

**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MARCH 31, 1998**

**PRESENT:**

Deputy Mayor Reg Rankin  
Councillors: Bill Dooks  
David Hendsbee  
Ron Cooper  
Harry McInroy  
Jack Greenough  
Condo Sarto  
Bruce Hetherington  
Clint Schofield  
John Cunningham  
Jerry Blumenthal  
Graham L. Downey  
Larry Uteck  
Howard Epstein  
Russell Walker  
Bill Stone  
Ron Hanson  
Stephen Adams  
Barry Barnet  
Bob Harvey  
Peter Kelly  
Jack Mitchell

**ABSENT:**

Councillor Gordon R. Snow

**REGRETS:**

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald

**STAFF MEMBERS:**

Mr. George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor  
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Jane Nauss, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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Deputy Mayor Rankin called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

**1. HALIFAX HARBOUR SOLUTIONS STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

C Copies of the following reports had been distributed to Council:

- / Halifax Harbour Solutions Advisory Committee - Final Report to Council
- / Report of the Halifax Harbour Solutions Advisory Committee
- / Halifax Harbour Solutions Project - Draft Summary Report.

Ms. Val Spencer, Director, Priority and Policy, addressed Council referencing the above-noted reports, and introducing various Committee Members, and Consultants, who would be making presentations to Council.

Staff was recommending that Council:

- (a) adopt the report of the Harbour Solutions Advisory Committee (SAC) with its recommendations, and the framework it presents for the harbour solutions project. Appropriate elements of a "WINBY" approach should be adopted, as discussed on page 11 of the staff report dated March 19, 1998, and a final decision on ownership under possible public-private partnership approaches should be deferred, as discussed on page 16 of the aforementioned staff report; further
- (b) give approval in principle to concurrent action on the following next steps in this process:
  - / identification of specific candidate sites for facilities and working with landowners of such prospective sites to reach agreement on availability;
  - / provide information on the process and solution scenarios to the general public and inform the public on progress to date as well as impending and future steps;
  - / further consulting work to refine treatment scenarios and select specific solutions in terms of sites, technology, collection infrastructure, etc.;
  - / issuance of a Request for Expressions of Interest to the private sector to identify prospective participants in further steps, should a PPP approach be adopted;
  - / Initiating of appropriate procurement processes to develop facility designs,

provide funding mechanisms, and develop contractual arrangements for components of the selected treatment scenario.

Following the presentations, with the use of overheads, a lengthy question and answer period took place.

Councillor Uteck suggested the Committee investigate smaller types of technologies and enquired as to why costs would rise dramatically with seventeen sites.

Councillor Hetherington enquired if the Committee has reviewed alternatives for subdivisions that are growing in size, and the fact that their sewage will flow into the Harbour over the next ten years. Further, the Councillor enquired if these subdivisions could be looked at as on site sewage systems. In response, Mr. Tony Blouin, Priority and Policy, advised this could be reviewed, however, he cautioned Council as the municipality owns fourteen different sewage treatment plants which cost HRM significantly.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Kelly as to costs to develop infrastructure (outfall), Mr. Tony Blouin advised it was more expensive to develop infrastructure in the water than to do so on land.

Councillor Hetherington suggested “and Councillor” be added to recommendation (b), after “landowners.” In response, Mr. Blouin advised that the Committee would like to have the Councillors involvement.

In response to a suggestion from Councillor Barnet that there should be dialogue with the Province and Federal levels of government for cost-sharing, and that this should be part of the recommendation, Mr. Tony Blouin advised this could prove a problem as the Committee does not have a defined project as yet, in terms of details, although this information will be available soon. Councillor Barnet suggested the Committee utilize what figures it can and work towards obtaining cost-sharing from the other levels of government.

Councillor Cooper suggested a concurrent capital process was required. Further, the Councillor advised he would be interested in obtaining further consultant costs.

Councillor Adams suggested staff explore options as to the investments of funds (interest generated).

Council commended the Committee, and staff, on a job well done, in the preparation of the reports.

**MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Blumenthal to table the Reports from the Halifax Harbour Solutions Stakeholder Advisory Committee to the second**

**Committee of the Whole Meeting in April. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**2.           ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Sarto to adjourn at 10:00 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Vi Carmichael  
MUNICIPAL CLERK

