

**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2005
(morning session)**

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher
Councillors: Steve Streach (9:55)
Krista Snow
David Hendsbee (9:50)
Harry McInroy
Gloria McCluskey
Andrew Younger (9:55)
Bill Karsten
Becky Kent
Mary Wile
Patrick Murphy
Sue Uteck
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Linda Mosher
Stephen Adams (9:50)
Brad Johns (11:00)
Robert Harvey (9:55)
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade (9:50)

REGRETS:

Councillors: Jim Smith
Dawn Sloane
Sheila Fougere

STAFF:

Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.

2. BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

- A Committee of the Whole Schedule and a document entitled 2005/2006 Proposed Budget and Budget Presentations were before members of Council.

2.1 Environmental Management Services

Mr. Brad Anguish, Director Environmental Management Services gave an overview of the 2005/06 budget. Mr. Brad Anguish, and Mr. Jim Bauld responded to various questions and comments from Council.

Councillor McCluskey asked for clarification as to what an Animal Control Analyst was and why does HRM need one. Mr. Anguish stated that this position is held in Fiscal Services and is required because the current contractor is not meeting performance requirements.

Councillor McCluskey referenced page 58 line S420 and asked for clarification on the increase of 14% of Community Standards Administration. Mr. Alan Waye, General Manager, CommunityProjects, stated that this is money that has been moved from other accounts for the purpose of educating citizens so that they take responsibility for their actions.

In response to Councillor McCluskey regarding the collection of capital contributions from developers, Mr. Brad Anguish stated that HRM already collects an amount and has the ability to collect charges for wastewater but does not at the present time.

Councillor Hendsbee raised concern that the clean up from Hurricane Juan is taking to long especially in beetle areas. He suggested that an accelerated pick up program is required. Mr. Peter Bigalow commented that Solid Waste is looking into providing a service that will meet the need.

Councillor Hendsbee noted that the Regional Plan recognizes the need for a district centre in the Porters Lake area; however, a wastewater management study is required and needs to be included in the budget. Mr. Anguish commented that those discussions are already underway with the Regional Planning Committee.

Councillor Hendsbee recommended that \$100,000 be included in the budget for the Cat By-Law.

MOVED BY Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by McInroy that \$100,000 is added to the budget for the cat By-law be placed in the parking lot. MOTION PASSED.

Councillor Hum raised concerns that toxic cleaning products and paint was being used in some HRM owned buildings. Mr. Brad Anguish commented that HRM's green procurement program and policies will address this issue, noting all of the HRM facilities are currently being audited.

In response to Councillor Rankin, Mr. Jim Bauld stated that the debt for the Sackville Landfill will be fully retired in 10 years. Mr. Bauld also clarified that the revenue for Administration Waste Resources on page 59 is a result of tipping fees at the Otter Lake facility.

In response to Councillor Kent as to why \$150,000 is budgeted for green carts, Mr. Anguish stated that there are approximately 1,600 green carts purchased each year due to new development.

Councillor Adams suggested youth groups be engaged to do clean up of communities to assist them in paying for their meeting space. Councillor Adams also commented that the Herring Cove sewer and water infrastructure should still be maintained on the list for any federal infrastructure funding that is available.

Councillor Snow on the costing of the infrastructure in regards to the Beaver Bank water and sewer, Mr. Anguish commented that there were no changes and that the funding has been recovered.

Councillor Hendsbee raised concerns over there being no funds allocated to community projects to assist with the clean up of off road dumping in rural areas or derelict vehicles.

Mr. Jim Bald, Manager Solid Waste Resources, commented the Resource Recovery Fund currently reimburses the resident one half the cost for removal. He noted HRM currently relies on other agencies such as Clean Nova Scotia to address this issue; therefore, there is nothing budgeted for community-based initiatives.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor McCluskey, that \$25,000 be added to the parking lot to provide for community program initiatives to deal with the clean up of illegal dumping sites. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Adams, that \$80,000 is added to the parking lot to provide two week pickup of the green cart for all of HRM residents. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Jan Gibson
Municipal Clerk