "A" and "B" also attached to the March 12, 1997 staff report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.11 **Spring Weight Restrictions**

! A memorandum prepared for Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional Operations, was before Council for discussion.

With last year's service exchange, a number of roads in the former Halifax County now fall under the jurisdiction of the Municipality. However, spring weight restrictions still need to be carried forward into 1997.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Mitchell that Halifax Regional Municipality restrict the maximum vehicle weight as set out in Schedule "A" of the March 7, 1997 staff report, on all HRM roads not referenced in Schedule "B." These restrictions would be in place from approximately March 22, 1997 to April 27, 1997. The Engineer may change the implementation dates, weight restrictions and list of exempted roads as conditions warrant. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.12 **TENDER 97- 016 - FERRY ENGINE REFIT**

! A memorandum prepared for Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional Operations, was before Council for discussion.

A Ferry Engine Refit tender was issued February 3, 1997 and one bid was received, that being Detroit Diesel Canada East in the amount of \$61,733.70. Accordingly, staff was recommending that Council award Tender 97-016, Ferry Engine Refit, to Detroit Diesel Canada East.

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Cunningham to authorize the award of the tender for the ferry engine refit to the only bidder, Detroit Diesel Canada East.

Councillor Dooks enquired if alternate parts could have been utilized. In response, Mr. Brian Smith, Director of Transportation, advised he would meet with potential suppliers in this regard.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. **ADDED ITEMS**

13.1 **Revised Solid Waste/Resource Management Strategy Implementation Schedule**

! This item was moved from the Information Agenda to the Regular Agenda at the request of Councillor Mitchell and it was agreed to discuss the matter at this point in the meeting. As a result of a Motion by Councillors Stone and Epstein, however, discussions ceased prior to a ten minute recess, and resumed at the end of the meeting. Both portions of the minutes are combined, commencing on page 22.

Following a ten minute recess, Council reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

10. **PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE**

11. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

11.1 **Presentations**

11.1.1 **Halifax Regional Development Agency - 1996/97 Activity Report, 1997/98 Business Plan and Budget Proposal - Leonard Buckles, Acting General Manager**

! Copies of overheads prepared by the HRDA were distributed to Council.

Mr. Gordon Morrison, Chair and Mr. Leonard Buckles, Acting General Manager, both addressed Council.

Mr. Buckles referenced a report entitled "1997-1998 Business Plan" and through the use of overheads, noted the following: Voting Members, RDA Client Activity, New Business Start-Ups by Industry Sector, Service to Existing Businesses - Industry Sector, RDA Business Services, Direct Benefits & Guarantees to Investors, Direct Benefits to New & Existing Businesses, Direct Benefit to the Community and to HRM, and Time lines.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Mr. Morrison and Mr. Buckles for their presentation.

11.1.2 **East Preston Rate Payers Association - Process for Community Boundaries Identification within the Municipality - Douglas Sparks, President**

! A copy of Mr. Sparks' presentation was circulated to Council.

Mr. Douglas Sparks, President of the East Preston Rate Payers Association, addressed Council expressing concern on the issue of Community Boundaries Identification, particularly the fact the community felt their identity was being erased. Mr. Sparks suggested that racism was a factor.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Mr. Sparks for his presentation noting this matter would be referred to staff and that he would be advised when a report is prepared.

11.1.3 **Bicycle Use within Halifax Regional Municipality - Vanessa Lennon**

Ms. Nikki Easton, a student attending Dalhousie University, addressed Council on the issue of bicycle use in the municipality and the fact her class would like to propose a pilot project for Council's consideration. This project would include bicycle lanes on a number of streets connecting Point Pleasant Park and the Macdonald Bridge.

Council was advised this project could benefit commuters, tourists and recreation cyclists; reduce vehicular traffic; increase cyclist safety; and, promote tourism in the Halifax Peninsula area.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Ms. Easton for her presentation noting this proposal would be forwarded to staff and that perhaps she would be willing to serve on the HRM Cycling Committee, to which Ms. Easton agreed.

11.1.4 **Collective Action Day, April 14, 1997 - Brenda Landry, Project Co-ordinator, Volunteer Resource Centre**

Ms. Brenda Landry, Volunteer Resource Centre Project Co-Ordinator, addressed Council on a growing trend of Corporate Volunteerism to Nova Scotia participating businesses. This program encourages employers to "donate" employees for one hour on a volunteer project.

Ms. Landry advised she would be contacting each Member of Council in this regard.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Ms. Landry for her presentation.

11.1.5 **Rural Tax Issues - Ross Finley and John Verlinden**

! A copy of the presentation made by Mr. Finley and Mr. Verlinden had been circulated to Council.

Mr. Ross Finley and Mr. John Verlinden addressed Council expressing concern on a proposed tax structure reform and the affect it might have on the rural tax rate. Council was advised the proposed tax rates were unfair and unreasonable, illegal and detrimental. Further, Council was requested to consider full public input into the process.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Mr. Finley and Mr. Verlinden for their presentation.

MOVED by Councillors Dooks and Snow to refer this presentation to the Committee of the Whole on March 24, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Walker, for the record, enquired if the Eastern Shore was willing to pay for their fair share of services received, to which the presenters advised in the affirmative.

11.2 **PETITION**

Councillor Sarto presented the Clerk with a petition concerning pedestrian traffic crossing the lower end of Brigadoon Avenue adjacent to the Number 7 Highway (Main Street). Councillor Sarto requested staff prepare a report as to how accidents can be diminished in this area.

12. **MOTIONS**

12.1 **Deputy Mayor Greenough**

! The following Notice of Motion had been served by Deputy Mayor Greenough during the February 25, 1997 Council Session: TAKE NOTICE that at the meeting of Halifax Regional Council to beheld on March 18, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion to give First Reading to Amend By-Law P-408, the "City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan."

This matter had been dealt with under 9.4.6.

12.2 **Councillor Rankin**

! The following Notice of Motion had been served by Councillor Rankin during the March 4, 1997 Council Session: TAKE NOTICE that at the meeting of 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.

This item had been dealt with under item 9.4.4.

12.3 **Councillor Kelly**

! The following Notice of Motion was served by Councillor Kelly during the March 4, 1997 Council Session: TAKE NOTICE that at the meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on March 18, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion requesting Council to amend Administrative Order Number One - Section 8(2) respecting Regional Council meeting times.

It was agreed to defer this item to March 25, 1997.

13. **ADDED ITEMS CONTINUED**

13.1 **Revised Solid Waste / Resource Management Strategy
Implementation Schedule** (reference page 19)

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

Mr. George McLellan addressed Council noting this report had been prepared to provide information on the revised SWRAC strategy implementation time line schedule.

A lengthy discussion ensued on whether public participation should be entertained.

Councillor Kelly expressed concern in that he understood there would be an opportunity for public participation.

In response to Councillor Kelly's statement, Councillor Rankin stated that public participation would be contrary to the original Motion and that Site A could be at risk if public participation sessions were held.

Councillor Rankin reiterated his earlier concerns as to Site A being at risk if public participation was entertained.

In response to enquiries from Councillor Walker, Mr. Joe Mann, Solid Waste, advised of the following:

- with respect to line items in the staff report - staff should be in a position soon to respond to concerns;
- with respect to a trial run on smaller containers - it is yet to be determined the amount of funds involved.

Councillor Walker requested this matter be placed on the March 25, 1997 Council Agenda, for further discussion.

14. **NOTICES OF MOTION** - NONE

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED by Councillors Uteck and Epstein to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk