

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES MAY 2, 2006

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter Kelly
Deputy Mayor Russell Walker
Councillors: Steve Streach
Krista Snow
David Hendsbee
Harry McInroy
Gloria McCluskey
Andrew Younger
Bill Karsten
Becky Kent
Jim Smith
Mary Wile
Patrick Murphy
Dawn Sloane
Sue Uteck
Sheila Fougere
Debbie Hum
Linda Mosher
Stephen Adams
Brad Johns
Robert Harvey
Len Goucher
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade

STAFF:

Mr. Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Legislative Assistant

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1. INVOCATION

Deputy Mayor Walker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councillor Murphy led the invocation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Goucher that the minutes of the April 18, 2006 meeting of Halifax Regional Council, as distributed, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Addition:

11.1 Contractual Matter - Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) Project Proposal

MOVED by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Kelly joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Councillor Sloane presented a cheque for \$500 to Mayor Kelly from the North End Walkers. This group of women and men walk for both health reasons and to raise money for their community. The monies have been donated towards swing sets to be installed on the Halifax Commons.

Mayor Kelly assumed the Chair.

Councillor Rankin recognized members of the Hatchett Lake Scout troop, Shad Bay, who are attending this meeting of Council to fulfill the requirements for their civic badge.

Councillor Goucher invited residents of Halifax to the Bedford Arbor Day Festival, beginning at 10:30 a.m. on May 6, 2006 at Moirs Pond. The Councillor noted that the celebrations would include the ceremonial transfer of Moirs Pond to HRM.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - None

6. **MOTIONS OF RESCISSION** - None

7. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

7.1 **Case H00153 - Application for De-Registration of 78 Shore Road, Dartmouth**

- This matter was deferred from the April 4, 2006 meeting of Halifax Regional Council.
- A supplementary staff report dated April 18, 2006 was before Council. Extracts from the April 4 and March 21, 2006 meetings of Regional Council were also before Council. Previously distributed reports dated March 27 and January 25, 2006 were included with Council's package. A presentation entitled Municipal Heritage De-Registration, 78 Shore Road, Dartmouth was also before Council.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that Halifax Regional Council approve the de-registration of 78 Shore Road, Dartmouth, as shown on Map 1 of the April 18, 2006 supplementary staff report.

A brief discussion ensued with members of Council expressing concern regarding the ongoing loss of heritage properties.

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

MOTION PUT AND PASSED (18, 6)

Members of Council voting **in favour** of the motion were: Mayor Peter Kelly, Deputy Mayor Walker and Councillors Streach, Snow, Hendsbee, McInroy, Karsten, Wile, Uteck, Fougere, Hum, Mosher, Adams, Harvey, Goucher, Rankin, and Meade.

Members of Council voting **against** the motion were: Councillors McCluskey, Younger, Kent, Smith, Murphy, Sloane and Johns.

Councillors Johns and Harvey advised that they had accidentally voted incorrectly on this matter and the above record reflects this correction.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

8.1 **Correspondence** - None

8.2 **Petitions**

8.2.1 Petition - Non Resident Parking on Walton Drive - Councillor Mosher

Councillor Mosher submitted a petition on behalf of residents of Walton Drive requesting that daily non-resident parking on Walton Drive be restricted.

This matter will be referred to staff for response.

8.2.2 Petition - Bloomfield Centre Maintenance - Councillor Murphy

Councillor Murphy submitted a petition on behalf of citizens of HRM requesting that HRM recognize the importance of maintaining the Bloomfield Centre until such time as a proper community centre is established for the community.

This matter will be referred to staff for response.

8.3 Presentations

8.3.1 Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee - Scott Logan, Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Scott Logan, CEO, Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee, using a PowerPoint presentation, addressed Council introducing Ms. Dale MacLennan, Director of Finance and Administration, Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee, and Mr. Duff Montgomerie, Assistant Deputy Minister, Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection. Mr. Logan noted that Mr. Montgomerie was also one of the key provincial members on the Board of Directors of the Bid Committee. Mr. Logan advised that the Committee has been quite busy establishing offices, developing communications, and engaging national partners. He noted that on an international level the Committee's time at the Melbourne games was very productive.

Mr. Duff Montgomerie, Assistant Deputy Minister, Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection, made a presentation to Council including the following key highlights:

- The Province views the Commonwealth games as a four step process:
 - < Domestic Bid
 - < International Bid
 - < Prepare to host the Games
 - < Host the Games,
- The process has been and will continue to be a success,

- Collaboration and cooperation between Provincial, Municipal, and First Nations governments and the private sector saw the development of a comprehensive domestic bid book,
- One indication of this cooperation is the \$600,000 contributed by the private sector,
- The next step in the process was having 17 people in Melbourne prepared to lobby hard for Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada,
- Premier Hamm, Minister Barnett and Mayor Kelly worked very hard along with Scott Logan, Fred MacGillivray and officials from Commonwealth Games Canada to present the case on behalf of Halifax,
- The Halifax bid is different from the Melbourne bid, it focuses on the character and values of Halifax, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Country of Canada,
- Shortly after returning from the Melbourne Games, Mayor Kelly and Minister Barnett met in Halifax with John Furlong, the CEO of the 2010 Winter Games,
- Mr. Furlong shared three key pieces of information:
 - < the bid book won't win the games, but it could lose the games -- what will win the Games is the relationships built with the countries of the Commonwealth
 - < this is the toughest thing the Committee will ever do, the pressure to stay on top of the game will be intense and constant – competing cities will be watching carefully and at home there will be criticism
 - < it is important to stay true to the character and values of Halifax and Nova Scotia,
- Commonwealth Games is the second of four sport priorities identified by the Federal Government,
- The commitment to the Commonwealth Games from the Provincial Government is that the 2014 Halifax Commonwealth Games will be athlete focussed, will be physically and environmentally responsible, and they will be consistent with the values of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada and the Commonwealth Games,
- Within two weeks the Province will be establishing a Games Secretariat that will enable the Province bring resources in kind to this endeavour.

Mr. Logan went on to update Council on the delegation to Melbourne noting the following

- The three key objectives for the delegation were:
 - < To launch Canada's international bid to be hosted by Halifax (Halifax is known by many more now)
 - < To introduce ourselves - relationships are very important
 - < To learn from Melbourne - it was a tremendous opportunity to learn all aspects of hosting the games,
- The delegation has achieved everything it set out to - Halifax is well known and credible,

- Canada's reputation internationally is stellar. Canadians are well considered as individuals and Canada as a host for events. Canada is recognized as being a safe, clean and fair minded country,
- In July 2006 the Commonwealth Games Federation will provide the final details and requirements for the bid,

- A variety of communications plans and are activities underway to ensure that the public has information about the bid,
- The Committee receives calls offering help on a daily basis,
- The website address is www.2014halifax.com,
- Encouraged members of Council to refer questions regarding the Games to the Bid Committee,
- Advised that a series of public service announcements would be issued in the near future in an effort to maintain and enhance public support,
- Reviewed key dates as follows:
 - < May 9, 2007 - all candidate cities must have international bid submitted, Summer 2007 - Up to 71 international delegates will visit Halifax and the Commonwealth Games Federation will do a formal evaluation,
 - < October 9, 2007 - all candidate cities must finalize their initial bids,
 - < November 9, 2007 - final presentation of bid and decision by Commonwealth Games Federation regarding the host for the 2014 games.

Dale MacLennan, Director, Finance and Administration, Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee, addressed Council reviewing the recent activities of the Committee including:

- Business Planning - Mission, Vision, Values, Guiding Principles,
- Stakeholder consultation,
- Focussed strategic planning and workplan development,
- Establishing of office space,
- Staffing,
- Gathering of costs relating to the Melbourne trip.
- Development of a detailed bid budget which will be before Council next week

Concluding the presentation, Mr. Logan outlined the reasons to support Halifax 2014.

A copy of the presentation is on file.

In response to questions, Commonwealth Bid Budget Committee and HRM staff provided the following information:

- Bid budget includes a variety of components including operations, engagement of the international community, and the bid book,

- Bid budget cannot be made public until such times as all levels of Government have reached an agreement on their individual share,
- Clarification that Council will be discussing the bid budget and not the cost of putting on the games at the in camera meeting next week,
- Staff will provide information for next week's meeting regarding how HRM would fund it's portion of the games,
- There is not a 10 million non refundable deposit to made for this bid in the next 10 months and the Bid Committee is not aware of any required deposits at this time,
- The costs of the bid budget and the games will be released publicly when it is determined there would be no impact on the competitiveness of the bid,
- HRM should not discuss publicly a funding amount until such as the other levels of government have committed their funding,
- The Bid Committee has implemented a procurement policy and will be providing regular reporting on the budget,
- The games business plan/budget will be developed over the fall. It will be late fall/early winter before the estimates are in place and negotiation begins with the Federal Government,
- The games budget will be detailed and will allow the funding partners have a full understanding of the cost.

The Chair thanked Mr. Logan, Mr. Montgomerie and Ms. MacLennan for their presentation.

9. REPORTS

9.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

9.1.1 Tender 06-217 - Paving Renewal, Water Main Renewal and Gas Main Installation - Regent Drive - East Region

- A staff report dated April 21, 2006 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Snow that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve an increase in the Gross Budget for Capital Account No. CY00784, Paving Renewal Program by \$201,725 with no change to the Net Budget to reflect cost sharing of the water main related work from the Halifax Regional Water Commission.**
- 2. Award Tender No. 06-217, Paving Renewal, Water Main Renewal and Gas Main Installation, Regent Drive - East Region to Dexter Construction Company**

Limited for materials and services listed at the unit prices quoted for a Tender Price of \$673,779 including net HST from Capital Account No. CYU00784, Paving Renewal Program, Capital Account No. CGU00461, Sewer Lateral Replacements and Capital Account No. CSE00900 Gas Main Installation, with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications Section of the April 21, 2006.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.1.2 Request for Proposal 06-151 - East Region All Weather Fields

- A staff report dated April 20, 2006 was before Council.

Councillor Smith noted that he was concerned about this particular award. He advised that one of the proponents who had bid on this RFP had made allegations about the process.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Snow that consideration of this matter be referred to the next meeting of In Camera Council.

Councillor Smith asked why a particular high quality turf had not been included in the list of appropriate materials. He noted that one of the proponents who had proposed using this type of turf had not been short listed.

MOTION TO REFER WAS PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

RECESS

Council recessed from 7:40 to 7:55 p.m.

9.1.3 2006 / 2007 Capital Budget

- A book entitled 2006-07 Proposed Capital Budget, Supplementary Reports and 2007-08 and 2008-09 Proposed Plan was before Council. A staff report dated April 25, 2006 was also before Council for consideration.

Mr. Dan English, CAO, addressed Council noting that the intent this evening was to table the 2006/07 capital budget with the debate being held early in June. Mr. English went on to briefly present the 2006-07 Proposed Capital Budget including the following highlights:

- Funding for capital budget is based on multi-year financial strategy
 - < The strategy was developed in 1998 in response to flat revenues, increasing provincial mandatory, increasing debt and debt costs,

- < Objectives of the multi-year financial strategy are: Maximize financial flexibility, minimize financial vulnerability, ensure program sustainability,
- < The strategy includes nine key principles, a reserves policy and a debt policy,
- Debt in 1998-99 was \$350 million,
- The debt level today is \$277 million,
- The amount of capital dollars in operating has increase from 2 million in 1998-99 to 24 million,
- Debts payments are reducing which is building capacity in the operating budget Given Council's direction to reduce the budget by 5.1%, the proposal is to increase the debt by four (4) million dollars for one year only. Capital borrowing in the following year will be reduced by two (2) million, and in the next two years by one (1) million,
- Debt will fall by four (4) million in 2006-07 under this proposal,
- Gross capital budget is \$192 million,
- Staff will be coming back to Council with a report regarding funding for Stormwater/Wastewater projects,
- Councillors who have questions, concerns, or suggestions can direct these to the Directors.

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Council debate the 2006/07 Capital Budget at the same time it debates the 2006/07 Operating and Reserve Budgets on June 13, 2006. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

9.2.1 Councillor Hum - Pesticide By-law P-800 Update and Discussion

- A Councillor Request for Information form was before Council.

Councillor Hum noted that she had questions for which she would like a response and staff from Environmental Management Services is not currently present.

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Walker that this matter be deferred to the next meeting of Halifax Regional Council pending the attendance of staff from Environmental Management Services to respond to questions. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2.2 Councillor Mosher - Safety - Armdale Rotary

- A Councillor Request for Information form was before Council.

Councillor Mosher addressed Council noting that the Armdale Rotary handled many cars per day and that recently she has received a number of calls relating to safety of the Rotary. The Councillor went on to advise that the Province amended the Motor Vehicle Act in October 2005 which resulted in the Rotary becoming a modern roundabout. The rules of a modern roundabout differ from those of a rotary in that cars entering the roundabout first yield and then continue until they exit rather than the one on one practice of the Rotary.

Councillor Mosher went on to indicate that HRM has not undertaken any physical conversion with the exception of posting Yield signs. She noted that modern roundabouts are configured in such a way as to require drivers to reduce their speed, however, this is not the case with the Armdale Rotary. The Province has not initiated a public information program regarding this change. As a result many drivers are unaware that the Rotary is now a roundabout and that the rules of travelling through the Rotary have changed. These drivers are still practising the one on one method of moving through the rotary. The Councillor noted that there are other drivers who are using the roundabout method of yielding and then proceeding through. Councillor Mosher indicated that this is creating quite a dangerous situation.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Adams that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter to the Minister of Public Works and Transportation requesting that they immediately launch a public information campaign including coverage in print, radio and television media.

Councillor Mosher further requested that consideration of the issue regarding removal of the Commissionaire between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. from the Rotary be deferred for two weeks pending a review by the Police Department.

At the request of Councillor Mosher, Mr. Ken Reashor, Traffic Authority, concurred with Councillor Mosher's statements that the legislation has been changed and that the many residents are not aware of these changes. He went on to indicate that requests made to the Province for a public information program have not met with success. Mr. Reashor noted that the only changes made at the Rotary were Yield Upon Entry signs.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. **MOTIONS** - None

11. **ADDED ITEMS**

11.1 **Contractual Matter - Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) Project Proposal**

- This matter was added during the setting of the agenda.

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

- 1. Amend the current HRM Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) project list and Strategic Initiative (SI) component to split Water and Sewer projects to seek provincial government funding through the Strategic Initiative Fund and in addition add Lively to the regular MRIF allocation list to seek Federal government funding. Thereby creating capacity within HRM's Strategic Initiative to assist the federal government in funding the Dartmouth East Recreation Centre through the Federal Strategic Initiative allocation. In doing so HRM will also submit an application to the Innovative Communities Fund for Broad Band funding.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council agreed to add the following matter to the agenda at this time.

11.2 Traffic Control Measures - Bedford Highway

Councillor Hum referred to increased traffic accidents on the Bedford Highway and indicated that she would like a staff report.

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walker that, given the increased number of accidents occurring on the Bedford Highway, staff provide a report regarding:

- 1. The possibility of installing additional left hand turn lanes to access neighbourhoods abutting the Bedford Highway, and installing no left turn restrictions where appropriate.**
- 2. A review of the traffic lights at Flamingo and the practice of one-on-one traffic at the intersection of Sherbrooke Street and the Bedford Highway with a view to reducing the back up of traffic in those locations.**
- 3. A reduction in the speed limit(s) from 70 and 60 kilometers per hour to 50 kilometers per hour at various locations along the Bedford Highway and particularly in the area of Larry Uteck Boulevard.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

Deputy Mayor Walker gave Notice of Motion that at the next regular meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2006, he intends to introduce for adoption an amendment to Administrative Order 1, Appendix "A" the purpose of which is the further clarify the Public Hearing Process.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Jan Gibson
Municipal Clerk

The following information items were distributed to Council:

1. Proclamation - Drinking Water Week, May 7 - 14, 2006
2. Memorandum from Acting Director, Financial Services dated April 24, 2006
re: Canada - Nova Scotia Infrastructure Program Update
3. Memorandum from Director, Transportation & Public Works dated April 18, 2006
re: Petition - Closure of McPherson Road
4. Memorandum from Director, Transportation & Public Works dated April 21, 2006
re: Rural Fire Fleet
5. Memorandum from Acting Director, Community, Culture & Economic Development
dated April 19, 2006 re: Regional Arena Facility
6. Memorandum from Chair, Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee
dated April 25, 2006 re: Taxi Driver Safety - Update
7. Memorandum from the Municipal Clerk, dated April 28, 2006
re: Requests for Presentation to Council - Friends of the Public Gardens