

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MINUTES APRIL 10, 2001

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Councillors: Steve Streach
Keith Colwell (regrets)
Linda Mosher

STAFF:

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - March 19 & 20, 2001

MOVED by Councillor Sarto, seconded by Councillor McInroy, that the minutes of March 19 & 20, 2001, be approved as circulated. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

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

3. MOVING FORWARD: MANAGEMENT OF C & D MATERIALS - SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT: DRAFT C & D LICENSE BY-LAW

- A report prepared for Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, dated March 1, 2001, on the above noted, was before Council wherein staff was recommending *“Regional Council amend the public process to implement the C & D waste management strategy by requiring staff to provide a draft C& D Licensing By-Law to SWRAC for review and recommendation to Regional Council, within 30 days; and, continue with the consultation and amendment process for Municipal Planning Strategies and Land Use By-Laws to complete the implementation of a C & D Waste Management Strategy”*

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Hines that:

Whereas the proposal from staff and the SWRAC concerns a License By-Law which will deal with the transfer and process of construction and demolition debris.

Be it resolved that Council agrees to:

- 1) **separate the process to enable a License By-Law to be put in place while the planning policies are being refined and further to direct staff to enable a License By-Law to be put in place within 30-60 days;**
- 2) **the new License By-Law will enable the three existing operations and current sites to be issued a license for transfer and processing of construction and demolition debris;**

- 3) and during the License By-Law process the next step is to work together to develop the appropriate land use policies and criteria for implementation and have these policies and criteria adopted in the Municipal Planning Strategies for HRM.**

Without a vote being taken on the motion, the following motion was placed.

MOVED by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the matter be referred back to the SWRAC for discussion and recommendation.

In response to Councillor Goucher, Mr. Kurt Pyle, Planner, confirmed that the three existing operations would be given a temporary permit only and, once the By-Law is put in place, they would have to comply with the new regulations.

Councillor Cooper expressed concern that the motion would allow three operators to expand and allow them to stock pile, transfer, process and store material on site.

Councillor Rankin advised his motion would allow licenses to be in place this summer. The Councillor advised there are currently no rules regarding expansion and the only tool available is the Department of Environment regulations. He stated the Licensing By-Law will provide tools for the regulation of these types of operations.

In response to Councillor Uteck as to what protection would be provided to HRM if this went forward from this meeting, Mr. Brian Smith, Director of Solid Waste, advised a licensing frame work would be put in place for this summer which would be followed by land use changes this fall. The license frame work talks about hours of operation, information being provided on how many tons come and go out of the site and the size and height of stock piles, noting there is no licensing frame work in place at the current time.

Council agreed to hear from Mr. Barry Zwicker, Wallace MacDonald & Lively and Mr. Ivor Christensen.

Mr. Zwicker, speaking on behalf of RDM Recycling Limited, addressed Council on the License By-Law, noting if the By-Law is put in place the three current operations could not operate. He spoke in favour of the motion as put forward by Councillor Rankin. He stated if the By-Law is not put in place a situation will be created that will force people to be in violation because limitation will be placed on heights of piles.

Mr. Ivor Christensen, representing Halifax C & D Recycling, addressed Council stating the two issues to be considered are C & D recycling and C & D landfilling which are entirely different and should be handled as such. He advised his company would take any necessary steps

to meet By-Law guidelines in order to stay in business and recycle material.

MOTION TO REFER DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that the word “temporary” be applied to licensing.

Councillor Hetherington suggested the time frame for the temporary license be ninety days.

Councillor Cooper suggested wording be included in the By-Law stating the operations are licensed to the extent to which they are now operating, bringing the material in in the morning and taking it out at night, with no storage.

Mr. Brian Smith advised that the draft By-Law has separate restrictions for transfer, processing and disposal.

In response to Councillor Adams, Mr. Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, advised the Licensing By-Law could have stipulations on how the present sites would operate and the regulations could change the way the current sites operate.

Without a vote being taken, the mover and seconder agreed to withdraw the motion.

In response to Councillor Cooper, Mr. Brian Smith, advised HRM will have the ability to license for each component separately, noting the draft has very separate requirements for the three components.

Councillor Cooper suggested that when the By-Law comes before Council it does not allow for any change for the operation on Ross Road.

Councillor Rankin noted that all the current existing sites are not regulated. He advised the Province has requested HRM come forward with a Licensing By-Law in order to provide regulation.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (10 in favour, 7 against)

It was requested that it be noted, for the record, that two Councillors did not vote.

4. COMMUNITY INTEGRATED FUND - UPDATE

Ms. Ann Muecke, with the aid of a Powerpoint presentation, presented the results of the survey in the neighbourhoods where the treatment plants are proposed to be sited advising:

- the survey was undertaken in the three urban areas;
- there were 815 calls within the three areas - 300 in the Dartmouth Cove area, 250 in Halifax North for the site at the corner of Cornwallis and Barrington Streets and 300 in Halifax South area for the site behind the Via Rail station;
- approximately 70% had seen or heard about the project and approximately 50% could identify specific issues;
- 81% are in overall support of the project;
- main issues of concern were cost, location, the fact that sewage was going into the harbour untreated, the aesthetics of the presence of sewage in the harbour and whether the system was run by HRM or a private partner;
- 31% were unconcerned or did not mind in general regarding the location of the sites;
- 22% felt the sites were generally good;
- 16% in total felt angry, worried, disgusted or unpleasantly surprised by the whole matter;
- in general the Halifax South population registered the most positive reaction (66%), Halifax North (48%) and Dartmouth (45%) with regards to location;
- overall there was a low level negative reaction to the sites;
- the primary concerns were odour, location, environmental impacts, use of chemicals, appearance, noise and traffic;
- 20% stated they felt the location was good and 19% referred to cleaner beaches and a cleaner harbour as being an overall benefit;
- there is a perceived impact on property values which would be counter balanced by additional infrastructure in the area;
- the suggestions for use of the integration fund were parkland development, make sure the plant is environmentally safe, improved waterfront access, general cleanup and roads and types of outdoor recreation.

Mayor Kelly thanked Ms. Muecke for her presentation.

5. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Hines, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:30 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk