

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
March 21, 2003

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly
Deputy Mayor Harry McInroy
Councillors: Steve 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
Robert Harvey
Len Goucher

ABSENT:

Councillors: Jerry Blumenthal
Stephen Adams
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade (regrets)

STAFF:

Mr. Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

2. 2003/2004 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Continuation of Environmental Management Services - Community Projects

Councillor Warshick referenced page 58 of the budget, Strategic Outcomes and Indicators, noting a number of surveys are mentioned and requested that these surveys be provided to Council upon completion. The Councillor also asked how staff intended to measure public satisfaction levels and if there has been any direct measurements with regards to health to see what is in place today is satisfactory. The Councillor requested a copy of the survey on pesticides be provided to Council.

Councillor Uteck expressed concern that Youth Live is being underfunded for the scope of work undertaken and expected of them.

Councillor Colwell expressed concern that there were not enough people in the field to address By-Law related problems.

MOVED by Councillor Whalen, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the budget for Youth Live be moved into the Parking Lot for a business case. MOTION DEFEATED.

Library Services

Mr. Judith Hare, Director, advised they have had a record year and the challenge for the upcoming year is to meet the rising demand. Ms. Hare advised there will be an increase in the materials budget for the upcoming year. She advised they have budgeted \$136,000 in order to open the Keshen Goodman Library on Mondays. She advised computer booking software will be installed. She outlined some of the other proposed upgrades to various library branches throughout HRM.

Councillor Warshick noted the citizens survey and noted the Woodlawn branch is the fifth busiest branch and yet it is the third smallest and asked if the CAO and staff could examine the possibility of bringing the East Dartmouth Rec Centre, the East Dartmouth Boys and Girls Club and the Library under one roof.

Councillor Colwell suggested a cost benefit analysis be undertaken on the bookmobile as well as perhaps examine the possibility of asking the public to donate books to the libraries.

PARKING LOT ITEMS

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sarto, that the Parking Lot items be dealt with on Tuesday, March 25, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Julia Horncastle
Legislative Assistant