

# HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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## HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES November 14, 2000

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly  
Deputy Mayor Jerry Blumenthal  
Councillors: Stephen Streach  
Gary Hines  
Keith Colwell  
Ron Cooper  
Harry McInroy  
Brian Warshick  
Condo Sarto  
Bruce Hetherington  
Jim Smith  
John Cunningham  
Dawn Sloane  
Sue Uteck  
Sheila Fougere  
Russell Walker  
Diana Whalen  
Linda Mosher  
Stephen D. Adams  
Brad Johns  
Bob Harvey  
Len Goucher  
Reg Rankin  
Gary Meade

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor  
Ms. Barb Moar, Assistant Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Patti Halliday, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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**1. INVOCATION**

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

**2. PROCLAMATIONS - None**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 10, 17, 24 & November 7, 2000**

**MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that the minutes of October 10, 17, 24 & November 7, 2000, be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 14.1 Councillor Goucher - Bike Lanes
- 14.2 Councillor Uteck:
  - i) Heritage Incentive Program
  - ii) Air Quality Testing - Penn. Schools
- 14.3 Committee of the Whole Recommendation - Harbour Solutions Ad Hoc Committee
- 14.4 Land Matter - Sale of Lot B, 1 Lyle Street, Dartmouth
- 14.5 Land Matter - Purchase of 7153-55 Elliott Street
- 14.6 Land Matter - Sale of 2697 Sackville Drive to Karen Moore
- 14.7 Deputy Mayor Blumenthal - Christmas Tree - Grand Parade

Councillor Streach requested that Information Item #15 - Memorandum from Director, Financial Services dated November 8, 2000 re: Diesel Fuel, be brought forward to the regular agenda for the November 21st Council meeting.

Councillor Adams requested that Item 12.3.1 Changes to Taxi and Limousine By-Law re: the Issuance of a Taxi Driver's License, and Item 12.4.5 Award of Tender No. 00-285, Leiblin Park, Carnation Crescent Storm Sewers, Part A - Halifax, be moved up on the agenda to precede Item 12 Reports.

**MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the Order of Business, be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**6. SELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

Mayor Kelly called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

**MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Rankin, that Councillor Harvey be nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor.**

**MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Councillor Blumenthal be nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor.**

Mayor Kelly called three times for additional nominations. Hearing none, the following motion was put on the floor.

**MOVED by Councilor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Walker, that nominations cease. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

In support of Councillor Harvey's nomination, Councillor Fougere addressed Council with respect to Councillor Harvey's teaching and Council experience, proven leadership skills, service on Committees and various societies, writing accomplishments, dedication to his community and communication skills. Based on these attributes, Councillor Fougere stated Councillor Harvey would be a steadfast choice as the new Deputy Mayor.

In support of Councillor Blumenthal's nomination, Councillor Adams addressed Council with respect to Councillor Blumenthal's demeanor, respect for others, willingness to help, reliability, professionalism, and dedication and commitment to the residents of his District and all of HRM. In closing, Councillor Adams encouraged members of Council to support the nomination of Councillor Blumenthal for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Responding to his nomination, Councillor Harvey thanked Councillors Fougere and Rankin for the nomination, and pledged what skills, talent and experience he has to the creation of a Council that can effectively deliver the government that the residents of HRM seek. Councillor Harvey stated he will seek to achieve fairness, equity and unity in Council's decisions, no matter what role he plays. In closing, the Councillor stated a high standard has been set for the position of Deputy Mayor, by those who have already occupied that position, and committed to striving to maintain this benchmark.

Responding to his nomination, Councillor Blumenthal thanked Councillors Adams and Hetherington for the nomination, stating he was deeply honoured and gratified to be nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor. The Councillor stated it is a position that he would fulfill to the utmost of his ability, noting the working relationship he has with Mayor Kelly would make the workings of Council more congenial and effective. Councillor Blumenthal stated he would extend the same hard working effort and diligence he puts forth for District 11 to representing all of the residents of Halifax Regional Municipality and filling in for the Mayor, when required. In closing, Councillor Blumenthal stated it would

be a privilege to follow in the tradition of the most recent Deputy Mayor, Councillor Cunningham, who has performed an outstanding job and has been a credit to Council.

Ballots were circulated to members of Council and the vote for the position of Deputy Mayor took place. While waiting for the results of the vote, Council continued with the Order of Business.

Later in the meeting, Mayor Kelly announced that **Councillor Blumenthal was selected as the new Deputy Mayor**. Deputy Mayor Blumenthal expressed thanks to Council for its support.

At this time, Councillor Cunningham took the opportunity to congratulate Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, and expressed thanks to former Mayor Fitzgerald for the opportunities to represent both him and Council over the past year during his term as Deputy Mayor. Councillor Cunningham also expressed thanks to his wife, Donna, members of Council, particularly Councillors Blumenthal and former Councillor Schofield, staff of the Mayor's Office and Councillors' Support Office, for their support and assistance during the past year.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Kelly thanked Councillor Cunningham and his family for the time and dedication put forth during his term as Deputy Mayor.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that the ballots be destroyed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE**

**8. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE**

**9. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE**

**10. PUBLIC HEARING**

**10.1 Harbour City Housing Assistance in Purchasing North Mews**

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration. The report recommended that:

Halifax Regional Municipality approve the sale of its 50% portion of the North Mews land (Lot AM23 shown in Sketch 1 of the staff report dated October 4, 2000) to Harbour City Homes,

- as is
- for less than market value (\$1.00, plus the cost of any required appraisals)

- subject to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's approval of transferring their ownership share over the Harbour City Housing and agreeing to forego all claims on any payments related to the original lease of the land to the former cooperative,
- should Harbour City Homes, in the future, change the operation from non-profit to for-profit by use or by conveying ownership, that HRM be provided compensation for the balances of the estimated market value at this time of \$175,000;
- that the ownership of the land be returned to the Halifax Regional Municipality if Harbour City Housing is unable to secure ownership of North Mews.

Ms. Barbara Nehiley, Advisor, Special Projects, presented the staff report, noting the report recommended, subject to several conditions being met, that HRM sell the lot AM23, which includes the residential housing complex North Mews to Harbour City Homes. Ms. Nehiley stated the purpose of supporting the sale to Harbour City Homes is to maintain the use of the land for affordable housing operated by a non-profit organization, and this was done in light of no response from the Province with regarding to the June 1997 Council motion, attached to the staff report currently before Council.

Ms. Nehiley reported that on November 9, 2000, she received a call from an official of Nova Scotia Housing Services of Department of Community Services. During that conversation, a verbal expression of interest was made, but no details were discussed.

In closing, Ms. Nehiley requested that Council, after the Public Hearing is closed, defer any final decision on the request from Harbour City Homes, until staff have an opportunity to fully explore the nature of the expression of interest by the Province, in writing. Following this, Ms. Nehiley stated staff will attempt to come back to Council within the next several weeks with a report that will hopefully describe the interest and scope of the Province in this regard.

Mayor Kelly called for members of the public wishing to speak in favour or against the recommendation.

**Ms. Nancy Wooden, General Manager, Harbour City Homes**

Ms. Wooden addressed Council regarding this matter, stated Harbour City Homes is very interested in acquiring North Mews because the units will soon be up for public tender. Ms. Wooden noted North Mews started out as a co-op, but was unsuccessful. The units are located nearby the other 195 units belonging to Harbour City Homes, and Harbour City Homes would like to keep these units in the quasi-public sector for affordable housing.

Mayor Kelly called three times for additional speakers. Hearing none, the following motion was put on the floor.

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that the Public Hearing be closed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## COUNCIL DECISION

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Uteck, that Council defer its decision pending receipt of the expression of interest, in writing, from the Province, and a subsequent report from staff to Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **11. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

#### **11.1 Correspondence**

##### **11.1.1 Request for Support, Greater Share of Gas Tax Paid by Nova Scotians - Municipality of the County of Colchester**

- Correspondence from Mr. Michael Smith, Warden, Municipality of the County of Colchester, requesting that HRM support the County of Colchester's request for a greater share of the gas tax money paid by Nova Scotians, and to write to the Prime Minister and local MPs, was before Council for its consideration.

Councillor Hetherington suggested Council should endorse the request from the Municipality of the County of Colchester. Mayor Kelly noted this issue was also raised at a recent meeting with the Premier of Nova Scotia.

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that Council support the County of Colchester's request for a greater share of the gas tax money paid by Nova Scotians, and write a letter to the Prime Minister and local MPs expressing this support. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **11.2 Petitions**

##### **11.2.1 Councillor Cunningham - Susan Place**

Councillor Cunningham served a petition containing approximately 22 signatures of residents expressing concern regarding a recent break-in and robbery at a residence on Susan Place. The petition requested that HRM examine the existence of a pedestrian walkway at the end of the street, which allows a round-the-clock unrestricted flow of people from distant areas to enter and leave what should be a secure cul-de-sac. The petition also favoured the establishment of a Neighbourhood Watch program in this area. The Councillor requested that the petition be referred to staff for a response.

##### **11.2.2 Councillor Sarto - Trillium Housing Co-op**

Councillor Sarto served a petition containing approximately 50 signatures of residents regarding problems experienced by the Trillium Housing Co-op with regard to youth congregating near or on the property creating safety concerns. The Councillor requested that the petition be referred to staff for a response.

### **11.2.3 Councillor Sarto - Portland Street Driveways**

Councillor Sarto served correspondence from a resident expressing concern regarding two residential driveways on Portland Street, and requesting that lines be painted on the road indicating that the driveways not be blocked while waiting for the traffic light. The Councillor requested that the correspondence be referred to staff for a response.

## **11.3 Presentations**

### **11.3.1 General Transportation Issues - Rebecca O'Brien**

Ms. Rebecca O'Brien, TRAX, made a presentation to Council with respect to general transportation issues. A copy of her presentation was submitted for the record.

Mayor Kelly thanked Ms. O'Brien for her presentation, stating staff and Council will take her comments into consideration.

### **11.3.2 Halifax Regional Development Agency - 1999-2000 Annual Report**

- i) Mr. Greg Brown , General Manager**
- ii) Mr. Bill Gard, Chair**

- The 1999-2000 Annual Report for the Halifax Regional Development Agency was before Council for its information.

Mr. Bill Gard, Chair, Halifax Regional Development Agency, acknowledged the members of the HRDA Board and staff present in the gallery, as well as Elaine McFadgen, Communications Coordinator, and Mr. Greg Brown, General Manager.

Mr. Greg Brown, General Manager, Halifax Regional Development Agency, presented an overview of the Agency's 1999-2000 Annual Report to Council. Copies of this report were previously circulated to members of Council.

Mayor Kelly thanked the Halifax Regional Development Agency, and its Board and staff members, for their work and dedication.

Responding to a question of Councillor Colwell regarding staffing costs, Mr. Brown stated approximately 50 percent of the RDA's staff are paid for by core funding, and the remainder are paid through HRDC funding. In response to an additional question of the Councillor, Mr. Brown stated some day-to-day operating activity is funded by non-core funders, such as the federal government, so several positions are not part of the core budget. Councillor Colwell expressed concern with the percentage allocated for administrative costs and questioned why it is almost 30 percent. In response, Mr. Brown stated a fairly large staff is required for this operation to provide justice to the job.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal congratulated the RDA on its work, noting there are visible outcomes to assist the Municipality.

Councillor Streach spoke in support of the RDA and complimented the staff on the format of the annual report.

Responding to a question of Councillor Walker, Mr. Brown stated the RDA currently receives \$200,000 from HRM, \$100,000 from the Province, and \$100,000 from Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

Mayor Kelly thanked Mr. Brown for his presentation, stating the Municipality looks forward to working with the RDA in the future.

As agreed upon during the Approval of the Order of Business, Council deal with Item 12.3.1 Changes to Taxi and Limousine By-Law re: the Issuance of a Taxi Driver's License, and Item 12.4.5 Award of Tender No. 00-285, Leiblin Park, Carnation Crescent Storm Sewers, Part A - Halifax, at this time.

**12.3.1 Changes to Taxi and Limousine By-Law re: the Issuance of a Taxi Driver's License**

- A report from Councillor Stephen Adams, Chair, Taxi & Limousine Committee, regarding the above was before Council for its consideration.

Councillor Adams presented the Committee's report, stating the recommendation is to move First Reading of the By-Law amendment, with a subsequent staff report to be forwarded to Council. Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, advised Council that a Notice of Motion is required to be put forth before the amendment can be given First Reading. In response, Councillor Adams put forth a Notice of Motion for First Reading for December 5, 2000 (see Item 15.1), and requested that a staff report be brought forward at that time.

**12.4.5 Award of Tender No. 00-285, Leiblin Park, Carnation Crescent Storm Sewers, Part A - Halifax**

- A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 00-243, Leiblin Park, Carnation Crescent Storm Sewers, Part A - Halifax, to Force Construction Limited for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$85,681.90, and a Total Project Cost of \$98,534.00, with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated November 8, 2000. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12. REPORTS**

**12.1 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**12.1.1 Councillor Sarto - Traffic Problem - Portland Valley Roadway (deferred Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at the request of Councillor Sarto)**

Councillor Sarto requested a staff report regarding the progress of a solution to address the accelerated traffic problem in the Portland Valley Roadway as a result of the new Home Depot on Baker Drive. Councillor Hetherington requested that a letter also be sent to the Minister of Transportation requesting his position with respect to the proposed Circumferential Highway interchange.

**MOVED by Councillor Sarto, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that this matter be referred to staff for a report and a letter to the Nova Scotia Minister of Transportation. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.1.2 Councillor Fougere - Crossing Guards**

Councillor Fougere requested a staff report to examine the possibility and implications of increasing the wages for crossing guards to a more attractive level to retain adequate staff to provide the necessary protection of the children.

**MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Council request a staff report to examine the possibility and implications of increasing the wages for crossing guards to a more attractive level to retain adequate staff to provide the necessary protection of the children.**

Councillor Hetherington stated caution needs to be exercised in dealing with this issue, and suggested all the implications need to be taken into consideration before making a decision.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal spoke in support of the motion, stressing the importance of providing safety for the children.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Several requests were put forth for additional crossing guards, and the following motion was put on the floor:

**MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that Council request a staff report to address the following crossing guard requests:**

**Councillor Sloane - Gottingen Street or Brunswick Street (St. Pat's Alexander School)**

**Councillor Fougere - Bayers Road and Oxford St.**

**Councillor Harvey - Stokil Drive at Nordic, and Stokil Drive opposite Gertrude Parker School, and a rationalization for three crossing guards at Smokey Drive School**

**Councillor Warshick - Gourok and Caledonia (Ian Forsythe School)**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.1.3 Deputy Mayor Blumenthal**

**i) By-Law Changes**

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal requested a staff report regarding amendments to the Municipal Government Act, and noted that it is his understanding that By-Law Enforcement staff are currently working with Legal Services regarding some possible changes to the Act. The Deputy Mayor suggested some issues that need to be addressed in these changes which included the following: people not paying their fines, removal from streets of vicious dogs, dog owners not purchasing dog licenses, HRM cleaning unsightly premises and charging the property owners, increased fines for by-law infractions and advertising on trees, poles and in the ground. Deputy Mayor Blumenthal stated these changes need to be made as soon as possible.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that this matter be referred to staff for a report on possible amendments to the Municipal Government Act to address the concerns raised. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ii) Ditch - Needham Hill

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal requested a staff report to examine the possibility of installing a ditch around Needham Hill to prevent flooding problems for residents living in the area.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor McInroy, that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

iii) Leaf Sweeping Program

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal congratulated staff working on the leaf sweeping program, and urged the residents of HRM to ensure storm drains are cleared of leaves to prevent flooding problems.

iv) Construction Contracts

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal requested a staff report to address the possibility of awarding next year's capital projects no later than April to ensure the work is completed before the winter.

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

v) Removal of Vehicles During Winter Storms

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal requested that the Clerk read a reminder to the public at the beginning of Council every two weeks during the winter months, commencing next week, of the requirement for vehicles to be removed from the streets during winter storms.

Council agreed with the request.

**12.1.4 Councillor Walker - Fire Services, Use of Drivers from Other Stations**

Councillor Walker requested a staff report on the training provided to Fire Services vehicle drivers who usually work in one station, such as Sackville, and for one day work at another location, perhaps in Halifax. The Councillor questioned what training is in place to ensure that the drivers know all the streets in each District of the Municipality.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that this matter be referred to staff for a report with respect to what training is in place for Fire Services**

drivers filling in at other stations to ensure they are aware of the streets in each District of the Municipality. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **12.1.5 Councillor Rankin - Street Lights**

Councillor Rankin noted that some private roads in HRM currently have street lights, but there is a concern that there is not an enabling provision to install street lights in some of the other private roads, notwithstanding the fact they are paying the same tax rate. The Councillor requested a staff report to address this inequity, particularly in the areas where the costs are sustained through area rates, and the residents are already paying for that service. Councillor Rankin noted the policy is to have lights on every second pole, and requested that staff address the feasibility of applying this policy in all areas of HRM to provide equity. The Councillor also requested that the report address providing adequate street lighting on collector roads. Currently, the policy of every second pole applies to some collector roads, such as the St. Margaret's Bay Road, which are in the urban area. Councillor Rankin suggested extra illumination should be provided in the more dense areas, noting some collector roads in other urban areas have lights on every pole. The Councillor requested that staff also address this in the report.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Meade, that staff be requested to prepare a report on resolving the matter of street lighting on private roads, or lack thereof, as well as the matter of providing adequate street lighting on collector roads, such as upgrading the current light on every second pole to every pole.**

Councillor Cunningham advised Council that it has recently come to his attention that Nova Scotia Power is now using a lower wattage street light that does not provide the same level of illumination as previously provided, which is also a concern of Police Services. The Councillor suggested that this is a matter that should also be addressed in the staff report. Councillor Cunningham noted the issue of lighting on the approach roads around the MacKay Bridge has been brought forward to Council on a number of occasions in the past. The Councillor stated these lights have been out for a very long time creating serious safety concerns, and requested that a letter be sent to the Province to determine the status of rectifying this situation.

Councillor Colwell noted there are a number of residents on private roads in his area that pay area rates for street lights. The Councillor stated noted street lighting is one of the very few services provided to the rural areas, and, therefore, should be provided.

Councillor Sarto noted that, prior to amalgamation, the former City of Dartmouth had embarked on improving and upgrading street lighting, including a program to install a light on each pole on residential streets. The Councillor noted progress has been made in this

area, but noted there are still a number of streets lacking proper illumination, and requested that staff examine this as well.

Councillor Cooper noted, a number of months ago, a commitment was received from Nova Scotia Power to put on extra crews to look after some of these lighting problems. The Councillor stated, in his opinion, there has been no improvement, as lights remain out for months at a time. Councillor Cooper requested that Nova Scotia Power be asked to provide a further update as to the status of this commitment. The Councillor also expressed concern about the lower wattage lights, stating there is a noticeable difference.

Councillor Warshick expressed concern with the lack of lighting on the Magazine Hill, and requested that this be included in the letter to the Province. The Councillor stated lighting in this area is long overdue as it creates serious safety concerns.

Councillor Hetherington noted an item, that was supposed to be coming forward this year in the Operating Budget, was the ability for the Municipality to have its own crew to identify the problem lights. The Councillor noted that Nova Scotia Power used to do this in the past, but that is no longer the case. Councillor Hetherington inquired if this is a proposal that will be coming forth during budget deliberations. Mr. Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, stated he believes there is a report being prepared on this matter to be brought forward to Council at budget time, but stated this would have to be confirmed. Councillor Hetherington expressed concern with the lack of lighting in the area of Caldwell Road, from Hines Road to Atholea Drive, noting staff previously agreed to provide lighting in this area, but it has never be done. The Councillor requested that this also be examined by staff.

Councillor Johns expressed concern with the time it takes to replace lights or have new lights installed, and requested that staff provide an opinion in the report as to what would be an acceptable time frame for these procedures to take place.

Councillor Streach suggested that the Municipality may be getting shortchanged by Nova Scotia Power if the bulb wattage has been substantially reduced, as a pro-rated amount is paid by HRM for each of the bulbs. The Councillor asked that this also be addressed and an explanation requested from Nova Scotia Power.

Councillor Colwell inquired if staff keep track of what lights are out and how long it takes before they are repaired. The Councillor suggested there could be a substantial credit due to the Municipality from Nova Scotia Power, due to the number of lights that are out. Councillor Colwell suggested the service provided by Nova Scotia Power may improve if there is a loss in revenue, and requested that this issue also be addressed in the staff report.

Councillor Smith requested that the inadequate lighting on Pinecrest Drive in District 9 be addressed. The Councillor stated that on a recent walk on this street, it was noted that lighting is only located on every third pole. Councillor Smith noted that Inspector Murray, Police Services, also advised that the lights on this street are only 70 watts and should be 100 watts. The Councillor also expressed concern with the lighting by John MacNeil School, noting these lights were recently repaired after being out for an extended time, but are now out again. Councillor Smith noted he submitted a request today to have these lights repaired.

Councillor Sarto reiterated that the residents in District 7, who have been in contact with him, are requesting that a light be placed on every pole. The Councillor noted the cost for street lighting is factored into the general base rate, and, if it is necessary to area rate this cost, that is the way to go and each District Councillor will have to make the decision for their respective area. Councillor Sarto questioned if Council has the ability to do this, and asked that staff respond to this in the upcoming report, or at a future time.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal requested that staff send a letter to Nova Scotia Power, in conjunction with the staff report, as a number of the concerns raised appear to be their responsibility. The Deputy Mayor noted the Municipality pays a lot of money for its utilities, and a message needs to be sent to Nova Scotia Power regarding the need for better service to be provided.

Closing the debate, Councillor Rankin requested that, in dealing with the numerous issues brought forward, staff not lose sight of the original request.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.1.6 Councillor Goucher - Burnside Expressway**

Councillor Goucher noted one of the major problems currently being experienced in Bedford, and the surrounding area, is the Bedford Highway. The Councillor noted one of the main concerns is there is no access for truck or car traffic off the 100 series highways, other than diverting through Bedford. Councillor Goucher stated that around 1989-1990, the Province brought forth a vision called the Burnside Expressway. Over the years, this project was pushed into the background due to lack of funding, until recently when one part of the northerly end connecting Bedford to Sackville and the Industrial Park was completed. Councillor Goucher asked that a report be requested from the Provincial Government with regard to the present status of this project, noting how critical it is to have proper access which would relieve a huge traffic load from the Bedford Highway.

**MOVED by Councillor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that a report be requested from the Provincial Government with regard to the present status of the Burnside Expressway.**

Mayor Kelly advised Council that a meeting was recently held with the Premier and this was one of the issues on the table. An update was requested at that time, and it is hoped that it will come forward fairly quickly.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.2 MEMBERSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE**

**12.2.1 Board and Committee Citizen Appointments**

- A report from Mayor Peter Kelly, Chair, Membership Selection Committee, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

Councillor Walker suggested, due to the limited number of applications received, the application deadline should be extended to December 15<sup>th</sup> and the advertisement re-run in both the local newspapers.

**MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Regional Council approve the extension of all appointments of sitting members, citizens only, where applicable, to boards, commissions and advisory committees to the end of January 2001; and that the application deadline be extended to December 15<sup>th</sup> and the advertisement re-run in both the local newspapers.**

Councillor Warshick noted the Province is also in the process of making its board appointments, and suggested there may be some confusion among the citizens as to this issue. Also, the Councillor questioned if the Municipality is receiving the best use of its advertising dollar, and stated he will be bringing this up again later in the meeting.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.3 REGIONAL TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMITTEE**

**12.3.1 Changes to Taxi and Limousine By-Law re: the Issuance of a Taxi Driver's License**

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting (see Page 11).

**12.4 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**12.4.1 Tender 00-191 Joint Emergency Operations Centre**

- A staff report prepared for K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that Tender No. 00-191, Joint Emergency Operations Centre, be awarded to Castle Rock Construction Services Inc., for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Total Tender Price of \$135,000, and a Total Project Cost of \$141,750 plus applicable taxes to be funded from Account Number CBC00446, EMO Relocation Project.**

In response to a question of Councillor Goucher, Mr. Barry Manuel, Emergency Measures Coordinator, stated this will have no effect on the 911 Centre in Bedford.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.4.2 Award of Tender No. 00-101 - Dartmouth Common Fence Restoration**

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that Tender No. 00-101, Dartmouth Common Fence Restoration, to Roma Welding Maintenance Ltd. for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$123,153.20, including applicable taxes, plus a 15% contingency for a Total Project Cost of \$141,626.18. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.4.3 Award of Tender No. 00-389, Otter Lake Court Rock Removal, Bayers Lake Business Park, Halifax**

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Whalen, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 00-389, Otter Lake Court Rock Removal, Bayers Lake Business Park, Halifax, to Lever Construction Company Ltd., for materials and services specified at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$45,862.00, and an allowance of 15% for contingencies and testing, for a Total Project Cost of \$52,741.00 with funding provided as outlined in the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated November 6, 2000. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.4.4 Award of Tender No. 00-275, Zinck Avenue Reconstruction, Lower Sackville**

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. **Approve the recovery of Local Improvement Charges for the replacement of the asphalt curb with concrete curb and gutter by an area rate applied to the entire area of District 20.**
2. **Award Tender No. 00-275, Zinck Avenue Reconstruction, Lower Sackville to Tidewater Construction Company for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$439,288.50 and a Total Project cost of \$505,182.00, with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated October 26, 2000. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.4.5 Award of Tender No. 00-285, Leiblin Park, Carnation Crescent Storm Sewers, Part A - Halifax**

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting (see Page 11).

**12.4.6 Kingswood Settlement - Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board**

- A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Meade, that Council approve payment of \$78,362.00 to comply with the Order issued by the Nova Scotia Utilities and Review Board related to Kingswood, with funding to be provided by the Capital Surplus Reserve.**

Responding to a question of Councillor Cooper regarding the shortfall and HRM's 37 percent capital contribution, Ms. Dale MacLennan, Director of Financial Services, stated when this project was originally approved, and the funding was set out, the URB required a reimbursement of \$500 per lot. The result of this, plus the total cost of the project, was a shortfall, which was picked up by the Water Commission and HRM. The funding that was available in the reserve was insufficient for HRM's portion, so the recommendation now before Council provides for that funding to come from the Capital Surplus Reserve.

In response to a further question of the Councillor inquiring if this procedure is a departure from what is normally done, Ms. MacLennan stated the URB requires HRM to pay 37 percent of some portion of the costs. In the past, Ms. MacLennan noted this has been amortized over a long period of time, and included in the annual fee paid for fire protection. This situation is one of the first where the 37 percent capital contribution is actually seen. Ms. MacLennan noted estimates for these costs will be collected in the future to ensure they are built into long-term Capital Budgets, so the funding will not be sought separate from the approval.

Responding to a question of Mayor Kelly regarding the reimbursement, Mr. Carl Yates, General Manager, Halifax Regional Water Commission, stated this was a business decision based on complaint filed with the URB by the developers. Mr. Yates stated the affected parties came together and submitted an application to the URB, with the basic payment before Council, and this was accepted as a resolution to this complaint. In response to a further question of the Councillor regarding the capital contribution, Mr. Yates stated this would apply to any area where there is a new service extension, but is only based on master infrastructure, which would include reservoirs, booster stations, control chambers, and any distribution or transmission main with a diameter greater than 12 inches. Therefore, in cases where there is a basic extension, such as to the Little Salmon River subdivision, there would be no 37 percent fire protection, because the area can be serviced with 8 - 12 inch diameter distribution mains. Councillor Cooper expressed concern that the policy discriminates against some areas of the Municipality because of the size of the subdivision.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.4.7 Street Renaming - Halifax**

- A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that Council approve the renaming of the portion of George Street between Argyle and Brunswick Streets to Carmichael Street.**

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Uteck summarized Ms. Kate Carmichael's involvement within Halifax Regional Municipality, and the boards and committees on which she has served. The Councillor stated the renaming of this street is a very fitting recognition of Ms. Carmichael's commitment to the community at large.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

At this time, Mayor Kelly and Councillor Uteck presented Ms. Carmichael with a street sign reflecting the street renaming. In response, Ms. Carmichael expressed appreciation and thanks to Council, stating the street renaming was a truly an honour.

**12.4.8 Greater Halifax Partnership - Funding Request**

- A staff report prepared for Dale MacLennan, Director, Financial Services, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, that:**

- 1. Additional funding in the amount of \$235,000 be provided for 2000/2001. This money is to be spent to cover expenses incurred on the Smart Communities Project and to pursue the opportunity on the 360 Networks Project. Of this \$235,000.00, \$185,000.00 will be used to cover incurred expenses and \$50,000 will be used to support the new initiative.**
- 2. Council confirm its commitment to the Greater Halifax Partnership and consider increased funding for future years as part of its budget process for 2001/2002.**
- 3. Staff develop a service agreement with the Greater Halifax Partnership that would clarify responsibilities, expected outcomes, and administrative operations such as banking and reporting requirements.**

Responding to a question of Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, Mayor Kelly advised Council that arrangements have been made for the new Councillors to meet with the Greater Halifax Partnership for a briefing regarding its work. Speaking against the motion, the Deputy Mayor stated he believes enough money has been given by the Municipality to the Greater Halifax Partnership. However, Deputy Mayor Blumenthal supported the idea of staff developing a service agreement.

Speaking in favour of the motion, Councillor Streach stated he supports government sponsored economic development.

Also speaking in favour of the motion, Councillor Cunningham stated economic development is a great success story of amalgamation, and the Municipality is well served in this area by the Greater Halifax Partnership.

Councillor Sarto spoke in support of the motion, stating the Partnership played a key role in terms of bringing, expanding and maintaining industry in the Municipality.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Harvey stated there is concrete evidence of economic development and job creation in the last four or five years, noting the Partnership must be responsible for some of this. The Councillor noted the money invested by HRM in the Partnership is a lot less than that spent on economic development prior to amalgamation.

Councillor Rankin spoke in support of the motion, stating supporting the Partnership is an excellent investment on HRM's part, noting the cost to duplicate the service provided would be much higher.

Speaking in favour of the motion, Councillor Johns noted the Partnership has attracted business throughout HRM. Also speaking in support, Councillor Hines stated it is important to represent the rural areas as well as the core area.

Councillor Whalen spoke in support of the work of the Partnership, stating it is fulfilling the economic development responsibilities of Council, and the private sector partners are looking to HRM for leadership.

Councillor Warshick expressed concern with the targeting of the Partnership's advertising campaign, stating he was not impressed with some of the responses received from the Partnership when questioned on this campaign. Although the Councillor supported the ideas of the Partnership, he questioned if the money was being placed in the correct area. Therefore, Councillor Warshick stated he could not support the motion at this time.

Councillor Goucher spoke in favour of the motion, but expressed concern with the possible duplication of service with the Nova Scotia Economic Development Cooperation, and suggested this should be examined for the long term. Mayor Kelly noted that the Municipality has already begun to explore this area.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (Deputy Mayor Blumenthal and Councillor Warshick voted against the motion.)

#### **12.4.9 Request for Proposal #00-057 - Wide Area Network Solutions**

- A staff report prepared for K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Fougere, that Regional Council authorize the award of RFP #00-057 for a Wide Area Network Solution to the highest ranking proponent, MTT, an Aliant Company for a three (3) year period at the following yearly costs (HST extra) for Wide Area Network connectivity, maintenance & monitoring:**

Year One (1)	-	\$258,072.00
Year Two (2)	-	\$253,392.00
Year Three (3)	-	\$248,712.00

The proposal allows for an additional two (2) year extension of the agreement at negotiated yearly rates. This extension is at HRM's sole discretion. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**13. MOTIONS - NONE**

**14. ADDED ITEMS**

**14.1 Councillor Goucher - Bike Lanes**

Councillor Goucher suggested the Municipality is behind other areas of the world in the development of bike lanes, and stated that he looks forward to the forthcoming report from the Bikeways Task Force regarding this issue.

**14.2 Councillor Uteck:**

**i) Heritage Incentive Program**

Councillor Uteck requested a staff report, as soon as possible, regarding a previous motion put forth by Council during last year's budget deliberations to put \$100,000 into the restoration of the Heritage Incentive Program, and to also consider allowing the deed transfer tax on any heritage buildings that are HRM owned and sold to be transferred to the Heritage Incentive Fund, or to allocate a percentage to be determined by staff, and agreed upon by Council, of monies per year to be allocated to the Heritage Incentive Program.

**MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that this matter be referred to staff for a report.**

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Fougere stated the Heritage Incentive Fund will help preserve heritage and make this preservation more affordable for the heritage property owners.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ii) Air Quality Testing - Peninsula Schools**

Councillor Uteck expressed concern with the air quality problems being experienced at L'Ecole Beaufort, causing students to be transferred across the street to Lemarchant St.

Thomas School. The Councillor noted no air quality testing has been done to date, and the students have been advised that the move is now permanent. Councillor Uteck requested that a meeting be arranged, with the School Board and Council, to discuss a number of issues, particularly the lack of communication between the Board and Council, and the Board's plan for the Peninsula schools which need air quality testing, and a plan for their future replacement.

Councillor Hetherington suggested that this matter should be referred to the Joint Committee, consisting of representatives from Council and the School Board, which is in the process of being struck, to be discussed along with the issue of supplementary funding. Councillor Uteck agreed to this suggestion on the condition that the time frame is not extensive due to the urgency of resolving some of these issues.

**MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Fougere, that this matter be referred to the Joint Committee, consisting of representatives from Council and the School Board, which is in the process of being struck, to be discussed along with the issue of supplementary funding. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**14.3 Committee of the Whole Recommendation - Harbour Solutions Ad Hoc Committee**

- This matter was discussed during a Committee of the Whole session held prior to the Regular Session, and was now before Council for ratification.

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, that the current Councillor representation on the Harbour Solutions Ad Hoc Committee remain in place until the process is complete and, any vacancies resulting from the municipal election be filled.**

Councillor Walker noted that any Councillors interested in serving on this Committee should contact the Clerk's Office to have it included on their list of requested Boards and Committees.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**14.4 Land Matter - Sale of Lot B, 1 Lyle Street, Dartmouth**

- This matter was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the Regular Session and was now before Council for ratification.

**MOVED** by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that the request to purchase Lot B, 1 Lyle Street, Dartmouth, be denied. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**14.5 Land Matter - Purchase of 7153-55 Elliott Street**

- This matter was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the Regular Session, and was now before Council for ratification.

**MOVED** by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sarto that:

- 1) Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale for 7153-55 Elliott Street based on the terms contained in the Discussion Section of the staff report; and,
- 2) the cost of acquisition of the property in the amount of \$164,500 + HST be funded from Capital Account CTU00028; and,
- 3) that the staff report not be released to the public until, and if, the recommended transaction is closed. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**14.6 Land Matter - Sale of 2697 Sackville Drive to Karen Moore**

- This matter was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the Regular Session, and was now before Council for ratification.

**MOVED** by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that:

- 1) Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale for the sale of 2697 Sackville Drive to Karen Moore; as shown on Attachment "A" for \$73,000 as settlement in full, plus any additional taxes and adjustments that may be applicable.
- 2) The staff report not be released to the public until, and if, recommended transaction is finally concluded. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**14.7 Councillor Blumenthal - Christmas Tree - Grand Parade**

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal requested that staff examine the possibility of using a 30' white pine tree on Fort Needham Hill, which needs to be taken down, to be used for the

Christmas Tree in Grand Parade. Councillor Washick noted there is a 40' fir tree in District 6, in a similar situation. It was agreed to refer the matter to staff to examine the use of one of these trees for the Grand Parade, and to propose an alternate location for the other tree.

**15. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**15.1 Councillor Adams - Taxi and Limousine By-Law Amendment**

**TAKE NOTICE** that at the regular meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on December 5, 2000, I intend to introduce a motion for First Reading of a change to the Taxi and Limousine By-Law to suspend Section 37, sub-section 3 (a), until such time as some other means of administering the national certification test, or another program can be found that is more reactive to the taxi industry, can be accomplished.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that the meeting adjourn at 8:30 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Patti Halliday  
Assistant Municipal Clerk