HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
September 28, 2004

PRESENT:
Mayor Peter J. Kelly (7:00 p.m.)
Deputy Mayor Steve Streatch
Councillors:  Krista Snow
              David Hendsbee
              Ron Cooper
              Harry McInroy
              Brian Warshick
              Condo Sarto
              Bruce Hetherington
              Jim Smith
              John Cunningham
              Jerry Blumenthal
              Dawn Sloane
              Sue Uteck
              Sheila Fougere
              Russell Walker
              Debbie Hum
              Linda Mosher
              Stephen Adams
              Brad Johns
              Robert Harvey
              Len Goucher
              Reg Rankin
              Gary Meade

STAFF:
Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Legislative Assistant
Table of Contents

1. INVOCATION ........................................................................................................ 5
SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Peter Cox, Town Crier ...................................................... 5
SPECIAL PRESENTATION - In Nova Award .................................................................. 5
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES .................................................................................... 5
3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS ........................................................................................................ 5
4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES ...................................................... 6
5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION ...................................................................... 6
6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION .................................................................................... 6
7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS .................................................... 6
8. PUBLIC HEARINGS .................................................................................................. 6
   8.1 By-Law L-118, an Amendment to By-Law L-100, respecting Local Improvement Charges .................................................................................................................. 6
   8.2 Administrative Order SC-35, Respecting Street Closure - Portion of Avenue du Portage, Dartmouth .................................................................................................................. 7
9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS .......................................... 8
   9.1 Correspondence .................................................................................................... 8
   9.2 Petitions .............................................................................................................. 8
      9.2.1 Petition - Councillor Goucher - Residents of Millview Subdivision - Water Supply and Use of Emergency Roadway ........................................................................ 8
      9.2.2 Petition - Councillor Mosher - Residents of Parkhill Road - Installation of Speed Hump .................................................................................................................. 8
      9.2.3 Petition - Councillor Fougere - Street Closure for Street Parties .................. 8
      9.2.4 Petition - Councillor Fougere - Gymnasium and Auditorium Facilities at New Peninsula High School ................................................................................................. 8
10. REPORTS ................................................................................................................ 8
    10.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER ................................................................ 8
        10.1.1 Tender 04-145, One New Model 2005 4x4 Cab & Chassis with
Service Body 11, 200 GVWR  Tender 04-146, One New Model 2005 4x4 Cab and Chassis with Service Body, 17,500 GVWR 8
10.1.2 Tender 04-259, Beaver Bank Municipal Services, Phase 4D - Central Region 9
10.1.3 Tender 04-283, Paving and Watermain Renewal, Parkhill Road, West Region 10
10.1.4 Tender 04-056, Supply of Bulk Gasoline, Diesel Fuel and/or Biodiesel 10
10.1.5 By-Law L-119, An Amendment to L-100 *Respecting Local Improvement Charges, Rockwood Hill Drive (Private Road) Bridge - Timberlea 11
10.1.6 Case 00702: Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law Amendment - 6139 Young Street, Halifax 11
10.1.7 Tender 04-166, Soil Remediation of 15 Fenerty Road 12
10.2 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 12
10.2.1 Revised Evaluation Criteria for Municipal Heritage Properties 12
10.3 PENINSULA COMMUNITY COUNCIL 13
10.3.1 Case 00654: Request for Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law Amendment to Permit a Health Centre at 5667 Kaye Street, Halifax 13
10.4 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL 13
10.4.1 Councillor Adams -Information Item - Trunk Sewer Taxes Collected in Wards 7 & 8 of the Former City of Halifax 13
10.4.2 Councillor Cooper 14
(i) Restoration of Juan Damaged Parkland 14
(ii) Playground Equipment Repair and Replacement Program 15
10.4.3 Councillor Johns - School Rental Fees for Non-Profit Community Groups 16
11. MOTIONS 17
11.1 Councillor Hendsbee - Election Poll Location Rationalization 17
11.2 Councillor Snow - Increase to Assessed Value of Property Relating to Municipal Sewer and/or Water Services 17
12. ADDED ITEMS 18
12.1 Legal Matter - Settlement of Claim 18
13. NOTICES OF MOTION 18
13.1 Notice of Motion - Councillor Snow - Extension of Water Service Boundary to Fall River 18
13.2 Notice of Motion - Councillor Meade (on behalf of Councillor Rankin) - First
Reading of By-law Number L-119, an Amendment to By-Law L-100, Respecting Charges for Local Improvements ........................................ 18

14. ADJOURNMENT ........................................................................................................... 18
1. **INVOCATION**

The meeting was called to order with Councillor Hum leading the invocation.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Peter Cox, Town Crier**

Mr. Jerry Randall, Chairman, Nova Scotia Guild of Town Criers; Deputy Mayor Streatch, on behalf of the Mayor and Council; Mr. Ron Amey, Town Crier for Waverley; and Mr. Lloyd Smith, Town Crier for Windsor presented a certificate to Peter Cox, Town Crier naming him a life member of the Nova Scotia Guild of Town Criers.

Mr. Cox presented to HRM a figurine of himself produced at the Coalport Factory in England. Mr. Cox explained that this was a limited edition (only 1000 made) and that, with the exception of royalty, his figure was the only one produced by the Coalport Factory.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION - In Nova Award**

Deputy Mayor Streatch presented to staff and members of the industry an In Nova Award, a Provincial award of excellence, for the creation of a development liaison group established with an initial mandate of reducing review and approval timeframes for lower density planning applications. The Deputy Mayor went on to recognize and congratulate members of staff and the development industry who were instrumental in the process.

Ms. Sharon Bond, Manager, Subdivision and Land Use Compliance, accepted the award on behalf of staff and the industry.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Adams that the Regional Council Minutes of meetings held on September 7 and 14, 2004, as distributed, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

**Additions:**

12.1 Legal Matter - Settlement of Claim

Councillor Meade thanked the Hammonds Plains, Seabright, Bay Road and Black Point Fire Departments for working together to extinguish a recent fire at a home on Oakland Point Lane.
The Departments worked as one unit to keep the fire from spreading to neighbouring trees and houses. The Councillor expressed sincere appreciation on behalf of everyone involved.

Councillor Hetherington recognized the efforts of Canada Post along with residents of HRM in the recent food drive for the Metro Food Bank. He advised that 19 tons of food valued at $132,000 had been collected.

Councillor Warshick thanked Police and the Community Response Team for their quick response and genuine concern for residents in light of the recent senseless crime of graffiti in the Tam O’Shanter Ridge and Delmac Park subdivisions.

Councillor Warshick extended congratulations to Dave (Ducky) Webber, Graham MacIntyre, David MacDonald, and Michael Mahaney on capturing the Canadian Seniors Mens Golf Team Championship in Brantford, Ontario. Councillor Warshick noted that this is the first time a Nova Scotian team has won this title. He went on to congratulate Ducky Webber on winning the Royal Canadian Golf Association Senior Men’s Championship, also a first for Nova Scotia. Councillor Warshick requested that the Mayor write a letter of congratulations and suggested that Council recognize these wins at some later date.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - None

6 MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - None

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.1 By-Law L-118, an Amendment to By-Law L-100, respecting Local Improvement Charges

• This matter was given First Reading at the September 7, 2004 meeting of Regional Council.

Mr. Jamie Hannam, Chief Engineer, Halifax Regional Water Commission, briefly reviewed with Council the staff report dated August 24, 2004. Mr. Hannam indicated that staff is recommending approval of By-Law L-118 attached to the staff report.

The Chair called three times for persons wishing to speak in favour of against the By-Law.
Hearing none, the following motion was placed.

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Sarto that the public hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Walker that Regional Council give Second Reading to By-Law L-118, an amendment to By-Law L-100, Respecting Local Improvement Charge. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8.2 Administrative Order SC-35, Respecting Street Closure - Portion of Avenue du Portage, Dartmouth

- This matter was last considered at the August 31, 2004 meeting of Halifax Regional Council. A supplementary staff report prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

Mr. Stephen Smith, Real Estate Officer, briefly outlined the proposal to sell and close a portion of Avenue du Portage, Dartmouth, as found in the supplementary staff report. Mr. Smith noted that Council was recommending approval of the street closure.

Mr. Smith responded to questions from members of Council regarding the zoning of the property.

Mr. Ernie Brennan, Ketch Harbour

Mr. Brennan addressed Council expressing concern that there was a potential for several lots on this site. He also expressed concern that there was a potential for 16 units on the property. Mr. Brennan commented that once the property has changed hands, the new owner can do as he/she wants.

The Chair called three times for persons wishing to speak in favour of or against the proposed street closure.

Hearing none, the following motion was placed.

MOVED by Councillor Goucher, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the public hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Councillor Warshick, seconded by Councillor Sarto that Regional Council approve Administrative Order SC-35 and close the portion of Avenue du Portage as shown on Attachment A of the August 12, 2004 supplementary staff report.
Councillor Hetherington noted that rezoning of this property would have to come before Harbour East Community Council.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

His Worship Mayor Kelly joins the meeting and Deputy Mayor Streatch takes his seat in Council.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

9.1 **Correspondence** - None

9.2 **Petitions**

9.2.1 **Petition - Councillor Goucher - Residents of Millview Subdivision - Water Supply and Use of Emergency Roadway**

Councillor Goucher submitted a petition from residents of the Millview Subdivision requesting, in light of ever changing development, a written guarantee of water supply or services provided at minimal cost and a written guarantee that the newly developed emergency road will never be opened as a thoroughfare and will be maintained properly.

9.2.2 **Petition - Councillor Mosher - Residents of Parkhill Road - Installation of Speed Hump**

Councillor Mosher submitted a petition from residents of Parkhill Road requesting that included with the resurfacing of Parkhill Road between Kirk Drive and the end of Parkhill Road, be the installation of a speed hump. The purpose of the speed hump is to dissuade high speeds on a very narrow and dangerous road.

9.2.3 **Petition - Councillor Fougere - Street Closure for Street Parties**

Councillor Fougere submitted a petition from residents of Duncan Street urging a change to the policy regarding the closure of streets for street parties.

9.2.4 **Petition - Councillor Fougere - Gymnasium and Auditorium Facilities at New Peninsula High School**

Councillor Fougere submitted a petition from residents Duncan Street requesting that the new Halifax Peninsula High School have two gyms and at least one auditorium and that monies from the sale of lands occupied by the old schools be used to achieve this goal.
10. REPORTS

10.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

10.1.1 Tender 04-145, One New Model 2005 4x4 Cab & Chassis with Service Body 11,200 GVWR Tender 04-146, One New Model 2005 4x4 Cab and Chassis with Service Body, 17,500 GVWR

• A staff report dated September 14, 2004 prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Snow that Regional Council:

1. Approve an increase to the 2004/2005 Capital Budget for a new project, “Fire-Western Region 4X4's(2)” in the amount of $101,389.00 with funding, as identified in the Rural Fire Reserve (Q128) approved by Council on July 31, 2004, from the Rural Fire Reserve (Q128).

2. Award Tender #04-145 to Steele Ford Lincoln for the purchase of 2005 4X4 Cab and Chassis with Service Body, 11,200 GVWR at a total cost of $44,554.11 (net HST included) with funding from the new Capital project for “Fire-Western Region 4X4's (2)”, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of this report.

3. Award Tender #04-146 to MacPhee Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd. for the purchase of a 2005 4XR Crew Cab and Chassis with Service Body, 17,500 GVWR at a total cost of $56,834.24 (net HST included) with funding from the new Capital project for “Fire-Western Region 4X4's(2)”, as outlined in the Budget implications section of this report.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.2 Tender 04-259, Beaver Bank Municipal Services, Phase 4D - Central Region

• A staff report dated September 20, 2004 prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Snow that Regional Council:
1. Award Tender No. 04-259, Beaver Bank Municipal Services, Phase 4D - Central Region to A.C.L. Construction Limited for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a tender price of $2,848,000 plus net HST for a total of $2,945,658, from Capital Account No CGU00385, Beaver Bank Municipal Services, Phase 4D, with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications section of the September 20, 2004 staff report.

2. Approve the appointment of CBCL Limited for construction inspection services for an estimated fee of $85,525 plus net HST for a total of $98,801, with funding as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the September 20, 2004 staff report.

Following a brief questioning of staff, the MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.3 Tender 04-283, Paving and Watermain Renewal, Parkhill Road, West Region

- A staff report dated September 20, 2004 prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Adams that Regional Council:

1. Approve an increase in the amount of $75,333 to Capital Account No. CZU00656, Resurfacing to cover the cost of the forcemain renewal with funding from the Environmental Protection Reserve (Q-105), as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the September 20, 2004 staff report.

2. Approve an increase in the Gross Budget for Capital Account No. CZU00565, Resurfacing by $118,680 with no change in the Net Budget to cover the cost of the watermain renewal on Parkhill Road, due to cost sharing with Halifax Regional Water Commission (September 7, 2004).

3. Award Tender No. 04-283, Paving and Watermain Renewal, Parkhill Road, West Region to Dexter Construction Company Limited for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of $224,896.00, plus net HST for a total of $232,608 from Capital Account No. CZU00565, Resurfacing, as authorized in the Budget Implications section of the September 20, 2004 staff report.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
10.1.4 Tender 04-056, Supply of Bulk Gasoline, Diesel Fuel and/or Biodiesel

- A staff report dated September 13, 2004 prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor Smith that Regional Council:

1. Award Tender #04-056 for Bulk Gasoline and Diesel Fuel to Imperial Oil at the per litre price listed in Section A - Fleet Vehicles Table 1 and Table 2 of the September 13, 2004 staff report, for a period of three years with the option to extend for an additional three, one year terms at HRM’s discretion, with funding from Operating Accounts as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the September 13, 2004 staff report.

2. Award Tender #04-056 for Bulk Biodiesel B-20 to Wilson Fuel Co. Ltd. at the per litre price listed in Section B - Transit Buses and Ferries Table 3B of the September 13, 2004 report for a period of three years with the option to extend for an additional three, one year terms at HRM’s discretion, with funding from Operating Accounts as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the September 13, 2004 staff.

Following a brief discussion and questioning of staff the MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.5 By-Law L-119, An Amendment to L-100 Respecting Local Improvement Charges, Rockwood Hill Drive (Private Road) Bridge - Timberlea

- A staff report dated September 20, 2004 prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Meade that Regional Council:

1. Direct staff to provide financial assistance to the residents for the rehabilitation of the existing bridge on Rockwood Hills Drive, a private road, such assistance not to exceed $50,000.

2. Approve in principle and begin the formal process for the adoption of By-Law Number L-119, Respecting Charges to Provide for the Rehabilitation of the Existing Culvert and the Construction of a Timber Bridge over the Culvert on
Rockwood Hills Drive, a Private Road, and the assignment of Local Improvement Charges for full recovery of HRM’s financial assistance.

Councillor Rankin clarified that HRM would realize a full recovery of costs levied on the subject properties. He further noted that 2/3 of the cost would be assigned to the property owners on the south side and the remaining 1/3 assigned to the property owner located on the north side.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.6 Case 00702: Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law Amendment - 6139 Young Street, Halifax

A staff report dated September 9, 2004 prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve the request to initiate the process to amend the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for the property situated at 6139 Young Street, Halifax, as generally shown on Map 1 of the September 9, 2004 staff report to allow for commercial uses.

2. Request staff to follow the public participation program as approved by Council in February, 1997 including a public participation meeting to be held by staff.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.7 Tender 04-166, Soil Remediation of 15 Fenerty Road

A staff report dated September 10, 2004 prepared for George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Johns that Regional Council:

1. Award Tender 04-166 for the soil remediation of 15 Fenerty Road, Halifax, to Permacrete Restoration Services Limited for $103,820.00 plus net HST for a total of $107,379.98.
2. Approve the expenditure of $60,000.00 plus net HST for a total of $62,058 for consultant services from Jacques Whitford Ltd.

3. Approve the expenditure of $31,500.00 for reimbursement for re-building a portion of a dwelling and $9,450.00 for the owner’s business interruption/loss.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10.2.1 Revised Evaluation Criteria for Municipal Heritage Properties

- A report from Allan MacLellan, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee, dated September 22, 2004, was before Council for consideration. A memorandum dated September 21, 2004 from Maggie Holm, Heritage Planner, was distributed to members of Council.

MOVED by Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Regional Council adopt the revised evaluation criteria for registration of municipal heritage buildings in Halifax Regional Municipality as outlined in Attachment A of the September 22, 2004 report.

Following a brief questioning of staff, the MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.3 PENINSULA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

10.3.1 Case 00654: Request for Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law Amendment to Permit a Health Centre at 5667 Kaye Street, Halifax

- A report from Councillor Sue Uteck, Chair, Peninsula Community Council, dated September 20, 2004, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Hetherington that Regional Council take no further action on the request to amend the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for the property located at 5667 Kaye Street, Halifax, to permit a holistic health centre. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.4 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
10.4.1 Councillor Adams -Information Item - Trunk Sewer Taxes Collected in Wards 7 & 8 of the Former City of Halifax

- A previously distributed Information Report dated August 21, 2004 submitted by Bruce Fisher, Acting Director, Financial Services, was before Council for consideration.

Referring to the report, Councillor Adams noted that staff has indicated they will prepare a report if deemed necessary by Council. He went on to note that this particular request was initiated by the members of Herring Cove Community Liaison Committee and before that by a member of the community. Councillor Adams indicated that this request was first made in 1998.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Mosher that staff bring forward a report regarding the cost and benefits of undertaking the gathering of this information.

A brief discussion ensued with members of Councillor Uteck questioning the purpose of this information being gathered in light of the fact that Council has already approved five million dollars in infrastructure monies towards the Herring Cove Project.

A brief discussion ensued with Councillor Adams indicating that he was unable to provide further information regarding the intent of the request. He went on to note that this matter is discussed at almost all meetings of the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) which he attends. Councillor Adams indicated that he would like to provide to the members of the Committee the cost of gathering the information and then allow them to make a decision regarding whether they wish to proceed with the matter.

Referring to the lack of clarity around the request, it was MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Hetherington that further consideration of this matter be deferred pending staff attending the next Herring Cove Community Liaison Committee to determine the exact concerns of that group and reporting back to Council in this regard.

Following a discussion, the MOTION TO DEFER WAS PUT AND PASSED.

10.4.2 Councillor Cooper

(i) Restoration of Juan Damaged Parkland

Councillor Cooper addressed Council indicating that he wanted to determine what plan was in place to restore parklands which were damaged during Hurricane Juan. He noted that one
particular trail in District 4 was devastated during the hurricane. Councillor Cooper noted that this area has not been restored and citizens are becoming very concerned about the future of the trail. Residents want to know how the area will be restored to its pre-Juan use. Councillor Cooper went on to express concern regarding possible time limits on Federal Government participation and what the priority is in terms of parkland restoration. The Councillor went on to indicate that there does not appear to be a concrete plan as to when restoration may begin and how the residents might be involved.

Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager, Real Property Planning, advised that staff is just now turning their attention to the restoration of parkland areas which were primarily naturally forested areas. He went on to indicate that staff is ready to sit down with Federal Government representatives to determine what will qualify for federal funding. Mr. Bigelow noted that staff are following precedents established as a result of the Ontario ice storm. He indicated until such time as these discussions have been held, staff will be unable to develop a plan for re-planting or regeneration of trees.

Councillor Cooper confirmed that the Federal Government have indicated that they would like to complete this process within 24 to 36 months. He went on to express concern that HRM would not have sufficient time to negotiate given this timeline. The Councillor asked, if this is the case, will these areas be naturally re-forested.

Mr. Bigelow noted that re-forestation of these parkland areas would take a number of years in any case, however, staff will be looking at ways to enhance the area. Mr. Bigelow noted that the legislation obliges the federal government to assist the Municipality to bring this area back to a usable standard. He indicated that the discussion to be held with the federal government is what constitutes a usable standard.

MOVED by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Cunningham that staff provide an update, within three months, as to what level of Federal Government participation in the restoration of parklands HRM can expect, timelines for the restoration of damaged parkland, and how residents can be involved in decisions relating to temporary upgrading.

Councillor Hendsbee requested that this report include a status report regarding other properties affected by Hurricane Juan. The Councillor referred particularly to the downed trees in the Mineville River and the potential for flooding due to blockages during the winter months. Councillor Hendsbee went on to note that the Lake Echo Community Centre is eager to learn what the plan is for the rehabilitation of their property.

In response to Councillor Hendsbee, Mr. McLellan indicated that not all monies have been paid to HRM from the Federal Government on claims made previous to the Hurricane Juan
claims. He went on to note that staff would be coming back with a report providing Council some options on what could or should be done with the monies available.

Mr. Bigelow, responding to a question from Councillor Hendsbee, noted that playgrounds damage by Juan fell under insurance claims, and therefore would be restored to the existing standard.

Councillor Smith requested that the report be expanded to include the plan for a tree replacement program on streets. Mr. Bigelow indicated that staff’s plan was to address the issue of replacing trees on streets during the pre-capital budget planning. He noted that these trees do not qualify for federal funding.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

(ii) Playground Equipment Repair and Replacement Program

Councillor Cooper noted that the state of equipment in playgrounds across HRM has been identified as some risk and has been removed. The Councillor referred to a recent newspaper report which indicated a fairly concrete plan, however, that article did not include any timelines as to replacement. Councillor Cooper indicated that Council has not yet received a comprehensive report regarding when this equipment will be replaced. He indicated that this of great concern to residents.

MOVED by Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor Hetherington that staff provide to Council a report outlining what, if any, comprehensive plan for the repair and replacement of playground equipment is in place and the timeline for that plan. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10.4.3 Councillor Johns - School Rental Fees for Non-Profit Community Groups

Councillor Johns indicated that he had been contacted by the Sackville Minor Basketball Association regarding increased fees to use school facilities, particularly on Saturday, and the introduction of a fee for a door monitor. Councillor Johns asked if other members of Council had been contacted by community groups. He went on to indicate that his understanding had been that as a consequence of the negotiation with the School Board, this space would be offered to community groups at a substantially reduced cost.

MOVED by Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Harvey that staff provide a report regarding discrepancies in the application of school rental fees for non-profit groups.
A discussion ensued with Ms. Erin Flaim, Service Delivery and Asset Management, noting that HRM is administering the agreement and not setting the fees. She went on to advise that the School Board is not charging rental fees. However, a fee for the door monitors is being charged. The Board erroneously believed that this fee was being charged last year. When the agreement was reached the Board was of the opinion that community groups would see a reduction in costs.

Councillor Walker noted that he had received concerns that every group using the school is paying $9.00 per hour for door monitors and that at times there were no door monitors in the schools.

A further discussion ensued with Councillor Mosher noting that there appears to be some inconsistencies in the fees being charged with some groups being grandfathered and not required to pay fees, others paying $7.50 per hour and, still others paying $9.00/hour. The Councillor requested clarification of this issue.

Councillor Cooper referred to a recent report that gave an indication that community groups who had booked specific hours were refused the use of the facility during those hours. The Councillor asked whether or not this is still occurring.

In response to a question from Councillor Hendsbee regarding the impact of new Provincial legislation requiring that school facilities be made available to children and youths, Ms. Flaim clarified that only adult groups are charged the rental fees. Any members that are under the age of 21 are not being charged the actual rental fee. Ms. Flaim went on to indicate that last year the rental fee was $7.50 per hour plus HST. This year users are paying a door monitor fee of $9.00 per hour. Ms. Flaim noted once again that the School Board believed they had been charging this door monitor fee last year but wasn’t.

Ms. Flaim further clarified that when the agreement was being discussed, the School Board was not aware that these door monitor fees were not being collected. Given the fact that youth groups were not going to be charged fees, the School Board believed there would be a reduction in fees. Ms. Flaim indicated that the School Board is attempting to clarify the number of groups paying the door monitor fee for any one given period.

Councillor Johns noted that some of the groups providing a recreational program are not for profit, however, there are some profit groups providing such programs. Councillor Johns requested clarification of the rental policy in this instance. The Councillor further noted that the timing of payment of fees has changed from the end of the month to the first of the month and asked why this change had occurred.

Ms. Flaim noted that the change in the timing of payment of fees was due to HRM’s policy of receiving up front payment.
11. MOTIONS

11.1 Councillor Hendsbee - Election Poll Location Rationalization

- Councillor Hendsbee gave Notice of Motion at the September 14, 2004 meeting of Halifax Regional Council

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Snow that that the HRM Election Office, through the Municipal Clerk’s Office, provide a report and presentation to Council on its Election Poll Location Rationalization initiative as it relates to consolidating traditional polling locations for the upcoming 2004 Municipal and School Board Elections, and Provincial Plebiscite.

Following a brief discussion and questioning of staff, the MOTION WAS PUT AND DEFEATED.

11.2 Councillor Snow - Increase to Assessed Value of Property Relating to Municipal Sewer and/or Water Services

- Councillor Snow gave Notice of Motion at the September 14, 2004 meeting of Halifax Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Snow, seconded by Councillor Sloane that staff prepare a report outlining the amount, if any, of the increase in the assessed value of a property that can be attributed from receiving services through a Municipal sewer, water, or sewer and water project. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 Legal Matter - Settlement of Claim

- This matter was considered at the in camera session of Halifax Regional Council held earlier today and was before Council for ratification.

MOVED by Councillor Fougere, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council settle this claim, as outlined in the Private and Confidential staff report dated September 8, 2004, brought by the Plaintiff in the amount of $26,139.40 to achieve a
full settlement of the Plaintiff`s action upon obtaining a full release from the Plaintiff from any further claims arising out of a pedestrian accident May 4, 1998.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

13.1 Notice of Motion - Councillor Snow - Extension of Water Service Boundary to Fall River

Councillor Snow gave Notice of Motion that at the next regular meeting of Halifax Regional Council, to be held on October 5, 2004, she intends to introduce a motion requesting that the water service boundary area be extended to encompass the community of Fall River.
13.2 Notice of Motion - Councillor Meade (on behalf of Councillor Rankin) - First Reading of By-law Number L-119, an Amendment to By-Law L-100, Respecting Charges for Local Improvements

Councillor Meade, on behalf of Councillor Rankin, gave Notice of Motion that at the next regular meeting of Halifax Regional Council, to be held on October 5, 2004, he intends to introduce First Reading of By-law Number L-119, an amendment to By-Law L-100, Respecting Charges for Local Improvements, the purpose of which is to amend By-law number L-100, the Local Improvement By-Law.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Jan Gibson
Municipal Clerk