#### HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

#### HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES October 9, 2001

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly Deputy Mayor Jerry Blumenthal Councillors: Stephen Streatch 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. George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor

Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk

Ms. Patti Halliday, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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- 13.1 Councillor Smith Rezoning Wright's Cove
- 13.2 Property Matter Land Acquisition, Parcel PID #400443275, Prospect High Head
- 13.3 Property Matter Property Sale: 115 Lakeview Road Halifax Regional Search & Rescue
- 13.4 Property Matter Lease of Land 57 Gloria Avenue, Sackville
- 13.5 Legal Matter Settlement of Claim
- 13.6 Councillor Cooper Information Item #8 Parks & Recreation Services, Park Development Project Status Report and Staffing Update

#### 1. INVOCATION

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Invocation being led by Councillor Whalen.

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#### 2. PROCLAMATIONS - None

#### 3. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 25, 2001</u>

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that the minutes of September 25, 2001, be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 4. <u>APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS</u> <u>AND DELETIONS</u>

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 13.1 Councillor Smith Rezoning Wright's Cove
- 13.2 Property Matter Land Acquisition, Parcel PID #400443275, Prospect High Head
- 13.3 Property Matter Property Sale: 115 Lakeview Road Halifax Regional Search & Rescue
- 13.4 Property Matter Lease of Land 57 Gloria Avenue, Sackville
- 13.5 Legal Matter Settlement of Claim
- 13.6 Councillor Cooper Information Item #8 Parks & Recreation Services, Park Development Project Status Report and Staffing Update

Councillor Warshick also requested that the Mayor write a letter of congratulations, on behalf of Council, to the Halifax King of Donairs, for capturing gold at the men's Canadian senior soccer championship, and to the Scotia Olympics for winning silver in the women's senior soccer championships.

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that the Order of Business, Additions and Deletions, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES None
- 6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION NONE
- 7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION NONE

#### 8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - From October 2, 2001

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#### 8.1 <u>Harbour Solutions Proposal Presentation</u> <u>Claudiane Ouellet-Plamondon</u> <u>Benjamin Beckwith</u>

Mr. Benjamin Beckwith and Ms. Claudiane Ouellet-Plamondon made a presentation to Council with respect to a harbour solutions proposal. A copy of their presentation was provided for the record.

Mayor Kelly thanked Mr. Beckwith and Ms. Ouellet-Plamondon for their presentation.

On a Point of Personal Privilege, Councillor Mosher expressed concern with stickers placed in the City Hall washrooms regarding no P-3 privatization of the sewage treatment plant options. The Councillor stated she understands people's enthusiasm regarding this project, but expressed concern with the defacing of public property, and stated that she hopes this does not continue in the future. Councillor Mosher also noted that on April 10, 2001 she requested a staff report examining sewage treatment options, including solar aquatics.

#### 8.2 <u>Tender 01-128 Three (3) Harley-Davidson Police Motorcycles</u>

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

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that Council authorize the award of Tender #01-128 for the purchase of three (3) 2202 Model FLHTPI Police Motorcycles to Hi Tech Toys at a unit price of \$23,307.95 (tax included) per unit for a total project cost of \$69,923.85 (tax included). Funds are available in Capital Account #CVK00090 title Police Fleet Replacement Unmarked. All prices include the non-refundable portion of the HST.

Responding to a question of Councillor Sloane, Supt. Chris McNeil, Police Services, stated the retired motorcycles will be auctioned as surplus for approximately 70-80 percent of the original value.

In response to a question of Councillor Sarto, Supt. McNeil stated the motorcycles will be used for traffic enforcement as well as escort duties.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8.3 <u>Tender #01-086 - New Rescue Pumper for the Beaver Bank Fire Department</u>

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

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

- 1. Council approve an increase to the capital project, account #CVF00687 in the amount of \$76,575.38 (new gross \$282,575.38) to be taken from accounts HROP-3427 (\$61,380.00) and #F731-8014 (\$15,195.38).
- 2. Council authorize the award of Tender #01-086, one (1) Rescue Pumper for Beaver Bank Fire Dept. from the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Carl Thibault Truck Inc. at a cost of \$282,575.38 (tax included) with funding provided as outlined in the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated September 21, 2001. All prices include the non-refundable portion of the HST.

Councillor Warshick inquired if staff looked at the possibility of re-tendering this in light of the events of September 11, 2001 in the United States. In response, Mr. Peter Ross, Manager, Procurement, stated he did not believe there would be a decrease in the cost if the tender was reissued today. With respect to any upcoming orders, Mr. Ross advised that Procurement staff is near the end of most major purchases for the time being.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8.4 HRM Community Trails - Nova Scotia Trails Act

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

## MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Meade, that Council pass a resolution recommending the Province designate community trails in HRM under the Trails Act. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8.5 Lacewood Drive Sidewalk, District 16, Halifax

C A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration. The report recommended that the installation of a sidewalk for Lacewood Drive be brought forward for consideration as part of the review and approval of the 2002/03 Capital Budget.

C Background information regarding Councillor Whalen's request for the Lacewood Drive Sidewalk was circulated to Council.

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With the use of photographs, Councillor Whalen illustrated the location for the proposed sidewalk on Lacewood Drive, and reviewed the background information, which was circulated to Council, making the following points:

- C The sidewalk was recognized as a need in the 1999-2000 Industrial Park Budget. The funds were dropped because the province was not about to do the road works.
- C The 2001-2002 budget did not include any projects for the Bayers Lake Business Park.
- Council approved \$220,000 to address the traffic congestion at the entrance to the park, but the \$95,000 sidewalk was dropped due to the actual cost of the project being 50 percent more than what was budgeted.
- C On September 25, 2001, the Councillor asked staff to look at all available reserves and sources of funds to reinstate the sidewalk project.
- C Staff is recommending that this project be put off until next year's capital budget.

Councillor Whalen stated she has requested funding from two reserves: CRESPOOL and/or the Business Parks Expansion Reserve, but these avenues are not available for this project. The Councillor stated the final possible funding source would be from the existing capital budget, and put forth the following motion:

#### MOVED by Councillor Whalen, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Council ask staff to identify \$95,000 in the approved projects budget that have not yet been undertaken and that funds identified be used to complete the sidewalk component of Tender No. 01-277 as part of the Lacewood Drive modification works.

Speaking against the motion, Councillor Hetherington stated if this motion is adopted, Council will need to be prepared for similar requests to come forth from other Councillors for safety issues in their own districts. The Councillor stated there is a process to follow, and he cannot support this expenditure over and above which has already been approved.

With regard to the CRESPOOL account, Mr. George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, stated the project was not advanced because staff did not feel the additional funding on which it was based would be received from the provincial government. With respect to whether or not the project goes forward this year, Mr. McLellan advised that it is an unbudgeted item and there is a policy to go back to existing appropriations which is what the Councillor is requesting. Mr. McLellan stated that he and Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Public Works and Transportation Services, examined this project very seriously and, in staff's view, there is no project in place that has less priority than this project. Mr. McLellan noted that

staff can go outside the budget, which has been done a few times this year, but this would create a deficit pressure and staff would not recommend this action with respect to this issue.

Although he supported the sidewalk project, Councillor Goucher stated if it is approved now the funding will be taken from another project. The Councillor stated he would be willing to fully support the request during the regular Capital Budget process next year as there is no question that the sidewalk is needed.

Speaking against the motion, Councillor McInroy expressed concern with advancing the proposal without knowing from where the funds will come.

Also speaking against the motion, Deputy Mayor Blumenthal stated Council set up policies and procedures for capital projects and they must be followed. The Deputy Mayor stated the Bayers Lake Park was originally supposed to be industrial, but became commercial. Deputy Mayor Blumenthal suggested the provincial government or the businesses in the park should be approached to provide some funding for this sidewalk.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Adams stated this project is for an area that services many citizens of HRM, and it is a safety issue and the amount required is not a large amount in the scheme of things. The Councillor stated he would support Councillor Whalen with respect to this project. Councillor Adams noted the staff report also includes three alternatives.

Councillor Sloane stated she could not support the motion based on the double entry accounting system.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Walker noted Council previously approved other capital projects that were not on the approved list. The Councillor stated this particular sidewalk is being requested to resolve a known safety problem, and Council can direct staff to find funding for this project.

Councillor Smith stated this is a serious safety concern, but the business park and area should be paying for the solution. Responding to a question of the Councillor, Mr. McLellan stated Alternative #2 in the staff report, which involved a further extension of the already approved area rate, was not accepted to Councillor Whalen. Councillor Smith stated he could support the project if the money was from the District or the Bayers Lake Business Park.

Responding to a question of Councillor Streatch, Mr. McLellan stated this project was in previous Capital Budgets for future years, and it was dropped when the provincial cost sharing did not appear likely. Mr. McLellan further stated that the remaining capital projects for this year are of similar urgency and, therefore, staff will not recommend that they be replaced with

this project. Councillor Streatch stated he supports Councillor Whalen on this project and hopes that staff will provide Council with an opportunity to move it forward.

Councillor Harvey noted Council is not being asked to add to the budget, only to look at having this project, which is of regional importance, done this year. Therefore, he stated he would support the motion.

Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Public Works and Transportation Services, stated the traffic congestion project was a new project added this year, and staff attempted to complete as much of it as possible. However, a portion of the project had to be dropped due to increased costs. Mr. Dhillon noted that staff hopes to call some tenders earlier next year to help speed up some of the capital projects. A staff report regarding this will be forthcoming to Council in about six weeks time.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Johns stated there are alternatives available and Council should direct staff to follow through with them.

Responding to a question of Councillor Uteck, Mr. Dhillon stated if this sidewalk was approved, staff would be looking at a two or three week extension to the project, depending on weather conditions.

Councillor Hetherington stated the matter has to be put into perspective and it comes down to rules.

Councillor Warshick inquired if Councillors Whalen and/or Walker have any district capital funds left that could be applied towards this project. Both responded that they do not have \$95,000. Mr. Dhillon clarified that Public Works and Transportation Services has no money for this project, and there are no projects in the area that can be dropped to do this project in their place. Councillor Warshick suggested the project could be done in early March or April which is not a long time to wait.

Councillor Rankin stated this is an HRM wide project and Council has certain obligations to provide safety, and, therefore, he would support the motion.

Councillor Streatch advised that he has \$25,000 allocated for a project that is not going forward this year, and he would be willing to reallocate this funding towards the Lacewood sidewalk project.

Councillor Whalen reiterated that she asking that staff look for projects, such as the one suggested by Councillor Streatch, that will not be done this year, and she is not asking for new money. The Councillor stated she respects HRM's accounting rules, but this is a very allowable avenue for her to pursue. Councillor Whalen further stated that the Bayers Lake

Business Park is not an industrial park, and it is right on the edge of a huge expanding residential area. Many residents in this area work and use the services in the park. The Councillor stated the argument of whether or not the park was meant to be an industrial or business park is getting tiresome, and suggested she may later request a staff report on the history of the park so the issue can be put to rest once and for all. With respect to the weather, Councillor Whalen stated no matter what the weather conditions are people will still be walking to the park and putting themselves in danger. In terms of the importance of this project compared to others, the Councillor noted for \$95,000 HRM can provide a sidewalk that will serve hundreds, if not thousands, of residents.

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Councillor Goucher suggested that since this project is outside the Capital Budget process, it should move ahead based on an area rate, and put forth the following amendment:

## MOVED by Councillor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the cost of the Lacewood Drive sidewalk project be funded by an area rate.

Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, advised that the amendment is contrary to the original motion as Councillor Whalen does not support the implementation of an area rate. Based on this advice, Councillor Goucher withdrew his motion.

#### MOTION WITHDRAWN.

Councillor Uteck noted if this motion is approved, and a project in another area gets cancelled, that project is not guaranteed next year and it will have to be considered with all other projects.

Mr. McLellan stated there is nothing wrong with what Councillor Whalen is proposing, but he noted that the residents have expectations with respect to the projects that will be disrupted if this motion passes. Mr. McLellan stated he sees more of an issue in the response than in the request.

Responding to a question of Councillor Warshick, Councillor Whalen stated she does not know the exact amount of unallocated funds in her district capital funding, but she would be willing to allocate \$20,000 towards this project if it is available. Councillor Warshick inquired if other Councillors contributed funding from their district capital funding towards this project would the funding be recovered next year. In response, Mr. McLellan stated there are no commitments as to what will happen with funds in future years. Councillor Warshick suggested the residents have transportation alternatives, such as taxis and buses, for travelling in the park.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Mosher stated this sidewalk is something that residents across the province would use.

Councillor Johns stated if Councillors had a substantial allocation for district capital funds, then the Councillors would have the means to do some of these priority projects in their Districts. The Councillor questioned why the staff report would include alternatives if staff does not support them. In response, Mr. McLellan stated he would not recommend Alternative 3, to withdraw a further amount of the Business Parks Expansion Reserve, as it would be contrary to policy. He noted, however, that staff have looked at all avenues for a solution. With respect to the suggestion of increasing the district capital funds, Mr. McLellan stated the idea of Councillors having more money to distribute without professional advice is something that needs to be considered very carefully.

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Deputy Mayor Blumenthal stated if Council approves this project now, it will indicate a lack of confidence in staff.

Closing the debate, Councillor Whalen expressed thanks to staff for responding to her request, but stated she wanted them to look at all sources of funding and guide her in finding a solution to this problem. The Councillor noted over the last year many solutions have been found to other situations with projects being funded, and that is what she was looking for in this case. Given the importance of the project for the safety of the residents, Councillor Whalen stated she had to be sure every avenue was explored, and her request is fully within the financial parameters under which HRM operates. The Councillor noted the Province is not responsible for the cost of the sidewalk portion of this project. With regards to area rates, Councillor Whalen stated there is not a tradition of area rates in the former City of Halifax, and two have already been introduced in this area in the last year.

Councillor Streatch stated he has confidence in staff and his offer to reallocate funding from a project in his District was only to offer assistance to Councillor Whalen.

Councillor Hetherington stated the \$238,000 for the total project was not in the Capital Budget and now an additional \$95,000 is being requested on top of that. With respect to area rates, the Councillor noted they have become a way of life since amalgamation.

#### A Recorded Vote was requested.

Members of Council voting **in favour** of the motion: Councillors: Streatch, Hines, Cooper, Walker, Whalen, Mosher, Adams, Johns, Harvey and Rankin.

Members of Council voting **against** the motion: Mayor Kelly, Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, Councillors: Colwell, McInroy, Warshick, Sarto, Hetherington, Smith, Cunningham, Sloane, Uteck, Fougere, Goucher and Meade.

#### MOTION DEFEATED. (10 in favour, 14 against)

#### 8.6 Motion - Councillor Fougere - re: General Agreement on Trade and Services

C An Information Report prepared for Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, dated August 28, 2001 was previously circulated to Council.

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MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Uteck, that:

WHEREAS Article I of the GATS agreement includes local governments under the scope of the Agreement, which contrasts with the provisions of the NAFTA agreement which explicitly exclude local governments from coverage;

AND WHEREAS the federal government is currently formulating its negotiating strategy for making commitments in certain economic sectors under the GATS which could affect local governments' jurisdiction in decision making with respect to its services and which could result in significant administrative burdens and costs;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has also been discussing the inclusion of sub-national governments (including provincial and local governments) under the provisions of the Agreement on Government Procurement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Halifax Regional Municipality:

- 1. Urges the federal government to consult with all Canadians, including local governments, more widely before formulating the Canadian negotiating position; and,
- 2. Recommends that the federal government bring forward a proposal to specifically exclude "local governments and authorities" from the application of the GATS; and,
- 3. Requests the federal government to not include sub-national governments in Canada under the requirements of the Agreement on Government Procurement; and,
- 4. Urges FCM to continue to dedicate staff to closely monitor WTO discussions and federal activities with respect to the GATS negotiations and to alert Canadian governments of any potential encroachments on local jurisdiction. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 8.7 Councillor Adams Busing Rockingstone Heights School

Councillor Adams raised concern regarding busing needs of the students at Rockingstone Heights School as a result of the recent closure of B. C. Silver School. The Councillor stated a number of the students have to walk in excess of 3 kilometres one way to get to school. Also, there is a \$200 charge for these same students to stay at the school for lunch. Councillor Adams stated the School Board has made a decision that has negatively impacted the students, and put forth the following motion:

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MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that Council request the Halifax Regional School Board and the Nova Scotia Department of Education to provide assistance in the amount of \$40,000 to accommodate the busing needs of the students at Rockingstone Heights School as a result of the recent closure of B. C. Silver School, and, further that the School Board be requested to provide some information regarding busing polices.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal stated he would like the School Board to also be requested to consider lowering the kilometer rating for busing service.

Speaking against the motion, Councillor Cunningham expressed concern with Council directing the School Board how to spend their funding which would result in a realignment of their budget.

Councillor Smith stated he faces a similar situation in his District, with some elementary students facing a 45 minute walk through city streets to get to school.

Closing the debate, Councillor Adams stated, based on the current busing policy, some students could be walking ten kilometers a day to attend school. The Councillor suggested that the motion be split. Council agreed.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that Council request the Halifax Regional School Board to provide assistance in the amount of \$40,000 to accommodate the busing needs of the students at Rockingstone Heights School. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that Council request the Nova Scotia Department of Education to provide assistance in the amount of \$40,000 to accommodate the busing needs of the students at Rockingstone Heights School as a result of the recent closure of B. C. Silver School. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that Council request the Halifax Regional School Board to provide information regarding school

## busing policies and the possibility of lowering the 3.6 kilometer rate with respect to school busing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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#### 8.8 <u>Councillor Mosher - Chipsealing - District 17</u>

Responding to a question of Councillor Mosher, Mr. Rick Paynter, Manager, Design and Construction Services, stated the reason only 1 of 26 streets in District 17 were chipsealed was due to budget limitations. Once the chipsealing program was implemented, it was determined that a lot of the pre-chip preparation work was more extensive than anticipated, and a lot of the surface areas chipped required more application than expected. The program tendered covered 125,000 square meters of road surface, however the scope of the project had to be cut back to 95,000 square meters when the tender came in over budget. Furthermore, the budget limit was reached after chipping 71,000 square meters of road surface. Mr. Paynter stated the roads in Districts 16 & 17 have been prepped and they will be the first roads chipped next year. Responding to an additional question of the Councillor, Mr. Paynter stated the management of the chipsealing program is undertaken by the inspection staff of Design and Construction Services, supplemented by Maritime Testing.

Councillor Mosher suggested, in future, there should be more coordination between HRM and the contractor to ensure the preparation work is adequate. Also, the Councillor stated funding for the program should be equally distributed among the Districts rather than completing one before moving to the next. Councillor Mosher expressed concern with the residents having expectations that their streets were going to be chipsealed this year and put forth the following motion:

# MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Whalen, that Council direct staff to notify all residents on the streets that did not get chipsealed this year to explain why they were not done and to provide an approximate date when they will be done next year.

Councillor Uteck noted the motion may result in staff making promises that cannot be kept, as, in some cases, the condition of the streets may have deteriorated to the point where they need to be resurfaced.

Responding to a question of Councillor Cunningham, Mr. Paynter stated an initial letter was not sent to the residents advising them their street would be chipsealed. Based on this, the Councillor stated he would not support the motion.

Councillor Whalen noted expectations of the residents that their streets would be chipsealed have been raised because preparation work was taking place.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal stated staff need to exercise caution when telling residents what work will and will not be done so as false expectations are not set.

Closing the debate, Councillor Mosher stated the reason for sending the letter to the residents is because many were told their street would be done and the preparation work increased this expectation.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

#### 8.9 <u>Correspondence</u>

i) <u>Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board re: Natural Gas Distribution</u> <u>Franchises</u>

Councillor Adams suggested that this item be referred to a future Committee of the Whole meeting to allow the Sable Gas Committee and staff the opportunity to provide Council with an update.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that this matter be referred to a Committee of the Whole session. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- ii) <u>Federation of Canadian Municipalities re: Federal Policy on Affordable</u> <u>Housing</u>
- C Correspondence from Mr. Jack Layton, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, dated September 21, 2001, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.
- C A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, dated January 17, 2001, regarding the above, was previously circulated to Council.

Item 11.3. 11 Resolution in Support of FCM National Housing Policy Options Team (NHPOT) Request was also addressed at this time.

#### 11.3.11 <u>Resolution in Support of FCM National Housing Policy Options Team</u> (NHPOT) Request

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

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Halifax Regional Council approve a resolution to be forwarded to the Nova Scotia Minister of Community Services and Housing stating that:

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Halifax Regional Council is concerned about the lack of affordable housing for low income families and individuals in our community and throughout Nova Scotia. Therefore, the Halifax Regional Municipality supports the involvement of the Government of Canada in funding affordable housing programs for low income Canadians.

The Halifax Regional Municipality has undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at supporting the reduction of homelessness and the improvement in housing standards in cooperation with community-based agencies and volunteers.

As a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities <u>National Housing</u> <u>Policy Options Team</u>, the Halifax Regional Municipality strongly encourages the Province of Nova Scotia to support housing programs for low income households, to devote significant new funds to the program and to invite the involvement of the municipalities, non-governmental organizations and community in designing and implementing the program locally.

Halifax Regional Municipality is committed to working cooperatively with all orders of government and non governmental organizations and communities within our mandate to improve access to affordable housing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 8.10 Western Region Community Council Case 00265 Request to Amend the MPS for Timberlea/Lakeside/Beechville to Enable a Mixed Use Golf Course Community on a 530 Acre Site, and to Enter into a Development Agreement to Permit up to 3200 Dwellings in Conjunction with an 18 Hole Golf Course, Town Centre and Commercial area - to set date for Public Hearing
- C A report from the Western Region Community Council, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Meade, that Council give First Reading to the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Timberlea/Lakeside/Beechville, presented as Attachment 1 and as

## shown on Map 2 of the staff report dated September 28, 2001, and schedule a Public Hearing for October 30, 2001.

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Councillor Hetherington noted this development has the potential of 3200 dwellings and requested that it also be forwarded to the Regional Planning Coordinator for review.

Councillor Cunningham cautioned staff in setting dates for public hearings so as there are not too many on a single date resulting in Council not having enough time to address the remaining agenda items.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8.11 Councillor Sloane - Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillors Cooper, McInroy and Sarto declared **Conflicts of Interest** on this matter as they are members of the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre Board.

Councillor Sloane expressed concern as to why she was not advised of the relocation of the residents of the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre to Sunrise Manor, and put forth the following motion:

#### MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, that a letter be sent to be sent to the Province of Nova Scotia inquiring why the District Councillor was not notified of the relocation of the residents of the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre to Sunrise Manor.

Councillor Hines stated the Province is spending almost \$300,000 in renovations to the basement in order to accommodate 11 residents of the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre. When these residents vacate Sunrise Manor, the accommodations will be made available to additional residents for Sunrise Manor. The Councillor noted the Province is also doing a facelift to the main entrance of the building and making a separate entrance for the basement residents. Councillor Hines noted security is also being provided on a 24 hour basis which is something the Manor does not currently have. Therefore, he stated the move will be providing benefits to the Manor and the area.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal stated the area Councillor is only asking for proper notification of the action. Councillor Sloane agreed stating the area residents need to know what is taking place in their neighbourhood. In response, Councillor Hines stated the Province did discuss this with the facility and its residents.

Councillor Cunningham suggested that perhaps the Province could take a pro-active approach and advise all Councillors of issues impacting their respective Districts.

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#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8.12 Supplementary Education Funding - Halifax Regional School Board

C This matter was discussed at a Committee of the Whole session held on October 2, 2001 and was now before Council for ratification.

Councillor Uteck stated it is unlikely that the Minister of Education would attend a Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss supplementary funding, and she suggested that the Committee of the Whole recommendation should be amended to include the option of interested Councillors being invited to attend a caucus meeting to discuss supplementary education funding.

Councillor Hetherington suggested the option of the Minister attending a regular Council session should also be offered.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that Halifax Regional Council request the Minister of Education attend a Committee of the Whole or Council session, or that interested Councillors be invited to attend a caucus meeting to discuss supplementary education funding. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8.13 October 2, 2001 In Camera Recommendations

C The following items were discussed during an In Camera Session held on October 2, 2001, and were now before Council for ratification.

#### i) <u>Property Matter: Release of Easement & Acquisition Easement - Celtic Drive</u> <u>Dartmouth</u>

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that Halifax Regional Municipality authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute an Easement Agreement whereby Easement D-520, Celtic Drive is released by HRM to Innovative Properties Inc./Banook Shores Limited and, in return, Easement D-686 Celtic Drive be granted by Innovative Properties Inc./Banook Shores Limited to HRM; and further that the September 11, 2001 Private and Confidential staff report be released to the public. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### ii) Property Land Exchange - Richardson Animal Hospital - Cobequid Road

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MOVED by Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that:

- 1. Halifax Regional Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale whereby PID #40010126, to be owned by the Halifax Regional Municipality, at an area of approximately 35,600 square feet, at an appraised value of \$230,000.00, plus \$50,000.00 (Plus applicable HST) site improvement allowance, is exchanged for PID #40010159,lands owned by Frank D. Richardson, at an area of approximately 15,000 square feet, at an appraised value of \$190,000, as shown on Attachment "A" of the September 25, 2001, Private and Confidential staff report, is acquired by the Municipality.
- 2. A maximum of \$25,000.00 be withdrawn from the Parkland Reserve (Q107) for part of the site improvement allowance.
- 3. The September 25, 2001 Private and Confidential staff report be forwarded to the North West Community Council for the approval to withdraw funds from the Landfill Compensation Fund to a maximum of \$25,000 for the remaining site improvement allowance.
- 4. The September 25, 2001 Private and Confidential staff report not be released to the public until and if, the recommended transaction is finally completed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.
- iii) Legal Matter Settlement of Claim

MOVED by Councillor Sarto, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Halifax Regional Council settle the claim set out in the September 27, 2001 Private and Confidential staff report as brought by the Plaintiff, in the amount of \$18,000.000 as settlement in full upon obtaining a full release from the Plaintiff from any further claims arising out of the accident which occurred on October 26, 1999. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **RECESS**

A recess was taken at 8:25 p.m. Council reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

#### 9. PUBLIC HEARING

#### 9.1 <u>Second Reading Case 00318 - Request for an Amendment to the Halifax</u> <u>Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law and Development</u> <u>Agreement, Robie/Cunard/West Streets, Halifax</u>

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- C The proposed amendments received First Reading on September 18, 2001, and were now before Council for a Public Hearing.
- C A report from the Chebucto Community Council, dated September 11, 2001, was previously circulated to Council.
- C Correspondence from J. Stuart Grossert dated October 5, 2001, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

Mr. Gary Porter, Planner, presented the proposed amendments to Council. With respect to the development agreement, Mr. Porter advised that the approval of it rests with the Chebucto Community Council, which will be made at a future meeting subject to Regional Council approving the amendments to the MPS and LUB.

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

#### Mike LeBlanc, Solicitor for the Applicant

Mr. LeBlanc addressed Council speaking in support of the proposal. Mr. LeBlanc gave some information as to what has been done to try to meet the needs of the residents in the area. Before the applicant purchased the property in 1998, a public information meeting was held and approximately 50-60 residents attended. Suggestions and ideas from this meeting were taken into consideration, and in February 1999 some conceptual drawings were presented at another public information meeting. At this time, individual concerns regarding this project were raised and were reviewed by the applicant to ensure they were addressed.

Mr. LeBlanc stated one major concern expressed by the residents was off-street visitor parking, and this has been accommodated by the design of seven off-street visitor parking spaces.

Mr. LeBlanc noted the Municipality has expressed interest in purchasing a property that is part of the applicant's lot to satisfy future needs with respect to street-widening on Robie Street. He advised that the sale of this land will cost the applicant in terms of open area and shadowing.

In closing, Mr. LeBlanc stated this will be an expensive property to develop, and the request for 49 units represents what the applicant believes to be a reasonable return on their investment.

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#### Mr. Stephen Esposito, Robie Street

Mr. Esposito addressed Council commending the developers on their pro-active approach to this development. He encouraged other developers to do the same by soliciting input from the community before these types of sites are developed. With respect to this particular development, Mr. Esposito spoke in support of it as presented, stating it will be an improvement to the area. With respect to esthetics, Mr. Esposito stated it is a major concern that the building look and feel like part of the neighbourhood. He noted that height is an issue, but the original proposal did see fairly good acceptance of the community. With regards to the land easement available for purchase by HRM with respect to the widening of Robie Street, Mr. Esposito stated the residents of the area are not in favour of the widening of Robie Street.

#### Ms. Margaret Murphy, 5868 West Street

Ms. Murphy addressed Council stating she has lived in the neighbourhood since 1983 and has seen many changes over the years. Ms. Murphy stated she is not opposed to the idea of an apartment building being constructed on this site, but stated she is opposed to the proposal for a number of reasons due to the scale and height of the proposed structure. She stated her preference would be for a three storey structure on the West Street side as the majority of the houses on West Street are two storeys, with the exception of two which are three, and a five storey development would not fit into the existing streetscape on West Street. Ms. Murphy stated there appears to be a piecemeal approach to development in this area, and it does not protect the residential areas from being swallowed up by commercial.

Ms. Murphy noted the staff report states a five storey development will cause a considerable amount of shadow in her backyard. With the proposed addition of 49 units on the corner of West and Robie, she expressed concern there will be an increase in traffic on an already congested West Street.

In closing, Ms. Murphy stated the best scenario, in her opinion, would be a three storey structure on West Street.

Mayor Kelly called three times for additional speakers either in favour of or against the application. Hearing none, the following motion was put on the floor:

## MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the Public Hearing be closed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Council approve the proposed amendments to the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and the Halifax Peninsula Land Use By-Law as contained in Appendix A of the staff report dated August 29, 2001. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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#### 10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

#### 10.1 <u>Petitions</u>

#### 10.1.1 Councillor Goucher - Sidewalk Request - Golf Links

Councillor Goucher served a petition from residents requesting a sidewalk be constructed from the beginning of Golf Links by Dartmouth Road to the Eaglewood Drive intersection.

#### 10.1.2 Councillor Goucher - By-Law O-101

Councillor Goucher filed correspondence from a resident expressing concern with By-Law O-101 Respecting Outdoor Burning.

#### 10.1.3 Councillor Uteck - Traffic Safety Issues - Young Ave. & Point Pleasant Drive

Councillor Uteck served a petition from residents in the region of Young Avenue and Point Pleasant Drive requesting that HRM take measures to address traffic safety issues in this area.

#### 10.1.4 Councillor Sarto - By-Law Shortcoming

Councillor Sarto served correspondence from a resident expressing concerns regarding the possibility of implementing By-Law No. 8 of the former Halifax County Municipality in all of HRM. The Councillor asked that the correspondence be referred to Legal Services.

#### 10.1.5 Councillor Sarto - Three-Way Stop Signs, Ellenvale Ave. & Alberta St.

Councillor Sarto served a petition from residents requesting that HRM install three-way stop signs at Ellenvale Avenue and Alberta Street.

#### 10.1.6 <u>Councillor Streatch - Water Supply, Musquodoboit Valley</u>

Councillor Streatch served a petition from residents regarding the need for a water system in the Musquodoboit Valley. The Councillor asked that the petition be referred to the Halifax Regional Water Commission for a staff report in response to the petition.

#### 11. <u>REPORTS</u>

#### 11.1 CHEBUCTO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### 11.1.1 <u>Proposal for a Mumford Road Area Traffic Study (West End Mall Area Traffic</u> <u>Concerns)</u>

C A report from the Chebucto Community Council, dated October 2, 2001, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration. The report recommended that Regional Council discuss the traffic concerns in the Mumford Road Area at the Regional Council session on October 9, 2001.

Councillor Fougere stated that, 21 months ago, she requested a staff report to form a regional transit and transportation advisory committee because of the volume of such issues that come to Council without public input. After a couple of attempts by staff to put together some kind of committee to solicit public input on these issues, it was suggested that this be referred to the regional planning exercise. However, Councillor Fougere noted there is still no committee in place and there are still an abundance of traffic, transportation, mobility issues that come to Council every week.

Councillor Fougere referenced an article in a recent edition of the FCM magazine, which stated that HRM is looking to ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) for downtown transit improvements to minimize the concentration of traffic in the older part of the city where historically narrow streets and the geographic location on a peninsula offer little opportunity to expand. It was quoted that the difficulty in implementing these systems is funding. Councillor Fougere stated Council should ask staff what they need to solve HRM's traffic problems.

With the use of an overhead, Councillor Fougere illustrated the traffic problems in the area of Mumford Road/West End Mall. The Councillor noted that she suggested to staff last spring that solutions be found as to how the potential problems could be addressed. However, this did not take place. Councillor Fougere noted the only opportunity for public input to what is taking place in the area was for the four small outer buildings. During this public input, the residents primarily asked for traffic issues to be addressed. However, the developer was only required to do a traffic impact study based on these four buildings.

Councillor Fougere noted the staff report to the Community Council stated the HRM's Regional Transportation Strategy will address the broader transportation issues with the

objective of relieving pressure on neighbourhood street systems. The Councillor questioned when this will take place, and put forth the following motion:

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MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Uteck, that Council move forward with some traffic initiatives, and that the area of Mumford Road/West End Mall be forwarded to the regional planning exercise as a possibility for one of the many case studies. Further, Council request in future Capital Budgets that instead of just looking at infrastructure improvements in roadways, issues such as technological improvements and transportation systems being integrated with transit, be looked at, as well as rethinking the manner in which Council deals with allotting budgets for transportation.

Councillor Mosher stated a major problem she has received comment on is trucks not using the proper truck route to get to Chebucto Road and the safety concerns this causes for pedestrians. The Councillor stated she would like this situation addressed to include Dutch Village Road, Joseph Howe Drive and Ashburn Avenue.

Deputy Mayor Blumenthal asked that staff give the regional transportation study a priority in next year's Capital Budget.

Mr. McLellan noted HRM's Capital Budgets have increased 50 percent over the last two years compared to the prior years. He stated every issue appears to be a financial one and noted he will be dealing internally with staff to determine why this is always the case. Mr. McLellan stated he will diligently attempt to move this forward, but with regard to it being a limit of finances, it is not, but rather a limit of choices.

Responding to a question of Councillor Uteck, Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Public Works and Transportation Services, stated a policy needs to be set before things such as road widening, are done.

Councillor Sloane noted the downtown area also has a problem with trucks and suggested that HRM should explore other ways to bring them into the downtown area without travelling through the core of the area.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11.1.2 Case 00123 - Request to Amend the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for 5515/5517/5519 & 5523 Inglis St., Halifax

C A report from the Chebucto Community Council, dated October 2, 2001, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Fougere, that Council give First Reading to the proposed amendments to the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and Peninsula Halifax Land Use By-Law, presented as Attachment IV to the staff report dated September 8, 2001, and schedule a Public Hearing for November 6, 2001. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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#### 11.2 HERITAGE COMMITTEE

#### 11.2.1 <u>Case H00066 - Proposed Addition to St. Peter's Church, 10030 Highway 333,</u> <u>Hacketts Cove</u>

C A report from the Heritage Advisory Committee, dated October 2, 2001, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Rankin, that Halifax Regional Council approve the addition to St. Peter's Church, 10030 Highway 333, Hacketts Cove, NS, as outlined in the staff report to the Heritage Advisory Committee dated September 21, 2001. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11.3 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

#### 11.3.1 <u>Tender 01-273 Fairview Overpass Sewer Cleaning, Halifax, Western Region</u>

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

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that Council award Tender No. 01-273, Fairview Overpass Sewer Cleaning, Halifax, Western Region to G & R Kelly Enterprises for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$85,925 plus net HST and quality control/quality assurance and unforeseen works for a Total Project Cost of \$99,680 with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated October 1, 2001. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11.3.2 Award of Tender No. 01-126 - Flow Monitoring of Sewers - Pricing Agreement

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

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that Council award Tender No. 01-126, Flow Monitoring of Sewers, to SNC Lavalin Inc. for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$100,167.00 plus net HST for a Total Project Cost of \$106,607.00 with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated October 3, 2001. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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#### 11.3.3 <u>Tender 01-154 Renovation to Alderney Gate Landing Plaza</u>

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

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that Council approve the award of Tender #01-154 to the low bid of \$282,137.50 (not including taxes) from Perimus Facilities Management. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11.3.4 200 IIsley Avenue - Air Quality Upgrades

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

#### MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, that Council:

- 1. Approve an increase to Capital Account CBR00748, 200 IIsley Ave. Air Quality Improvements in the amount of \$600,000 with funding to be provided by CRESPOOL, as outlined in the Budget Implications Section of the staff report dated October 2, 2001.
- 2. Award Quotation 2001M825 to the low bidder, Marid Industries, for \$89,400 not including taxes. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11.3.5 Request for Proposal 01-048 Corporate Land Information System

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

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Fougere, that Council authorize the award of Proposal #01-048 to the highest ranking proponent, Hansen Information Technologies, for the purchase and implementation of the Infrastructure, Land Management and Customer Service modules as Phase 1 of an Integrated Land Information System. The cost of the Phase 1 implementation which includes all software, project management and consulting fees, data conversion and on-site training is \$608,508.00 (tax included) with funding available in account CIO00108 titled Land Information System. Price includes the non-refundable portion of the HST. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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#### 11.3.6 Oracle Database Licensing

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

MOVED by Councillor Streatch, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that Council uphold the CAO's approval to upgrade of HRM's existing Oracle database licensing from named user to enterprise, at a cost of \$71,918.00. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11.3.7 2002/03 Capital and Operating Budget Policies Overview (oral)

Ms. Dale MacLennan, Director, Financial Services, and Mr. Bruce Fisher, Budget Coordinator, Financial Services, made a presentation to Council regarding Budget and Business Planning - The 2002-2003 Process and Outlook. A copy of the presentation was circulated to Council.

In terms of Council input, Ms. MacLennan noted staff will be sending out a formal request with specific direction to members of Council.

With regard to the presentation, Mr. McLellan noted it is not reflective of the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Responding to a question of Councillor Uteck regarding information from the Tax Structure Review Committee with respect to assessments, Mr. Fisher stated the Committee is making progress but has not yet dealt with that specific issue. Mayor Kelly added that HRM is also waiting for a response from the Province as to how it plans to structure the board to deal with assessments.

With respect to equalization, Councillor Uteck stated a tax decrease of 1.1 percent means nothing to over 90 percent of Council.

Responding to a question of Councillor Streatch regarding commercial assessments, Mr. Fisher stated prior to amalgamation, reassessments were not done every year as they are now.

In response to a question of Councillor Rankin, Deputy Mayor Blumenthal provided an update with respect to communication between UNSM and the Province regarding assessments.

With respect to assessment growth, Mr. Fisher stated there are significant differences throughout the municipality. In some areas, existing homes are increasing quite rapidly and in other areas they are not. For residential properties, in 2001 about 20 percent of the increase in the base was for new properties, and another 20 percent was for lots that were not fully developed, and the remaining 60 percent was due to increased market value. On the commercial side, about 40 percent came from new properties. Mr. Fisher noted that earlier in the year staff sent out a list of assessment growth by District.

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Councillor Hetherington thanked staff and the public for the fantastic response to the advertisements regarding equalization and encouraged them to continue their efforts. Responding to a question of Councillor Warshick, Mr. McLellan stated staff has not put forth a public relations campaign to continue this as staff expected a prompt and equitable response from the Province which has not happened. In response to a further question of the Councillor, Mr. Fisher stated it was his understanding that the Province would respond within the next week or so. However, he noted the longer it takes the more problematic it becomes for staff to determine what is involved and to consult with Council.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

As it was now 10:00 p.m., the following motion was put on the floor:

## MOVED by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that the meeting adjourn.

A **Recorded Vote** was requested.

Members of Council voting **in favour** of the motion: Deputy Mayor Blumenthal, Councillors: Streatch, Hines, Colwell, Cooper, McInroy, Sarto, Hetherington, Cunningham, Sloane, Uteck, Johns and Harvey.

Members of Council voting **against** the motion: Mayor Kelly, Councillors: Warshick, Smith, Fougere, Walker, Whalen, Mosher, Adams, Goucher, Rankin and Meade.

#### MOTION PUT AND PASSED (13 in favour, 11 against).

The following remaining agenda items were deferred for to the next meeting (October 23, 2001):

- 11.3.8 Capital Cost Contribution Policy Public Participation Strategy
- 11.3.9 Case 00379 Application to Amend the MPS and LUB to Permit Development to RSU (Residential Single Dwelling Unit) Zone Standards (Bedford)

11.3.10 Standards for Residential / Rooming House Occupancies (To be Tabled)

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- (Item 11.3.11 was addressed under Item 8.9 (ii)
- 11.3.12 Single Source Contracting of Gartner Group
- 11.3.13 Snow Removal Supports for Seniors & Persons with Disabilities
- 11.4.1 Councillor Hetherington Low Income Housing Facilities
- 13. Added Items
- 13.1 Councillor Smith Rezoning Wright's Cove
- 13.2 Property Matter Land Acquisition, Parcel PID #400443275, Prospect High Head
- 13.3 Property Matter Property Sale: 115 Lakeview Road Halifax Regional Search & Rescue
- 13.4 Property Matter Lease of Land 57 Gloria Avenue, Sackville
- 13.5 Legal Matter Settlement of Claim
- 13.6 Councillor Cooper Information Item #8 Parks & Recreation Services, Park Development Project Status Report and Staffing Update

Vi Carmichael Municipal Clerk