

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES AUGUST 19, 1997

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Councillors: Bill Dooks (Regrets)
Jerry Blumenthal
Ron Hanson

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Barry Allen, Acting Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Jane Nauss, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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12.1	Councillor Hendsbee	
i)	Take Notice that at the meeting of the Halifax Regional Council to be Held on August 19, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion to repeal By-laws 21243 and 21244 of the former Town of Bedford, By-law T-403 of the former City of Dartmouth and By-law 51 of the former Halifax County Municipality. The purpose of these amendments is to establish a uniform system for tax relief throughout the Municipality under By-law T-200.	
ii)	Take Notice that at the meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on August 19, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion to	

amend By-law T-200. The purpose of the amendment is to
add further properties to the existing by-law. 19

13. ADDED ITEMS

- 13.1 In Camera Ratification - Appointments - Harbour Solutions Stakeholder
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1. INVOCATION

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

Mayor Fitzgerald read Councillor Dooks' regrets, into the record, as per his request.

2. PROCLAMATION

Mayor Fitzgerald proclaimed August 23 to September 10, 1997 Child Care Awareness Days.

Mayor Fitzgerald indicated a scale model of the Bluenose II resting on the centre table and advising it had been presented to Halifax Regional Municipality by the Chairman of the Bluenose II Preservation Trust, Senator William Moore, on the occasion of the Bluenose II visit on Monday, August 18, 1997.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 8 and 15, 1997

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington and Deputy Mayor Greenough that the minutes of July 8 and 15, 1997 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Hendsbee noted that he had not been present for the July 15, 1997 In Camera session and requested that the attendance listing be amended.

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

ADDITIONS

1. Request to address Council - Mr. Robert Evans, President, NS Restaurant and Foodservices Association re: Item 9.4.7 (Clean Air Smoking By-law). Council agreed that Mr. Evans request be denied and that he take the opportunity to address the issue at Second Reading of the By-law, during the public hearing portion of that meeting.

13.1 In Camera Ratification - Appointments - Harbour Solutions Stakeholder Advisory

Committee.

- 13.2 In Camera Ratification - Appointment - Halifax Watershed Advisory Board
- 13.3 In Camera Ratification - Appointments - Coat of Arms Committee
- 13.4 Land Sales Account - Councillor Schofield
- 13.5 Information Item #1 - Interim Tender Awards - Councillor Cooper
- 13.6 General Enquiries - Policing Standards - Councillor Kelly

Additions - Information Items

- 1. Information memorandum from Chief Administrative Officer dated August 18, 1997
re: Interim Tender Awards
- 2. Information memorandum from Chief Administrative Officer dated August 19, 1997
re: Infrastructure Program (re Item 6.1 on Council agenda)

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Cooper that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

6.1 Infrastructure Program - Bedford Waterfront Development - Councillor Barnet

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Walker that reconsideration be given to the following motion as put forth on July 15, 1997:

MOVED by Councillor Kelly and Deputy Mayor Greenough that Council approve the capital expenditure of \$400,000 as a municipal contribution under the Canada-Nova Scotia Infrastructure Works Program for the Bedford Waterfront Project, when the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer are advised that the Interchange/Connector Road Project has been approved under the Infrastructure Program. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Barnet stated in light of the recent announcement by the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments relative to this project, he was withdrawing his Motion of

Reconsideration. The Councillor stated the Motion of Reconsideration was specific to the motion that the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer approve funding of \$400,000.00 as a municipal contribution to the project when the Interchange/Connector Road project had been approved under the Infrastructure Program.

Councillor Walker advised he was not prepared to withdraw as seconder of the motion and stated he did not feel Council should approve the project until such time as information is received from Ottawa indicating it has been approved under the Infrastructure Program.

MOTION OF RECONSIDERATION DEFEATED. THE JULY 15, 1997 MOTION STANDS.

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 Members of Council

9.1.1 Paving - Councillor Dooks

As Councillor Dooks was not in attendance, the following motion was placed on the floor:

**MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Hetherington that the item be deferred.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.1.2 Meals for Committees - Councillor Adams

Councillor Adams advised that prior to approval of the budget, Council had unanimously passed a motion approving meals for those committees that meet during the lunch or dinner hour; however, this item was deleted as the budget document superseded all other motions.

MOVED by Councillors Adams and Epstein to refer the matter of re-instituting meals for those committees that are scheduled to meet over lunch and dinner hours, to staff for a report, for the August 26, 1997 meeting of Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.1.3 Establishment of a Tree Cutting, Land Clearing By-law - Councillor Barnett

Councillor Barnet requested that Council direct staff to begin the process of establishing a by-law regulating the clear cutting of trees for the development of home and business sites in Halifax Regional Municipality. The Councillor stated the by-law was to address the planting of new trees in situations where it was absolutely necessary to clear cut land, particularly along streets, parks and rear yards as well as providing a buffer zone between adjacent neighbours. Councillor Barnet stated this by-law would provide protection for rare and endangered trees as well as provide protection to trees with historic significance located throughout the municipality. The Councillor noted the by-law could negatively impact the forest industry, accordingly he requested staff create a by-law that has no, or little, negative impact on the forest industry. Councillor Barnet advised his district is experiencing subdivision residential growth and there are concerns that all trees will be removed. He stated there have been situations where all trees have been clear cut, and houses built with no new trees planted.

Councillor Hendsbee noted there are residential areas that have been clear cut; thereby, devaluing the property.

Councillor Hetherington stated there are older trees in urban areas that are being cut but not replaced as tree planting has been removed from the budget. The Councillor stated residential communities that had trees cut are now looking for replacements and the budget does not provide funding for this purpose. Councillor Hetherington stated, as part of the by-law, he would like to see an ongoing policy that, if trees are removed in the urban core, they are to be replaced.

Councillor Schofield noted that 32 ft. and 40 ft. lots are being created making it impossible to save trees. The Councillor requested this be examined as part of the report.

Councillor Mitchell stated tree stands that are left between a property and roadway can be blown down. The Councillor suggested a regulation be established to make this stand wider or have it restricted to 100 ft to protect those trees that are left standing. He advised that debris and tree stumps are often left as a result of clear cutting, and that this needs to be addressed.

Councillor Stone suggested this by-law be examined in conjunction with the subdivision by-laws.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Harvey that Community Services staff be instructed to develop a by-law regarding the cutting and replacement of trees within Halifax Regional Municipality, and that the matter of cutting/replacement of Halifax Regional Municipality trees be referred to Regional Operations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2 COMMUNITY AND RACE RELATIONS/HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

9.2.1 Community and Race Relations Policy (Supplementary Report)

- A report, dated July 7, 1997, from Wayne Sitland, Vice-Chairman, Community and Race Relations/Human Rights Advisory Committee, entitled Community and Race Relations Policy, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Hendsbee that Halifax Regional Council adopt the Community and Race Relations Policy. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3 TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMITTEE

9.3.1 Taxi License Limitations

Councillor Adams requested this item be placed under Notices of Motion (Item 14.2 iii).

9.4 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

9.4.1 First Reading By-law T-300 Respecting Tax Deferrals Motion - Councillor Hendsbee - Move First Reading

- By-law Number T-300, By-law Respecting Tax Deferrals, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Downey that this item be deferred until such time as the new by-law comes forward. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.2 Administrative Order Respecting Tax Exemptions Motion - Councillor Hendsbee

- Administrative Order Number Ten Respecting Partial Exemption for Residential Taxation, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Downey that this item be deferred until such time as the new by-law comes forward. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Walker referenced Section 3(b), stating he would request that the word "divorced" be added, and that the word "individual" replace the words "widower" and

“widow”.

9.4.3 Question - Referendum - Supplementary Education Funding

- A report, dated August 12, 1997, from Wayne Anstey, Q.C., Municipal Solicitor, entitled Proposed Question for Supplementary Education Funding Referendum, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors McInroy and Cooper that this issue be referred to the Councillors who represent the former County of Halifax and Town of Bedford to meet and bring forward a recommendation to the September 2, 1997 Council session incorporating input from the School Board members who represent those areas. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.4 1997 C.O.L.A. Increase to Pensioners, Halifax County Municipality Full-Time Retirement Pension Plan

- A report, dated August 13, 1997, from Larry Corrigan, Commissioner of Corporate Services, entitled 1997 C.O.L.A. Increase to Pensioners, Halifax County Municipality Full Time Retirement Pension Plan (“The Plan”), was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Hetherington that Halifax Regional Council approve a 2.2% Cost of Living Increase for Pensioners effective January 1, 1997, prorated for those who were eligible in 1996. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.5 Settlement of Expropriation: Parcel X-4, 11-15 Titus Street

- A report, dated August 6, 1997, from Larry Corrigan, Commissioner of Corporate Services, entitled Settlement of Expropriation - Parcel X-4, 11-15 Titus Street, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone that Halifax Regional Municipality authorize staff to set a date for a public hearing for consideration of Halifax Regional Municipality Administrative Order Number SC-6, concerning the closure of Parcel Y-2 as shown on Plan No. TT-52-32819; and, subject to approval of the street closure. It is further recommended that Parcel X-4, 11-15 Titus Street and comprising of 16.8

square metres (180.77 square feet) owned by Mr. Jack Rafuse, be exchanged for Parcel Y-2, HRM owned land and comprising of 42.6 square metres (458.38 square feet) as shown in Plan TT-52-32819, and \$2,500.00 as settlement in full, plus any additional taxes or closing adjustments that may be applicable. Funds are available for the project, in Titus Street Upgrading, Account No. 02-97921. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.4.6 Western Region Needs Assessment

- A report, dated August 12, 1997, from George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, and Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, entitled Western Region Needs Assessment Committee, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors McInroy and Sarto that any proposal for the next year for the development and/or sale of any of the watershed area and adjacent lands in the western area, which are owned by HRM, shall be submitted to the Standing Committee on Needs Assessment for the Western Region for the purpose of assessment and recommendation to Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4.7 Clean Air Smoking By-law

- By-law Number S-200 Respecting Smoking was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Adams that the By-law be tabled. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Harvey advised he would be serving Notice of Motion for First Reading at the August 26, 1997 Council session (Item 14.1).

9.4.8 Public Participation Resolution for Planning Districts 15, 18 & 19 (Beaver Bank, Hammonds Plains and Upper Sackville) MPS Review Process

- A supplementary report, dated August 14, 1997, from Cathy Mellett, Acting Commissioner of Community Services, entitled Public Participation Resolution for Planning Districts 15,18 & 19 (Beaver Bank, Hammonds Plains and Upper Sackville) Municipal Planning Strategy Review Process, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Barnet that Regional Council confirm its acceptance of the plan review process for Planning Districts 15, 18 and 19 (Beaver Bank, Hammonds Plains and Upper Sackville) as outlined in the staff report, dated August 14, 1997 and terms of reference. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS

10.1 MPS Amendment - Development Agreement Boundary Extension, Waverley Road, Dartmouth

- A report, dated June 20, 1997, from Councillor Bruce Hetherington, Chair, Harbour East Community Council, entitled MPS Amendment: Development Agreement Boundary Extension, Waverley Road, Dartmouth, was before Council for consideration.

Mr. Roger Wells, Planner, with the aid of overheads, presented the staff report noting this is a housekeeping item to correct a mapping oversight that occurred in 1983.

Mayor Fitzgerald called for comments from the public. There were none.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Hetherington that the public hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Schofield that Council approve an amendment to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy which extends the development boundary along Waverley Road to include properties presently serviced by the sanitary sewer system. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2 Street Closure and Sale - Lands Abutting Lot M, Rockhaven Drive

- A report, dated August 8, 1997, from Larry Corrigan, Commissioner of Corporate Services, entitled Street Closure and Sale - Lands Abutting Lot M, Rockhaven Drive, was before Council for consideration.

Mr. Austin French, Team Leader- Real Estate Services, presented the staff report.

Mayor Fitzgerald called for comments from the public. There were none.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Walker that the public hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Walker that Council approve Administrative Order SC4, concerning the closure of Parcel C, Rockhaven Drive, and further that, subject to approval of Administrative Order SC4, Halifax Regional Council approve the sale of lands identified as Parcel C, as shown on the sketch, for \$937.20 as settlement in full, plus any additional taxes and adjustments that may be applicable. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.3 Second Reading to Amend By-law P-408 (City of Dartmouth Employees Retirement Pension Plan)

- A report, dated July 11, 1997, entitled Amendment to By-law P-408 (the City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan) regarding "Rule of 80", was before Council for consideration.

Mayor Fitzgerald called for comments from the public. There were none.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Schofield that the public hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Schofield that Second Reading be given to By-law P-302 which provides that any member of the City of Dartmouth Employees Retirement Pension Plan who were previously eligible to retire under a "Rule of 85" may now retire when they have a "Rule of 80" (minimum age 50). MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Sarto that Third Reading be given to By-law P-302 which provides that any member of the City of Dartmouth Employees Retirement Pension Plan who were previously eligible to retire under a "Rule of 85" may now retire when they have a "Rule of 80" (minimum age 50). MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

In response to Councillor Kelly, Mr. Mike Sampson, Pensions and Benefits, advised the Halifax County Retirement Committee has indicated it will be using the plan surplus to pay for additional costs. He advised that, at the time the report was prepared, there was a known actuarial surplus in the City of Dartmouth plan of approximately \$800,000. Mr. Sampson stated the cost in Dartmouth for the improvement was \$4.5 million and, at the present time, it is anticipated that the surplus is approximately \$2.7 million. This means

approximately 60% of the \$4.5 million for the City of Dartmouth plan should be taken care of by the surplus. He advised they do not yet know the surplus position of the City of Halifax but, at the time of the report being prepared, there existed approximately \$5 million. The formal figures for the City of Halifax plan should be available in approximately two to four weeks.

**10.4 Second Reading - By-law F-200 (Fees By-law)
Second Reading - By-law B-200 (Building By-law Repeal By-law)**

- A report, dated June 26, 1997, from Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, entitled By-law F-200: A By-law Respecting Permit Fees for Building and Land Development Within HRM, was before Council for consideration.

Mr. Mike Hanusiak, General Manager, Development Services, stated this would be a new By-law that would govern fees imposed for the processing of all building permit applications through HRM. He stated the fees would harmonize the present fees, the method by which the building permit fees are calculated and look at the actual amount charged relative to the revenues generated. Mr. Hanusiak stated the first aspect of the report is to set a base rate of \$5.50/1000 with the second aspect looking at the method used to calculate the value of construction.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested there be a flat rate of \$0.10 for basements and garages.

Mayor Fitzgerald called for comments from the public. There were none.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Hetherington that the public hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

In response to Councillor Schofield, Mr. Hanusiak advised that rural versus urban values had been considered.

In response to Councillor Cunningham, Mr. Allen, Acting Municipal Solicitor, advised the ability to make an amendment at Second reading was available to Council.

Councillor Barnet expressed concern that this By-law does not address inflation and asked if staff intended to calculate inflation on a regular basis and bring forward amendments as inflation rises. In response, Mr. Hanusiak advised this By-law will address building permit fees and at a later date subdivision and rezoning fees may be incorporated. He stated this by-law can be amended to include other fees.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Sarto that Council give Second Reading

to By-law F-200 Respecting Permit Fees for Land Developments within HRM (to include By-law B-200, which repeals sections of Building By-laws of all four former units) with an amendment that fees for basement areas (finished or unfinished) and attached/detached garages be set at \$0.10/sq ft gross. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington and Deputy Mayor Greenough that Council give Third Reading to By-law F-200 Respecting permit Fees for Land Developments within HRM (to include By-law B-200, which repeals sections of Building By-laws of all four former units) with an amendment that fees for basement areas (finished or unfinished) and attached/detached garages be set at \$0.10/sq ft gross. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. CORRESPONDENCE PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

11.1 Presentations

11.1.1 Update on Activities Surrounding Septemberfest - Bob Quinn

Mr. Bob Quinn addressed Council providing an update on planned activities surrounding Septemberfest to be held during the Labour Day weekend.

11.1.2 Cuts to Literacy Programs in the Public Library System - Michael Simon

- Council was in receipt of an information report, dated August 19, 1997, from Judith Hare, Chief Executive Officer, Halifax Regional Library Board, entitled Halifax Regional Library Literacy Program Reductions. Also, correspondence, dated August 10, 1997 and Press Release, dated August 1, 1997 from Mr. Michael Simon had also been distributed to Council.

Mr. Michael Simon addressed Council regarding cuts to Literacy Programs in the Public Libraries as well as cuts to the bookmobile service.

Mr. Roberto Garay, Director, MISA, addressed Council stating that it is unfortunate that jobs have been lost due to library funding cuts. He stated the immigrant community accesses these services and are now left without them.

Councillor Hetherington advised that over the last year \$75 million had been given to the Regional School Board from the Halifax Regional Municipality with \$75,900,000.00 being

provided this year. The Councillor stated there were no budget cuts from this Council.

Deputy Mayor Greenough referenced correspondence from the Executive Officer of the Regional Library Board advising the letter indicates the library hopes to restore computer literacy support, in a revised format, throughout the system.

Councillor Cunningham advised Council cannot dictate how the Regional School and Library Boards spend funds provided by the Municipality.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Harvey that the delegation be directed to contact the Halifax Regional Library Board to discuss this issue further. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.1.3 Concerns of Residents of Halo Subdivision - Tom Graham

- Correspondence from Mr. Tom Graham requesting permission to address Council on August 19, 1997 was circulated to Council.

Mr. Tom Graham, with the aid of slides, made a presentation to Council outlining the chronology of events leading up to, and resulting from, the development of the subdivision. He outlined problems experienced by residents and advised the developer had attempted to alleviate same. Mr. Graham asked Council to approve the issuance of Greater Homes Construction Ltd. building permits conditionally, and permit staff to suggest measures to correct the problem without fear of recrimination. Lack of communication appears to be the biggest problem.

In response to Councillor Hendsbee, Mr. Graham advised New Home Warranty would not acknowledge their requests until they had the registration slips in their office. Further, Alderney Consultants have been checking the elevations to suggest ways of correcting the problem.

In response to Councillor Barnet, Mr. Allen, Acting Municipal Solicitor, advised that building permits cannot be issued conditionally.

In response to Councillor Barnet, Mr. Hanusiak, General Manager, Development Services, stated a conditional permit cannot be issued; however, under the Lot Grading By-law, there is what amounts to a conditional permit in that an individual has to provide, as part of a building permit application, a proposed plot plan which is reviewed against the Lot Grading By-law. The permit issued permits placement of foundation and footings. Before going to the pre-backfill inspection, which entitles the builder to frame up, the location certificate has to be provided. This is then evaluated against the approved proposed plot

plan. Mr. Hanusiak stated that staff would work with the developer and residents to achieve a mutually agreeable option.

Mayor Fitzgerald requested that a staff report come forward with suggested changes to improve on the process.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Harvey that a staff report from Community Services be requested.

Councillor Cooper stated bonding should be available to ensure work is taken to conclusion and carried out properly. The Councillor thanked Mr. Hanusiak and staff for their efforts to help the residents. It was suggested the report take into consideration bonding as well as stringent application of building permits and inspections.

* A copy of the overheads was passed to the Clerk.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.2 Correspondence

11.2.1 FCM - Telecommunications - Access to Municipal Rights-of-Way

- Correspondence, dated July 9, 1997, from Jae Eadie, President, FCM regarding Telecommunications: Access to Municipal Rights-of-Way, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Schofield that this be referred to Corporate Services (Real Estate) for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.2.2 World Congress Declaration and Agenda for Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

- Correspondence, dated July 21, 1997, from the City of Toronto regarding support for the World Congress Declaration and Agenda for Action Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, was before Council.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Sarto that Halifax Regional Council endorse the Declaration and Agenda for Action which was unanimously accepted by the delegations of 199 governments at the First World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, which was held in Stockholm, Sweden, August, 1996. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.2.3 Paving - Kingswood Subdivision

- Correspondence, dated August 12, 1997, from Darrell Dixon, Development Manager, Armoyan Properties Limited, regarding paving of local streets, Kingswood Subdivision, Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Hetherington that this be forwarded to Regional Operations for a report and recommendation for the August 26, 1997 Council session.

Councillor Cooper enquired if the report was going to be limited to this one proposal noting he is aware of other areas in the Municipality that would be interested.

Mayor Fitzgerald suggested staff be requested to not only look at this proposal, but at the overall course of action the Municipality should take, such as making a developer pay for roads. He suggested staff look at Subdivision By-laws dealing with pavement and development of subdivisions, taking into consideration what areas should be paved, and who should be doing and paying for the paving.

Councillor Cooper stated there are streets that are “grandfathered” and asked if this could be addressed in the report.

Councillor Rankin stated these roads are provided for in the 1997/98 Capital Budget. The balance of roads identified in one of the options have been identified as priorities by staff to be done at a later date. He suggested the report focus on the criteria of whether or not, based on cost consideration, this is beneficial to the taxpayer and the Municipality.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3 Petitions

11.3.1 Councillor Hendsbee submitted, on behalf of the Community of East Preston in District 3, a seven page petition with 206 signatures making an appeal to the Provincial Department of Transportation and Public Works for road safety improvements to the intersection of the #7 Highway and Partridge River Road.

11.3.2 Councillor Hendsbee submitted, on behalf of the Community of East Chezzetcook in District 3, a 13 page petition with 288 signatures making an urgent appeal to the Provincial Department of Transportation and Public Works for road improvements to the East Chezzetcook Road.

The Councillor requested both petitions be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation and Public works and to the MLA's and MP's as identified in the covering letter attached to the petition.

12. MOTIONS

12.1 Councillor Hendsbee

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Snow that the following motions be deferred until the tax by-law comes forward:

- i) Take Notice that at the meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on August 19, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion to repeal By-laws 21243 and 21244 of the former Town of Bedford, By-law T-403 of the former City of Dartmouth and By-law 51 of the former Halifax County Municipality. The purpose of these amendments is to establish a uniform system for tax relief throughout the Municipality under By-law T-200.**
- ii) Take Notice that at the meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on August 19, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion to amend By-law T-200. The purpose of the amendment is to add further properties to the existing by-law.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. ADDED ITEMS

13.1 In Camera Ratification - Appointments - Harbour Solutions Stakeholder Advisory Committee

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Cunningham that Council ratify the In Camera decision to appointment the following persons to the Harbour Solutions Stakeholder Advisory Committee, for a total membership of sixteen:

**Murray Osborne
Richard C. Hale
Donald L. Mason**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.2 In Camera Ratification - Appointment - Halifax Watershed Advisory Board

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and McInroy that Council ratify the In Camera decision to appointment Mr. Glen Williams to the Halifax County Watershed Advisory Board. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.3 In Camera Ratification - Appointments - Coat of Arms Committee

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Stone that Council ratify the In Camera decision to appointment the following persons to the Coat of Arms Committee:

**Deputy Mayor Jack Greenough
Councillor Larry Uteck
Tony Edwards
Marie Elwood
Joan Payzant
Lou Collins
Ian M. Campbell**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.4 Land Sales Account - Councillor Schofield

Councillor Schofield stated he had put forward a motion at the July 15, 1997 Council session regarding the intersection of IIsley and Wright Avenues and it had been indicated a staff report would be coming forward before a decision would be made on the motion.

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Cunningham to proceed with the tender call, with funds (\$110,000) to come from the Sale of Land Account, with a staff report to come forward at the August 26, 1997 Council session.

Councillor Stone stated it was his understanding the staff report was to deal with the allocation of funds in the Sale of Land Account relative to industrial parks, for works in those parks.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.5 Information Item #1 - Interim Tender Awards - Councillor Cooper

Councillor Cooper noted item 97-218 for Old Ferry Road sewer and water, was missing from the summary page. He referenced item 97-249, page 2, Robert Burns Drive, where it states that local improvement charges to abutters will not be applied. The Councillor

stated he was concerned with what this implies - a way to get around local improvement charges. If this was so, then this should be applicable to other areas in the Municipality. Councillor Cooper questioned how this decision was arrived at, and what were the implications.

Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director of Engineering Services, stated this was a traffic improvement with no individual properties benefitting; therefore, it would not have betterment charges applied.

13.6 General Enquiries - Policing Standards (Councillor Kelly)

Councillor Kelly stated he had received numerous telephone calls on a perceived lack of confidence by residents, in Police Services, particularly with respect to response times and how long it takes to answer phone calls on the 490-5020 line. The Councillor stated concerns are with the loss of the motorcycle detail, community presence, and lack of morale in the police force. Councillor Kelly stated there is a crisis situation in the eyes of the public and feels it is time the Police Commission and the Police Chief were asked to have a thorough review of Police Services addressing such concerns as to what standards are now, compared to what they used to be, and what the impacts are on communities. Councillor Kelly noted there will be further retirements with no hiring which will lessen the ratios. The Councillor requested a thorough review and investigation by the Police Commission to see what the impacts are.

Mr. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that Council was undertaking a Service and Program Review of all services that are being delivered by the municipality. Further, this process will examine the issues raised by Councillor Kelly.

Councillor Hetherington stated residents are being advised that the Police are very short staffed and have had problems as a result. He referenced the 911 system and advised when calls go to 911 there is not an immediate response and the staff answering are not familiar with areas of the municipality. The Councillor expressed concern with whether there was sufficient expertise when the system was developed.

Mr. Meech advised he would consult with the Police Chief and suggested an In Camera session to address the issue of downsizing of policing services.

Councillor Kelly referenced the 911 call centre and expressed concern that staff had not received sufficient training. The Councillor stated and the public is beginning to feel the brunt of the budgetary process. Further, Councillor Kelly suggested discussion be held in public.

Councillor Mitchell also noted an incident where the time elapsing between a call being placed to 911 and the response time was not acceptable. The Councillor also felt that staff taking the calls do not have the geographical history required to provide a timely response.

Councillor Kelly stated he was asking staff to see what course of action would be suggested and to report back at the next meeting.

Council agreed to Mr. Meech meeting with the Chair of the Police Commission and the Police Chief.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1 Councillor Harvey

Take Notice that at the next regular meeting of Council, to be held on August 26, 1997, I intend to move First Reading of the Clean Air Smoking By-law S-200 (item 9.4.7).

14.2 Councillor Adams

- i) Take Notice that at the next regular meeting of Council, to be held on August 26, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion requesting Halifax Regional Municipality seek amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act to allow taxis to make turns where Metro Transit is authorized to do so, exclusive of turns that have been previously addressed.

- ii) Take Notice that at the next regular meeting of Council, to be held on August 26, 1997, I intend to introduce a motion that driver training for all taxi zones of the Halifax Regional Municipality be as follows::

Step 1 - Person takes an English proficiency test administered by the Police Department before enrolling in training program

Step 2 - Upon successful completion of Step 1, person writes exam on geography and by-law specific to the zone or area of the zone for which he/she is applying

Step 3 - Upon successful completion of Step 2, person receives temporary taxi driver's license. Within one year, driver must successfully complete a taxi driver's course approved by Halifax Regional Municipality. Driver then receives permanent taxi driver's license.

- iii) Take Notice that at the next regular meeting of Council, to be held on August 26,

1997, I intend to introduce a motion that an immediate freeze be imposed on Halifax County vehicle licenses to a maximum number of 150; and that those areas outside the core area would have the opportunity to make a request to the Committee to grant a license to establish a taxi service in those rural areas; and, that Halifax City zone vehicle licenses be frozen at 550 through attrition;, and that there be a study done every two years by the Taxi & Limousine Committee from the time it is passed.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Snow that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Jane Nauss
ACTING MUNICIPAL CLERK**