

# **HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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## **HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES**

**January 23, 2001**

**PRESENT:**

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

**REGRETS:**

Councillors: Harry McInroy  
Stephen D. Adams

**STAFF MEMBERS:** Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor  
Ms. Vi Carmichael, 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.

2. **PROCLAMATIONS - NONE**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 9 & 16, 2001**

Councillor Fougere noted a typographical error in the title of Item 10.7.1 on Page 16 of the Jan 9<sup>th</sup> minutes. The word "cares" should read "cars".

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, that the minutes of January 9, 2001 be approved, as amended, and the minutes of January 16, 2001 be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

As Councillor McInroy was absent, Item 10.1.3 Councillor McInroy - Highway 107 By-Pass Accident January 12, 2001, was deferred to January 30, 2001.

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 12.1 Councillor Cunningham - Discharge of Firearms in Dartmouth
- 12.2 Councillor Smith - Task Force on Crime
- 12.3 Councillor Sarto - Sign By-Law S-800 (Later in the meeting, this item was deferred to January 30th)
- 12.4 Deputy Mayor Blumenthal - Increased Parking Ticket Violations Regarding Snow Removal
- 12.5 Councillor Colwell - Snow Removal, North Preston
- 12.6 Councillor Mosher - Apartment Building Situation - 36 Abbey Road
- 12.7 Councillor Hetherington - Special Passes for the Blind Metro Transit Users
- 12.8 Councillor Goucher - Private Road, Peruz Court, Bedford

12.9 Councillor Johns - Closure, Patton Road Fire Station

12.10 Property Matter - Fire Station Site, Portland Street and Highway 111, Dartmouth

Councillor Mosher requested that a resident of the Abbey Road apartment building be permitted to speak with respect to this issue, and that it moved up on the agenda to be the first business under Item 10.1. Council agreed with the request.

Councillor Sarto requested that Item 12.3 Councillor Sarto - Sign By-Law S-800, be deferred to January 30<sup>th</sup> to allow him the opportunity to gather further background information.

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - NONE**

6. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE**

7. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE**

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

9. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

9.1 **Petitions**

9.1.1 **Councillor Meade - Crosswalks at Route 333 and Terrance Bay Road**

Councillor Meade served a petition containing approximately 130 signatures of residents requesting that the Department of Transportation upgrade the crosswalks at Route 333 and Terrance Bay. The Councillor requested that this petition be forwarded to the Department of Transportation, HRM Traffic and Transportation Services, and to Mr. Bill Estabrooks, MLA, Timberlea-Prospect.

9.1.2 **Councillor Meade - Crosswalk at Pinedale Park**

Councillor Meade served a petition containing approximately 236 signatures of residents and students of Prospect Bay requesting a crosswalk between the entrance of Prospect Bay Road Foods and the playground at Pinedale Park. The Councillor requested that this petition be forwarded to the Department of Transportation, HRM Traffic and Transportation Services, and

to Mr. Bill Estabrooks, MLA, Timberlea-Prospect.

## **9.2 Presentations**

### **9.2.1 Municipal Concerns - Mr. Peter Stoffer, MP, Sackville-Musquodoboit Valley - Eastern Shore**

Mr. Peter Stoffer, MP, Sackville-Musquodoboit Valley - Eastern Shore, made a presentation to Council regarding concerns of residents in his area with respect to the municipal water system, sewers, crosswalks, sidewalks and other infrastructure issues. Mr. Stoffer expressed appreciation to Mayor Kelly and Councillor Hetherington for their support of the Shearwater Air Base, and circulated a copy of a recent article in the *Ottawa Citizen* regarding the selling of property by DND. An outline of the concerns expressed by Mr. Stoffer was also circulated to Council.

Mr. Stoffer stated if all three levels of government could work together, efforts could be made to ensure infrastructure dollars come to areas, such as HRM, and the residents' concerns can be moved forward.

Mayor Kelly thanked Mr. Stoffer for his comments and asked for his support to bring infrastructure dollars forward to HRM.

Responding to a question of Councillor Harvey, Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, stated it is his understanding that the infrastructure project list was sent to all HRM MLAs and MPs, and agreed to ensure that this was done.

### **9.2.2 Bedford West Master Plan:**

- 1) Ms. Colleen Mercer Clarke, CBCL**
- 2) Mr. Michael Laycock**

Ms. Colleen Mercer Clarke and Mr. Michael Laycock made a presentation to Council regarding the Bedford West Master Plan. Copies of the presentation were circulated to Council. Ms. Clarke advised Council the objective of the presentation was as follows:

- C Advise Council of the status of the project
- C Request consent from Council for Annapolis to undertake master planning of its Bedford West Lands, and to
- C Seek agreement from Council that master planning of Bedford West be undertaken concurrently, and in accordance with, HRM's existing planning initiatives in this area, including the Prince's Lodge project, and the proposed new recreation facility.

**MOVED by Councillor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that the presentation, specifically the objectives, be referred to staff for a report and recommendation.**

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Rankin stated it is his understanding that the thrust of the presentation was that there would be a balanced approach to the study of this overall region, and requested that the staff report address the question of the Annapolis lands being concurrently examined with the other lands up for consideration. Councillor Whalen noted the lands being discussed to be developed concurrently have been referred to as Bedford South Prince's Lodge, in HRM Planning documents. The Councillor stated the older community of Prince's Lodge finds this confusing, and she clarified that this is a different community and not the original Prince's Lodge. Councillor Whalen noted there has been a request that it be given another name.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10. REPORTS**

**10.1 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

As agreed to during the Approval of the Order of Business, Council dealt with Item 12.6 Councillor Mosher - Apartment Building Situation - 36 Abbey Road, at this time.

**12.6 Councillor Mosher - Apartment Building Situation - 36 Abbey Road**

Councillor Mosher stated 370 residents were left homeless as a result of the recent Abbey Road fire. At this time, a representative of the residents of this building addressed Council regarding the situation, as agreed to during the Approval of the Order of Business

**Mr. Winston Rodrigues, Representative of the Dislocated Tenants of 36 Abbey Road**

Mr. Rodrigues suggested if the same number of residents of a subdivision suddenly became homeless, a much greater response would have been received from the community at large. However, since there was no significant visual evidence of the fire, it has not received the same level of attention.

Mr. Rodrigues stated the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and Social Services came to the residents' immediate assistance and took care of the less fortunate. However, at present, the residents are experiencing a great deal of problems with the owners of the building, who Mr. Rodrigues stated do not understand the severe hardships, both personal and financial, currently being experienced by the residents. As of today, Mr. Rodrigues stated there has

been no work completed on the building to have it repaired so the residents can return. Mr. Rodrigues urged Council to come to the assistance of the residents, in any possible manner, to help them get back into their homes as soon as possible.

Councillor Mosher stated most of the residents are currently staying with friends or relatives, but this is just a short term solution. The Councillor noted when the evacuation first occurred, HRM's Emergency Measures and other agencies set up a temporary shelter for the tenants at the Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre. Councillor Mosher commended the efforts of Mr. Barry Manuel, EMO Coordinator, in his efforts during this response, as well as the numerous other organizations that came to the aid of the residents.

Councillor Mosher stated the displaced residents are having difficulty finding temporary or alternate permanent residences in the general area at the same rents. The Councillor stated the property owners have only offered the tenants one half month's rent, return of their damage deposit, plus a one time \$100 payment for their difficulties. Councillor Mosher stated this is to cover everything such as spoiled food, unexpected moving expenses, other unplanned costs and all the hardship they have endured. With regards to the lease, the Councillor stated the legal counsel for the owners has not provided any specifics but they did state the realistic time line to have the problems rectified would be the end of February 2001, if no further problems arise.

Councillor Mosher stated this is a serious situation, and there is at least a moral responsibility, if not a legal one, for this landlord to be doing more for the tenants. The residents have formed an association and Councillor Mosher advised that she has been trying to help them by facilitating talks between the various parties to obtain the answers they need, as well as obtaining donated legal services for the association. However, Councillor Mosher stated most of the required information can only be obtained from the landlord, the Nova Scotia Residential Tenancies Board, and the Provincial Department of Community Services. The Councillor expressed disappointment that the provincial agencies charged with the responsibility for these matters do not seem to be taking this responsibility.

Councillor Mosher stated a public meeting has been organized for Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m., and official invitations were extended, by courier, to the Honourable Peter Christie, Minister of Community Services, and the Honourable Angus MacLlssac, Minister responsible for the Residential Tenancies Board. The Councillor stated HRM is doing everything it can to help the residents, but it can only facilitate as the real responsibility lies with the landlord, Top of the Mountain Developments, and the Province.

Councillor Goucher spoke in support of Councillor Mosher's objectives, stating he hopes the appropriate provincial departments come to the aid of the residents.

Responding to a question of Councilor Sloane, Councillor Mosher explained the damage to the building and the extensive electrical wiring problems. Councillor Sloane commended Councillor Mosher for her efforts on behalf of the residents.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal suggested a motion should be put forth that a letter be sent to the Minister of Community Services Government on behalf of Council to demand some action from the Province.

**MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that a letter be sent to all the applicable provincial departments demanding that assistance be provided from the provincial level.**

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Hines stated he would personally contact the MLA for his area, the Honourable Peter Christie, Minister of Community Services, in support of the residents.

Responding to a question of Councillor Harvey, Mr. Meech advised Council that it is his understanding that HRM staff have already indicated a willingness to expedite and facilitate the approval process for any necessary permits for the repair of the building.

Councillor Fougere asked that the letter also request information regarding what Community Services can or cannot do in emergency cases like this. Mayor Kelly indicated that he has already spoken to the Minister with regards to obtaining a Memorandum of Understanding of who is responsible for exactly what, so this process has already commenced.

Closing the debate, Councillor Mosher clarified it is not only long and short term accommodation that is needed, but immediate information is required regarding legal issues involving the leases. The Councillor noted the present day leases have higher rents, and there is a question about possible rent increases for those with older leases, if they return to the building. Councillor Mosher stated this information can only come from the Province, and not HRM. The Councillor stated a protocol is needed to be put in place to identify who is responsible for what and to ensure firm commitments are made and kept.

Mayor Kelly stated he would send the correspondence and the Municipality will continue to work with the residents to get the necessary answers as quickly as possible.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.1.1 Councillor Hines:**

**i) HRM Position in 3P School Contract**

Councillor Hines raised concerns regarding responsibilities that have come out of the 3P School process that may belong to HRM, such as those pertaining to sidewalks leading to the school, approach roads, and the intersection at the end of the Fall River Road/Windsor Junction Road. In order to address the issues of the residents, the Councillor requested a staff report to clarify HRM's responsibilities with regards to being a partner in this contract.

**MOVED by Councillor Hines, seconded by Councillor Meade, that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ii) Operation of Privately Owned Water Systems in HRM**

Councillor Hines raised concerns regarding recent problems arising from Walkerton, Ontario, which have created legal implications for those who administer privately owned water systems. The Councillor noted there are two in his area, Miller Lake Subdivision, and MacPherson Drive. To date, Councillor Hines stated Miller Lake Subdivision has been partially addressed by the Halifax Regional Water Commission. However, Walkerton has now put this into an emergency situation, and the operators of the private systems are no longer able to operate their systems because they do not qualify under the requirements of the Department of Environment. Councillor Hines stated MacPherson Drive has 18 homes and has been providing its own water service and treatment. They have suddenly been advised that a boil water order is in place, and their operator can no longer perform the services of chlorination and filtration. The Councillor noted this community, in legal terms, is now without water service. Councillor Hines requested a staff report examining the possibility of having HRM staff perform the water treatment for these two areas until such time it can be rectified.

**MOVED by Councillor Hines, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.1.2 Deputy Mayor Blumenthal - Memorial Observance of the Halifax Explosion: December 6, 1917**

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal requested a staff report examining the possibility of the Halifax Regional Municipality observing the anniversary of the Halifax Explosion on December 6<sup>th</sup> of each year by lowering the flags at all municipal offices, including the Police and Fire stations, in honour of those who lost their lives and those who suffered injury.

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

**10.1.3 Councillor McInroy - Highway 107 By-Pass Accident, January 12, 2001**

This item was deferred to January 30<sup>th</sup> during the Approval of the Order of Business.

**10.2 CHEBUCTO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**10.2.1 Project 00098 - Herring Cove Area Settlement and Servicing Strategy (First Reading and Setting Date for Public Hearing - Feb. 13)**

C A report from the Chebucto Community Council regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Regional Council:**

- 1. Give First Reading and hold a Public Hearing on February 13, 2001 on amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy for Planning District 5 (Chebucto Peninsula) as shown in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated January 10, 2001 (revised).**
- 2. Give First Reading and hold a Public Hearing on February 13, 2001 on amendments to the Land Use By-Law for Planning District 5 (Chebucto Peninsula) as shown in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated January 10, 2001 (revised).**
- 3. Give First Reading and hold a Public Hearing on February 13, 2001 on amendments to the Subdivision By-Law for the former Halifax County Municipality as shown in Attachment 3 of the staff report dated January 10, 2001 (revised).**

Councillor Cooper requested that, before the Public Hearing is held, staff review this with regard to the implications for the costs of servicing these amendments, and whether it, in fact, meets the policies HRM has in place with regard to cost of servicing. The Councillor also noted there are new initiatives introduced in these amendments that would drastically change the costs.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.3 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**10.3.1 First Reading By-Law T-205, An Amendment to By-Law T-200, Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organizations (2000-2001)**

- C A report from the Grants Committee regarding the above, was previously circulated to Council on January 16, 2001.

**MOVED by Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that By-Law T-205, An Amendment to By-Law T-200, Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organizations (2000-2001) be given First Reading. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.3.2 Tender 00-132 Two (2) Refuse Transfer Trailers c/w Top Opening Door and Auxiliary Gasoline Engine**

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

**MOVED by Councillor Sarto, seconded by Cooper, that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 00-132, Two (2) Refuse Transfer Trailers c/w Top Opening Door and Auxiliary Gasoline Engine to Somerset Welding and Steel Inc. (J & J Truck Bodies & Trailers Div.) for a tender price of \$62,716.86 (US dollars) per trailer unit for a total tender price of \$200,748.66 (including net HST at current exchange rates) with funding as per the Budget Implications section of the staff report dated January 16, 2001.**

Councillors Cooper and Colwell expressed concern with the unit price being quoted in US dollars and how the exchange rate would affect the total price. Mr. Jim Bauld, Diversion Planning Coordinator, agreed to get confirmation in writing from Procurement as to what the actual final total price would be for this tender, based on the exchange rate, when it is finalized.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.3.3 Tender 00-274 Shore Road Reconstruction - Eastern Passage**

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

**MOVED by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 00-274, Shore Road Reconstruction - Eastern Passage, to Ocean Contractors Limited for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$222,237.00, and a Total Project Cost of 255,573.00, with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated January 9, 2001.**

Responding to a question of Councillor Hines, Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon agreed that staff could prepare a report again this year regarding the overall average use of contingency funds.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.3.4 Infrastructure Projects - Additional Requests (supp report)**

C A supplementary report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer regarding the above, was circulated to Council.

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

- 1. HRM include its portion of the Shore Road Erosion project as an infrastructure project on the Criteria A list; and**
- 2. Council confirm that the Greenvale School project should have been on the Criteria B list (this was mistakenly presented as a non-profit project, accordingly, the application has already been forwarded to the Province).**

In response to a question of Councillor Whalen, Council agreed that the matter of the status of a water and sewer project for the residents of the Prince's Lodge be referred to staff for a report.

In response to concerns expressed by Councillor Fougere regarding Chebucto School, Mr. Meech agreed to have staff review the terms of agreement regarding the sale of Chebucto School to determine if it would fit the policy for infrastructure funding.

Responding to a question of Councillor Uteck, Mr. Meech indicated there will still be an opportunity to resubmit projects for possible infrastructure funding.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.3.5 Diesel Fuel (supp report)**

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

**MOVED by Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that the fuel escalation cost for the residential waste haulage contracts be charged to the Operations Stabilization Reserve. This expenditure is estimated to be approximately \$90,500.00**

(net HST) for the last two quarters of 00/01 fiscal year dependent upon the price of diesel fuel. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.3.6 RFP 00-113R - Lease of a Two Colour Off-Set Printing Press**

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

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Council authorize the award of Proposal #00-113R to Heidelberg Canada, for a sixty month lease agreement for a new, two colour off-set press at a monthly lease payment of \$1,572.52, plus HST, with funding provided as outlined the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated January 15, 2001.**

Ms. Geri Kaiser, Director, Shared Services, responded to questions of Councillor Warshick regarding this equipment.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.3.7 Participation in FCM's National Housing Policy Options Team (NHPOT)**

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

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Walker, that HRM agree to participate in the National Housing Policy Options Team (NHPOT, to assign a senior staff person to assist the Mayor in the meetings of the NHPOT, and to contribute \$0.02 per capita to the work of the NHPOT. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**11. MOTIONS**

**11.1 Councillor Hines**

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

**WHEREAS Tidewater Quarry has forwarded a proposal to the Minister of Environment asking for removal of all restrictions of production limits;**

**WHEREAS** the Quarry currently operates at a limited output and is monitored to ensure that the operating conditions recommended by the Environment Control Council, and agreed to by Tidewater Quarry are met;

**WHEREAS** the residents of the Community of Waverley have expressed genuine concern over the proposed removal of these restrictions. The residents have not supported the expansion of the Quarry in the past, and they do not support the expansion now. The expansion of the Quarry could place the lakes, forests, and environment in a state of peril. The increased truck traffic and extra weight loads will have a significant impact on our road system;

**AND WHEREAS** the residents of the Community of Waverley believe that a full environmental assessment and an opportunity for public participation are needed before the Minister of the Environment considers exceeding the limits currently in place;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT** Halifax Regional Council support the residents of the community of Waverley by asking the Minister of the Environment to provide an opportunity for public input and proceed with a full environmental assessment. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **12. ADDED ITEMS**

### **12.1 Councillor Cunningham - Discharge of Firearms in Dartmouth**

Councillor Cunningham noted there has been a great deal of publicity regarding the number of recent incidents in Dartmouth involving the discharge of firearms. The Councillor commended Police Services for their work on this issue, and in the quick arrest of those involved in these crimes. Councillor Cunningham assured the residents that these incidents were not random and Dartmouth is still a safe place to live.

### **12.2 Councillor Smith - Task Force on Crime**

Councillor Smith spoke in support of Councillor Cunningham's comments on the previous item, and he requested that Council set up a task force to investigate the recent crime spree in Dartmouth as well as the need for a community police office in District 9 - Albro Lake/Harbourview and the need for additional police officers. The Councillor stated it is time for the Municipality to become pro-active in its fight against crime. Councillor Smith asked that the suggestion of a task force be forwarded to the Board of Police Commissioners for a response and recommendations to address these problems, particularly in District 9.

**MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that this matter be referred to the Board of Police Commissioners to examine the formation of a task force on crime and/or other recommendations to help reduce the crime rate, particularly in District 9.**

Councillor Hines stated he did not believe the added cost of a task force is entirely necessary, and the issue can be addressed by Police Services staff with guidance from Council.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Sloane noted her area faces similar problems.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal also spoke in support of the Board of Police Commissioners examining this issue to determine if a task force is necessary.

Councillor Sarto stated there is a perception in the community that police are understaffed. The Councillor requested that the report include information regarding the number of officers and cars that are on each shift.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Colwell stated a citizens on patrol program initiated in an area of his District has proven to be very successful and suggested the Board could examine this idea as well.

Although he supported the initiative, Councillor Streach stated he was not certain that a task force was the right answer.

Councillor Uteck suggested Council wait for the Operating Budget deliberation to address this issue, rather than setting up a task force.

Councillor Harvey spoke in support of the initiative, but stated it cannot be focussed on only one area and needs to include all of HRM, or perhaps the urban core in this situation. The Councillor suggested the recent incidents should be examined to determine if there are patterns of people being convicted. If so, Councillor Harvey suggested it may provide some idea of social initiatives to take to prevent certain crimes in the future.

Councillor Warshick spoke in support of the referral to the Board of Police Commissioners.

Closing the debate, Councillor Smith stated this area has been crime infested for many years, noting there were 41 break and enters in one month last year.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.3 Councillor Sarto - Sign By-Law S-800**

During the Approval of the Order of Business, this item was deferred to January 30<sup>th</sup>.

**12.4 Deputy Mayor Blumenthal - Increased Parking Ticket Violations Regarding Snow Removal**

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal suggested that staff explore the possibility of increasing the fine for parking violations regarding snow removal to \$70 and to determine if HRM has the legislative ability to hire a towing company to automatically tow away vehicles that are in violation of the regulations.

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

Councillor Cooper noted some people are still under the impression they can park on the streets anytime during the day.

Councillor Warshick asked that the staff report also examine the option of allowing cars to park on one side of the street while the other side is being cleared, such as is the case in Boston.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.5 Councillor Colwell - Snow Removal, North Preston**

Councillor Colwell expressed concerns regarding snow removal problems recently experienced in North Preston. The Councillor noted this was unusual for this area, and put forth the following motion:

**MOVED by Councillor Colwell, seconded by Councillor Cooper, that this matter be referred to staff for a report regarding the unusual snow removal problems experienced in North Preston during the recent major snowstorm.**

Councillor Cunningham expressed concerns regarding sidewalk clearing in Dartmouth and asked that the report also address the sidewalk clearing policy and to indicate the length of time that should be expected to have the sidewalks cleared following a major storm.

Councillor Smith requested that the report address emergency plans for broken down snow clearing equipment. Councillor Sarto asked that it also be clarified if equipment can move from one area to another once the work in the first area is completed.

Councillor Sloane reminded the public to exercise caution when driving due to the high snowbanks.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.6 Councillor Mosher - Apartment Building Situation - 36 Abbey Road**

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

**12.7 Councillor Hetherington - Special Passes for the Blind Metro Transit Users**

Councillor Hetherington raised concerns with the possibility of blind Metro Transit users losing their free bus passes in June, and put forth the following motion:

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that this matter be referred to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, in consultation with the CNIB, for a report recommending a policy that HRM could use with respect to special passes for disabled users of Metro Transit. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.8 Councillor Goucher - Private Road, Peruz Court, Bedford**

With the use of photographs, Councillor Goucher illustrated a snow clearing problem that is being experienced on Peruz Court, Bedford. This private road is under contract development agreement which requires the snow removal to take place. The Councillor noted the developer owns over half of the 27 properties on this street, and appears to be unwilling to cooperate with the remaining residents to resolve this situation. Therefore, Councillor Goucher put forth the following motion:

**MOVED by Councillor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Cooper, that this matter be referred to staff to contact the developer of this area, which is under contract development agreement, and proceed as quickly as possible to have the snow clearing situation on this private road rectified. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.9 Councillor Johns - Closure, Patton Road Fire Station**

Councillor Johns expressed concern with the closure of the Patton Road Fire Station, and put forth the following motion:

**MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that the matter of the closure of the Patton Road Fire Station be referred to staff for a report to contain a current history of all repairs to the station, future plans, how long will this**

area receive inferior fire protection coverage, and what are the plans for the Beaver Bank Villa Station. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12.10 Property Matter - Fire Station Site, Portland Street and Highway 111, Dartmouth**

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

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale with Pinnacle Homes Limited for the purchase of lands known as Lot HRM-1 Portland Street and Highway 111, Dartmouth, based on the key terms and conditions outlined in the January 15, 2001 staff report, and that Council approves, in time, the sale of the 86 King Street and 331 Pleasant Street subsequent to closure. Further, that the January 15th staff report can be released to the public. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.****

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE**

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that the meeting adjourn at 8:10 p.m. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.****

Vi Carmichael  
Municipal Clerk