

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES JUNE 24, 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
Clint Schofield
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Graham L. Downey
Larry Uteck
Howard Epstein
Russell Walker
Bill Stone
Ron Hanson
Stephen Adams
Barry Barnet
Bob Harvey
Peter Kelly
Reg Rankin
Jack Mitchell

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

2. **PROCLAMATIONS**

- 2.1 Mayor Fitzgerald proclaimed the month of June as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Month, in memory of Mr. Delbert Hendsbee, the father of Councillor Hendsbee.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - None

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

The Municipal Clerk stated there were two deletions to the agenda:

9.8.1 Logo Selection Committee Wrap-Up Report - Establishment of Coat-of-Arms Committee

9.10.19 Khyber Building - Lease

The Municipal Clerk stated there were also four requests to address Council on the tax structure:

Mr. Stephen Tasker, Mr. Peter Turner, Ms. Cynthia Poithier and Mr. Reg MacAusland.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington to permit the speakers to address Council at the commencement of the meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Schofield to adopt the Order of Business, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

6. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION** - None

7. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION** - None

PRESENTATIONS - TAX STRUCTURE

Mr. Steven Tasker, Kingswood Ratepayer's Association

Mr. Tasker addressed Council noting that residents in the Kingswood area have been placed in the suburban core. By taking the urban core rate (1.373) and **subtracting** for services not received (6.1¢ for transit, 3.8¢ for water and 4.1¢ for sidewalk) an urban rate of 1.223 is derived, however, to determine a rural rate, a base is determined and costs for services are **added**. Should the suburban rate be derived in the same manner as the rural rate, the rate would be approximately 1.19. Mr. Tasker enquired as to how the remaining 3.8¢ was derived and suggested this could be a "proximity" charge.

Concern was raised on the fact that amalgamation costs were to be borne by residents of the municipality, based on their assessment. This should be reconsidered. Another issue raised was the fact that it would appear a budget, a tax structure, a tax rate and a boundary line all have been combined into one issue. Mr. Tasker enquired if proper debate has been undertaken on each individual aspect, suggesting this sets a precedent for all tax considerations for the municipality.

Mr. Tasker expressed his appreciation to Councillors Adams, Kelly, Rankin, Mitchell and Dooks for their assistance. Further, Council was thanked for listening to the residents and attempting to deal with this issue.

In closing, Mr. Tasker referenced a "phase-in" issue noting he was not clear as to what Council's intent was in this regard. Further, he anticipated that Council would communicate what impact this phasing-in would have on residents.

Mr. Peter Turner, Haliburton Hills/Heights Homeowners Association

Mr. Turner expressed concern with the tax structure and rates that residents in this rural area are to pay. Residents are looking at a 35% increase in taxes for various reasons. In the area of Tantallon, residents will pay the highest percentage of increase in the entire Region. With the recent reassessment, this area will generate more tax revenue for the municipality, even if there is no change in the tax structure. This is difficult to understand when one is living in an area where no changes in service delivery are realized. Also, concern has been raised by residents as to where their taxes will be allocated. Accordingly, Mr. Turner suggested that information sessions be held to provide information to residents.

Mr. Turner stated that the general rate for his area (rural) is not the same as that of the urban or suburban areas. He understood that services vary from one area to the next, however, there is no provision in the rural rate to pay for maintenance of recreation facilities such as playgrounds and parks, where there is a provision in the urban rate.

Mr. Turner suggested this was a double standard.

In closing, Mr. Turner suggested Council listen to all concerns of the residents.

Ms. Cynthia Poithier, Haliburton Hills/Heights Homeowners Association

Ms. Poithier addressed Council expressing concern with the perceived lack of information being made available to the public. Concern was also expressed on the matter of assessment, noting that although it is not a municipal responsibility, it is a main issue of concern with residents.

In closing, Ms. Poithier noted the lack of a recreation rate which is not included in the former Halifax County area. Accordingly, Council was asked who will mow lawns on the playgrounds and paint the playground equipment. In the past this service was carried out through an area rate implemented through the Homeowners Association. Ms. Poithier stated a recreation rate should be included in her area's rate as well and requested Council consider this aspect prior to voting on the Operating Budget.

Mr. Reg MacAusland - Mr. MacAusland sent his regrets as he was not able to attend the meeting.

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

8.1 Acceptance of Private Roads Outside of the Core Area

C This matter had been deferred from the June 3, 1997 Regional Council Meeting.

Staff was recommending that Council approve the policy for acceptance of private roads by the Halifax Regional Municipality being that the roads are required to be upgraded to HRM standards at the abutters' cost as a condition of acceptance.

A lengthy discussion ensued on the 15 metre street width requirement.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Mitchell to approve the policy for acceptance of private roads by the Halifax Regional Municipality being that the roads are required to be upgraded to HRM standards at the abutters' cost as a condition of acceptance.

Councillor Barnet opposed the Motion on the floor noting further discussion on the matter should be deferred pending a response from the Province. In response, Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Engineering Services, advised that the 15 metre (50 ft.) width is legislated through the HRM Act and cannot be changed unless the legislation is amended.

Councillor Dooks expressed concern with the fact that maintenance of roads outside of the core areas has ceased and that access for emergency vehicles could be at risk. The Councillor suggested this concern should be discussed when staff meet with representatives of the Province; further, a listing of the affected roads should be made available.

Councillor Rankin stated his concern on the fact that the number of subdivision streets transferred to the Department of Transportation and Public Works is reaching the limit of 20 kms. (as per the Service Agreement between HRM and DOT&PW), therefore, any acceptance of private roads would have to be maintained by the municipality.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Cooper if the 66 ft. wide right of way (for areas which do not have a piped storm drainage system) was comprehensive, Mr. Dhillon advised this width was flexible, however, it could not be less than 50 ft.

Councillor Adams stated he would support the Motion on the floor on the assumption that residents will be offered a different level of service if required.

Councillor Stone reminded Council that staff is requesting Council to provide an opportunity for owners to make their private roads public, so they can be maintained.

Deputy Mayor Greenough suggested there were two items being discussed at the moment: (a) take over of private roads, and (b) service levels provided to these private roads. The Deputy Mayor suggested that the latter item is a discussion for another day and should not be linked with the take over of private roads at this point in time. Deputy Mayor Greenough requested a listing of all private roads, who provides the service to maintain these roads, and what service needs to be carried out.

Councillor Dooks requested that residents in the rural areas be provided with information as to why their service has ceased and who is responsible.

Councillor Cooper referenced roads in the former Cities of Halifax and Dartmouth that were once lanes but are now maintained. The Councillor suggested a report be prepared for an August Regional Council Meeting to address the service levels prior to the winter months.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. REPORTS

9.1 MAYOR

9.1.1 Appointments - Commuter Rail Committee

- C A memorandum from Mayor Fitzgerald regarding appointments to the Commuter Rail Committee, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington to appoint Councillors Howard Epstein, Robert Harvey and Peter Kelly; Philip Cox (representing the North West Community Council - Transit Advisory Committee); Reverend David Boston (representing the Halifax Transit Advisory Committee), and Donald Jeans (representing the Metropolitan Halifax Chamber of Commerce). MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was noted that the terms will be decided by the Ad Hoc Committee on Committees.

9.2 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

9.2.1 Land Sales Account and Burnside Capital Works - Councillor Schofield

- C A memorandum from Councillor Schofield was before Council, requesting Council to review capital works projects in Burnside which can now be funded through the Land Sales Account.

Councillor Schofield requested this matter be deferred to July 8, for two reasons: (a) completion of Operating Budget deliberations, and (b) as a result of a meeting with the Burnside Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, the Councillor has information which he would like to share with Council at that time.

Further, on another matter, Councillor Schofield advised there was a meeting scheduled for Thursday of this week (4-7 p.m.) of all businesses in Burnside to discuss the composting facility. Deputy Mayor Greenough advised this meeting was advertised by "invitation only."

The cost of developing the composting facility site on Gloria McCluskey Avenue will approximate \$200,000. Councillor Schofield enquired if the Land Sales Account will be reimbursed for this cost and suggested that a response on July 8 would be appreciated.

9.2.2 Transportation of School Children - Councillor Sarto

- C A memorandum from Councillor Sarto was before Council on transportation for school children who live in the areas of Bell Ayr Elementary School, South Woodside Elementary School, Shannon Elementary School, and students living in Wallis Heights attending John Martin Junior High.

Councillor Sarto requested this matter be deferred pending completion of Operating Budget deliberations, and Council agreed.

9.2.3 Fine Option Program - Councillor Walker

- C A memorandum from Councillor Walker was before Council, requesting Council to consider giving those individuals with municipal by-law infractions the opportunity to perform community services should they not be in the financial position to pay court fines.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Hetherington that the Governor in Council be requested to amend Order in Council No. 90-183, pertaining to the Fine Option Programme, by amending Schedule "A" Section B(e) - the definition of "offender" - to specifically include municipal by-laws in the range of offences recognized by the Programme."

No vote was taken on the Motion.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone to refer this matter to legal staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.3 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

9.3.1 a) I) Discretionary Funding - Halifax Regional School Board

- C During the June 18, 1997 Committee of the Whole, Councillor Stone had requested a listing of where the discretionary funds are being allocated. Further, the Councillor suggested a meeting take place between the Councillors of the former Cities of Halifax and Dartmouth, to discuss this matter.

Deputy Mayor Greenough addressed Council noting a meeting had been held with representatives of the Regional School Board to discuss supplementary funding over and above the mandatory funding, to determine levels of service this additional funding provides for Halifax and Dartmouth.

Initially, the Regional School Board set its budget on the assumption it would be receiving the same level of funding this year as last year. However, due to the change in the mandatory formula, the municipality is now contributing approximately \$679,000 over and above last year. The Board was then requested to review certain areas of concerns raised by Council. In Dartmouth, one concern raised was the proposed reduction of pupil transportation service; in Halifax concern has been raised regarding the summer school program. The additional funding provided \$270,000 to Dartmouth and \$409,000 for Halifax.

Following discussions with Dr. Don Trider, Chief Executive Officer, Halifax Regional School Board, on the change in the mandatory formula, it has been determined that proposed service cuts in pupil transportation for the Dartmouth area will not proceed this year. Also, a Dartmouth Schools Fund will be established for the additional \$200,000 that is left. Other Dartmouth schools will be able to apply for funding, subject to stated criteria.

In Halifax, the summer school program will be re-instated for approximately \$100,000; there will be additional full time equivalent teachers as teacher support; the core french program at the grade 3 level will be re-instated with three full time equivalent teachers; two full time equivalent art teachers will be re-instated, and vice-principal relief in high need elementary schools will be provided. With respect to the physical education program at the elementary level, it is anticipated it will be re-established through re-scheduling; finally, it is proposed that a liaison committee be comprised of Halifax and Dartmouth Councillors, and Regional School Board members to pursue these and other issues commencing this upcoming school year.

In closing, Deputy Mayor Greenough stated that it would now appear that concerns of Council, as they pertain to proposed School Board service cuts, have been addressed. Further, the Deputy Mayor commended Dr. Trider and members of the Regional School Board for understanding the concerns raised by Council.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Sarto to accept this report from Deputy Mayor Greenough. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Barnett, Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that mandatory funding would be derived from the area rate to be levied on Halifax and Dartmouth.

Councillor Blumenthal expressed an interest in being a member of the liaison committee as proposed.

Councillor Cooper asked for clarification as to whether the former Halifax School Board had cut \$12.6 million from its budget. In response, Mayor Fitzgerald advised that to his knowledge, this was incorrect but offered to clarify same.

Councillor Cooper cautioned Council that a process was being established whereby supplementary funding was being increased every time the School Board wanted a change in programs.

Councillor Epstein, for the record, stated that Council is discussing supplementary funding to be paid for by an area rate for both Dartmouth and Halifax residents. It should be observed that prior to amalgamation, the total supplementary funding was approximately \$18 million but now has been reduced by \$1 million. The Councillor anticipated this amount would, at some point, be restored. Councillor Epstein further stated that even though the Regional School Board has agreed to restore programs, cuts have made in their budget.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Blumenthal to confirm the supplementary funding to the Halifax Regional School Board, as proposed in the 1997/98 Operating Budget, in the amount of \$75,678,940. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ii) Supplementary Funding for Former Halifax County/Bedford

C The following Motion was adopted during the June 18, 1997 Committee of the Whole:

“MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Adams to refer the matter of supplementary funding to be provided at the rate of 5¢ for the schools located in the former Halifax County Municipality and the Town of Bedford areas, to the respective Councillors for recommendation for the June 24 Regional Council Meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.”

Councillor Harvey stated that following a meeting of Council members of the former Halifax County Municipality and Town of Bedford, it was a majority decision of the group to not apply a rate due to the fact that further information was required on the mandate of the Regional School Board. The Councillor suggested that a question on supplementary funding, for the former Halifax County Municipality and Town of Bedford, be placed on the ballot for the upcoming Regional School Board Election.

Councillor Hendsbee agreed to a plebiscite on supplementary funding, for the former Halifax County Municipality and Town of Bedford, suggesting residents be asked if they are prepared to support an increase in taxes, for the following fiscal year, for supplementary funding.

Councillor Epstein stated there is now a new amalgamated School Board. As it has been difficult to follow complete lines of responsibility regarding the allocating of supplementary funding for the former Cities of Dartmouth and Halifax, over time, the Councillor suggested it will become even more difficult and the temptation will be for the Board to take all revenue, including supplementary funding, and allocate as to need, regardless of where the funds are derived. The Councillor suggested that it would only be fair that supplementary funding come from each and every district.

Deputy Mayor Greenough suggested that Council look further into the question of supplementary funding for the urbanized areas of the former Halifax County Municipality, and Town of Bedford. There has been some reduction in rates in these areas, therefore, there may be room for a phasing in, commencing this year, of an additional 2¢ on the area rates, to commence the process of equalizing supplementary funding to thereby create “one student - one system” funded equally across the Region. The Deputy Mayor suggested the Ad Hoc Budget Committee give further consideration to this aspect.

Councillor Kelly, to clarify, stated no one on the aforementioned Committee was opposed to this area rate, but simply require information as to where the funds will be distributed. Further, comments from the public should be obtained to determine what is required; therefore, until a commitment is made by the School Board as to where funds will be allocated, the Councillor could not support supplementary funding.

Councillor Kelly further stated that the municipality is paying \$800,000 in additional funding to the School Board (\$700,000 - from the former Halifax County/Town of Bedford, and \$100,000 - from the former Cities of Halifax and Dartmouth). The Councillor suggested that although the municipality is paying additional funding to a certain degree, it may not be sufficient, therefore; once the required information is made available, then perhaps an informed decision on supplementary funding could be made. Further, the Councillor supported the concept of a liaison committee between the Regional School Board and the municipality.

Councillor Uteck suggested this discussion was premature and that Council needs to qualify and quantify all programs before a decision is made on what is actually required.

Councillor Barnet suggested achieving a Provincial goal of 90/10 whereby the Province pays 90 percent and the municipality pays 10 percent. The Councillor suggested this would provide a form of relief in supplementary funding for the former Cities of Halifax and Dartmouth and would generate sufficient funds to reduce the requirement for supplementary funding.

Councillor Harvey stated that he will abide by the Committee's decision to not move ahead with an area rate of 5¢, *for this year only*.

Council accepted the Committee Report as presented by Councillor Harvey. As there was no support from the Committee of Councillors on a 5¢ area rate, no vote on the motion adopted in Committee of the Whole, was required.

There was a consensus of Council to request a staff report from the Solicitor, for the next meeting of Council, on a possible plebescite, as it pertains to supplementary funding, in the former Halifax County Municipality and Town of Bedford areas.

iii) Proposed Continuation - Membership - UNSM

C The following Motion was adopted during the June 18, 1997 Committee of the Whole:

"MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Adams to refer the matter of withdrawing the municipality's membership to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, to staff, for a recommendation for the June 24 Regional Council Meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED."

Councillor Kelly stated that the information provided by staff was not sufficient, as he was looking for a cost benefit report on true dollars, not assumptions. Further, the Councillor stated he would re-visit this issue next year.

As there was no support from Council to withdraw membership from the UNSM, no vote on the motion adopted in Committee of the Whole, was required.

Following a ten minute recess at 8:20 p.m., the meeting resumed at 8:30 p.m.

b) Resolution - 1997/98 Operating Budget

C A Motion to adopt the 1997/98 Operating Budget had been Moved and Seconded by Councillor Hanson and Deputy Mayor Greenough during the June 18, 1997 Committee of the Whole.

MOVED by Councillors Hanson and Deputy Mayor Greenough that:

- a) **the Operating Budget in the amount of \$344,172,763 net of revenue be approved, which reflects all adjustments approved by Council to the Budget tabled on June 12, 1997; further**
- b) **that the general rates of taxation on commercial, machinery and equipment, and business occupancy be set at \$3.420 for the urban area and \$2.818 for the rural area applied to the full assessed value of the property. The urban/rural area is delineated by the geographic boundary defined by the Provincial Department of Transportation and Communication - Halifax Regional Municipality Road Service Agreement;**
- c) **that the general rates of taxation be applied at 36.053% to the assessed value on residential and resource property for the urban and rural area, resulting in rates set at \$1.233 for the urban area and \$1.016 for the rural area;**
- d) **that area rates shall be set on residential and resource property as per the Schedule of General and Area Tax Rates attached to Resolution;**
- e) **that supplementary funding education shall be set at the rate of \$.140 to the residential and resource; and set at \$.357 to the commercial assessment including business occupancy of the former City of Halifax; and \$.107 to the residential resource assessment and \$.272 to the commercial assessment and business occupancy of the former City of Dartmouth. Also, that discretionary funding be set at \$16,942,079 for a total Halifax Regional Municipality Contribution to the Regional Municipal School Board of \$75,678,940;**
- f) **that fire protection rates shall be set at \$.096 for all commercial assessable property, including business occupancy; and resulting in a rate applied at \$.038 for all residential and resource property;**
- g) **the provisions of Section 49(1) to (8) of the Assessment Act shall not apply to the Halifax Regional Municipality with the result there shall be no residential occupancy tax in the Halifax Regional Municipality for the 1997/98 taxation year;**

- h) **that the impact of the tax structure on the total tax rates of the former municipalities be phased in over a three year period commencing in 1997-98, through applying an adjustment to the tax liability which is equal to two-thirds of the difference between the 1996-97 tax liability and the 1996-97 tax liability that would have existed using the tax structure that is otherwise implicit in the Schedule;**
- i) **that the interest rate on the Pollution Control Reserve and Special Reserve Funds be set at 3.5% for the period April 1, 1997 to March 31, 1998;**
- j) **that the interest rate on all reserves except for those identified in "i" will be set at 0% for the period April 1, 1997 to March 31, 1998.**

A brief discussion ensued between Councillor Peter Kelly and Police Chief Vince MacDonald on the Police Services Budget. One concern was the number of officers who would be eligible for early retirement (approximately 40).

In commenting on the early retirement package, Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised there was approximately \$500,000 designated in the Budget for the adjustment program.

Councillor Kelly expressed concern on the ratio of police officers to residents in District 21.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Mitchell to amend the Main Motion by reinstating the maintenance function for sportsfields and playgrounds in the general rate, thus adding 1¢.

A recorded vote on the amendment took place.

Members of Council who voted **in favour** of the amendment were Mayor Fitzgerald, Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillors Dooks, Snow, Hendsbee, Cooper, McInroy, Sarto, Hetherington, Schofield, Cunningham, Blumenthal, Downey, Hanson, Adams, Barnet, Harvey, Kelly, Rankin, and Mitchell.

Members of Council who **voted against** the amendment were Councillors Uteck, Epstein, Walker and Stone.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED (20 voted in favour of the Motion and 4 voted against).

Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner of Corporate Services, advised that with respect to the allocation of debt, all former Councils hired UMA/Doane Raymond to review same. It was concluded that the debt was levelled when all things were taken into consideration. In response, Councillor Cooper questioned whether this statement was still valid.

For the record, Councillor Mitchell stated there were no capital projects undertaken in

his District for 1996/97.

At this point in the meeting, Ms. Rosanne Skoke, candidate in the upcoming Provincial leadership election, was introduced by Mayor Fitzgerald. Ms. Skoke addressed Council, stating her views on municipal/provincial relations.

Councillor Hendsbee challenged other Provincial leadership candidates to attend the next meeting of Council.

Discussions on the Operating Budget continued.

Another amendment was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Mitchell to amend the Main Motion reducing contributions to debt service to 10¢/\$1.00 from 15¢, in the rural area.

A recorded vote on the amendment took place.

Members of Council who **voted in favour** of the amendment were Councillors Dooks, Snow, Hendsbee, McInroy, Harvey, Kelly, Rankin and Mitchell.

Members of Council who **voted against** the amendment were Mayor Fitzgerald, Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillors Cooper, Sarto, Hetherington, Schofield, Cunningham, Blumenthal, Downey, Uteck, Epstein, Walker, Stone, Hanson, Adams and Barnet.

MOTION DEFEATED (8 voted in favour of the Motion and 16 voted against).

Councillor Dooks enquired if Fire Department area rates could be deferred to another meeting . One of the Fire Departments in his District is experiencing an \$11,000 deficit, and as it has been determined that any Fire Department deficits have to be paid off in one year, this means this particular Department would have to pay a 33¢ area rate (an increase from 11¢) to cover the deficit.

MOVED by Councillors Dooks and Mitchell to defer Fire Department area rates pending further discussions (as to how to recapture the deficit) with the Fire Departments in Middle Musquodoboit, Ostrea Lake, Oyster Pond, Tangier and Upper Musquodoboit. MOTION PUT AND PASSED

Councillor Adams advised he would not support the 1997/98 Operating Budget unless the option of a \$70 flat rate was implemented, utilizing the 1997/98 assessment figures.

As a housekeeping item, Councillor Barnet stated that .034 should be removed from sidewalks in Beaver Bank as it was included in error.

Another amendment was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Walker to amend the Main Motion by removing .034 from the rural area rate for sidewalks in Beaver Bank. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Hetherington, to continue the meeting past 10:00 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Deputy Mayor Greenough assumed the Chair (10:15 p.m.).

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Epstein to refer the matter of a Heritage Incentive Program to staff for the consideration of funding in order to maintain the program. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Harvey stated he was under the impression the Resolution to adopt the 1997/98 Operating Budget also dealt with the tax structure, that being 2C (with credits), which had been adopted during the January 20, 1997 Committee of the Whole.

Mayor Fitzgerald assumed the Chair (10:30 p.m.).

Another amendment was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Hendsbee to amend the Main Motion by reducing the debt service to 12.5¢ from 15¢, off the general rate, and adjusting the urban rate to 3/10.

A recorded vote was taken.

Members of Council who **voted in favour** of the amendment were Councillors Dooks, Snow, Hendsbee, McInroy, Uteck, Harvey, Kelly, Rankin and Mitchell.

Members of Council who **voted against** the amendment were Mayor Fitzgerald, Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillors Cooper, Sarto, Hetherington, Schofield, Cunningham, Blumenthal, Downey, Epstein, Walker, Stone, Hanson, Adams and Barnet.

MOTION DEFEATED (9 voted in favour of the Motion and 15 voted against).

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Cooper for staff to provide copies of all Borrowing Resolutions from the former units. MOTION DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Dooks to defer discussions on area rates. MOTION DEFEATED.

In response to a comment made by Councillor Cooper respecting the ratio of commercial to residential, Mr. Ron Singer, Director of Finance, advised If other rates were added onto the base rate, and the total residential rate was compared, it would be very close to the 2.55 weighting factor.

Councillor Cooper stated that although he would be supporting the Main Motion to adopt the Operating Budget, he would like further information i.e. sidewalk plowing - identification of areas which would pay for this service under the general rate.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Epstein as to what information will be placed on the tax bills, Mr. Singer advised that tax information will be broken down. Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner of Corporate Services, advised that staff is considering placing an advertisement in the local papers regarding aspects of the budget and tax structure, as an effective means to inform the public.

Councillor Blumenthal enquired as to costs involved to provide the service of sidewalk plowing in his District.

Councillor McInroy referenced the centre page of the Schedule of General and Area Tax Rates and enquired if another amendment could be made, to exempt Cow Bay from the area rates for transit and sidewalks. In response, Mr. Bruce Fisher, Budget Co-ordinator, advised that Cow Bay should have been included in the exemption list and that it was an error on the part of staff. Council agreed to this amendment.

At the request of Councillor Dooks, Mayor Fitzgerald agreed to correspond with the Province (Premier, Minister of Justice, and Minister of Municipal Affairs) requesting the Province to cover policing costs in rural areas and to particularly advise the Premier of the hardships being endured by rural residents of Halifax Regional Municipality.

Councillor Kelly expressed concern that further information on the Budget was required prior to voting on same.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Rankin to defer adoption of the 1997/98 Operating Budget to July 8, 1997. MOTION DEFEATED.

Councillor Hendsbee, on a Point of Clarification, stated there may be additional amendments required as the Budget pertains to area rates in his District. Reference was then made to a Waste Water Charge of \$2.00 being implemented throughout the entire Region.

Mayor Fitzgerald ruled Councillor Hendsbee Out of Order.

Councillor Hendsbee challenged the Chair, noting clarification of his area rates was required. There was a general consensus of Council to support the Chair.

On a Point of Information, Councillor Hendsbee noted the area rates which he would

have suggested for an amendment were as follows: Recreation Rate for East Preston - remains at 5¢ and not at 3.4¢; Street Lighting for the entire District 3 would have been 3¢ and not listed as Porters Lake/Lake Echo at 2.7¢; Community Transit for Porters Lake/Lake Echo/Preston/West Chezzetcook/Grand Desert - 3.5¢ and not 3.2¢; and the Fire Department rates would remain as stated.

Mayor Fitzgerald advised this amendment would be acceptable.

A vote on another amendment to the Main Motion was made.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Hetherington to amend the Main Motion as follows: a) Recreation Rate for East Preston - remains at 5¢ and not at 3.4¢; b) Street Lighting for the entire District 3 would be 3¢ and not listed as Porters Lake/Lake Echo at 2.7¢;) Community Transit for Porters Lake/Lake Echo/Preston/West Chezzetcook/Grand Desert would be 3.5¢ and not 3.2¢; and the Fire Department rates would remain as stated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Hanson suggested that Council now close the debate and vote on the Main Motion.

Councillor Rankin, on a Personal Privilege, expressed concern there has been no opportunity to meet with the public on this Budget. Accordingly, the Councillor suggested that adoption of the Operating Budget be deferred for two weeks. Further, Councillor Rankin suggested there should be two Motions, one to deal with the tax rate and another to deal with the tax structure.

Councillor Uteck suggested that Council can return to area rate discussions at a later date as the tax rate would not be affected.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Dooks to defer further discussion on area rates to July 8, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

A vote on the amended Motion to adopt the 1997/98 Operating Budget - with the exception of clause d) "that area rates shall be set on residential and resource property as per the Schedule of General and Area Tax Rates" - was taken. The area rate aspect would be deferred to July 8 (changes are underlined):

MOVED by Councillor Hanson and Deputy Mayor Greenough that :

a) the Operating Budget in the amount of \$344,172,763 net of revenue be approved, which reflects all adjustments approved by Council to the Budget tabled on June 12, 1997, and further;

b) that the general rates of taxation on commercial, machinery and equipment, and business occupancy be set \$3.419 for the urban area and \$2.844 for the rural area applied to the full assessed value of the property. The urban/rural area is delineated by the geographic boundary defined by the Provincial Department of Transportation and Communication-Halifax Regional Municipality Road Service Agreement;

c) that the general rates of taxation be applied at 36.03% to the assessed value on residential and resource property for the urban and rural area, resulting in rates set at \$1.232 for the urban area and \$1.025 for the rural area.

d) that area rates shall be set on residential and resource property as per the attached Schedule of General and Area Tax Rates. (Deferred to July 8)

e) that supplementary education shall be set at the rate of \$.140 to the residential and resource ; and set at \$.357 to the commercial assessment including business occupancy of the former City of Halifax; and \$.107 to the residential and resource assessment and \$.272 to the commercial assessment and business occupancy of the former City of Dartmouth. Also, that discretionary funding be set at \$16,942,079 for a total Halifax Regional Municipality Contribution to the Regional Municipal School Board of \$75,678,940.

f) that fire protection rates shall be set at \$.096 for all commercial assessable property, including business occupancy; and resulting in a rate applied at \$.038 for all residential and resource property;

g) the provisions of Section 49(1) to (8) of the Assessment Act shall not apply to the Halifax Regional Municipality with the result there shall be no residential occupancy tax in the Halifax Regional Municipality for the 1997/98 taxation year .

h) that the impact of the tax structure on the total tax rates of the former municipalities be phased in over a three year period commencing in 1997-98, through applying an adjustment to the tax liability which is equal to two-thirds of the difference between the 1996-97 tax liability and the 1996-97 tax liability that would have existed using the tax structure that is otherwise implicit in this schedule.

i) that the interest rate on the Pollution Control Reserve and Special Reserve Funds be set at 3.5% for the period April 1,1997 to March 31,1998.

j) that the interest rate on all reserves except for those identified in i) will be set at 0% for the period April 1,1997 to March 31, 1998.

A recorded vote was taken.

Members of Council who **voted in favour** of the Main Motion were Mayor Fitzgerald, Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillors Cooper, Sarto, Hetherington, Schofield, Cunningham, Blumenthal, Downey, Uteck, Epstein, Walker, Stone, Hanson, Barnet and Harvey.

Members of Council who **voted against** the Main Motion were Councillors Dooks, Snow, Hendsbee, McInroy, Adams, Kelly, Rankin and Mitchell.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED (16 voted in support of the Motion and 8 voted against).

Councillor Rankin attempted to serve a Motion of Reconsideration for July 8, 1997 on the tax structure.

Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, stated reference to Administrative Order No. One (Section 58[6]) applies to approval of the budget. A budget is approved in the context of setting a tax rate, as per the HRM Act - to set expenditures, revenues and how same will be collected. Mr. Anstey stated, in his opinion, the setting of the tax rate and tax structure was one and the same, therefore; a Motion of Reconsideration on the tax structure could not be considered.

Councillor Rankin, for the record, respectfully disagreed with the Solicitor in this regard due to the fact that the tax structure should go beyond the ordinary course of applying the tax rates.

9.4 HARBOUR EAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

9.4.1 MPS Amendment: Dartmouth Agreement Boundary Extension, Waverley Road, Dartmouth

C A memorandum prepared for Councillor Hetherington on the above-noted, was before Council. Distributed to Council was correspondence from the Armoyan Group, dated June 24, 1997.

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington and Deputy Mayor Greenough that Regional Council approve an amendment to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy (attached to the June 20, 1997 report as attachment 1) which extends the development boundary along Waverley Road to include properties presently serviced by the sanitary sewer system and set a public hearing date for August 19, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.2 Eastern Halifax County Crime Prevention Association - Transportation to Rainbow Haven Provincial Park

- C A memorandum prepared for Councillor Hetherington on the above-noted, was before Council.

The Community Council was recommending to Regional Council to add an amount of \$5,000 to the Metro Transit 1997/98 Operating Budget subject to availability of those funds.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and McInroy to refer this matter to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.5 REGIONAL TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMITTEE

9.5.1 Limitation on Passengers

- C A memorandum prepared for Councillor Adams, on the above-noted, was before Council.

The Taxi and Limousine Committee was suggesting that a recommendation be forwarded to the Provincial Departments of Municipal Affairs, and Transportation, that a policy be made that the number of passengers carried in a taxi or limousine vehicle is limited to the number of seat belts in the vehicle.

Councillor Cooper expressed concern noting that families and child car seats need to be taken into consideration and should be included within correspondence to the Province.

MOVED by Councillor Cooper and Deputy Mayor Greenough to forward to the Provincial Departments of Municipal Affairs, and Transportation recommending that a policy be made that the number of passengers carried in a taxi or limousine vehicle is limited to the number of seat belts in the vehicle; further, that families and child car seats be taken into consideration. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.6 REGIONAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

9.6.1 Application for Demolition of Hose Tower (Old Fire Hall #4) 1680 Lower Water Street

- C A memorandum prepared for Mr. Turney Manzer, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Cunningham to approve the application for substantial alteration, to remove the hose tower on the roof of Old Fire Station No. 4 (now known as McKelvie's Restaurant) located at Civic Number 1680 Lower Water Street, Halifax, and that some type of memory be put in its place.

Councillor Epstein suggested this matter be deferred and moved the following Motion:

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Walker to defer this matter. MOTION DEFEATED.

A vote on the Main Motion was taken.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.6.2 1682 Hollis Street (Halifax Club): Application for Substantial Alteration of a Registered Heritage Property

C A memorandum prepared for Mr. Turney Manzer, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Dooks to approve the application for substantial alteration for 1682 Hollis Street (Halifax Club) to replace the existing sandstone plinth with vermillion marble. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.7 **BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

9.7.1 Police Commission Appointments

C A memorandum prepared for the Hon. Alan Abraham, Chair, Board of Police Commissioners, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Mitchell that the Board of Police Commissioners (both citizens-at-large and Councillors), be granted three year appointments, staggered after the initial three year term, and allow for reappointments. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.8 **LOGO SELECTION COMMITTEE**

9.8.1 Logo Selection Committee Wrap-up Report and Recommendation re Establishment of the Coat- of- Arms Committee

This item had been deleted from the agenda.

9.9 **CANADA DAY COMMITTEE**

9.9.1 Events - Canada Day - Ms. Carol Dobson, Co-Chair

C Correspondence from Damian Byrne, President, Millennium Events Inc. dated June 23, 1997, had been distributed to Council.

Ms. Dobson addressed Council, inviting everyone to take part in this year's events. Further, Council Members were invited to participate in preparing pancakes during the breakfast being held July 1, 1997.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Ms. Dobson for her presentation.

9.10 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

9.10.1 Tender No. 97-330 - Cracksealing, Various Locations, West District

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

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Schofield to award Tender 97-330, Cracksealing, Various Locations, West District, to Reliable Road Repairs Limited, for a bid price of \$111,321 and an allowance of 15% for testing and contingencies for a total project cost of \$128,019, with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95445, Cracksealing, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.2 Tender No. 97-332 - Micropaving, Part 1, Various Locations, West District

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

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Walker to award Tender No. 97-332 - Micropaving, Part 1, Various Locations, West District to Industrial Cold Milling Ltd., at a Tender Price of \$361,850.95 and a total project cost of \$416,129 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95480, Surface Sealing, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.3 Tender No. 97-215 - Ashgrove Avenue Culvert Upgrade

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

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Sarto to award Tender No. 97-215 - Ashgrove Avenue Culvert Upgrade for a total tender price of \$276,773.95 and a total project cost of \$318,290 to Amber Contracting Ltd., further that funding from Capital Account No. 83023, Cole Harbour Area Sanitary and Storm Sewers be authorized. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Cooper referenced item #1 - Arklow Drive, Cole Harbour, and enquired as to when the remainder of this project would be complete. Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director of Engineering Services, advised this will be forwarded to the Department of the

Environment for approval once finalization of the design is complete. The monies are still in the account to undertake the remaining work.

Councillor Cooper expressed concern that this has not gone to the Department of the Environment as of this date. In response, Mr. Dhillon advised he would review this with staff and provide a reponse back to the Councillor.

9.10.4 Tender No.97-331 - Patching of Streets, West District

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

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal and Deputy Mayor Greenough to award Tender No.97-331 - Patching of Streets, West District to Dexter Construction Co. Ltd. At a Tender Price of \$219,517.50 and a total project cost of \$252,445 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95457, Main Artery Patching, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.5 Tender No. 97-352 - Cobequid Road Resurfacing - Central District

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

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to award Tender 97-352, Cobequid Road Resurfacing, Central District to Dexter Construction Co. Ltd. at a Tender Price of \$197,800 and a total project cost of \$227,470 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95470, Resurfacing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.6 Tender No. 96-224R - Banook Avenue Reconstruction

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

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Hetherington that the construction of new concrete curb be deleted from this project; that Tender No. 96-224R - Banook Avenue Reconstruction be awarded to Ocean Contractors Ltd. at the tender price of \$57,218.25 for a total project cost of \$62,000; further, that funding be authorized from Capital Account No. 93405, Banook Avenue Reconstruction. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.7 Tender No. 97-337 - Micropaving, Part 1, Various Locations, East District

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

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington and Deputy Mayor Greenough to award Tender 97-337, Micropaving, Part 1, Various Locations, East District, to Industrial Cold Milling Ltd. at a tender price of \$401,137.83 and a total project cost of \$461,310 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95480, Surface Sealing, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.8 Tender No. 97-361 - Streets Upgrading, Resurfacing, Part 111

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

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone to award Tender No. 97-361 - Streets Upgrading, Resurfacing, Part 111, West District, to Dexter Construction Company Ltd. At a tender price of \$622,109.75 and a total project cost of \$715,426 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95470, Resurfacing, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.9 Tender No. 97 - 362 - Streets Upgrading, Resurfacing, Part 1V

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

MOVED by Councillors Uteck and Blumenthal to award Tender No. 97-362 - Streets Upgrading, Resurfacing, Part 1V, West District to LaFarge Canada Inc., at a tender price of \$617,113 and a total project cost of \$709,680 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95470, Resurfacing, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.10 Tender No. 97-228 - Bridges Street Paving Renewal

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

MOVED by Councillors Uteck and Downey to award Tender No. 97-228 - Bridges Street Paving Renewal to B & L Contracting Ltd. for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a total tender price of \$172,504.60 and a total project cost of \$198,380 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95441, Bridges Street Paving Renewal, Atlantic Street to Harrington Drive; from Capital Account No., 97432, Sidewalk Renewals; and from Capital Account No. 95479, Street Improvement. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.11 Tender No. 97 - 219 - Sidewalk Renewals

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

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Uteck to award Tender No. 97 - 219 - Sidewalk Renewals - Claremont Street, Kent Street, Oxford Street and McLean Street to Ocean Contractors Limited, for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a total tender price of \$169,902 and a total project cost of \$195,387; further, to authorize funding as follows:

- a) \$60,000 from Capital Account No. 97451
- b) \$77,000 from Capital Account No. 97457
- c) \$25,000 from Capital Account No. 97458
- d) \$64,000 from Capital Account No. 97459

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.12 Tender No. 97-336 - Resurfacing, Part 1, Various Locations, East District

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

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee and Deputy Mayor Greenough to award Tender No. 97-336 - Resurfacing, Part 1, Various Locations, East District to Ocean Contractor's Ltd. at a tender price of \$508,527.99 and a total project cost of \$584,807 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95470, Resurfacing, Various Locations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.13 Tender No. 97-353 - Stokil Drive Paving Renewal

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

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Harvey to award Tender No. 97-353 - Stokil Drive Paving Renewal to Tidewater Construction Co. Ltd. at a tender price of \$197,886.25 and a total project cost of \$227,570 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95503, Stokil Drive Paving Renewal and Capital Account No. 95476 - Sackville Drive Trunk Resurfacing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.14 Call for Proposals 97-053 - Ferry Concessions

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

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Cunningham to authorize staff to negotiate and enter into a contract with Doughlaw Enterprises for the operation of the ferry concession stands located in the Halifax, Dartmouth and Woodside Ferry Terminals. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.10.15 School Board Elections

- C A memorandum prepared for Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner, Corporate Services, on the above-noted, was before Council.

Councillor Walker enquired if the municipality could appeal a decision of the Utility and Review Board on the Regional School Board Districts. Further, the Councillor enquired as to how the Districts were determined and requested a report on this matter.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Cooper to approve the appointment of the Municipal Clerk as Returning Officer to conduct the election of the Halifax Regional School Board and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP), both to be held on the same date - October 18, 1997; further, to recover from the Halifax Regional School Board and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) all costs incurred by Halifax Regional Municipality as a result of conducting school board elections; further, to set the date of Saturday, October 11, 1997, as the second Advance Poll Day (mandatory Advance Poll date is Tuesday, October 14, 1997). MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.10.16 MIRROR Contract - Advanced Funding Requirement

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

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Barnet to authorize the Commissioner of Regional Operations to commit to MIRROR NS that Halifax Regional Municipality will fund detail FEP/WSF design activities during the months of June and July, 1997 on a cost substantiated basis up to a maximum of \$238,000. Further, this payment to be made only if negotiations between HRM and MIRROR NS do not result in an executed contract or if NSDOE refuses to grant a construction permit for the Residuals Disposal Facility. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.10.17 North Mews Co-Operative - Assignment of Lease

- C A memorandum prepared for Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Sarto that the municipality consent to the assignment of the North Mews lease of Block AM, Barrington Street, Halifax to the Toronto Dominion Bank, and a further assignment of the lease by Toronto Dominion Bank to CMHC. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.10.18 Panhandling

- C A memorandum prepared for Police Chief Vincent MacDonald, on the above-noted, was before Council.

This matter had been referred to staff during the May 27, 1997 Regional Council Session. Staff was recommending that Halifax Regional Municipality Ordinance 180 be amended to include the following:

- C Incorporate a comprehensive definition of panhandling i.e. "Panhandle means to beg or ask, whether by spoken, written or printed word, for donations of money or other things of value, for one's self or for any other person, except where the solicitation has been authorized and endorsed by the municipality";
- C Implement legislation in Ordinance 180 to control when the act of panhandling could occur (it is recommended that the act of panhandling should not occur at night);
- C Implement legislation in Ordinance 180 to control where the act of panhandling could occur (it is recommended that the act of panhandling be controlled at automatic teller machines, bus stops, and specified heavily travelled pedestrian routes within the downtown core).

A brief discussion ensued with concern being raised that this Motion was offensive as it affected one's civil liberty.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Hanson to refer this matter to the Solicitor for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.10.19 Khyber Building - Lease

This item had been earlier deleted from the agenda.

10. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None

11. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

11.1 **Correspondence**

11.1.1 Proposed Draft Resolution- Quebec Committee for Canada

- C Correspondence from the Quebec Committee for Canada was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Barnet:

WHEREAS the population of the Province of Quebec voted against separating from Canada, both in 1980 and in 1995, and

WHEREAS the current government of Quebec has repeatedly reiterated its desire to hold yet another referendum on Quebec separation; and

WHEREAS there are many loyal Canadians in Quebec who, via resolutions of their local city councils, have declared that it is their wish to remain part of Canada, irrespective of any future referendum result; and

WHEREAS those city councils have requested the support of Canadians outside Quebec in their effort to remain Canadian.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Halifax Regional Municipality supports the initiative of those municipalities in Quebec who have declared their intention to remain part of Canada irrespective of any future province wide vote for separation.

THAT the Halifax Regional Municipality demands that the government of Canada and the government of the Halifax Regional Municipality clearly and unequivocally state that they support the right of federalist municipalities and regions within Quebec to remain part of Canada, today and in the future, in accordance with the legal, moral, political, constitutional, and territorial obligations of our nation.

THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the members of Parliament from Halifax and Quebec, the members of Nova Scotia legislature, the Premier of Nova Scotia, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, the Federation of Montreal Urban Community, and all municipalities on the Island of Montreal, all Provincial Municipal Associations. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11.2 **Petitions**

11.2.1 Councillor Blumenthal submitted three petitions to the Clerk:

- a) Samuel Prince Manor - Security System
- b) Go Plan
- c) Fire Station - Lady Hammond Road - Proposed Closure.

11.2.2 Councillor Mitchell submitted one petition to the Clerk:

- a) Abundance of Sand on roads and driveways.

12. **MOTIONS** - None

13. **ADDED ITEMS** - Presentations on the Tax Structure were addressed earlier in the meeting.

14. **NOTICES OF MOTION** - None

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Uteck to adjourn the meeting at 12:40

a.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vi Carmichael
MUNICIPAL CLERK