

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES March 19, 2002

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly
Deputy Mayor Robert Harvey
Councillors: Gary Hines
Keith Colwell
Ron Cooper
Harry McInroy
Brian Warshick (1:45 p.m.)
Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington
Jim Smith
John Cunningham (1:20 p.m.)
Jerry Blumenthal
Dawn Sloane
Sheila Fougere
Russell Walker
Stephen Adams
Brad Johns (2:15 p.m.)
Len Goucher
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade

ABSENT:

Councillors: Steve Streach (regrets)
Sue Uteck
Diana Whalen (regrets)
Linda Mosher

STAFF:

Mr. George McLellan, 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 1:00 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 29 and February 12, 2002

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington that the minutes of January 29 and February 12, 2002 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that the Order of Business be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. TRANSIT STRATEGY - IBI CONSULTANTS

- An information report from Mr. Brian Taylor, Director of Transit Services, dated March 13, 2002, on the above noted, was before Council.
- A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was circulated to Council.

Mr. Brian Taylor, Director of Transit Services, addressed Council advising the purpose of the strategy was:

- to establish new service standards for transit services within HRM;
- to recommend a sustainable infrastructure program for fleet, facilities and equipment;
- to review business practices used;
- to recommend issues that would ensure public transit will be successfully integrated to the Regional Planning process.

Mr. Dave Roberts and Mr. Dawson Catton, IBI Consulting Group, with the aid of PowerPoint, presented the draft strategy to Council. The strategy addressed:

- Public consultation
- Goals and Objectives
- Service Standards
- Population Patterns
- Employment and Travel Destinations
- Travel Corridors and Hubs
- Service Levels versus Standards
- Ridership Performance
- What Works Well

- Key Service Deficiencies
- Service Strategies
- Service Plan Objectives
- Service Plan Highlights
- Terminal needs
- Park and Ride
- Transit Priority Measures
- Accessibility
- 5 Year Vehicle Requirements
- Other 5 year Capital Needs
- Fare Strategy
- Implementation Strategy
- Marketing the Service Plan
- Monitoring and Adjusting
- 5 Year Impact on Service Hours
- 5 Year Rider/Revenue Estimate
- Projected Cost Estimates
- Major Conclusions
- Key Recommendations

Councillor Hetherington noted there are two hospitals in the Woodside area and the bus schedule does not coincide with the shift changes and requested this issue be examined.

Councillor Sloane suggested consideration be given to a mode of transportation that would service the downtown area exclusively.

Councillor Rankin stated that residents are requesting more frequent service from District 22 and the St. Margaret's Bay area.

Councillor Blumenthal suggested other modes of transportation be examined as a part of the overall transit service.

Councillor Cunningham noted the bus and ferry schedule does not coincide which causes problems with connections between these two modes of transportation.

Councillor Meade suggested consideration be given to one trip per day to such areas as Hubbards, Peggy's Cove and Shad Bay. The Councillor also suggested the Hubley Shopping Centre be considered for rapid bus service.

Councillor Fougere suggested bicycle links be examined as part of the transit service. The Councillor suggested infrastructure improvements such as realigning streets to improve bus service be examined.

Councillor Sloane suggested bus passes geared to specific needs and requirements be examined.

Mayor Kelly thanked Mr. Catton and Mr. Roberts for their presentation.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk