

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 16, 1997

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

REGRETS: Mayor Walter Fitzgerald

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

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

2. PROCLAMATIONS

2.1 Canadian University Press Week - December 27 - January 3, 1998

Deputy Mayor Rankin proclaimed the week of December 27 - January 3, 1998 as Canadian University Press Week.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 25 & December 2, 1997

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Hetherington to adopt the minutes of November 25 and December 2, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

The Municipal Clerk requested the following additions to the agenda:

9.1.2 Request to address Regional Council re Program & Service Review - Don Moors, CMC, Coopers & Lybrand

9.8.6 Councillor Walker - Request to address Halifax Regional Council - Mr. Grant Tabbiner, 90 Bedford Highway

13.1 Councillor Kelly - Bedford's New Fire Hall - Operations/Equipment

13.2 Councillor Kelly - Tender - Bedford/Sackville Pumping Station - Fish Hatchery Park - Dry Pit Pump vs Submersible Pump

13.3 Councillor Harvey - Cafe Ole.

There was unanimous consent to add the above-noted to the agenda.

Councillor Kelly requested "Administration Office Space - Cole Harbour/Bedford - Staff Proposal" be added to the agenda.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Uteck to defer "Administration Office Space - Cole Harbour/Bedford - Staff Proposal" to Operating Budget Discussions

in January / February, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

6. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE**

7. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE**

8. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

8.1 **Terms of Reference and Calls for Proposals for the Western Region
Needs Assessment Study
Presentation - Darryl Haley**

- This matter had been deferred from the December 9, 1997 Council Session.

Reading from a prepared statement, Mr. Haley, Chair, Western Needs Assessment Committee addressed Council. It was the Committee's wish to initiate the first stage for a community driven visionary planning for what is referred to as the Western Common. "Common" is defined as "... land belonging to a community especially unenclosed waste land" (the referenced HRM owned lands encompass approximately 6,000 acres - 2/3 the land mass of peninsular Halifax - and is located on the south side of Highway No. 103, extending south easterly to Prospect Road).

In 1996, the Western Halifax Development Association attempted to generate interest in this parcel so the community could create a strategy for its ultimate use. With the support of local Councillors, an appeal was made to the Mayor and the Solid Waste Management Resource Committee and this matter was brought to Council in November, 1996. The Association requested, at that time, staff assistance to assist the community in developing its vision as it pertained to the land. Staff recommended the formation of a standing committee (comprised of HRM staff, Councillors, Community Monitoring Committee representation and Western Halifax Development Association representation).

The Committee has proceeded to developing a proposal call for a Needs Assessment Study. Over the past year, assistance of Council was requested to clarify its position as it pertained to pressure for piecemeal use, sale and disposal of the land. A recommendation was proposed to Council requiring all sales and other disposition of the former watershed lands and adjacent properties owned by HRM, to be reviewed by the Committee for recommendation to Council.

In the fall of 1996, staff recommended to Council that a study be undertaken to assess the needs for the Western Region at a cost of \$75,000 (this was to be included in the

1997/98 budget year). However, this amount was not included in the budget due to budget constraints. In the meantime, staff encouraged the Committee to move forward, and has since reviewed existing studies (with GIS Information Services), reviewed expressions of interest in the property, received an update from the Department of Transportation and Public Works on the twinning of the Highway 103 and interchange.

In closing, Mr. Haley stated this matter deserves Council support to enable the community to proceed with public hearings and development of a land strategy.

Deputy Mayor Rankin thanked Mr. Haley for his presentation.

A brief question and answer period took place on the study that is "specific" to this parcel of land. In response to an enquiry from Councillor Kelly if the current terms could be expanded, Mr. Paul Morgan, Planner, advised the focus of this study is *not* to address a multipurpose centre. Rather, the study will address the 6,000 acres of land - how it should be leased, sold, etc. With respect to a multipurpose facility, Mr. Morgan advised that a separate report will be tabled with Council early in the new year.

Councillor Mitchell stated for the record, that the multipurpose facility is a different project from what is being discussed this evening.

In response to a suggestion from Councillor Dooks that the Province be approached for funding, Mr. Haley advised that contact has been made informally, however, no positive feedback has been forthcoming.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Mitchell that:

- **A call for proposals be solicited for a study as set out in the terms of reference presented as Attachment II to the report; and**
- **A maximum of \$75,000 be allocated from the Municipality's Sale of Lands Capital Reserve Fund for the study.**

Councillor Stone expressed concern noting this matter should be discussed during the Capital Budget process. Past budgets dealt with necessities and the Councillor suggested this study was not a necessity at this point in time. Accordingly, Councillor Stone suggested that page 2 of the report dated December 3, 1997 be clarified. This proposal is for future years, and has now come forward in advance of this year's budget. If this is approved, this means that Council is moving forward to a future proposal of \$400,000 per year over a ten year period.

In response to a statement made by Deputy Mayor Rankin that the funds for this project

are included in the Sale of Land Account, Councillor Stone enquired as to what other priorities are planned for this Account.

Councillor Epstein agreed with Councillor Stone and suggested the Motion be amended to include reference to Operating Budget deliberations as well. Further, the Councillor enquired as to why funds for this study are to be taken from the Sale of Land Account, and, why this study is not to be carried out in-house by Community Services staff.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Epstein to defer this matter to Capital and Operating Budget deliberations. MOTION DEFEATED.

A vote on the Main Motion took place. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

8.2 By-Law P-500 Respecting Parking Meters

- A supplementary report prepared by Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner, Corporate Services, on the above-noted, was before Council. This matter had been referred back to staff on December 2, 1997 for additional information prior to a decision on Second Reading.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Adams to give Second Reading to By-Law P-500 Respecting Parking Meters, including a penalty fine of \$15.00 for each hour of parking violation with the payment being reduced to \$12.00 if paid within seven days.

Councillor Greenough opposed the penalty amounts and suggested \$15 / \$7.50.

Councillor Hendsbee enquired if \$20 / \$10 would be a possibility.

Councillor Hetherington reminded Council that it is attempting to create additional parking spaces, not increase revenue.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Hetherington to amend the Motion to reflect penalty fees of \$15 and \$10. MOTION DEFEATED.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Hendsbee to amend the Motion to reflect penalty fees of \$20 and \$10. MOTION DEFEATED.

A vote on Second Reading took place. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Adams to give Third Reading to By-Law By-Law P-500 Respecting Parking Meters, including a penalty fine of \$15.00 for each hour of parking violation with the payment being reduced to \$12.00 if paid within seven days. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.3 Award of Tender 97-063R Brine Chiller Replacement

- Memoranda prepared by Mr. Dan English, Commissioner, Community Services, dated November 28 and December 8, 1997, had been re-distributed to Council. A confidential memorandum prepared for Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, had been distributed to Council.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Hanson that Halifax Regional Council award Tender 97-063R Brine Chiller Replacement to the lowest responsible bidder: Electrical & Refrigeration Services Ltd.

Councillor Kelly enquired if this motion should be deferred to permit the Metro Centre air conditioner to be tendered at the same time as this tender.

Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner, Corporate Services, advised that staff followed proper purchasing procedures and developed a recommendation based on that process.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Schofield to defer awarding Tender 97-063R Brine Chiller Replacement pending comments from the Purchasing Agent as to why the Metro Centre air conditioner and chiller could not be tendered at the same time. MOTION DEFEATED.

Mr. Dan English, Commissioner, Community Services, addressed Council noting there was an approximate saving (potentially) of \$6,000 should the two tenders be joined together. However, this tender has been opened; therefore, the other competitors are aware of the bid submitted by Electrical & Refrigeration Services Ltd. As a result, staff is recommending this tender be awarded on its own merit. The question of joining the tenders (air conditioner and chiller) came about after the fact, as the tender for this award had already been opened.

Councillor Adams advised he could not support the Motion. In referencing the staff report dated December 4, 1997 which states "... with regards to the Nova Scotia Construction Safety Association that the lowest bidder will meet the requirements," Councillor Adams suggested that "will meet" and "does meet" are different. CIMCO has

put forward a bid, meeting the requirements. Should the Motion on the floor be defeated, Councillor Adams stated he would move another Motion to award the tender to CIMCO.

Councillor Cunningham agreed with Councillor Adams noting that CIMCO's bid was lower than the bid received by Electrical & Refrigeration Services by approximately \$13,000. CIMCO's bid was refused "... as it did not meet the specifications" when in fact it did meet the specifications as far as the equipment was concerned. Although CIMCO rearranged the equipment, this was discussed with staff in advance of the tender call.

Staff is recommending that the tender be awarded to a New Brunswick firm whose primary bid is two percent lower than the local firm (approximately \$13,000). Councillor Cunningham expressed concern that should the brine chiller fail, service will have to be called in from New Brunswick. Further, the company being recommended for the tender does not meet the specifications of the Nova Scotia Construction Association.

On a Point of Clarification, Councillor Uteck stated that Council is not being requested to award a maintenance contract this evening, this is a contract to purchase a brine chiller.

Councillor Hetherington drew Council's attention to the staff report dated December 8, 1997. The Councillor referenced an excerpt from the report "... The one area of concern was their compliance to the Nova Scotia Construction Safety requirements.." Further, "... in fact have completed the most important courses, the first aid and WHMIS. According to the NS Construction Safety Association they will have completed all of their courses by the end of December '97."

Councillor Hetherington enquired as to where the aforementioned information had been derived as he had been in contact with Mr. Mike Kelly, Safety Operations Manager, Nova Scotia Construction Safety Association, and was advised that Electrical & Refrigeration Services Ltd. have just registered with the Association and that Certificates could not be issued until the end of January. In response, Mr. English advised he understood the information was provided by Mr. Bob Kelly (Morris and Richard Consulting Engineering Ltd.) who was acting on behalf of the municipality.

Mr. English further advised this tender is for a standby chiller for the ice making machine. The existing machine is reaching its lifespan but may last the rest of the season. Also, the air conditioning unit referenced by Councillor Kelly has already reached the end of its lifespan and Metro Centre staff are in the process of preparing specifications to replace same. From the Metro Centre staff point of view, it is possible

to combine both tenders (brine chiller and air conditioner), if Council so wishes. This would mean eliminating this tender and combining both. Mr. English reiterated a potential savings of approximately \$6,000 due to the fact that the same company would install both the brine chiller and air conditioner, thereby achieving some economies of scale.

Councillor Stone, a member of the Metro Centre Board, advised that the Board met earlier in the day, and it was determined that awarding of the brine chiller is a necessity and cannot be delayed. Should the chiller go down, there is no ice and the municipality would be responsible for any operating costs. The Councillor stated this is an emergency situation. Mr. English advised his discussions with the Manager of the Metro Centre took place one week ago, and that he was not aware of the meeting held earlier today.

Councillor Hetherington suggested there was differentiating information being provided to Council and that confusion had resulted.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Cooper as to who is paying for the brine chiller, Mr. Corrigan advised that costs are included in the municipality's Capital Budget. Councillor Cooper further enquired as to why the Metro Centre Board is not processing this contract. In response, Mr. Larry Corrigan advised that Metro Centre staff utilize HRM purchasing facilities. Further, with respect to HRM utilizing local bidders (local preference), the current policy is to *not* give preference to local bidders unless there is a tie bid.

A vote on the Main Motion took place. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

9. REPORTS

9.1 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

9.1.1 Metro Food Bank Society

- Councillor Kelly - Follow-Up Request - Food Bank
- An Information Report prepared for Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional Operations, on the above-noted, was before Council.
- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Kelly on an update of the former Halifax School Board Property (1649 Brunswick Street) being utilized by the Food Bank, had been distributed to Council.

Presentation - Metro Food Bank Society - Dianne Swinemar

- Correspondence from Ms. Diane Swinemar, Executive Director, Metro Food Bank, had been distributed to Council.

Reading from a prepared statement, Ms. Swinemar described the much needed service the Metro Food Bank offered to the community. Further, as a result of inadequate facilities, and the fact that the current lease expires in fifteen days (an arrangement with the current landlord has been made for a month by month lease after January, 1998). Ms. Swinemar requested that Council consider leasing a surplus HRM building (which would be central to clients) to the Food Bank (3,500 to 4,000 sq. ft. of space was required). Council was also advised that the Food Bank's building costs cannot exceed ten percent of its budget.

Ms. Swinemar suggested the former School Board Building on Brunswick Street would be appropriate and that other agencies would be willing to share any costs.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Sarto to defer this matter to staff; further, to determine if other suitable buildings are available. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Downey suggested that other organizations who had also expressed an interest in the former School Board Building (Dalhousie Co-op School and Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia), be given an opportunity to also make a presentation to Council.

Deputy Mayor Rankin thanked Ms. Swinemar for her presentation to Council.

9.1.2 Councillor Blumenthal - Shipbuilding

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Blumenthal requesting that Council forward a letter to the Federal Government concerning a policy on shipbuilding in the municipality, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Uteck to forward correspondence to the Department of National Defence enquiring on a ship building policy for Canada; further, that the correspondence be copied to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) as well. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.1.3 Presentation - Coopers & Lybrand Consulting - Program and Service Review Update

Mr. Don Moors and Ms. Gloria Banks, Coopers & Lybrand Consulting, provided an update on the Program and Service Review project. Through the use of overheads, the

following was reviewed: Purpose and Value, Services Underway, Progress to Date, Major Contributors, Forward Program to Completion.

Services being analyzed include Police Services, Recreational Facilities & Programming, Streets, Road, Traffic & Transportation, and Sewer and Drainage.

It was noted that the target date for complete collection of useable data was January 5 - 12, 1998.

Major contributors to progress is the level of effort and commitment of HRM Staff on Activity Based Costing (ABC) Team, responsiveness of key officials within HRM, and, Council involvement & ownership: timely decisions and direction.

It was anticipated that a report from Coopers & Lybrand would be tabled with Council between January 31 and February 11, 1998; three options for each program service will be analyzed; Council wishes for public input at two levels; and, Council will incorporate conclusions, regarding the options, into the Budget deliberations.

Deputy Mayor Rankin thanked Mr. Moors and Ms. Banks for their presentation to Council.

9.2 HARBOUR EAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

9.2.1 Request to Adjust Servicing Boundary in Cole Harbour/Westphal; and Rezoning of Parcel of Land in Cole Harbour (set date for public hearing)

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Cooper, Chair, Harbour East Community Council, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Sarto that the Service Boundary for Cole Harbour Westphal be amended as shown on May 1 attached to the CC report dated December 9, 1997; further, that a public hearing date be set for February 3, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.2 Request to Amend MPS for Eastern Passage/Cow Bay for Development of a Beverage Room at the Sandpiper Centre (set date for public hearing)

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Cooper, Chair, Harbour East Community Council, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Sarto that the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Eastern Passage/Cow Bay be amended as per Option 1 of the Staff Report dated November 7, 1997 and in accordance with attachment #1 and 2 of the Supplementary Report dated November 26, 1997 and Attachment #6 of the Staff Report dated November 7, 1997; further, that a public hearing date be set for January 20, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.3 Application by Petro Canada Limited to Amend the Municipal Development Plan for Dartmouth (set date for public hearing)

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Cooper, Chair, Harbour East Community Council, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Sarto to amend the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Dartmouth as shown on Attachments 1 and 2 of the memorandum dated December 4, 1997; further, that a public hearing date be set for January 20, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.4 Eastern Passage/Cow Bay Municipal Planning Strategy Policy Review Process (set date for public hearing)

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Cooper, Chair, Harbour East Community Council, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Blumenthal to approve the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Eastern Passage/Cow Bay and the Subdivision By-Law for the former Halifax County Municipality related to Unserviced Residential Development and the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Eastern Passage/Cow Bay and the Subdivision By-Law for the former Halifax County Municipality related to Environmental Protection. Further, if there are significant impacts as a result of these amendments on the properties of Oknah Realty and the Kiwanis Club that they be dealt with at a future date; further that a public hearing date be set for January 20, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.5 6 Admiral Street, Dartmouth - Seniors Residence

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Cooper, Chair, Harbour East Community

Council, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Schofield that the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Dartmouth be amended, as outlined in Attachments #5 and 6 of the staff report to allow for the consideration of a multiple unit dwelling specifically designed for senior citizens at 6 Admiral Street by development agreement; further, that a public hearing date be set for February 3, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3 HALIFAX PENINSULA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

9.3.1 Case 7424: 2614/16 and 2618/20 Windsor Street: Redesignation and Rezoning, and Review of Requirements of the C-1 and C-2A zones in Peninsula North (Polling Districts 11, 12, and 14)

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Uteck, Chair, Halifax Peninsula Community Council, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Blumenthal to amend the Peninsula North Secondary Planning Strategy and the Peninsula Land Use By-Law for the Minor Commercial Designation and the C-1 (Local Business) and C-2A (Minor Commercial) regarding the following items: (1) rear and side yard setbacks, (2) buffering of commercial parking, and (3) billboards.

To redesignate all properties on the west side of Windsor Street between North and Seaforth Street from High Density Residential (HDR) to Minor Commercial (MnC), and to rezone 2614/16, 2618/20 and 2636 Windsor Street from R-3 (Multiple Dwelling) to C-2A (Minor Commercial).

Both of these amendments are available in resolution form in Appendix A and B of the staff report of November 24, 1997; further that a public hearing date be set for January 20, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4 NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

9.4.1 Capital Projects - Allocation of Funds to Community Councils

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Barnet, Chair, North West Community Council, on the above-noted, was before Council.

Councillor Barnet noted it might not be possible to compile a list of capital projects until January 22, 1998.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Sarto that if necessary, an extension be granted until the end of January, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.5 AUDIT COMMITTEE

9.5.1 District Funds - Former Halifax County Municipality

- A memorandum prepared for Councillor Greenough, Chair, Audit Committee, on the above-noted, was before Council. Further, a memorandum prepared by the Municipal Solicitor on the above-noted, was also before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Schofield that having met as requested by Halifax Regional Council to hear the concerns raised by Councillor Epstein, the Audit Committee is satisfied that the Councillor's concerns have been adequately addressed; and that the matter has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Committee; further, that no further action be taken in this regard.

Councillor Hendsbee noted he would be serving a Notice of Motion later in the meeting requesting that Council reaffirm a previously approved Motion of the former Halifax County Municipality for the designation of \$20,000, to be derived from the special reserve fund, to fulfill the directive of acquiring a parcel of property for the purpose of establishing a playground adjacent to the municipal ballfields on Circle Drive, Lake Echo.

Councillor Harvey suggested that the landfill amounts be removed from the list that comprises the District Funds as they should not have been included; further, the Councillor requested a revised table reflecting same.

For the record, Councillor Greenough read the recommendation of the Audit Committee during the May 13, 1997 meeting:

"That a response be prepared and forwarded from the Audit Committee to Councillor Epstein and copied to Council, indicating that the funds (\$300,535.06) are now in HRM's possession and are no longer considered discretionary spending by the respective Councillors."

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.6 HALIFAX REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

9.6.1 Replacement of Central Library - Judith Hare

- Correspondence from Ms. Cathy Levangie, Cellar Bar & Grill; Jane and Ian MacLellan, Mills Brothers; Mr. Paul MacKinnon, Spring Garden Area Business

Association; Mr. Douglas Johnson, The Tannery (DJ's); Mr. Douglas Johnson, Spring Garden Properties Limited; Mr. Rick Pratt, Winsbys Womens Shoes; Ms. Norene Smiley, The Word on the Street - Halifax; and, D.C. and Ross McNeil, Dugger's, had been circulated to Council. A report dated December 16, 1997 from the Halifax Regional Library Board was circulated to Council.

Councillor Hetherington recommended this presentation be deferred to Capital Budget deliberations. In response, Deputy Mayor Rankin suggested the presentation take place this evening and that *debate* be deferred to Capital Budget discussions.

Mr. John Kitz, Chair, Halifax Regional Library Board, addressed Council noting this presentation was being made at the request of Council.

Mr. Jack Diamond, Architectural Consultant (A.J. Diamond, Donald Schmitt & Co.), stated that the new central library was important to the health of the entire region and that the location of the library was of great significance. Further, it has been determined that approximately two million people will visit the facility per year.

With respect to the size of the new central library, it has been pared down to 95,000 square feet. The existing library cannot be renovated due to the high cost involved - it is too small, does not meet the standards of the National Building Code of Canada, does not meet life and safety standards, there is no parking access, configuration of the building is poor, the wiring is questionable, asbestos in the ducts, etc.

Mr. Diamond further stated that should the facility not be built, Provincial funding and trust funds will be lost. Should the facility be built, Administration could be relocated to the central library, Alderney Gate could be used for technical usage and outreach services could be shifted to the North Branch.

Mr. Diamond stated it is recommended that the Queen Street/Clyde Street parcel would be the most appropriate location for a new central library.

As it is anticipated two million people will visit the library each year, Mr. Diamond suggested Spring Garden Road merchants will be benefactors of the economic spinoffs.

With respect to parking spaces which will be lost, although 78 spaces have been referenced, there will actually be only 25 parking spaces spaces lost.

Ms. Judith Hare, Executive Director, Halifax Regional Library Board, addressed Council noting there is still a great interest in establishing branch libraries in the future.

Further, there is a possibility that a new library will be built in Tantallon and other areas.

Deputy Mayor Rankin reiterated the fact that debate on this matter will take place during Capital Budget deliberations.

Councillor Barnet expressed concern with this project and advised he would like to review other branch library budgets as well. The Councillor suggested that all issues have not been examined.

Ms. Judith Hare distributed information to Council pertaining to Operating Costs of the Library.

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that staff was aware of the issues at hand and have been working with the Library Board in this regard. Provisions have been made within the Draft Capital Budget to build a new library over a three year period. Further, it is anticipated that provincial assistance will be available.

As result of concern raised by Councillor Downey that a site may have already been chosen, Ms. Hare stated the site being recommended is dependent on availability, however, the Board is reviewing other sites.

Councillor Epstein made the following statements:

- a) existing site and the basis upon which it was evaluated - the case against not using the site has not been adequate:
 - i) parking - there is plenty of parking in the surrounding area - the existing library does not currently have its own parking;
 - ii) pre-existing burial site (Grafton Park) - this should be addressed;
 - iii) if the existing site is not used, the municipality will be left with a piece of property upon which an empty building will sit.
- b) preferred site appears to be Queen Street/SpringGarden Road - this is owned by the Province - when Council debates this, it needs an explanation as to how the Province was approached in this regard.
- c) need to determine whether it is appropriate to go outside the area, i.e. architectural and design construction.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested the existing site be swapped with the Province for another parcel (perhaps the Province could use the existing site as a courthouse). The Councillor further enquired as to why the Robie Street site (between Inglis and South) had not been considered.

Councillor Blumenthal enquired as to why the former Alexandria School was not considered. Further, he enquired if consideration had been given to partnering between the Library, educational institutions and computer companies.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Stone on creating parking spaces, Mr. Diamond stated that surface, above grade and below grade parking were options; further, that the former Halifax Infirmary Hospital site may become available for parking.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Stone if the Keshen Bequest is ready to lapse, Mr. John Kitz stated if there was no commitment from Council to build a central library, the trust fund will not be available.

Ms. Judith Hare encouraged Members of Council to contact her office should they have any enquiries.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Deputy Mayor thanked Ms. Hare and Messrs Kitz and Diamond for their presentation to Council.

Following a ten minute recess, the meeting resumed at 9:20 p.m.

9.7 HALIFAX HARBOUR SOLUTIONS STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

9.7.1 Update from Stakeholder Advisory Committee (info report)

- An Information Report from the Harbour Stakeholder Advisory Committee on the above-noted, was before Council.

**MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Cooper to receive the Report for information.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9.8 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

9.8.1 1998/99 Capital Budget Worksheets

- The 1998/99 Capital Budget had been tabled December 9, 1997. Copies of the

Worksheets were circulated to Council.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Mitchell to receive the 1998/99 Capital Budget Worksheets for information. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.2 Tender 97-342 Street Resurfacing, Part 3, East District

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

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Hetherington to award Tender 97-342 Street Resurfacing, Part 3, East District, to Ocean Contractors Limited, at a tender price of \$464,732.25 and a total project cost of \$534,443.00 with funding authorized from Capital Account No. 95470, Resurfacing Various Areas and as outlined in the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated November 24, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.3 Tender - Fuel System Extension - Portable Depot

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

MOVED by Councillors Snow and Cunningham that quotation 97-2009 be awarded to the firm of Noye Enterprises Inc. in the amount of \$51,401 (taxes extra); funds are available from Capital Project #87008 and the Fuel Recoveries Account #01-21232-5550. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.4 Ratification of Police Collective Agreement

- A memorandum prepared by Mr. Vince MacDonald, Commissioner, Police Services, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Snow to ratify the Police Collective Agreement attached as Appendix A to the staff report dated December 11, 1997, and authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the agreement on Council's behalf. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.5 Ports Canada Policing Agreement

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. Vince MacDonald, Chief of Police, on the

above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Stone to ratify the Policing Agreement, approved by the Board of Police Commissioners, between Halifax Regional Municipality Police Service and the Halifax Port Corporation.

Councillor Uteck enquired if there was no hiring freeze would the municipality have given consideration to hiring any of the present Port Police.

With respect to apparatus the municipality may be inheriting from the Port Police (boats, etc.), Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised one unmarked car was being inherited, the Port Police were purchasing for the municipality two new marked cars, and the files and filing system will become the property of HRM.

In response to an enquiry of Councillor Kelly as to what occurs after the agreement expires after three years, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised there will be no responsibility on the part of either party to continue with a level of service.

Councillor Kelly referenced the fact that the Port Corporation collects a fee (which is applied to policing costs) from ships that arrive in Halifax Harbour. The Councillor enquired if this will continue with the fees to be allocated to the municipality to assist in port policing costs. In response, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised this is considered part of Ports Canada's operating income and as a result they are not prepared to pass these fees on to the municipality.

To clarify, Deputy Chief MacKinnon stated that to the best of his knowledge, the Port Corporation does not charge a specific fee for policing; it is combined with their general operating rate (for the operation of the Ports Canada Police Headquarters in Ottawa. This approximates \$54,000 per year). On a local level, there is no separate levy for policing- it is part of their operating rental fees.

Councillor Kelly enquired on the number of police and how many per shift. In response, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised this is done on an extra duty basis, therefore, it will be based on actual hours worked. In order to fill the positions, HRM will be using two existing staff - working eight hour shifts. This equates to a twenty-four and seven operation with two people on duty full-time, and one Sergeant on duty on an eight hour day shift. This would be equal to nine people.

Councillor Kelly suggested this is not a good deal and that there are a lot of unknowns.

Councillor Hetherington expressed concerns as well and enquired as to the number of officers working overnight. In response, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised there will be two officers working twenty-four hours per day and that a third individual would on occasion, be a Superintendent working in the office.

Councillor Hetherington enquired on extra duty salaries. Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised that the extra duty rate is \$30/hour prior to 10 p.m. and \$35/hour after 10 p.m. and up to 7 a.m. Further, an officer is limited to extra duty on their second and third day off.

Councillor Hendsbee enquired if there was any commitment of boat acquisitions to deal with boat activity in the harbour. Also, the Councillor enquired as to why the RCMP were not considered as another police agency. In response, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised that Ports Canada had two boats - one has been disposed of - the other vessel which is an ex Coast Guard vessel is to be maintained by Ports Canada or returned back to the Coast Guard. The Harbour Master has indicated to the municipality there is a boat in the water twelve months per year and is available for HRM's use within 20- 45 minutes of receiving a call. The municipality has also been advised that a member of Police Services would be permitted to function on the boat as well. This would permit the boat to provide enforcement services in the harbour and the North West Arm. In addition, the agreement with the Port Corporation specifies a number of hours of patrol in the harbour of which they would cover the costs. Also, they will cover extra people when a cruise ships docks.

Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised that beyond the \$721,000 a year of operating costs, there is a \$133,000 cost in year one. This goes towards the purchase of two new vehicles, the acquisition of a computer terminal, payment of telephone lines and communications, replacement of radio equipment in the cars and the purchase of portables, along with Mobile Digital Terminals or laptops. The Deputy Chief suggested that all capital acquisitions that are required have been covered off. The Port Corporation has also indicated it will be covering all the operating costs of the boat.

With regard to the RCMP, during discussions this issue was raised. It was indicated to the Port Corporation, however, that if they entered into an agreement with the municipality, it would be the recommendation of the Province that it would be at the full cost with no 70 - 30 or 90 - 10 split which means a cost of approximately \$104,000 - \$110,000 per member required.

Deputy Chief MacKinnon further stated there is one position fully funded by the Port Corporation for a criminal intelligence officer with the rank of Constable. This individual will be responsible for criminal intelligence as it pertains to criminal activity in the Port,

along with Customs Canada and the RCMP Customs and Excise Unit.

Councillor Epstein shared concerns raised by other Councillors as they pertain to the adequacy of the job that the municipality will be required to do given the number of officers assigned. Further, the Councillor referenced the two officers working twenty-four hours per day through extra duty and enquired as to why this was being handled this way. In response, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised there are approximately 135 officers who participate out of the 403 that are currently on staff. In approaching negotiations dealing with this particular issue, the municipality has been given instructions there would be no new resources supplied to Police Services, through HRM, to look after policing of the Port. Therefore, the best way to deal with this was to do it on a user pay basis.

Councillor Greenough enquired as to how the extra duty rates of pay (\$30 and \$35/hr) would compare with the regular rate and overtime rate of pay for a 1st Class Constable would receive. In response, Deputy Chief MacKinnon advised under the previous Collective Agreement the average hourly rate of pay for a Constable was between \$20 and \$21/hour (at the \$30 rate, this is approximately time and one half, and higher with the \$35 rate). However, with the new Collective Agreement, it is less than what the overtime rate would be. Also, with the extra duty arrangement, there are no benefits, UIC, CPP nor pension contributions.

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, advised this contract will be monitored to ensure it is cost effective. Further, the Port Corporation, at the end of the three year period, wants the municipality to take over Port policing entirely, however, the municipality has advised it will not be placed in this position at this point in time. At the end of the three year period, this will have to be revisited, however.

A vote on the Motion took place. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

9.8.6 Local Improvement Charges - 90 Bedford Highway

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

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Schofield that the local improvement charges billed to 90 Bedford Highway not be rescinded or reduced.

Prior to voting on the Motion, it had been agreed to permit Mr. Grant Tabbiner to address Council.

Mr. Tabbiner advised he resided in a dwelling located north of the Bayview intersection and which was affected by the Bedford Highway widening project. Reading from a prepared statement, Mr. Tabbiner noted that phase one of the work has been completed and he was now being requested to pay a fee which reflects some improvements from which he may have benefitted.

The project was undertaken to satisfy present and future large scale traffic flow problems. Local improvement charges are intended to reflect "local improvement" however, Mr. Tabbiner suggested that many communities will benefit from this project. This construction phase has been long and obtrusive. Traffic flow and noise have increased and detracted from residential uses. Vehicle speeds are now approximating 80 - 90 km range despite a 60 km speed limit. Further, the design of four lanes makes access to his home difficult.

In summary, Mr. Tabbiner suggested that supporting this needed road work to benefit the public as a whole is reasonable except when one is expected to pay for something that has an overall negative impact on himself.

Deputy Mayor Rankin thanked Mr. Tabbiner for his presentation.

Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Engineering & Transportation Services, advised staff had provided a report on this matter. Based on the former City of Halifax policy, the local improvement rate has been adjusted down to consider the arterial or collector roads. Therefore, the normal rates for all properties along the Bedford Highway were adjusted to reflect the classification of the street.

Councillor Hendsbee enquired if there was any compensation paid and to what amount. In response, Mr. Dhillon understood that the former City of Halifax owned all the lands in this location. If any land had been acquired, that was a separate compensation as part of the acquisition of lands or rights of way.

Councillor Walker expressed concern with the report and noted that the municipality should cover Mr. Tabbiner's local improvement charges.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Hendsbee to cover the costs of the Local Improvement Charges for 90 Bedford Highway.

Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon advised this Motion could set a precedence as there were other properties in the similar condition as 90 Bedford Highway, further, Council was reminded the local improvement charges for 90 Bedford Highway have already been reduced in accordance with the former City of Halifax policy.

MOTION DEFEATED.

A vote on the Main Motion took place. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

9.8.7 **Report on Fine Option Program**

- An Information report prepared for Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner, Corporate Services, on the above-noted, was before Council.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone to receive the above-noted report for information. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.8 **Halifax Sidewalk Policy**

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

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Schofield that Council repeal the Halifax Sidewalk Quality Standards policy attached as Appendix A to the staff report dated December 8, 1997.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Walker, Mr. George McLellan, Commissioner, Regional Operations, advised the new policy will be developed within six months.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.8.9 **Drainage - Private Property**

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

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Sarto that Council adopt the revised Report on Drainage - Private Property, dated December, 1997, as Policy.

Councillor Harvey, although agreeing with the philosophy of the report, expressed concern with past drainage problems and drainage systems on private property where there appears to be no owner; further, the Councillor stated that cost-sharing should be referenced in the policy. Accordingly, Councillor Harvey stated he could not support the Motion as it now stood.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.8.10 Access Site "A" - Residual Disposal Facility

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

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Cunningham that Council approve the appointment of Porter Dillon Limited to prepare engineering and tender documents for the construction of access to Site "A" - Residual Disposal Facility. The payment to the consultant shall be on a per diem basis with an upper limit of \$70,000, plus taxes. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.11 Proposed Partnership Agreement re: Civic Hospital Site

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

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Uteck that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the appended partnership agreement agreeing in principle to a proposal to see the former Civic Hospital site jointly developed as an HRM owned parking lot and an IWK Grace Foundation owned community park facility. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.12 Land Exchange - Fall River

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

MOVED by Councillors Snow and Hendsbee that Council approve a land exchange with the Fall River Community Bible Chapel, whereby the Fall River Community Bible Chapter receives Parcel "A" as identified on the sketch attached to the December 10, 1997 staff report, and HRM receives Parcel "B" attached to the same report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.13 Grant of Right-of-Way Over HRM Lands - Churchill Drive

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

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Sarto that Council approve the granting of an easement as shown as Easement "C-1-X" on the sketch attached to the staff report dated December 2, 1997, over the HRM owned lands at Churchill Drive for \$1,100, as settlement in full, plus any taxes or adjustments that may be applicable.

In response to a statement from Councillor Greenough that new pavement is not to be encouraged, Mr. Austin French, Team Leader, Real Estate, advised this concern will be made known.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.14 Acquisition - Lot SLS Chebucto Road - Street Purposes

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

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Blumenthal that Council approve the acquisition of Lot SLS, Chebucto Road for street purposes, as shown on the sketch attached to the staff report dated November 28, 1997, for \$15,000 as settlement in full, plus any additional taxes and adjustments that may be applicable.

Councillor Epstein stated that as this was the first time he had been made aware of this matter, noting that staff should advise Council Members of issues affecting their Districts.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.15 Blue Water Business Centre Ltd. - Lease Renewal

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

MOVED by Councillors Dooks and Hendsbee that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute an amendment to the existing lease of the Blue Water Business Centre Ltd. incorporating terms as provided in the staff report dated December 5, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.16 Land Purchase - Portion of Lot W-2B McDonald's Restaurant

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

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Greenough that HRM acquire the site identified in Appendix "A" of the staff report dated December 4, 1997, for sidewalk improvements from Edgecombe Realty Advisors Inc. for the sum of \$14,000 plus applicable taxes, with funds being available in Account #04-50051-6712. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.17 One Year Contribution Holiday - Halifax County Municipality Full Time Retirement Pension Plan

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

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Sarto that Council approve that the Halifax County Municipality Full-Time Retirement Pension Plan be amended to provide for a one year contribution holiday for both employees (who were members of the Halifax County Municipality Full-Time Retirement Pension Plan as at March 31, 1996) and the employer.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Epstein if the Motion would affect the work of the Committee creating a new pension plan, Mr. Mike Sampson, Group Leader, Compensation & Benefits, advised that the HRM Design and Governance Committee has discussed surplus and buy back of service. In the former County, the surplus is substantial (\$2.6 million) but will still leave a significant amount for the plan members. If this Motion is adopted, this will bring the plan closer to the other plans in terms of surplus positions (as a percentage basis).

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.8.18 Agreement Between New Era Farms Ltd. & HRM

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor McInroy declared a Conflict of Interest, due to the fact his brother was legal counsel for one of the proponents, and removed himself from discussions.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Harvey that HRM enter into a contractual agreement with New Era Farms Ltd. for the provision of source-separated organics composting services. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor McInroy resumed his place at the meeting.

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS

10.1 Second Reading D-100 Respecting the Registration and Regulation of Dogs

- A memorandum prepared for Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner, Corporate Services, on the above-noted, was before Council. Copies of correspondence from the Dartmouth Kennel Club and Thistle Permanently Registered Shetland Sheepdogs had been distributed to Council.

First Reading of By-Law D-100 Respecting the Registration and Regulation of Dogs was given on December 2, 1997.

Mr. Reg Ridgley, Manager, Treasury, referenced the staff report dated December 8, 1997, noting that staff was recommending the registration fees identified in Administrative Order #11 be amended to include a charge of \$5 as the registration fee for the period January 1, 1998 to March 31, 1998. Mr. Ridgley reminded Council there were two issues at hand, Second Reading of the By-Law, and an amendment to Administrative Order #11.

Deputy Mayor Rankin called for comments from the public. After three calls there were none.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Cunningham to close the public hearing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested correspondence from the Dartmouth Kennel Club and Thistle Permanently Registered Shetland Sheepdogs be referred to the Animal Registration Committee for comment before Third Reading.

Deputy Mayor Rankin suggested the above-noted submissions could be taken into consideration and deferred to a January, 1998 meeting of Council. This would permit time to incorporate any amendments.

Councillor Dooks suggested that the fee for un-neutered dogs in rural areas remain at \$20.00.

Councillor Cooper suggested this by-law be referred back to staff to consider including clauses from former units' dog by-laws. Further, the Councillor suggested this by-law does not provide enough information on the difference between a dog being "physically" under control as opposed to "effective" control.

Councillor Mitchell enquired if he could attend the meeting of the Animal Registration Committee when this is discussed. The Councillor suggested that "rescue" committees may wish to become involved.

Councillor Snow stated there was no reference in the proposed by-law to kennel dogs nor rescue dogs. Further, the Councillor referenced the fact that collection of monies was a problem.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested there be further public input should there be a number of amendments.

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Snow to defer Second Reading of By-Law D-100 Respecting the Registration and Regulations of Dogs, pending review, by the Animal Registration Committee, of correspondence from the Dartmouth Kennel Club and Thistle Permanently Registered Shetland Sheepdogs, and, comments from Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

11.1 Petitions

11.1.1 Councillor Blumenthal - Access a Bus

Councillor Blumenthal submitted to the Clerk a petition on access a bus from approximately 300 residents.

11.2 Presentation

11.2.1 911 Civic Numbers - Constable Bruce Brophy

Constable Brophy addressed Council expressing concern with the civic numbering system being used on buildings/homes and that most numbers can only be viewed during the daytime hours. This can prove disastrous, particularly when there is a 911 call in the evenings and is of particular concern in the outlying areas. Constable Brophy provided an example of receiving a 911 call and not being able to locate the address.

The New Brunswick civic numbering system has signs that are marked for both day and night time viewing, and in cooperation with Canada Post, driveway signs are posted on both sides. As a result of taking his concerns to the media, he has received between 3,000 and 4,000 telephone calls.

Constable Brophy provided a sample (blue sign with white numbering - 12 inches by 6 inches) of civic numbering which illuminates, enabling viewing during the day and night.

Deputy Mayor Rankin thanked Constable Brophy for his presentation and suggested this matter be reviewed by staff to prepare a report for a meeting in January, 1998. Further, the Deputy Mayor suggested Constable Brophy make himself available to staff if need be.

EXTENSION OF MEETING

**MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Adams to extend the meeting past 10:00 p.m.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

12. MOTIONS - None

13. ADDED ITEMS

13.1 Bedford's New Fire Hall - Operations/Equipment - Councillor Kelly

Councillor Kelly requested a full comprehensive report from staff on the following:

- a) was initially informed he would be told when equipment was to be removed from the operation. However, four pieces have already been removed without discussions one way or another;

- b) expressed concern with the manner in which the volunteer fire members were being treated. Morale is very low - the lowest in years, and number have decreased from fifty-eight to twenty-five.

Councillor Kelly further advised that staff have cut back on training and other operational aspects of the department, which is contrary to what was initially promised. The Councillor suggested that volunteer firefighters are not being supported. Further, the community is very concerned. The new fire station could easily accommodate six+ units, however, two presently exist.

Councillor Kelly enquired as to staff's intent as it pertains to the volunteers and the operating apparatus.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Barnet that a comprehensive report be prepared on staff's intent as it pertains to the Bedford Volunteer Firefighters, and the operating apparatus. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.2 Tender - Bedford/Sackville Pumping Station - Fish Hatchery Park - Dry Pit Pump vs Submersible Pump

Councillor Kelly stated that a portion of the contract regarding the above-noted was contrary to what has actually been carried out (reference was made to page 2 - paragraph 2 - ..." this tender also included a provisional item for a submersible style pump so that the station can remain operational even in flooded and drywell conditions." - and the last paragraph of the same page - "... the consultant reviewed the submitted tender and recommended that the provision pump not be included in the award due to its high cost.")

Councillor Kelly further advised that five submersible pumps have been ordered at an increased cost of \$78,000 (capital) plus an increased cost of \$8,000 (operational). The Councillor suggested this was contrary to the operational aspects of the municipality's purchasing process. Staff have advised they do not want submersible pumps but would rather have the dry pit pumps.

The Councillor further stated these five pumps are not to specification and that the original tender called for a 100,000 hour life capacity. The Councillor understood there is a 50,000 hour life capacity on the new pumps.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Epstein that a full report be prepared by staff with said report to outline why the contract was not adhered to; further, that the pump ordering process be stalled pending clarification as to why the municipality

has incurred twice the price over the pumps' 20 year lifespan. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Epstein also expressed concerns and hoped that Mr. McLellan would take the necessary steps towards addressing the objections raised by two companies who were involved in the bidding process. Councillor Epstein stated, however, he was aware that the Commissioner has commenced his enquiries.

13.3 Cafe Ole - Councillor Harvey

Councillor Harvey referenced the fact that Cafe Ole had closed and that the Manager wished to relocate. The Councillor requested that staff work with Mr. MacLeod, Manager, Cafe Ole, to assist, in whatever possible, in relocating the club.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Hetherington to request Community Services (Recreation Programming) staff to assist, if possible, the Manager of Cafe Ole - Mr. MacLeod - in relocating his business. Further, that a meeting be arranged between Mr. MacLeod and staff, with a report to be brought back to Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1 Councillor Hendsbee

Councillor Hendsbee served the following Motion:

At a future Meeting of Regional Council, he intends to reaffirm a previously approved Motion of the Halifax County Municipality for the designation of \$20,000 (now to be derived from the Special Reserve Fund) to fulfill the directive of acquiring a parcel of property for the purposes of establishing a playground adjacent to the municipal ballfields on Circle Drive in the Community of Lake Echo, Nova Scotia.

14.2 Councillor Greenough

Councillor Greenough served the following Motion:

On January 13, 1997 of the Halifax Regional Council, he intends to introduce a Motion to give First Reading to amend by-law P-408 "City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan."

The purpose of this amendment is to provide that members of the Police and Fire Bargaining units who participate in the plan will have their pension benefits calculated based on the average of their highest three consecutive years of earnings.

14.3 Councillor Hetherington

Although Councillor Hetherington served the following Motion, it was agreed that the Sable Gas Committee would provide the information requested and table a report with Council, in the near future.

“WHEREAS it appears that Sable Offshore Energy Project is clearing the final hurdles in the environmental and national energy board approval process, and

WHEREAS it appears likely that natural gas will be available in selected communities throughout Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS the government has established a Gas Distribution Act for the Province which will pave the way for local natural gas utilities to be created; and

WHEREAS Halifax Regional Municipality has a long and credible track record as a utility in the area of water supply and distribution; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Department of Natural Resources is poised to call for expressions of interest for companies or organizations wishing to engage;

BE IT RESOLVED that the staff of Halifax Regional Municipality examine the issue associated with HRM becoming a natural gas utility with the defined purpose of submitting an application under the Gas Distribution Act; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that in conducting its review, staff contact their counterparts in other municipalities in Nova Scotia, in other Canadian Provinces and in the United States, to learn from their previous experiences; and

BE IT RESOLVED in the event that the Provincial Government expression of interest being called, while HRM is investigating, has yet to be completed, HRM will automatically express its interest in becoming a distributor for natural gas within the boundaries of HRM;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the course of this investigation, staff seek out and identify potential partners who are interested in aligning with HRM in this service opportunity.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Hetherington to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vi Carmichael
MUNICIPAL CLERK