

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES MAY 21, 2002

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Robert Harvey

Councillors:

- Gary Hines
- Keith Colwell
- Ron Cooper
- Brian Warshick
- Condo Sarto
- Bruce Hetherington
- Jim Smith
- John Cunningham
- Jerry Blumenthal
- Dawn Sloane
- Sue Uteck
- Sheila Fougere
- Russell Walker
- Brad Johns (1:35 pm)
- Len Goucher
- Reg Rankin (1:30 pm)
- Gary Meade

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Mayor Peter Kelly

Councillors:

- Steve Streach
- Harry McInroy
- Diana Whalen
- Linda Mosher
- Stephen D. Adams

STAFF:

- Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer
- Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
- Ms. Jan Gibson, Deputy Municipal Clerk

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. CALL TO ORDER 03

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES. 03

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS
AND DELETIONS 03

4. CAPITAL DISTRICT VISION 03

5. DARTMOUTH SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT COMMUNITY LIAISON
COMMITTEE - INTEGRATION FUND PROPOSAL 05

6. ADJOURNMENT 05

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Harvey called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

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

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

3. CAPITAL DISTRICT VISION - Staff Presentation

- An information report from Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, dated May 13, 2002, on the above noted, was before Council.
- A Capital District report (binder) was distributed to Council by Ms. Carol Macomber.

Ms. Carol Macomber, Capital District Project Manager, with the assistance of Committee volunteers, Mr. Walter Regan and Mr. Kurt Bulger, presented the staff recommendation to the Committee:

MOVED by Councillor Warshick, seconded by Councillor Hetherington that it be recommended that:

- **The Capital District Vision Report guide business planning.**
- **HRM seek endorsement in principle of the Capital District Vision Report at the Provincial and Federal levels.**
- **The future use of the Cogswell Interchange site, identified in the Vision Report as the number one priority for a signature project, be planned in the context of an open public process, respectful of Vision input. Further, that staff will report back outlining the process for the Cogswell Street Interchange.**

Councillor Blumenthal requested more information / clarification on what a new immigrant policy would do for the downtown. Ms. Macomber stated that immigration is a recognized economic development mechanism and the Greater Halifax Partnership has identified promoting immigration as an economic generator. Councillor Blumenthal questioned what the cost for the Cogswell Street Interchange would be and where the funding will be found? CAO responded that staff is looking for direction from Council and there is currently no specific approach in place. Ms. Macomber commented that there would have to be a market absorption study regarding the costs involved for the Cogswell Street Interchange. Councillor Blumenthal inquired as to why Quinpool Road was included with the downtown core as Quinpool Road is part of the West End, not downtown. Ms. Macomber responded that the boundaries report (prepared by the Capital District Committee) will soon be

brought forth and this report will give more detail on the criteria utilized in forming the boundaries for the Capital District.

Councillor Sarto suggested a connection between the Capital District Task Force and the Halifax Destination Organization may be beneficial in regards to funding as both will be promoting Halifax. Ms. Macomber stated that contact has been made with the Halifax Destination Organization and the two groups will be involved in further discussions.

Councillor Cunningham inquired as to whether the BIDC's had been involved with the Capital District Task Force project to which Ms. Macomber replied that the BIDC's had indeed been involved and had acted as facilitators for some of the focus groups. Councillor Cunningham also responded to Mr. McLellan's comment, that staff were looking for direction from Council as to how to proceed with the Cogswell Street Interchange project and suggested that Council requires more information from staff before being able to give direction.

Councillor Sloane suggested that staff bring some recommendations to Council regarding Cogswell Street Interchange. Mr. McLellan confirmed that perhaps staff could present some information reports for Council.

Councillor Uteck suggested that the Market Absorption Study be placed back on the table and that perhaps an outside consultant could provide the information and include a cost analysis. Councillor Uteck inquired when the Waterfront Development Corporation would be proceeding with their plans. Mr. Grant Campbell replied he is working with the Planning Department on the final wording of the Municipal Planning Strategy and By-law. The consultant report has been completed although a public hearing (hoped for in July) has been delayed. He would like priority placed on drafting the Municipal Plan and By-law. Ms. Macomber replied that staff would report to Council on this matter.

Councillor Warshick commented that it would be beneficial to districts outside the downtown core if tourism could be spread out to other areas. He referred to page 14 of the Capital District report where a high percentage of persons surveyed, commented that they would like to see more open air events. Councillor Warshick commented that great sporting events go with great cities. Ms. Macomber stated that more consultation would be needed in this matter but agreed that sporting events would probably be best held in the suburban areas due to the problems of parking (etc.) in the downtown core.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. DARTMOUTH SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE - INTEGRATION FUND PROPOSAL

- An information report, prepared by the Dartmouth Sewage Treatment Plant

Community Liaison Committee, dated May 13, 2002, was before Council and presented by Mr. Grant MacDonald, Chair of the Community Liaison Committee and Mr. Mark Ballard, of the Dartmouth Harbourfront Trails Association.

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Cunningham that the presentation be sent to staff and be incorporated in the staff report for next week.

Councillor Hetherington commented that he would like to have the Harbour Solutions staff report available for the next Council meeting and that this report would be the cornerstone of how to continually move forward on this project.

Councillor Cunningham questioned whether the trail would be extended to join the Waterfront Development trail and whether parking would be available at either end of the trail. Staff confirmed that these considerations were included in the study.

Councillor Blumenthal asked for clarification on maintenance of the trail. Mr. McLellan stated that the HRM would be responsible for funding some of the maintenance.

Councillor Uteck suggested that the funding for maintenance of the trail be put in the Public Works budget for one fiscal year followed by a trail study to discover what the winter usage will be.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Jan Gibson
Deputy Municipal Clerk