

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MAY 6, 1997

PRESENT:

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

Absent:

Councillor Graham L. Downey

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner, Corporate Services
Ms. Jane Nauss, Assistant Municipal Clerk
Ms. Patti Halliday, Assistant Municipal Clerk

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Capital Budget	3
2.	Adjournment	10

Mayor Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. **CAPITAL BUDGET**

Mr. Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, advised that discussions on the Capital Budget would continue from yesterday's meeting.

#31

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington to adopt the following:

- **North End - Streets - Regional Ops - Pg 17 #60 Albert Street sidewalk - \$49,000 - Debt.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

#32

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Blumenthal to adopt the following:

- **Woodside - Property - Community Services - Pg 33 #21 Morris Lake Watershed (50%) - \$15,000 - Debt.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#33

MOVED by Councillors McInroy and Hetherington to adopt the following:

- **Eastern Passage - Property - Community Services - #90018 Eastern Passage Field House - \$15,000 - Debt.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#34

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Sarto to adopt the following:

- **Timberlea - Property - Community Services - Pg 34 #50 add Greenwood Hts. Ballfield - \$50,000 - Debt.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#35

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Kelly to adopt the following:

- **M. Grant - Property - Community Services - Pg 34 #52 add Meagher's Grant Ballfield - \$30,000 - Debt.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#36

MOVED by Councillors Mitchell and Rankin to adopt the following:

- **Shad Bay - Property - Community Services - #91232 add Shad Bay Beach - \$9,000 - Debt.**

Councillor Mitchell referenced St. Margaret's Ballfield noting \$130,000 was initially budgeted for this project, however, it has been determined that costs have increased by approximately \$50,000. Therefore, he enquired if there were any surplus funds, that same would be applied to the St. Margaret's Ballfield project.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#37

MOVED by Councillors Snow and Adams to adopt the following:

- **Hfx. Business Park - Traffic - CAO - Pg 1 #4 traffic signals Chain Lake Drive - \$100,000 - Debt.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

#38

- **Dartmouth - Property - Regional Ops - Apr. 29 Council motion re Dartmouth City Hall - \$54,000 - Debt.**

Mr. Larry Corrigan, Commissioner, Corporate Services, advised a Motion was not required for this project as it had already been given approval by Council on April 29, 1997. This was simply included for information purposes.

Mr. Corrigan stated that the total Capital Budget now totalled \$69,199 million.

#39

Councillor Blumenthal referenced Pg 31 #71 - Bloomfield Centre First Floor

Accessibility - \$66,000 - and enquired if this could be considered a priority for the **1998/99 Capital Budget** to which Council agreed.

#40

Councillor Blumenthal requested \$1,500 for a basketball standard for St. Joseph A. MacKay School.

#41

Councillor Schofield requested \$20,000 for Notting Park Playground.

#42

Councillor Schofield requested \$50,000 for Skateboard Facility (Landscaping).

#43

Councillor Schofield requested \$10,000 for John MacNeil School Playground.

#44

Councillor Hetherington requested \$40,000 be put in the **1998/99 Capital Budget** for North Woodside Community Centre.

#45

Councillor Cooper requested \$120,000 for Cole Harbour Place accessibility.

#46

Councillor Hendsbee requested \$25,000 for various playgrounds in District 3.

#47

Councillor Kelly requested \$45,000 for Bedford Playground repairs - Glen Moir School.

#48

Councillor Harvey requested \$22,000 for A. J. Smeltzer School.

Councillor Barnet requested a comprehensive report from staff, with said report to include future Capital and Operating Budgets for the new Central Library. Further, he requested information on the Keshen Bequest and its limitations.

Councillor Adams enquired as to why Auburn Avenue Storm Sewer and Leblin Park Storm Sewer systems were not on the list for this year. The Councillor enquired if both projects could be brought forward for 1998/98.

#49

Councillor Stone requested \$13,000 for Rockingham Playground Equipment.

#50

Councillor Stone requested \$60,000 for Birch Cove roadway.

#51

Councillor Walker requested Pg 34 #32 - Playground Equipment Burton-Ettinger - \$31,000.

#52

Councillor Walker requested Pg 31 #95 -Centennial Arena Washrooms - \$12,000.

#53

Councillor Epstein requested Pg 41 #91303 - Oxford School Playground - \$47,000.

#54

Councillor Cunningham requested \$15,000 for Alderney School Playground.

#55

Councillor Sarto requested Pg 34 #27 - Vocational School Field Realignment - \$50,000.

#56

Councillor Sarto requested Pg 35 #96 - Mt. Edward Road Ballfield Lighting - \$65,000.

#57

Councillor Snow requested \$13,000 for Goff's Ballfield and Playground.

#58

Councillor Dooks requested \$1,200 for Tangier Ballfield Bleacher.

#59

Councillor Dooks requested \$3,000 for Graveyard Maintenance in Rural areas.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Hetherington that the extended Capital Budget list, including the deferred list, be deferred to the 1998/99 Capital Budget, as priority projects.

Councillor Stone stated he would not be supporting the Motion on the floor. Further, he suggested the Capital Budget process was not a fair one.

Councillor Epstein suggested that no Councillor add more than one item to the list at this point in time; further that a moderate amount of funds be allocated to each

Councillor, as an indication of restraint.

Councillor Blumenthal stated he could not support the Motion and suggested that each District be allocated a specific amount of funds.

Councillor Blumenthal requested a staff report on “accessibility” and its priority status in Capital Budget deliberations.

Councillor Cooper suggested that Council directed staff to prepare a Capital Budget which they did. Further, should Council want a set amount allocated for each District, then staff should have been advised.

MOTION DEFEATED.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Uteck and Hetherington to delete the added items from this year’s Capital Budget.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee to amend the Motion to read “that there be a ceiling of \$25,000 for capital projects, for each District, subject to approval of Council.”

As there was no seconder, the Motion was lost.

Councillor Stone suggested \$500,000 for street improvements be reallocated to cover funding required for the added items.

Deputy Mayor Greenough cautioned Council on requesting projects to be added to the list; further, that a ceiling of \$25,000 or \$30,000 for each request should be in order.

MOTION DEFEATED.

Another Motion was put on the floor.

MOVED by Councillor Stone that all added items be included in this year’s Capital Budget and that \$500,000 from street improvements be reallocated to cover funding required for these added costs.

As there was no seconder, the Motion was lost.

Mayor Fitzgerald advised that discussions on the Capital Budget would continue following the Regular Session scheduled for 6:00 p.m.

2. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Uteck to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Following the Regular Council session, Council met as Committee of the Whole to continue Capital Budget discussions. Councillor Downey was present for this part of the meeting, and Councillor Rankin was absent with Regrets.

Mayor Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 8:20 p.m.

The discussion began with **Item #39** of the List of Proposed Budget Modifications.

#39

Councillor Blumenthal stated he was willing to leave Item #39, Access Bloomfield Centre, as a priority item for next year. Council agreed.

Councillor Cunningham questioned if it was appropriate for Council to be funding school yard projects, or, if they should be funded by the School Board. Councillor Walker noted previously this type of project came under Parks and Recreation and not the School Board.

#40-42

Councillor Schofield suggested Item #41, Landscaping - Brule Street, could be put off as a priority item for next year. He requested Council's approval of Item #40, Notting Park Playground Equipment, \$20,000, and Item #42, John MacNeil School Playground Maintenance, \$10,000 to which Council agreed.

#43

Councillor Blumenthal requested that Item #43, St. Joseph A. MacKay School, be increased from \$1,000 to \$6,000 to include \$5,000 for St. Stephen's School. Council agreed with this request.

Councillor Adams and Cooper expressed concern with the process being followed adding these items. Councillor Cooper stated a set amount should be given to each District to ensure equity and fairness.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Hendsbee that Items #39-59 be removed and that \$30,000 be allotted to each District for community projects to ensure fair and

even treatment.

MOTION PUT AND LOST.

#44

Councillor McInroy stated he was prepared to withdraw Item #44, Cole Harbour Access. Since this was a joint project, Councillor Cooper agreed to the withdrawal, and requested the ability to put forward a project on his own. This project is for rehabilitation of the community hall in the Lake Loon/Cherry Brook area as well as a playground in that area. He requested \$20,000 for this project to which Council agreed. This project became Item #60 on this list.

#45

Councillor Hendsbee requested Council's approval of Item #45, Several Playground Projects in District 3, \$25,000, to which Council agreed.

#46

Councillor Mitchell requested Council's approval of Item #46, East St. Margaret's Ballfield Expansion, \$50,000, to which Council agreed.

#47

Councillor Kelly requested Council's approval of Item #47, Bedford Playground Repairs, \$45,000, to which Council agreed.

#48

Councillor Harvey requested Council's approval of Item #48, A. J. Smeltzer School grounds, \$22,000, to which Council agreed.

#49-50

Councillor Stone stated Item #49, Rockingham Playground Equipment, \$13,000, and Item #50, Birch Cove Roadway, \$60,000, are important projects, and requested Council's approval of both, noting the Birch Cove Roadway is a regional project. Council did not agree with approving both projects. Councillor Stone requested approval for Item #50, Birch Cove Roadway, \$60,000 to which Council agreed.

#51-52

Councillor Walker agreed to withdraw Item #52, Centennial Area Washrooms, and requested Council's approval of Item #51, Playground Equipment Ettinger, to which Council agreed.

#53

Councillor Epstein agreed to reduce the funding for Item #53, Oxford School

Playground, from \$47,000 to \$30,000, to which Council agreed.

#54

Councillor Cunningham requested Item #54, Alderney School Playground, be increased from \$15,000 to \$20,000, to which Council agreed.

#55-56

Councillor Sarto requested Council's approval of Item #55, Vocational School Ballfield, \$20,000, and agreed that Item #56, Mt. Edward Ballfield Lighting, \$65,000, be deferred to a priority item next year. Council agreed.

#57

Councillor Snow requested that Item #57, Goffs Ballfield, \$13,000, be increased to \$30,000 to allow for two fields, to which Council agreed.

#58-59

Councillor Dooks requested that Council approve Item #58, Tangier Ballfield Bleacher, \$1,000, and, that Item #59, Graveyard Maintenance, be increased from \$3,000 to \$10,000, to which Council agreed.

Commissioner Corrigan noted the recommended Capital Budget amount was \$69,741,000, and the revised Capital Budget amount is \$69,629,000.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Hetherington that the meeting adjourn at 8:45 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Following the adjournment, Council reconvened in open Council to approve the Capital Budget.

Jane Nauss
ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL CLERK

Patti Halliday
ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL CLERK